
Stratford Historical Society >> UPDATE

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

Volume XII Issue 5

May 2008



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

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday May 30, 2008 - 7:00pm

Christ Episcopal Church

2000 Main Street, Stratford

Ash Creek String Band An Evening of Toe Tapping Music

Whether you come to dance or to listen, members of the Ash Creek String Band will be with us with their infectious good humor and toe-tapping music offering us a wonderful evening of fun.

For over 33 years, audiences throughout New England and the metropolitan New York area have been enjoying the music of Ash Creek String Band, at concerts, folk festivals, municipal events, and square dances. The group's repertoire includes old-time Appalachian music, Celtic music and southern gospel, and contemporary folk ballads, performed on guitar, mandolin, banjo, concertina, hammered dulcimer, pennywhistle, and the accordion. The band's vocal abilities complement the instrumentals.



Prior to the music program, The Stratford Historical Society will present three scholarships to graduating high school seniors who live in Stratford.

The meeting is open to the Public
Refreshments will be served — Bring a Friend
Note starting time now 7:00pm

Tim Jezierny

On April 15 our friend, colleague and 2nd VP, Tim Jezierny passed away. Our love and prayers go to Lorraine, his wife of 52 years, his children and grandchildren, all of whom Tim was so proud.

At the Historical Society, if something needed doing, Tim saw that it was done. Former President Harry Truman said it best: "It is amazing how much can be accomplished if no one seeks the credit." This was Tim; always helping because it was his nature to help; never seeking credit or praise. A simple Thank You was sufficient.

Tim's good counsel at Board meetings will be greatly missed as well as his 77 years of knowledge of Stratford history.

Thomas J. "Tim" Jezierny is and will be greatly missed by many. He was our friend!

Todd B. Lovell, 1st VP



Book of Remembrance

The following donations have been made in Memory of:

Ellen C. Williams

Given by:
Todd & Carol Lovell

Kim Plavcan

Given by:
Milt & Dixie Bassett
Adam & Amy Cukar
Stacy & Andrew McKeague
Patricia F. Scheerer
Mr. & Mrs. Starratt
Attorney Mark Valentine
Mr. & Mrs. Vercellone

"Tim" Jezierny

Given by:
SHS Governing Board
Todd & Carol Lovell

David Guion

Given by:
Eleanor Guion
Robin Mojcik

History Camp - 2008

History Camp will be held from July 7 through July 11 from 9:30 to 12:30. This year we will add a Walking Tour of the Historic District of Stratford.

While touring the District, we will learn what Stratford looked like in the 18th century. We will stop at various sites and hear stories and town legends. The tour will end at the Congregational cemetery where we will view the graves of town forefathers with a special stop at the grave of Capt. David Judson.

Each day will be devoted to an aspect of colonial life. From domestic candle and butter making to educational writing with quills and reading from hornbooks. Camp is very hands-on with related crafts each day.

On Friday, the new graduates, dressed in 18th century clothing, will conduct tours of the Capt. David Judson House for family and guests. Graduates will receive a diploma and will also become members of the Stratford Junior Historical Society. The camp week will end with a picnic on the Historical Society grounds.

Openings are limited to 20 students, so if you know of a child or grandchild who will be entering Grade 4 or higher who is interested in history, call the historical society office at 378-0630.



a



b

Where in town? Answers on back page.

Lordship Website

A wonderfully researched website is now available on line: lordshiphistory.com, created by Tom Halverson. Using original materials from the Stratford Historical Society collection, Tom has created a masterful Lordship resource in one place.

(Stratford Times - 1935)

Harry Flood Escapes Death in 40 ft. Fall

Harry B. Flood, of Warwick Ave., Stratford, narrowly escaped death when he fell from a tree in Stratford center Friday, landing in Tanner's Brook, 40 feet below. Mr. Flood, who was employed as a clerk in the hardware firm of H. C. Lovell & Co., was engaged in putting up a clothesline for a family occupying a third floor apartment in the Lovell Building.

Reaching the top of the tree, which is located in the rear of the Lovell Building, by means of an extension ladder, Mr. Flood seized a thick branch and attempted to climb further out. The limb proved rotten, however, and broke under his weight; causing him to fall and land in the mud on the bank of the brook.

Dr. Hennessey, then ordered him taken to the hospital after administering emergency treatment. Ex-rays taken at the hospital failed to disclose any broken bones and he was reported as resting comfortably.

Mr. Flood is widely known in this section, being a veteran of the World War and former Commander of the Stratford American Legion Post.. His friends hope for a quick recovery.

Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee of the Society will be awarding three \$1,000 scholarships this year to three graduating seniors from Stratford. The students are Bethany de Gant and Aleisa Tierney of Stratford High School, and Mark Yaworowski of Notre Dame Catholic High School.

The awards will be presented prior to our monthly meeting on Friday, May 30th at 7:00pm.

