

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Sharing History to Promote Community



All of us here at the Saratoga County History Center invite you to join our institution through membership. Members make our goal of educating the community and preserving its rich history a reality. Follow the link below to learn more. Membership at \$100 or above brings NARM membership, which gives free admission to almost 1,500 museums locally and around the country. It's the perfect holiday gift for the history lover in your life!

[Register for or Renew Membership Here](#)

Annual Appeal 2025

As we enter a new year at SCHC, we still need your support. Please donate to our Annual Appeal to help us achieve our goals of painting the exterior of Brookside Museum and repairing a small section of the roof. This work is vital, in order to care for our wonderful historic building in the best possible way, so that it can continue to welcome future generations of visitors for years to come.

[Donate to the 2025 Annual Appeal](#)

Our Sincere Thanks:

Saratoga County History Center is pleased to announce that we have been awarded a GlobalFoundries / Town of Malta Foundation grant to support our upcoming *Spotlight on Malta History Series*. In its fifteenth year of giving, the GlobalFoundries / Town of Malta Foundation awarded 41 grants totaling \$185,000 to local organizations to support a variety of community needs and programs, and we were very fortunate to be among the grantees. Our \$750 award will help us to develop and host a series of events focused on the history and ecology of Malta, our neighboring community. We are very grateful

for the support of the GlobalFoundries / Town of Malta Foundation for our work of connecting history and community.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to John and Mike Munter of Munter Enterprises in Middle Grove, and to New Country Toyota of Saratoga Springs for their generous Silver Sponsorships, as well as Congressman Paul Tonko and Morcon Inc. of Saratoga Springs for their gracious donations to the Bronze Sponsorship level of *Experiences from WWI*. In this new program, students will visit stations that feature replica artifacts, primary sources, and letters written by individuals connected to the war. This immersive experience makes history accessible and tangible while highlighting Saratoga County's own ties to the World War I era. Support from community partners like Munter Enterprises, Congressman Tonko and Morcon, Inc. helps us keep program costs low for schools while expanding access to high-quality history education. We are proud to recognize their dedication to preserving and sharing history.



Listen to the Whole Story

Come and try our new QR code experience at Brookside Museum. Learn more about the diverse histories of our county through audio and video excerpts, enhancing the *Saratoga County: Our Home!* exhibition.

Watch the Listen to the Whole Story Playlist

A Question for our Community

Did you or someone you know attend a one-room schoolhouse in Saratoga County?

Our education department is collecting stories for an upcoming research project and would love to hear your story. Please contact Charlene DuBuque, Director of Education, at charlene@brooksidemuseum.org or 518-683-6387.

Winter Hours

Brookside Museum is open to the public Saturday and Sunday from the hours of Noon to 4PM during the winter season.

Online Shop Now Open

No time to shop at Brookside Museum, or live too far away? Then check out our online shop. Browse a variety of gifts, publications and movies all available on site at Brookside Museum and now for the first time available online. Online purchases may either be picked up at Brookside, or, for a small fee, shipped through USPS. Follow the link below to start shopping now!

View the Online Shop Here

EVENT RESCHEDULED Sounds in Winter Concert: Eribeth Trio

Saturday, February 21 at 3 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Tune in for the second edition of this third season of the Sounds in Winter concert series. Brookside welcomes Eribeth Trio, who will play music for a Victorian Tea. These concerts are sponsored jointly by The Ballston Spa Committee on the Arts, and The Saratoga County History Center with funding provided by The American Federation of Musicians Music Performance Trust Fund and a grant from Saratoga Arts.

If you have already registered for the event there is no need to register again. However, if you are unable to attend on the rescheduled date we ask you to please notify us by calling the museum at 518-885-4000 or email info@brooksidemuseum.org.

Historian Tea Talk: Koka Nola, Argentine Seltzer, and Dutch Squats: Letting Bottles Tell Their Stories by Chris Leonard, Executive Director of the National Bottle Museum and Schenectady City Historian

Wednesday, February 11, 3:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Chris Leonard will reminisce on his first year as Executive Director of the nearly 50-year-old National Bottle Museum. His talk will cover stories of some of his favorite bottles from the museum's collection, including one dating to the early 18th c. These 10-15 bottles will be on site and part of the discussion allowing attendees to get a close-up view of the technologies, embossing, and other details involved in creating these works of art.

