



East Fishkill Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 245 Hopewell Junction, N.Y. 12533

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eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org

Volume 61 Number 2

Fall 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat., September 23rd 10am - 4pm & Sun., September 24th 11am-4pm:
5th Annual Rombout Colonial Days Weekend, featuring 2nd NY Provincials, 2nd Regiment of the Dutchess County Militia, Hathorn's Regiment, the 23rd regiment of foot Royal Welch Fusiliers, woodworking, blacksmithing, cooking and baking demonstrations, and much more.
****Sponsored in part by the East Fishkill Rotary Club* (Brinckerhoff House Historic Site)***

October and November: Our new Author Series. Please see our website for all details, dates, and times. (Held in the Brinckerhoff One-room Schoolhouse)

Saturday November, 4th 4-6pm: Annual Members Meeting & Volunteer Thank You Potluck (Brinckerhoff House Historic Site)

Sunday December 3rd, 1-4pm: EFHS Annual Christmas Open House. Join us as we welcome our neighbors to help ring in the holiday season. (Brinckerhoff House Historic Site)

Saturday December 9th, Noon, 2pm & 4pm: EFHS Holiday Tea. Join us as we present 3 seatings of our popular holiday tea. \$20 adults, \$10 children under 13. Seating is limited. All proceeds to benefit the David M. Bushey EFHS scholarship fund. For all reservations, please contact Jan Bushey at 845-242-5794 (Brinckerhoff House Historic Site)

How to stay in touch...

Please visit our website at eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org. You can keep up with and register for events, sign up and pay for membership, watch videos of past events, and much more. You can also visit us on Facebook at Brinckerhoff House Historic Site/Home of East Fishkill Historical Society, and Instagram at [brinckerhoff_house_1750](https://www.instagram.com/brinckerhoff_house_1750).

In Memorial: Judy Leach-Wolf 1949-2023



Our friend and colleague, Judy Wolf, passed away on June 25th 2023. Judy was a lot of things to many people. She was an avid genealogist, Master Gardener, and talented quilter. She enjoyed RV travel, sewing, 18th-century reenacting with the 5th NY Regiment for more than 10 years, Scouting, and fireworks. Judy lived two very busy and eventful lives. The first with her husband Billy, and the second with her partner, Jim Burr Sr. Always volunteering, be it with PTA, Girl or Boy Scouts, Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, or tracking down a long passed relative; Judy was always busy. Through her genealogical research, she worked with Project Recover to research lost soldiers during World War 2 in Palau and bring them home to be buried. Here at the Brinckerhoff House, Judy was our lead gardener. She helped us expand our herb garden and kitchen vegetable garden and helped create, with a small team of volunteers,

several other areas of beautification on our grounds. She also shared her family with us, without whom we would not be able to present the living history programs that we currently offer.

Judy, you are missed and loved by all you have touched. Bless you!

From the Farmhouse by Site Director, Rick Soedler

Hello friends! We hope you are all well and that you have enjoyed your summer here in the Hudson Valley. Summer has been a bit sad here at the Brinckerhoff House as we are missing two of our long time volunteers. Our lead garden volunteer, Judy Wolf, passed away in June, and her daughter, Tracy Wolf, experienced two strokes back in April. We missed Tracy during our spring field trips especially! Speaking of which, we always need volunteers to help with the school programs and weekend events we offer. Please consider spending your volunteer hours with us!

The next time you visit, be sure to notice our expanded parking area. We have been able to add approximately 18 more spaces, including 4 reserved ADA parking spaces.

Last fall we received an infrastructure grant from Dutchess County that is allowing us to make improvements to our site. One of those projects is currently underway and another will begin the first week of October.

As always, we greatly appreciate your continued support for all that we do. Please consider becoming actively involved. With the loss of several key people we welcome any and all help big or small our members are willing to give. Thank you.

Please visit our website eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org for all of our upcoming events.

Churchill Visits East Fishkill by Rick Soedler

In June of 1942, Lt. Robert Morgenthau was on weekend leave from the US Navy and was greeted by a familiar guest of the homestead at Fishkill Farms. It was his father Henry Morgenthau Jr.'s friend and President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. At the time, Henry Morgenthau Jr. was Treasury Secretary under the FDR administration. Along with his wife, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, they brought along an unexpected guest. It was none other than British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. The photo to the right is a still shot taken from a home movie filmed that day. It shows Henry Morgenthau Jr. on the left chatting with Prime Minister Churchill on the right, outside the Morgenthau home on



East Hook Road. Also in attendance were Henry Morgenthau's wife Elinor Fatman-Morgenthau, Robert's wife Martha Partridge-Morgenthau, Robert's sister Joan Morgenthau, and one of Churchill's daughters. The purpose of the visit for the most part has been lost to history, but the home movie taken seems to show a social visit. Everyone in attendance was sitting outside the Morgenthau home on a beautiful summer's day drinking Mint Juleps. I'm sure that there was business discussed outside of the circle of family and visitors at some point that day. That has also been lost to history. Robert Morgenthau was quoted later in life saying that "Everyone enjoyed the mint juleps that day, except for Prime Minister Churchill, who preferred a glass of scotch to go with his cigar."

Photo Courtesy of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives

We are still in need of Active Members and Volunteers by Rick Soedler

The East Fishkill Historical Society has been blessed over the years with a healthy volunteer base to fulfill our mission here in the Hudson Valley. **We are asking for your help to become more involved with your historical society.** Our board of directors could always use fresh faces and fresh ideas. We have a lovely little **General Store/Gift Shop** that we need help running. As we are getting more and more requests for **field trips**, we could use help presenting our programs to local school children. We now have a small group of **garden volunteers** who could use additional assistance. We also could use help organizing and re-cataloging items in our **collections**, helping with **events**, and so on. (Please encourage any high school students that you know to volunteer too! Helping us fulfill their community service hours.) We have one of the most unique historic sites in Dutchess County that we are very proud of, and we want to share that pride with our members.



For more information please email rick@eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org

