

HRVI



YOUR GATEWAY TO THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

Hudson River Valley Institute

Patriot's Weekend II, Saturday May 3rd

The Hudson River Valley Institute is pleased to present Patriot's Weekend II, 2008 which will be held Saturday, May 3, 2008 at *Piermont* and *The George Washington Masonic Historical Site* (DeWint House) in Tappan, New York. Furthermore, this event marks the 225th anniversary of General George Washington's meeting with British General, Guy Carleton. This historic encounter at the DeWint House involved negotiations over the evacuation of remaining British officers. Even more significant; Carleton officially recognized the United States of America as an independent nation. Thus, to celebrate, subsequent activities will include the arrival of General Guy Carleton, the meeting between Washington and Carleton, their ride to the DeWint House, agreements made surrounding British evacuation, followed by a tactical weapons demonstration, and a soldiers retreat. This commemoration will be held from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sponsors of this event include The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, the Hudson River Sloop *Clearwater*, the Hudson River Valley Greenway, M&T Bank Charitable Foundation, the Living History Education Foundation, The Brigade of the American Revolution, the Boston Beer Company, Samuel Adams, as

well as the Piermont and Tappantown Historical Societies.

On a side note, in 1932, Charles H. Johnson made the DeWint House a National Historic Site. Johnson believed it preposterous to have such a historically significant place demolished. Since then, the New York Masons have maintained the grounds and, from 1993 to 1994, the Masons restored the house to its original condition.



Equally important, the Town of Tappan (founded 1686) contains additional historical structures and sites encompassing a total of eighty-five acres. These places are the Mabie-Beech, Bogert-Haring, Haring-Adams, Cardona, Mabie (aka Old 76) and De-Clark-DeWint houses, the Reformed Church of Tappan as well as the Tappan Library, Bartow-Samett Town House, the Manse building as well as the Village Church Green and Andre Monument. In fact, Old '76 House played an important role in the American Revolution as well.

This is where Major John Andre remained as a prisoner for his collaboration with the infamous Benedict Arnold. The Andre Monument marks the place where the Continental Army hanged him.

Also, this town possessed a tall elm serving as a warning system during the American Revolution. It remained until 1953. For a while, Tappan even contained the world's largest Weeping Willow, measuring eighty-five feet in height with a circumference of forty inches. The tree, however, witnessed its demise during a storm in 1987. Since 1965, the Tappantown Historical Society has been on a mission to preserve these buildings and natural settings through the enactment of special zoning.

For more information on the many historical places of Tappan please visit the Tappantown Historical Society's website

<http://www.tappantown.org/index.html>

[Patriot's Weekend Pamphlet](#)



Paul Contarino

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Locust Grove Honors Hudson River Valley Institute

The 180-acre Locust Grove Samuel Morse Historic Site, overlooking the Hudson River is to honor the Hudson River Valley Institute of Marist College on Friday, June 6, 2008. The Locust Grove Annual Spring Garden Party will include cocktails, great food, a Silent auction, jazz music and dancing in the evening. The event will honor the Institute for promoting the Hudson River Valley culture and history through programs at Marist. Tickets run from \$150 per person or table sponsorships ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000. For information about sponsorships, Garden Party Journal advertising or to purchase tickets, contact Ann Melious, Director of Development, at 845 454-4500, ext.

12; a.melious@lgnv.org.



The Hudson River Valley Institute is being honored for providing resources to the surrounding communities, scholars, families,

educators, and anyone curious about the region. In addition to the website, HRVI is finishing its eighth year of public programming that commemorates the 225th anniversary of the American Revolution. 2008 also marks HRVI's sixth annual series of Teaching American History workshops; an opportunity offering lectures, research and technology to teachers from the mid-Hudson region.

Alicia Sharp

Featured Historic Site — Locust Grove



While the grounds of Locust Grove are open all year, the historical site will begin offering its seasonal tours this month. The site is highlighted by its beautiful garden and spectacular views from the hillsides, which overlook the Hudson. Locust Grove, the historical estate of Samuel Morse, offers an insight into his life with an introductory video and exhibit. After viewing the exhibit there are tours to view the grounds, including a look into the home that once belonged to the Morse and Young families.

Morse is most famous for patenting the electromagnetic telegraph, an invention that would have tremendous influence on the advancement of communication technology. However, he also spent much of his time painting. Several of his works can be seen on display in Locust Grove.



In 1847, he purchased the land and move in with his three children. It is at this time that the estate was named Locust Grove. In 1851, he had the house remodeled to resemble that of an Italian villa, which is the current architectural style present today.

After Morse's death in 1872, the land was

rented by the Young family and was used as a summer home. In 1901, the family purchased the land from Morse's heirs. Understanding the historical significance of the land, the Young family honored it by displaying collections of historic relics within the home, many of which are still currently displayed. The estate was then preserved in a trust left by the will of the Young daughter Annette.

