



Wilmington Historical Society—Summer Speaker Series 2024

- 1) **“Aviation in the Adirondacks”, Tuesday, July 9th, 7pm at the Twisted Raven Restaurant located at 8 Whiteface Highway (in the side room). The speaker is author Aurora Pfaff.** Based upon her new photo book published by Arcadia Publishing, the presentation explores the history, events and role of aviation in the Adirondacks. From early airplanes and airstrips to the people who experienced and flew the earliest aircraft, this step back in time is distinctly from the perspective of our remote mountainous region and the unique problems and opportunities that aviation presented. The author will sign books. *Attendees are welcome to arrive early or stay late to support our local restaurant. The program is free and open to the public.*
- 2) **“History and Legends of the Northern Adirondacks”, Friday, July 19th, 7pm @ The Atmospheric Sciences Research Center (located at 110 Marble Mt Lane). The speaker is author and historian John Sasso.** Based upon his recently released book, the presentation expands upon John Sasso’s experiences and research. Ever since he began hiking the mountains of the Adirondacks, he has been intrigued with the artifacts he would stumble upon, such as iron bolts from old land surveys, remnants of long-gone logging camps, mysterious wood roads, and stone foundations. The questions those finds provoked: “What was here?” “What was their purpose?” and “Where did the name come from?” led him to research and write about the often-surprising and always entertaining answers he’s found over the years. The first volume in a planned series, this book shares the fascinating stories behind the mountains of the Northern Adirondacks and, it is hoped, will lead to a deeper appreciation of this unique and remarkable area. Author will sign books. *Refreshments provided by Up-A-Creek Restaurant. Free and open to the public.*
- 3) **“Adirondack Artifact Night” moderated by Lake Placid News/Adirondack Daily Enterprise editor and publisher Andy Flynn, Tuesday, August 20th, 7pm at New Vida Craft Bar located at 6394 NYS Route 86.** Community members are invited to share stories about their history during a town-hall-style event. People are encouraged to dig through their attics, basements, garages or collections for their most interesting artifacts to bring from home or work to illustrate their local history stories. Before the show-and-tell, Andy will give a brief presentation on researching local history, sharing stories from his “Adirondack Attic” book series and North Country Public Radio show with artifacts from his own collection. *Attendees are welcome to arrive early or stay late to support our local restaurant. The program is free and open to the public.*
- 4) **“Adirondack Photographers 1850-1950”, Tuesday, August 27th, 7pm at Up-A-Creek Restaurant located at 5545 NYS Route 86 (side room). The speaker author Sally Svenson.** Based upon her new book, the program will discuss the technology of photography as it was emerging throughout the United States in the mid-nineteenth century and caught hold in the scenic Adirondack region of upstate New York. Young men and a few women began to experiment with cameras as a way to earn their livings with local portrait work. From photographing individuals, some expanded their subject matter to include families and groups, homes, streetscapes, landmarks, workplaces, and important events—from town celebrations to presidential visits, train wrecks, floods, and fires. These photographers have been central in defining the region. *Attendees are welcome to arrive early or stay late to support our local restaurant. The program is free and open to the public.*