November 10, 1978

Dear Member:

Sincerest thanks for giving me this opportunity to serve you as president and hopefully provide the leadership necessary to keep our Society moving ahead, building on the outstanding record of Pat Aresco, and accomplishing the many tasks still open to us. I have always felt strongly about the importance of this Society, as I'm sure you have, and will dedicate my time and energy whereever and in whatever way is necessary.

But this is not my Society...it is ours! You would not have joined unless you were interested in Portland's past and in doing something meaningful about restoring it for the benefit of generations to come. So that you can best be involved in the area that interests you most, I must know what it is and the extent to which you can or desire to be involved. I have enclosed a card on which you can indicate your interests. Some of you may only be interested in our Society because you enjoy the programs we present. This is also an important role. Check one or more boxes under PART I. (A brief description of each committee is on the back of this letter).

I know there are some who feel our business meetings should be kept brief and most of the time devoted to the program. Others desire more time to discuss Society business, express ideas, socialize and at the same time enjoy a good program. Whatever the preference of the membership, I am counting on all of you for your ideas and views on how we should proceed as a Society. Please make your feelings known under PART II on this card.

I plan to appoint committees early in December and hold an organizational meeting of chairmen shortly thereafter, so please check the card now and mail it (your stamp will help keep costs down).

Our fiscal year is now from January through December and dues are \$3 per member annually. This ammendment was passed at our October meeting. This means 1979 dues can be paid now if you wish. According to our Constitution, those who have not renewed their membership in 6 months (June 30) will be dropped. Life-time membership is still \$100. Make checks payable to Portland Historical Society and mail to P.O. Box 98, Portland, CT 06480.

Our Society meetings will continue to be held on the 2nd Wednesday of February, March, April, May, September, October and November at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Zion Lutheran Church on William Street. So that we can become better acquainted, stick-on name tags will be available as you enter (at least for the first few meetings). Jot down your name and stick it on. For those who would like to discuss particular interests or just chat, I will have the hall open at 7 p.m....don't hesitate to come early.

I'm looking forward to working with every one of you in the days ahead on behalf of our historical society.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Krieger, Pres.

PORTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEES:

PROGRAM - Gathering information on programs that would be of interest to the membership, making contacts and final arrangements.

LIBRARY - Collecting, cataloging, arranging and repairing manuscripts, books, photos and other historical resource material.

MUSEUM - Collecting, cataloging, cleaning, repairing and storage of historic objects. Arranging exhibits and their correct interpretation, and the care and upkeep of museum quarters.

HISTORIC SITES - Establishing the historic validity for sites and homes proposed for marking, marking these sites and arranging historic tours and related materials.

MEMBERSHIP - Contacting members for membership renewal, providing them with membership cards and running drives or using other methods of increasing membership.

WAYS & MEANS - Plan, coordinate and enlist assistance in fund raising projects for the Society.

ORAL HISTORY - Arrange and carry out taping sessions with senior members of our community to obtain first hand facts about Portland's past, and the transcribing of the data obtained for use of the Society.

HISTORIAN - Save clippings about happenings in Portland as they appear in local newspapers (particularly Society news) and compile them in scrap books for reference and future use of our citizenry.