Recently, Locust Grove was able to purchase two other estates, Southwood and Edgehill. The purchase expands the historical site by a total of 33 acres and, with the purchase, the site will now be able to expand the trails on the grounds. On May 3rd, in part to honor preservation month, the staff will be giving tours of the new grounds, along with the chance to see rare pictures from the historical estates. The cost of the guided hike is \$3.

For more information about Locust Grove, tours and general information please visit their webstie <http://www.lgnv.org/> or call them at 845-454-4500

Kim Maschak

Historic Town — Yonkers

Located seventeen miles north of the southern tip of Manhattan Island on the eastern bank of the Hudson River sits the city of Yonkers, New York. Settled in the late 1640s by Adriaen Van der Donck, the city was strategically located at the junction of the Hudson and Nepperhan Rivers. Van der Donck had been given the land by the Dutch East India Company and had constructed the first saw mill in the New World. He was often referred to as “Jonk Herr” or young gentleman. Over the decades, his name changed to Younckers and then finally to its current form of Yonkers.

Van der Donck soon turned over the rights to his land to the Philipse Family in the late 1600s. By this time, the city was



a bustling trade hub with a diverse community. By the time of the Industrial Revolution, Yonkers had several industries including cotton, sugar, and carpets. Its ideal location along the Hudson River made the city easily accessible to ships and the emerging dominance of the railroad. On June 1st, 1872 New York Governor John Thompson Hoffman officially incorporated Westchester County’s first city.

The city of Yonkers has a tradition of historic firsts. In 1861 it was the first town in the county to feature street lighting. In the following year Elisha Otis invented the first safety elevator. The city was witness to the invention of the world’s first elevated mass train system in 1867. On Lake Avenue in 1888, the first golf game was played in the United States. In 1912, Yonkers resident Edwin H. Armstrong invented the FM radio broadcast. The 20th Century also brought the invention of the trolley car which was rapidly replacing the horse as a form of public transportation.

On April 19th, 2008 the city of Yonkers, as well as the Hudson River Valley, had the privilege of hosting Pope Benedict XVI during his Apostolic Journey to the United States of America. In his visit to Yonkers he attended a rally for seminari-

ans and young people at St. Joseph’s Seminary where he addressed a crowd of over 25,000 people. During his historic visit, the Pope reflected on his troubled childhood of being forced into the ranks of the Hitler Youth. He proclaimed to the crowd that that the, “evils of substance abuse,



homelessness and poverty, racism, violence, and degradation of girls and women result in people being treated as objects and the denial of God given human dignity” re-affirming the American value of equality.

For more information about Yonkers through the centuries, visit the [Yonkers Historical Society](#).

Jason Jacondin

Featured Website— FDR Library and Museum Digital Archives

The [FDR Library Digital Archives](#) is a repository of original, digitized primary documents available online for the viewing public to enjoy and freely browse. Hosted by Marist College for the [Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library](#), the Digital Archive allows the public to access the digitized versions of primary documents which have been scanned, compiled, and made available online from the FDR Library’s impressive collection.

Most of the documents found in the FDR Library Digital Archives come from the collection known as the President’s Secretary’s File (PSF). The PSF is arranged alphabetically by correspondent and subject, and is divided into five series: The

Safe Files; The Confidential Files; The Diplomatic Files; The Departmental Files; and The Subject Files. These subject areas, as well as others, are well represented in the Digital Archives and allow a visitor the freedom to browse as they please amongst the five series. For the first time, the FDR Library, in this initiative, is allowing the viewing public the ease of access to their substantial collection of documents, from the comfort of their home.

In addition to the organizational system, several other sub-collections have been made available through the FDR Digital Archives. Many of President Roosevelt’s Fireside Chats are now available which maybe of interest to FDR researchers and scholars. Also, the digital archive features over 1,000 photo-

graphs of President Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt, the Great Depression, World War II, and other influential events during the Roosevelt Administration. Furthermore, the digital archive provides a substantial collection of primary documents which illustrate the relationship between the United States and the Vatican in the pursuit of peace during the World War II era.

To browse the collection for pleasure or research, please visit their [website](#). Their homepage provides visitors with a brief overview of what the archives have to offer as well as instructions for properly citing documents found in the archives.

Jess Boyle

Meet the Intern—Tricia Lynch



Tricia Lynch is from Long Island, and is a senior at Marist College. She will be graduating this May with a B.A. in English and a Paralegal Certificate. In the fall, Tricia will begin her first year at Hofstra University School of Law. She ultimately hopes to

pursue a career in Sports and Entertainment Law or Environmental Law.

Tricia was a writing and research intern at the Hudson River Valley Institute as a sophomore, but she decided to return as a senior in order to help with the Walkway Over the Hudson project. In addition to interning at HRVI, Tricia also spent last summer interning at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. She gained valuable experience by assisting in research for open cases in the Asset Forfeiture Unit.

