



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

Stratford Historical Society UPDATE

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 2017

MARK THE DATES:

- September's General Membership Meeting: Saturday, September 23rd at 1:00 pm at the Stratford Library
- Civil War Re-enactment at Academy Hill Saturday, September 30th, 10am to 4pm..
- Governing Board Meeting Monday, October 30th at 1pm.

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September's General Membership Meeting

September 23rd, 1:00 pm, Stratford Library Lovell Room, 2203 Main Street

Stratford is fortunate, indeed, to have as its Library Director a competent, compassionate, and caring person, Sheri Szymanski. Sheri assumed the helm of the library in March of 2016. Since its opening in 1896, Stratford's Library has been a bonafide resource for Stratford's residents. Sheri has ensured the tradition of excellence set by Miss Fanny Russell back in 1896, continues.

Sheri began her career at the Stratford Library in the Information Technology Department. She was promoted to Assistant Library Director, and, upon the retirement of Barbara Blossveren, was appointed Stratford Library's Director.

Sheri will be addressing our



Sheri Szymanski,
Stratford Library Director

All meetings are free and open to the general public. Please bring a friend! Donations are gratefully accepted.

first meeting of the 2017-18 fiscal year on the history of the Stratford Library Association.

"The Stratford Library Association organized in 1885 to create a public library in Stratford. The Association's collection of about one thousand books was temporarily housed in a series of buildings, including a store and a post office; soon the Association began to search for funds for a permanent library building. A major donor was Birdseye Blakeman, a descendant of two early settlers of Stratford. Construction began in 1894, and the library was dedicated in January, 1896."

You may read more of the Library's history at <http://stratfordlibrary.org/about/library-history>.



Please Renew Your Membership

September is Membership Renewal Month.
Please renew your membership, today, using the enclosed envelope.



Civil War Re-enactment

September 30th, 10:00am-4:00 pm, Academy Hill, 967 Academy Hill Rd

Last September the 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry camped at Boothe Park and held Civil War battle re-enactments and provided information to the visiting public about camp life during the Civil War. This September the Volunteers will be back and they'll be camped at Judson House. There will be drills, marches, Civil War Re-enactments and food vendors.

The 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry website is at <http://www.cof14thcvi.com>.

You may view photos and



Civil War Day
Reenacting a soldier's life of drills, spies, food, games, signal corp, field medicine, Firing demonstrations.

videos of last year's Civil War Re-enactment at Boothe Memorial Park by visiting: <http://civilwar.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info>.

Step back in history for a bit of Civil War life at The Judson House with reenacting a soldier's life of drills, open fire cooking, field medicine, firing demonstrations, the signal corp.

Enjoy food, sweets, music, and an 1800's baseball game!

SAT, SEPT. 30, 10:00 - 4:00
Adults \$5.00, students \$3.00

Under five free

From the Desk of Our President

As the last year of my three year term as president of the Society comes to an end, I would like to take this time to express my thanks to the Membership for the support you have given to me and to the Society. We have all worked very hard to promote and preserve the history of

Stratford. We have had several events on our grounds as well as school tours and house tours along with membership drives and we will continue to present other upcoming events to gather more people to join us and make the Historical Society a lasting Stratford landmark over the coming years.

Your continued support is needed to help make this happen and keep the Stratford Historical Society a bright star in the future of Stratford.

Again, many thanks.

Shirley McCormack

Marge Jacaruso Turns 105



Marge Jacaruso celebrating her birthday at Lord Chamberlain July 25, 2017

Margaret Jacaruso was born the second of 10 children in 1912. "Marge" grew up in a house across from Avon Park on Stratford Avenue. She attended Honeyspot School and Stratford High School.

Marge's mother died when Marge was just 9 years old. Marge and her older sister were responsible for putting the younger children to bed at night.

Marge's father was born in Italy. He lived to be 74 and died in 1955. Her father worked long hours and usually went to bed before the chil-

dren. Marge and her older sister would put the younger children to bed, then "sneak" out to the market across the street from Stavola's Bar for some evening snacks.

Marge is the last surviving member of her large family.

