

### July 21 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



**Saratoga County History Center**  
*Sharing History to Promote Community*  
 July 21, 2022



### A fantastic week for Ballston Spa events.

Last week SCHC had our programming in the streets, gardens, and fairgrounds of Ballston Spa. . We were so excited that we had 20 people on our first Fridays in Herb Garden. Then our first Historians' Walking Tour - Exploring the Hotels of Old Ballston Spa Walking Tour was sold-out. Finally, it was all praise for the America Turning Point Marquee Tent at the 2022 Saratoga County Fair that continues until Sunday. . None of this would be possible without our partners, volunteers, and members like you. Thank you.



# Saratoga County History Center's Events

**July 19-24 America's Turning Point Marquee Tent** Join the Saratoga County History Center at the 2022 Saratoga County Fair, in Ballston Spa, NY. The History Center will be part of the America's Turning Point Marquee tent. The Marquee tent sponsored by the Saratoga County 250th American Revolution Commission will feature educational displays, living history demonstrations, and children's activities. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Saratoga County Fair 2022.

**July 29 - 2pm Fridays in the Herb Garden: there's more to an herb than its name.** The Saratoga County History Center invites you to join Kathleen Royka, Master Gardener, and Thymly Herb's lead gardener at the museum's Colonial Herb Garden. This week's theme "Have you met an Egyptian Walking Onion? Or Good King Henry? Saint John's-Wort? Each has a story to tell." Questions and discussions about any aspect of gardening, historic or otherwise, will be welcome. The programs are free, though donations are always appreciated. Children are welcome, and there will be 18th-century toys and games and other activities for them to explore. This is an in-person event that will take place at Brookside Museum.

**August 4 - 4pm Schuyler's Saratoga.** As part of the Historians' Walking Tour series, Sean Kelleher, Historian for the Town of Saratoga and Vice President at the Saratoga County History Center will lead a walking tour of Schuylerville. Visiting the sites that relate to General Philip Schuyler and his family within the current landscape. Philip Schuyler was an American general in the Revolutionary War and a United States Senator from New York. He established a large plantation in Saratoga and helped develop the area. Meet at Schuylerville Veterans' Memorial Park: US 4 and NY 32 adjacent to Fish Creek Schuylerville, NY 12871. Parking is available along the village streets. The tour distance is expected to be one mile and the duration approximately one hour. The suggested donation is \$10 per registration. Please register for the tour at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45153-historians-walking-tours-schuyler-s-saratoga-thursday-aug-4th>

**Register for the Schuyler's Saratoga Walking Tour**

**August 10 - 6pm Off The Northway Presentation and Book Signing at Northshire Books.** Longtime local journalist Stephen William will talk about some of the tales that make Saratoga Springs unique, how the \$15 billion GlobalFoundries chip plant came to Saratoga County,

and how the construction of the Northway has changed the county. He will also sign copies of *Off the Northway*, a compilation of 83 articles written by Williams from 2005 through 2020 for the Daily Gazette in Schenectady, NY. The book will be available for purchase. The event is sponsored by and proceeds to benefit the Saratoga County History Center. The event will be held at the Northshire Books, 424 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**August 12 - 2pm Fridays in the Herb Garden: there's more to an herb than its name.** The Saratoga County History Center invites you to join Kathleen Royka, Master Gardener, and Thymly Herb's lead gardener at the museum's Colonial Herb Garden. This week's theme "Plants to dye for – plants, both for dyeing and healing. Meet Woad, St. John's-wort, and Feverfew. Their stories are history." Questions and discussions about any aspect of gardening, historic or otherwise, will be welcome. The programs are free, though donations are always appreciated. Children are welcome, and there will be 18th-century toys and games and other activities for them to explore. This is an in-person event that will take place at Brookside Museum.

**August 13 - 10am – 4pm Spin Till You Dye day.** Representatives from the Saratoga County-based fiber spinning group The Rock Day Spinners will gather at Brookside Museum to dye wool using natural dyes and demonstrate fiber spinning. This is an in-person event that will take place at Brookside Museum.

**August 15 -10am Zim Smith Trail in Round Lake.** As part of the Historians' Walking Tour series, Lauren Roberts, Saratoga County Historian will lead a mile-long out and back walk on the county's Zim Smith Trail. Learn how an old railroad bed evolved into the county's premier trail system and how it earned its moniker. . Meet at the Zim Smith parking lot at 3 Curry Road in Round Lake. The suggested donation is \$10 per registration. Please register for the tour - <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45742-historians-walking-tours-zim-smith-trail-in-round-lake-aug-15th>

**Register for the Zim Smith Trail in Round Lake Walking Tour**

*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.*

# WE NEED YOU!

On August 15th, the Saratoga County History Center is beginning its' membership drive for 2023.

