

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

Summer Opening Hours

SCHC will be open to the public from Wednesday-Sunday, between Noon to 4 PM, and by appointment.

Work in Progress at SCHC

Kevin Holmes Painting of Saratoga Springs is now at work painting the exterior of our historic building, helping us to preserve Brookside Museum for generations to come. We extend our thanks to the team at Allerdice Ace Hardware & Building Supply for providing the paint and supplies for this much-needed project. And thank you to all of those who donated to our Annual Appeal for making this work possible. Thanks to you, we are able to perform this important work to protect and preserve our historic museum building.





Our 8th Oral History Video Is Now Live

We are thrilled to share the 8th video from the One-Room Schoolhouse Oral History Project, now available on our YouTube channel. This episode features Chuck & Ruth Quinlan of Galway, NY, who reflect on their time at Bell Road School #11 in Galway, NY and Finley Road School #8 in Milton, NY. Their 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.

Watch Memories of Bell & Finley Road Schools w/Chuck & Ruth Quinlan

Our Thanks to Our New Corporate Sponsor

We are incredibly grateful to Adirondack Trust Company for their very generous support of Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum. By becoming a Mohawk Level partner of the SCHC, Adirondack Trust Company 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 Adirondack Trust Company 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.



ADIRONDACK
TRUST COMPANY

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](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Barbecue Fundraiser

Friday, October 2, 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Include Brookside Museum in your dinner plans for Friday, October 2nd, order some delicious Millers Backyard Barbecue and pick it up from Brookside Museum. Chicken and pulled pork dinners are available for \$16.00 and beef brisket dinners for \$21.00 (beef brisket by pre-order only). All dinners include baked potato, coleslaw and corn bread. An 8 oz. serving of mac & cheese is also available for \$5.00. Drive-thru pickup/take out only.

[Purchase Your Dinners in Advance](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

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*

Three Sisters Festival

Sunday, August 16, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Join us for the Third Annual Three Sisters Festival: A Celebration of Native American Culture, honoring the rich traditions, history, and heritage of our local indigenous communities. Festival highlights include captivating stories and traditional Native American lore presented by renowned storyteller Joseph Bruchac, Ph.D., an exhibit of Native American crafts and artifacts, and a guided tour of Brookside's Three Sisters Garden.

Visitors can also enjoy a bake sale supporting the museum's historically themed gardens, as well as freshly popped popcorn and refreshing herbal iced tea. The festival's featured presenter, Joseph Bruchac, Ph.D., is an award-winning author, poet, storyteller, and former Saratoga Springs Poet Laureate whose Abenaki heritage has inspired much of his work. Admission is free, but advance registration is recommended.

Register Now for *Three Sisters Festival*

Front Street Art Fair

Saturday, August 22, 12:00 PM-4:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

During the Front Street Art Fair, drop into Brookside for a special afternoon of art and music. On our front porch, coloring pages will be available for children and adults. Inside the museum, families and children can visit the History Hunters Hangout and play with historical games, clothing and toys. Visitors can enjoy the cool and quiet of our galleries, and visit our temporary exhibition, *Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland, A Legacy*. Stroll through our historically themed gardens as ambient music plays, creating a sensory experience, and see the new offerings in our museum shop, created by local artisans and crafters. This event is free and open to the public.

Sounds in Summer: The Jazz Ambassadors

Sunday, August 23, 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 front porch of the Brookside Museum. 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.

Saratoga & the Civil War: The 115th "Iron-Hearted Regiment" at War

Wednesday, August 26, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

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, the 115th regiment 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.” Learn of their unique experiences as they traveled from Upstate New York to Virginia and on to the Deep South and back. Discover the battles they faced on the front line and those experienced from within. This is the second in the *Americans At War* series presented by the History Center during 2026. This talk is presented with the support of Adirondack Trust Company.

Register Now for *Saratoga & the Civil War: The 115th “Iron-Hearted Regiment” at War*

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: Sites of LGBTQ Revolution in NYS*

Songs and Sounds of the Anti-Rent Movement in Upstate New York, with Nancy Newman

Sunday, August 30, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Upstate New York's Anti-Rent Movement is considered the last struggle over feudalism in the United States. Tenant farmers in the Hudson-Mohawk region engaged in organized protest throughout the 1840s to contest monopoly ownership of the land they worked. Arguing their cause in newspapers, on broadsides, and at rallies, their aspirations also took shape in poetry and song.

More than twenty sets of lyrics (and one instrumental composition) were written at various stages of the conflict. Some of their musical sources, such as "Old Dan Tucker" and "Bruce's Address," are still well known. Each song offers insight into the role vernacular music played in one of the nineteenth century's major social reform movements. This is the first book to gather the poetry and corresponding tunes into one publication. During this talk, discussion of this major 19th-century reform movement will be interspersed with Anti-Rent songs from broadsides and newspapers. This talk is presented with the support of Adirondack Trust Company.

