



Saratoga County History Center
Sharing History to Promote Community
April 28, 2022



It was a lovely spring Sunday afternoon with the Hudson Mohawk Antique Tools and Trades Association Meeting featuring a program and book signing with Don Williams. William's book, *Grandfather's Toolchest* is available in our museum store. Join us for this Sunday afternoon program, **Quilts of New York and New England with Quilt Expert Deb Grana** starting at 1 pm.



Saratoga County History Center's Events

May 1 - 1pm Quilts of New York and New England with Quilt Expert Deb Grana. Learn about the fascinating history of quilts and quilting in the northeast. View original quilts from the presenter's collection. Participants are welcome to bring their own antique quilts to share with the group and to discover more about their origins. This is an in-person event, sponsored by the Saratoga County History Center, which will take place in the Brookside Museum.

May 3 - 7pm Public event is full. *Forgotten Crossroads: Rock City Falls* video premiere viewing party will take place at Brookside Museum. This is the first of a series of "Forgotten Crossroads of Saratoga County" videos, by the History Center and the Saratoga County History Roundtable. The video documents the development of this once vibrant community, what attracted families to settle here in the late 18th and 19th centuries, and how it grew around the mills, taverns, schools, stores, churches, and farms. The film concludes with a segment of the contemporary community that still works and lives there. This is an in-person event which is full. If you have a ticket it will take place in the Brookside Museum. The video, *Forgotten Crossroads: Rock City Falls* will be premiere on the [History Center YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCwb2Limln6FI5BY0xcPhew) at 7:15pm on May 3.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCwb2Limln6FI5BY0xcPhew>

May 5 - 7pm *County Life in Photographs* exhibit opening includes 26 images of gatherings in Saratoga County between 1870 and 1950, interpreting the ways in which county residents interacted in social, political, and celebratory contexts. A prime example is the panoramic photo of the Jonesville Methodist Church clambake in 1922, a wildly popular annual event that ran for 66 years until ending in 1962. Most photographs were found in the History Center collection, while others were provided by town historians. Research was carried out by three students from the history department at Skidmore College. This is an in-person event, which will take place in the Brookside Museum.

May 13 - 7pm *Forgotten Crossroads: Rock City Falls* video viewing party will be held in the Rock City Falls Firehouse. The video documents the development of this once vibrant community, what attracted families to settle here in the late 18th and 19th centuries, and how it grew around the mills, taverns, schools, stores, churches, and farms. The film concludes with a segment of the contemporary community that still works and lives there. This is an in-person event, which will take place at the Rock City Falls Firehouse 1119 Rock City Falls Road, Rock City Falls.

May 14 – 9am - 4pm *Women in War: The Revolutionary Experience – A Symposium.* The Marshall House will bring together regional and nationally-known historians of the American

Revolution including keynote speaker, Dr. Holly Mayer to provide insights into the experiences and actions of some extraordinary women. The symposium is in partnership with the Saratoga County 250th American Revolution Commission and the Saratoga County History Center. It will take place at the Saratoga Town Hall in Schuylerville, NY. \$50 registration may be purchased at themarshallhouse.org or by calling 518-695-3765 for the entire day, including lunch, refreshments, and a visit to Marshall House.

May 15 - 1-4pm Sheep to Shawl Community Day. The long-running “Sheep to Shawl” program returns to the Saratoga County History Center. Sheep, lambs, farmers, herders, and shearers, including the famous Fred the Shearer, and the Rock Day Spinning Guild will assemble on Brookside Museum’s lush front lawn to demonstrate every facet of sheep husbandry, shearing, and weaving to produce the wool clothing that was so ubiquitous in early America. Sheep to Shawl is an interactive, family-friendly event. Young and the young-at-heart will have fun petting the sheep, meeting farmers, and participating in demonstrations. A terrific opportunity to enjoy the spring weather, learn a thing or two, and enjoy some quality family time. This is an in-person event will take place at Brookside Museum.

June 18 - 10am-3pm 2022 Craft Fair. Shop a wide variety of locally handcrafted collectibles, antiques, and farm products. This is a terrific opportunity for New Yorkers to sample and appreciate the best of upstate artisans, farmers, and culinarians. This is an in-person event that will take place rain or shine at Brookside Museum.

