

The Stratford Historical Society

Box 382, Stratford, Connecticut 06497
Telephone 378-0630



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

November 1985

Our General Membership meeting on November 22 will feature Lewis Knapp of our society who will present a slide program entitled, "Stratford: The Five Stages of Her History." The program will include photos from several sources but especially from the Howard Wilcoxson glass plate negatives collection and the Frederick Beach collection. The Beach collection portrays Stratford from the 1860's through the end of the 19th century.

Historical Society Curator Hiram Tindall gave a slide presentation entitled, "Stratford and the China Trade" on October 11 at the Lord Chamberlain Convalescent Home.

Both Lew and Hi have given presentations at our meetings in the past and have been extremely well received. I'm sure this was the case at Lord Chamberlain and we're looking forward to another outstanding program by Lew on November 22. Be sure to be present. This year we've scheduled the November meeting early (the Friday before Thanksgiving) so that it won't interfere with the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Our September meeting was delayed a week because of the effects of Hurricane Gloria but was also well worth waiting for. Elden Dustin treated us to a very well researched and presented lecture-slide show on the French Louisbourg Fortress on Cape Breton Island.

The October visit by the Fifth Connecticut Regiment provided attendees with valuable insights into military life in the 18th Century. Members of the Regiment were evidently pleased also as the following letter was received from them recently (quoted in part).

"... every visit the 5th has made to your fine town has been somehow special. Many of us still remember the last visit in 1981 and how interesting and friendly everyone was then. We found the same welcome this time and we would all like to express to the members that we do appreciate the interest that was shown."

Annual memberships are now due and most members have probably already received their notices. Payment now will relieve

the Secretary of the need to send another notice. The dues schedule is as follows: Senior Citizen, \$5.00; Individual, \$7.50; Contributing, \$15.00; Business, \$25.00; Life, \$150.00. Life memberships may be paid in three consecutive payments and the life member is thereafter exempt from further payment of dues. All types of dues are an important part of our financial support representing about 12 percent of annual revenue for the Society. Please continue to be a supporting part of the Stratford Historical Society.

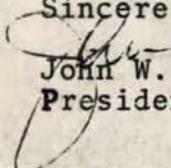
I've also been asked to report that members interested in purchasing a 1986 Society calendar should do so soon. We didn't order as many this year and they're going fast - good Christmas gifts, you know.

Jeff Williams reports that the Antique Show plans are preceding nicely. The Show is scheduled for April 5, 1986 at the Baldwin Center. It's not too early to start looking around for excess items in your home which the Society might be able to sell.

Wish List: Concerning donatable items our Curator, Hi Tindall, reports that the Society could use two strong, but not necessarily new, folding card tables. Just call the Society Museum at 378-0630 on any Tuesday and we'll arrange to have them picked up.

See you at our next General Membership meeting, Friday, November 22, 8:00 p.m., at the Parish Hall, Stratford United Methodist Church.

Sincerely,


John W. Sober
President