

# PORTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



PO Box 98, Portland, Connecticut 06480

President: George V. Johnson Jr. Secretary: Regina Woltmann  
Vice President: Dorothy K. Robinson Treasurer: Charles J. Woltmann  
Directors: Richard Gildersleeve, Janet Mitchell, Hazel Robinson

## SUMMER NEWS AND NOTES

### ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC - TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1991 - 6PM

Firemen's Grounds - End of Indian Hill Avenue - rain or shine

Potluck Supper - bring a casserole, salad, or desert to share. The Committee, chaired by Marian and Ray Anderson, will provide cold cuts, beverages, bread and paper plates, but bring your own cutlery and serving utensils.

Bring your family and friends and all your old family sayings, in any language, to record for posterity. Prudent yankee prizes will be awarded for the most old sayings and the most colorful phrases "Grandma" used. Can you top George Johnson's favorite response to questionable decorative efforts: "It will look fine from a galloping horse."

SPRING MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN - To date, 50 new memberships have been added: 3 lifetime, 1 patron, 5 sponsors, and 41 family memberships. We are pleased to have so much added support for the Society. (Total membership: 368)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP - The Society's annual "Excellence in History" award was given to Medhavi Jogi, a Freshman at the Portland High School.

150th PARADE, SEPTEMBER 7 - The Society will be represented in the parade by the WHEELMEN, a group who do routines on antique bicycles. It's an appropriate tribute to one of Portland's original products. The Thomas Pickering bicycle design may have been similar.

HELP! - We will need a complete Video of the Parade for the archives. Volunteers call George Johnson or Pat Csere.

CORNWALL HOUSE, GLASTONBURY TURNPIKE - The first request for a Demolition Permit under the new ordinance is a plan for disassembly of the Cornwall House and its reassembly in Glastonbury. George Johnson, writing for the Society, to indicate that we would not file an objection, said in part: "in the opinion of the Board of Directors that the proposal... represents the best use for this structure. While it would have been better if the house could have been relocated somewhere in the Town of Portland, we feel that at least the house will be preserved, which is, after all, one of the goals of the Portland Historical Society." The decision was taken reluctantly after study of the owner's plans and tours of the building. The Society needs more volunteers interested in serving on the Demolition Ordinance Committee. If you are concerned about the conservation of Portland's old structures, please tell George Johnson 342-1949, or Chris Sullivan 342-4105.

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FLEET BANK RECORDS - Those people lugging boxes out of Fleet's basement aren't raiding the bank but taking away several hundred pounds of records which have been given to the Society from the bank's early days as First National Bank. They will be placed in temporary storage where Society members can sort out historically significant items for permanent storage. Among the records are those of early businesses and even of one of the churches.

LIBRARY HISTORICAL DISCUSSIONS - The Society is joining with the 150th Committee and the Portland Library to present a series of discussions entitled "YANKEES AND STRANGERS--THE NEW ENGLAND TOWN 1636-1992". Jack Chatsfield, Professor of History at Trinity College will lead 5 discussion sessions in the fall. Watch for further details.

CHATHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITATION - Continuing a biennial tradition, the Chatham (East Hampton) Society has invited Portland members to their annual picnic on August 6 at 6 PM. If you would like to attend, sign up at our picnic or call George Johnson.

NOTE FROM GLASTONBURY - Glastonbury will celebrate its 300th anniversary in 1993. As part of the observance, a project to compile a data bank of genealogical information on Glastonbury's founders and settlers is underway. If you believe your ancestral roots are in Glastonbury, please send information to the Tercentenary Committee, PO Box 172, Glastonbury, giving as much information as you can about your family line.

MEMORIAL BOOK DONATIONS - Fifteen donations totaling \$530. have been received in memory of OLIVER D. GILDERSLEEVE, and recorded in the Memorial Book.

CROCK COMMITTEE - Eleanor Crowther 342-2907 and Rick Gildersleeve 342-5195 have a few collector crocks left at the low price of \$20. Guaranteed overnight delivery to solve your gift problems. Just call.

MUSEUM ROOM - Pat Csere says that an exhibit is being prepared of old-time Main Street scenes and other appropriate memorabilia to celebrate the 150th anniversary. The room is open on Tuesdays from 2 to 4 PM or by appointment. Special open hours are planned for Parade Week in September.

NEWSLETTER - Phyllis & Bill Frisbie - 07/15/91

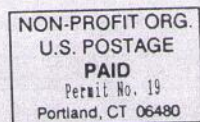
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MR/MRS WILLIAM F. CSERE