



THOUSAND ISLANDS MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

September 2026

the history place

The summer of 2026 was a busy and rewarding one at the Thousand Islands Museum!

We welcomed over 4600 visitors through the door between Memorial Day and Labor Day this year!

Our History at Noon programs and Sunset History Boat Tours once again gave residents and out of town visitors opportunities to explore the people, places, events, and stories that have shaped the Thousand Islands and St. Lawrence River communities.

The History at Noon series welcomed a wonderful variety of presenters who shared programs on topics ranging from local shipwrecks, Calumet Island and Thousand Island Park to cemetery preservation, scuba diving, the Patriot War of 1838, and even the mysterious origins of Thousand Island Dressing. These free programs welcomed more than 150 attendees throughout the summer.

We are already planning the 2027 Hashing over History and History at Noon program schedule in addition to some book signing events with a few of our local/regional authors.

Please be sure to follow us on Facebook and check the events calendar on the museum website at www.timuseum.org. As event and program details are worked out we do our best to update the events calendar and get the information out on the Facebook page. Everyone is always also welcome to call the museum or email us with questions about our events and programs.

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Thousand Islands Museum
312 James Street
PO Box 27
Clayton, NY 13624

www.timuseum.org

315-686-5794



PRESERVING OUR PAST ~ INSPIRING OUR FUTURE

ANNUAL DECOY & WILDLIFE ART SHOW



Winner of the 2026 Art Knapp Memorial
Best in Show
John Slate of Alexandria Bay

The 58th Annual Decoy & Wildlife Art Show was held July 17–18, 2026, at the Cerow Recreation Park Arena.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2026 Art Knapp Decoy Contests: John Slate, Best in Show; Jeff Graves, Jack Sweet Gunning Pairs; Jordyn Doviak, Youth 12 & Over; and Henry Graves, Youth 11 & Under.

This year's Silent Auction raised more than \$2,000, thanks in part to the generosity of more than 40 vendors who donated items and gift baskets.

The Live Decoy Auction returned on Friday afternoon and was once again a popular part of the show, sending many satisfied buyers home with new additions to their collections.

Thank you to all of our sponsors, exhibitors, vendors, donors, volunteers, and visitors who helped make this year's show a success!



2026 Youth Painting Contest participants



Winner of the 2026 PFC Jack T Sweet Memorial
Gunning Pairs Contest. Hooded Mergansers by Jeff Graves



59th Annual DECOY & WILDLIFE ART SHOW July 16th & 17th 2027

CEROW RECREATION PARK ARENA CLAYTON, NY

Friday 9 AM - 6 PM & Saturday 9 AM - 4PM

For more Information

Contact: Thousand Islands Museum at 315-686-5794

Email: info@timuseum.org



Our Sunset History Boat Tours once again took local history out onto the St. Lawrence River, giving guests the opportunity to experience the history of the region where it happened.

In all, more than 450 guests joined us aboard our 2026 tours that were once again hosted by our friends at Clayton Island Tours.

New destinations this year included Rock Island Lighthouse, and Comfort Island while a new Shipwreck tour focused on the Wreck of the Sir Robert Peel. In addition, we added a couple more Ghost Tours, with Tanya Roy of The Butler did it Players joining us in her capacity as a professional story teller.

Trips to some popular destinations that we haven't visited in a few years, A unique dinner cruise featuring recipes from the cookbook of a well-known celebrity with ties to the Thousand Islands and more ghost cruises are among the plans being discussed for the 2027 Sunset History Boat Tour season.

Special Thanks again to Clayton Island Tours & Kay's Kitchen for the great service again this year!



1000 Islands most unique boat tour experience.

315-686-4820



Hashing
—over—
History



We've put a select few of our
Hashing over History
and History at Noon
programs online on



Just use the QR code,
or search
"Sharing Clayton History"
at YouTube.com

Thousand Islands MUSEUM

the history place

LOCAL
HISTORY
STRONGER
TOGETHER



BECOME A MEMBER

Help Us Keep Local History Alive!

When you become a member of the Thousand Islands Museum, you become an important part of preserving and sharing the history and heritage of the Thousand Islands and St. Lawrence River communities.



KEEP ADMISSION FREE

We believe everyone should have the opportunity to explore our local history.



CREATE & MAINTAIN EXHIBITS

Membership funds help us develop new exhibits while caring for our permanent displays.



PRESERVE OUR COLLECTIONS

Membership support helps us care for photographs, documents, artifacts, exhibits and our extensive Research Library.



KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN YEAR-ROUND

The Museum remains open throughout the year, with reduced hours during the fall and winter months.



SHARE OUR HISTORY

Your support makes programs such as History at Noon and Hashing over History possible.



BE A PART OF OUR STORY

Whether you live here year-round, spend your summers along the River, or simply have a special connection to the Thousand Islands, your membership makes a difference.

MEMBERSHIPS START AT JUST \$25 A YEAR

VISIT OUR MEMBERSHIP PAGE AT

www.timuseum.org

Thousand Islands Museum

312 James Street • Clayton, NY

315-686-5794

Free Admission • Both Floors Accessible



Thousand Islands Museum — the history place

THOUSAND ISLANDS MUSEUM

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Another highlight of the summer was our
Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in August
at NATALI'S C-WAY RESTAURANT.

So many things would not be possible at the museum without our small but mighty group of volunteers! Not all of our volunteers were able to attend, and some that did were not able to make it into the photos but we appreciate ALL of them for everything they do. From volunteering at the museum, helping at the Decoy Show or presenting a program for us, they each brought their own contributions and we are lucky to have them!



L to R: Andy Anderson, Caroline Anderson, Susan Morrison, Bill Morrison



L to R: Cheryl Masterson, Kathi McCarthy



L to R: Linda Schleher, Steve Lashomb, Helen Brennan, Tom Humberstone, Cheryl Mowatt, Sharon Borquin



L to R: Sarah Baldwin, Candy Duswalt, Fred Schwarz, Joan Timmerman, Fran O'Toole, Dennis Baldwin

THOUSAND ISLANDS MUSEUM

COMING EVENTS



ANNUAL ROAST PORK Dinner FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2026

Benefits the
THOUSAND ISLANDS MUSEUM

TICKETS ON SALE OCTOBER 1ST

Hosted at
AMERICAN LEGION POST 821
CLAYTON, NY

\$15 per person

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT



Annual Festival of Trees

November 17th - December 18th



- SET UP A TREE
- SPONSOR A TREE
- DONATE A GIFT BASKET

CONTACT THE MUSEUM AT
315-686-5794
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Annual JURIED Craft Show

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5, 2026

10 AM to 4 PM

- HOLIDAY SHOPPING
- DOOR PRIZES
- ONE OF A KIND GIFTS

Hosted by
The Thousand Islands Museum
CLAYTON MUNICIPAL BLDG.
425 MARY STREET,
CLAYTON NEW YORK

2nd Annual JINGLE BELL Workshop

Saturday DECEMBER 12TH
11 AM to 1 PM



- VISIT WITH ST. NICKLAUS
- MAKE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS
- VIEW THE FESTIVAL OF TREES

Enter to win
DOOR PRIZES!
★ KIDS OF ALL AGES ★