



The Stratford Historical Society

# NEWSLETTER

**NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1981, AT THE METHODIST CHURCH HALL.** Lorraine Van Loan, curator of the Costume Museum of the New Canaan Historical Society will speak on "Fashions of the Nineteenth Century".

Mrs. Van Loan developed her interest in costumes during her many years as a professional actress. She has been curator of the New Canaan Costume Museum since 1967 and has been responsible for 15 clothing exhibitions staged there since that time. Soon to open is the fourth show of Bridal clothing. Mrs. Van Loan, who sees clothing as a form of Social History, has also a great interest in the accessories which complete a wardrobe.

Mrs. Van Loan has been a lecturer and museum consultant for several years and has lectured to the Ladies Guild of the United Nations. Her talk on January 30 will be accompanied by slides.

Please plan to attend this first meeting of 1981. Refreshments will be served by Mrs. Henry Van Gieson and her committee.

DOCENT TRAINING The Docent Training Program began on Jan. 8, 1981 and will continue on Thursdays through March. Perhaps you would consider joining the program in order to become more acquainted with the history of our Judson House and family. No previous experience is required. We are in need of additional docents! Please give it some thought and then call Barbara Olson (378-3354) or Judy Kurmay (378-8025) for further information...or come to the museum on Thursday morning at 9:30. Please do not stay away because you have missed the first few sessions.

MEMBERSHIP Our Membership chairperson, Mrs. Catherine Moore, wishes to thank those of us who have sent in their dues already and to remind us that second notices for payment will be mailed after February 1, 1981. If renewals could be received by the Society before that date, it would save considerable postage expense for the Society on that second mailing. Please consider sending your 1980-81 dues now, if you have not already done so.

Thank you to those members who have contributed monies over and above their dues payments and also to those who have contributed \$150 for Permanent Membership.

We welcome the following new members:

Mrs. William Nielsen	Mrs. Katherine Alcott Schofield
Mr. Kenneth Kopchik	Mr. & Mrs. Morton F. Judd
Mr. T. A. Berquist	Mrs. John Welsh
Mrs. Thomas G. Fahy	Mrs. Esther F. Sessel
Ms. Margaret L. Johnston	Mrs. Thomas Knowles
Mr. & Mrs. William Reid	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Conley
Mr. H. Edward Meachen	Mrs. Eleanore S. Anton
Mr. & Mrs. H. James Wilson, Jr.	Mrs. Diane G. Wirth

OUR 20th ANNUAL ANTIQUES SHOW AND SALE, scheduled this year for April 4 and 5 at Wooster Junior High School, again requires the help of every member. Please start now to set aside items for sale at the Society's booth, our best money-maker. Such items need not be expensive antiques but should be of interest to the tag sale/antiques show enthusiast. Suggestions for those who are in doubt as to what to contribute: old kitchen utensils of wood, glass, or metal, glass or china items, old tools, picture frames (greatly in demand with or without glass), old pictures and prints, old washboards or other laundry equipment of former days, tinted fruit jars, tinware (old tobacco tins sell well), copper items, old hats and other antique clothing, smaller furniture items, old sheet music, almanacs, books and magazines (not modern or paperback). These are only suggestions...almost anything sells!

If possible, items should be brought to the Museum on Tuesdays, 10 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. However, we will gladly pick up items. Please call Hiram Tindall (874-1819) or Bonnie Paradise (377-2332) to arrange to have items picked up at your home. It helps to have items here at the Museum by the end of March in order to allow pricing to be done in advance.

If you would like to work at the Antique Show on either April 4 or 5, and have not done so previously, please call Elden Dustin (378-5997). In the past, some people have been disappointed not to have been asked to help. Please let us know if you are interested.

"THE HISTORY OF STRATFORD" by William Howard Wilcoxson has become a much sought-after publication. Used book dealers offer \$25 and up per copy depending upon condition. Several persons have expressed interest in purchasing copies when they become available.

The Society has no copies available for sale. However, we will be pleased to maintain a list of persons willing to sell their copy, and a list of persons interested in purchasing. Please write or call Carol Lovell, Stratford Historical Society, Box 382, Stratford...375-3569 if you would like to be included in this listing.

If you wish to donate your copy to the Society for re-sale, we will be pleased to give you a tax deduction.

Don't allow your copy of "The History of Stratford" to become lost. It is most valuable.

JUDSON HOUSE REPAIR PROJECT The front sill work was started in October and completed early in December. The sill at the front entrance hall was found to be badly rotted and was replaced. The lower portions of the central posts flanking the entrance hall and the lower portions of the door posts adjacent to the sill were also rotted and replaced. Examination of the floor of the entrance hall indicated that there was inadequate support and new floor joists and flooring were installed. Fortunately, the front sill extending into the Parlor was found to be in good condition and needed only a protective treatment with Woodlife.

Most of the window frames were in fairly good condition and needed only minor repair, however, one window frame was completely rotted and Jack Wardman had to construct a new window frame. Mr. Wardman is continuing his work on the window sashes. The fourteen first floor windows are completed, as are the two attic windows. Seven of the sixteen windows on the second floor are completed and the remaining sashes should be finished by March.

Rotted sections of sash are removed and new pieces of wood glued in place to preserve as much of the original sash as possible. After repairs, the sashes are treated with Woodlife and painted with two coats. At least 90% of the original glass was salvaged and re-used.

Howard Smith is continuing to spot prime and paint the inside trim at the windows and front door, matching existing room colors.

Many, many thanks to Jack Wardman, Howard Smith, and David Wiggin for the many hours of work and devotion to this project. Where would we be without them?

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE contributions through October, 1980:

In memory of Willard Baldwin -- given by Mrs. Willard Baldwin  
In memory of T. Bailey Curran -- given by Mr. and Mrs. Irving Dobkin  
Thanks for the recovery of:  
Mrs. Robert Crumpstone  
Mrs. William Morrison  
Ms. Margaret Jacaruso -- given by Mr. and Mrs. Irving Dobkin  
In memory of T. Bailey Curran -- given by Mr. and Mrs. Einar Larson  
Mr. and Mrs. Velmore Spamer  
In memory of Jessie Wheeler Murphy -- given by Esther Stapley Wojtul  
In memory of Gen. and Mrs. Egleston -- given by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fowler

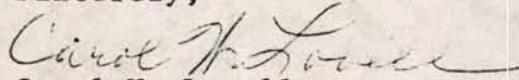
DESCENDANTS OF DANIEL SHELTON with an active interest in family history are asked to assist with a proposed book. Correspondence should be directed to Robert E. Hull, 19259 Harleigh Dr., Saratoga, CA 95070

I am pleased to tell you that the Society received, in December, several contributions to the Capital Fund Drive...for a total of \$900. We sincerely thank those who have contributed and invite further donations toward the maintenance and repair of our Captain David Judson House.

Don't forget -- January 30, 1981, at the Methodist Church Hall --  
Fashions of the Nineteenth Century with Lorraine Van Loan.

Gather together your contributions to the Antique Show and Sale!

Sincerely,



Carol W. Lovell  
(Mrs. Todd B. Lovell,) President

For your scheduling convenience:

General Meeting dates -- all meetings on Friday at 8:00 p.m.

January 30, 1981

March 20, 1981 (a week earlier than usual!)

May 29, 1981