

May 19 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



Saratoga County History Center *Sharing History to Promote Community* May 19, 2022



Over 200 children and accompanying adults from Ballston Spa and Galway attended our the long-running “Sheep to Shawl” program at the Saratoga County History Center. Funding from Stewarts Holiday Match contributed to this community day.



Saratoga County History Center's Events

May 22/23 starts at 10am **2022 Waterford Canal Festival**. SCHC will have an information table as part of the celebration the beginning of the 2022 canal season at the Waterford Canal Festival. This two day event features live music, craft and food vendors, kids activities, dance performances, and more. Saturday, May 21st, 10 AM to 6 PM and Sunday, May 22nd, 10 AM to 3 PM This is an in-person event, which will take place at the Waterford Harbor Visitor Center 1 Tugboat Alley, Waterford, NY 12188

June 3 – 3-6pm **Brooks BBQ**. SCHC will be selling Brooks' BBQ chicken dinners as a fundraiser for \$14. Each dinner will include: 1/2 chicken, baked potato, cole slaw, and a bread roll. Take-out only. Reserve your dinners at [HERE](#). There will be a limited number of extra dinners available on the day. Questions? Contact donna@brooksidemuseum.org or 518-885-4000

June 5 - 1-4pm **The British are coming to Ballston Spa!** The local American Revolution living history group, His Majesty's Recreated 24th Regiment of Foot will be having a small encampment. The Noble 24th will be demonstrating 18th century military and non-military British soldier's activities as well as seeking new members interested in getting involved in reenacting one of the England's most prestigious and well-known regiments.

June 11 all-day **Albany Symphony Orchestra American Music Festival Free Community Concert** at Hudson Crossing Park. SCHC will join the Albany Symphony Orchestra and Hudson Crossing Park for a day full of activities for all ages for Trailblaze: NY, a free community concert and part of the 2022 American Music Festival series. SCHC will have a table and host two walking tours along the Champlain Canal at 11 am and 2 pm. There will be activities in and around Hudson Crossing Park and the greater Schuylerville area throughout the day culminating with a FREE performance by the Albany Symphony Orchestra with food and beverage vendors, and art auction to benefit Hudson Crossing Park and Lake George Arts Project.

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.

History Center Update - President's Message



We are now two and a half years into the “New Brookside.” 2019 was a year of discouragement, but that is long in the past. The board that began developing early in 2020 now has a remarkable number of highly committed members with diverse talents. Community support has been better than anyone might have hoped. Long-deferred problems are being tackled.

We have the opportunity to build an exemplary county historical agency. I think we all share this vision!

What, then, do I see as the steps along the way?

Our building is our most important artifact. While its interior bears little original fabric, its exterior is little altered. Thanks to Jon Hallgren, we are addressing the porch, the storm windows and, I hope, the old water damage on the second floor of the extension. There are some other structural issues, but once we wrap up those major tasks, we will be a position to channel more income towards operation and less towards restoration.

We have five very distinct collections. All are now being cared for: manuscripts (Field Horne), photographs (Bev Mastrianni and Pat Lee), textiles (Gayle King), artifacts (William Allerdice) and the library (Pat Peck and Pat Sanders). Great progress is being made, even though there is much to do.

We returned the museum to exhibition space last year and this, at minimal outlay from our operating budget, and the shows are quite good. The next one to be installed (in June) is on the potato chip. Next year we hope to install a comprehensive exhibit on the history of the county as a whole, which many of our constituents have called a priority. It will occupy much of the ground

floor, but we will still have the Long Room for changing exhibits, and we can again use some second floor space, making it ADA compliant by audio-visual methods.

Membership Update

"Every day, we want you to have the best donor experience possible with the Saratoga County History Center," explained Trustee Andrew Collier, chairman of the Membership Committee. "To do this, we have evaluated the benefits we provide to ensure that we thank you for your partnership in the most appropriate and meaningful way."

Our basic membership starts at \$25 for Senior/Educator/Student and \$35 for individuals. A couple can become a member for \$65. The basic membership includes the SCHC's newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, and reduced prices for events.

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.

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, NY 12871.

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, NY 12871.