Register Now for *Songs and Sounds of the Anti-Rent Movement in Upstate New York*

America at 250: History Trivia Night

Tuesday, September 1, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa

Calling all history buffs! Put your knowledge to the test at SCHC. Inspired by America's 250th, join us for a Trivia Night focused on American history. Compete with old friends and new on your knowledge of American history, geography and popular culture. Among the question categories will be the

American Revolution, the American Presidency, Local History, and American Popular Culture. Featuring our host, Sean Kelleher, Vice Chair of Saratoga 250 and Town of Saratoga Historian. Throughout the night, try your luck with a 50-50 raffle, enjoy snacks and drinks, and win fun prizes! Tickets are \$10 with a soft drink and \$15 with a beer. Beer will be provided by Active Ingredient Brewing Company.

Purchase Your Tickets for *America at 250: History Trivia Night*

Waterford Revolutionary War Tour

Wednesday, September 2, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

Peebles Island Visitor Center, 1 Delaware Ave Cohoes, NY 12047

Longtime Waterford Town Historian Russ VanDervoort will lead this walk through Waterford Revolutionary War history. The tour begins at the Visitors Center on Peebles Island, the staging point for American troops during the War, including the Breastworks designed by Tadeusz Kosciuszko. Crossing the bridge into Waterford, we will visit the sites of Revolutionary war taverns and the route of the General Knox Artillery Train.

This event is now SOLD OUT. To join the waitlist, please email info@brooksidemuseum.org or call 518-885-4000.

Discovering George Foster Peabody with Glenn Underwood

Wednesday, September 9, 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. This talk is presented with the support of Adirondack Trust Company.

Register Now for *Discovering George Foster Peabody with Glenn Underwood*

SCHC Reads: 1777: Tipping Point at Saratoga

Thursday, September 10, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa

Join us for the fourth meeting of our new history Book Club at the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum, where we will be discussing *1777: Tipping Point at Saratoga* by Dean Snow.

Register Now for *SCHC Reads: 1777: Tipping Point at Saratoga*

A Walk Through Luther Forest

Thursday, September 17, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM

100 Acre Woods, Luther Forest Blvd, Malta

Michael Gaige, an ecologist and Saratoga County native, will lead a tour of the 100 Acre Wood Trail System in Malta, New York. Together we will explore this publicly accessible trail on the Luther Forest Technology Campus, and gain an appreciation for the natural world around us. This walking tour is supported by a grant from the J.M. McDonald Foundation.

Register Now for *A Walk Through Luther Forest*

A Force of Nature: Paul Schaefer's Adirondack Coalitions with David Gibson

Thursday, September 24, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

A staunch advocate for the Adirondack Park, activist and writer Paul Schaefer deeply influenced conservation policy in New York State. His work and writing inspired countless conservationists, with his tireless efforts paving the way for the protection of “forever wild” forests in the Wilderness Act of 1964. Until his death in 1996, Schaefer continued to strive to instill the same care for the Adirondacks in the next generation. *A Force for Nature* is a testament to that lifetime of advocacy, community, and life in the Adirondacks. This talk is presented with the support of Adirondack Trust Company.

Register Now for *A Force of Nature*

Heart of Dublin Tour

Wednesday, September 30, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Gideon Putnam Burying Ground, 59 S Franklin St, Saratoga Springs

Mary Ann Fitzgerald, retired Saratoga Springs City Historian and co-founder of the West Side Oral Narrative Project, will lead this journey back in time. The tour will begin at the Putnam Burial Ground on South Franklin Street then over to Grand Avenue for traces of the early Irish Community including family businesses, fraternal organizations and festivals that radiate out from the intersection of Beekman & Oak Street in the heart of Dublin.

Register Now for *Heart of Dublin Tour*

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

Other Upcoming History Events:**American Dreams with Brian Stokes Mitchell**

Friday, August 7, 7:30 PM

108 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga Center for the Performing Arts, Saratoga Springs

Returning to SPAC for the first time since 2014, two-time Tony® Award-winning Broadway star **Brian Stokes Mitchell** leads an “American Dreams” program, highlighted by his narration of **Aaron Copland's *Lincoln Portrait*** — a stirring reflection on unity, equality, and democratic responsibility. In honor of America's 250th anniversary, the program also pays tribute to Marian Anderson's landmark performance of the work at SPAC 50 years ago, linking past and present in a celebration of American ideals.

The evening continues with Broadway favorites, including “**Wheels of a Dream**” from *Ragtime*, the role Mitchell originally brought to life, “**The Impossible Dream**” (*Man of La Mancha*), and Iryna Aleksiychuk’s *Go Where the Wind Takes You...*, dedicated to the courageous women of Ukraine, before concluding with Dvořák’s *Symphony No. 9*, a masterwork inspired by American musical traditions and the nation’s evolving identity. Together, these works honor the past while inspiring hope for the future.