Marge volunteered for the Stratford Historical Society for 50 years. She was a frequent and regular contributor to the "Book of Remembrance" and she helped with refreshments at the Society's bi-monthly general membership meetings.

Marge is fondly remembered for bringing muffins to the

Society workers on Tuesdays and for helping with the paper weight collection in 2003.

Marge served as Publicity Chairman for 40 years. She was a Director of the Historical Society as well as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

Marge worked for Contract Plating for many years as Ray O'Connor's "girl Friday." Marge was active in the Stratford community serving on the Barnum Festival Committee, the Shakespeare Birthday Celebration Committee, and the Women's World Softball Tournament Committee.



The Police Benevolent Association is a fraternal organization that was set up to assist officers and the community. PBA donates to many charities and has scholarships at Bunnell and Stratford High Schools.



Holiday Medallion Available

This new medallion is second in a series that The Society is producing in an effort to increase public awareness of our connection to the community and the history of Stratford.

This second medallion is co-sponsored by the Police Benevolent Association. They will be available for purchase at the next general meeting and at the Christmas Open House for \$10.00 each.

You may also order a medallion using our order form at the right by enclosing \$12.75 per ornament (which includes the cost of shipping and a gift box).

Alternatively, receive one medallion free with a Family Membership to the Stratford Historical Society for \$30.00.

Join today and receive our newsletter and invitation to our educational Program Meetings.

Send this order form along with your check for \$12.75 per medallion to:

Stratford Historical Society
967 Academy Hill Road
Stratford, CT 06615

OR

Charge to your Credit Card: ☐ MC ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Credit card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CCV#: _____

Name on card: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

No. of medallions ordered: _____ Total amount: \$ _____

Dateline Stratford August - September 1952

The Stratford News

August 7, 1952

Windmillers Win Town's Ball Title

The Windmill restaurant combine won the championship of the Stratford Town Recreation softball league this week by defeating Abe's Drive-Inn squad, 2 to 0, in a play-off tussle at Longbrook park. By winning the crown, the Windmill nine gained a place in the state tournament.

Sunday Herald

August 10, 1952

Uncle Sam Ponders If He'll Pay for 2 Schools

In an effort to prove the old adage about the multiplicity of ways in which to skin a cat, Stratford is hoping to get in Federal school aid some of the money the Government does not pay for taxes on the \$8,000,000 worth of property at the Avco plant.

Official fingers are crossed as an answer is expected within a fortnight on the application for half a million to help build the Lordship and Second Hill Lane schools.

Sunday Herald

August 17, 1952

...Michael Kostic, Red Cross safety chairman, is delighted with the success of the loud speaker at Short Beach. Keeps children better behaved and out of dangerous water. Incidentally, Kostic has a great assortment of lost articles including a wallet that can be claimed by the owners.

Sunday Herald

August 24, 1952

THE VOTING LIST in Stratford has increased 10% in 1952, the registrars reported this week.

Never in the history of the town,

say political watchdogs, has there been anything to compare with the interest being shown in the November elections.

...The caucus list totals show 4,232 for the GOP, 1,994 for the Democrats.

Sunday Herald

August 24, 1952

Area Enrolments Up 6%

...Stratford, which will have 6,622 pupils enrolled, has its largest increase in the grammar schools, which open Sept. 3. There will be 5,242 in the lower grades as compared with 4,899 in 1951. This is a gain of 343 students.

The increase at Stratford High School which opens the 3rd is only 32 students bringing the total to 1,380.

Sunday Herald

August 31, 1952

152 Apartments Planned for Stratford North End

The garden apartments are to be built on Wigwam Lane, a town road, on about 10 acres of land. They will rent for about \$90 a month, this price to include heat, hot water, electric range, icebox, janitor service and a garage.

...The design of the buildings will resemble Stratford's colonial Town Hall.

Sunday Herald

September 7, 1952

World Softball Event Opens Saturday

The nation's leading softball teams, plus a few entries from outside the United States, will come into town Friday, a day before the Men's World Softball Tournament, makes its first appearance in the East, under the sponsorship of the

Bridgeport Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The tournament starts Saturday at Raybestos Memorial Field in Stratford and runs through Friday, Sept. 19, with games to be played at Longbrook Park on Sunday morning and afternoon, Sept. 14.