Renew your membership or become a member today by visiting:  
**[www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)**



## Membership Announcement!

Support  
SCHC!

**SCHC**  
Saratoga County History Center



### Membership Update

The Saratoga County History Center prides itself on its' membership involvement and participation. **On August 15th**, many of you will receive your renewal letters in the mail for 2023. If you are not a member, please consider joining at [www.BrooksideMuseum.org](http://www.BrooksideMuseum.org). This year, we made the exciting announcement that added benefits for each membership level. You can see our new membership levels and benefits below! Join us today and help the Saratoga County History Center grow!

[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 new exhibits with reception, one-time free use of the event space, and 25% 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.

[Become a member](#)

---

## **In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore opens Saturday, July 30 at Brookside Museum**





George Crum

The Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum proudly announces the opening of the new exhibit "In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore". This exhibit explores the many stories that have claimed to explain the story behind the snack, from disgruntled customers to kitchen mishaps. The history of the legendary George Crum is examined, along with his experiences as a cook and outdoor guide of African and Native American ancestry. Learn more about this contender for the inventor of potato chips, along with other possible innovators who may have been responsible for the irresistibly crispy potatoes.

The use of the "Saratoga" name to nationally market potato chips is seen through the expansive collection of famed local expert Alan Richer, known as "The Toga Chip Guy," ([togachipguy.com](http://togachipguy.com)) who has generously partnered with the museum to make part of his collection available to the public. Items include sheet music for the "Potato Chip Song,"; images from 19th century Saratoga Springs, and tools used to make "Saratoga Chips." In discussing the importance of this food to American society, Richer says "Potato chips are more American than apple pie. Compare the shelf space allotted to potato chips and apple pie in your local grocery store. Regardless of your view of the origin of the chip, there can be no doubt that potato chips were popularized in Saratoga Springs as evidenced by the fact that the first generic name for all potato chips was Saratoga Chips."

Curated by SCHC Education Director Anne Clothier and SCHC Trustee Fred Sober, the exhibit is open to the public Thursday through Sunday, 1 pm - 5 pm. According to Sober, "Brookside Museum is again bringing local history to life, with our new exhibit, highlighting our local connection to an everyday delicacy enjoyed around the world. We are proud to present this exhibit, and invite you to join us for this interesting (and delicious!) trip into Saratoga County's past."



## 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.**

**August 4 - 12pm "Iron-Hearted: The 115th NYS Vol. Regiment in the Civil War."** During the Civil War, Colonel Simeon Sammons received authority to recruit a regiment in the counties of

Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Saratoga, with headquarters at Fonda. On August 26, 1862, it mustered into the service of the United States for three years. Join local historian David Brooks in an exploration of the history of the "Iron-Hearted Regiment." Journey along with them from Upstate NY to the Deep South and back. Discover the battles they faced on the front line and those experienced from within. This event will be held outdoors, weather permitting, on the library's "porch." In case of rain, we will convene in the Community Room on the main floor. David Brooks is the Education Director at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site in Fort Hunter, NY and sits on the board of the Fulton County Historical Society, based out of the Fulton County Museum in Gloversville, NY. As a native of that County, growing up, he heard tales of local history and how his own ancestors fought to preserve the Union during the tumultuous Civil War. The Saratoga Springs Public Library is located at 49 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-3271. Reservations are required. <https://sspl.libcal.com/event/8965174>

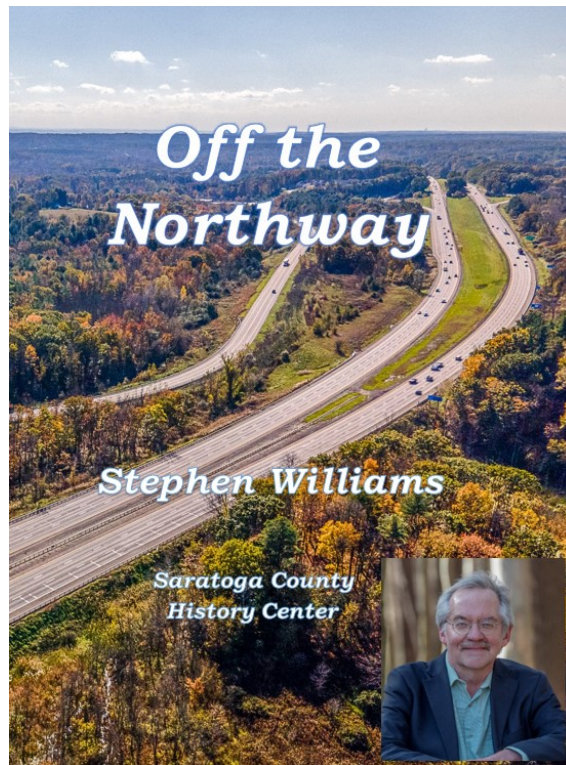
**August 12 – 6:30pm "Bells, Bells, Bells"** Outdoor lecture presented by Michael Barrett at the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center at 2 Museum Lane, Waterford, NY 12188. These are bring-your-own chairs and refreshments picnic-style events on the museum lawn offered on the second Friday of the month over the summer. Admission is \$10 per person. For more information, contact [info@waterfordmuseum.com](mailto:info@waterfordmuseum.com)

