
Stratford Historical Society >> UPDATE

A Hand on the PAST >> An Eye to the FUTURE

Volume XI Issue 5

May 2007



Capt. David Judson House c 1750
Catharine B. Mitchell Museum

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday May 25, 2007 - 7:00pm

Christ Episcopal Church
2000 Main Street, Stratford

Carolyn Ivanoff

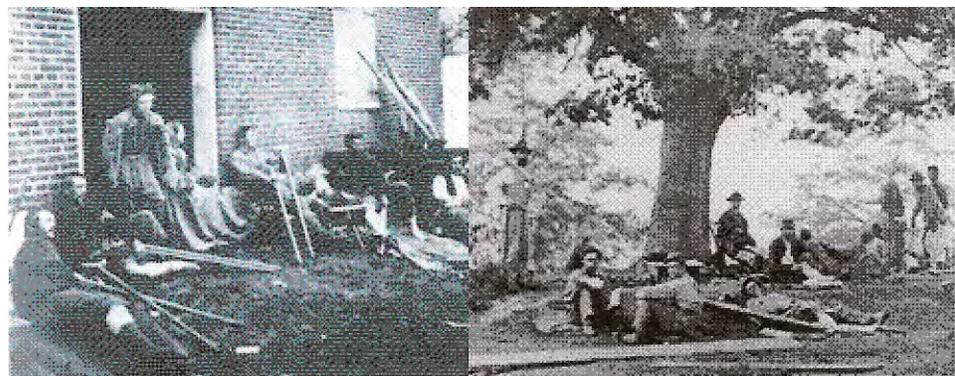
Civil War Medicine

Myth, Maggots, Minnie Balls,

Once again the Stratford Historical Society is privileged to have Carolyn Ivanoff speak at our Membership Meeting. On September 29, 2006 at a very well attended meeting she presented a thoroughly documented account of the 70 year fight for Woman's Suffrage.

This time we will learn of the struggle by the Physicians and Aides who attended to the wounded and dieing during the raging battles of the Civil War. The primitive tools and medicines that were available and the deplorable conditions under which they had to work. Disease killed far more men in both armies than did bullets. Medical knowledge was so inadequate that the sick or wounded soldier sent to a hospital was as likely to find it a step to the grave as a way to recovery.

Carolyn Ivanoff is a housemaster at Shelton High School and presents historical programs to schools and the community. She is active in several local historical societies and was Civil War Preservation Trust Teacher of the Year in 2003.



The meeting is open to the Public
Refreshments will be served — Bring a Friend
Note: Meeting to start promptly at 7pm.

**Rudy Mastroianni
President**

New Members

The following are new members who have joined the Society during the year 2006-2007. Members receive five Newsletters each year, suggestions are always welcome.

From Stratford:

Carolyn & Thomas Angelo

Albert Bagoly

Peter Brown

Paul Byrne

James Capasso

Victoria Coulson

Maureen Doherty

John Elwood

Marie Emond

Dr. Dennis Feinberg

Senator George L. Gunther

Thomas Halverson

John & Pamela Hutchinson

Lorraine & Thomas Jezierny

Michael Kling

Gail Liscio

Arch & Vivian Manzione

Leonard Mercorio

John Mezzacappa

Charles Nichols

Nancy Phillips

Sandra Rhodes

Rev. Robert Stuhlman

Catherine Tymniak

Robert Tisdell

Dee & James Watt

Bart Scott - from Derby

Howard Tomlin - from Hamden

Paul Stein - from New Canaan

And one new Life Member:

Donna Meier

Book of Remembrance

In Memory of

Cornelia (Connie) Tindall

Given By:

Robert & Dolores Hoctor

Marie E. Blake

Carol & Todd Lovell

Gloria Duggin

Margaret Jacaruso

In Memory of

David Guion

Given By:

Eleanor Guion

Robin & Christopher Mojcik



Grave Sites Available

The Stratford Historical Society owns, through a 1989 bequest from Katherine Judson, 11 (eleven) grave sites in Mountain Grove Cemetery, Bridgeport, CT.

These sites are available for purchase at a cost of \$1,000 each. Contact the office, (203) 378-0630 for further information.

Civil War Medal

John C. Curtis, Sgt. Major, 9th Ct. Infantry. At Baton Rouge, La., 5 August 1862. "Voluntarily sought the line of battle and alone and unaided captured 2 prisoners, driving them before him to regimental headquarters at the point of the bayonet".

