

Rocky Point Historical Society

Spring 2024--Celebrating our 28th Year



Circa 1721 Noah Hallock Homestead



RCA RADIO CENTRAL TRANSMITTING STATION

Celebrating the first transmission
over 100 years ago 1921-2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Since our last newsletter, members have enjoyed many programs and events both at the Hallock Homestead Museum and elsewhere in the community. There has been wonderful progress in the restoration of the Hallock Homestead Museum, but there has also been great loss as two of our charter members Linda Cathcart and Jim Higgins recently passed away. Linda was a dedicated volunteer who took on the role of treasurer from Peter Maddalena. We are so grateful for her many years as a volunteer, and Linda and Ed's generosity toward the Society. We dedicated our 25th Anniversary Tea to Linda in October and will continue to remember her at future teas. Rest in peace Linda. Similarly, the Society is saddened to hear of Jim Higgins' passing in Maryland, where he had moved in 2021. Jim's interest in genealogy led to our first publication The Noah Hallock Cemetery (1997). Years later he discovered that both enslaved blacks and free blacks had lived in Rocky Point, which led to his second book, Slavery in Rocky Point (2007). Jim was a dedicated volunteer who kept us current by updating the bylaws, portrayed Abraham Lincoln in the parade, and made sure we received our Absolute Charter in 2017. We will miss you, Jim.

RESTORATION UPDATE AND MORE

Restoration of the Hallock Homestead Museum has moved forward including scraping and painting of the red tin roof. This project is funded by a matching grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation. Work completed to date includes restoration of windows, updated electrical, new light fixtures, better drainage, gutters, and plaster in the foyer and west parlor. But there is more to be done. Funds for the restoration were raised over time since the Homestead was obtained by the historical society in 2013. Each year operating costs exceed \$30,000 including insurance, utilities, and maintenance. Therefore, the Board seeks to obtain funding for the Hallock Homestead Museum through a referendum to be placed before the voters in the Rocky Point School District on May 21st. **We collected signatures on a petition requesting \$35,000 annually to support the museum, which is estimated to cost the average homeowner in Rocky Point about \$5.66 a year.** This is a small price to pay to preserve the 300-year-old Homestead, a museum which documents the history of Rocky Point and is on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. For more information, please attend our general membership meeting on Thursday, April 11, at 7 pm. Our meetings are held at the VFW Post 6249 on King Road in Rocky Point. Please attend this important meeting to hear more.

SAVE THE DATE

- **April 6, 2024**—Hallock Homestead Museum Re-opening
- **April 11, 2024**—Membership Meeting at VFW Rocky Point 7 PM
- **May 9, 2024**—Membership Meeting at VFW Rocky Point 7 PM
- **May 19, 2024**—Rocky Point Day
- **May 21, 2024**—School District Budget Vote Day—Support our Proposition on the Ballot
- **June 8, 2024**—D-Day Dinner

OFFICERS

Suzanne Johnson, President
Dr. Charles Bevington, Vice Pres.
Kenneth Krapf, Treasurer
Susan Bevington, Recording Sec.
Rory Rubino, Corresponding Sec.

TRUSTEES

Janice Bambara
Jeff Davis
Joan Depken
Annette Falcetta
Pete Falcetta
Dr. Constance Iervolino
Edith Mahler
Natalie Aurucci Stiefel

Write to Us

info@rockypointhistoricalsociety.org

Call Us

(631) 744-1776

Find us on the Web

www.rockypointhistoricalsociety.org

Follow us on

Facebook & Instagram



JOIN US FOR AN ENCAMPMENT—SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

Date: Saturday, April 6, 2024

Time: 10 AM to 4 PM

Daily Activities:

- **All Day:** The 3rd NY Regiment 1775 will set up camp all day at the 1721 Hallock Homestead Museum.
- **All Day:** Guided tours of the museum by volunteer docents.
- **All Day:** Outdoor tours of the Colonial Gardens, the Rewild Rain Garden, and the Spring Pollinator Gardens by Cornell Master Gardeners; viewing of the Temima Gezari bronze and stonesculptures.
- **11 AM:** Dedication of the Joan Dochterman Pollinator Garden and rededication of her local lepidoptery collection with a special thank you to Gov. Kathy Hochul for signing the Birds and Bees Act to protect pollinators.
- **1 PM to 3 PM:** Singer/songwriter, Emy McBrearty, will perform.
- **2 PM:** "Mourning Salute" for American Revolution Patriots buried in the nearby cemetery/Hallock Family burying grounds. The patriots were two sons of Noah and Bethiah Hallock born in Rocky Point. They were Noah Hallock 2nd (1728-1808) DAR #A049727 and Josiah Hallock (1732-1815) DAR #A049719.



Photo Credit Alina Wilczynski

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Monthly historic programs are free and open to the public. New members welcome!
- Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the VFW Hall on King Road in Rocky Point starting at 7 PM. Join us.
- Guided tours of the Hallock Homestead Museum are on Saturdays between the hours of 1 PM and 4 PM from April through December and group tours by appointment. Please call (631) 744-1776 for group tours. A \$5 donation is suggested and appreciated.

