October 13 Saratoga County History Center News and Events

Saratoga County History Center

Sharing History to Promote Community

October 13, 2022

Last week the Saratoga County History Center was very active. Over 35 people attended the Off
The Northway presentation and book signing by reporter Stephen Williams at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. Our educator, Anne Clothier, has completed another session of our primary school program, Native New York, which gives students hands-on experiences with original artifacts and natural materials to support their fourth grade local history curriculum. We supported our partnership with the Saratoga County 250th Commission with over 600 visitors from all over the world to the "Path Through History: Siege of Saratoga" historical encampment event at the Schuyler House Estate. Saratoga National Historical Park hosted this event with the British 24th Regiment of Foot and the 2nd Continental Artillery. Furthermore, our museum is brimming with five fascinating exhibitions that have welcomed more than 150 visitors this past week. One comment was: "This is a nice museum they got here!" We hope you can visit Brookside Museum or one of our activities across Saratoga County soon.

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**Saratoga County History Center’s Events**

**October 17** – 9:30am *Surrender Day Commemoration in Recognition of the 245th Anniversary of the American Victory at the Battles of Saratoga, America's Turning Point.* Join the community and school children for the 245th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga surrender with cannons, patriotic speeches, wreath laying, reenactments and the traditional a13 toasts. State Historian Devin Lander will be the keynote speaker. Fort Hardy Beach Park along the Hudson River, Ferry Street - Route 29, Schuylerville, NY 12871.

**October 22** - 11am *Off The Northway Presentation and Book Signing at the Galway Public Library.* Local journalist Stephen Williams will talk about the long rollercoaster history of the dream, design, negotiations for, and construction of the $15 billion GlobalFoundries semiconductor facility in Malta. He will also sign copies of *Off the Northway*, a compilation of 83 articles written from 2005 through 2020 for the Daily Gazette in Schenectady, NY. The book will be available for purchase for $20 and is published by the Saratoga County History Center. The Galway Public Library is 2112 East Street, Galway, NY 12074.

**November 2** - 7pm *Saratoga County History Center Annual Meeting including "History Favorites - Trustees' Choice."* The trustees' offers a ‘show & tell’ featuring a few of their favorite items from the SCHC’s collection, a preview of upcoming exhibitions, alongside their vision for the future. The annual budget will be presented and there will be voting for new trustees. This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa.

**November 12** - 1-5pm *Saratoga Chips and Beer Festival.* DeCrescente Distributing Company is sponsoring the Saratoga Chips and Beer Festival that celebrates two things that go well together,
potato chips and beer. The famous Saratoga Chips are the feature of the museum's current exhibit, "In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore." The festival, a benefit for the Saratoga County History Center, is $20 in advance, and $25 on the day of the event, while designated drivers will be $10. SCHC members receive a $5 discount. Snacks and the first beverage are included in the ticket price. John Kirk and Trish Miller of Greenfield Center, who are beloved for bringing fiery fiddle tunes, folk songs, and whimsical kicks to audiences worldwide, will provide live music. To round off the festival, there will be a bonfire, a S'mores station, a silent auction, and a game of potato chip trivia. Tickets can be purchased from https://brooksidemuseum.org/event/saratoga-chips-and-beer-festival-2/ For more information, visit BrooksideMuseum.org or call 518-885-4000. This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa. 12020.

**November 13 – 2–4pm “More Saratoga County Stories” book release.** Meet the contributing authors and the editorial team of More Saratoga County Stories, a collection of essays and articles written by 33 local historians. This is the second volume of Saratoga County Stories published by the Saratoga County History Center. Aimed at the general public, it will delight readers with snapshots of the past and true tales of crime, heroism, and colorful personalities. Purchase the book for $20 and have your copies signed by the authors. This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa 12020.

**November 26-December 24 – Artisan’s Market at Brookside Museum.** Shop a wide selection of hand-crafted products created by local artisans, including soaps & lotions, ornaments, jewelry, spices & syrups, cutting boards, home décor, and much more! Thursdays 12pm – 5pm, Fridays 11am – 6pm, Saturdays and Sundays 11am – 5pm. This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa 12020.

