

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHENECTADY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2019 - 2020

Minutes

Annual Meeting of the Schenectady County Historical Society April 27, 2019

President Bob Weible opened the annual meeting of the Schenectady County Historical Society at 1:32 p.m. in the Van Schaick Room of the George Franchere Education Center at the Mabee Farm Historic Site in Rotterdam Junction.

President Weible opened the floor to motions. Marianne Blanchard moved to approve the annual meeting minutes from last year and Chris Leonard seconded; passed unanimously.

President Weible said being president of this organization is not the hardest job, because we have such an exceptional staff and board members and volunteers. We seem to have a staff of twelve; although there are only six people they each do the work of two people. President Weible recognized each of the staff individually.

The organization owes its good welfare and stability to our exceptional Board of Trustees. By following our strategic plan, we will become a model for cultural organizations within New York State. We are a diverse, vital community and will be more so in the future, and the society is positioned to take advantage of that.

He thanked Treasurer John Halstead for keeping our finances in order.

President Weible recognized Board members who are leaving with plaques: Ann Aronson, Al Ferradino, Mike Karl and Jim Strosberg.

Ellen Fladger, chair of the Nominating Committee, spoke about new members. The current officers will continue in their roles: Bob Weible, Richard Lewis, John Halstead and Bob Sullivan. John Gearing and Bob Weible will return to the board. Mark Vermilyea and Philip Fields will be joining as new members.

Ellen called for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, she asked the members present to vote on the slate. Nominations were closed, and the motion carried unanimously.

John Gearing moved to adjourn and Mary Zawacki seconded; the motion carried at 1:46.

Executive Director Mary Zawacki introduced the speaker for the annual meeting, historian and author Dan Weaver, whose topic was Sir William Johnson, Sir Peter Warren and the Willigee Negroes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Robert Sullivan

(next page)

The Mabee Farm was decorated each season, inspiring us to develop and lead programs and tours that focus on seasonal aspects of the Farm.



President's Report

I am fairly certain that future generations will recognize the past year as a harbinger of momentous change in American history. We've been threatened by a deadly public health crisis and confronted by the growing need to broaden our understanding of social justice, equality, and the very nature of American democracy. And none of this will be resolved easily or quickly: it's even likely that some of it will challenge us for decades to come.

For the Schenectady County Historical Society, this is the year in which we began the long process of meeting that challenge. When the coronavirus pandemic struck in the spring of 2020, SCHS necessarily closed its doors to the public and quickly began developing an array of thoughtful and accessible online educational programs, undertaking new research and collections initiatives, and planning for the future. And when the Black Lives Matter movement came to Schenectady, we welcomed it as an opportunity to work together with African Americans—and others who may have been written out of yesterday's history books—and create a more inclusive history that will better serve the audiences of tomorrow.

In the short term, the pandemic has significantly affected our finances and the ways in which we do business. Fortunately, our financial base was—and is—strong, thanks to our Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee, John Halstead, and Carolina Lazzari, Marianne Blanchard, and the Investment Committee. With their leadership, we were able to maintain operations at a high level during the months that we were closed.

Here is a partial list of the highlights that our wonderful staff, led by Executive Director, Mary Zawacki, was able to accomplish this year:

- After six years, we completed a full inventory of the Museum's collections. Over 10,000 objects were inventoried, photographed, and located. This sets us on a great path forward in terms of understanding and interpreting our collection, as well as filling in gaps.

- We developed one major new permanent exhibition, "Farming the Valley," as well as two major temporary exhibitions, "Rural Modern" and "Handcrafted: The Folk and Their Art." "Handcrafted" is the first SCHS exhibition in a decade that has a companion catalog.

- We welcomed over 21,000 visitors to our sites, and tens of thousands more through robust digital outreach.

- SCHS was the recipient of a number of grants, including operations funding from the New York State Council on the Arts.

(Below)

Our popular Kayak Through History tours on the Mohawk River.

Suzy Fout preparing for a painted plate workshop, in conjunction with the Handcrafted exhibition.



Gardens at Mabee Farm



Visitors on the Stockade Walkabout



Northeast Theatre Ensemble's production at Brouwer House Creative.

- We hired a new Librarian, Marietta Carr, who has done a highly professional job organizing the Library and setting new precedents for policy and procedure.

