



Town Settled 1639

Society Organized 1925

## The Stratford Historical Society

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March 8, 1977

Judson House, 967 Academy Hill, Built 1723  
and Catharine B. Mitchell Museum, 1958

The next meeting of the membership of the Stratford Historical Society will be held at the Methodist Church Hall at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25. After a short business meeting (the last before the annual meeting in September), our guest speaker will be Miss Patricia Kane, Assistant Curator of American Arts at Yale Museum. Miss Kane is a former Stratford resident and has lectured widely on American arts and crafts. She accompanied the Yale Bicentennial Exhibition of American Arts and Crafts, 1650-1800, for its showing at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Her illustrated lecture for us is based on that exhibit. Hope you'll come and bring a friend.

The Judson House and Museum will open for the season on April 2. Both will be open each Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 to 5.

The Society's major fund-raising activity, the annual Antique Show and Sale will be held on April 16 and 17 at the American Legion Hall, 2159 Main St. The sale will be open from 11 to 6 each day. Two coupons for reduced admissions charge are enclosed. In addition to the Society's own booth, about 30 dealers will have items on display. Refreshments and baked goods will be on sale as well. In addition to your attendance, we need articles for the Society's booth and for the baked goods table. The telephone committee will call you, or you may call Mr. Franz Goldbach at 375-4014 to tell him what you have for sale. If your offering must be picked up, we'll arrange it.

There will be a membership picnic on Sunday, June 12 from 1 to 5 p.m. on the Judson House grounds. Mickey McCabe of Fairfield will present a program of colonial crafts and children's games of the period. Bring the family and a picnic lunch. Enjoy a warm June afternoon on the lawn at Judson House.

At Judson House, Mrs. Elden Dustin and her weaving committee of Mrs. Dobkin, Mrs. Brandt, Mrs. Carson, Mrs. McCarthy and Mrs. McCullough have completed the weaving of 24 feet of colorful rag rug for the house. Another rug, 32 feet long, will be made for the hall stairs.

Howard Smith and Elden Dustin have spent many hours redecorating the "new kitchen". Wooden gutters over the back porch were replaced also. Volunteer efforts like these have maintained and improved our House over the years at very little cost to the Society. Thanks.

The efforts of many volunteers resulted in the new museum display depicting the history of Stratford, 1639-1830, which opened last September. Now, the Society has applied to the Conn. League of Historical Societies for an award of merit for that display. Einar Larsen and Elden Dustin have compiled a write-up of the displays and their creation to accompany photographs by Donald Fowler and Jeffrey Williams. We'll keep you informed of the results.

The Education Committee reports 28 docents registered for training sessions Monday mornings. Training includes Judson House furnishings and architecture, the Judson family history, and interpretation of the history of Stratford as displayed in the Museum. The committee providing the training includes Mr. and Mrs. Fowler, Mr. Dustin, Mrs. Irving Dobkin, Mrs. Stephen Lawrence, Mrs. David Olsen, Mrs. Todd Lovell, Mrs. William Morrison, Mrs. Paul Kurmay, and Mrs. Richard Basso.

With this letter, we are broadening our mailing a bit to advise neighboring Historical Societies of our activities. To these neighbors we extend greetings, and an invitation to attend any of our general membership meetings.

Again - a reminder of a most interesting meeting on March 25, and a great Antique Show and Sale on April 16-17. Both deserve your support.

David S. Jenney, President