Suffolk County World War II and Military History Museum in Downtown Rocky Point



The Rocky Point Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW Post 6249) is creating a Veterans Wall of Honor with inscribed names of veterans from all Armed Forces components, conflicts, reserve, and National Guard status. These veterans' names will be etched into a large piece of black granite that will be on display at the museum. If you would like to have a veteran's name etched into the granite, you can do so for \$125.

If you wish to include more than one veteran's name, additional etchings are \$100 each. Checks can be made payable to **Post 6249 Rocky Point VFW** and in the memo section of the check, please include "**Military History Museum.**" Be sure to include the information below by just cutting on the dotted line and including it with your check.

----- CUT HERE ----- CUT HERE ----- CUT HERE -----

Veteran's Name: _____ **Branch of Armed Forces:** _____

Year of Service: _____ **Conflict, War, Time Period:** _____

Your Name: _____ **Your Phone Number:** _____

Please mail this form and your check to: **Rocky Point VFW | PO Box 1106 | Rocky Point, NY 11778**. If you have any questions, contact Rich Acritelli at 631-839-2996 or email him at richvack@yahoo.com.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SUPPORT FOR THE HALLOCK HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Tuesday, May 21, a referendum will appear on the Rocky Point UFSD ballot as shown below:



SHALL THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ROCKY POINT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK, be authorized to raise the sum of \$35,000 for payment of operational and maintenance expenses on behalf of the Rocky Point Historical Society Hallock Homestead Museum for fiscal year 2024-25 and annually thereafter and to levy the necessary tax, therefore?

It is estimated that this will cost the average school district homeowner \$5.66 per year. The Rocky Point School District Budget Vote is held in the Rocky Point High School gymnasium. (Park around the back of the school by the tennis courts.) The voting will be open from 7 AM until 9 PM. Thank you for your continued support.

WIN AN OCTAGON BIRDHOUSE—CO-SPONSORED BY HERITAGE PAINTS OF ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Historical Society, together with Heritage Paints of Rocky Point, will raffle off a beautiful octagon birdhouse. The birdhouse is currently on display at Heritage Paints at 637 Route 25A just east of Broadway. Tickets are \$10 each and only 700 tickets will be sold.

Tickets can be purchased from John at Heritage Paints, at Historical Society meetings, and on Saturdays (beginning April 6th) at the Hallock Homestead Museum.

The drawing will be held at the Hallock Homestead Museum after the June Garden Tour on Saturday, June 15, 2024 and the proceeds will be used as matching funds for the Gardiner Challenge Grant.



Suffolk County World War II and Military History Museum in Downtown RP



A fundraiser dinner, sponsored by The Rocky Point Historical Society Hallock Homestead Museum and VFW Fischer Hewins Post 6249 Military Museum “Veterans Wall of Honor” will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2024 from 4 PM to 8 PM. The per person cost is \$50. The cost of admission includes: buffet dinner, wine, beer, soda, coffee, tea, and cake.

- Museum and Wall of Honor Tour: Meet at 4 PM in the VFW to check in
- Buffet Dinner begins at 5 PM with food by Zest Gourmet Catering

In addition to the buffet dinner, there will be raffles including door prizes, 50/50, and the birdhouse raffle (see above).



For dinner/tour tickets, make checks payable to: Rocky Point Historical Society

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number of People Attending: _____ x \$50 Per Person = _____

Mail to:
Rocky Point Historical Society
P.O. Box 1720
Rocky Point, NY 11778

Please respond by 6/1/24.

If you have any questions please call or text Pete Falcetta, RPHS Trustee at 631- 680- 2932.

TWO NEW EXHIBITS AT THE HALLOCK HOMESTEAD MUSEUM



This year we reopen the Hallock Homestead Museum with two new exhibits: "Needlework of the Hallocks and Tuthills" and "The E. Brush Shipwreck." The needlework exhibit is in a second-floor bedroom and includes items made by Frances Hallock Tuthill and her mother Ina Miller Hallock and given to the Museum by Anne Polta, granddaughter of Sylvester Hallock. Some of the items were on display at the Society's Tea last fall. The E. Brush Shipwreck exhibit has

been added to the back hall and features pieces of the schooner which was wrecked on the beach at Hallock Landing Road in 1901. The pieces were saved by John Hardecker in 1979 and given to the Museum in 2023. We are so grateful to donors who share these priceless artifacts of Rocky Point history which are now on display for all to enjoy.



Circa 1721 Hallock Homestead Museum

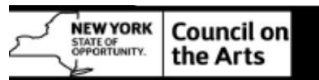
172 Hallock Landing Road, Rocky Point

Open beginning April 6, 2024 for guided tours: Saturdays 1-4 PM (April through December)

For group tours & information call 631-744-1776

Funds for this newsletter are provided by the Suffolk County Legislature, and Legislator Chad Lennon, 6th District.

Thank you!



Rocky Point Historical Society
Hallock Homestead Museum
PO Box 1720
Rocky Point, NY 11778

