

Town Settled 1639

Society Organized 1925



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



January, 1989

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:
Friday, Jan. 27, 1989, 8:00 PM
Stratford United Methodist Church
2605 Main St.

In case of bad weather, please listen to radio station WICC:600.

Mr. Joseph Ferry, former physics professor and now an independent insurance agent, has pursued antique Music Boxes as a hobby for more than 25 years. At our meeting he will demonstrate the construction of music boxes and explain how they work.

Those of you who have music boxes are encouraged to bring them to the meeting at which time Mr. Ferry will diagnose problems and/or tell you some interesting facts about your music box.

Another part of our program will be presented by Mr. Michael White who is the chairman of the 350th committee to beautify Academy Hill. He will present to us the plans for creating a new fresh look for our very old common land which has been town property for 350 years.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE chair persons Elizabeth Hanusovsky and Carol Brancato have set Thurs., Jan. 19, 9:30 AM as the starting date for our annual Docent training classes. The series of classes will run for approximately 8 weeks and will focus on Judson House: the lifestyle and the families which lived in the house in the 18th century. Former docents are urged to attend in order to freshen their knowledge. New persons interested in showing the Judson House to groups are strongly encouraged to attend these classes which are of great interest to persons interested in part of the history of Stratford. Classes will last for approximately two hours and will meet in the Catharine B. Mitchell Museum. Please call the Society number above or Carol Brancato, 375-8187 or Elizabeth Hanusovsky, 378-4351 to register or for further information.

Over

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS UPDATE: Article X of the By-Laws of the Society requires that these documents be reviewed every five years. This review has been completed by a committee of the Governing Board and their proposals have been approved by the Board.

A revised edition of the Constitution and By-Laws has been prepared for consideration by the membership of the Society. Copies will be available at the next General Meeting on Jan. 27, 1989, or may be obtained at the Museum on Tuesdays or Thursdays until 2:30 PM. A vote on the proposed changes will be taken at the General Meeting on March 17, 1989.

No major changes have been proposed. Essentially an effort has been made to bring the By-Laws in line with present procedures as they have developed during the past few years, to merge some committees which work closely together, and to simplify language and omit repetition. Amendments regarding membership and dues which were voted into effect in 1986 have been incorporated into the new edition.

Please take the time to review the proposed Constitution & By-Laws which you attend the January meeting. Many thanks to Jane Lafferty who chaired the revision committee.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE CONTRIBUTIONS have been received as follows:

In Memory of:
Marjorie Silliman Irving

Given by:
Peg and Mort Judd
Connie & Hiram Tindall
J. Finn
Donald & Alma Fowler
Ethel Peck

Grace Parmelee Peterson

Selma & Irving Dobkin
Donald & Alma Fowler

Harriet Beecher Blakeman

Donald & Alma Fowler
Andrew L. Harding, Jr.

Einar Larson

Rosamond & Elden Dustin

Bequests have been received from the estate of Miss Frances Blakeman and from the estate of Emily F. Zeller, a life member who died in November at the age of 92. The funds from Miss Blakeman have come to us upon the death of her sister Miss Harriet Blakeman. A gift has been received from Ruth Beardsley Parker and Donald Parker of DeWitt, NY in memory of Mrs. Parker's father and brother. The bequests have been placed into the Endowment Fund, and the gift has been placed into the Beardsley Fund which was established by the Parkers.

The Society is most grateful for these generous donations.

MEMBERSHIP cards have been enclosed with this newsletter for those of you who did not receive yours in November's letter. If you feel that you have paid dues for the year which began Oct. 1, 1988 please let us know. Second requests for dues have been received by those members who are not yet current. If these late dues are not received by March 1, unpaid members will be dropped from the membership.

THE NEW HISTORY OF STRATFORD by Lewis Knapp is selling well at the pre-publication price of \$27.95 (inc. \$1.95 CT sales tax). This volume is due from the publisher and will be available June 30, 1989. Now is the time to place your order. This history will be like no other history of Stratford and should be owned by all who are interested in the venerable Town of Stratford, particularly in this 350th anniversary year.

ERRATA:

The 1989 Calendar has two errors: March 31 has been omitted, June has been given 31 days!! The other months are correct as printed. Therefore, it will be necessary for you to add 31 to March and cross out 31 for June. We regret the inaccuracies, but ask your forgiveness for human error. Thank you.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE MAY MEETING is herewith presented. This regularly scheduled General Membership meeting, to be held on Friday, May 12, 1989 will be a dinner meeting. The ladies of the Methodist Church will provide our dinner from fruit cup to dessert. The program will be a talk by Mr. Serge Sikorsky which will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Igor Sikorsky, and the 50th anniversary of the first helicopter. Mr. Sikorsky will use slides made from his father's collection of early aviation photographs.

The cost per person will be \$10.00 with a choice of chicken or roast beef. Seating will be limited to 200 persons. If you wish to attend this dinner, please send to us your payment and choice of entree.

IN PURSUIT OF PARADISE
350 years
1639 to 1989
A New History of Stratford, Connecticut

Published in 1989 for the
TRICENTQUINQUAGENARY

Of The Town of Stratford

Mail to: Stratford Historical Society Attn.: History
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you do not wish to have them mailed.

Please mark your calendar for July 16, 1989 for the Early
American Demonstration/Craft show and sale which the Society will
be presenting on our property. Details will be forthcoming in
future newsletters. It should be a great day for the Society and
the townspeople!

Remember: Music Boxes--Jan. 27, 1989.

Sincerely,

Carol H. Lovell

Mrs. Todd B. Lovell, Pres.