



The Stratford Historical Society

# NEWS LETTER

Stratford Historical Society Newsletter

June 5;1977

Dear Member,

You are invited to a summer picnic at Colonial Judson House. On Sunday, June 26, our meeting will be a picnic on the grounds with colonial children's games and various crafts. We urge everyone to pack a lunch and share our old fashioned cookies and lemonade. The fun will begin at 1 pm and we will depart for home at 5 pm.

All members are welcome ( in colonial dress if you wish), and you may bring another family as your guests. There is no charge, but we would like to know how many to expect, so please make reservations early.

Hope you and your friends will join us!

R.S.V.P.

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or write to

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May 21 was an exciting day for our Society. At the annual meeting of the Conn. League of Historical Societies in Windsor, awards of merit were given to about 20 deserving individuals and organizations throughout the state. Two of these are ours. The Society was recognized for the well planned and effectively completed renovation of the Mitchell Museum and grounds. In addition, Einar Larsen and the Display Committee were recognized for the new display, the History of Stratford, 1639-1830, which opened in September. If any members haven't seen this display yet, let this state-wide recognition be the incentive you need to come take a long look.

In April we were the recipients of a gift of \$4000, the proceeds of the sale of an 18th century "heart and crown" chair, from Miss Harriet B. Blakeman in memory of her sister, Miss Frances Cordelia Blakeman, born in Stratford July 13, 1890 - died in Stratford Feb. 17, 1961. The chair itself was a key part of an exhibit of early Conn. chairs, entitled "Heart and Crown" at the New haven Colony Historical Society. Several members of our society attended the opening on April 25.

The Society Antique Show and Sale on April 16-17 was blessed with good weather, a good turnout and hard-working volunteers. The tally isn't complete yet, but the net proceeds will be close to \$2000. A special round of applause goes to Mr. and Mrs. Franz Goldbach for a big job well done.

The Society will be dealt a severe loss with the move of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Chapman to the South. Frieda has been a Society mainstay as chairman of the Accessions Committee. Mrs. Alma Fowler has agreed to serve as interim chairman until a replacement is found, or the new officers are elected in September.

The House, Museum and grounds have been open for visitors now since April 2. The list of those who labored to get everthing ready to open is too long to acknowledge here. Let it suffice to mention that the effort was organized by Selra Dcbkin, Ella McCullough, Donald Fowler and Howard Smith. The grounds were manicured by John Dolyak with beautiful new plantings of shrubs and flowers contributed by the Stratford Garden Club. We can all be proud of the results. If you haven't visited the House, grounds and Museum lately, its all really worth the visit. At least, come out for a good old-fashioned picnic on the 26th.

David S. Jenney, President.