

POSTAL CUSTOMER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please cut out this form, fill out the appropriate information and send to:
Southeast Museum 67 Main Street Brewster, NY 10509

Sr. Citizen/Student – \$15
Individual – \$25
Family – \$35
Friend – \$50
Contributor – \$100
Sponsor – \$250
Supporter – \$500

If a gift membership,
card should read: _____

Please make checks payable to the **Southeast Museum**.

All donations to the Southeast Museum are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

SUMMER 2025

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“The farther backward you can look,
the farther forward you are likely to see.”

—Winston Churchill—



TOWN OF SOUTHEAST
AMERICA250 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PLANS FOR OUR NATION'S
250TH BIRTHDAY IN 2026

The Southeast Museum has been hosting meetings to collaborate with representatives from the local government, history, cultural arts, education, and business communities to prepare for the biggest birthday celebration since the 1976 Bicentennial. Plans are underway for concerts, theatrical performances, fireworks display, art exhibits, children's events, and America250 History Pavilions at both the Putnam County Fair and the Brewster Rotary Fall Fair.

Southeast will honor local residents who took part in the founding of our nation including Revolutionary War Spy Enoch Crosby, Jedediah Wood, Susanna Kniffen, Anthony Waring, and Philip Fields, among others.

Members of this advisory committee include Southeast Supervisor Nick Durante, Town Clerk Cathy Chiudina, Southeast Legislator Eric Cyprus, Town Historian Jack Alcott, Putnam County Historian Jennifer Cassidy, Brewster Central Schools Superintendent Dr. Michelle Gosh, and officials representing the Brewster Public Library, Brewster Chamber of Commerce, Brewster Rotary, Southeast Recreation Department, the Landmarks Preservation Society, the Enoch Crosby Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition, and the Southeast Museum. Together we will celebrate Southeast's contributions to our nation on its 250th birthday.

PROGRAMS CALENDAR

HISTORY EXCHANGE

June 11, 12:30 PM, Brewster Library. Jack Alcott, Brewster Historian, will be presenting on Mining in Brewster with an emphasis on The Tilly Foster Mine. Registration is required through the Brewster Library.

July 9, 12:30 PM, Brewster Library. Larry Epstein will be showing his Emmy award-winning documentary, *The History of Slavery in New York*. Registration is required through the Brewster Library.

September 10, 12:30 PM, Brewster Library. Lawrence Laliberte of The Hudson Valley Railroad Society will be presenting on “The Creation of the Hudson River Railroad and its ‘Golden Spike’ at Hyde Park.”

Coming in October: Mary Simonelli of The First United Methodist Church will be giving a tour of the stained glass windows donated by prominent families of the area.



PREMIERE OF “HISTORY OF BUSINESS IN BREWSTER” AND “REVOLUTIONARY VISIONS” EXHIBITS

On March 19, Southeast Museum hosted a packed house for our ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the long awaited “History of Business in Brewster Exhibit” documenting the businesses that have populated our village and town from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. The attendance at this special event exceeded our greatest expectations, as visitors enjoyed the artifacts of businesses from bygone eras as well as images of long standing Brewster landmarks such as The Red Rooster, The Ski Haus, Bob’s Diner, and Kobackers.



March 19 was also the premiere of the magnificent works by local artists depicting women of the Hudson Valley who experienced the American Revolution such as Sybil Ludington, female soldiers Deborah Sampson and Margaret Corbin, Loyalist Susannah Philipse, camp followers, and enslaved women. The artists themselves were present to explain their



creative processes in representing these historic figures. Paula Hernandez, president of the Brewster Chamber of Commerce, conducted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open these exciting exhibits which will be on display throughout the summer.

PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE BYRNE VISITS SOUTHEAST MUSEUM

The museum staff was honored to host Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne on a tour of our “History of Business in Brewster” and “Revolutionary Visions” exhibits in April. County Executive Byrne and staff were able to discuss the artifacts from Brewster business throughout three centuries as well as enjoy the magnificent representations of Sybil Ludington, Susannah Philipse, and other women of the Hudson Valley who lived through the American Revolution. It was a day of pride for our staff to highlight the accomplishments of the museum during this important visit.



EXPANSION OF LOCAL HISTORY EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS

2025 has ushered in an expansion of Southeast Museum’s local history presentations to the Brewster School District. Deborah Oswald, our museum director, has conducted over ten presentations to students in grades one through five at

JFK Elementary and CV Starr Intermediate Schools, with presentations planned for kindergarten and the Fourth Grade Revolutionary Encampment. On March 28, Deborah presented to the Pre-K program on the historic buildings of Brewster while students built their own structures with magnetic LEGO blocks.

This program has expanded to our neighboring North Salem School District, and presentations and field trips to the Walter Brewster House and Old Doansburg Schoolhouse are planned for local homeschool programs. These programs have been incredibly well-received by students and faculty eager to learn about the history of our Brewster community.



GREEN CHIMNEYS SCHOOL WORK STUDY PROGRAM

Students from the Green Chimneys School, under the guidance of staff members Casey Jacobson, Sasha Juniper, and Melanie Dennis, have been digitizing the museum’s vast collection of historic photographs and postcards. These digital images will be uploaded as a link on the museum’s website to provide access to researchers and students alike. The museum is so very grateful for the time and effort these students are providing to undertake such a large task that will result in accessibility to our collection for all.

HISTORY EXCHANGE

Our History Exchange Program, in collaboration with Brewster Public Library, has been fortunate enough to host such exciting and informative presentations by representatives of local history organizations including Susan Rebentisch of the Enoch Crosby Chapter of the NSDAR and Nancy Hack of the Town of Southeast Landmarks Preservation Society.

The museum hosted a tour of the “History of Business in Brewster” exhibit for Exchange members in April, and will be inviting members to a tour of the Revolutionary Visions exhibit by the artists who created the paintings and sculptures. Larry Epstein will be showing his Emmy award-winning documentary *The History of Slavery in New York* at our July 9th History Exchange. Larry is a two-time Emmy award-winning documentary and news producer, journalist, writer, anchor and corporate copywriter. He is currently a writer/reporter for the *River Journal*, *Peekskill Herald* and *The Examiner*, and also a freelance producer at News 12. Larry is a former executive producer at MSNBC, and former senior-level producer at the Fox News Channel and Fox Business.

Registration is required through the Brewster Library.

SOUTHEAST SENIORS

On March 18, Deborah Oswald gave a preview of our “History of Business in Brewster” to members of the Southeast Seniors at Lakeview Manor. This presentation was well received by all. The museum looks forward to our continued partnership with the Southeast Seniors.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Southeast Museum has been hard at work preparing for two exciting events coming to the museum later this year. The Enoch Crosby Chapter NSDAR will be displaying their exhibit of several banners honoring the U.S. Constitution during the month of September. This exhibit will be visually appealing as the banners are quite tall.

The museum is thrilled to be working with Board Trustee Elizabeth Ryder to display her collection of patriotic paintings by esteemed artist Jean Leon Gerome Ferris late this year to kick off our year-long America250 Celebration. We will share details as we receive them.