May 26 - 7pm "*Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed* Meet the Filmmakers." Filmmakers Tom Mercer and Anthony Vertucci will show the Battles of Saratoga scenes from their documentary, *Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed*, and discuss the history. They will talk about Arnold's actions on the two battles that are collectively known as the Battles of Saratoga. The event is at the New York State Military Museum 61 Lake Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

May 30 - 2pm "Memorial Day Ceremony in Gideon Hawley Park." The Charlton Historical Society sponsors the annual ceremony. This year's theme will be the recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. Unknown Soldier. This program will take place at the Gideon Hawley Park, 758 Charlton Road, Charlton, NY 12019

June 3 - 10:30am "The Kidnapping of Free Citizens before the Civil War," Historian David Fiske will lecture as part of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library's First Friday series. The film *12 Years a Slave* told Solomon Northup's kidnapping and enslavement before the Civil War. But Northup's victimization was not an isolated incident: Fiske will detail the factors that made such crimes profitable and explain how kidnappers could operate with relative ease. Along with a recap of Solomon Northup's story, several other cases--including some from upstate New York--will be related. This program will be accessible via Zoom, or can be attended in-person at the library 475 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065. Registration is required to attend either virtually or in-person. Register at: <https://events.cphlibrary.org/event/6506689>

June 4 & 5 "Founders Day Weekend." Saturday at 10am the annual Charlton Heritage 5K Run/Walk and Kids' Fun Run will be held. Registration at <https://zippyreg.com/register/charlton5k> and charltonnyhs.org. Saturday starting at 5pm Party in the Park will include entertainment, food, and fireworks. Sunday at 10am will be a Farmers' Market, contact Teresa Hart at 518-399 3436 for a booth. Sunday at 2 pm the Charlton Parade honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Dist. #1 Fire Department will be held. Dairy Ambassador Ice Cream Social will follow the parade and proclamation. Contact John Hussey 518 557-2410 if you/your organization wish to be in the parade. Activities are organized by The Charlton Historical Society.

June 18 - 10am-5pm "U.S. Grant's Bicentennial Birthday Celebration." It's been 200 years since former 18th President and Civil War commanding Union General Ulysses S. Grant was born. To help celebrate, the Friends of Grant Cottage invite you to a fun-filled family birthday event on the grounds of Grant Cottage! The celebration will include an open house of the cottage, complimentary food (including birthday cake), music, a magician, games, face painting, and more. Meet General Grant (portrayed by living historian and Grant Cottage tour guide Steve Trimm) and sing Happy Birthday to the General. The popular 77th NY Regiment Balladeers will perform Civil War-era music during a one-hour concert beginning at 1:00 PM. Tom Smith and Diana O'Brien will be singing engaging songs from their Knee High Songs for Children program in period dress during the all-day event as well. Other reenactors will be on-site to share their expertise on topics such as tin-type photography, Civil War medical practices, and what it was like to be a Civil War infantry soldier. Attendees will be given small American flags as souvenirs of a memorable day at Grant Cottage. Grant Cottage is at 1000 Mt. McGregor Rd in Wilton NY 12831

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.





Artists Inspired by Their Community: Art by the Ballston Spa Middle School 6th Grade

SCHC's Education Director Anne Clothier worked with the 6th grade students at the Ballston Spa Middle School to share the stories behind local landmarks and each picked out a location to paint. See more at their online [gallery](#)



Artists Inspired by Their Community Gallery

Brookside Herb Garden

Have you visited the Colonial Herb Garden in the side-yard at the museum? The garden was established more than 40 years ago in partnership with The Thymly Herb Group which still cares for it today. The plants are a selection of those used in the 1700s and 1800s for food and flavor, treating medical conditions, dyeing cloth, and as ingredients for potpourri and fragrant bouquets.

Lungwort

Now blooming in the garden are forget-me-nots and purple violets, a member of the viola family which is the International Herb of the Year. But lungwort steals the show. The common name and the scientific name, *Pulmonaria officinalis*, hint at the former uses for the plant: to treat coughs and chest conditions. Today lungwort is most valued as an early source of nectar for pollinators and the vibrant color it adds to the shade garden.



Saratoga County History Center

BROOKS Barbecue @ Brookside!

Friday, June 3, 3-6pm

"Welcome Back to Summer"

½ bbq chicken, baked potato, cole slaw,
bread roll all for **\$14!**

Take out only

**Please visit www.brooksidemuseum.org
to reserve in advance.**

All proceeds go to fund public education and children's programs

6 Charlton Street, Ballston Spa, NY, 12020

Become a Member of the SCHC

We invite you to become a part of Saratoga County's history and join our fantastic community of partners and supporters as a History Center Member!

