



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

March, 1983

**NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1983 at 8:00 pm
at the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HALL, Main Street**

"THE FARMINGTON CANAL--THEN AND NOW", a two-part slide show
will be presented by Ruth Hummel and Melvin Schneidermeyer.

Ruth Hummel will present the story of the boats, the teams and
the men who made the canal run; much local lore from many towns;
buildings and sites related to the waterway.

Melvin Schneidermeyer has traveled the length of the Farmington
Canal and has captured on film all that remains. He describes and
illustrates the 1820's construction details and operating practices
of the 20 years of the Canal's use.

Mrs. Hummel is author of "The Farmington Canal in Plainville,
Conn" and writes columns of an historical nature for the New Britain
Herald. She is President of the Plainville Historical Society and is
active in conservation as well as historical circles.

Mr. Schneidermeyer has published "The Sequestered Land", an
historical atlas of Southington. He collects and sells antique maps
and is an active member of the Southington Historical Society.

These two speakers have formed the Farmington Canal Corridor
Association, dedicated to the preservation of the remaining segments
of the Canal.

This program presents much new data from old records recently
purchased by the Plainville Historical Society.

This is certain to be a program from which we can all learn
about a seldom-heard aspect of the history of Connecticut. Please
come and bring friends on March 25.

SCHEDULING SECRETARY--We are very pleased to announce that this position
will be filled by Mrs. Alfred Brancato (Carol), a long-term docent
and dedicated volunteer. Please call Carol at the Society (378-0630)
or at home (375-8187) to schedule your favorite group for a tour of
Judson House and the Mitchell Museum.

(Over)

EDUCATION--On Thursday, March 17, several teachers from the Stratford School System will meet at our museum for a capsulized History of Stratford course to be given by Judy Kurmay, our First Vice-President and Acting Education Chairman. We are most pleased that the teachers recognize the Stratford Historical Society as the source of valuable information and welcome them to our facilities.

ANTIQUES SHOW AND SALE--April 9 and 10, 1983

Enclosed with this Newsletter is your discount admission coupon for the Show. Please plan to attend one or both days--one ticket is good for two days.

Call Margaret Van Gieson (378-5555) if you will contribute to her Bake Sale table--or just bring your donation when you attend the show.

Hiram Tindall (974-1819) and Bonnie Paradise (377-2332) are eager to receive your antique/tag sale items for sale at the Society's booth. If it is more convenient, you may bring donations to the museum on Tuesdays before 1:30 pm. (Use the lower level door, please.)

We do hope for another year of maximum membership participation. This is your chance to be involved in one aspect of the Society's work.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE contributions have been received as follows:

In memory of:

Arden L. Sniffen

Mrs. William R. Breetz

Miss Helen Pragman

Harold V. Bailey

Helen Deegan

Given by:

Todd & Carol Lovell
Clare & Vel Spamer

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Fowler

Hiram Tindall
Clare & Vel Spamer

Rev. Walter Schmidt
Elizabeth B. Bailey
Ada Birdwell
Ruth Hazinec
Sidney Bailey
Norman Anderson
Mrs. Harold V. Bailey
Co-workers of Harold V. Bailey

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Fowler
Selma & Irving Dobkin

Correction: In the last Newsletter, a contribution from Miss Elizabeth Johnson should have been listed as In Memory of Marie Birge.

JUDSON HOUSE will open for the 1983 season on Saturday, April 16. We will need people to greet visitors and assist our guides. If you can give a few hours on a Wed., Sat., or Sun. through October, please call Mrs. Raymond Grandchamp at 377-2273. She is planning the schedule now.

LECTURES--Two lectures on "The Spirits of 1776" will be given at the University of Bridgeport's Bernhard Center, 84 Iranistan Ave, in the Recital Hall. March 24: "The Social Context"--Prof. Christopher Collier of the History Dept.--April 7: "The Literary Mirror"--Prof. Wilson Kinnach of the English Dept. Admission is free--7:30 pm

NEW CALENDAR IDEA--A 1984 SCENES OF OLD STRATFORD Calendar, each month illustrated by an appropriate picture from our extensive collection of glass plate negatives done by W. Howard Wilcoxson, is "in the works". With identification and classification done by Lewis Knapp, with technical assistance from Robert Burns, with planning by Donald Fowler, Elden Dustin, Einar Larson, and Robert Burns, we propose to produce an unusually fine calendar which will give deserved honor to Mr. Wilcoxson. At a selling price of no more than \$4.00 each, this project can yield the society a satisfactory profit.

To help the committee plan for the number of calendars to be printed, please complete the tear-off below. We would appreciate your response.

Next Board Meeting: April 25
Antiques Show and Sale: April 9, 10

Sincerely,

Carol H. Lovell

Mrs. Todd B. Lovell, Pres.

I would be interested in purchasing _____ copies of the calendar described in the Newsletter. I understand that this is to signify intent and does not obligate me or the Society.

NAME _____ TEL. _____

ADDRESS _____