

## We ♥ History!

*Summer 2023: Connecting, Remembering and Learning Together*



ABOVE: Many answered "yes," especially children, to the question: Do You love history?

### *Joining Forces at The Village Fair*

On June 10, 2023, The Jug Tavern and the Ossining Historic Cemeteries Conservancy (OHCC) set up a combined booth at the 41st annual Ossining Village Fair. A large banner that read "Do You Love History? We Love History!" hung above the tents, underscoring our joint mission to keep history alive for all people in the community. The organizations featured nearly life-size cutouts of two prominent Ossining figures, Captain Lewis Brady and the Leatherman. The Jug also engaged young passersby with oversize coloring book pages of his-

toric Sparta buildings. Clutching colorful crayons, children happily scribbled away. Flyers listing upcoming events for The Jug, OHCC, Campwoods Grounds, and Briarcliff Manor-Scarborough Society (BMSHS) were distributed as well. The weather was picture-perfect, and there was a great turnout. Overall, the event was a huge success. The Jug and OHCC hope to collaborate on future events and involve other local historic groups. Thank you to everyone who helped organize the display and worked at the fair—your contribution was tremendous!

### *Community Proud in Sparta Park*

Each year we get together to celebrate the end of summer. This year's Labor Day Picnic at Sparta Park was delightful: We connected with old friends and met many new friends. There was lots of great "pot luck" food at our shared meal to go with engaging conversations. Always a standout was Alan Stahl's ratatouille, as well as rice and pasta salads, ginger chicken, small quiches and plenty of sweet treats and juicy watermelon. Gina Piazza and Tony Ierulli brought a ring toss game for our new young community members. A good time was had by all!



ABOVE: Fun, games, food and talk at our Sparta Park Picnic overlooking the Hudson River.



*Join Us* for walks and talks as we build the future of our history, a more inclusive and diverse legacy. **DONATE AND BECOME A MEMBER.** Add your name to our mailing list for invitations and reminders of what's happening at The Jug!

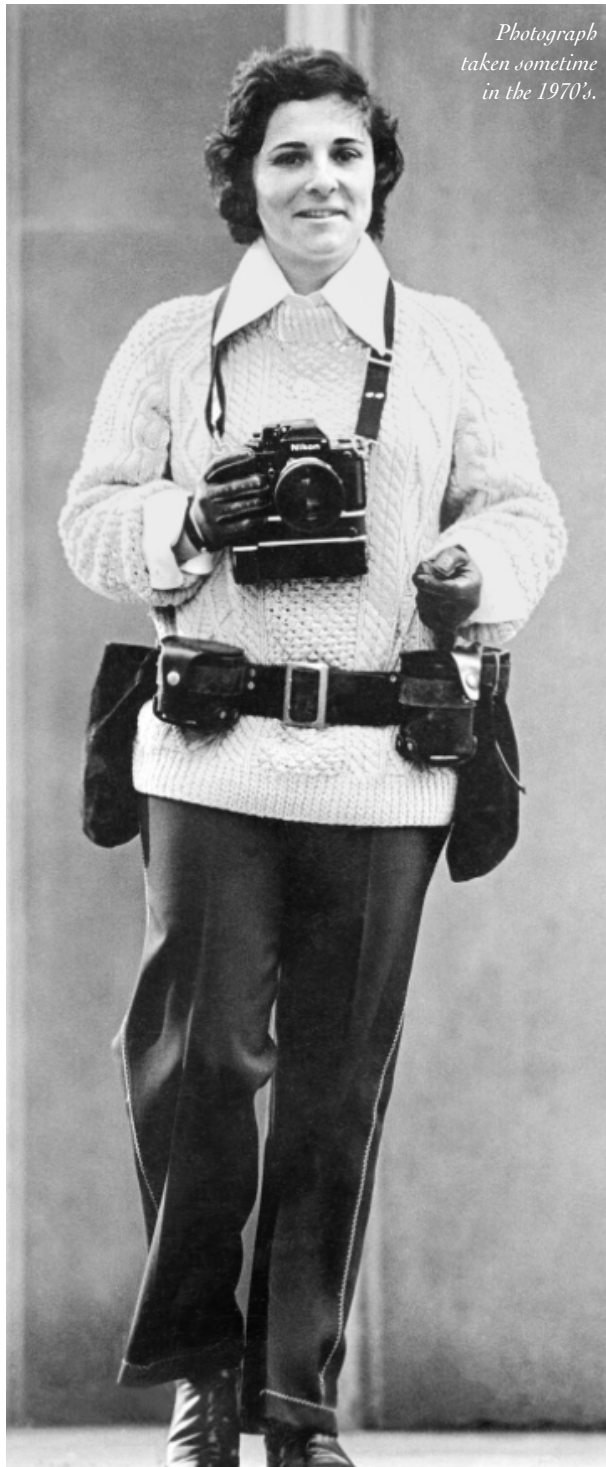
# Capturing Moments and Our Hearts

The first female photographer for the *New York Times*, board member of The Jug Tavern and our good neighbor, **Joyce Dopkeen** died this past year. Longtime resident of Sparta, Joyce took pride in having built a house on the NE corner of Liberty and Spring Streets, coincidentally the historic site of the town privy.

