

### August 18 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



**Saratoga County History Center**  
*Sharing History to Promote Community*  
 August 18, 2022



Our roll of successful summer 2022 events continues with over 140 participants at a book signing in Saratoga Springs, a garden program, a spinning demonstration, and a concert at Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa, and a Historian's tour of the Zim Smith trail in Round Lake. All of these things can happen with members like you. The time has come to renew your membership with a visit to our [membership page](#).

Become a member

# *In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore*

Thursday -  
Sunday  
1 PM - 5PM



AT BROOKSIDE MUSEUM





# Saratoga County History Center's Events

**August 31 – 10am Historians' Walking Tour - Forest Park. *Sold Out***

**September 10 – 10:30am From Slavery to Freedom: Blacks in Saratoga From the Colonial Period Through Gradual Manumission.** Dr. Armstead has a deep understanding of African-American social and cultural life and is well known for her first book, *'Lord, Please Don't Take Me in August'* a comparative study of black life in the resort communities of Saratoga Springs, NY, and Newport, RI during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Her presentation will be held at the Dyer-Phelps Memorial AME Zion Church, 122 Crescent St. in Saratoga Springs. It is based on research supported by a collaboration between the Organization of American Historians and the National Parks Service. Please register for the talk at:

<https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/46718-dr-myra-armstead-from-slavery-to-freedom-blacks-in-saratoga-from-colonial-period-to-gradual-manumission>

**Register for From Slavery to Freedom Talk**

**September 17 – 10am Historians' Walking Tour - Vischer Ferry.** John Scherer, Clifton Park Town Historian, will lead a tour of Vischer Ferry, one of Saratoga County's "Forgotten Crossroads." The Tour will explore the Vischer Ferry Historic District, learning about its Greek Revival and Victorian homes, its heyday during the canal era, and its time as a summer resort at the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Stories of some of the hamlet's more interesting residents will be discussed. This walking tour will be about 1.5 miles round trip on level paved roads. The tour will begin at the parking area at the end of Ferry Drive, and end at noon at the Vischer Ferry General Store for those interested in lunch. Our annual farm fest will also be happening that day as an added attraction. The suggested donation is \$10 per registration. Please register for the tour at

<https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45745-historians-walking-tours-vischer-ferry-sept-17th>

**Register for Vischer Ferry Walking Tour**

**September 21 – 7pm Experts Next Door - The Saratoga-Las Vegas Connection.** Mob Museum Trustee and University of Nevada, Las Vegas Associate Professor of History Michael 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>

**Register for Experts Next Door**  
**The Saratoga-Las Vegas Connection**

**September 29 – 1pm Historians' Walking Tour - The Champlain Canal, Waterford.** Russ VanDervoort, Waterford Town Historian, will lead a tour of the Champlain Canal in Waterford. This section of the canal opened in 1823, some parts remain unchanged. Along the tour route, we will pass a swing bridge, a basin, a change bridge, several waste weirs, and a power canal which played a major role in the Industrial Revolution. This walk will begin at Lock 2 Park in Waterford. This tour is a 1 ½ mile round walk on a basic level path that is a part of the Empire State Trailway and the Champlain Canal Trailway, known as the Waterford to Whitehall Trail. Lock 2 Park is located off Broad St. which is on Rt. 32 and the main thoroughfare in downtown Waterford. The entryway is part of the old Canal towpath, and there is a large sign for Lock 2 at the entrance. Parking available at Lock 2 Park and other nearby streets. The suggested donation is \$10 per registration. Please register for the Tour at:

<https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45747-historians-walking-tours-champlain-canal-sept-29th>

**Register for Champlain Canal Walking Tour**

*All these programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated, and donations are accepted with gratitude. The SCHC's Brookside Museum is located at 21 Fairground Avenue 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



We are in the middle of our **annual membership campaign**. This is when we ask for **YOUR** help to support the history and culture in **our** community and beyond. We've been able to accomplish all of that we do because of your continued support, and we are incredibly grateful. As we grow and change for the better, we will be implementing a new membership renewal process beginning September 1, 2022. As current members, each year, you received a membership renewal on a rolling basis depending on when you initially became a member. Starting September 1, all members will reset as we try to make the renewal process easier for you and SCHC. If you are a new or existing member who joined or renewed after March 1, 2022, your membership will roll over to 2023, and your membership will be valid until September 2023.

