

March 17 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



**Saratoga County History Center**

*Sharing History to Promote Community*

*March 17, 2022*



Last week, Brookside Museum celebrated and honored our long-time staff member, Gloria Griffin, with love and gratitude as she retires. Gloria was the first person that the guests met upon arrival as she welcomed them to the door and introduce them to our building and exhibits. Best wishes to Gloria.



# Saratoga County History Center's Events

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**March 24** - 7pm “Supporting the Poor in Saratoga County” A Saratoga County History Roundtable talk by County Historian Lauren Roberts on the 130-year history of the County Poorhouse. The Poorhouse was established in 1827, when the county purchased land to accommodate an Alms House for “the victims of misfortune.” As the county grew, so did the number of people who needed care. The Poor House complex included a large-scale farm, schoolhouse, imposing brick residence and an infirmary. Tickets for this in person event at Brookside Museum are at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/39903-supporting-the-poor-in-saratoga-county> This is a hybrid program and will be available via our Facebook Live (no ticket necessary). [https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/live_videos/)

Tickets for Supporting the Poor

**April 6** - 7pm “The Deepest Devotion (President Ulysses S. Grant)” with Ben Kemp from the Friends of Grant Cottage, via Zoom, as part of the Expert Next Door series. It has been 200 years since the birth of famed Civil War general, and two-term president, Ulysses S. Grant, who spent his last days here in Saratoga County at Mount McGregor. Mr. Kemp will portray President Grant’s eldest son, Frederick and, using intimate stories, Fred will show a different side to President Grant, and illustrate the intense devotion his father had for his nation and his family. Free tickets are available at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/40362-experts-next-door-episode-19> Donations are always much appreciated. A Zoom link for the event will be sent within 48 hours of the event time.

Tickets for "The Deepest Devotion"

**April 16** - 1pm “Finding Criminals using DNA from Genealogical Databases” A Heritage Hunters of Saratoga County talk by Tobi Kirschmann, owner of DNA Investigations in Saratoga Springs. A DNA analyst, Kirschmann has decades of experience before starting her own business. She has been assisting adoptees in locating their biological relatives, but her preference now is to devote more time working with law enforcement groups in attempting to solve cold cases. This live event, co-sponsored by the Saratoga County History Center is at Brookside Museum. This is a hybrid

program and will be available via our Facebook Live (no ticket necessary).

[https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/live_videos/)

Brookside's Research Library, which includes the Heritage Hunter's collection, will be open before and after the program, between noon and 4 pm.'

*Programs are free unless otherwise indicated.*

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## **Join our Growing Family**

2021 was an exciting year for the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside. We added five new exhibits, made significant progress on our collection, raised over \$31,000 for improvements to our building, and saw a 240% growth in our membership.

This year, we are excited to tell you about our new membership levels and benefits. If you are not yet a member, please take a look at our new membership levels and benefits below.

Come join our growing family in 2022 and help keep history alive in Saratoga County.

[Click here to become a member today!](#)

### **Senior/Educator/Student: \$25**

Receive SCHC's newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, window sticker, and reduced prices for events.

### **Individual: \$35**

Receive SCHC's newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, window sticker, and reduced prices for events.

### **Couple: \$65**

Receive SCHC's newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, window sticker, and reduced prices for events.

### **Brookside Contributor: \$100**

All the above benefits plus: Welcome packet, membership card with NARM membership and a 10% discount at the museum shop. Please note that family memberships are determined by each participating institution. While NARM does not have a standard area of restriction, some institutions do restrict benefits. See the member map for details.

### **Brookside Supporter: \$250**

All the above benefits above plus: A copy of "The First Respectable House: Brookside and the Growth of Ballston Spa."

**Brookside Patron: \$500**

All benefits above plus: Personal behind-the-scenes tour of the museum by a staff member, and a reduced price for event space.

**Brookside Benefactor: \$1,000**

All the benefits above plus: Personal behind-the-scenes tour of the museum by the President, first look at the new exhibits with reception, one-time free use of the event space, and 15% discount at the museum shop.