Sunday Herald

September 21, 1952

Trailer Camp Operator Eyes Stratford Locale

The next housing headache Stratford will face is an effort to establish a trailer camp in the town.

Such an enterprise is against the zoning regulations, and there is no indication that the townsfolk would like to change the rules.

But the New York operator who has his eye on Stratford claims he can get Federal pressure sufficient to open the acres to him. In other areas of acute defense housing shortages, this man reports, the U. S. Government has stepped in with a demand that trailer camps be allowed.

Sunday Herald

September 28, 1952

Stratford Highers Capture National Contest Honors

Students of Stratford High's Technical Arts Curriculum covered themselves, and their school, with glory Friday when award certificates and checks totaling exactly \$500 were given the talented Stratford Highers at a special assembly.

...This marks the fourth straight year that Technical Arts students from Stratford High School have led the entire New England area in this competition which involves not only secondary school students but those of trade, vocational and technical schools as well.



Naval Academy Midshipman, first class, Donald S. Sammis from the August 7, 1952 **The Stratford News**.



Dancer Ann Carroll launches professional career from the August 7, 1952 **The Stratford News**.



Kindergarten teacher Joan Ingmanson comforts Gail Reynolds and Pat Soderberg on first day of school. Photo from the September 11, 1952 **The Stratford News**.

Now Showing August - Sept. 1952

August 3rd	King Kong	Bruce Cabot, Fay Wray
August 10th	American In Paris	Gene Kelly
August 17th	The Will Rogers Story	Will Rogers, Jr, Jane Wyman
August 24th	Jumping Jacks	Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis
August 31st	Where's Charley	Ray Bolger
September 7th	Robin Hood	Richard Todd, Joan Rice
September 14th	Big Jim McLain	John Wayne, Nancy Olson
September 21st	Greatest Show on Earth	Betty Hutton, Cornel Wilde, Dorothy Lamour
September 28th	Carrie	Jennifer Jones, Lawrence Olivier, Miriam Hopkins

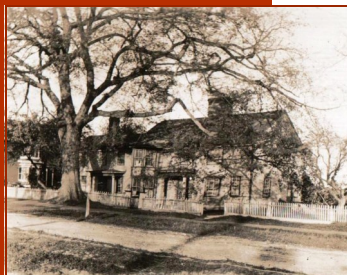


Stratford Theater from the 1944 Stratford High School **Log**

Stratford Characters - Thaddeus Peck



Thaddeus E. Peck c 1902
from the Chicago *Inter Ocean* September 21,
1902



Thaddeus Peck's home
on Main Street just north
of the Stratford Methodist
Church

Stratford's history is rich, often scintillating, and ever fascinating. Much of what makes Stratford's history so is the plethora of "characters" peopling its corridors of the past.

Thaddeus Peck was one such character. Thaddeus became known throughout America in 1902 for his challenge to Stratford Methodist Church's Reverend Royal Raymond. Thaddeus challenged Rev. Raymond to listen to Thaddeus enumerate the errors in Rev. Raymond's dogma in exchange for a piece of Mr. Peck's property the Methodist Church sought for expansion.

The good Reverend acceded to the challenge, and was richly rewarded with the property he sought. The entire affair was covered in newspapers throughout America and made Mr. Peck's, and Stratford's, name well known for decades.

Thaddeus Peck passed away in September 1917. His entire life was worth reading about. We have created the "Thaddeus Peck file" which you may view at peck.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info.

Bridgeport Evening Farmer
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26,
1917

THADDEUS PECK'S PASSING RECALLS EVENTFUL CAREER

Was Descendant of One of
Earliest Colonial Families.

Thaddeus E. Peck, chemist, philosopher, inventor, philanthropist and one of the most

eccentric geniuses [sic] that Bridgeport has ever produced, is dead at the age of 76 years at Norwich, Conn., after an eventful life, which has left its impress upon the community and will keep him familiarly before the recollection of at least one generation to come.

