



HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER WALLINGTON

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN TROUBLE

VITAL COMMITTEE POSITIONS VACANT

As president of the Society I would like to take this opportunity to express some doubts about the organization. It may sound strange to express such doubts on the eve of the celebration of the town's 25th anniversary, but I must.

If the Society is to survive and continue to grow we must attract more support in the community. A sound financial base in the community is helpful to support the types of programs we would like to offer. Of particular interest will be the publication next year of our chronology of Wallington history. Even though we hope to sell the complete press run and make some money from the book, it will take funds before any are sold to arrange for printing. And we are spending money this year to provide exciting and worthwhile programs on a regular basis. So we must continue our fund raising ideas.

However, money as a worry pales before our further problem of lack of people support. We have had two very good programs this year so far and attracted very few members and outsiders to hear them. The Society at the moment needs a program chairperson and membership and ways and means chairpersons. We cannot continue much further as a Society of all Indians and no chiefs. If you are willing to take one of these jobs please let me know.

We do have an immediate need for leaders and workers for the St. Jude's Bazaar, Thursday and Friday, 2 and 3 December, 1976. We will have a booth open both days from 4-9 pm. We need people to work during those hours selling items for the Society. More important we need someone who would coordinate production of handcrafted

items by Society members so we will have something to sell. If you can help let me know as soon as possible.

It is possible that Society members do not want such an active group. You would be happier with no programs, and maybe only a newsletter. Or perhaps we may have to let the group lapse altogether. I would hope not. But I do need your ideas and your willingness to work. Let me know what you will do for the Society. I would like to have a work meeting in December to discuss the problems I've mentioned here. Our regular meeting night is the first Tuesday, so the meeting will be Tuesday, December 17th at 7:30 at the Town Hall. Come and let me know what you are thinking.

Betsy McIlvaine
President

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

There may not be a black mourning band around this article, but there probably should be one. The reason is quite simple. Two people who have been putting out the Hourglass for the past two years are dead tired and desperately need a transfusion--of new ideas; new articles; editing; and distribution assistance.

The editors of the Hourglass need your help if the newsletter is to continue being published. If you've ever written a postcard you have enough skill to contribute to the paper. Contact Pam Wheeler if you are interested in helping the Hourglass survive.

(The help of Elsie Hanks and Betsy McIlvaine on recent issues is much appreciated. We hope that others will soon join our enterprise on a regular basis.)

HITCHCOCK MUSEUM TRIP ENJOYED

On November 6 a busload of Historical Society members and friends left the Town Office building for a trip to the Hitchcock Chair Museum in Riverton, Conn. The day was sunny; the route through Framington was scenic and the people were congenial, making the trip most enjoyable.

The museum--once the Old Union Church--was established in 1972 as a tribute to Lambert Hitchcock who in 1800 became one of America's largest chair manufacturers. The museum houses selected antique painted furniture, not only the work of Hitchcock but other 18th and 19th century craftsmen as well. Also of interest was one of Connecticut's oldest pipe organs and a glassed-in belfry bell. A tour of the museum was combined with a stop at the Hitchcock factory showrooms where craftsmen demonstrated the art of chair rushing.

The trip was interesting and well worth the very small fee paid for transportation. Those of you who did not go really missed a treat.

Elsie Hanks

CALENDAR OF AREA EVENTS:

Dec. 2nd-3rd, Thurs.-Fri.: St. Jude's Bazaar, St. Jude's Center, Old Farm's Rd., 4-9 PM

Dec. 7th, Tues: Willington Historical Society meeting, Discussion: The future of the Willington Historical Society, Old Town Hall, 7:30 PM

Jan. 3rd, Mon.: Tolland Hist. Soc. is showing film "The Golden Age of the Automobile", Savings Bank of Tolland

Jan. 11th, Tues.: Stafford Hist. Soc. presents "Ironworks of Stafford" by Thos. Young, Old RR Depot