Register for Historian Tea Talk with Chris Leonard

Sounds in Winter: A Touch of Woodwinds

Saturday, February 14, 3:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Join us for the third and final edition of the third season of the Sounds in Winter concert series. Brookside welcomes A Touch of Woodwinds, who will play music for Valentine's Day. These concerts are sponsored jointly by The Ballston Spa Committee on the Arts, and The Saratoga County History Center with funding provided by The American Federation of Musicians Music Performance Trust Fund and a grant from Saratoga Arts.

Register for Sounds in Winter: A Touch of Woodwinds**The National Bottle Museum: A Members Tour****Friday, February 20, 1:00-2:00PM****The National Bottle Museum: 76 Milton Ave**

Join us for a Members-Only visit to the National Bottle Museum! The National Bottle Museum was created to preserve, research, and exhibit bottles and objects related to bottle making. Visitors can view displays of bottles and glass making tools, learn about the local bottle history, and the history of bottle production. With Executive Director Chris Leonard, members of Saratoga County History Center will explore the museum's diverse collection and view current exhibitions, including *Bottles & Baseball*, *Lost Regional Sodas*, and more. Come mingle with fellow members, and learn more about our museum neighbor!

Register for The National Bottle Museum: A Members Tour**Tavern Night: Eve of Revolution****February 26 (Snow Date: February 27) & March 12 (Snow Date: March 13)****Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave**

Travel back in time and enjoy a tavern-inspired feast featuring traditional recipes and historic ambiance at Brookside Museum. Partake in a delightful three course meal, served by historians in 18th-century attire, as they discuss their lives and the events of the day. One drink of beer or water is included in your ticket, courtesy of Speckled Pig Brewing Co. Join us for an immersive evening of food, music, and storytelling in the historic Long Room. This event is co-produced by Saratoga County History Center and The Campaign for Saratoga 250, net proceeds will benefit our combined efforts to preserve Saratoga's heritage.

Tickets are now on sale for \$45, at the link below!

Register for Tavern Night: Eve of Revolution**WOMEN'S LIVES, WOMEN'S STORIES: A Women's History Month Focus****Experts Next Door: American Women and Expatriate Life in Interwar Paris with Caitlin O'Keefe****Thursday, March 5, 7:00PM****Live on Zoom**

Since the founding of the United States, France and its capital have held a singular place in the American imagination. The trans-atlantic conversation that flourished throughout the 19th century between America and its oldest ally was uniquely important to the development of American identity. After WWI, this Franco-American relationship only deepened as thousands of Americans flocked to Paris. This discussion will consider an important segment of expatriates to Paris post-WWI: American women. What drove so many American women out of their own country after 1918, and what, in particular, did they hope to find in Paris? To what extent did American women who felt constrained and limited by life at home find freedom in expatriation? Through tracing the lives of women such as the Harlem Renaissance poet Gwendolyn Bennett, and the founder of the Shakespeare and Company bookstore, Sylvia Beach, this presentation will explore the gendered experience of expatriation in this new, modern era of mobility.

This talk forms part of a two-part Women's History Month series, Women in Migration: Epistemologies and Expatriation from the United States to the Francophone World.

Register for Experts Next Door: American Women and Expatriate Life in Interwar Paris with Caitlin

O'Keefe

Doing Our Part, Presented by Nancy White

Sunday, March 15, 2:00-3:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Learn from Nancy White as she describes the development and purpose of her many gardens within The Healing Garden - a unique property certified as a United Plant Savers Botanical Sanctuary, with an environment rich in biodiversity, including endangered native medicinal plants and wetlands. The house was built with a focus on sustainability, i.e., to conserve fossil fuels and water, and with great attention to clean air and renewable materials. Nancy will share practical and economical ways we too can enact environmental improvements in our own backyards. Reservations for tours will be available on the day of the presentation.

