



*Branford Historical Society*  
*Post Office Box 504*  
*Branford, Connecticut 06405*

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1985

PROGRAM FOR 1986

Enclosed is our new program schedule for Spring 1986. Come and enjoy some of these fine programs. Please note one change: January 9, 1986 is a program date in lieu of January 14th as previously scheduled.

PUBLICATIONS

The Architectural Preservation Trust has recently printed a set of books with information and maps about 300 Branford houses. These sets are available at the Town Hall, The Blackstone Library and The Harrison House.

The society has reprinted John Carr's noted History of Branford. It is the only book known to deal only with the early beginning of Branford. These interesting and accurate volumes described life in Branford during 1646 - 1700 with letters, narratives, and maps. Eager buyers are already picking them up to help us celebrate Connecticut's 350th Anniversary. Books are available for purchase at The Harrison House, the Town Hall and the town libraries.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards with the imprint of The Harrison House and the inscription "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" are available for purchase. We also have "Harrison House" postcards and note paper. Call President Janet Gaines 488-8835 or The Harrison House to order.

VIDEO PROGRAM

A video tape program of The Harrison House and other Branford properties will soon be shown on the local cable channel. Keep your eye out for scheduling details.

HARRISON HOUSE

The house has been recently painted by Ernest Haas, a volunteer from the Board of Directors. He was assisted by Jeff Clark. Thanks for a beautiful job.

A loom is being set up in the barn by Mr. and Mrs. Webb. Their daughter, Denise Webb, did loom weaving at this year's Harvest Festival. It's very interesting so come on in to see it.

HISTORY PUZZLERS

1. What was Lake Saltonstall's old name? (Hint: The name refers to a business that was once there.)
2. The earliest name for Branford was the Indian name "Totoket". What did it mean?

WANT LIST

The society is looking for a few items to complete displays at The Harrison House. We need: (1) A pair of early wrought iron goose neck andirons, (2) a pair of early brass candlesticks, (3) treenware, the early wooden colonial dishes, (4) Pewter and (5) delftware. If anyone has any of these items, please let us know.

## WASSAIL PARTY

Come to our Wassail Party on December 8th from 4 to 6 p.m. Have some fun and pick up any of the publications and gifts we have for sale

## DUES

If anyone failed to receive his first dues notice with letter and program, we are very sorry. If we made a mistake and billed you twice, please accept our apologies. Most members have replied promptly and paid their dues.

## SPRING 1986

- January 9: Richard Warren, Curator of Recordings at Yale Sterling Library, on Antique Recordings.
- February 27: Jane Bouley on The Summer Hotels of Branford.
- March 18: "Carousel" with the East Haven Historical Society at the East Haven Senior Center, 7:30 p.m.
- March 27: David Barquist, Curator of Yale Art Gallery, on "Colonial Furnishings" at The Harrison House.
- April 24: Jeanne Skerry of the Yale Art Gallery on "Antique Silver".

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## VIDEO CONTEST

The First Congregational Church presents the First Branford Historical Location Contest, open to the general public. Watch cable access channel "D" all during Thanksgiving week, 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. Win a prize for naming town locations of the past.