**August 20 - 1pm "Heritage Hunters: Guided Tour of the Hugh White Homestead"** The Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center will welcome the Heritage Hunters and friends on a guided tour. Begun in 1830, the house was built in several two-story sections on Saratoga Avenue in Waterford, NY and moved to 2 Museum Lane in 1964. Hugh White was born into a prominent Oneida County family in 1798. He was drawn to the Waterford area when he and his brother developed a waterproof cement product that was much in demand for use in canals and dams. The group tour costs \$5 per person. It will run 30-45 minutes, after which there will have free time to explore on your own. The History of Waterford is on permanent exhibit, and the current seasonal exhibit is Waterford Travel Through Time. Contact Ginny Humphrey, 518-885-9309, or [bhumphre@nycap.rr.com](mailto:bhumphre@nycap.rr.com)

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.

---





The Saratoga County History Center is pleased to announce the publication of a new book on local history. *Off the Northway* is a compilation of 83 articles written by longtime local journalist Stephen Williams, who retired after a 42-year career at the [\*Daily Gazette\*](#) in Schenectady, NY.

The *Off the Northway* book is available at the Brookside Museum shop or may be ordered online through <https://brooksidemuseum.org/off-the-northway/> The cost is \$20 including tax, plus \$5 shipping.

---

## SCHC Wish List

The Saratoga County History Center relies on community support. Support doesn't necessarily need to be in the form of cash. Providing us with much needed equipment, supplies and services helps reduce our costs greatly. We are currently looking for the below items/services. If you are interested in donating the items/services, please contact SCHC at [info@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:info@brooksidemuseum.org) or 518 585-4000

**Podium**  
**USPS Forever Stamps**

**Professional Microphones**  
**Topsoil**

Fridays in the Herb Garden:  
there's more to an herb than  
its name

Saratoga County History Center  
invites you to join Kathleen Royka,  
Master Gardener, and Thymly Herb's  
lead gardener at the museum's  
Colonial Herb Garden.

This week's theme "Have you met an  
Egyptian Walking Onion? Or Good  
King Henry? Saint John's-Wort? Each  
has a story to tell."

July 29 - 2pm  
at Brookside Museum  
6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY  
12020



## There's more to an herb than its name

The Saratoga County History Center invites you to "Fridays in the Herb Garden: there's more to an herb than its name." Join Kathleen Royka, Master Gardener, and Thymly Herb's lead gardener for the museum's Colonial Herb Garden at 2pm on Fridays, July 29 and August, 12. Each Friday will have a different and unusual theme.



Questions and discussions about any aspect of gardening, historic or otherwise, will be welcome. The programs are free, though donations are always appreciated. Children are welcome, and there will be 18th-century toys and games and other activities for them to explore.

The series continues on Friday, July 29th at 2 pm: Have you met an Egyptian Walking Onion? Or Good King Henry? Saint John's-Wort? Each has a story to tell.





# FRIDAYS IN THE HERB GARDEN

THERE'S MORE TO AN HERB THAN ITS NAME

JULY 29, AND AUGUST 12 2 PM

SCHC BROOKSIDE MUSEUM 6 CHARLTON STREET BALLSTON SPA, NY 12020 518 885 2000

WWW.BROOKSIDEMUSEUM.ORG

---

## News from the colonial herb garden...

A garden is a magical place—metamorphosing from an expanse of barren soil in March to lush beauty in July.



Tucked behind the vibrant orange flowers of calendula are the magenta blossoms of betony—this week's plant celebrating its time in the sun. Betony (*Stachys officinalis*) is an ancient herb, regarded as magical by the Egyptians, and well into the late 1600s, believed to have the power to ward off harm. The Romans used it to treat forty-seven conditions, and some medicinal benefits are still recognized today. Betony leaves and flowers, both fresh and dried, make a caffeine-free tea with a taste similar to black tea. Experiment by adding other herbs. Steep 5 minutes before enjoying.



This week I noticed an unusual insect I had never seen before on betony's scalloped, dark green leaves. A butterfly or moth? I quickly took a photo before it flew away. My research didn't find an answer so I sent the photo off to my cousin who is known for her knowledge of insects. Within half an hour, I had the answer—an *Haploa confusa*, a native moth. See more at: <https://massmoths.org/moths/haploa-confusa/> I'm on the lookout for another sighting!