It goes without saying that SCHS would not be the success story that it is without the hard work and contributions of our gifted volunteers and many members, as well as the generosity of the donors who have helped us maintain our operations and grow our endowment.

And lastly, let me recognize the many contributions and years of service of our three outgoing Board Members—Carolina Lazzari, Laura Lee, and former president Kim Mabee. It is a gross understatement to say that we will miss them all. At the same time, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our two incoming Board members: David J. LeBlanc and David Trestick. Both will be serving three year terms.

All of us look forward to another productive year in 2020-21.

-Robert Weible, President



Cornell Cooperative Extension was instrumental in reviving our herb garden at Mabee Farm

Executive Director's Report

Each year, the SCHS invites our community to question the historical narrative, to explore local historic places, and to develop a deeper understanding of the people, places, and cultures that make up Schenectady County. In these regards, 2019-2020 was a great success, and the numbers certainly show it. Without a doubt, a solid understanding of history is essential in navigating these tumultuous times. Armed with a deep understanding of the past, we are informed citizens of the present. History explains “why” and “how” the present came to be, enabling us to make better decisions about our shared future. And, perhaps most importantly, history expands our understanding of different people and different cultures. In understanding the struggles, the hopes, and the dreams of our predecessors, we are more empathetic citizens. Our minds are open to new possibilities, and to new ideas. In studying history, we see the bigger picture.

To this end, the SCHS has a difficult but vital mission. Embracing the necessity of history, we must make it interesting and relevant to everyone. Because history is for everyone, and everyone makes history. Have we been successful in helping our community engage with history? Again, the numbers certainly show that we have. In 2019-2020 SCHS offered over one hundred programs, each with a mission of engaging different, diverse members of our community. We welcomed over 21,000 visitors to our sites, and engaged with tens of thousands more people online. I hope every person who visited our sites, or interacted with us online, left with a heightened understanding of Schenectady history. That’s what we’re here for.

The success of 2019-2020 is largely thanks to SCHS’ passionate and dedicated staff, board, and volunteers, who put into practice the projects and goals outlined in our organization’s strategic plan. But none of this would have been possible, of course, without the support of our incredible membership. SCHS members are the soul of our organization, and we’re fortunate to have such dedicated students of local history in our community. Thank you, to every one of you who supports SCHS and local history.

Development

Grants: SCHS received a total of \$25,550 in grants this fiscal year.:

Capital District Library Council:	\$4,500
Schenectady County:	\$4,750
Erie Canalway Heritage Fund:	\$2,800
Broughton Charitable Foundation:	\$5,000
St George’s Lodge No 6:	\$2,000
New York Council on the Arts:	\$6,500



(left)
Great food, music, and company at the annual Farm to Fork dinner.

(right)
John Gearing presenting the ever-popular Drink the Seasons workshop.

Fundraisers: SCHS fundraisers grossed over \$43,000, including:

Arts & Crafts Festival	\$8,499
Farm to Fork	\$12,350
Festival of Trees	\$6,972
Concession & vendor fees	\$12,962

Donations: SCHS received 219 individual donations, amounting to a total of \$67,000.

Marketing and PR

Through the combined social media outlets of Facebook, Instagram, Mailchimp, and our website, we had a total of 1,641,000 clicks, opens, and impressions. The monthly average was approximately 137,000 impressions and opens. Our online following across all platforms increased +21%. Numerous SCHS initiatives were picked up throughout the year by news outlets. Highlights include:

New York Times: “In the Hudson Valley, a Drive Back in Time”

Daily Gazette: “An effort to save a popular old bird once connected to Schenectady’s now-gone Nicholas Building”

Times Union: “Historic Houses Play Key Role in Preserving Past”

Daily Gazette: “This Old House Repurposed”

Daily Gazette: “Historic Brouwer House has a new home for artists”

Local television stations visited us several times throughout the year to film pieces on our special events, with a lot of interest generated by the Festival of Trees. Beyond these examples, many smaller stories about SCHS programs appeared in the media throughout the year.

-Mary Zawacki, Executive Director



At the 2019 Farm to Fork, Executive Director Mary Zawacki and Educator Michael Diana posed for a picture with Representatives Angelo SantaBarbara and Paul Tonko.