**Brookside Lifetime: \$5,000**

All benefits above plus: Lifetime membership at the SCHC, receive a card indicating membership status, and two free uses of event space per year.



# Saratoga County Historical Community Upcoming Events

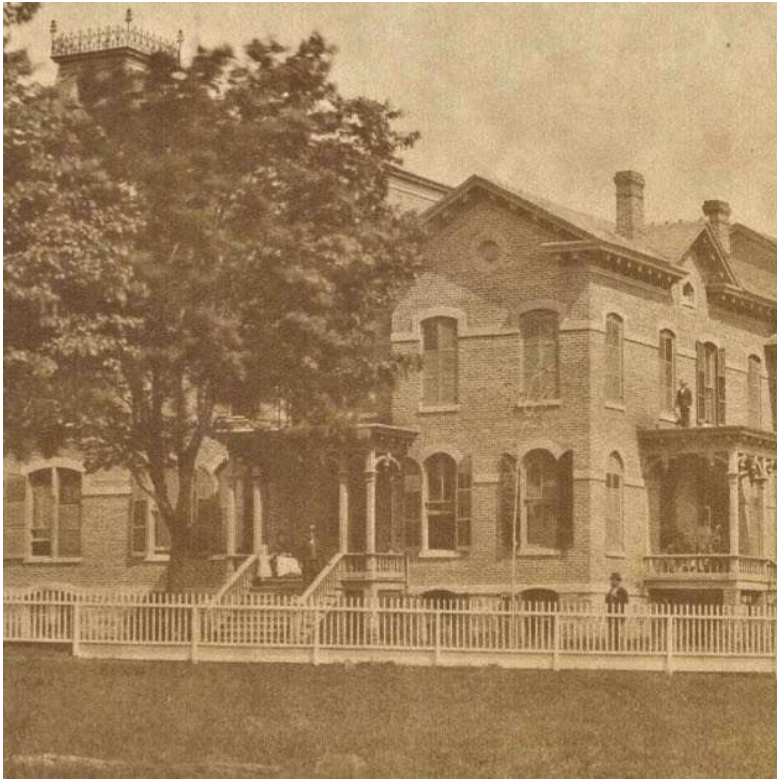
**These programs come from several organizations in Saratoga County. The event organizers are noted. These are not hosted or sponsored by SCHC.**

**March 19 - 1pm** "The Marshall Family of Schuylerville and the historic Marshall House." Heritage Hunters will present a Zoom program led by Elaine Gardella of Worcester, Massachusetts, a direct descendant of the Marshalls. Gardella will share information on the early colonial Marshalls and the Marshall cemetery, including three Revolutionary War patriots of the Saratoga campaign. The presentation will include a review of the guidelines to applying for membership in the DAR. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88038454037?pwd=WVdETmNjT0VINHJ4YUZyQzRkZW0rZz09> or contact 518-885-9309 for obtain information.

**March 19 - 2pm** "The Battle of Valcour Island," Award winning historian and author of the recently published *Valcour: The 1776 Campaign that Saved the Cause of Liberty*, Jack Kelly shares the wild and suspenseful story of the scrappy American navy that took on the full might of the Britain's sea power in the opening year of the American Revolution. Attendance limited to 40. This is a program of the Friends of the New York State Military Museum. The New York State Military Museum is located at 61 Lake Ave. Saratoga Springs. .

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to [sean@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:sean@brooksidemuseum.org). SCHC News and Events is a collaborative effort. We count on the contributions of the historic community of Saratoga County and others for the entire content of this page.

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## SUPPORTING THE POOR IN SARATOGA COUNTY

130 year history of the County  
Poorhouse

March 24 | 7 PM

Brookside Museum 6 Charlton  
Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020.