TO THE VOLUNTEERS

AN OLD SOLDIER'S ADVICE

1. Remember that in a campaign more men die from sickness than by the bullet.
2. Line your blanket with one thickness of brown drilling. This adds but 4 ounces in weight and doubles the warmth.
3. Buy a small Indian rubber blanket (only \$1.50) to lay on the ground, or to throw over your shoulders when on guard duty during a rain storm. Most of the eastern troops are provided with these. Straw to lie upon Straw to lie upon is not always to be had.
4. The best military hat in use is the light colored soft felt; the crown being sufficiently high to allow for space over the brain. You can fasten it up as a continental in fair weather, or turn it down when it is wet or very sunny.
5. When it is very hot, to avoid melting, or sun-stroke, wet your pocket handkerchief and put it in the top of your hat, on the crown of the head.
6. To cure and prevent sore feet, rub bsar-soap on the inside of your stockings.
7. Avoid the use of ardent spirits, which are more injurious in a hot than cold climate.
8. Let your beard grow, so as to protect the throat and lungs.
9. Keep your entire person clean; this prevents fevers and bowel complaints in warm climates. Wash your body each day if possible. Avoid strong coffee and oily meat. General Scott said that the too free use of these (together with neglect in keeping the body clean) cost many a soldier his life in Mexico.
10. A sudden check of perspiration by chilly or night air often causes fever and death. When thus exposed, do not forget your blanket.
11. Put this in your pocket and read it daily.

 The above directions having been submitted to me, I heartily concur in the advice and directions.

C. B. Coventry, M. D.

Ex-President of N.Y. State Medical Society

March Membership Meeting



Pictured with Society President, Rudy Mastroianni, is speaker, Daniel Cruson, who cited the slave population in various Fairfield towns prior to their emancipation, reviewed their housing and dress, recent artifact discoveries, and “the role of slaves and free blacks in the Revolution that hastened the demise of slavery in Connecticut”.

1854 Apr 30

Great flood in the river, much lumber floating by near the dock, men were grabbing the wood, one man (James Colwell) fell in and drowned. This flood the river was higher than ever before—damaged bridges, railroad, factories and mills.

Christ Church Celebration

May 20th 3-6pm

Join us to Celebrate 300 years of Christ Church in Stratford at a Historical Open House featuring a timeline, tours, and reception . at 2000 Main Street, Stratford, Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for children. The event will benefit the Historic Preservation Fund and the Bishop's Fund for Children. Reservations can be made by contacting the Church office at 377-4447. Also tickets will be available at the door.



Preparing for Memorial Day May 28, 2007

Stratford Historical Society

(203) 378-0630

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P.O.Box 382

Stratford, CT 06615-0382



COMPUTER CORNER

e-mail us at:

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Fax: 378-2562

Stratford Historical Society Board of Directors Meeting

June 25, 2007

Catharine B. Mitchell Museum

All members of the Society are Welcome to Attend

Please call 378-0630 for information

Raymond Doyle's Recollections of the Lordship Section of Stratford, a Small Residential Community abutting Long Island Sound - Part 1

(Raymond Doyle whose Mother owned *Peggy's Restaurant* in Lordship, now *Marnicks*)

I grew up in Lordship. My Mother Peggy Doyle ran a restaurant next to Pop Tristia's Restaurant. I don't know their given names. We just knew them as "Mom & Pop". They served Italian food and always had a good number of customers. Marty was their son. They all worked in the restaurant. It was a family affair. But that's getting ahead of things.

Lordship is located at the Southwest corner of the mouth of the Housatonic River. You can't miss the Light House on the bluff. Following the sound you go by the Bluffs, then Russian Beach, then the seawall, then the foot of Washington Parkway, then past to the cottages at Lordship, then down Long Beach to the Gap which separated the Pleasure Beach cottages from the Lordship Cottages.

I remember when there was no "Gap" there just one long stretch of land with cottages then a hurricane came in '38 and we had a "Gap" that flowed into the Meadows.

The Meadows was the area (swamps) between the Indian Community by the Oil tanks (Eagle's Nest) at the East end of Bridgeport and the Woods End and Airport property. If you continue past the airport property you came out at Short Beach and back to the Light House.

The Light House had a huge light that revolved 360⁰ and gave warn-ing to the rocky point at the head of the Housatonic in Lordship. Sailing south along the Connecticut coast you come upon "Point No Point"! That is the heading of the Housatonic where the Light House stands. It is called Point No Point because as you sail south you can see a point of land but as you get down to it there is no point. It is just bluffs and beach running down past Russian Beach. Mariners called it "Point No Point" because the point you see as you come south does not exist as you get there.

Walking the beach after a storm you would always find some salt saturated coal. Coal used to come in chunks and was transported in barges. Many are sunk in Long Island Sound. There is one SE of the mouth of the Housatonic. You can stand at the Light House and look down into the water. You can't see the barge but it's there.

When you dry this salt saturated coal it's colors are gorgeous when you burn it.

Don't go diving for the coal. Fishermen's nets there caught on the barges will trap you. Much easier to find would be the boxes of loose coins that spilled off the boat transporting them from New York harbor to the railway connection up by New London. The ferry type boat caught afire, burned and sank. They should have been located by now. Today's technology for recovering lost metal object is unreal.

The real treasure is on a sunken barge in the sound. It sank in a storm and not been recovered. A whole barge of stainless steel beams. Salt water does not damage stainless steel. Find it, and fight salvage rights against the insurance companies involved. In today's market its got to be valued over one million dollars. Nobody knows of this except a few people who were always out on the sound and beyond

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