



Judson House, 967 Academy Hill, Built C1750
and Catharine B. Mitchell Museum, 1958

The Stratford Historical Society

Box 382, Stratford, Connecticut 06497
Telephone 378-0630

January, 1982

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1982 at
8:00 pm at the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HALL, MAIN STREET

Glee Krueger, a collector of American needlework will speak at the January meeting of the Stratford Historical Society. Her topic is "A Gallery of American Samplers". She will discuss purpose of the sampler, style, style changes, regional differences, designs and their sources, and the teachers and schools responsible for them. She will be delighted to look at any needlework brought to the meeting.

Mrs. Krueger is a former museum staff member of The Art Institute of Chicago in the Department of Decorative Arts. She is also a life member of that museum. She is a painter, craftsman, and current member of the Museum of American Folk Art. She is also a member of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, Connecticut River Valley Chapter.

In 1978, her book "New England Samplers to 1840" was published by Old Sturbridge Village, Inc. That year "A Gallery of American Samplers: The Theodore H. Kapnek Collection" was published by E. P. Dutton, Inc. in cooperation with the Museum of American Folk Art. Mrs. Krueger was guest curator of the exhibition of the same name held at the Museum of American Folk Art. Currently she is working on a new book of American historical needlework.

Invite your friends. Bring your family samplers. Come on January 29.

EDUCATION This year's Docent Training Program began on Thursday, January 7 at the Catharine B. Mitchell Museum. Lectures will be held on Thursday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:00 am through March and will include various aspects of 18th century colonial life: China Trade, furniture, spinning and weaving, and a walking tour of a portion of old Stratford.

As of this writing, we have two gentlemen and several ladies who have enrolled as new participants in the Docent Program.

(Over)

It is definitely not too late to join. Please give the idea your consideration and call Kathleen Breeding, Education Chairman, at 375-8842. She will be delighted to hear from you.

EXHIBITS Do you have a life-size doll you would care to lend or donate? The Exhibits Committee would like to display children's clothing on a mannequin in a forthcoming exhibit. Please leave a message on the recording tape at 378-0630 or call Carol Lovell at 375-3569.

TELEPHONE SQUAD Would you like to serve on the Telephone Squad? For several years many of you have served diligently when called upon on an individual basis to contact members. It seems that it might be more efficient to have a regular squad upon whom we could depend. If we have enough volunteers, we would need your services only once or twice a year to make 12 or 15 calls to members. A list of names would be assigned to you and instructions would be sent for each event. The first occasion is the Antique Show to be held on April 3 and 4 for which members will be called during March.

Many hands make light work. If you can help, please call Jane Lafferty at 378-5237.

ANTIQUES SHOW The 21st Annual Antiques Show and Sale, scheduled for April 3 and 4 at Wooster Intermediate School, again requires the help of every member in committee work and contributions of various kinds.

It is not too early to start to seek out and set aside items for sale at the Society's booth, our best source of income of all the activities of the Show. Such items need not be heirloom quality antiques but should be of interest to the tag sale/flea market/antiques show enthusiast. Suggestions for those in doubt are: old wooden, glass, or metal kitchen utensils, glass or china items, old tools, old framed pictures (portraits or landscapes), old prints (framed or not), washboards and other laundry equipment of former days, tinware, copper items, hats and other antique clothing, furniture (small items, preferably), old sheet music, almanacs, maps, postcards, books, magazines (not modern ones, please), etc., etc. These are only suggestions. Our super sales-men and ladies do a marvellous job selling almost anything!

If possible, items should be brought to the Museum on Tuesday from 10 am to 1:00 pm. Use the lower door, please. Call Hiram Tindall (874-1819) or Bonnie Paradise (377-2332) to make arrangements to have items picked up at your house.