Starting last week, you will receive renewal letters if you have not renewed or joined since March 1, 2022. The SCHC can do what we do because of your financial contributions - and we thank you. Additionally, you may have heard that we've revamped our membership to include perks for each membership level, which are listed below. These new membership levels and extras can be used throughout the year as you come and visit the museum. When you renew your membership, you will also be able to make a recurring gift throughout the year.

## Become a member

### **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 [North American Reciprocal Museum \(NARM\) 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 15% 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.



# 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 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)

**August 21 - 2-4pm "The Legacy of 'Urban Renewal' in Saratoga Springs Community Conversations at The Frederick Allen Elks Lodge."** Erasing Spaces and Faces: The Legacy of Urban Renewal in Saratoga Springs is a series of community conversations and art-making events, open to all members of our community to share stories, poems, songs, artwork and document oral histories that reflect their experience of displacement and removal during "urban renewal" projects in the city of Saratoga Springs. For more information and resources contact [julie@createcommunitystudios.org](mailto:julie@createcommunitystudios.org)

**August 21 - 4-6pm "Organ Recital with Craig Williams' with the National Historic Landmark the Davis-Ferris Tracker Organ at the Round Lake Auditorium."** At 3pm, on Sunday, August 21 ticket holders will be given a guided tour of the Round Lake Auditorium along with the history of the Organ. Craig Williams, the West Point Organist and Choirmaster, will play a little Bach, Brahms, and Mendelssohn in a recital at 4pm. Also following the recital there will be a Sweet Tea Meet and Greet with Craig Williams. The ticket price is \$10 to help preserve this wonderful treasure. Tickets and details available <https://www.roundlakeauditorium.org/events/craig-williams> or at the door. The Round Lake Auditorium is located at 2 Wesley Ave, Round Lake, NY 12151

**September 9th – 6:30pm "The Transcontinental Railroad."** The 1869 completion of what was then the largest infrastructure project in American history turned the United States into a true continental power and opened the development of our "Wild West." Many of the personalities who were prime movers in the project had ties to the Capital District, and our local industrial base provided a number of the necessary parts that made. Join Historian Michael Barrett, for this

presentation on the front lawn 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. Admission is \$10 per person. For more information, contact [info@waterfordmuseum.com](mailto:info@waterfordmuseum.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.

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## News from the herb garden...

This past week was a busy one at the herb garden...three exciting events!

I arrived much later than usual on Wednesday, about 10:30. As I walked toward the compost bin I heard loud rustling on the hillside above it. I stopped. I waited. Between the trees, a deer appeared, ears twitching, staring at me with soft brown eyes. I froze. Another appeared, then another, smaller maybe a yearling, and as they started up over the hill a fawn joined the ranks. Slowly they disappeared. In the garden the violets and sorrel had been nibbled, the red clover was left with one leaf, and much of the ripening corn had been stolen from the three sisters' garden. Despite this, I smiled. How could I not after so beautiful a sight?

The final **Friday in the Herb Garden; there's more to an herb than its name** spotlighted woad, Queen Anne's lace, and sage. Twenty-six people came to hear their fascinating stories that date back to the Neolithic period. This time I included a "show and tell." Beforehand, I made a dye from sage. I followed the directions closely and revealed the results as I spoke. Voilà! The experiment failed! Dyeing a snow-white handkerchief is not as easy as it sounds!







