



STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Built 1723

Newsletter
January 1970

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The next general meeting of the Stratford Historical Society will be held at the Methodist Church Hall on Friday, January 23rd, 8:00 P.M. A treat is in store for all members and friends who may be prospective members. Mr. William J. Josko, well-known Fairfield Auctioneer, will speak on: Behind the scenes as an Auctioneer. As a part of the program, Mr. Josko will auction off any small article which members may bring to the meeting. All proceeds will go for the benefit of the Society's treasury. Come one, come all and bring some attic treasure, not necessarily an antique, but something worth being auctioned off. Mr. Josko has recently used this as a part of his program at Monroe and Westport raising a considerable amount of money for both Societies.

Those wishing a tax deduction may indicate this upon presentation of the item to a member of Mr. Harvey's committee. There will be small articles on which members will want to bid - example, a pair of brass andirons given by a member of the Society for the auction.

An interesting meeting is in store for us all with loads of fun.

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Our budget adopted at the last meeting of the Stratford Historical Society showed anticipated receipts of \$6440.00, anticipated expenses, \$8545.00.

We are grateful for the following monetary gifts since the new year began in September:

Mr. Kenneth Judson	\$100
for restoration	
Miss Katherine Judson	\$100
Anonymous	\$200
Permanent Membership	\$100
Carlson Foundation of Bridgeport	
Mrs. Rachael Buttrick	\$1000
to be added to gifts already given	
toward the Frederic Curtiss Booth	
memorial storage cases for valuable	
museum collections.	

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Miss Louise May, hostess at Judson House from July 2 through November 1969, gives the following statistical report on visitors:

109 members, 372 adults (non-members) and 381 children for a total of 861. We were fortunate to have had, among our visitors, an unusually large number of Judson descendents. They were most enthusiastic about Judson House, commenting on the care given to restoration and the relationship of the furnishings and artifacts to 18th century living.

Visitors were from the following states: Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, D. C., and Wisconsin. From foreign countries: Canada, Denmark, England and Germany.

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We are happy to announce that all, except 10 out of 1000, of Howard Wilcoxson's books, The History of Stratford, have been sold. The profits realized from the sale will be put into the Howard Wilcoxson Fund, the interest of which may be used for current expenses.

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On December 6, 1969, 10 husky male members of the Society volunteered their services to thoroughly clean the lawns of the Judson property, and was it cold! John Dolyak, Velmore Spamer, Ronald Rader, Elden Dustin, Edmond Judson, Russell Applegate, Richard Blake, Elliott David, and Donald Fowler were the rakers.

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A recent article in the Bulletin of the Connecticut League of Historical Societies gives a picture of Elden Dustin roping a trundle bed which is now located in the parlor chamber of Judson House. The article notes that Mr. Dustin had learned this skill as a young boy when living in New Hampshire. The tools used were those owned by the Society. Mrs. Elliott and Mr. Beardsley, long members of the Society, are interested "lookers on". If anyone has a trundle bed to be roped Mr. Dustin might be interested in utilizing his skill, at a price! Perhaps for the benefit of the Historical Society?

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

Donald Fowler,
President