

June 9 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



Saratoga County History Center *Sharing History to Promote Community* June 9, 2022



The British come to Brookside! You would have thought that SCHC had joined the Commonwealth to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II. But it was our local American Revolution living history group, His Majesty's Recreated 24th Regiment of Foot, that set up a small camp and education program at Brookside. The Noble 24th displayed the military and non-military activities of an 18th century British soldier. The Historical Center would like to thank the 24th Recreated Infantry Regiment for setting up an educational program at the museum. We also want to remind people that the 24th Regiment is seeking new members interested in getting involved in reenacting as we head towards the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution.



Saratoga County History Center's Events

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 15 - 7pm Saratoga - Las Vegas Connection with Dr. Michael Green, Associate Professor at University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Trustee of the Mob Museum in Las Vegas via Zoom, as part of the Expert Next Door series. Las Vegas is famous for its gangster history, but ... so is Saratoga County! Hear about these underworld connections Free tickets are available at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/44049-experts-next-door-20-saratoga-las-vegas-connection> A Zoom link for the event will be sent within 48 hours of the event time.

Free Tickets to the Experts Next Door

June 18 - 10am-3pm 2022 Craft Fair. Shop a wide variety of locally handcrafted collectibles, and farm products. This is a terrific opportunity for shoppers 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.

June 28 - 7pm *Off The Northway* Release Party. A presentation and book signing by longtime local journalist Stephen Williams, who wrote *Off the Northway* is a compilation of 83 articles from the Daily Gazette in Schenectady, NY. The *Off the Northway* book will be available for purchase. The event will be held at the Brookside Museum, and you can pre-register at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/44328-off-the-northway-book-launch-and-presentation>.

Register for the *Off The Northway* Release Party

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.

Thank You For Supporting our BBQ Fundraiser





Thank you to all who supported our Brooks Barbecue Chicken Dinner "to go" on Friday, June 3rd. We had a successful fundraising event, which will support the Saratoga County History Center at the Brookside Museum with high-quality educational programming from K-12, and our local history shared and preserved.

None of that would be possible without volunteers like yourself. You hear that? To provide everyone with an update and various opportunities to participate, a volunteer lunch will take place on Friday, June 10, from noon to 1:30pm. Savour a meal with old and new friends, listen to committee updates and help us plan for future projects. Please let us know if you are available to join us as soon as possible by sending an email to matt@brooksidemuseum.org.





Membership Update

“Thank you so much for your generosity and support,” said 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 contributors 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**](https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/new-individual-membership-page/)



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.

June 10 – 6:30pm "The Anti-Rent War: 1839 to 1869" outdoor lecture presented by Michael Barrett at the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center at 2 Museum Lane, Waterford, NY 12188. These are bring-your-own chairs and refreshments picnic-style events on the museum lawn offered on the second Friday of the month over the summer. Admission is \$10 per person. For more information, contact info@waterfordmuseum.com

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 at 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

June 18 - 1-3pm Canalways, an educational program exploring the history of the Erie, Champlain and Barge canals in Waterford. Admission of \$5 per person includes a guide booklet for the program, continuous tours of Lock 2, educational displays, and a chance to hear the Town Historian, Russ VanDervoort, speak on the canals. This is an outdoor program, sponsored by Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center, beginning at the Harbor Visitors Center (1 Tugboat Alley, Waterford, NY 12188) and at Lock 2.

June 18 – 1pm "Archeology and Genealogy Mix." Daniel Mazeau and Aaron Gore, archaeologists with Beverwyck Archaeology in Delmar, promise to mix archaeology and genealogy research in their Heritage Hunters presentation on June 18th, 1pm, at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street in Schuylerville. They will treat us to a look at one of their digs: either a late 18th-century mansion in Glenville once owned by a Governor, or a private residence in Bethlehem.

June 23 - 12pm "Noble Boys! The 77th New York at the Second Battle of Fredericksburg."

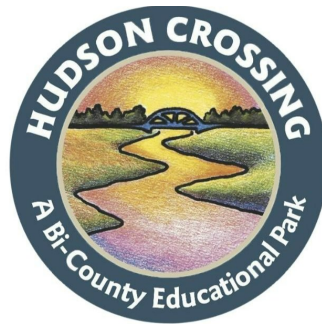
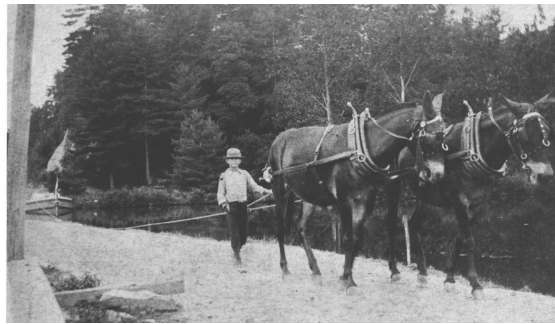
Join David Handy for stories of the NY 77th Infantry's participation in the Second Battle of Fredericksburg, including first person accounts of the 77th charging Telegraph Hill, adjoining the sunken road on Marye's Heights just below the city of Fredericksburg, VA. David Handy is the author of two books 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/9177599>

June 23 - 7pm "Tour of Fairmount Cemetery." Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association for a guided walk of the Fairmount Cemetery on corner at County Route 69 and Casey Roads in the Town of Saratoga (Schuylerville.)