The Grems-Doolittle Library, featuring a recent acquisition from the old Mohawk Club.

Grems-Doolittle Library and Archives

Library Use

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Library had over 500 visitors. The librarians and volunteers answered over 225 reference questions by email, mail, phone, and Facebook. In addition to our visitors and remote reference questions, we received 41,245 visits to the library's blog, over 3,800 visits to our New York Heritage Digital Collections, and 3,300 visits to our online catalog.

Volunteers

Our volunteers are vital to the library and we could not function as well without them. Volunteers have worked over 2,100 hours in the library this year. Volunteers assist the librarian with a wide range of projects, including: cataloging books, maps, and photographs, digitizing and describing photos, transcribing materials, creating indexes and finding aids, researching and writing blog posts, conducting genealogy research and assisting researchers, and rehousing collections. We also have a volunteer who has worked on several large grant funded projects and is responsible for making our collections available online. Three college students completed service-learning projects by volunteering in the library this year. Several new volunteers joined the library, bringing the total number of volunteers to seventeen.

Some of the projects completed by volunteers this year include: transcribing the Daniel Campbell letter books, compiling information on Schenectady's mayors, organizing the Mabee Farm records, scanning the John Papp photograph collection, scanning photos for the Natural Disasters collection on NY Heritage, scanning a set of oversize photos, indexing the Scotia maps, and researching and writing blog posts on Elizabeth Gillette, winter activities, area floods and others.

Grants & Donations

This year we received a grant for \$1,200 from the Capital District Library Council (CDLC). This grant will allow us to digitize items from the Historic Manuscripts Collection that document enslaved people in Schenectady County. Work on this grant is expected to start this summer and be completed by December. The collection will be added to the New York Heritage site.

We received a grant from Humanities New York to host a series of reading and discussion group events using their True Crime: An American Genre book set. Chris Leonard, Schenectady City Historian, and Bill Buell, Schenectady County Historian, facilitated the discussions which began in February.

Library Resources Online

The Library's online resources keep growing! We now have over 1,400 images on our New York Heritage Digital Collections website (<http://nyheritage.nynl>).

net/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16694coll45). New York Heritage is a research portal for anyone interested in learning more about the people, places, and institutions of New York State. It provides free access to more than 170 digital collections from various institutions in New York.

We currently have eight collections on our NY Heritage site: the Erie Canal Photograph Collection, the Grems-Doolittle Library 25th Anniversary Collection, Schenectady, NY Street Scenes, Sports and Recreation in Schenectady, the Wayne Tucker Postcard Collection, the Glen Family Letters, the Ellis Hospital Collection, and the newly digitized Natural Disasters in Schenectady County collection. Our NY Heritage collections received over 3,800 hits this past year. We plan to continue to growing this resource by adding materials to existing collections and creating new collections in the future.

We have continued to add new posts on the Grems-Doolittle Library Collections Blog, which can be found at <http://gremsdoolittlelibrary.blogspot.com>. The blog highlights collections from our Library as well as interesting pieces of local history. The blog received over 41,000 pageviews in the past year with 15 blog posts.

Collection Care & Preservation

The Library has continued to make progress this year in preserving collections of business records, organizational records, and personal papers by rehousing them in archival-quality boxes and folders. Collections rehoused and undergoing processing during this year include: Hamilton School Scrapbook collection, First Baptist Church, Schenectady City Schools attendance cards, St. David Welsh Society collection, and new additions to the Postcard collection.

Digitization is an important component of the library's operations. Digitizing materials contributes to collection care and preservation by reducing the need for physical handling of materials, increasing the metadata and description for individual items, and increasing access through our online resources. Collections and materials digitized during this year include: photos of floods and blizzards, scenes around Schenectady, oversized photos of the Erie Canal, John Papp Photograph Collection, SCHS minutes, and the Larry Hart Photograph collection.

The new HVAC system was installed in the spring and has greatly improved the climate of the library and archives. We continued the "re-inventory" of our archives. The goal of this project is to make sure every collection in the archives has a corresponding record in PastPerfect, our collection management software. This project will also allow us to see which collections need further care and organization and establish priorities for future processing.