Tickets for this in person event at Brookside Museum are at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/39903-supporting-the-poor-in-saratoga-county>

Tickets for Supporting the Poor

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## History Center Hold Award Ceremony





On the evening of March 8, 2022, the Saratoga County History Center hosted a gala at Brookside Museum to celebrate the inaugural winners of the Saratoga County Public History Award: Carol Godette and James Richmond.

About fifty guests, including History Center trustees and staff, gathered in the “Long Room” at Brookside Museum to learn about the new award, hear testimonials about the work and careers of Godette and Richmond, and revel in scholarly camaraderie. Presided over by History Center trustee and Public Relations Manager Michael Landis, the guest list featured local historians, journalists, and dignitaries from the greater Saratoga County area.

After brief remarks by Landis and History Center president Field Horne, Karen Staulters, Historian of the Town of Milton, introduced James Richmond with an emotional review of his many publications and services to the community. Richmond, in turn, reminded the assemblage that public history is a cooperative effort and that none of his achievements would be possible without the help of others. Next, Chad Beatty, publisher of *Saratoga TODAY*, spoke about the challenges of finding good writers before handing over the lectern to Carol Godette, who shared her deep love of local history that stemmed from her childhood experiences in Saratoga. Both Richmond and Godette have published widely on Saratoga County history, with Richmond specializing in the 18th and 19th centuries, and Godette on the 20th century and the recent past.

The Saratoga County Public History Award is an annual recognition of the critical, yet often overlooked, work of local historians, teachers, authors, and archivists. Winners are selected by a committee comprised of History Center trustees, educators, and community leaders. Please contact Michael Landis for more information: [mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org).

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## BLACK EXPERIENCES IN SARATOGA COUNTY 1750 – 1950

Explore the diversity of the lives of African Americans in Saratoga County over 200 years from the colonial period to the mid-20th century. It is a panorama of the struggles and hardships they faced, but also of their persistence and success.



Brookside Museum Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4 pm The SCHC Brookside Museum is located on 8 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome.



"Black Experiences in Saratoga County 1750 - 1950" continues to attract visitors to the museum with over 150 guests during the first month. The exhibit is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 pm. We would also like to acknowledge that Matt Bonk and Fred Sober have been trained as volunteer guides for this exhibition. If you have any questions about the exhibit or would like to give some share your feedback please email [info@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:info@brooksidemuseum.org)

## Academy of Lifelong Learning at Brookside

The Academy is one of over 400 lifelong learning programs affiliated with the Road Scholar Institute Network and shares their mission to provide educational experiences for older adults. Membership is open to all persons upon payment of \$75 annual membership dues.

Founded in 1992, the Academy for Lifelong Learning at Saratoga Springs (A.L.L.) is a nonprofit membership organization whose members share enthusiasm for learning and socializing. It is an independent entity, hosted by SUNY Empire State College providing office and classroom space as well as advisory and administrative support. Despite valued affiliations, it is important to emphasize that the Academy is an independent entity with its own budget and is governed solely by its own membership. It could not function without the active involvement of the people who participate as members, instructors, and students,

This spring II semester they are offering a class at the Saratoga County History Center

EXPLORING LOCAL HISTORY AT BROOKSIDE MUSEUM



6 Charlton Street, Ballston Spa

Tuesdays, 1 – 2:30 p.m., May 17, 24, 31, June 7, 14

Brookside Museum is the home of the Saratoga County History Center, whose mission is to explore and promote the history of Saratoga County. In this course, museum volunteers will lead the discussions and provide attendees with the opportunity to experience the museum's history, exhibits, collections, and research resources. A short walking tour of the neighborhood will be included as a course session. Handout summaries of each week's topic will be provided to course participants.

1. May 17 History of Brookside Museum
2. May 24 Survey of Current Exhibits
3. May 31 Museum Collections
4. June 7 Research and Resources
5. June 14 Garden and Walking Tour

Leaders: Jim Richmond is the leader of the Saratoga County History Roundtable and a trustee of the Saratoga County History Center. He has recently led the teams that published Saratoga County Stories and developed the museum's latest exhibit "Black Experiences in Saratoga County History 1750-1950."

