

# Westhampton Beach Historical Society

Serving the  
Communities of  
Westhampton Beach,  
Westhampton Dunes,  
Westhampton, Quiogue,  
Remsenberg, Speonk  
and Eastport



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## Newsletter

Fall 2017

### A Great Encampment on the Great Lawn!

An **Encampment of the Third New York Regiment** was held on the Village's Great Lawn in mid-July, under the auspices of the Historical Society. The Third New York Regiment is a group of reenactors who have chosen the American Revolutionary War as their hobby. Their mission is to faithfully re-create the daily lives of Revolutionary War soldiers, soldier's wives, families, and camp followers using the accounts of the original Third New York Regiment as a guide. The original Third New York Regiment was authorized under the command of Colonel James Clinton in June 1775 for service in Canada with the objective of taking Canada from British control. Although the attempt to take Canada had failed by July 1776, the history of the Third New York Regiment lives on in the detailed accounts of the Canada campaign written by several members of the original Regiment.

Visitors to the Encampment saw members of the Regiment in authentic dress going about their daily lives as they would have between June 1775 to July 1776, including cooking the noon meal ("nooning") over open fires, mending clothing, cleaning equipment, drilling, practicing marksmanship, and sleeping in camp tents. There were several activities for children to participate in, including drilling with wooden rifle replicas and receiving "payment" for their service to the Regiment.

This was a **wonderful opportunity to learn about the history of the American Revolution** and participate in the action! We hope that you were able to join us for this hands-on immersion in re-created New York State history! If you couldn't make it to this year's Encampment, we hope to provide another similar opportunity in 2018!



Left: A reenactor roasts the "nooning" chickens over an open fire.



Right: A reenactor explains his historic clothing and equipment to Encampment visitors.

Westhampton Beach, NY 11978  
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### Westhampton Beach Historical Society Late 2017 Calendar of Events

We still have one event planned for the end of 2017: the ever-popular Holiday Party!  
The Annual Meeting will be scheduled for early 2018, as will several lectures.  
Please watch for mailings and check our website ([whbhistorical.org](http://whbhistorical.org)) for announcements!

**Holiday Party** ..... Sunday, December 3

**Annual Meeting** ..... Early 2018

**Winter Lecture Series** ..... Early 2018

### *We'd love to hear your story!*

As the editor of this Newsletter, I am always faced with the challenge of gathering enough interesting materials for each edition. While the activities of the Society usually provide much of the copy, what we really need are articles of historic interest. If there is a local historic event, place, building, or other topic that you know about and would like to have included in this Newsletter, then please do not hesitate to send us some information. Even better, send us an article! Our email address is: [whbhistorical@optonline.net](mailto:whbhistorical@optonline.net)

We would be delighted to include your work in a future edition of this Newsletter, including a credit to you!



\* Westhampton Beach Historical Society Museum • 101 Mill Road • Westhampton Beach

## Summer Craft Demonstrations a Big Hit!

The Society's Education Committee made a big effort towards community outreach this year by starting a **colonial crafts demonstration program**. Nearly every Saturday throughout the summer craft demonstrations were held in our Foster Meeker Heritage Center or outside on the lawn. The crafts included **spinning, weaving, bird carving, natural dyes, wampum, blacksmithing**, and other arts and skills practiced locally during our colonial times. We even **used the newly-constructed bake oven and hearth complex** in the Foster-Meeker Heritage Center to demonstrate colonial cooking techniques!

The program drew a large number of folks onto our grounds and **boosted attendance at the museum**. The demonstrations that included active participation were particularly popular, with some folks returning week after week to see what was next! Although the crafts were free to all, the Society did incur costs to put on the program, some of which will be covered by a New York State grant that we anticipate receiving with the assistance of Assemblyman Fred Thiele.



*A demonstration of wampum making fascinated children and adults.*

The **colonial crafts program will be continued in 2018** and we will be seeking further grant funding for financial support. Please look for our announcements about this program, which will likely re-start in June 2018. **We hope to see you learning colonial crafts in 2018!**



*Weaving (left) and woodworking (right) included hands-on opportunities.*



## Volunteering . . . it's a fun learning experience!

In 2016 and 2017 we had more volunteers than ever helping with our programs and events. The opportunities to volunteer included docenting at the **Museum and the Quiogue Historic House Tour**, assisting with **yard sales** and the Encampment, **accessioning our artifacts**, recording our events and **oral histories**, and helping out in many other ways. Many of these folks have expressed their appreciation for the opportunities to learn (accessioning training and docent training were provided!), meet others who

share their interests, and give back to this Society. **Please note: You do not have to be a member to volunteer! You don't have to be on the Board to volunteer!** We welcome anyone with some free time! If you would like to volunteer, please send us an email ([whbhistorical@optonline.net](mailto:whbhistorical@optonline.net)) or call the Society (631-288-1139) and leave a message with your name, contact information, and area of interest. We would love to have your help!



## Quiogue—A Lovely Place for an Historic House Tour!

On a gorgeous sunny afternoon in mid-July we had the pleasure of touring **three historic houses on Quiogue**, including the W.C. Peckham Cottage at 9 Woodbridge Lane, the Woodbridge Cottage at 17 Woodbridge Lane, and the Reed/Patton Cottage at 25 Woodbridge Lane. The house owners, Anne Moore and Ernie Hutton, Pamela and William McBride, and Tim and Marcia McBride graciously loaned us their beautiful homes for a few hours so that we could share their history and see how well-maintained and comfortable these historic homes can be. These "cottages" were all constructed between the 1870s and 1888 and originally occupied by many of the professors and theologians who developed the summer colony on Quiogue (known at one time as "Priestville"). Because these homes have been maintained in a manner that retained much of their original building fabric while making updates to meet more modern needs, this area of Quiogue still looks much as it did in the late 1800s. As a Society dedicated to historic preservation, we sincerely appreciate the efforts of these homeowners!

After the tour, participants were treated to a **lovely cocktail party** on the lawn at the Hutton's home. We enjoyed a generous buffet, raw bar, and cocktails, while the strains of Jim Badzik at the keyboard wafted through. Altogether a perfect

afternoon. Even better – the proceeds were used to support restoration and maintenance of our Society's campus! We want to thank all who contributed to this event, including the homeowners, volunteer docents, and our sponsors: **Bridgehampton National Bank, Corcoran, First Coastal, Mulco, Speonk Lumber Corp.**, and the **Rauch Foundation**. Without the support of our sponsors, the homeowners, and the many volunteers, this would have been just another Saturday in July....



*Above: The 1881 Woodbridge "Cottage".*

*Left: The Reed and Patton "Cottage" constructed circa 1870.*

*Below: House Tour participants enjoyed an open air cocktail party!*