March Membership Meeting

A receptive audience joined with Carolyn Ivanoff as she and husband Nick, with the aid of slides, re-traveled the highways from Connecticut across the plains of the USA, passing through Canada, and into and about Alaska.



Saturday May 31st

Tag Sale - 9 to 3, & Antique Appraisal 10-1:30

The Catharine B. Mitchell Museum is becoming well stocked with items of a wide variety for the Spring Tag Sale on Saturday, May 31st.

Old furniture, in moderately good condition, such as old dressers, tables, headboards, chairs and other item along this line. A big attraction is jewelry; all kinds of gems and baubles are in demand.

We would appreciate your bringing items to the Society by Thursday, May 22nd, between 9 and 2:30 or we can arrange for pick up of small or light items at any time.

Volunteers are needed on the day of the sale to help with our bargain hunters. Please call the office at 378-0630 to offer your help.

In conjunction with the **Tag Sale**, the Society is sponsoring an **Antique Appraisal** which will be set up in the Carriage House. Joseph Kabe of **Joseph Kabe Estate Auctions** and several appraisers of jewelry, glassware, paintings, quilts, dolls, clocks, etc. will be available from 10 to 1:30. **The cost of Appraisals will be \$25 for three items or \$10 for one item.**

May 4, 1943 - Patent for Helicopter Controls obtained by Igor Sikorsky

Corsair Comes in from the Cold

Cold, alone, and on outside display since 1971, the Goodyear Corsair FG-1D, BuNo 92460 will be receiving some well deserved attention in the near future "The Corsair Restoration Fund" will oversee this restoration project once the badly deteriorated airframe is lifted off its lonely perch of 37 years this spring.

In 1971, the Corsair was located in El Salvador by Nick Mainiero, a WW II Marine Corps Corsair pilot. The aircraft was given to the local Marine Corps League to serve as a memorial to the men and women who had served in the Corps. It was cleaned and painted, the landing gear removed, then mounted to a pylon at Sikorsky Memorial Airport in Stratford, Connecticut.

Besides the occasional washing and repaint, the Corsair received little long-term preservation attention. The aircraft needs attention very badly, as the main spar is suffering from severe corrosion causing concern for its structural integrity.

On March 29, 2008, volunteers, with assistance from Three Wing Flying Service, began to open access panels to determine the best way to remove the aircraft from the display pylon. Once the aircraft is safely on the ground, the wings and engine will be removed and the airframe moved to the Connecticut Air and Space Center, housed in the old Chance Vought Experimental Hanger where museum volunteers will begin to evaluate the airframe and plan and perform the actual restoration.

When the aircraft is finished, it will be returned to the pylon and continue its role as a memorial to those who served the U. S. Marine Corps.

Anyone wishing to help can do so by sending a donation to: "Corsair Restoration Fund", 890 Judson Place, Stratford, Ct. 06615. All donations are tax deductible and go directly to the Corsair Restoration project.

Checking out the bolts on March 29th



Strong winds aborted the scheduled lift off on May 3rd



**The Stratford Community Fund
Second Annual Lighthouse Awards Ceremony**



Pictured l to r: Elaine Watson, Fund President; award recipients: The Honorable F. Paul Kurmay, Vincent Hardy, Carol W. Lovell, Lou Perno on behalf of Sterling House Community Center, Vera Rozarie, and The Rt. Rev. Anthony Kopka; with Jorge Santiago, Vice President, The Milford Bank, the event sponsor.

The Stratford Community Fund is a community-based, non-profit organization, dedicated to enriching the quality of life for all people in our Town, and to making the Town of Stratford an ever more welcoming and desirable community in which to live, work and visit.

SCF pursues its mission by honoring and recognizing people in the community; by fostering intellectual and creative development through a grants program in support of scholarships for adult education, projects of area teachers and students, day camp access for children of need, and program materials for the Stratford Library; and also by supporting efforts to improve the physical environment; an example being collaborating with the Town and the Soundkeeper's Fund in establishing *Peck's Mill River Access Park*.

For more information, or to make a tax deductible donation, contact the Fund at:

The Stratford Community Fund
P. O. Box 1344
Stratford, CT 06615

www.stratfordcommunityfund.com

Long Beach in 1964



Planting Beach Grass - Girl Scout Cadettes of Troop 123, members of the Lordship Gardeners and the Stratford Conservation Commission planting beach grass to prevent sand from blowing away from a 7000 foot stretch of Long Beach at the end of Oak Bluff Avenue.

Page 2 answers: a. On Sikorsky Helicopter Plant Property ; b. Roosevelt Forest

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May 8 - Our tree peony in bloom

COMPUTER CORNER

e-mail us at: Judsonhousestfd@aol.com
 Fax: 203-378-2562
 On the Web: www.stratfordhistoricalsociety.com

Stratford Historical Society Governing Board Meeting
June 30, 2008 7:00pm
Catharine B. Mitchell Museum
All members of the Society are Welcome to Attend
Please call 203-378-0630 for information