All these programs are free and open to the public, unless otherwise indicated, and donations are accepted with gratitude. The SCHC Brookside Museum is located at 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Membership Update

“Thank you so much for your generosity and support,” explained Trustee Andrew Collier, chairman of the Membership Committee. “We couldn’t share the inspiring story of Saratoga County without you.”

When you give to The Saratoga County History Center, a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, you support our mission: To serve as a repository for local and regional histories, that provides innovative educational and public programming, and instills in our communities a deeper understanding of how the past informs and impacts our present and future.

Our Brookside Contributor membership starts at \$100. The contributor's membership includes the SCHC’s newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, reduced prices for events, North American Reciprocal Museum membership, and a 10% discount at the museum shop..

Learn more at <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/new-individual-membership-page/>

Become a member



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.

April 28 - 7:00pm "Schuylerville Memorabilia." Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association for a Schuylerville Area Show & Tell - bring your memories and photos, souvenirs, matchbook covers, menus, programs, etc. for Schuylerville area businesses, restaurants, churches, houses, etc. to share. The program will take place at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville.

May 7 - 10:30am "The Mexican War Monument in the Ballston Spa Village Cemetery." The 2022 annual meeting of the Ballston Spa Cemetery Association will be held in the Community Room (downstairs) of the Ballston Spa Public Library. In addition to the business updates of the cemetery, there will be a presentation by David Waite, a local photographer and history buff. Mr. Waite will talk about the existence of the Mexican War monument that resides in the Village Cemetery. This monument was funded by local businesses and residents and dedicated to veterans of the U.S. – Mexican War (1846-1848). The public is invited to attend the meeting. Members (lot owners) are eligible to vote on cemetery issues and election of directors. The program will take place at the Ballston Spa Public Library 21 Milton Ave, Ballston Spa.

May 12 - 12pm "Brown Bag Lunch with Charlie Kuenzel" This presentation will be a variety of historical topics that will highlight the city of Saratoga today. Topics covered will be important people, racing, social customs, historical events and street names. This program is offered as a partnerships between the Saratoga Springs Heritage Area Visitor Center and the Saratoga Springs Public Library. The Saratoga Springs Public Library is located at 49 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-3271. Reservations are required. <https://sspl.libcal.com/event/8074931>

May 12 - 6:30pm "Susan Brownell Anthony Life Story" by renowned historic re-enactor Linda McKenney. Anthony was a pioneer leader of the causes of women's suffrage, temperance and abolition. In 1878 Susan submitted a proposed amendment to the Congress. Forty-two years later, in 1920, it became the Nineteenth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. McKenney will use Susan's own words to tell her life story. The performance will take place at the Round Lake

Library's Malta Branch, 1 Bayberry Drive, Malta. Reservations are required. roundlakelibrary.org or 518-682-2495.

May 15 - 12 - 4pm "Celebrating Historic Preservation In Clifton Park." Festivities begin with the opening of the exhibit "The Archaeology of Clifton Park," followed by a lecture at 1pm by New York State Archaeologist, Dr. Christina Reith, on the Cultural Resource Survey Program, which provides research and assessment of archaeological and architectural resources for other state agencies. 18th and early 19th century period music by Liaisons Plaisante will begin at 2pm with refreshments and tours of the Historic Tavern. This event is co-sponsored by the Clifton Park Historic Preservation Commission and Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern. Grooms Tavern is located at 290 Sugar Hill Rd, Rexford, NY 12148

May 19 - 12pm "Noble Boys! The 77th New York at the Second Battle of Fredericksburg." Join David Handy for stories of the NY 77th Infantry's participation in the Second Battle of Fredericksburg, including first person accounts of the 77th charging Telegraph Hill, adjoining the sunken road on Marye's Heights just below the city of Fredericksburg, VA. David Handy is the author of two books about the NY Bemis Heights Civil War regiment: *McKean's Sunday School Boys Go to War: The Story of the 77th Bemis Heights Battalion in the Great Rebellion*, and a new book coming out this spring, *Theas Few Lines: The Civil War Letters of Private Alonzo D. Bump, 77th New York Volunteer Infantry*. The Saratoga Springs Public Library is located at 49 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-3271. Reservations are required.
<https://sspl.libcal.com/event/8960474>

May 19 - 7:00pm "Schuyler House and Local Research Updates" Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association and the Stillwater Historical Society for a joint meeting. The program will be Christine Valosin, curator at Saratoga National Historical Park update on interior renovations at the Schuyler House and research on the Loyalist Confiscation Ledger for those in Stillwater and Saratoga. The program will take place at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville.

