

Thursdays - Spring 2023

TH4: Live Irish Music

Thurs. May 11; 3-4 pm

Sanctuary area - United Methodist Church, Church Str., Cobleskill, NY

Beth Brandel

Min 5 / Max 32

Kick up your heels with a live concert featuring Irish Music played by Beth Brandel on violin and Kathy Kosier on guitar.

TH5: How to Create Jaw-Dropping, Traffic-Stopping, Get Your Neighbors Talking Gardens!

Ron Ketelsen

Thurs Mar. 16; 4-5:30 pm

Online - Zoom

Max 50+

Learn how to create lush gardens that will be the envy of the neighborhood! Join Master Gardener Ron Ketelsen as he shows you how to take your gardens from “blah” to “aaah.” He’ll start with the basics, plant choices for different site conditions, then proceed to new and unusual plant materials and uncommon container choices for stunningly beautiful results.

TH10: Journey of the Schoharie Creek

Thurs. May 25; 10:30 am-noon

Middleburgh Library Community Room

Paula S. Marshman

Min 2 / Max 45

We will enjoy an exploration of the Schoharie Creek as it travels from its source to the Mohawk River. The geomorphology of the valley and creek and how this affects our place in the area will be discussed. See how the Schoharie shaped history, agriculture and the unique villages and towns that all add to the region’s special perspective.

TH13: Google Sheets Basics

Thurs. Apr. 6, 13, 20; 1-2pm

Cornell Cooperative Extension

173 S. Grand Street, Cobleskill, NY

Mary Bristol

Min 2 / Max 15

Learn the basics of Google Sheets over the course of 3 sessions. Topics include: What is Google Sheets? Creating a Google Sheet, Calculating, Editing and Formulating Sheets; Sorting and Organizing your Data, Filtering Data and Creating Charts and Graphs

Students need to bring: Laptop computer and Google Account (and remember your Password)

TH29: BARN QUILTS: Folk Art to Modern Obsession

Thurs. Apr. 20; 10:30-11:30 am

Middleburgh Library Community Room

Ginny Schaum

Min 8/ Max 30

The Schoharie County Quilt Barn Trail was started in 2012 as part of economic recovery from the extensive flooding caused by Hurricane Irene. It was designed to encourage tourism to the ravaged region by taking people off highways to explore life on rural back roads.

Did you know that the Schoharie Quilt Barn Trail is a microcosm of the National Quilt Trail Movement? Are the stories you have heard about barn quilts fact or fiction? Is there a documented definition of a barn quilt? Has painting barn quilts become an American obsession?

In an interactive program, author Ginny Schaum will answer these questions and more. She will leave you exclaiming, "Wow! I didn't know that!"

Note: This is Not a class on how to construct a barn quilt.

Also: Books will be available for purchase afterwards: "Barn Quilts: Folk Art to Modern Obsession".

TH38: Master Gardener- Guided CCE Garden & Composting Tour

Albany Master Gardeners

Thurs. May 11; 10 am-noon

24 Martin Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186

(Rain Date May 18 at 10am)

Twenty garden areas demonstrating different types of gardens, including Shade, native plants, low maintenance, herb, vegetable, children's etc. There is also a compost area demonstrating different types of composting including worm, green, keyhole etc. Albany County Master Gardeners will be available for questions. Bring lunch to eat at the gazebo in the gardens.

Fee: \$4 fee payable to SCHOOL with your registration.

Sign up and pay by 4/28; no refund after 4/28.

TH43: The Korean Armistice and Aftermath

Thurs. March 9; 5 - 6:30 pm

SUNY-Cobleskill: Warner 110

Dr. Salvador Rivera, PhD

Presentation will deal with events leading up to the Korean armistice, its provisions and present day complications, that prevent a permanent peace treaty between the two Korean states.

TH56: Michael Kudish Natural History Preserve- Guided Hike

Thurs. May 4; 1-4pm

2515 Tower Mt. Rd., Stamford, NY

(Rain date Tu May 16 at 1:30-4:30pm)

David Turan

A guided hike (about 1 mile) to the Upper Pasture to learn about plants and forest history. Additionally, a fun learning experience is our "Fantastic Flora Find", an educational, natural, scavenger hunt (to find as many of the 30 plants/trees as possible) with a twist.

MKNHP is an 101 acre preserve of protected land located in Stamford. The preserve supports a biologically rich and diverse population of flora and fauna. It shares the natural history of the Catskills forest since the end of the ice age. The preserve offers primitive temporary shelter to scientists, historians, artists, and the general public. It uses a combination of visual and performing arts to engage action by individuals and organizations.