**December 3 – 2–4pm Groom's Tavern hosts “More Saratoga County Stories” book signing and talk.** A second More Saratoga County Stories book release event will be held at the historic Grooms' Tavern with the local authors will be present to sign copies and talk with guests about their interests in Saratoga County history. The restored historic tavern and a variety of exhibits will be open for tours. Grooms Tavern is at 290 Sugar Hill Road on the corner of Grooms Road in Rexford, NY12148.

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.
SARATOGA CHIP AND BEER FESTIVAL

BENEFIT FOR THE SARATOGA COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

November 12 1 - 5 pm
SCHC's Brookside Museum
21 Fairground Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

FOR TICKETS VISIT WWW.BROOKSIDEMUSEUM.ORG

Music by Trish Miller
and John Kirk

More Saratoga County Stories to be released

Book Launch on Sunday, November 13 afternoon at Brookside Museum

From stories of famous and not-so-famous Saratoga County residents to tales of corruption, heroism, and fun entertainment venues, More Saratoga County Stories has it all. This second volume of stories published by the Saratoga County History Center (SCHC) covers various topics related to the history of Saratoga County.

This compilation of 66 articles by 33 authors, originally published weekly by the Saratoga County History Roundtable, draws on the knowledge and experiences of local historians and "history buffs," some of which have only recently taken up the pen to share their stories.

The book includes articles from the Revolutionary War period up to the development of GlobalFoundries. Eric Schnitzer, Park Ranger / Military Historian at the Saratoga National Historical Park, noted, "Like its predecessor, More Saratoga County Stories hits pay dirt by uncovering even more local history, brought vividly to life for the enjoyment of all."

As an author and editor, Lauren Roberts, Saratoga County Historian, is excited to be involved with both volumes of Saratoga County Stories. She stated, "One of the most exciting things about this..."
The book will be released and available for sale at two book launch events where guests can talk with the authors and obtain signed copies of the book. The initial event will be at Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa, on Sunday, November 13, from 2-4 pm. On Saturday, December 3, 2-4 pm, a second event will be held at Grooms Tavern in Clifton Park.

The book will also be available at local bookstores and museums and online at Amazon.com.

More Saratoga County Stories is the third book published by SCHC in the past year. Publishing played a central role in the mission of the History Center, which operates the Brookside Museum, including the Irena Wooton Research Room. These engaging and carefully researched stories continue to contribute to our knowledge of Saratoga County's past. SCHC other titles are Saratoga County Stories and Stephen William’s Off the Northway. Please visit the website (www.brooksidemuseum.org) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.
These programs come from several organizations in Saratoga County. The event organizers are noted. These are not hosted or sponsored by SCHC.

**October 13** - 12pm "Brown Bag Lunch: "How It All Began: The Origins of Saratoga Racing" with Brien Bouyea." Hall of Fame and Communications Director for the National Museum of Racing, Brien Bouyea presents the formative years of Saratoga racing and the characters who influenced the track’s early days and established its signature race, the Travers Stakes. 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 requested [https://sspl.libcal.com/event/8597385](https://sspl.libcal.com/event/8597385).

**October 14** - 7pm "Did you read it in the paper?" Explore curated clippings from the Waterford Area Good News Newspapers! View articles and photos from this local newspaper from 1992 to 1995, covering all aspects of Waterford life - school, business, politics, community events and more from the 90s! This program will also introduce the museum's collection, its digital records database, and how you can access it. Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center at 2 Museum Lane, Waterford, NY 12188. Admission is $10 per person. For more information, contact info@waterfordmuseum.com.

**October 15** – 10am - 3:30pm "Heritage Hunters All-Day Genealogy Conference." Heritage Hunters of Saratoga County will offer a series of 4 genealogy talks in one day, featuring certified genealogist Nancy Loe, via Zoom. They are: Beyond Ancestry: Essential Portals for Genealogy, Successful Genealogy Sources and Citations, Discovering European Immigrant Ancestors, and Picture This: Cataloging Digital Photos. In addition to appearing on PBS’s *American Experience*, Loe has presented for all experience levels at National Genealogical Society, Rootstech, Legacy Family Tree and genealogy conferences in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. The cost of the conference is $20 for members, $35 for non-members, which includes new membership. A registration form should be completed and sent, along with a check, to Ginny Humphrey, 5166 Fairground Ave., Ballston Spa, N.Y. 12020 by Oct. 11. Members can find the form in the October-November newsletter issue. Non-members can receive it by snail mail or email by calling Ginny Humphrey, 518-885-9309.