Purchase Your Tickets for *American Dreams* with Brian Stokes Mitchell

Turning Point Festival

Saturday, August 8, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Kings Station, 4000 Rt 9N, Greenfield Center

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society will hold their 16th Annual Caboose Day at Kings Station 4000 Rt 9N on Saturday, Aug 8, 2026 from 10 am to 3 pm. This is a rain or shine event. The Train Station & Caboose will be open for tours. Vendors, bake sale, Greenfield History book, T-shirts, food, and drink will be for sale. A Scavenger Hunt for all ages, Kids events throughout the day. Many Train events planned. Also book a train ride from “Corinth Station to Kings” or the Special “Greenfield Flyer” by visiting CorinthTrain.com

Turning Point Festival

Saturday, August 8, 4:00 PM

Fort Hardy Park, Schuylerville

In a village where redcoats once marched and cannon echoed across the Hudson, history is not a footnote—it’s a festival. Enjoy food, music, and family fun at this celebration of the American Revolution’s turning point.

Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation: Sunday Stroll: Find Me in Congress Park

Sunday, August 9, 10:30 AM

Congress Spring, Congress Park, Saratoga Springs

Join Patrice Mastrianni as she shares facts, folklore, and tales about Congress Park where visitors came to socialize and sip its famed natural spring waters. Based on research from her recent children’s book, *Find Me in Saratoga*, Patrice will share the history of the many landmarks located in Congress Park, and the fascinating characters who shaped this National Historic Landmark.

For More Information and To Purchase Tickets

Summer Walking Tours: Dining Out

Friday, August 14, 11:00 AM

Chapman Museum, 348 Glen Street, Glens Falls

Inspired by our 2025 exhibition, “Dining Out”, this tour highlights local restaurants, past and present, that have shaped our region and filled our stomachs. We will be discussing the history of these special places, including their original owners, the food they served, and more. Tours are \$20/person or \$15 for Chapman members. Payment is required at time of registration. A minimum of four participants are required for tours to run and no more than 15 participants per tour. To register, please call (518)793-2826.

Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation: Sunday Stroll: Mom & Pops of the East Side

Sunday, August 16, 10:30 AM**Intersection of North and East Harrison Streets, Saratoga Springs**

Carol Godette will lead a tour through a concentrated area of the East Side that once teemed with neighborhood shops and markets, sharing the history of these stores and their owners. More than milk and bread, these shops fostered entrepreneurship and a sense of community. Through her tireless research, Carol's will bring not only the stores to life, but also the people behind their counters..

For More Information and To Purchase Tickets

Fall Trip to Hildene**September 24, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM****Pruyn House, 207 Old Niskayuna Road PO Box 1254, Latham**

The Colonie Historical Society and the Friends of Pruyn House are very excited to announce a Fall Trip to Hildene, the Lincoln Family home in Manchester, Vt. We will have lunch at the Publyk House and then visit the Bennington Museum. The date is Thursday, September 24th. Call 518-783-1435 for more information and to reserve your spot.

Summer Ghost Tours of the Canfield Casino**Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, July 1 - August 31, 11:00 AM****Saratoga Springs History Museum, 1 E. Congress Street, Saratoga Springs**

This summer, the Saratoga Springs History Museum invites brave visitors back into the shadows for another season of chilling stories, eerie encounters, and supernatural secrets with the Summer Ghost Tours of the Canfield Casino. Step away from the sunshine and into one of Saratoga's most mysterious historic landmarks, where every grand room, quiet hallway, and hidden corner may hold a story that refuses to rest.

Once the glittering heart of Saratoga's Gilded Age social scene, the Canfield Casino welcomed gamblers, socialites, politicians, performers, and visitors from around the world. But behind the elegance and glamour lies a darker side of history. Over the years, the Casino has become known for its ghostly legends, unexplained happenings, and lingering spirits — even earning recognition as one of America's Most Terrifying Places, as featured on the Travel Channel.

Led by our museum storytellers, guests will explore the haunted halls of the historic Canfield Casino while hearing real accounts of ghost sightings, strange sounds, mysterious footsteps, flickering lights, and tragic tales from Saratoga's past. This isn't just a history tour — it's haunted history.

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society**440 Middle Grove Road, Middle Grove**

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society will have their Museum open this summer on Thursdays, July 9 through Sept 3, 2026 from 4 - 6 PM. Two stories of artifacts with connections to the town of Greenfield. Stop over after to the Greenfield Farmers Market, next door, in Middle Grove Park and visit us at our tent. Grab a bit to eat. Admission is free.

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](#).

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TOYOTA

NEW COUNTRY
TOYOTA OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

Saratoga County History Center

21 Fairground Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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