Register for Doing Our Part

Historian Tea Talk: Women of Schuyler Mansion

Thursday, March 19, 3:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

The "Schuyler Sisters" cause quite a stir in the Broadway musical Hamilton: An American Musical, but did you know that there were really five sisters? Born and raised in Albany, they were the daughters of Revolutionary War General and United States Senator, Philip Schuyler, and his wife, Catherine Van Rensselaer of patroon lineage. Coming of age during the country's formative years, the sisters lived in a pivotal time in history. George and Martha Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Benedict Arnold, Horatio Gates, and Dolley Madison were just a few of their friends, associates, and adversaries. In the lives of this large, vigorous family, we find stories of power, romance, tragedy and intrigue.

Learn what it was like growing up as a Schuyler with an in-depth look at the history of the Schuyler sisters and the life of their mother, Catharine. Hear about their daily lives, and their role in shaping their family's story. This talk also explores the experiences of women enslaved by the Schuylers, as well as an inside peek at the process of uncovering their untold stories.

Register for Historian Tea Talk: Women of Schuyler Mansion

Experts Next Door: African American Women and Expatriate Life in Independent Senegal with Julia Woods

Monday, March 23, 7:00PM

Live on Zoom

Sylvia first set foot in Senegal in 1966 thanks to a personal invitation from the country's president, Leopold Sedar Senghor. Originally from Washington D.C. and a graduate from Dunbar High School, Sylvia went to Trinity College for women in 1954 just months after the Brown v. Board of Education

decision integrated the college, making Sylvia one of the first four African American women to attend the school. At Trinity, Sylvia's scholarly interests in French and Latin flourished, sending her on a path to becoming a Fulbright scholar in France, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, and PhD candidate at Fordham University. However, Sylvia's life transformed one night in 1966 when meeting Senegalese President Senghor at a Howard University happy hour. Sylvia impressed President Senghor with her scholarship on his poetry, the subject of her dissertation, and he invited Sylvia to teach in Senegal for one year. One year became thirty years, and Sylvia Washington became Sylvia Washington Bâ.

This presentation shares Sylvia's story as an African American woman in independent Senegal's cosmopolitan capital city of Dakar. She taught comparative French and African literatures, Black feminism, and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade at the large public university in Dakar before many American universities had such classes. While Sylvia's story is singular in its uniqueness, she fostered a community of numerous other African American female expatriates in Senegal, many of whom did important work to bring both sides of the Atlantic together through professional life, academia, and kinship. Following the questions posed in the first part of this series on female expatriates in Paris: how did race, nationality, and gender morph the experiences of African American women living in Dakar, Senegal since 1960? What epistemologies did these women create that put life as African Americans and colonized Africans into conversations? How did their private lives, marriage to Senegalese men, and blended families transform their expatriate experience?

This talk forms part of a two-part Women's History Month series, Women in Migration: Epistemologies and Expatriation from the United States to the Francophone World.

Register for END: African American Women and Expatriate Life in Independent Senegal with Julia Woods

A Thousand, Thousand Slimy Things, with Dr. Christopher Pastore**Wednesday, April 15, 6:00-7:00PM****Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave**

From sea serpents to seaweed, slimy things have long tended to lurk among the frontiers of natural knowledge, reflecting not only the anxieties of each age but also, in many cases, new possibilities. At once generative and destructive, mysterious and manifest, and masculine but sometimes feminine, slime flowed through oceanic understanding and welcomed new people to contribute to it, thereby producing natural knowledge both literally and figuratively “from the bottom up.” Across an expanding Atlantic world Africans, Native Americans, women, and even pirates described the ocean’s currents, creatures, and coastal environments, adding their observations to the growing body of knowledge about the physical and biological makeup of the sea. Indeed, as this presentation posits, close focus on the sea’s slimy things and the curious people drawn them may even provide new ways of imagining the ocean’s present and future.

Christopher L. Pastore is Associate Professor of History at the University at Albany, State University of New York, where he teaches courses in environmental history, early America, and the Atlantic world. He holds a Ph.D. in History and M.S. in teaching from the University of New Hampshire, an M.F.A. in nonfiction creative writing from New School University, and a B.A. in Biology from Bowdoin College. He is the author of *Between Land and Sea: The Atlantic Coast and the Transformation of New England* (Harvard University Press, 2014) and is currently writing an environmental history of the Atlantic world from the ancient period through the nineteenth century.