**October 16** - 1pm "Special Ranger Program on the Convention of Saratoga and Surrender at the Sword Surrender Site." A Park Ranger will discuss the surrender ceremony and the
Convention of Saratoga at the Sword Surrender Site. Visitors should be aware that parking at the Sword Surrender site is very limited, and carpooling is highly encouraged. Sword Surrender Site, US 4 south of Schuylerville, NY 12871.

October 16 - 2pm "100 YEARS OF GRACE: A Musical Celebration of our Parish’s Centennial." Parishioners from Our Lady of Grace, St. Joseph’s Church, Scotia; Immaculate Conception, Glenville; and St. Augustine’s Church, Lansingburgh, directed by Patty Neumann, Director of Musical Ministries at Our Lady of Grace and St. Joseph’s Church with 37 voices and 15 instrumentalists presenting an inspiring collection of music and readings to celebrate the seasons of the church year. Free will donation. In addition, there is a “gourmet” Dessert Bar! Delectable gourmet desserts, worthy of the best restaurants, will be offered for $5 a slice. Finger desserts will also be offered. This is a fundraiser to support our Centennial activities and the archiving of our historical photos and documents. Our Lady of Grace, a Catholic Community, 73 Midline Road, Ballston Lake, NY 12019.

October 16 – 5pm Ulysses S. Grant's Bicentennial Birthday Gala. The Friends of Ulysses S. Grant's Cottage is hosting an evening fundraiser to support the development of an educational pavilion and their strategic plan. The dinner includes a presentation by actor Treat Williams and a virtual presentation by Retired General David Petraeus and Grant biographer Ron Chernow. The tickets are $125 and it will take place at the Gideon Putnam Resort & Spa 24 Gideon Putnam Road Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Details at https://www.grantcottage.org/2022gala

October 19 – 6:30pm "2nd Annual Lantern Walk" Join the Hadley-Lake Luzerne Historical Society for the ½ mile walk along Main Street and across the Bridge of Hope into Hadley. The Lantern Walk is a walk through local history with an opportunity to meet some characters who once lived and walked within our neighborhoods. Have you ever wondered why the firehouse is named after Van R. Rhodes, or why Travers Street was built on an angle, or how many of Jeremy Rockwell’s 13 children went into the hotel business? Meet at the Kinnear Museum of Local History, 52 Main Street, Lake Luzerne, NY 12846. There is a suggested $5 donation.

October 25 – 6pm Mott Family Empire This fascinating presentation details the 5 Generations of the Mott family starting with 1st generation, deed holder Zebulon in 1795 on Farm to Market Road through the 5th generation Charles, one of America’s 1st self-made billionaire. You won’t want to miss hearing about this amazing family! This is a program of the Halfmoon Historical Society taking place at the Halfmoon Town Hall in the James A. Bold Meeting Room 2 Halfmoon Town Plaza, Clifton Park, NY 12065.

October 27 - 7pm "Campaign to Saratoga" Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association for a program meeting as Eric Schnitzer, the historian at Saratoga NHP, discusses his recent book, Campaign to Saratoga, he co-authored with Don Troiani. Town of Saratoga’s Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, on the corner of routes 29 and 4 in Schuylerville, NY 12871.

November 7- 7pm “Voices from the Haunted Past: Ghost Stories and Folklore from the Stockade.” Join the Galway Preservation Society at their monthly meeting, as Michael Diana, Schenectady County Historical Society's Education and Program Manager, gives a presentation on
spirit sightings, strange occurrences and folklore from the historic Stockade. The meeting will be held at the Galway Town Hall, 5910 Sacandaga Rd., Galway, NY 12074.

