

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Sharing History to Promote Community



Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum invites 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 gift for the history lover in your life!

Join or Renew Your Membership

Opening Hours

Great news! This summer, SCHC will be open to the public from Wednesday-Sunday, between Noon to 4 PM, and by appointment. Brookside will, however, be **CLOSED** on July 4th, in observance of **Independence Day**.

Call for Nominations: Saratoga County Public History Award

The Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum has issued a call for nominations for its fifth annual Saratoga County Public History Award. Each year, the SCHC confers the award on two individuals who have made a significant contribution in preserving, interpreting, researching, publishing, promoting or otherwise extending knowledge and understanding of the history of Saratoga County.

Previous winners of the Award have made significant and varied contributions to local history. Past honorees include Carol Godette and Jim Richmond (2022), Charles Kuenzel and Paul Perreault (2023) Priscilla Edwards and Pat Peck (2024), and Anne Clothier and Russ VanDervoort (2025). Nominations for the 2026 awards should be submitted by July 25, 2026. All nominations must be submitted online via Google Form at the link below. All nominations are encouraged, including those of past nominees who were not selected. If you have any questions, please contact us at info@brooksidemuseum.org

Saratoga County Public History Award Nomination Form

Our 6th Oral History Video Is Now Live

We are thrilled to share the 6th video from the One-Room Schoolhouse Oral History Project, now available on our YouTube channel. This episode features Bryan Clothier of Corinth, NY, who reflects on his time at Rock School #4 in Corinth, NY. His memories offer a sincere and insightful look into the daily life of students in a one-room schoolhouse and the community that shaped them.

This interview was conducted by Charlene DuBuque, with videography by Dave Waite. Background music: *Ice Cream* by Scott Buckley (CC-BY 4.0). You can watch the full video at the link below.

This project marks the beginning of a growing collection of stories that preserve and celebrate the history of education in our region. We look forward to sharing many more interviews in the months ahead. If you would like to help support or sponsor the One-Room Schoolhouse Oral History Project, please contact Charlene at charlene@brooksidemuseum.org. Your support helps us continue documenting and preserving these important community memories.

Watch Memories of Corinth's Rock School #4 with Bryan Clothier

Our Thanks to Our New Corporate Sponsor

We are incredibly grateful to Granite & Marble Works for their very generous support of Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum. By becoming a Mohawk Level partner of the SCHC, Granite & Marble Works sustains our work and supports our mission of connecting history and community across Saratoga County. Together, we are building a stronger community. Please join us in thanking Granite & Marble Works for their support.

If your organization would like to become a corporate sponsor at Saratoga County History Center, please contact us at director@brooksidemuseum.org. To see a full list of our corporate sponsors, please scroll to the end of this email.



A New Senior Membership Option

Thanks to the support of a generous donor, active members of the Saratoga Springs Senior Center can now join the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum at a discounted rate. With this special \$15 Senior Membership, you will receive all of the benefits of membership at Brookside, including our quarterly newsletter, exclusive, members-only tours and programs, advance notification of

events, and bi-weekly articles focused on historical topics. This opportunity is exclusively available to active members of the Saratoga Springs Senior Center. Become a member today!

Join Today

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](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

George III: America's Last King

Wednesday, July 8, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Jim Sefcik will examine the King's background and personal life, especially those who influenced him the most, his role during the War for American Independence, two events during that time that he had to deal with in addition to the war, and his health leading to his ultimate demise. He was king from 1760 to 1820! And although a Hanoverian as were his 2 immediate predecessors, George regarded himself as an Englishman through and through. Was he a womanizer? Was he "mad"? How was he regarded by his subjects? Free with registration.

[Register Now for George III: America's Last King](#)

Seeing Ballston Spa: An Observational Sketching Journey

Sunday, July 12, July 19 and July 26, 12:00-3:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Join this three-week sketching program to explore the village of Ballston Spa through watercolor and ink. From nature and architecture to a guided downtown sketch walk, you'll build skills while discovering the village in a creative new way. No experience needed, all materials are provided, all skill levels welcome. Registration fee is \$60 per person for all three sessions.

[Register Now for Seeing Ballston Spa: An Observational Sketching Journey](#)

A Bastille Day Celebration

Tuesday, July 14, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Travel to Paris, without leaving Brookside. Celebrate the French national day with creative activities and French vibes. Make your own, aromatic lavender sachet, sample fine French cheeses, and enjoy the sounds and songs of a Parisian cafe. Browse travel guides for Paris and France, and select a postcard as a souvenir of the evening. Enjoy a night à la française at Brookside! Member tickets are \$8, non-

member tickets are \$12.