May 21 - 1pm *A Gangster's Paradise: Saratoga Springs from Prohibition to Kefauver*. A Heritage Hunters of Saratoga County talk by retired Police Chief Greg Veitch. Veitch will talk about the city's notorious gangsters featured in his book. He continues the saga of the city's criminal activities where his first book, *All the Law in the World Won't Stop Them*, ended. It was a time of famous gangsters like "Lucky" Luciano, bootlegging, gambling, murders, raids, and political corruption. Town of Saratoga's Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, on the corner of routes 29 and 4 in Schuylerville.

June 4 - 7:30am - 7:30pm "Bus Trip to Erie Canal Museum and Camillus Erie Canal Park." Join award winning Clifton Park historian John Scherer for a bus trip to the Erie Canal Museum, located in Downtown Syracuse, showcasing the 1850 National Register Weighlock Building, the last remaining structure of its kind, and telling the incredible story of adventure on the Erie Canal. Come aboard a full-size replica canal boat. Explore life in a canal town. Experience a part of history that played an imperative role in the growth and development of the United States. Cost is \$70. Details can be found at <https://parksrec.egov.basgov.com/cliftonpark/Search?TagId=393>

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to 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.

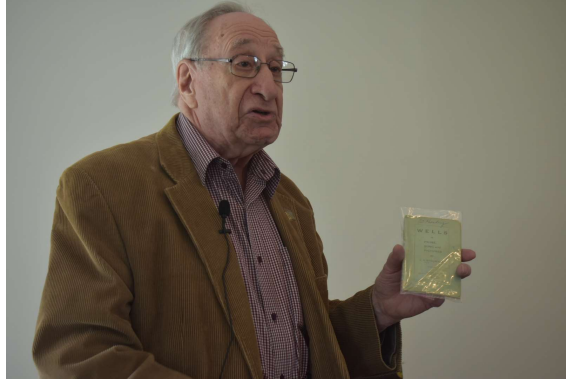




Don Williams, author of Grandfather's Toolchest

The partnership between the History Center and Hudson Mohawk Antique Tools and Trades Association attracted a pleasant audience to the Brookside Museum. Williams' book is available at the museum store.





Craft Fair at Brookside - Vendors Wanted!

The Saratoga County History Center Seeking vendors of handmade crafts, antiques and farm products for the annual craft fair on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 10am to 3pm. No mass-produced or commercially-made items will be permitted. Spaces are available outdoors, with limited spaces available indoors. This is a rain or shine event.

Please contact Beth Silvestri for more information at (518) 885-4000 or bsilvestri@brooksidemuseum.org



Saratoga County History Center

with Skidmore College Department of History

Presents

County Life in Photographs



May 5th, 7 PM

Become a Member of the SCHC

Sign up to become a member at the Saratoga County History Center today! Support a repository for local and regional histories, that provides innovative educational and public programming, and instills in our communities a deeper understanding of how the past informs and impacts our present and future while enjoying our exclusive membership benefits.

Visit the link to explore our different membership levels: <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/new-individual-membership-page/>

Become a member



COME JOIN!
SARATOGA COUNTY HISTORY CENTER'S
Sheep
to
Shawl
Community Event
May 14, 2022 1-4 PM
Brookside Museum

Volunteer wanted!

The wonderful Brookside Museum is in search of volunteers for the weekend visitor experience! You will help visitors appreciate their experience and time in the museum. Can you give me a hand? A 4-hour shift or two, each month? <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/volunteer/>

Volunteer At Brookside



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.