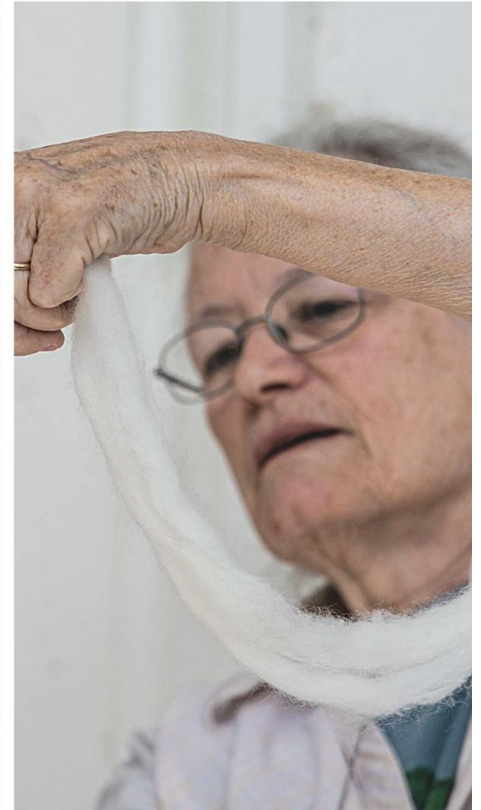
On Saturday in the shade on the front porch, the Rock Day Spinners plied their fiber skills. Next year we'll coordinate dye plantings with an herb they can use and offer tours of the herb garden.



A fragrant carpet of chamomile scents the medicinal garden, but the blossoms are sparse, too few for a cup of soothing tea. According to Rodale's Encyclopedia of Herbs, my go-to book, "herbalists of old" considered chamomile "the plant's physician" believing that nothing contributed more to the overall health of the garden."

Morning temperatures hint at fall. Plant growth is slowing. Soon our thoughts will turn to next spring in the herb garden.