New Library Resources, Donated and Purchased

This year, we accepted over 100 accessions of donated and purchased books, maps, photographs, genealogy research, ephemera and collections of personal/family papers and organizational records. New resources in the library include yearbooks, Everything Worthy of Observation, and Bridge Dams on the Mohawk. New accessions for the archives include scrapbooks, additions to the Don Ackerman Politics Collection, the Bill Davis Postcard Collection, the St. David Welsh Society Collection, the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Collection, audio recordings for the Mielke Collection, and a planning plot map of Duaneburg. We transferred the first half of the Schenectady Community Ministries (formerly Schenectady Inner City Ministry). We will arrange transfer of the second half in the coming months.

Library-Sponsored Programs and Outreach Activities

We sponsored several great programs and participated in several outreach events throughout the year. Library programs included Genealogy Day, Ask an Archivist Social Media Day, Local Municipal Historians Workshop, and speaker series talks by Judith Herbert and Professor Ken Aslakson.

We collaborated with Mike Diana, the Education and Program Manager, on a school program at 32 Washington Ave. for two classes of Niskayuna High School seniors. The program included a tour of the Stockade, a document analysis activity, a primary source research activity, time to research the library's collection, and research consultations with the librarian. We partnered with the New York State Archives Partnership Trust to provide primary sources to six local teachers and assist them in developing document-based lesson plans. The lesson plans will be used by the teachers in upcoming classes and shared on a state-wide teacher resource website sponsored by the Archives Partnership Trust.

Notes on the year:

Michael Maloney moved on to a new position in May 2019. Hannah Miller served as interim librarian in June and July 2019. Marietta Carr started as the new librarian in August 2019. The library's open hours and activities were adjusted to reflect the change in staff during the summer. Normal operations were interrupted in March when the COVID-19 pandemic caused statewide orders for nonessential organizations to close and employees to work from home.

- Marietta Carr, Librarian & Archivist

Utility

Folk artists were ordinary people who created utilitarian objects to meet the demands of daily life. Folk artists were carpenters, stonecutters, potters, blacksmiths, or farmers who expressed themselves through myriad forms and mediums.

Before the 1800s, this region was mostly farmland. Farmers eked out an existence from the land while traders negotiated with the Mohawk for furs. Local merchants and craftsmen set up shop in the Stockade's village center. In terms of social standing and wealth, the average Schenectadian was neither poor nor rich. Even the most notable landowners never quite rose to the level of wealth as those in nearby Albany.

Yet even out here in the "Woestyne" Schenectadians yearned for beauty. They incorporated art into their lives by infusing everyday objects with bright, bold colors and designs. Women stitched elaborate patterns in everything from bed coverings to wallets. Merchants painted jugs and pitchers to advertise their goods. Warm tavern signs welcomed weary guests to a cozy bed and a stiff drink. These kinds of utilitarian folk art express the exchange of cultural ideas, the region's trends, and the availability of materials here in Schenectady.

"Handcrafted: The Folk and Their Art" on display at 32 Washington Ave. The exhibition will remain up indefinitely.



Operations

Museum Overview

Together, the Museum staff has overseen the development and implementation of exhibits, programs, grants, and new initiatives at the Schenectady History Museum. The 2019-2020 year was successful, and the variety of programs attracted diverse audiences to the Museum. Feedback on programs and exhibitions was positive.

Mabee Farm Overview

In 2019 we unveiled a new permanent exhibition at the Mabee Farm, "Farming the Valley: Three Centuries at Mabee Farm." This exhibition fills a specific need at the Farm, serving as an orientation gallery to the site while exhibiting some of the Farm's most significant artifacts. We were also able to devote more attention to our farming practices, developing agricultural plans, and committing more time to the herb garden and kitchen garden. Staff also installed trail markers on the trails.

Brouwer House Overview

Our location at 14 North Church Street in the Stockade continued to develop this year, as we forged new partnerships and developed programs that suit the space. After several months of analysis and planning, the Brouwer House Committee submitted to the SCHS Board that the best use of the space is as art studios, or workshop space. The house's four studios were filled for the entire fiscal year, and the site attracted some media attention for its unique use. Most notable is the transformation of the site's garden, from a somewhat neglected and overgrown space to one blossoming with color every month of the year. This is entirely due to the hard work and vision of Christopher Kirksey, the site's gardener. The site is now formally known as "Brouwer House Creative."