Fee: free- but donations gratefully accepted

Directions: The Michael Khudish Natural History Preserve is on Tower Mountain Road, Churchill Mountain, in Stamford, N.Y. 12167. It is just south, uphill, from 2515 Tower Mountain Road, which is also called Mountain Avenue. It is located next to the Family Dollar on Rte. 23, which is Main Street. Go past the Cemeteries, past the 2515 mailbox, pass a pond on the right and shortly after that is an entrance into a field on the rRight. Park in the field.

TH59: Mahjongg

Every Thursday-all year; 1-4 pm

The Gathering Place

Linda Carpenter

Want to learn the game of Mahjongg? Mahjongg is a tile-based strategy game developed in China in the 19th century. We meet every Thursday at The Gathering Place. You do not need to be a member to join us. If you are new to the game, we will teach you. Come join us and learn an exciting new game!

TH68b: Smartphone Savvy- Iphone

#1- Tues. May 9; 3-4:30 pm at Middleburgh Library
and also

#2- Thurs. May 25; 3-4:30 pm at The Community Library /Cobleskill

Mary Carrier, MVLS (Mohawk Valley Library System)

Min 2 / Max 10

Gain confidence with your smartphone! Learn the basics about apps, settings, and general use. We will spend time on navigation and settings to customize your experience. Whether you use your phone for calls, text messages, email or searching on the internet, there is something here for everyone!

Participants should bring: Your smartphone. Apple ID & password (optional).

Note: The material covered at both sessions is essentially the same. However, due to the volume of material to be covered, or in case you want a refresher, participants can sign up for and attend one or both sessions.

TH71: Iroquois Museum Tour # 1**#1- Thurs. Apr. 6 at 10am****(and also #2- Tues. June 6 at 1 pm)**

Iroquois Museum, 324 Caverns Road, Howes Cave, NY 12092

Heather Livengood

Min 10

Our guided tours are led by Haudenosaunee educators. Participants will be introduced to foundational Iroquois history, philosophies, and creative expression. Women's roles and responsibilities, traditional lesson stories, the clan system, formation of the Iroquois Confederacy, early hunting methods, and Iroquois participation in the U.S. military may be part of your presentation. And of course, a lively Q & A is always included. Programs can be personalized to fit your interests, time frame, and physical ability.

Fee: \$5.50 for members, for each session Payable to SCHOOL with registration.

Note: The material covered at both sessions is essentially the same. However, due to the volume of material to be covered, or in case you want a refresher, participants can sign up for and attend one or both sessions.

TH75: Coin Collecting**Thurs. Mar 16; 10-11:30 am**

St. Vincent de Paul Church , 138 Washington Ave., Cobleskill, NY

Stephen Kosier

Min 5 / Max 15

This course is designed to give a person an introduction to the joy of coin collecting. The instructor will talk about how he got started collecting coins and will show some of his coin collection. Participants will have time to ask questions.

TH79: Book Talk: Skohere and the Birth of New York's Western Frontier 1607 - 1731, Volumes I and II**Thurs. June 15; 6-7 pm**

SUNY-Cobleskill: Warner 110

Jeff O'Connor

The Skohere and the Birth of New York's Western Frontier 1609-1731 trilogy ultimately ends with the Palatine experience in the Schoharie Valley and how they sparked the greatest westward expansion in New York provincial history. But this is not really a series about the Palatines; it is a biography of the people and events that helped shape the Schoharie Valley's earliest colonial history. The world the Palatines stepped into was a century in the making, a century that has been lost in local Schoharie County history. Until now.

Volume one spans 1609-1686, recounting explorers, missionaries, politicians, native peoples, and so many others who are connected to the Schoharie Valley. This volume culminates with the first attempt to purchase land by a man whose real name and biography are revealed for the first time. Volume II, which should be completed and printed by this time, picks up as New York, as well as many people connected to the Schoharie Valley, becomes entangled in the aftermath of the Glorious Revolution that placed William & Mary on the throne of England. Among others, this volume follows the eventful career of the first man to succeed in purchasing land in the Schoharie Valley, Nicholas Bayard, a career that involves rebellion, land fraud, piracy, and treason. The volume ends with the re-entry of Mohawks into the Schoharie Valley after an absence of a century and spans 1687-1702.

Fee: There is no fee for the class. Books will be available for sale, by cash or check, after the class. Books are also available at Catnap Books, Cobleskill, Schoharie Valley Farms, Schoharie, Old Stone Fort Museum, Schoharie, Fort Plain Museum and Historical Park, Fort Plain, and also online, and at www.turningpoint1777.com, online store.

