



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

GENERAL MEETING - Friday, November 17, 1995 - 8:00 P.M.

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH HALL, MAIN ST., STRATFORD, CT.

Speaker: Al Gambone, Author Lecturer

Subject: The Non-Military Ulysses S. Grant

Woodbury resident, Al Gambone, Civil War Author and Lecturer, will regale the audience at the November 17th meeting of the Stratford Historical Society with an informative, humorous and insightful talk about the 18th President of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant. Mr. Gambone has collected more than 2000 books on Civil War subjects and takes pains in his lectures to debunk myths and dispel historical misconceptions, and ILLUSTRATES HIS COMMENTARY WITH SLIDES. This year Mr. Gambone published a biography entitled "Major General John F. Hartranft, Citizen Soldier and Pennsylvania Statesman" and in early 1996 will follow with a work about General Samuel K. Zook, both Generals natives of Mr. Gambone's Birthplace, Norristown, Pa. Copies of the biography of General Hartranft will be available for sale at the meeting.

Though Mr. Gambone's expertise has been recognized with lectures in Derby, Waterbury, Westport and Woodbury, Ct., Gettysburg and Philadelphia, Pa., and Antietam, Md., Al Gambone is self-employed in the packaging field. He resides in Woodbury, Ct. with his wife Nancy and their children.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND THE ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

VICTORY WHETMORE PORTRAIT - Recently Richard Modlener of McLean, Virginia sent us a portrait of Victory Whetmore, son of Isrialiah Whetmore who was pastor of the Congregational Church during the Revolution. It had been cleaned and is in a fine period frame. We will hang it in the dining room. It is possible that Victory Whetmore visited in Judson House.

JUDSON HOUSE CLOSING - Judson House will close at the end of October and reopen in mid May of 1996.

PARADISE GREEN - We are anxious to obtain photographs of the Paradise Green area, especially of early stores in the area. We have a large collection of Stratford photos, but none of this area. We are also anxious to have photographs of early Stratford farms.

THANK YOU - A number of people included gifts of various sizes along with their annual memberships. These gifts are always welcome and appreciated.

HOUSE PAINTING - Judson House has been scraped and will have been painted by the time you receive this Newsletter. It is still red.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING - Remember "In Pursuit of Paradise" makes an excellent Christmas gift. Call 378-0630. If no one is there leave a message on the tape.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS - The following have just become Life Members:

Mr. Richard Frye, Jr., of Trumbull
Mr. Louis Snyder, Jr., of Fairfield
Mrs. G. F. Robinson of Litchfield
Mr. H. J. Wilson of Wallingford
Mr. George Kennan of Princeton, N.J.

ANTIQUA SHOW AND SALE - We will collect items: books, furniture, Bric Brac at any time. Just leave a message on the tape. It is best to get chairs needing new seats or items to be repaired early.

EARLY AMERICAN FESTIVAL - The weather cooperated to make the festival most enjoyable. Thanks to all who helped. A number of new memberships resulted.

QUILTS - On Saturday, October 7th, the Connecticut Quilters spent the day inspecting and evaluating our quilt collection. For each quilt the pattern was named, date given, condition noted, dimensions recorded and a picture taken. This data will be included in a publication.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS - Membership cards have been included in this Newsletter if your dues are up to date. If you feel you have paid and a card is not included please let us know. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible.

UNIFORM COLLECTION - A request has been made to inspect our collection which includes items from the Revolution, the War of 1812 and all military action since.

FUTURE PROGRAMS -

January 26, 1996 - Nicholas Bellantoni, the Connecticut State Archaeologist will speak. "A Review of Connecticut's Historical and Industrial Archaeological Sites."

March 29, 1996 - The Hendrickson Group, "Colonial Workshop in Music, Dance, Social Customs, Humor and Clothing."

May 31, 1996 - To be announced.