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

Become a member

Saratoga County History Center

2022 Craft Fair

Shop a wide variety of locally handcrafted collectibles, body care, and farm products!

Saratoga County History Center at Brookside, Saturday, June 18, 10 am - 3 pm

Volunteer wanted!

The wonderful Brookside Museum is in search of volunteers for the Friday afternoon 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 or every week?

<https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/volunteer/>

Volunteer At Brookside



Saratoga County History Center
with Skidmore College Department of History
Presents
County Life in Photographs



See the exhibit at Brookside Museum. Open Thursday through Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm.

Benedict Arnold movie is the subject of a free talk at the New York State Military Museum on May 26

Two Saratoga County men who wrote and produced a movie about Benedict Arnold, will screen

portions of their film and discuss Arnold's role in the Battle of Saratoga during a free presentation at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 26 at the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs.

Filmmakers Tom Mercer and Anthony Vertucci will show the Battles of Saratoga scenes from their documentary, *Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed*, and discuss the history involved



They will talk about Arnold's actions on the two battles that are collectively known as the Battles of Saratoga: The Battle of Freeman's Farm on September 19, 1777, and the Battle of Bemis Heights on October 7, 1777.

The fighting at Saratoga and the surrender of the British Army is considered by historians to be a turning point in the American Revolution.

Mercer and Vertucci, the film's writers and producers, will also share stories from behind the scenes about the making of their docudrama and take questions from the audience.

The New York State Military Museum is located at 61 Lake Avenue in Saratoga Springs, New York.

The two-hour film, narrated by Martin Sheen, had its premier in early November at Universal Preservation Hall in Saratoga Springs, and is available for rent or purchase on most major streaming services.

Irish actor Peter O'Meara (who portrayed Lt. Norman Dike in the mini-series "Band of Brothers") portrays Benedict Arnold.

Arnold was a Connecticut-born merchant mariner-turned-soldier who risked his life and fortune for the American cause of independence and fought in some of the most significant battles of the Revolutionary War before switching sides and attempting to turn over the Continental Army's fortifications at West Point to the British in September 1780.

The film, a production of Talon Films, Inc., is based on "Benedict Arnold, Revolutionary Hero, An American Warrior Reconsidered," the 1997 biography by James Kirby Martin, who served as executive producer and chief historian and provided commentary along with a dozen other prominent historians.

Mercer grew up in Saratoga Springs and lives in Colonie. Vertucci grew up in Fort Johnson and lives in Middle Grove. The film was directed and edited by Schenectady native Chris Stearns.

Other local filmmakers involved in the project include Scotia native Christopher Rossiter, cinematographer; Saratoga Springs native Michael Weeks, musical composer, and co-producer Michael Camoin, of Albany.

Ninety percent of the cast members were from upstate New York, where most of the filming occurred in such places as Albany, Schenectady, the Saratoga Battlefield, Lake Champlain and the Mohawk Valley, as well as Connecticut, New Jersey, Quebec and the United Kingdom.

More information on the film can be found on its website: <https://www.benedictarnoldherobetrayed.com> .

For questions about the film contact Chris Carola at Email: ccarola@nycap.rr.com or phone: 518-316-0840

This release was written by New York State Division of Military & Naval Affairs.

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.

SCHC
Saratoga County History Center

Brookside Museum Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4 pm 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.



By-law Change

From time to time, the By-laws of the organization need to be updated. Our by-laws are available on our [website](#). The by-laws do not yet reflect the change in the organization's name from Saratoga County Historical Society to Saratoga County History Center. The proposal is "wherever the title Saratoga County Historical Society appears in the by-laws, it be replaced by Saratoga County History Center." The Board of Trustees, after

posting on-line a proposed amendment to these by-laws and 30 days after promulgated at a Board of Trustees meeting, may so amend these by-laws upon 2/3 vote of the full Board of Trustees,

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.



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

The Brookside Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. SCHC Brookside Museum lists all closings at <https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/>

The SCHC Brookside Museum is located at 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 *County Life in Photographs*.

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.

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, Kathleen Rebmann Royka, Beth Silvestri, and David Waite.

Saratoga County History Center

6 Charlton Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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