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.

History Center to participate in Trailblaze NY at Hudson Crossing Park in Schuylerville





The headline is the Albany Symphony Orchestra will perform an American Music Festival Free Community Concert at Hudson Crossing Park (HCP) this Saturday, June . 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 11am and 2pm.

SCHC will provide the history. Do you want history? Oh boy, there will be HISTORY! This Saturday's Trailblaze NY Festival will feature history for all ages: Join SCHC Vice President and Saratoga Town Historian Sean Kelleher for *Fish Tales, the Mob, Corruption Investigations, and more from the Old Champlain Canal* at 11 am

(meet at the Junction Lock to the west of Lock 5 by the Mohawk Maiden parking lot) and then jump back in time at the Dix Bridge at 2pm for the 1777 Saratoga Siege Tour, a quick-paced 2 1/2 mile/90-minute walk.

Looking for more? Stop by HCP's Bridge of Boats overlook at 1pm for a National Park Service Ranger led talk about how 18th century armies dealt with natural obstacles such as the mighty Hudson River, including General Burgoyne's army as they moved south from Canada making their way to Albany, resulting in their crossing the Hudson via a "Bridge of Boats" right here at HCP! Learn more by visiting HudsonCrossingPark.org and clicking the "Events" tab!

The events go on all day with the concert at 7:30pm. Hudson Crossing Park is centered around Champlain Canal Lock 5 Island, just north of Schuylerville, on New York State's Historic Scenic Byway, Route 4.



Jackpot! The Saratoga County History Center is thrilled to announce the beginning of a hoped-for long-term partnership with the Mob Museum, located in Las Vegas, Nevada. The connections between Saratoga and “Sin City” are notorious, and the possibilities for future exhibits and events are exciting!

To kick-off the partnership, Mob Museum Trustee and University of Nevada, Las Vegas Associate Professor of History Michael Green will participate in the History Center’s popular virtual speaker series “Experts Next Door.” At 7pm, on June 15, Dr. Green will go over some of the famous and not-so-famous links between the two resort towns, after which he will take questions and comments from the audience.

A native of Las Vegas, Dr. Green is a nationally-recognized scholar of US history and an experienced, engaging public speaker who delights audiences with anecdotes and inside scoops. From movies to mobsters to migrants, Dr. Green will pull back the curtain (or should we say prison bars?) on the Saratoga-Las Vegas relationship.

The event, to be held on Zoom, is open to the public. It is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. To register, please visit <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/44049-experts-next-door-20-saratoga-las-vegas-connection?fbclid=IwAR3V7t-jX4BHw7XTjYV-EWjmHR3jZr86Ln-OOQcDKIBHBZrsKNp5xtQleio>

The “Experts Next Door” virtual speaker series was launched in the summer of 2020 and has featured specialists from a wide variety of fields, from archaeology to gardening to mixology to history to teaching. Please visit the History Center website at www.brooksidemuseum.org for more information.

Free Tickets to the Experts Next Door

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

The Saratoga County History Center is thrilled to announce a county-wide craft fair! The family-friendly free event will be held at beautiful Brookside Museum on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 10am to 3pm.

News from the Colonial Herb Garden...s...



My very favorite plant in the garden—the heirloom peony La Perle, translation The Pearl in English—is putting on a stellar show. My enchantment with this peony began as a child when I first saw its blossoms reflected in the tiny pool in my grandmother’s garden. My grandmother showed my child-self the magic of the blossoms changing color. I was mesmerized. Mystified when I couldn’t see the change happening before my eyes. Le Perle came down through our family’s gardens before joining the fragrance bed at the museum where La Perle “performs” for all to enjoy.



The plant was perfectly named by François-Félix Crousse, a renowned French horticulturist who introduced this hybridized variety in 1886. La Perle has a delightful fragrance and its blossoms are purely pink when they open. Blossoms fade to a pale pearl as it ages and are completely white by the time the petals drop. How long the show lasts depends on the whims of Mother Nature. Hot temperatures rush the flowers through their season and rain leaves the stems bowed with petals weeping in too short a time.

Compared to many plants introduced by our early colonists, the peony is a late comer. They are naive to China and arrived here in the early 1800s by way of England and France. They quickly became a popular addition to early American gardens. I can't help but wonder what variety first grew at Brookside.



I'd be remiss if I overlooked the pesky peony-ant relationship everyone complains about when blossoms are gathered into a bouquet. The news is the ants are there for a reason, but are they needed to make the plant bloom? The Integrated Pest Management internet site at the University of Missouri debunks this myth. It explains, "Peony flowers provide food for ants and in turn, the ants protect the blossoms from other floral-feeding insects." Cooperation between species for the benefit of both! Mother Nature is amazing!