...Thaddeus E. Peck, great grandson of Rev. Nathan Birdsey, who settled in Milford about 1638, was the son of Thaddeus E. and Mary Curtis of Milford, having been born Jan. 17, 1839.

During his youth he attended the famous Stratford Academy under the tutelage of Fred Sedgewick, headmaster. His schooling was conducted with all the rigor of olden days and he graduated an expert in algebra, languages and chemistry.

He was apprenticed in the apothecary shop of Thompson & Booth, then the most prominent pharmacy in Bridgeport, located in Water street. He was associated in work with William H. Stevens, whose father at one time was president of the New York Central railway. Under the guidance of the senior partner Thompson, a man who never made a mistake in pharmaceutical work, Peck became an adept chemist and prescription clerk at a time when medicine was compounded rather than dispensed.

In 1857 to '61 he was a steward sergeant in the United States navy, serving in the Brooklyn navy yard and at Charleston, S. C, where he was

captured and is believed to have spent a period of time as prisoner at the famous Libby prison.

...He gained renown in the world of science when he disputed a famous professor of astronomy who came here from New York to lecture. In several inventions he was associated with Sir Hiram Maxim, whom he initiated into the Bridgeport Scientific society.

Mr. Peck was a deep believer in the theory of suspended animation, about which he lectured all over the United States. He was a close associate of Rev. Emerson, chief advocate of the theory a generation ago who was all but buried alive in furtherance of the belief.

Because of the talent possessed by Mr. Peck, he has appeared as the chief figure in public print on many occasions when he ardently withstood all opposition to what he believed to be right.

The Methodist church of Stratford as well as other religious and charitable organizations will have cause to remember his name with deep veneration for he was their benefactor in lands as well as in other ways.

The passing from this community, after a long life of usefulness of such a deep student, philanthropist and genial nature, is a distinct loss to the community and one which will not be replaced quickly.

Around Ye Olde Stratford Town

We thought you might be interested in these other historically related events happening around town over the next couple of months.

- ◆ The Connecticut Air and Space Center and Stanzi-ale's Restaurant are sponsoring the Corsair Car Show September 17th, from 10am until 4pm at Stanzi-ale's Restaurant.
- ◆ The Stratford Beautification Committee Awards will be presented Thursday, September 21st at 7pm in the
- Town Hall Council Chambers. This is always a wonderful event. Beautiful homes around town will be recognized.
- ◆ Stratford's first Forest to Shore Day, celebrating all Stratford's natural wonders will be held from noon to 5pm at locations including Roosevelt Forest, Stratford Point and Boothe Park.
- ◆ The Perry House's NOLA Festival celebrating New Orleans cuisine will be held September 23rd at the Per-

ry House. Consult the Perry House website for more details.

- ◆ The annual Great Pumpkin Festival pie baking contest, will be held Saturday, October 21st. Entry forms will be published at www.boothememorialpark.org.
- ◆ The Baldwin Center's **Baldwin Beacon** newsletter is now carrying a monthly column on Stratford's history contributed by the Stratford Historical Society.



Town Sends off Draftees

Bridgeport Herald

September 23, 1917

Stratford Gives Her Soldier Boys A Royal Farewell Demonstration

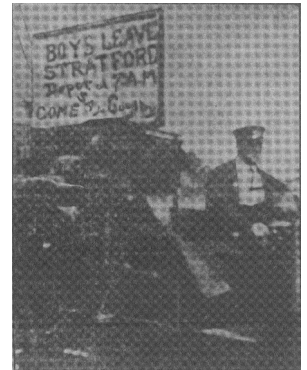
The citizens of Stratford gave their boys, who were drafted into the army, a great farewell Thursday morning, but the town can thank Selectman Lally and Fire Chief Judson for the send off. Somehow no one thought of a celebration until about ten o'clock

Wednesday night and then Selectman Lally and Chief Judson got busy. The bandmaster of the Olympic band of Bridgeport was awakened and he got his band together to report in Stratford at six o'clock Thursday morning. The commander of the Home Guard was raised and all the guard were notified, some of them after midnight.