Register for A Thousand Thousand Slimy Things

John Brown in New York, with Author Nancy Weber**Saturday, April 25, 7:00-8:00PM****Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave**

Historian and author Sandra Weber presents a compelling talk about her newest book, *John Brown in New York: The Man, His Family, and the Adirondack Landscape*. Weber offers a fresh and intimate look at the famed abolitionist, focusing on the years of the Brown family’s connection with North Elba, Essex County (1848–1863). The intertwining story of sublime Adirondack scenery, farm life, and racial justice explores John Brown not only as a national figure but as a husband, father, neighbor, and man of moral fiber. Weber’s insightful narrative bridges the myth and the man, revealing the tender and tragic heart of the Brown family story.

Sandra Weber has authored several books about the Adirondack region, including *Breaking Trail: Remarkable Women of the Adirondacks* (co-author, Peggy Lynn), *Mount Marcy, The Finest Square Mile*, and *Adirondack Roots*. Her articles have been published in *Civil War Times*, *NYS Conservationist*, *Adirondack Life*, *Adirondack Explorer*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and *Highlights for Children*. In addition to her writings, Weber is also well-known for her dramatic portrayals of Mary Brown in “Times of Trouble” and of Jeanne Robert Foster, Kate Field, and other women in “Remarkable Women of the Adirondacks.” Weber is a graduate of Clarkson University (Math/CS, ’83) and Temple University (MBA, ’90). She lives in a log cabin near Elizabethtown, NY, and is an Adirondack 46er.

Register for John Brown in New York, with Author Nancy Weber

Don't forget to check our website for the latest updates on our event schedule!

Save the Date!

Saratoga Opera presents *Stone Soup*

Saturday, March 7, 1:00PM

STONE SOUP pairs composer Joe Illick and librettist Mark Campbell for an operatic retelling of the classic European folk tale. Their reimagining will transport audiences to Blessing, Texas for a rocking-chair view of the comings and goings at Max's General store. From the opera's opening notes representing a young girl's stomach rumblings, through the whimsically collaborative creation of the title meal, to its uplifting ending, *Stone Soup* imparts a timeless message: we all have something to contribute and sharing makes things better for everyone.

STONE SOUP was commissioned by Fort Worth Opera by arrangement with The Barbara Hogenson Agency, Inc. *STONE SOUP* is 35 minutes long and sung in English.

Other Upcoming Saratoga County History Events:

Saratoga 250 Reflections

The latest in a series of historical articles focusing on the beginnings of the American Revolution in Albany County in 1775 has been released. Written by local historian Jim Richmond. The final installment, "The Invasion of Canada," is now available on the America's Turning Point Saratoga 250 website.

[Read the latest Saratoga 250 Reflections](#)

Heritage Hunters Meeting

Saturday, February 21, 1:00PM

Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St., Schuylerville

Town of Malta historian, Tom Williams, will discuss Katherine Anne Porter, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award. She was once an artist at Yaddo and owned a home in Malta. She lived in the area for several years in the early 1940s. Porter was most famous for her novel *Ship of Fools*, which became a movie in 1962. Tom Williams will follow up his presentation with a discussion on Malta resources available to genealogists and other researchers. This event is cosponsored by the Saratoga County History Center.

HIS 225 The American Revolution**Spring Semester 2026, 6:30 to 7:50PM, Wednesdays****SUNY Adirondack Campus**

SUNY Adirondack will be offering a course on the American Revolution during the upcoming Spring 2026 semester. All history enthusiasts are encouraged to register. A full course load is not required to take the class. The course will examine Saratoga's global impact, taverns and secret societies, sex and spies, the power of ideas, and more — all just minutes from where the action took place!

Register for HIS 225 The American Revolution Here

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to press@brooksidemuseum.org. SCHC Events and News 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 SCHC Events and News are available on our [website](#).

Saratoga County History Center

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