Anne Clothier is the education director at Brookside Museum and had created and lead many programs.

To learn more visit: <https://www.esc.edu/media/esc-foundation/all/ALL-Brochure.pdf>.



## FINDING CRIMINALS USING DNA FROM GENEALOGICAL DATABASES

Heritage Hunters of Saratoga  
County

April 16 | 1 PM

Brookside Museum 6 Charlton  
Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020.





# Saratoga County History In the News

Saratoga County History in the News presents brief extracts from articles published in mainstream media and, less frequently, blogs and alternative media. The excerpts come directly from the websites referred to in each source note. Quotation marks are not utilized.

#8 is where *12 Years A Slave* ended up on Collider's "10 Movies From the 2010s Everyone Should See At Least Once." This Steve McQueen's brutal landmark historical drama stars Chiwetel Ejiofor as **Solomon Northup**, a free Black Saratoga man kidnapped and sold into slavery in the years before the Civil War. At the 2014 Oscars ceremony, *12 Years a Slave* took home top honors of the night with Best Picture, as well as honors for Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress. [Collider](#)

(Our exhibit, "Black Experiences in Saratoga County 1750 - 1950" includes Solomon Northup and we are looking to expand the exhibit in July with some special artifacts focused on Northrup.)

iTheatre Saratoga presents a "pop-up old time radio drama" March 26-27 at the newly renovated Saratoga City Music Hall. "Saratoga Chips: From the Discovery of Water to the Eradication of Crime in the Racing City" is a multimedia presentation featuring live music, narration and recorded vignettes. Commodore Vanderbilt, Mark Twain, Ulysses S. Grant, Madame Jumel, John Morrissey, Solomon Northup, and aeronaut Carlotta Myers are just a few of the famous names that pass through Saratoga Chips, an entertaining evening of history, comedy and music from Saratoga's Victorian era, organizers say. [Saratoga Today](#)

A measure to reauthorize the **Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission** for 15 more years has been signed into law. [Times Union](#)

In case you missed it, [This Week in Saratoga County History - March 10](#) *Devoted to Spiritualism: The Life & Work of Laura Smith Ellsworth* by author, historian David Waite. (David also takes many of the wonderful photos that we use in these emails - thanks David.)

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## THE DEEPEST DEVOTION (PRESIDENT ULYSSES S. GRANT)

Experts Next Door : Episode 19

April 6 | 7 PM



Free tickets are available at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/40362-experts-next-door-episode-19>

Tickets for Supporting the Poor

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Contribute to Saratoga County History Center News and Events. Submit events, stories, job changes, promotions or news about Saratoga County history to [sean@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:sean@brooksidemuseum.org). SCHC News and Events is a collaborative effort. We count on the contributions of the historic community of Saratoga County and others for the entire content of this page. Producer Sean Kelleher and Editor Donna Dardaris coordinate the creation of the email with the help of many contributors, including Anne Clothier, Andrew Collier, Isobel Connell, Cindy Corbett, Michael Landis, Jim Richmond, Beth Silvestri and David Waite.

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This message was sent by the Saratoga County History Center Board of Trustees which recognizes Native Peoples who are the original stewards of the lands on which we now live. We gratefully acknowledge the Native Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we write from, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home in New York State today.

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The Brookside Museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4 pm. SCHC Brookside Museum lists all closings at <https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/>

The SCHC Brookside Museum is located on 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome. The current exhibits are *Black*

*Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950, A Century of Ice Cream, a centennial of the Dake family and Stewart's Shops, and the Country Stores in Saratoga County.*

The Saratoga County History Center is dedicated to the preservation and sharing of the diverse histories of Saratoga County. In addition to the Brookside Museum, the History Center offers a variety of innovative, exciting and educational programs online and in person throughout the county. Please visit the website ([www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.

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**Saratoga County History Center**

6 Charlton Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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