**HER HOUSE:** Scott Kamen, architect, helped us learn about Joyce's house: "I believe (and so does architect and friend Dan Garbowit) the house is a catalogue timber frame building, exhibiting exposed timber framing on the interior and references to 19th-century New England single story wood framed house architecture on the exterior. Originally featuring natural clapboard siding and a reference to an attached barn (garage), which was an added element historically to enable feeding the animals during the cold, deep snow Vermont winters. Interestingly, they stopped attaching the barns when it became known as a fire hazard. Though the house has many uncharacteristic details of that era, such as the oversized fenestration and A-frame dormers, it fits quite well, I think, in a historic district, especially when it had a huge beautiful, ancient tree in front and a naturally darkened wood finished clapboard siding." Gone is the big tree in front of her house, but she loved the view of another big tree opposite her house and she wrapped her arms around it when the Village threatened to cut it down. Sadly, this July 24, our tree was taken down.

**HER WORK:** Always, energized by a challenge, Joyce was up a ladder, taking pictures, as we celebrated the commemorative street naming for Joanne Tall, architect, advocate and neighbor. Joyce was small and mighty fearless while capturing stories with her camera. There were big, front-page stories, like Muhammad Ali fighting off Joe Frazier, to intimate portraits of female prison inmates training puppies to be service dogs. Understanding that an image is frozen in time, she said in the Times, "It's one thing if a reporter misses a quote; they can get a quote from someone else, but if a photographer misses it, that's all she wrote."

**HER BOAT:** From a stalwart and seaworthy family, Joyce, with her French poodle, Sailor, could be found on her sailboat, Rosebud, loving the feeling of freedom on the Hudson River. It is fitting that



the boat was named after the beloved childhood sled in the last scene of the 1941 movie, *Citizen Kane*, where Orson Wells plays Charles Foster Kane, a character based on the American media newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst. It is Kane's last memory, last word, standing for the sled he rode as a happy child living a simple life. Scott remembers: "Joyce's sailboat was a Cape Dory, no longer made, with distinct round port-hole windows and completely antique detailing, about 23 feet in length. It looked very much like an early American long voyage boat. It had a vast galley, diesel engine, clapboard-like hull to give the appearance of wood and was as stable as they come – virtually uncapsizable as Joyce told me on a voyage we made down to the Tappan Zee bridge as the sun set in maybe 1992."

**HER SPIRIT:** At her memorial, Rabbi Fred Dobb lovingly called Joyce a "badass," a reputation she lived up to at the *New York Times*. She barreled through crowds of taller, stronger people and hung off ledges to find the perfect picture moments. One day a letter came to Punch Sulzberger, publisher of the *New York Times*, complaining of Joyce's pushiness. He sent the letter to her and in the corner of it, handwritten by him were the words, "Keep doing what you are doing." Joyce's niece summed it up, reminiscing of time spent with her Aunt, "I never felt safe, but I felt so alive."

**HER GIFT:** Joyce was an active member at the The Jug Tavern. She made sure we had followed appropriate historic protocols when we needed to replace all our doors and found the perfect carpenter to do the job. She loved The Jug Tavern and remembered us in her will with a generous donation. We will be remembering Joyce by commemorating a Native Plant Garden in her name. The very sharp and witty Joyce would probably have called it the "Invasive Species Garden," a comment and testament to her love of nature.



## PHILIPSE MANOR HALL TOUR

### *Honoring Our Whole History*

**H**istorian Sarah Johnson hosted members from the Jug Tavern for a special tour of Philipse Manor Hall. We share history. Built around 1760, Jug Tavern was a private home constructed by Peter Davis, a Philipse Manor tenant farmer. Starting in the 1680's, Philipse Manor Hall, lo-

cated in Yonkers, was built in three stages and used by four generations of the Philipse family. A National Historic Landmark, it has been updated with brilliant new exhibitions, documenting the role that Africans and indigenous people contributed to our complex and diverse history.

**Make time for Sparta's last walking tour of the season**

**Sunday, October 22nd, 1:00pm**

**Reservations at [www.jugtabern.org](http://www.jugtabern.org)**



The Jug Tavern is a 501c3 non-profit. We rely on members and donors to **help preserve the Jug Tavern and share its history**, one of Ossining's oldest structures! Contributions make it possible to offer relevant educational programming. Please visit us at [www.jugtabern.org](http://www.jugtabern.org)