Thursday morning at 5:30 o'clock the old town was awakened by the

two pieces of fire apparatus running through the town and blowing their sirens as if the town was on fire. On each piece of apparatus were signs notifying the citizens to get up and give the boys a send off at the railroad station.

...The Stratford boys appreciated the farewell celebration the town gave them, but they would not have had such a demonstration had it not been for Selectman Lally and Chief "Paul Revere" Judson...



Chief Judson Awakens the Citizens of Stratford

Dubious Avon Park Opening Reviews

Bridgeport Sunday Herald

August 28, 1892

AVON PARK'S HAMMOCKS. TAKEN DOWN WHEN THE SHADES OF NIGHT DESCEND.

The Natives Make Raid on the Bar and Drive Off the Barkeeper. - Swing-ing in the Grove. - No Trouble to Find a Partner for a Waltz.

...Avon park is the most recently opened pleasure resort in the way of a park that may properly be called a part of Bridgeport although it is outside of the city limits. It is not a very large park but it is shady with big trees, and as it has a dancing pavilion of no mean dimensions, an ice cream stand, swings and seats scattered around in the grove to sit down on there is nothing further wanted to make the place a popular picnic resort.

Avon park has its own peculiar distinctness about it which can only be appreciated after you have visited the place. The crowd that goes over there is composed of the same people you see at Seaside park and at Pleasure Beach, but they act differently when they go to Avon park from what they do at the other places. Probably they think that they are out of the city where no one will know them, and for that reason let themselves out to have a more than ordinarily good time. And most of them have the time they are looking for, too, before they get back.

...There will be something going on every afternoon and evening from now on until the first of September at this new pleasure resort and so there will also be more

than the usual number of young girls whose mothers will scold them for staying out late at night. But the girls can get out of that difficulty by saying that the horse cars were delayed.

Most of the girls who visit Avon park with or without escorts seem to develop a striking capability for being daring. They will swing as high as any of the boys in the rope swings and in the "pull me-a-little-longer-swings" they never seem to get tired or sick.

Last Wednesday afternoon a couple was noticed in one of the long rope swings. The girl was in the neighborhood of seventeen years and her young man about three years her senior. She had her hat off and he was peeled down to his outing shirt and trousers ready for the swing they were going to enjoy. The swing began to move slowly at first but in two minutes the swingers were going through space like Fourth of July sky rockets. The girl's hair flew out from the back of her head in streamers and her wide bell skirt seemed to be making a big effort to eclipse everything else by filling wind and giving its wearer the shape of a balloon.

It was not a strictly modest sight but it was enjoyed by the swingers and they didn't care about showing of legs about that time; they were exhilarated [sic] too highly for such thoughts. After they got through with their winged pleasure the couple went to the ice cream stand and began cooling themselves off with a dish apiece of frozen milk and paraffine [sic]. This finished, they went over to the dancing pavilion and waltzed again.

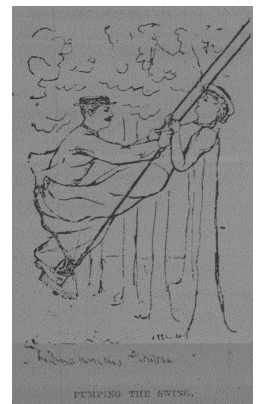
...The lights in Avon park are not made to light up the park. They are to make you think of what it would look like if it was well lighted. But no one who goes there of an evening will find fault with the lamps. They are all right. Just ask your best girl to-night when you take her the usual weekly present of tutti frutti if she doesn't think the lights in Avon park are just the best in the city.

...The natives over at Avon park are very affectionate towards all visitors. By the natives is meant the mosquitoes. They are living over there now in small tents which they have pitched in the celery patch next to the park. Night before last they made a raid on the bar and swiped all of the birch beer and lemon soda. The money drawer was locked up at the time or that would have followed the drinks.

