



**Saratoga County History Center**  
*Sharing History to Promote Community*  
May 5, 2022



It was a colorful Sunday afternoon with quilt expert Deb Grana's program, "Quilts of New York and New England." If you are interested in fiber and textiles, the grounds at the Brookside Museum will come alive with Sheep to Shawl Community Day on Sunday, May 15.

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# Saratoga County History Center's Events

**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](http://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 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.*

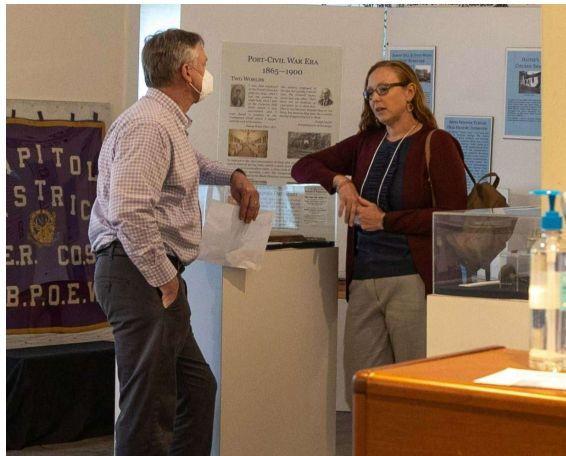
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## *Forgotten Crossroads: Rock City Falls*

The premiere video viewing party was a huge success. A second viewing is scheduled for May 13 at 7pm at the Rock City Falls Firehouse. The video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/67s73pVBX4o>





## 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 members 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 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 partnership 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, NY 12020. Reservations are required. [roundlakelibrary.org](http://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 17 - 7pm "At Our Mother's Knee."** The Town of Greenfield Historical Society will be presenting a program honoring women's voices from the past with select readings from the book *Before They Were Our Mothers - Voices of Women Born Before Rosie Started Riveting*. There will be an introduction by editor Patricia A. Nugent and featuring authors Sue Sweet Van Hook and Joyce Hunt Bouyea. This program will take place at the Town of Greenfield Community Center located at 25 Wilton Road, Greenfield Center, NY 12833,

**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>

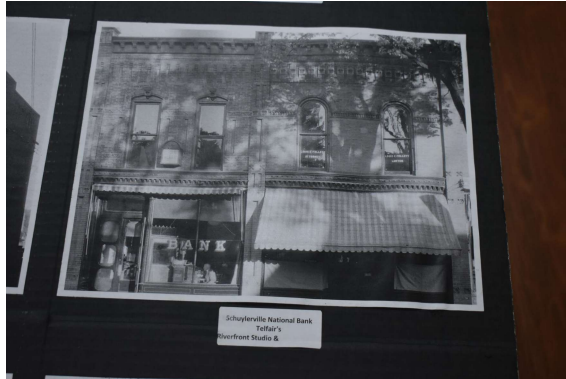
**May 19** - 7:00pm "Schuyler House and Local Research Updates" Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association and the Stillwater Historical Society for a joint meeting. The program will be Christine Valosin, curator at Saratoga National Historical Park update on interior renovations at the Schuyler House 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](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.





## *Schuylerville Memorabilia*

The Old Saratoga Historical Association held a Schuylerville area show & tell last Thursday evening.





## Women at War In Schuylerville - Last Call

This is the last chance to get tickets the Marshall House's *Women in War: The Revolutionary Experience – A Symposium* will be held on May 14, 2022. The event will bring together regional and nationally-known historians of the American Revolution to provide insights into the experiences and actions of some extraordinary women.



” Too often, the important roles women played during the American Revolution are not widely known. Their experiences, whether in following the army or managing their homes, help to inform the larger narrative of what life was like for those not on the battlefield. The Saratoga County 250th Commission is excited to sponsor this symposium by welcoming leading scholars to speak about these women and increase our understanding of the parts they played in gaining American Independence,” explains Saratoga County historian Lauren Roberts.

Featuring keynote speaker, Dr. Holly Mayer, Professor Emerita in History at Duquesne University, a visiting instructor at West Point, and author of *Belonging to the Army: Camp Followers and Community during the American Revolution* (2001), the *Women in War* symposium will provide engaging opportunities for attendees to meet with leading historians.

Session topics include women warriors, Loyalist women, the Army's essential support – “Camp followers,” Baroness Frederika Riedesel, a general's wife, and Molly Brant, a Mohawk leader in Colonial America. Speakers also include historian Todd Braisted, author of *Grand Forage 1778: The Battleground Around New York City* (2018), social historian Jenna Schnitzer, researcher Jonathon House, and the biographer of Molly Brant, Lois Huey.

The Marshall House, in partnership with the Saratoga County 250th American Revolution Commission and the Saratoga County History Center, is hosting the *Women in War symposium*. The symposium will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at the Saratoga Town Hall in Schuylerville, NY. Tickets may be purchased at [themarshallhouse.org](http://themarshallhouse.org) or by calling 518-695-3765.

Registration for the symposium is \$50 per person for the entire day, including lunch, refreshments, and a visit to Marshall House. Speakers' books will be available to purchase and have been signed by the authors. Registration information is available at [themarshallhouse.org](http://themarshallhouse.org). Registration must be completed no later than May 11. Walk-in registration is not permitted.

Please direct any questions or comments to Libby Smith-Holmes [esmithho@nycap.rr.com](mailto:esmithho@nycap.rr.com) or Tim Holmes [tim3holmes@gmail.com](mailto:tim3holmes@gmail.com) from the Marshall House from the board of trustees.

