



The Stratford Historical Society

NEWS LETTER

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, FRIDAY,
MARCH 28, 1980, 8:00 P.M. METHODIST CHURCH HALL

The officers, committee chairpersons, and directors are looking forward to meeting and talking to all members and their friends. Please come and enjoy another interesting program planned by our Program Chairman and First Vice-President Hiram Tindall and the refreshments that follow.

AN EVENING OF PEWTER

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Young, Pleasant Valley, New York, will discuss what you want to know about pewter. Mr. Young, formerly an engineer with I.B.M., is now a conservator of metals, working with museums, churches and historical societies. Mrs. Young is a compiler researcher, currently working on a book on metals. Mr. Young has six U.S. Patents to his credit. The Youngs have donated their services to the Stratford Historical Society repairing several pieces of damaged pewter. Both are very active in the Pewter Collectors' Club of America. He is past president of the New York Regional Group and was Program Chairman of the National organization.

The Youngs will bring an assortment of pewter with them and then ask members to bring their pewter if they have a question. They will give information, maker, age and place of manufacture. They will not give any appraisal.

ANTIQUES SHOW AND SALE, APRIL 12 & 13

Our 19th Annual "Antiques Show and Sale" will be held on Saturday, April 12 and Sunday April 13, at Wooster Junior High School Gym and Cafeteria. This is our second year at the new location and we hope this will be an even bigger and more successful event than last year. Our show will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on both days.

We hope each and every member will contribute in any way possible. If you are interested in working at the show, please let us know. The coordinators for this event are Elden Dustin, Donald Fowler and David Wiggin. The director for professional dealers society booth -- Mrs. Betty Ezarik and committee chairpersons are as follows:

Society Booth - Mrs. Bonnie Paradise and Hiram Tindall
General Arrangements, table set-up and take-down, and dealer
assistance - Manning Harvey
Co-chairmen - Elliot David and Howard Smith
Street directional signs - Richard F. Blake
Refreshments - Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Rader
Baked Goods - Mrs. Henry Van Gieson

Gate - Velmore Spamer
Publicity - Miss Margaret Jacaruso
Financial - Mr. Donald Calkins and Mr. Peter Dahl
Photography - Mr. Jeffrey Williams
Telephone Squad - Miss Jane Lafferty

If you hear from any committee, please cooperate in any way possible. If you can help any special committee, please call the chairman.

A coupon card is enclosed with your newsletter. This one coupon card, presented at the door when you attend the Sale, admits the family of Society members at the discount price of \$1.25 per person, instead of \$1.50 charged this year as regular admission. There will be 45 dealers, as well as our own Society Booth.

Do please plan to attend the Show and Sale if you are able! We must all work together to make this a success as the profit from this annual event is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL to help meet the operating expenses of the Society.

Many of you are already helping or will help in this project as committee members. We can all help in one way or another. Along with ATTENDANCE at the Sale, there are two things nearly every member or Society family can do:

(1) CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING TO BE SOLD AT THE SOCIETY BOOTH. It does not have to be a valuable antique. Almost anything sells; flea market items are most welcome, anything in the common tag sale nature is all right. Of course, the older and more interesting "antique" the better, but don't feel that your contribution must be in the family heirloom class. Random suggestions: kitchen equipment, old laundry equipment, chinaware, tinware, furniture, sheet music for old popular songs, old post cards, copper items, tinted canning jars, old books but no modern ones or paperbacks, old magazines such as Literary Digest, Adventure, old Saturday Evening Post, old comic books, etc., etc...just suggestions. Search your attics, closets, and cellars ... its spring cleaning time! If everyone in the Society contributed even one item, we would be over 400 items on our way toward the success of our booth.

If you can, please bring items to the Museum on Tuesday mornings, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or bring them to our general membership meeting March 28. However, our Society Booth chairpersons, Mrs. Bonnie Paradise (377-2332) or Hiram Tindall (874-1819) will gladly arrange to pick up items if you will call them.

(2) CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING TO BE SOLD AT THE HOME BAKED GOODS TABLE (Mrs. Henry Van Gieson (378-5555, Chairperson)

We never fail to sell all that is contributed in this department; it is a very good moneymaker and we should do all we can to realize its full potential. Home baked goods of all kinds, jams, jellies, other preserves - all are needed. These items should be brought to the Baked Goods Table by 10:30 a.m. on the days of the Sale or at other times by arrangement with Mrs. Van Gieson. Last year most of the items were brought for Saturday Sale and were sold out. Please keep up the Saturday donations but remember to bring additional items for Sunday sale.