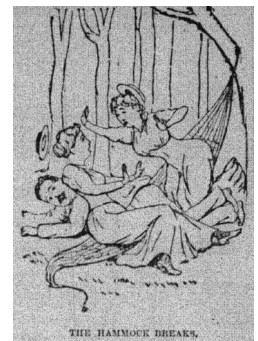
Before the season is closed mosquito suits to fit over one's outside clothes will be for rent on the grounds and you can enjoy comparative comfort. The netting from which the suits will be made is now being manufactured in the mills. The ordinary netting is not heavy enough to keep the natives from chewing their way through to your vitals.

One of the large chestnut trees near the band stand is dead and the keeper of the park lays its demise to the attacks of the mosquitoes. They roosted in that tree three weeks ago and the next morning the leaves on the tree were withered and in two days more the leaves began to fall...

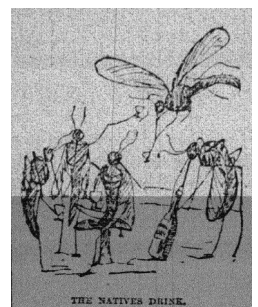
(You may read this article in its entirety at avon.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info).



Pumping the Swing



The Hammock Breaks



The Natives Drink

Jelly Fish Fever?



Lion's mane jellyfish is one of the varieties of jellies you might find in Connecticut. Contributed Photo/Don Lewis / TurtleJournal.Com.

Sunday Herald
September 23, 1917
Jelly Fish Fever is Now Popular
IN STRATFORD.
Stratfordian Exclusiveness.

*When Sadie Jones across the street
Was suffering from appendicitis,
Sez she, "I'm now of the elite,"
And promptly did she start to slight us.
Revenge is mine! O how the lass
Will tear her hair - O how 'twill grieve her
To hear that it has come to pass
That I have jelly- (ha!) fish fever.*

Enter a new disease: jelly-fish

fever. A number of cases have been reported in Stratford and someone with an eye for discovery says that there's an epidemic. "Is there anything abnormal about the number of cases reported?" asked a Herald reporter of Dr. De Ruyter Howland, president of the Stratford Board of Education.

"Yes," said the doctor.
"Indeed!" palpitated the reporter.

"Yes," continued the doctor, "very abnormal; we are having fewer cases than ever before."

There are now six cases in Stratford, all of the afflicted being school children. The ailment is harmless, local doc-

tors say, although one must be careful not to permit infection to set in.

If you have an eye for the exclusive and pine to acquire jelly-fish fever, here are the directions: Introduce your person into any ocean, sea, river, brook or puddle where jelly-fish abound. Stay in the water until you have been bitten several times. Then emerge and scratch yourself industriously for several hours. If your scratching has been sufficiently diligent, before long your temperature will soar and you will be a member of the Jelly-fish Fever Club.

Bridgeport Daily Standard

August 22, 1867

STRATFORD. - On Tuesday night last, the hen roost of Mr. R. M. DeWitt was robbed of about forty chickens.

Messrs. Long and Wells have established an agency here for the sale of Sedge of the long staple Sea Island variety, samples of which may be seen at their office. They have already effected a sale of some sixty or seventy tons.

Desperate Stratford Gang

Bridgeport Daily Standard
August 8, 1867

A desperate gang of roughs, supposed to be from Stratford, came to town last evening, and made night hideous in more senses than one. Not content with singing their low songs in the ears of our most respectable citizens, some of them are

known to have committed personal assaults, to have stabbed several peaceable people, and to have inflicted painful, if not dangerous wounds. We trust the matter will be properly investigated immediately. One of these roughs is reported to have attacked a policeman, striking

him on the nose with a bill (y). He got smashed however, and it is hoped that his fate will be a warning to his comrades. We hear that this is a well-known gang, and that from being so "mussy," they have been sometimes known as the *Mus-keetos*, and that a great many of them are professional bill-stickers.

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203.612.8075 | 2404 Main St.

JMHome Improvement Group
203.556.8632

The Mellow Monkey
202.379.1860 | Howard@mellowmonkey.com

Milford Bank
203.783.700 | 3651 Main St.

The National Helicopter Museum, Inc
203.375.8857 | www.nationalhelicoptermuseum.org

Open Door Tea
203.345.9659 | 3552 Main St.