TH88: Schoharie Crossing Tour and Hike or Bike

Thurs. June 8; 1-4 pm

129 Schoharie Street, Ft.Hunter, NY

Kathy Livingston and David Brooks (NYS Parks)

Min 2 / Max 40

Join us to explore the scenic Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, which is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the Erie Canal as one of the 19th century's greatest commercial and engineering projects. The Visitor Center exhibits trace the history of the Erie Canal and its impact on the growth of New York State and the nation. Within the site's boundaries are many structures dating from the three eras of the canal's development. At the eastern end of the site, Putman's Lock Stand houses an exhibit on Erie Canal stores. The site's largest structure is the remains of the Schoharie Aqueduct, which carried the water of the Enlarged Erie Canal over the Schoharie Creek.

Schoharie Crossing is also the location of 18th century Fort Hunter and the Lower Castle Mohawk village. See artifacts from that portion of our history on display at the Visitor Center.

Optional: Hike or bike along the canal towpath from the site to the Yankee Hill lock (2.5 miles); Pickup there or return the same way.

Participants should bring: Comfortable walking shoes, water, snacks, cell phone. Drive yourself to the site. Bring a bike, if you want.

Fee: Tours are \$3 per person; Payable to SCHOOL with registration.

Directions: 129 Schoharie Street, Ft.Hunter, NY 12069 near the confluence of the Schoharie Creek and Mohawk River. *Latitude* 42.939854 *Longitude* -74.283005. From Schoharie County, head north on State Highway 30A/NY-30A. Turn Right on County Highway 122 (Auriesville Rd) for 2.9 miles. Turn right on NY-5S/State Highway 5S for 2.4 miles. Turn on County Hwy 27 (Main Street) for 0.3 miles. Turn left on Railroad Street for 0.2 miles. Road name changes to Schoharie Street.

TH93: Dutch Settlement Cemetery w/ Pinksters - Schoharie

Thur. June 1; 1-3 pm

Cotton Hill Rd X Brooky Hollow Road, Middleburgh

Kathy Livingston

(Rain Date: TBD)

Min 2 / Max 40

An overgrown cemetery at the corner of Cotton Hill Road X Brooky Hollow Road (town of Middleburgh) was painstakingly recovered from the wild almost single handedly by Tess Garner. Learn her story of rediscovery and see what we can learn about the souls buried there. If our timing is right we can marvel at the pinksters and other flowers in bloom again, now that they have been brought back into the light. We also can incorporate a hike to a section of the nearby Long Path.

Participants should bring: Sturdy walking shoes, hiking pole, bug spray, cell phone

Directions: Head south on State Route 145 to Middleburgh, NY. Continue through the village of Middleburgh on Route 145 (Main Street) and turn left onto Cotton Hill Road (if you get to the Middleburgh Diner, you have gone too far). Continue on Cotton Hill Rd for 4.3 miles (just past intersections of Brooky Hollow Road and Posson Road). Destination is on the right. No parking lot, so park along the edge of the road.

Note: This cemetery is also known as Cotton Hill Cemetery and some GPS systems may list it that way.

VICARIOUS VOYAGES

TH6: VV- The Many Fires of Sharon Springs

Thurs. Mar. 30; 4-5:30 pm

Online- ZOOM

Max 50+

Ron Ketelsen

The sheer number of fires in the Village of Sharon Springs is disconcerting to people who have lived here for years and witnessed not only the destruction and financial losses, but the vanishing architecture as well. Visitors come here and see the vacant lots where historic buildings once stood and question, "What happened to Sharon Springs?" Some buildings were massive and took up an entire block. In several cases, total blocks were lost to fire. The vacant lots in the lower Village and the gaps in the streetscapes are grim reminders of the splendid hotels, bathhouses and boarding houses that once stood there. The presentation is based on the Historical Society's latest book which documents the fires in the Village and the loss of historic buildings and unique architecture.

TH7: VV- The Adler Hotel - From Heyday to Present Day

Thurs. Mar. 23; 4-5:30 pm

Online- ZOOM

Max 50+

Ron Ketelsen

A detailed look at the last large hotel built in the historic Village of Sharon Springs, NY. - Join Sharon Historical Society's President Ron Ketelsen as he will take you on a virtual tour of the now-abandoned Adler Hotel in the small historic village of Sharon Springs, New York. This was the last of the large hotels built in the mineral resort spa town.

The Adler Hotel was the last of the large hotels in Sharon Springs to stay in operation before falling victim to desertion, deterioration, and vandalism.

Ron will also take you on a tour inside the hotel in its present state, the target of much destruction and graffiti.