**November 8 - 7pm "Oh Those Nolan Girls, Pretty & Poisonous!"** presented by Waterford Historian, Russ VanDervoort as part of the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center's annual Winter Lecture Series at the Van Schaick Island Country Club (201 Continental Ave, Cohoes.) Admission: $10. For more information, contact info@waterfordmuseum.com (Dinner is available for separate purchase during the program [not included in the price of admission] by Max 410 at the Van Schaick Island Country Club.)

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.
Look TV interviews Sean Kelleher on the Surrender of General Burgoyne
Project Leaders wanted!
We are looking for two project leaders!!! One for a fall cleaning, One for the storage movement of old articles in an old apartment that is renovated. If you want to help, please contact Matt at (518) 885-4000. John will call you back.

Volunteer At Brookside
Become a Lifetime Member of the SCHC this Month!

Become a member of the History Center today at the Brookside Lifetime Member with a $5000 donation. You will receive SCHC’s newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, a window sticker, and reduced prices for events. In addition, Contributors receive a welcome packet, a membership card with NARM membership. In addition, a copy of The First Respectable House: Brookside and the Growth of Ballston Spa, a personal behind-the-scenes tour of the museum by the President, the first look at the new exhibits with reception, two free use of the event space per year, and 15% 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.

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

Become a member
The History Center is pleased to announce that the second award process is well underway. We welcome nominations and input from the public. If there is any individual, organization, or business that you believe warrants consideration, please contact Dr. Michael Landis, History Center Trustee, at mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org. You may also visit Brookside Museum and speak with the staff, who are always eager to discuss community happenings. Please be sure to include the person or organization’s full name, a detailed description of what they have done in public history, and why you believe they deserve recognition. Winner(s) will be selected in November, and a public awards ceremony will be held at Brookside Museum in January.
SCHC's Brookside Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm and 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**

*Black Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950 through November 6*
*Grant's Life exhibit through November 11*
*County Life in Photographs through November 13*
A Century of Ice Cream, a centennial of the Dake family and Stewart’s Shops through December 23
In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore through December 23

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

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.
EXHIBIT ON THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT U.S. GRANT

To celebrate the Bicentennial of U.S. Grant’s Birthday, the Presidential Library at Mississippi State University has created a traveling exhibit about Grant’s life.

- October 6 – November 11
- Thursday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm
- Brookside Museum
- 21 FAIRGROUND AVENUE, BALLSTON SPA, NY 1202

www.brooksidemuseum.org
check out our most popular exhibit

LAST CHANCE

BLACK EXPERIENCES IN SARATOGA COUNTY, 1750-1950 THROUGH NOVEMBER 6

www.brooksidemuseum.org
"FIRST_NAME" here is your weekly email for the Saratoga County History Center


County Life in Photographs through November 13

SCHC's Brookside Museum
21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa, 12020.

What are visitors saying about SCHC's newest exhibit, "In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore."

"Nice display"
"Very informative as well as interesting."
"It's an honor to see this exhibit in person. As the proud nephew of the Toga Chip guy, I see firsthand all the hard work and dedication that has gone into this collection. Thank you to the SCHC for bringing this exhibit to the public". Adam and Laura King

Informative & appealing. Though I have heard many stories about the origin/origination of potato chips, this one-room exhibit captures the "origin" and
multiple promotions/sellers throughout the local/national areas and beyond. A treat."

Joanna Z.

“In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore” (Open through December 23) – This is our newest exhibit, which 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. This exhibit come largely from the collection of Alan Richer, America’s premier collector on the subject.