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# 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.

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## Become a Member of the SCHC

The easiest way to help support Saratoga County History Center's mission— as a repository for local and regional histories, to provide innovative educational and public programming, and to instill in our communities a deeper understanding of how the past informs and impacts our present and future—is to become a Member.

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

Become a member



### **Volunteer wanted!**

As the hours of operation for the month of May are on the horizon, we are looking to increase the number of volunteers.

Roles:

- General Volunteers
- Museum Assistants
- Building and Grounds Assistants

Can you give us a hand?

<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.

**The bicentennial of President Grant's birth** has been the focus of many announcements, events, and articles focusing on **Grant Cottage State Historic Site** on Mount McGregor, Wilton and Moreau, NY. The friends of Grant Cottage celebrated Ulysses S. Grant's 200th birthday on Wednesday, April 27, and in honor of it, they announced that Grant Cottage has been designated as a National Historic Landmark. In addition, the site will be expanding into an adjacent 4.25-acre plot of land that used to be an exercise yard belonging to the Mount McGregor Correctional Facility. - [Post Star](#)

Friends of Grant Cottage President Tim Welch said, "We are grateful to our partners in New York State for the transfer of this land to our National Historic Landmark site. This acquisition represents an important opportunity to better accommodate our visitors and expand our programming, enabling us to carry out our mission of bringing Grant's story to a wider audience." - [Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation](#)



Award winning photojournalist Erica Miller put together a photo collection of the celebration - [The Daily Gazette](#)

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>

A New York Minute in History podcast on [Early Auto Racing in New York](#) with Devin Landers, NYS Historian and Lauren Roberts, Saratoga County Historian, In this episode, Devin and Lauren discuss a William G. Pomeroy marker recognizing a 1900 auto race in Suffolk County, New York, and the importance of racing in automobile history. Was that race to Babylon really the first of its kind in the U.S.? And how did Watkins Glen International get its start? - [Office of State Historian](#)

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor invites New Yorkers to take part in the [Canalway Challenge](#) in 2022 to trace history and track miles on the New York State Canal System and Canalway Trail. The free program invites participants to choose a personal mileage goal and then walk, run, cycle, or paddle to achieve it and receive recognition. - [I Love NY](#)

Looking for summer work? Do you love being outdoors or working with people? Then, come work in one of the most beautiful, scenic, and historic places New York has to offer and be a part of **Saratoga National Historical Park's** park guide or maintenance team! - [USA Jobs](#)

In case you missed it, [This Week in Saratoga County History - April 28](#) *The Deer of Congress Park* by Dave Waite, one of our great History Center volunteers.

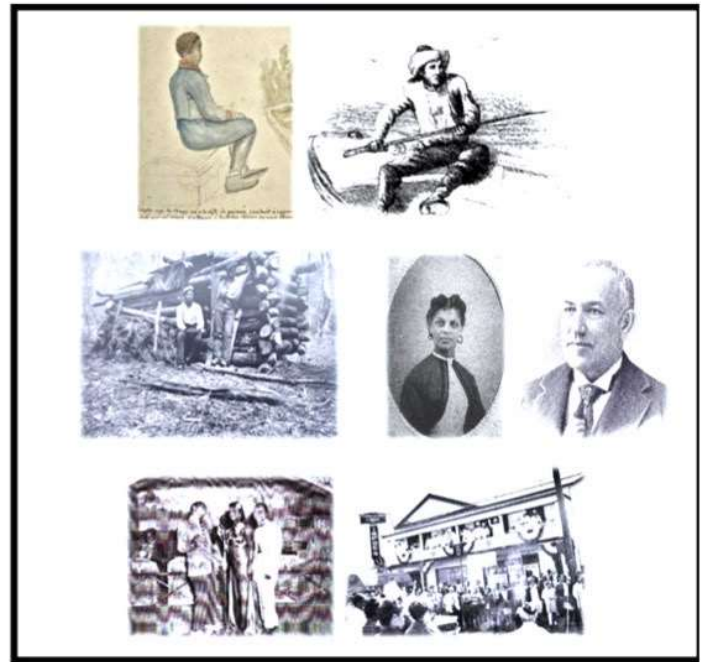
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## BLACK EXPERIENCES IN SARATOGA COUNTY 1750 – 1950

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



# Saratoga County Compass

The online publication of SCHC's Saratoga County Compass has two new articles - [\*For the Love of History: The Rise of The Gristmill\*](#) by Paul Perreault and [\*Living History\*](#) by Ben Kemp of Grant Cottage Historic Site.

"Surely, there are enough interesting stories to fill *The Gristmill* for a long time to come!" writes Perreault

"History is both my passion and profession and at the Grant Cottage Historic Site, I bring history to life for visitors through re-enactments" explains Kemp.

The compass showcases the latest discoveries from public history scholars, professional academics, and experts from a wide variety of fields. Whether it's cutting-edge historical research, musings from a classroom teacher, photo essays, student contributions, or observations by professional pundits, we are pleased to showcase and celebrate scholarly endeavors. The editor of Saratoga

County Compass is Dr. Michael Landis, trustee and Public Programs Manager at the Saratoga County History Center. Submissions should be sent to Dr. Landis at [mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org).

Read the Compass

The Brookside Museum is open Thursday through Sundays from 1pm to 5Fpm. 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](http://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 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.



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

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, Jim Richmond, Beth Silvestri, and David Waite.

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**Saratoga County History Center**

6 Charlton Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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