---

**Become a Member of the SCHC this Month!**

Become a member of the History Center today at the Brookside Contributor with a \$100 donation. You will receive SCHC's newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, window sticker, and reduced prices for events. In addition, Contributors receive a welcome packet, membership card with NARM membership, and a 10% discount at the museum shop.

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

Become a member



**WALKING TOUR**

# Historians' Walking Tours

## Schuyler's Saratoga

led by Sean Kelleher

**Thursday, August 4, 4pm – Schuylerville**

Details and Registration at [brooksidemuseum.org/](https://brooksidemuseum.org/)  
Suggested Donation \$10

**SCHC**  
Saratoga County History Center  
@ Brookside Museum

The Saratoga County History Center will host a series of guided walking tours led by local historians during the summer and fall months throughout Saratoga County. The tours will be offered bi-weekly through the end of September on various days and times.

**August 4 - 4pm Schuyler's Saratoga.** As part of the Historians' Walking Tour series, Sean Kelleher, Historian for the Town of Saratoga and Vice President at the Saratoga County History Center will lead a walking tour of Schuylerville. Visiting the sites that relate to General Philip Schuyler and his family within the current landscape. Philip Schuyler was an American general in the Revolutionary War and a United States Senator from New York. He established a large plantation in Saratoga and helped develop the area. Meet at Schuylerville Veterans' Memorial Park:



US 4 and NY 32 adjacent to Fish Creek Schuylerville, NY 12871. Parking is available along the village streets. The tour distance is expected to be one mile and the duration approximately one hour. The suggested donation is \$10 per registration. Please register for the tour at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45153-historians-walking-tours-schuylers-saratoga-thursday-aug-4th>

**Register for the Schulyer's Saratoga Walking Tour**

**2022 Historian's Walking Tours**  
**Saratoga County History Center**



- 1 Ballston Spa Walkabout July 18**
- 2 Schulyer's Saratoga Aug 4**
- 3 Zim Smith Trail – Round Lake Aug 15**
- 4 Forest Park – Ballston Lake Aug 31**
- 5 Vischer Ferry Historic District Sept 17**
- 6 Old Champlain Canal Sept 29**

*For more information please contact Brookside Museum  
[info@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:info@brooksidemuseum.org) or call 518-885-4000*





A fabulous week for Ballston Spa events included our first Historians Walking Tour - Exploring the Hotels of Old Ballston Spa Walking Tour. We had a sold-out tour. Thanks to Anne Clothier and Dave Waite, our expert guides.

# 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.

## Volunteer wanted!

We are looking to increase the number of volunteers.

Roles include:

- General Volunteers
- Museum Assistants
- Building and Grounds Assistants

You can also sign up to volunteer through our website. <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/volunteer/>

[Volunteer At Brookside](#)



## **The Saratoga County History Center is proud to be a Blue Star Museum**

The Blue Star Museums program is a collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and more than 2,000 museums across America.

---



# ZIM SMITH TRAIL IN ROUND LAKE

**HISTORIANS  
WALKING TOURS**

With  
Lauren Roberts  
Saratoga County Historian

**10 AM  
August 15.  
2022**

**SCHC**

Coming up the third installment in our Historians' Walking Tour series! **August 15 -10am Zim Smith Trail in Round Lake.** Join Saratoga County Historian Lauren Roberts for a mile-long out and back walk on the county's Zim Smith Trail. Learn how an old railroad bed evolved into the county's premier trail system and how it earned its moniker. Meet at the Round Lake Zim Smith parking lot at 3 Curry Road in Round Lake (adjacent to Leah's Cakery). The suggested donation is \$10 per registration. Please register for the tour -

<https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45742-historians-walking-tours-zim-smith-trail-in-round-lake-aug-15th>

**Register for the Zim Smith Trail in Round Lake Walking Tour**

**The Saratoga County History Center is partnering with the Saratoga**

## County 250th Commission to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the Independence of the United States.

Saratoga County will commemorate the battles of Saratoga and other significant events of the Revolution era that took place in what is now Saratoga County. For more information and upcoming events, please visit [www.saratoga250.com](http://www.saratoga250.com).



---

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](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.

---

# Black Experiences in Saratoga County 1750 - 1950



This exhibit explores the diversity of the lives of African Americans in Saratoga County over 200 years of our history 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.

New additions to the exhibit include The prestigious Scripser Award, awarded by the University of Southern California and other artifacts related to Solomon Northup,



The Brookside Museum is open Thursday to Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. You will find it at 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Entry is free and donations are acceptable.

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, 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  
Email not displaying correctly?  
[View it in your browser](#)  
[Unsubscribe](#)

