



Town Settled 1639

Society Organized 1921

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

September 1994

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Friday, Sept. 23, 1994--8:00PM
Christ Episcopal Church Hall
2000 Main St., Stratford

The 69th Annual Meeting of the Stratford Historical Society, including Election of Officers for the 1994-1995 year will be held on Friday, September 24, 1994. Following a brief business meeting, the program will feature...

THE JOURNAL OF SARAH KEMBLE KNIGHT, 1704

Two hundred and ninety years ago Sarah Kemble Knight passed through Stratford during her remarkable journey from Boston to New York...a time when there were few roads, ferries or bridges. She recorded her experiences in a journal, which is one of the few pieces of humor from the Puritan era.

Madam Knight's document is a travel journal written in 1704 by a woman, but more striking is the fact that she kept this journal while on a business trip. She left Boston on horseback, at a time before there were stagecoaches, real roads or many bridges and ferries. And she went alone, depending on postal and local guides to show her the way. From her sophisticated Bostonian perspective she provided a witty account of rustics, tavern accommodations, towns and the customs and appearance of their inhabitants.

The Stratford Historical Society will sponsor this presentation about the journey by writer and Knight-scholar, Janet Burnett Gerba, PhD., who conducted part of her research for a historical novel at the society's library.

This most interesting meeting is open to the public.

Refreshments will be served following the program.

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1995 Exhibit plans include "Scenes of Stratford" in oil, watercolor or needlework. If you have or know of such scenes, especially before 1900, we would like to know of them.

A new walk and terrace are in place at the Museum building. The Society recently acquired \$3,000 worth of first quality paving stones formerly at Yale University. These were free for the taking and, thanks to David Schrader and the H.C. Lovell Co., are now in place. They were used for a new walkway from the street to the office and for a terrace at the rear of the museum building addition to the newly constructed storage shed. Next step: appropriate planting beds to complete this new office entrance to the Society.

Our silhouette of Flora, 1796, slave of Asa Benjamin of Stratford, continues to be in demand for reproduction. Recently requests have come from Australia for permission to use her likeness in a book on Aboriginal hair styles and from the Norton Publishing Co. of New York to include her in a book on Slavery.

Wilcoxson's *History of Stratford, 1639-1939*, is again available. One copy, in fine condition, is priced at \$100. The other copy became damp at one time and has slightly wrinkled pages which are, however, in perfectly readable condition. The price for this copy is \$70.00. Please call the Society at 203-378-0630 or write us at the address in the letterhead if you are interested in purchasing one or the other.

The Society is always interested in acquiring copies of Wilcoxson's *History of Stratford, 1639-1939* as well as the same volume with an additional chapter: *History of Stratford, 1639-1969*. Again, call 203-378-0630 if you would be interested in donating or selling a copy.

Charles Herbert Moore, 1840-1930, was a Stratford artist who lived in the Putney section of town. The Society recently received a request for information about him. We do know that his niece, Mrs. Theodore Krueger, lived in his house on Main St., Putney, just south of Boothe Memorial Park. If anyone has, or knows of, paintings by this local artist or has information about his life, please call the Society or write to us.

Jack Wardman, a long time member, past president and friend of the Society has passed away. Jack was a generous benefactor and active member. We are thankful for his devotion to the Society.

It is with great sadness that we mark the passing of Elizabeth M. "Betty" Hanusovsky who was not only a Life Member, but a most actively involved member. She served on many committees and held several chairmanships. She worked willingly, quietly and efficiently. We miss her.

(continued)

Book of Remembrance Contributions:

Given By:

In Memory of:

Margaret Van Giesen
 M/M Peter Dahl
 M/M Thomas Bradbury
 M/M Elden Dustin

Nancy Calkins
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 "
 "

M/M Joseph Schlosser
 Mrs. Betty Applegate

Edward Claussen
 "

Margaret Van Giesen
 M/M Hiram Tindall
 Louis Petriel, Jr.
 M/M Thomas Bradbury
 Mrs. Betty Applegate
 Mrs. Beverly Tabak
 M/M Elden Dustin
 M/M Todd Lovell
 Margaret Jacaruso
 M/M Robert Dickgiesser

Betty Hanusovsky
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Catherine Lawrence
 M/M Hiram Tindall
 M/M Peter Dahl
 M/M R. Holdsworth
 M/M Elden Dustin
 M/M Todd Lovell
 Betty Applegate
 Margaret Jacaruso

Jack Wardman
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In Celebration of the 90th Birthday of
 Alma Fowler

M/M Todd Lovell

M/M Hildreth Winton

Next Meeting: Friday, December 2, 1994

Vincent Hardy, President

The director of the Glebe House in Woodbury has asked us to inform our members of the following:

"The first annual Glebe House Muster Day will take place on Sunday, September 25th at White Memorial in Litchfield. The grounds will reverberate with the sounds of reenactors presenting all the activities associated with the 18th century village mustering day which was part troop maneuvers and part festive fair day.

Costumed 'villagers', Revolutionary War soldiers, musicians, purveyors of authentic food, and artisans demonstrating their ancient crafts will provide a sense of living history. Fun is planned for the entire family and guests are encouraged to attend in appropriate costume.

The event is being sponsored by area businesses and groups and is designed as a fund raiser for Woodbury's Glebe House Museum and Jekyll Garden. For more information please contact the museum at 263-2855.



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Dear Stratford Historical Society Member:

It's that time again when we send out the Membership Renewal envelopes. This one envelope is to be used when husband and wife are, or will become members--\$20.00; Individuals--\$10.00; Seniors--husband and wife--\$14.00; Seniors--individual--\$7.00.

You will note that there are other Dues categories printed on the envelope. There are Business, Supporting and Contributing Memberships. These give an opportunity for more substantial support. Members are urged to consider 'Life Memberships'.

We welcome additional gifts not related to dues to help accomplish special projects.

Your membership in and support of the Stratford Historical Society are reasons for the continuing success of your organization in its work to keep alive the noble history of the Town of Stratford.

Please help your Society by sending in your Membership Dues as soon as possible. This will save the cost of postage involved in follow-up letters.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Jane & Bob Allen
Membership Chairpersons