Exhibits and Interpretation

In addition to installing a new, permanent orientation gallery at Mabee Farm, SCHS debuted two major exhibitions this year. "Handcrafted: The Folk and Their Art" opened at the Museum, and "Rural Modern" opened at the Mabee Farm. Both exhibitions have been indefinitely extended, due to COVID-19. Most notable, however, is that "Handcrafted" is accompanied by an exhibition catalog, featuring high quality images of the artifacts included in the exhibition. We believe this marks a step forward in the professionalism of SCHS' exhibitions.

Mabee Farm hosted three art installations in its downstairs gallery: "Farm to Canvas", "On & Off the Trail", and the "Rural Modern" preview. Union College students curated two small exhibitions at the Museum.

Off-site, SCHS staff developed two exhibitions in the community. We installed an exhibition at the Altamont Fair, and also developed a temporary exhibition on the Steinmetz letters at the SCPL.

Programs and Special Events

Between visitors to our sites and outreach in the community, SCHS reached over 21,000 people in 2019/20.

→ **At the Museum**, walking tours remained a major draw. Classic tours like the Colonial, Scandalous Schenectady and beer/brewing tours were slightly revised for the season. We finished the tour season with a strong showing for the Candlelight Tours. New initiatives for last year included the Taste of Little Italy tour, and our Footsteps of Hamilton tour, developed in conjunction with Hamilton at Proctors. Additional programming at the Museum included family programs, lectures, and “Kayak through History” tours where participants kayaked down the Mohawk River while exploring Schenectady history. Various lectures at the Museum continued to be popular, however our March programs were cancelled due to COVID-19. The Festival of Trees fundraiser in December brought an additional 1,000 visitors to our site.

→ **At the Brouwer House**, we continued to offer programming in the space. This included “Drink the Seasons” workshops with John Gearing, and several plays presented in partnership with Northeast Theatre Ensemble. Community groups have also rented out the space to host their own programming.

→ **Mabee Farm Historic Site** hosted several major events in 2019, including CanalFest, July 3rd Fireworks with the Schenectady Symphony, Arts & Crafts Festival, Mabee Farm to Fork (in partnership with the Electric City Food Co-op), and the FallFest. Mabee Farm also hosted a number of family-oriented programs, including campfires, a summer camp, and seasonal activities and tours. Our musical programs were as vibrant as ever with the classic Howlin’ at the Moon line-up drawing steady crowds. Finally, last year’s lecture series has been the best attended yet, drawing over 700 people to a variety of lectures. We had several more speaker programs on the schedule, but all of our March speaker programs were cancelled due to COVID-19

Collections

SCHS completed its ongoing collections inventory in early 2020. This work was achieved by countless hours of hard work, put forth by both staff and volunteers. The final numbers on the inventory follow. Currently, staff is working on generating high quality images of all artifacts. Additionally, SCHS created an "Education Collection" (designated historic and reproduction objects to be used in hands on programming or hands on exhibit interactives), reorganized and cleaned shared storage spaces including the Museum basement, and the FEC closets and storage areas. Staff also located a long-missing historic door at the Brouwer House.

Total object records: 13,084
Total objects inventoried: 10,196
Total objects missing: 227
Object Records not accounted for: 2,661

Museum staff facilitated outgoing artifact loans, including:

- Renewed loan of Governor Yates Portrait to NYS Governor's Office
- Renewed loan to ACHA of 19th c. furniture for display at Ten Broeck
- Renewed loan with AMTRAK for objects on display at Schenectady train station
- Temp loan to MiSci for "Science of Cooking"
- Incoming loans for exhibitions: Fulton County Historical Society, Van Alstyne Homestead & Museum, New York State, Museum, Marilyn Sassi, Deborah Lambeth, Arthur Dell, William Ackner, and Nancy Wasmund.

Education and Community Outreach

The Schenectady Historical Society remains one of the biggest destinations in the Capital District for on-site field trips. This past year saw 2,250 students visit the Mabee Farm. Educator Michael Diana went beyond school programs to deliver dozens of outreach programs throughout the region. Destinations included historical societies, nursing homes, Rotary Clubs, churches and more. Staff were scheduled to present at the Museum Association of New York’s annual conference in March, which was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Volunteers

Volunteers and volunteer interns have been an extraordinary asset to SCHS in 2019-2020, and have been working hard on numerous projects. Volunteers put in over 3,000 hours at the Museum this year making many of our projects possible. At Mabee Farm, during special events alone, volunteers logged over 800 hours. Weekly volunteers who help man the front desk, lead tours, and work with the collections, exhibits, and programs logged 3,200 hours. Without the help of these volunteers, none of the accomplishments in this report would have been possible.