A recent article has been written about the Capital District's Poorhouses. The article included **Saratoga County Historian** Lauren Roberts, who explained in 1824 New York thought it had an answer — mandate every county to erect a poorhouse. It was the only state to require indigent shelters, which were later known as almshouses. . - [Times Union](#)

The SCHC *Supporting the Poor in Saratoga County* video with **Saratoga County Historian** Lauren Roberts is one of our most popular videos and be watched <https://youtu.be/5Gebmun8o7c>

For the bicentennial of President Grant's birth, this article shows how to visit Grant sites from Ohio to New York. Grant's friend, the author, Mark Twain, told him to write his memoirs or an autobiography. Grant decided to do that, but, by that time, he was quite sick with cancer of the throat. A friend let him move to a Saratoga county cottage in the mountains away from the heat and noise of New York City where the Grants were living at that time. Grant went to that cottage, which is now called **Grant Cottage State Historic Site** on Mount McGregor, Wilton, NY, and he worked furiously because he knew that his time was running out. He finished his book four days before he died. The book was a success and provided enough money for Julia to live comfortably. - [Davis County Enterprise Record](#)

The SCHC series *Expert Next Door Episode 19 "The Deepest Devotion (President Ulysses S. Grant)"* with Ben Kemp done for Grant's birth bicentennial can be watched

<https://youtu.be/nXD3YIbNgjk>

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site has recently hosted *Erie Canal: The Early Years w/ Craig Williams - Third Thursday Series*. Using seldom-seen manuscripts from the first days of the Clinton's Ditch in the collection of the New York State Archives, Williams provides an illustrated overview of how the people of New York State learned to survey, design, construct and operate this unparalleled engineering achievement. Craig Williams is president of the board of directors of the Canal Society of New York State. He retired in 2014 as a senior historian at the New York State Museum after more than thirty years of service. The program can be watched

<https://youtu.be/xQsKdXtNGi0>

How Benedict Arnold is remembered from his body laying in the wall of a British kindergarten to **Saratoga Battlefield's** famous Boot Monument is the focus of military history blog posting - Military.com

The SCHC series *Expert Next Door Episode 16 "My Zeal for the Cause of My Country: Benedict Arnold in 1777"* with Eric Schnitzer can be watched <https://youtu.be/TQS7OH8me5A>

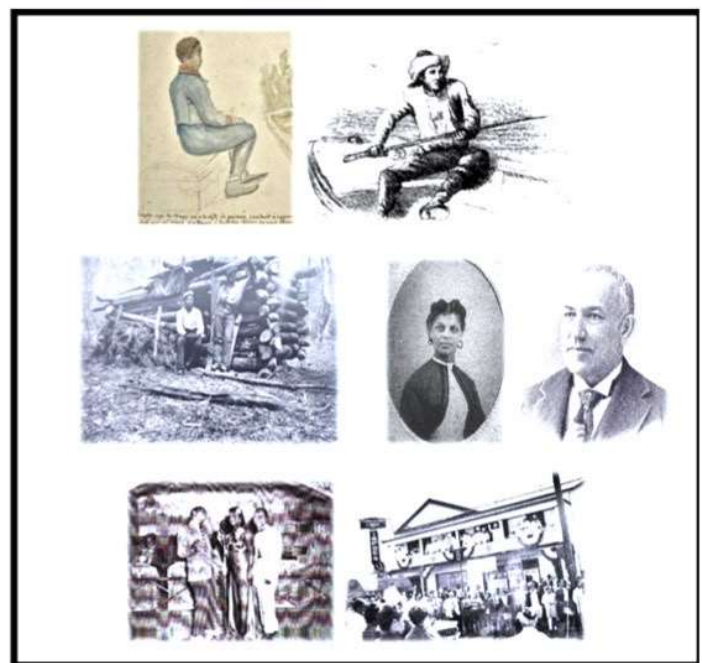
In case you missed it, [This Week in Saratoga County History - April 21](#) *Before the Racetracks, Hog Heaven* by Steve Williams is a retired Schenectady Daily Gazette journalist.

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 5 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome.



The Brookside Museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from 12pm to 4pm. 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* and *A Century of Ice Cream, a centennial of the Dake family and Stewart's Shops*.

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) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.

A CENTURY OF ICE CREAM, A CENTENNIAL OF THE DAKE FAMILY AND STEWART'S SHOPS

Few things are as beloved and iconic in upstate New York as Stewart's shops. The exhibit is made possible through the generosity of Stewart's Shops/Dake Family.



Brookside Museum: Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4pm. 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.



Perky Pak gal
The model is showing off an innovation, pre-packaged portions of ice cream.
The Stewart Story, September 1954

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.

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. 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, Jim Richmond, Beth Silvestri, and David Waite.

Saratoga County History Center

6 Charlton Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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