



STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY



We come to the end of another year's activities and the Annual Meeting, which will be held Friday, September 22nd, 1972 at 8:00 P.M. in the Methodist Church Hall.

Each chairman of a committee is requested to submit a written report to the President. These will be included in the minutes of the meeting. A short talk will be given by Mr. Kenneth Holmes, Curator of the Barnum Museum.

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers for the next year. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the officers who have assisted me during the past two years. The Society is not a one man operation, but requires the help of all to be successful. Our results show this effort.

The Antique Fair was a success, with results of \$2078.22 added to our income. Receipts were \$3849.85 and expenses were \$1771.63. Again, the work of many, many members made this project go over. It was a hard day's job, but the results were pleasing (and so necessary to keep us going).

The next big fund drive is our Auction Sale. The Auction Committee is depending on Society members and their friends for donations of "auctionable" items (and money donations will be gratefully accepted also) for sale at the auction scheduled November 4th in the Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall. The following list will give an idea of some of the types of articles needed: cut glass, depression glass and carnival glass, Indian items, baskets, crocks, oil lamps and lanterns, old kitchen utensils and cutlery, old tools, old bottles and Mason jars, sterling silver items, furniture (there is demand for wicker furniture), brass, copper, and wrought iron items; tinware, bean pots, chests and tool chests; old linens, jewelry and coins; paper weights, picture frames, coal or wood stoves, coal skuttles, woodenware, prints, maps, old wagon wheels and farm implements, china, pewter; dolls and doll items, fireplace equipment, quilts, guns, swords, pottery, samplers, clocks, etc.

All donations may be left at the Judson House on Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday from 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., or please call any officer for a pickup if necessary.

The Museum is almost finished. Member painters have made a big difference in the place, making it truly a great Museum. We all should be proud of this renovation. Again many hours of work went into this project.

I have to again talk about money to keep going. Our operating budget is about \$9000 for a year. Yet membership fees only bring in \$1800. This leaves a huge gap that has to be filled. We have some \$55,000 of money in various trust funds. These cannot be touched, however, only the income is available. This is about \$5000. From this you can see why we need the Auctions, Flea Markets, etc. to carry us on. We need many things - a curator, more hostesses, more preservative and restoration work, etc. All of these activities are strictly limited because of the restricted budget.

Again many thanks for the hard work so many people have contributed to keeping the Society going. I feel sure the new officers will work to continue the progress we have made. You will hear more about exciting plans for next year soon.

Sincerely,

Velmore B. Spamer
President



Built 1723

STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Built 1723

September 5, 1972

Dear Members and Friends of the Stratford Historical Society:

This is to announce a major event in the 1972-73 year authorized by the Executive Board last February 7: an AUCTION scheduled from 10:00 A.M. until items are sold on Saturday, November 4, in the Parish Hall of the Christ Episcopal Church with the well-known auctioneer, William J. Josko, giving his services as a contribution to the Society. The purpose of the auction is to raise additional funds for the increasing costs of preservation of the Society's collection, for the maintenance of Judson House and the Museum, and to meet the expenses of such unusual activities as acting as host to the Connecticut League of Historical Societies in May, 1973, and of making appropriate observance in 1973 of the 250th anniversary of the Judson House, built in 1723.

A considerable number of articles to be auctioned are those now stored in the Sammis House. Many are antique but are not of historical interest for Stratford. We strongly emphasize that all such articles donated to the Society have been authorized for sale by their donors or by the Executive Board in cases where, after careful research, the identities of the donors cannot be found.

We greatly need many more items for sale and are earnestly asking you to donate items of auctionable quality, not necessarily antique. It will help the Society further if you will influence your friends to make such donations, with the proviso that all items must be outright gifts, not "on consignment". Any donor who desires evidence for income tax deduction will be given a properly signed form indicating the nature of the donation to the Society, an educational, non-profit institution, and the amount received at auction.

The Committee wishes to make the collection of donated items as easy for you as possible. We would, of course, be grateful if you can transport items to the museum yourself, but will gladly make arrangements to pick up articles from your house. In either case, please call the House and Museum (378-0630) on Tuesday from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. or on Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday from 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. to make arrangements. Items for the auction will be gratefully accepted from the time you receive this letter through October 31.

The Committee will be grateful for money donations if you prefer. Please send such gifts to Mr. William Bassett, Treasurer, 140 Otis Street. Checks should be made out to Stratford Historical Society and marked "Auction". Something from every member, articles for sale or gift of money, would assure the success of the auction.

We need and anticipate gratefully your gracious help in the AUCTION - a new, interesting, and challenging event for the Historical Society.

Sincerely,

Elden Dustin, Chairman
Auction Committee