

History Advisory Committee  
September 6th, 2025 (ppd from Aug. 30th)

Attendance: Tony Albino, Alvin Sheffer, Rich Coons, Tom Shannon

- Ideas for America 250: we discussed potential programming to be inserted into the 2026 Memorial Day parade and Independence Day fireworks event. Discussed putting together a Rev. War veteran profile book similar to what Canaan and Hillsdale have recently produced. Emphasis on how difficult 1777 was for everyone in the Hudson Valley.
- Haunted Hayrides: we settled on depicting a lost Palatine cemetery with replica headstones with inscriptions of people we know are buried in the actual lost cemeteries.
- Potential Pomeroy Foundation grants: for the Historic Transportation sign, we will try for one at Cheviot regarding the ferry that ran to West Camp as early as 1711. For the Patriot Graves sign program, we will apply for Cheviot Cemetery and the Second Reformed Cemetery. Applications are now or soon will be accepted for both programs.
- FOHG National Register update: Tony secured funding for the project. FOHG will contract with Walter Wheeler to complete an update to the 1767 Parsonage National Register listing this autumn.
- Cemetery cleaning: We have 8 five-gallon buckets of Endurance Cleaner on hand. Tom and Rich recently cleaned all of the older stones at Valley View Cemetery. Tom recently completed cleaning all but the newest stones on the older half of the Second Reformed Cemetery (a two-year project). Hoping to start at Viewmonte Cemetery later this fall.
- Events:
  - "Ethnic Diversity in 18th Century New York," organized by the African American Archive of Columbia County. Kinderhook Public Library. Sept. 21st, 1:30 PM. Tom is one of several panelists and will talk about the Palatines.
  - Hudson River Valley Ramble, Kayak Tour of the Germantown Waterfront, Sept. 27th, 1 PM. Start at Cheviot.
  - Path Through History Weekend, Oct. 11th, 5 PM to 9 PM, Campfire evening at the Parsonage.

- Columbia County Historians quarterly meeting, Nov. 9th, 2 PM in the Clermont Academy building. Tom will give a walking tour of the cemetery afterward.
- Event at Quittner with Emily Majer and others, first weekend in December.