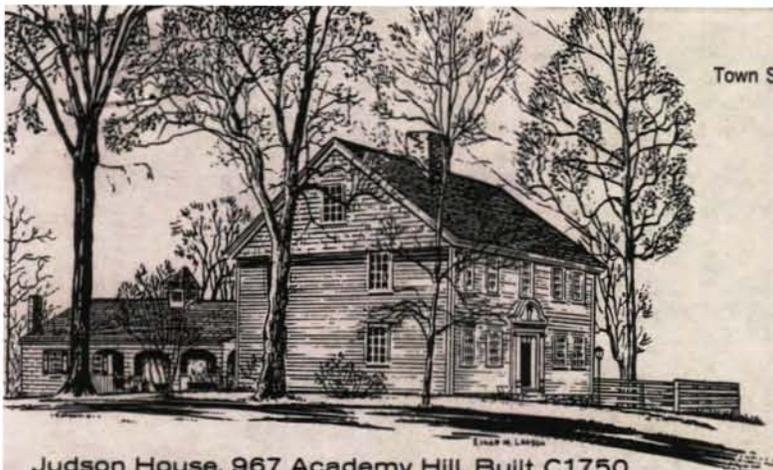


The Stratford Historical Society

Box 382, Stratford, Connecticut 06497
Telephone 378-0630



Judson House, 967 Academy Hill, Built 1750
and Catharine B. Mitchell Museum, 1958

MAY 1986

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
May 30, 1986 8:00 p.m.
Parish Hall, Stratford United
Methodist Church, 2600 Main St.

"Seldom Seen Treasures of the Stratford Historical Society"

At our meeting this month we'll be looking at some rare artifacts right under our nose; items from our own collection. Curator Hi Tindall and Bob Burns have been busy assembling and photographing for a slide presentation, items which we don't often see. Included will be the first automobile license plate issued in Stratford (1908). It is hand made of wood with brass letters and numbers. Other items to be seen in this interesting slide presentation will be furniture, fabrics, documents, pictures and ephemera(?). All items are Stratford related.

Plan to be present for what sounds like an interesting show.

Antique Show Is A Success

Our April 5 antique show earned a record net income of \$5,832.87. This is gratifying and a testimonial to the hard work and dedication of our members who made this show such a success. Everyone who worked on the show deserves to feel proud. In addition, I heard many comments from those in attendance who were impressed by the quality of merchandise available and the efficient way in which the show was organized.

Weekend Guides Needed - Or Else

At our Board meeting April 28 members voted reluctantly to close Judson House one day during the weekend if another guide cannot be located soon. Currently, we simply do not have enough people to keep the house open both days. If you think you might be interested in showing the house or know of someone who might be interested, please contact the Society - soon. This is a paying job.

Like to Garden?

If so, Bessie Burton and Helen Chagares, Co-Chairpersons of our

Landscape and Colonial Gardens Committee would like to talk to you. Even an hour or so now and then working in our gardens would be appreciated. Call the Society Tuesday or Thursday.

Proposed Constitution and By-Law Changes

Your attention is directed to the enclosed page detailing changes being proposed for our Constitution and By-Laws. Basically, these changes would add one new class of Society membership and remove the specific dues structure from the By-Laws. Questions will be answered at our May 30 meeting.

Baskets, Baskets Baskets ...

Please also see the second attached sheet providing information on our highly successful basket making classes. Included is information on basket classes in the future in case you would like to participate.

Carol Lovell and Muriel Cumpstone are to be congratulated for keeping this popular activity going and for bringing in some \$700 in revenue for the Society.

Calendar Credits

Many thanks are due to the members who made our 1986 Stratford Historical Society Calendar a success. The committee consisted of Bob Burns, Chairman; Elden Dustin; Donald Fowler; Lewis Knapp; Einar Larson; Carol Lovell; Joseph Moore; and Judith Kurmay.

We would also like to thank Mr. Matt Wailgum, President of Bell-rock Color, Inc., Stratford, who has for two years donated materials and expertise used for posters to advertise our calendars. Thanks also to Mr. Henry McLaughlin for the original layout of the poster.

Profit from the calendar this year was approximately \$2,000.

Glass Paperweights

The Society has just received a collection of beautiful glass paperweights, a gift of the late Jane Caulkins. They are now being accessioned and studied and will be on exhibit shortly.

Book Exchange

We now have two requests for copies of the History of Stratford. If you have a copy you would like to sell we definitely have buyers. At present, copies of this work are selling for approximately \$100.00.

Town Hall Celebrates 50th Anniversary

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the construction of the Stratford Town Hall. This handsome colonial structure which has become a local landmark, was built in 1936 with a Public Works Administration grant for an approximate cost of \$194,000. It stands on the historic "North Parade" used in colonial times for drilling of the local militia. The street between the Town Hall and Stratford High School is still known as North Parade St.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Velmore Spamer reports that donations have been received as follows:

In memory of Miss Jane Calkins

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fowler
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Tindall

In memory of Ellen Ryan Foley

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Dobkin

In memory of Jerold Jacaruso

Mr. and Mrs. Einar Larson
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fowler
Mr. and Mrs. Velmore Spamer
Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Tindall

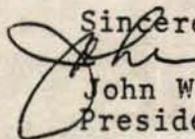
In memory of Philip Lang

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Dobkin

"Given in gratitude for the new Harold Lovell Flag Pole in Stratford Center" by Ethelyn Sniffen Hall.

See you at our meeting on May 30th.

Sincerely,


John W. Sober
President

Notification of proposed changes in the Constitution and By-laws of
The Stratford Historical Society:

Proposed change to Constitution: Re: ARTICLE III--Membership

Current: There shall be seven types of membership: Senior Citizen
(those 65 years of age and over), Individual, Contributing,
Business, Life, Honorary and Emeritus.

PROPOSED CHANGE: There shall be eight types of membership: 1. Senior
Citizen (65 years of age and over), 2. Individual,
3. Supporting, 4. Business, 5. Contributing, 6. Life,
7. Honorary, 8. Emeritus.

The PROPOSED CHANGE is the addition of one (1) category: SUPPORTING.

Proposed changes in By-laws: Re: ARTICLE II--Dues

PROPOSED DELETION:

Section 1. Classes of membership shall include: Senior
Citizen \$5.00 annually; Individual \$7.50 annually;
Contributing \$15.00 annually; Business \$25.00 annually;
Life \$150.00 (which may be paid in three consecutive
installments). Life members shall thereafter be exempt from
payment of dues. The monies from Life memberships shall
be incorporated into the Trust Fund account. Honorary and
Emeritus members are also exempt from payment of dues.

PROPOSED ADDITION:

Section 1. Appropriate annual dues for each type of
membership, as listed in the Constitution (Article III)
shall be determined by the Governing Board.

PROPOSED ADDITION:

Section 4. Life members, upon payment of the full
amount, shall thereafter be exempt from payment of dues.
The monies from Life memberships shall be incorporated
into the Trust Fund account. Honorary and Emeritus
members are exempt from payment of dues.

(This section was formerly included in Section 1.)

**The primary purpose of these changes is the removal of a dues structure
from the By-Laws of the Stratford Historical Society.

Proposal made March, 1986

Donald Fowler

Judy Kurmay

Jane Lafferty

Carol Lovell

Kay Moore

David Wiggin