



# *East Fishkill Historical Society Newsletter*

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

*(845) 221-4136*

*eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org*

*Volume 59 Number 1*

*Spring 2021*

## ***ANNOUNCING EFHS's NEW WEBSITE!***

Our new website is up and running at [eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org](http://eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org). You can check out past and future events, sign up and pay for membership, watch videos of past events, and much more.

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS (See details inside)***

**Saturday May 15th time TBD.** East Fishkill Historical Society Barn Sale

**Sunday June 6th 1-4pm.** The EFHS Annual Strawberry Festival

All events follow state and local Covid guidelines. Masks and social distancing required at all events.



***Follow Brinckerhoff House Historic Site/Home of East Fishkill Historical Society on Facebook for the latest updates.***

## ***BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY***

Please join the East Fishkill Historical today.

Single member \$20       Family membership \$25

Contributing member \$40-\$99       Patron \$100 & over

I would be willing to assist in the operation of the society. Please contact me to see how the society might best be able to use my time and talents.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

East Fishkill Historical Society  
PO Box 245  
Hopewell Jct. NY 12533

## *From the Farmhouse by Site Director, Rick Soedler*

Hello Friends,

As Covid numbers went down and September rolled around, we were able to host our second annual Rombout Colonial Days Encampment. This socially distanced outdoor event presented approximately 35 living history re-enactors, a wonderful performance by Judith Kalaora of History At Play as the first woman to join and fight in the Continental Army disguised as a man, Deborah Samson; and local author Vincent Dacquino presenting a talk on local heroine Sybil Ludington. Even with strict regulations, the two-day event was well attended.

In October we presented 3 small outdoor workshops led by board member Jennifer Keeler-McMillan. Colonial Broom making, Elderberry Syrup and Fire Cider, and Besom making (also known as witches' brooms.) All were well attended.

We now have a heating unit installed in our one room schoolhouse and have been able to offer the use of the building to two East Fishkill Girl Scout troops for them to hold their meetings, as the local schools are now off limits.

One last event held the first Sunday in December in place of our annual Christmas Open House, was drive up/walk up outdoor photos with Santa and Randolph the Reingoat. We weren't quite sure what to expect, but we had many families come by for photos and to donate canned goods and other food which was passed on to the Fishkill Food Pantry. All in all, despite the pandemic, we did well.

**We are extremely grateful for our volunteers**, what we were able to accomplish, and the visitors who safely came by and showed their support. Birthday posts on our Palen Road roadside sign were also a big hit. Email us with any new requests.

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### *Past events*



The October workshops were well attended. Participants learned to make elderberry syrup and firecider at one and besoms (or witches' brooms) at the other.



Santa and his "reingoat" were available for photos at our drive through open house.



Rombout Colonial Days were a great success.



In March we hosted a virtual "Colonial Day" for fourth grade students at Gayhead Elementary.



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### *Upcoming Events*

**"East Fishkill Historical Society Barn Sale"**. Saturday May 15th time TBD The Society will be holding a Barn Sale, selling surplus items that are currently overwhelming our facility. We welcome the community for \$20 a space to bring your own unwanted items to sell. You will need to bring your own pop up and table, we provide the space. Rain date Saturday May 22nd.

**EFHS Annual Strawberry Festival**. Sunday June 6th 1-4pm. Due to COVID 19 State and County regulations our attendance is limited. The event is free to the community, but we are asking those who would like to attend to pre-register. More information to follow. For all events, please go to [eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org](http://eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org) for updated information.