## 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 518 885-4000

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

**Professional Microphones**  
**Topsoil**

# 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



**You'll want to sign in early for the Historians Walking Tour series because they sell out.**



# Historians Walking Tours

**Exploring the Hotels of Old  
Ballston Spa**  
lead by Anne Clothier &  
Dave Waite

**Monday, July 18, 2pm –  
Ballston Spa**

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



# FOREST PARK AMUSEMENT PARK

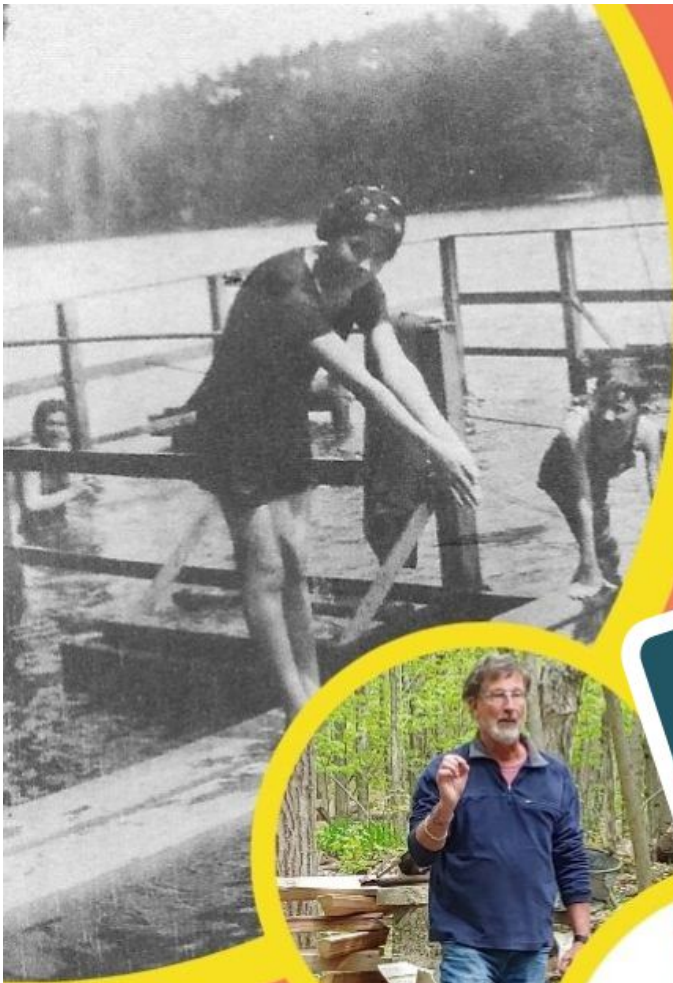
HISTORIAN  
WALK

**SOLD OUT**

10 AM

August 31.  
2022

SCHC







# Historians' Walking Tours Schuyler's Saratoga led. by Sean Kelleher

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

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





# ZIM SMITH TRAIL IN ROCKWELL COUNTY, GEORGIA

**SOLD OUT**

em Roberts  
County Historian

**10 AM**  
**August 15.**  
**2022**



SCHC

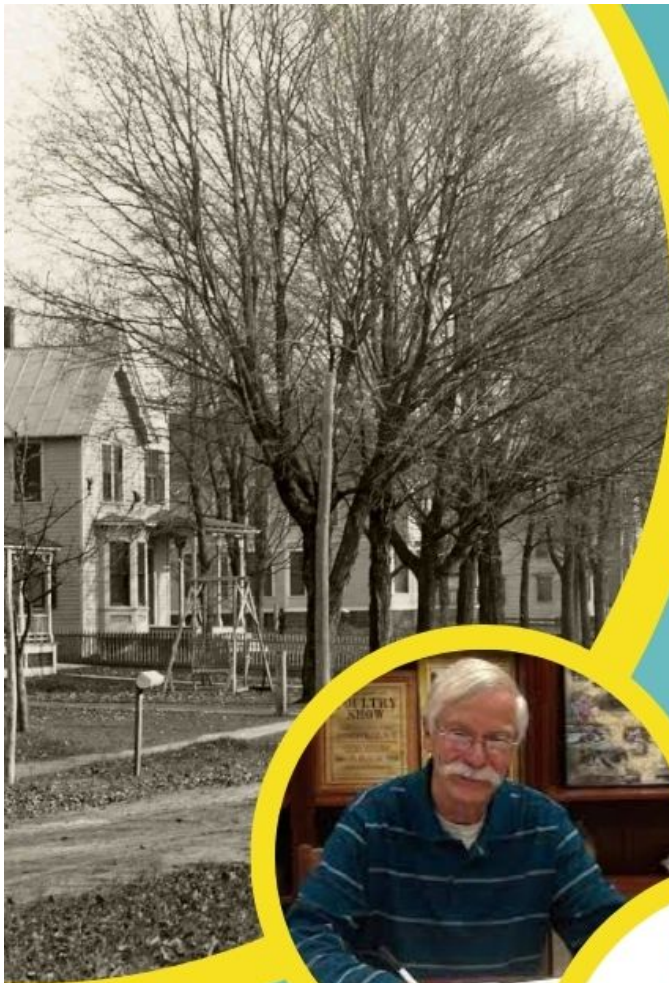
# VISCHER FERRY HISTORIC DISTRICT

**HISTORIANS  
WALKING TOURS**

With  
John Scherer  
Clifton Park Town Historian

**10 AM**

**September 17  
2022**





# THE CHAMPLAIN CANAL, WATERFORD

**HISTORIANS  
WALKING TOURS**

With  
Russ VanDervoort  
Waterford Town Historian

**1 PM**

**September 29  
2022**



Now it's time to register for our final two Historians Walking Tours. Details can be found on the top of the email.

[Register for Vischer Ferry Walking Tour](#)

## Register for Champlain Canal Walking Tour

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### 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

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MUSIC AT THE  
MUSEUM  
*Concert*  
SCHC  
Saratoga County History Center



**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.

# 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.

## 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](#)

# 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.

SCHC's Brookside Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. SCHC's Brookside Museum is located at 21 Fairground Avenue in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome. [www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)

### Current Exhibits

*In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore through December 23*

*Black Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950 through November 13*

*A Century of Ice Cream, a centennial of the Dake family and Stewart's Shops through December 23*

*County Life in Photographs through November 13*

SCHC's Brookside Museum lists all closings at <https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/>

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.

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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](#).

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**Saratoga County History Center**

21 Fairground Avenue

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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