CAPTAIN DAVID JUDSON HOUSE c. 1750

The following is by way of information for those who did not attend the Society's meeting in January. It was announced that by vote of the Executive Board the date of Judson House was changed from 1723 to c. 1750. The Board took this action after careful deliberation of a report submitted by Dr. Abbott Cummings, Director of SPNEA, a paper read by Ray Cable, chairman of the History and Research Committee, and of course the research that has been done over the years by many volunteers. Basically the points made were these: "(a) the house frame in all major respects is mid-18th century in date and not as early as 1723, (b) the date 1768 painted on the chimney tie beam is apparently contemporary but cannot necessarily be associated with a carpenter, and hence cannot be accepted as a conclusive date of erection, (c) it would seem that the presence of an old-fashioned chamfered summer beam (in the east chamber) for the coastal area and a person of David Judson's position could not be much later than the 1750's, (d) the household inventory of David Judson refers to the building now standing which therefore must have been erected before he drew his will in March, 1758". The before mentioned is quoted from Dr. Cummings' report. This report as well as Mr. Cable's paper are on file in the Society's Library and may be checked out for further study. Research continues on the question of dating the house.

The change of the date for the Captain David Judson House will make it necessary to publish new brochures. These will be available after April 1.

DECORATOR SHOWHOUSE

As a result of the success of their previous Decorator Showhouse, The Junior League of Greater Bridgeport contributed \$2,000 to our 1978 East Sill and Wall restoration. This group is again sponsoring a Decorator Showhouse at the Burr Homestead, 739 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Conn. from May 4 - May 26, 1980. Advance tickets (before May 4) \$4.00, tickets at door \$5.00, Senior Citizens and Students \$3.00, Groups of 15 or more (before May 4) \$3.50 each. Luncheon is available to groups.

If you would be interested in joining a proposed Stratford Historical Society group for this event please call the Society on Tuesdays when someone will be there to answer, or any other day when the Answering Machine will be operating.

It should be an interesting and enjoyable occasion.

CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES MEETING

All amateur and arm-chair archeologists will want to attend the all day meeting of the Connecticut League of Historical Societies at West Haven on March 22, 1980. The program will feature talks by three professional archeologists: KEN FEDER of Southern Connecticut State College will discuss Pre-historic Archeology, JOHN WORRELL of Sturbridge Village will talk about Archeology, and ERNEST WEIGAND of Norwalk Community College will tell the group about Archeology as an AVOCATION.

Any Stratford Historical Society member may attend League meetings. Please call Mrs. Lillian Larson (929-6120) for directions to the meeting place or for further information.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members of The Stratford Historical Society:

Mr. John C. Bogardus	Mr. Maitland E. Hudson
Mr. Warren D. Buchanan	Mr. Milton Gold
Mr. Philip J. Lang	Mrs. Edith S. Wheeler
Mrs. Allen Fanslow	Mrs. Irene A. Mason

At the January 7, 1980 Board Meeting, it was voted to give Permanent Membership to Mr. & Mrs. Donald Fowler, in recognition of their valuable service to the Stratford Historical Society for many years. Congratulations and best wishes to the Fowlers.

VOLUNTEER HOST/HOSTESS PROGRAM

Mrs. Russel Applegate, Jr. is accepting names of volunteers to serve as host/hostess at the door of Judson House during the 1980 open house season, April 1, to October, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mrs. Jean Wilcoxson will again be head guide.

Available Dates:

	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
April	2,9,16,23,30	12,19,26	13,30
May	7,14,21,28	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25
June	18	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29
July	2,9,16,23,30	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27
August	6,13,20,27	9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31
September	3,10	6,13,20,27	7,14,21
October	1,8,15,22,29	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26

I am looking forward to seeing you at the General Membership meeting on March 28, and also at the Antiques Show and Sale, April 12 and 13.

David C. Wiggin, President

(Tear Off)

As a volunteer host/ hostess, at the door of Judson House, I wish to serve on:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Signed _____

Tel: # _____

Kindly mail your acceptance to:
Mrs. Russel Applegate, Jr.
6080 North Main Street
Stratford, CT. 06497
Phone 377-4224, in the evening