Flax: A Fast Pass in the Dyer's Bed



Delicate flax blossoms the blue of the bluest sky last for only a day. Fortunately they bloom over several weeks. They're not a dye plant but they are in the dyers bed because flax is the plant from which linen is woven. Flax was an important crop as linen was the predominant fabric used by the colonists until the invention of the cotton gin.

Next week: Comfrey

The end of Spring at Brookside





Many volunteers work on the beautiful grounds of the Brookside Museum. We thank our volunteer photographer David Waite for his photos.

None of that would happen without volunteers like you. We will have a volunteer luncheon on Friday, June 10, from noon to 1:30pm. Join us if you can join us, RSVP soon through email matt@brooksidemuseum.org.



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

The Saratoga County History Center announces the forthcoming publication of a new book on local history.



Off the Northway

By Stephen Williams, former *Daily Gazette* columnist

Join SCHC at a release party with a presentation and signing by the author on Tuesday, June 28, 7 PM at Brookside Museum, 6 Charlton St., Ballston Spa.

Pre-registration for this event can be made at <https://brooksidemuseum.org/>. There is no charge to attend.

After June 28, the book will be available at the Brookside Museum store and website, local bookstores, additional book signing sessions to be announced, and at amazon.com.

The Saratoga County History Center is dedicated to preserving and sharing the diverse histories of Saratoga County. In addition to Brookside Museum, the History Center offers a variety of innovative, exciting, and educational programming. Please visit the website (www.brooksidemuseum.org) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.



Register for the *Off The Northway* Release Party

Volunteer wanted!


We look forward to another major summer season at the Saratoga County History Center at the Brookside Museum. To ensure everyone is aware and various opportunities to participate, a volunteer lunch will be held on Friday, June 10, from noon to 1:30pm. Enjoy a meal with old and new friends, listen to committee updates and help plan for future projects. Please let us know if you can join us as soon as possible by emailing matt@brooksidemuseum.org.

If you can't show up, don't worry. . We plan to organize additional volunteer activities in the future at various times. You can also sign up to volunteer through our website.

<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.

Schuyler House Reopens

Saratoga National Historical Park is excited to announce the opening of the Schuyler House on June 10, 2022. The house will be open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through October 22. Tours

will begin at 10am, 10:30am, 11am, and 11:30am. An open house period will follow from 1pm to 4pm. Entrance is free, and the first floor is accessible for all visitors.



Saratoga National Historical Park preserves, protects, and interprets the sites associated with the battles, siege, and surrender of the British forces at Saratoga. The park encompasses five sites including the Saratoga Battlefield, General Philip Schuyler's House, Victory Woods, the Saratoga Monument, and Sword Surrender Site totaling 3,579 acres. It was here in September and October 1777, during the American War for Independence, American troops battled and defeated the British invasion force. A British Army surrendered, for the first time in history, on October 17, 1777. This crucial victory secured essential foreign recognition and support and boosted the morale of the American forces making it a decisive moment in the American Revolution.

The Schuyler House was part of a working estate that was owned by the Schuyler family from 1702-1837. The current house was built by General Philip Schuyler (1733-1804), a significant figure in the American War for Independence and early U.S. politics, in late 1777 after his previous home was burned by retreating British soldiers. The Schuylers accumulated vast landholdings and wealth from lumber, grist, and linen mills, timber and fish harvesting, agricultural production, and leased farm lots. Prior to 1804, the estate was also home to dozens of men and women enslaved by the Schuylers to work in their various enterprises and support their lifestyle, here and at their mansion in Albany.

Visitors this season will enjoy extensive interior renovations to return the house closer to its late 18th, early 19th century appearance. The restoration and upkeep work includes updating exhibits

with replica floor coverings, wallpaper, and furniture. Work will continue throughout the summer to repair and preserve some wooden decorative elements, the roof, and upgrades to the pathway from the parking area to the house for improved accessibility.

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

Archeology and Genealogy Mix

Daniel Mazeau and Aaron Gore, archaeologists with Beverwyck Archaeology in Delmar, promise to mix archaeology and genealogy research in their Heritage Hunters presentation on June 18th, 1pm, at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street in Schuylerville. They will treat us to a look at one of their digs: either a late 18th-century mansion in Glenville once owned by a Governor, or a private residence in Bethlehem. Both archaeologists have over 20 years of experience.

Dan Mazeau specializes in the precontact period in New York and New England but has also done research in Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize. Aaron Gore's interests include architecture and genealogy. He focuses especially on the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, and has done research all over the state of early Native American settlements, French forts, Victorian farms, and 20th-century bridges.



Beverwyck Archaeology is a Cultural Resource Management Firm. A variety of projects receiving federal funding or permits are required to be investigated for their potential effects on cultural resources or historic significance. Beverwyck serves that function. Their website, beverwyckarchaeology.com, shows some of the work they've done, including their adventures in excavating a family burial vault.

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

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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.

The SCHC News and Events are available on our [website](#).

Saratoga County History Center

6 Charlton Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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