



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

May 1996

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Friday, May 31, 1996--8:00pm
Christ Episcopal Church, 2000 Main St., Stratford

“AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MINIATURE WORLD”

Vito and Marie Sorge

Vito and Marie Sorge, residents of Oronoque Village, Stratford, have been crafters and collectors of miniatures for about 18 years. They are members of The National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts and locally, members and past officers of The Miniature Collector's Guild, Inc., a Connecticut chapter of N.A.M.E., meeting monthly at the Sterling House, Stratford, CT.

Vito is a retired property accounting supervisor, from Textron-Lycoming and Marie, a retired executive assistant to the CEO of Sturm, Ruger and Company.

Vito has always had a love of handcrafting, starting as a child with airplane and boat modeling, then onto woodcrafting of furniture and accessories. He was introduced to the scale miniature world of buildings, furniture, ect., by Evelyn and Frank Gerratana, who are known for their miniature crafting and collecting worldwide. Marie joined Vito by decorating and landscaping his creations.

Their presentation will consist of a general history of the miniature world and a display of many of their creations, including a Williamsburg Colonial carpenter's home and shop, a Florida type fruit stand, a Cape Cod ship gallery and a Victorian Gazebo and garden.



The meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

ANTIQUÉ SHOW AND SALE

As usual, the Society's members were very supportive of the annual Antiqué Show. We want to thank those who baked, donated items, wrote checks, helped set up, worked at the show or helped clean up. A special thanks to Board Member Diane Wright, who crocheted and donated a beautiful Irish Afghan. The Afghan was raffled off and won by Ray Cable of Milford. As in years past, cooperation from members and friends made the sale a success.

This is our major fundraiser. Since the income from our Endowments do not increase as rapidly as our expenses, profits from the Antiqué Show are important. We cleared approximately \$5,000 this year.

CAKE PLATE

A Pfaltzgraff cake plate is looking for its owner. It was delivered to the bake sale at the Antiqué Show. If the owner would leave a message on our tape (378-0630) we will be glad to drop it off minus the goodies.

JUDSON HOUSE OPENING

Judson House will be open for the season by the time you receive this Newsletter. The exhibit "Views of Stratford" continues through this season at the Dickgiesser/Viner wing of the Museum. Also at the Museum, the U.S. Baird Company has mounted an exhibit for their 150th Anniversary. The Baird Company came to Stratford in 1914 from Waterbury. Watch the local newspapers for further details concerning this exhibit.

JUDSON HOUSE DOORWAY

For approximately one month this summer the doorway of Judson House will be under restoration. Over the past 250 years there has been a build up of paint, some deterioration, and a number of unauthentic repairs. Professional restorers have been hired to put it in as near original condition as possible to preserve it for future generations. The doorway is an important architectural feature of Judson House and has been featured in several books of New England architecture. One book, Connecticut Valley Doorways by Amelia Miller, suggests that our scroll pediment was the model for many Connecticut Valley doorways.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Mr. Vincent Hardy, Grounds Chairman, would appreciate help in planting flowers and maintaining the gardens. If you can give a few hours of your time call Vince at (375-4230).

PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

Recently, Harold Lovell, Jr. donated three group pictures of early Stratford baseball teams with the teams and the players identified. We are anxious to have group pictures, especially when both the group and members are identified.

STRATFORD DECOY CARVERS

We would like to add photographs of the following Stratford decoy carvers to our collection . The following are names of those we are looking for:

Bruce Weller	Disbrow
Charles D. Wicks, Sr.	Kenneth Peck
Albert Lang	William Bedell III
Willard Baldwin	William Lattin
Reginald Culver	Swan Brewster

HELEN MUNGER BEQUEST

Five hundred dollars has been added to our Endowment from the estate of Mrs. Stillman Munger, a longtime generous member. Over the years Mrs. Munger donated many fine items for our permanent collection.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Contributions have been made as follows:

In Memory of	Given by
Mrs. H. James (Anne) Wilson	Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Tindall
"	Mrs. Mary Dickgiesser
"	Ms Margaret Jacaruso

EARLY AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Sept. 29th is the date of the Early American Festival. Craft participants, in authentic period clothing, will be showing their authentic goods. We will again have the pleasure of watching the military maneuvers of the mounted group of Shelton Light Horse Dragoons. This will be a fun day and an event the whole family will enjoy.

1997 ANTIQUE SHOW

We accept items all during the year for the annual Antique Show. Think of us when you come across the following:

- Post Cards
- Old Kitchen Items
- Baskets or Old Boxes
- Old Bottles
- Chairs needing new seats or repairs
- Small Furniture in need of repair
- Crocks, Glassware, China
- Silver, Brass, Copper or Iron objects
- Old Jewelry
- How to Books: Gardening, Cookbooks, Hobbies, Antiques, Paperbacks, Coffee Table Books, etc.

The Book Booth cleared \$1,000 this year.

Judith Kurmay, President