Do not forget, our Saratoga Chips and Beer Festival on Saturday, November 12 from 1-5pm. DeCrescente Distributing Company is sponsoring Saratoga Chips and Beer Festival celebrates two things that go well together, potato chips and beer. The famous Saratoga Chips are the feature of the museum's current exhibit, "In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore." The festival, a benefit for the Saratoga County History Center, is $20 in advance, and $25 on the day of the event, while designated drivers will be $10. SCHC members receive a $5 discount. Snacks and the first beverage are included in the ticket price. John Kirk and Trish Miller of Greenfield Center, who are beloved for bringing fiery fiddle tunes, folk songs, and whimsical kicks to audiences worldwide, will provide live music. To round off the festival, there will be a bonfire, a S'mores station, a silent auction, and a game of potato chip trivia. Tickets can be purchased from https://brooksidemuseum.org/event/saratoga-chips-and-beer-festival-2/ For more information, visit BrooksideMuseum.org or call 518-885-4000.
News from the herb garden…

Next week will be the last News from the herb garden until the tulips bloom next spring. Spring seems so far away, I can’t resist the temptation to share a few of my favorite photos of this year’s garden. But before I do, I must tell you about my latest discovery.

A few days ago, I harvested a large bouquet of parsley—the last of the season, from my husband's small bed at Pitney Meadows. I planned to make pesto. As I removed the stems my eyes opened in amazement.
Immediately I started to worry. How could this beautiful creature possibly survive as temperatures fall? The only destiny I could imagine was death long before it spread its colorful wings. Once again an internet site came to the rescue! John Switzer of the Columbus Dispatch had asked the same question. “I called Dave Parshall—a butterfly expert and member of the Ohio Lepidopterist Society—who told me there are three ways that butterflies handle winter. For black swallowtails and many other butterfly species, the last caterpillars of the season before winter form a chrysalis, a covering in which they transform into butterflies. The adult butterflies will perish, but the caterpillars will overwinter in the chrysalis. While the caterpillars are in their chrysalis, they are dormant, sort of like hibernation.” I hurried the caterpillar back to a parsley bed with wooden edges to attach to when the chrysalis forms. The caterpillar’s destiny is now in Mother Nature’s hands.

**Favorite Photos from 2022**

Woad is wearing a shimmering crown—the queen of the garden on a May morning. Orris root aka Florentine iris lends its beauty and fragrance to the pageant. Rhizomes will be harvested after it blossoms to make a fixative for potpourri.
An eastern tiger swallowtail drinks nectar from the blossoms of dame’s rocket, one of many plants that escaped from settlers’ gardens. Deadheading is important as dame’s rocket is considered invasive.
La Perle shows off her magical blossoms. Pink at first bloom, then pearl, and before petals fall a pure white. The haunting fragrance adds to their charm.
The apothecary rose is one of the first, and possibly the first rose cultivated for beauty, exceptional fragrance, and medicinal use. But this rose is a rogue in the garden traveling wherever its suckers choose to roam. Removing suckers is our least favorite task. The stems are densely covered with slim thorns making which even pierce heavy gloves making it difficult to evict them from the garden.
Notice the bee tucked deep in the nicotiana flower on the lower left. Nicotiana, an annual native to Africa, has medicinal uses, but in this garden, it is valued for its fragrance which is most noticeable in the cool of the evening.
Sumac is not in the herb garden, but its red leaves proclaim fall has arrived. There are two types of sumac, poison sumac, which itches more than poison ivy, and staghorn sumac, or Rhus typhina, which is easily identified by the cones of red fruit clusters and velvety antlers. According to the website Indian Native Plants, “Staghorn Sumac had many medicinal uses. The fruits were used as a tonic to stimulate appetites. A fruit decoction was used for consumption, coughs, and various pulmonary troubles. A fruit infusion was used for intestinal troubles and as a blood purifier.” If it appears in the hedgerow, I will welcome it, but until then I’ll enjoy the brilliant leaves under a clear blue October sky.
"FIRST_NAME" here is your weekly email for the Saratoga County History Center

Sources:
https://indiananativeplants.org
There were over 600 visitors to "Path Through History Siege of Saratoga historical encampment event at the Schuyler House Estate." It was an event organized by the Saratoga National Historic Park in coordination with the Saratoga County 250th Commission. The event took place with the British 24th Regiment and the 2nd Regiment of Continental Artillery. The beautiful Schuyler House had an Open House. The Saratoga County History Center is proud supporters of the Saratoga County 250th Commission.

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, Cindy Corbett, Jim Richmond, Kathleen Rebmann Royka, Beth Silvestri, and David Waite.
The SCHC News and Events are available on our website.