Purchase Your Ticket for A Bastille Day Celebration

SCHC Reads: Revolution Song: A Story of American Freedom

Thursday, July 16, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Join us for the third meeting of our new history Book Club at the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum. This year, in honor of America's 250th, we will be reading books that explore the unfolding and impact of the American Revolution. Our next meeting will be held on **July 16, 2026 at 6 PM**, where we will be discussing *Revolution Song: A Story of American Freedom* by Russell Shorto. Free with registration.

Register Now for SCHC Reads: Revolution Song: A Story of American Freedom

Sounds in Summer

Sunday, July 19, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

The Ballston Spa Sounds of Summer Concerts are celebrating a sixth year. Started at the end of the Pandemic, these popular concerts feature the "Jazz Ambassadors," performing under the leadership of Dennis Searles. All of the participating musicians are from the Greater Capital District. The Ambassadors will be performing in a variety of Jazz genres and showtunes from the beautiful and acoustically good, front porch of the Brookside Museum. Admission is free. This concert is sponsored by a unique partnership between The Saratoga History Center at Brookside Museum, Saratoga Arts, the Music Performance Trust Fund of the American Federation of Musicians and the Village of Ballston Spa. Audience members are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic dinner. The lawn is shady after 5! This event is free and open to the public.

Take A Walk in the Park-with History!

Wednesday, July 22, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

Anchor Diamond Park : 1-17 Middleline Rd, Ballston Lake

Join Ballston Town Historian Rick Reynolds for a historic walking tour of Anchor Diamond Park, corner of Route 50 and Middleline Rd., Ballston Lake. (2.5 miles north of the Burnt Hills intersection of Rt 50 and Lakehill Rd.) The presenting sponsor of this walking tour is Ballston Spa National Bank. The walk will be about 2 miles walking on flat trails. Wear clothing appropriate for the weather; bug spray and good footwear recommended.

Register Now for Take A Walk in the Park-with History!

The French and Indian War in the Adirondacks

Wednesday, July 22, 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

In the mid-1750s, New York was caught in the crossfire as the British and French struggled for control of North America. During the French and Indian War, the Adirondack Mountain region saw numerous military encounters around Lakes George and Champlain while Sir William Johnson, Robert Rogers, John Stark, Phineas Lyman, and others carved their names in the annals of American history. Powerful

fortifications rose and fell as the English and the French brawled; forts such as Fort William Henry, Fort Ticonderoga, and Fort Saint-Frederic/Fort Crown Point housed troops, endured sieges, and received their own battle scars over the course of the war. Author Marie Danielle Annette Williams uncovers the complex history of the Adirondacks during its most tumultuous time.

Register Now for The French and Indian War in the Adirondacks

Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center: A Members Tour

Thursday, July 30, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Join us for a visit to our friends in Waterford! Mike Munsey, director of the Waterford History Museum and Cultural Center, will guide SCHC members on a tour of this historic building and museum. Enjoy their current temporary exhibition and spend time with your fellow members on this exploration at WHMCC. Tickets are \$6.

Register Now for Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center: A Members Tour

Discovering George Foster Peabody with Glenn Underwood

Thursday, August 6, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Glenn Underwood is an artist, author, and historian from Upstate New York whose family operates Twin Birches Cottages in Lake George, a property that stands on the former grounds of Abenia, the summer estate of banker and philanthropist George Foster Peabody. In 2017, Underwood began a research journey at the New York Public Library's Brooke Russell Astor Reading Room for Rare Books and Manuscripts, where he examined the Yaddo Records and George Foster Peabody files. What began as an effort to find photographs or documents connecting Peabody to the land now home to Twin Birches soon evolved into a much larger discovery. The culmination of this research is Underwood's new book, *Discovering George Foster Peabody*, a comprehensive work that brings together archival research, correspondence, and rare photographs to reintroduce one of New York's most quietly influential figures to modern readers.

Register Now for Discovering George Foster Peabody with Glenn Underwood

Experts Next Door: New York's Great Lost Ballparks

Thursday, August 13, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Live on Zoom

Musician and researcher Bob Carlin joins us to discuss his latest book. *New York's Great Lost Ballparks* tells the story of New York playing grounds and ballparks of yesteryear. Organized by region and city, the book includes a complete list of New York's historic ballparks in an easy-to-read guidebook format. Each listing includes the name and location of the park, the years in operation, the names of the professional clubs that called it their home, the park's seating capacity, and a "Fun Fact" or two that distinguishes each locale. Bob will discuss some of his favorite discoveries, and share more about the great lost ballparks across NYS.

Register Now for END: New York's Great Lost Ballparks

Experts Next Door: Lavender, Red, White, and Blue: Sites of LGBTQ Revolution in NYS**Thursday, August 27, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM****Live on Zoom**

In accordance with the United States Semiquincentennial, Dr. Jeff Iovannone, an expert in LGBTQ heritage conservation, will move beyond standard narratives of American revolution and urban LGBTQ history to highlight sites of LGBTQ revolution across New York State. Taken collectively, these sites evidence New York State's rich LGBTQ heritage, the contributions of LGBTQ people in shaping New York's history, and the fact that LGBTQ and American history are one and the same. This event is co-sponsored by *Saratoga Pride* and the *Pride Stories Collaborative*.