CONTRIBUTIONS The following have made contributions toward our new roof and chimney. We thank them and all previous donors who were listed in the last newsletter: Mrs. Hildreth T. Winton, Miss Elinor Varney, and Miss Laura Philips.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

In memory of:

Clara A. Williams

Wilson Richardson

Virginia B. Spamer

Viola Johnson

Constance Jacquet

Mrs. John Richardson

Contributions have been received as follows:
Given by:

Donald and Alma Fowler
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Switzgable
Mrs. Russel Applegate
Mrs. Henry VanGieson
Mr. William Wyler
Mrs. Virginia Mussler
Patricia A. Rhodes

Einar & Lillian Larson

Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Tindall
Mrs. Henry VanGieson
Einar & Lillian Larson
Mrs. John Ross
Donald & Alma Fowler
Mrs. Edmund Judson

Donald & Alma Fowler
Clare and Vel Spamer
Mrs. Edmund Judson

Mrs. Russel Applegate

Anne Anderson

Perhaps you would wish to use the Book of Remembrance to commemorate happy occasions, also: births, weddings, graduations, new jobs, new friends, etc. Think about it.

SOMETHING FOR FUN The following is taken from a clipping found at the Museum recently. The original is a Letter to the Editor of the Bridgeport Post.

BUFFALO BILL

"It might be of interest, that a Stratford man, O.E. Judson, of the Stratford clan, who brought Buffalo Bill to worldwide fame through his weekly stories in "Beadles Dime Novels" and "Half Dime Novels", in which Cody, sometimes in partnership with Wild Bill and Texas Jack, decimated red-skins and outlaws weekly in great numbers. Judson wrote under the name of Ned Buntline, and was far from the uncouth character the picture shows.

Judson was a Yale graduate who sent the clergy in an uproar against his dime novels, which, the clergy said, corrupted the youth of our nation.

However in none of Judson's writings can there be found any glorifying of the criminal set and nothing morally unclean; nor profanity so frequently found in many of the library books of today or the daily press.

(Over)

His heroines did no strip-tease act, but when Bill was injured retired to the convenient sage bush, and modestly, blushing a fiery red, managed to provide him with the necessary bandages to bind his wounds....."

The letter is signed "OLD TIMER". We do not know when this was written or whether the facts are accurate, but it's fun to read. If you can add any information we'd be pleased to hear from you.

LONDON, ENGLAND-1982 Several people expressed interest last year in the possibility of a trip to London this fall. Therefore, preliminary plans have been made as follows:

DEPARTURE: Friday, Oct. 8, 1982

RETURN: Saturday, Oct. 16, 1982

DURATION: 8 days, 7 nights

PRICE: \$894 per person, double occupancy
Single occupancy, \$50.00 additional

TOUR RATES INCLUDE:

Round trip jet transportation, via scheduled airline
7 nights at Park Lane Hotel (first class hotel, private bath)
Continental breakfast each morning
Transfers to and from London airport
One theater ticket
One entire day browsing through rare antiques at
Portobello Road, Silver Vault and Mayfair
One half day city sightseeing
Half day visit to Stratford-on-Avon and Windsor Castle
We will also visit London's National Theater, which
compares to our Lincoln Center of the Performing Arts.

CASTLE TOUR** #15 miles out of London, giving us the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful country side, is Historic HATFIELD CASTLE, the home of the first Queen Elizabeth who lived and reigned here. We will spend a day here touring the castle and, best of all, we will enjoy dinner (included) in the same dining room used by Queen Elizabeth for many functions. This will be our farewell to London.

A more complete itinerary will be composed as soon as our group is formed.

CONDITIONS: Price of \$894 is based on at least 25 persons traveling.
Deposit of \$25 (refundable up to 60 days of departure)
is due by March 30, 1982.
Final payment must be made at least 6 weeks before
departure.
Prices for air portion are subject to change. Ticketing
will be done at least 60 days in advance.

(Continued)

Participation is not limited to members of the Stratford Historical Society.

Elvira Ludford of the Biebel Travel Agency and Carol Lovell of the Stratford Historical Society will co-host the trip.

On Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1982 at 8:00 pm, there will be a meeting with Mrs. Ludford who will have more specific information and a film to share with us. Possibly, a representative of the airline will be available, also.

This meeting will be held in our Catharine Mitchell Museum which can comfortably seat 25-30 persons. In order to plan for seating, we would like you to return the form below to indicate your plan to attend this meeting.

I look forward to seeing you for our evening of American Needlework on January 29, 1982.

Sincerely,

Carol

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

(I, We) plan to attend the "London Tour" meeting on Feb. 10, 1982 at 8:00 pm at the Museum. No. attending _____

Name:

Address:

Phone:

_____ I am interested in going to London but cannot attend the meeting on Feb. 10. Please keep me advised.