The SCHS enjoys a reputation as a friendly and fun place to volunteer due to the welcoming, positive attitude of our volunteers. The board and staff at SCHS are grateful to our volunteers.

- Michael Diana, Educator
- Susanna Fout, Curator
- Mary Zawacki, Executive Director

Buildings & Grounds

This report covers the time frame from May 2019 through April 2020, and includes projects that have been completed, are underway, are lagging, and are planned for the future. Note: properties are noted by acronyms 32, BH, FEC and MF. Note: SCHS has several ongoing maintenance tasks for all properties, which are not reported here but are included in a shared Google Sheets document that staff and the B&G chairperson all have access to. Other are welcome to be added to the access list. The Sheets document is updated approximately bimonthly, in line with the B&G committee meetings. Meeting minutes are also available there.

In 2019-2020, SCHS completed: the removal of the old oil tank from the basement of the Mabee Farmhouse (the heating system has been changed); installation of new lighting in the first and second floor of 32 that allows exhibits to be highlighted; sealing of all driveways and striping of the parking places (in June 2020); painting of the porches at 32 and BH; removal of the driveway gate at BH; re-hanging of the shed doors at MF; replacement of a light pole in the FEC parking lot taken down during a windstorm.

Projects that are still underway: a hole in the eaves at 32 created by a squirrel has not been repaired, but the addition of some wire mesh over to allow its repair has induced the squirrel to create another hole. J. Ackner continues to work with a contractor to repair both holes. Lagging projects: There is some flashing and gutter sections at the FEC that requires repair, but the team has not had success in finding a willing contractor.

Projects planned: replacement of the roof at BH (note, the water from the north side of this roof is creating water damage in adjacent 16 N. Church, and the seal between the houses will be replaced as part of this roof replacement); replacement of the wooden roof on the MF farmhouse (SCHS master carpenter Kim Balfour will make the wooden shakes and install); addition of baseboard heating to the lobby bathrooms in 32; removal of the shutters from the front of the FEC.

- Mark Vermilyea, B&G Chair

(right)
The new permanent orientation gallery at Mabee Farm.

John Ackner and Michael Diana posing with a historic door they located at the Brouwer House.

Some of the Brouwer House's blooms, thanks to gardener Chris Kirksey.

Mabee Farm's Dutch Barn in the winter.





Independence Day celebrations at the Mabee Farm Historic Site.

Membership

During this past fiscal year, the Schenectady County Historical Society added 136 new memberships, resulting in a total of 734 “membership units.” Gift memberships were purchased for 3 people, and 7 businesses utilized our business sponsor membership. Our board, staff, and volunteers are continuously recruiting new members amongst the patrons and visitors to our many programs, both on site and at various community outreach events.

- Mary Treanor, Administrative Officer

Finance

The Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for fiscal year 2019/20 are available upon request. After our annual audit, final figures will form the basis for our IRS 990 form to be filed in August. Visit and register for the free website www.guidestar.org to see our last 990 form or ones for any other not-for-profit organization in the United States.

- John Halstead, Treasurer



2019 By the Numbers

Support and Revenue

Operating Income: \$623,661.65

Non-Operating Income: \$249,852.73

Total Income: \$873,514.38

Expenses

Operating Expense: \$588,496.49

Non-Operating Expense: \$102,471.19

Total Expenses: \$872,644.59

The full Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for fiscal year 2019/20 are available upon request.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MISSION

The Schenectady County Historical Society shares stories, inspires dialogue and encourages understanding of the history, people, and cultures of Schenectady County.

VISION

The Schenectady County Historical Society will strengthen our community and be an increasingly vital destination and resource for those who wish to explore history.

The Schenectady County Historical Society brings to life the region's dynamic history through interactive exhibits and events for all audiences at the Mabee Farm Historic Site, the Grems-Doolittle Library, the Schenectady History Museum, and the historic Brouwer House.