Register Now for END: Lavender, Red, White and Blue

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

Other Upcoming History Events:**Revolutionary Road Trip: National Book Release & Saratoga Screening****Tuesday, June 30, 6:00 PM****Universal Preservation Hall, 25 Washington St, Saratoga Springs**

The Campaign for Saratoga 250, supported by Capital Repetory Theatre's Neighbors for Neighbors program, invites you to a premier program commemorating Saratoga's Revolutionary heritage. Join us to celebrate America's upcoming 250th birthday upon the national book release date of "Revolutionary Road Trip," featuring a special evening with Emmy Award-nominated travel show host and author, Darley Newman. Ticket options include a copy of the book at a special discounted price, along with access to author book signings with Darley Newman.

Purchase Your Tickets For Revolutionary Road Trip

Women & Children in the American Revolution**Thursday, July 2, 1:00 PM****Ulysses S. Grant State Historic Site, 1000 Mt. McGregor Rd, Gansevoort/Wilton**

Join Anne Clothier as she explores the experiences of women and children during the fight for American Independence. Discover the lives of those on the homefront through stories from those who lived in the Saratoga area during the 1770s, as well as images, maps, documents, and hands-on 18th-century activities.

More Information on Women & Children in the American Revolution

Fourth of July Citizenship Ceremony & Concert**Saturday, July 4, 10:00 AM****Saratoga National Historical Park Visitor Center, 648 Route 32, Stillwater**

Celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by welcoming ten new citizens of the United States! The event will include a special musical program featuring members of the Racing

City Chorus and a reading of the Declaration of Independence.

America's 250th Independence Day with Saratoga 250

Saturday, July 4

Saratoga Race Course, 267 Union Ave, Saratoga Springs

Celebrate America's 250th Independence Day in true Saratoga style at the historic Saratoga Race Course! Join Saratoga 250 on July 4th for a patriotic community gathering that honors our nation's founding and the region's pivotal role in American history. Enjoy a festive atmosphere filled with tradition, pride, and celebration at one of Saratoga's most iconic landmarks and a reading of the Declaration of Independence. It's a once-in-a-lifetime way to mark this milestone anniversary together.

Sharing the Spirit of America – Simultaneous Reading of the Declaration of Independence

Wednesday, July 8, 5:30 PM

Saratoga County Complex 40 McMaster St. Ballston Spa

To commemorate the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8, 1776, 'Sharing the Spirit of America' is the simultaneous reading of the Declaration of Independence across the country (and around the world) 250-years later, 'together' at the 'same' time. Please join us at the Veteran's Memorial outside the Saratoga County Clerk's Office for this event.

More Information on A Simultaneous Reading

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society Car Show & Live Music in the Park

Saturday, July 11, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Middle Grove Town Park, 428 Middle Grove Road, Middle Grove

Bring along your family, friends, and folding chairs and enjoy the talented musicians who have donated their time to benefit our Historical Society. Vendors, Bake Sale, Food and Drinks available for purchase.

Escape from Slavery Family Program

Saturday, July 18, 12:30 PM

Parks-Bentley Place, 53 Ferry Boulevard, South Glens Falls

On Saturday, July 18, the Moreau and South Glens Falls Historical Society will hold a special family program that walks visitors through the trials and tribulations that slaves might have faced along the Underground Railroad. The program for children and adults gives insights into what a truly arduous trip north many slaves faced as they sought freedom. Children will be able to dress in period clothing, use farming utensils like those from the period, and even visit the space in the Parks-Bentley house where it is believed runaway slaves may have been hidden from those seeking to return them to the South. While some scholars refute the use of specific quilts as signals for escaping slaves, there are other traditions that believe this activity was part of the Underground Railroad. The Parks-Bentley program includes the quilt-signaling as a piece of a long oral history of the use of such quilts.

The Escape from Slavery event begins at 12:30 pm and is free to the public, although donations are appreciated. Contributions go toward programs and building renovations at the historic 53 Ferry Boulevard house in South Glens Falls that serves as the Society's headquarters.

More Information on Escape From Slavery

Phyllis Chapman Portrays Dolley Madison

Wednesday, August 5, 6:00 PM

Waterford Historical Museum & Cultural Center, 2 Museum Lane, Waterford

Join WHMCC as Phyllis Chapman of Vintage Visitors Presentations Portrays Dolley Madison and discusses her life and times. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Light refreshments will be served.

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](#).

Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors



Saratoga County History Center

21 Fairground Avenue

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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