



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

WINTER, 1988

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Nov. 10, 7:30 coffee hour  
 8:00 program  
 Community House

SCANDINAVIAN PROGRAM

Our Scandinavian neighbors will bring us the flavor of their early days in Branford. (Note the early date; our regular date would be on Thanksgiving.)

Sunday, Dec. 4, 3:00 to 5:00  
 Harrison House

CANDLELIGHT WASSAIL PARTY

Come and see our lovely 1724 Harrison House decorated for Christmas with greens and candles. Come, bring guests and start the holidays in the 18th century.

PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

An enthusiastic committee is now developing a program on "Candlemaking" that will be presented during visits to the Harrison House by school groups. No--hot wax will not be used, but the process will be demonstrated as one aspect of colonial life. Short, introductory visits will be made to the classrooms followed by bringing students to our House. Schools and PTA groups are cooperating in this venture.

FOCUS ON BRANFORD  
 By Jane Bouley (continued)

The period of uncertainty in Branford's history following the migration to Newark in 1665 is exemplified by the ministry of the Church. Rev. John Bowers served until 1677 and afterward many visiting ministers came to preach, none of whom were given the Call. Solidification of the Church would finally occur in 1687 when Rev. Samuel Russell became the 5th minister of Branford. During his ministry, an important meeting took place at his home in 1701 to organize Yale College. Russell kept the books for the library and served as a Yale trustee. Rev. Russell died in Branford in 1731 after 43 years of service to the "Congregational" church.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AND TAG SALE

Thanks to Joyce Martin assisted by Mary Virginia Prann our Harvest Festival Day on October 1 was very successful. The many generous contributions from members both of tag sale items and baked goods made this possible. Our thanks too to Donald Armistead, who has displayed his lovely miniature settings at our recent Festival Days.

BRANFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY ITEMS FOR SALE

|                                  |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| "History of the Thimble Islands" | \$7.00 |
| "Wilfords of Branford"           | 5.00   |
| "Early History of Branford"      | 5.00   |
| Harrison House Notepaper         | 2.50   |
| Harrison House Christmas Cards   | 2.50   |
| Harrison House Postcards         | .20    |

To order write BHS, P. O. Box 504, Branford, CT 06405





### PLAQUES AVAILABLE FOR HISTORIC HOUSES

The Board of the Historical Society has voted to resume selling plaques to residents living in historic or architecturally significant houses in Branford. During the last five years over 1,000 houses were identified by the Branford Architectural Preservation Trust and the National Register of Historic Places. Residents whose houses have been surveyed by the APT and/or included in the National Register are eligible to purchase signs through the Society.

The signs will be distinctive, white with black lettering and the cost will be \$50.00 if we receive more than 10 orders. Signs may be ordered from the Branford Historical Society, Box 504, Branford, or by calling Elizabeth Radulski at 481-0491 evenings.

### MUSEUM AND ACQUISITIONS

Priscilla Oliver and her committee wish to thank the many donors who responded to the requests for cotton sheets and feather pillows. The parlor settee has been restuffed with feathers and the under-bedding of the beds and cradles refurbished.

The inventory of quilts was photographed, refolded, wrapped in acid-free paper and re-boxed. Cataloging continues of the many new articles, thanks to the generosity of you, our members.

### DUES ARE DUE

Membership chairman Jeanne Szeifert reports that membership is growing and that most present members have already renewed. We rely on membership dues help to support our 1724 Harrison House, our educational programs, and our important collection of papers and photos relating to early Branford.

Thanks for your continuing support.

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
P A I D  
Branford, CT  
Permit Number 24

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