Oronoke Apothecary LLC
Bethel, CT | 973.885.2793

Joel F Pleban, CPA, LLC
joel@joelpleban.com | 203.375.1040

Pickle Barrel Deli & Catering
203.380.0338

Scott Insurance
bscott@scottinsurance.com | 203.375.5847



Proposed Slate of Officers for 2017 - 2018

PRESIDENT

Dennis Brunelle

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Vos

RECORDING SECRETARY

Tina Vermette

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Barbara Firisin

TREASURER

Shirley Clevenger

STANDING COMMITTEES

Accessions	Carol Lovell	Library	Gloria Duggan/Virginia Millington
Building	Joseph Bonitatebus	Membership	Jeanette Caron
Education	Dolores Hctor	Newsletter	David Wright
Finance	Shirley McCormack	Nominations	
Garden	Patty Casenhiser	Programs	Gail Liscio
Grounds	Joseph Bonitatebus	Publicity	David Wright
Hospitality	Pam Hutchinson	Scholarships	Shirley McCormack
Hosts & Hostesses	Barbara Firisin	Ways/Means	

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

To cast your vote, please use the mail-in ballot printed below and return it to the Society Office before October 16, 2017. If you wish to nominate a candidate, or work on a committee, please attend the September 23rd General Membership meeting at the Stratford Library.

STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2017 - 2018 ELECTION BALLOT

☐ FOR ALL CANDIDATES, **OR**

☐ FOR ALL CANDIDATES EXCEPT: _____

NOMINATIONS FOR:

POSITION _____ NAME _____

POSITION _____ NAME _____

MEMBER'S NAME: _____

"Historical" Nuggets and Nosh

One of the many books available from the Historical Society is a select, and personal, history of the Civil War, and some of its unpleasantness, entitled **Captive of Libby Prison**. Libby Prison was a notorious prison in Virginia much in the same vein as Andersonville.

From the Preface of the book: "This story is based on twenty-one letters sent home during the Civil War by my great-great-uncle Charles Robinson. He was a teacher in the Hebron-Lebanon area and felt a strong patriotic duty to service his country in this conflict."

The book reveals many little known facts about the war from an "insider's" perspective.

Also available from our Society

office, and also available for purchase, the following is a recipe selected from our historic cookbook, "**Paradise Enow ... Treasures from Yesterday's Kitchens.**"

Samuel Benjamin's Lemon Pie

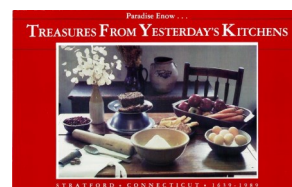
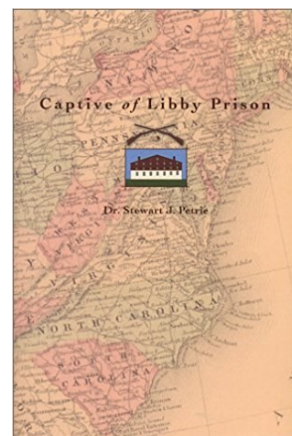
2 lemons, chop rind fine
2 eggs
small bit of butter
1 small teacup flour
3 cups sugar
2 cups water
Mix well. Bake with two crusts.
For two pies.

Tester's Note: I used 1/2 table-spoon of butter and 2/3 cup of sugar. I discarded the inside pith and seeds of the lemon, and put everything else through the grinder.

I made this amount into one 9" pie and baked it at 375 for 40 minutes. It had an excellent tart flavor and the texture of a cornstarch pudding. (V.K.)

Orcutt speaks in his History of Stratford of "Colonel Samuel Benjamin, whose brilliant record in the War of the Rebellion was worthy of his grandsire". His grandfather had been Frederick A. Benjamin of Revolutionary War fame.

At one time Benjamin lived in the famous (or infamous) Captain Dowdall house, better known as the site of the "Stratford Knockings" in 1850. He leased the home from Alfred Ely Beach in 1867 and operated it as an inn called Benjamin House.



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The best we can do about the past is to
keep the memories alive!

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