In addition to her schoolwork and spend-

ing quality time with friends, Tricia has spent her four years at Marist as a member of Marist College Singers and the Literary Arts Society. She also volunteers as a tutor in the Writing Center and works as a student secretary in the School of Liberal Arts at Marist.

Over the summer, Tricia plans to work in a law firm near her home and prepare herself for the next phase of her life.

Tricia Lynch

Meet the Intern — Richard J. (RJ) Langlois

It has been a year and a half now that RJ has been under the good graces of the Hudson River Valley Institute. Though he must honestly say that when he first got involved with the program he had no clue as to what he was getting himself into. Colonel pointed his index finger one day and RJ was committed till the rest of his days at Marist College, and without a doubt for the better.

Starting as an (un)common intern during the fall of his junior year, RJ was assigned the historical topic of Clearwater, which followed him till his ending days at HRVI (and most likely beyond at the going rate). This humble narrator would like to

set the record straight that he did complete his work on time for that assignment. Returning in the spring, RJ found himself promoted to sergeant major as well as returning to his old position of the editor of the monthly HRVI newsletter. And for some reason unbeknownst to him, HRVI asked RJ to return for his final semester at Marist where he became the assistant editor of the newsletter, revised Clearwater once more, and worked on the Mill's Mansion project (all under one credit this narrator might add). But when this humble narrator asked RJ what he thought of the endeavor, he explained to me that his time

at HRVI was well spent and immeasurably enlightening in more ways than the piece's word limit will allow articulation of. RJ



asked this humble (and entirely reliable) narrator to leave this parting message: I came not knowing why, and leave finding that which I was looking for; I shall be back.

Richard J. (RJ) Langlois

Meet the Intern — Robert J. Harvey

Robert J. Harvey, graduating cum laude in May with a BA in English with a concentration in writing, has prospered here at Marist College and the Hudson River Valley Institute. His time here at Marist College and HRVI has prepared him to enter the workforce and, unless he wins the lottery or Powerball in the next few months, he will begin to prepare for a job as a high school teacher.

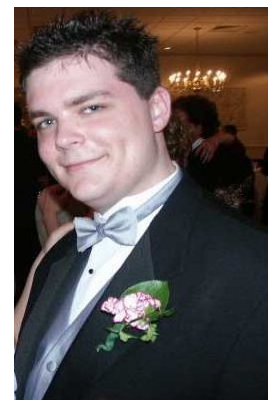
Prior to entering the workforce, he vows to enjoy one last care-free summer. He will spend his summer enjoying graduation party after graduation party until he travels to Ireland in early June. Assuming he returns from Ireland, he will work for his teaching certification and spend the 08-09 year working odd jobs and

being a freelance writer while looking for a position as an English teacher.

As the semester comes to a close, Rob's days are full of excitement and crunched writing. He has completed and presented his independent writing project where he displayed a portion of his novel-in-progress *Lavender Kiss*. Also, he has diligently finished his writing for his final Capping project and presentation as well as alleviating some of the technical burden for creating the two Capping publications off of his professor's back.

Yet, with all the positives that college has brought, the only thing his college career has been unable to teach him is how to wake up any earlier than noon. Rob will

enviously remember the *painful* 9 o'clock internship hours when he is forced to wake up before the crack of dawn to get prepared for the workday.



Robert J. Harvey

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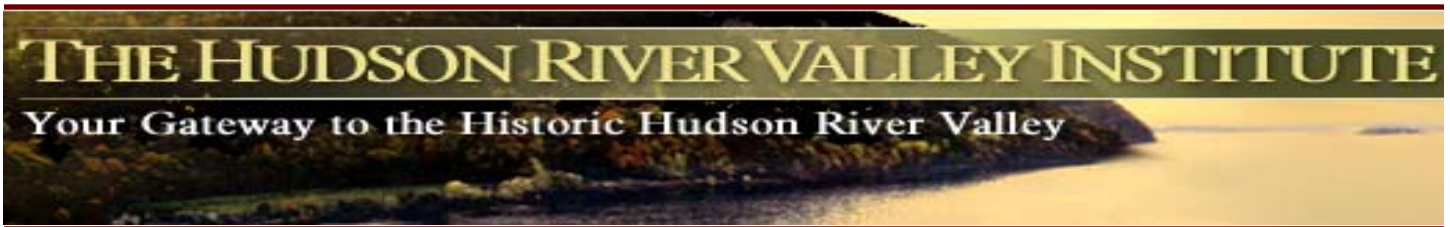
*The Hudson River Valley:
"The Landscape that Defined America"*

The Hudson River Valley is one of only 37 congressionally designated National Heritage Areas in the United States. As one of the most important regions in the United States, it is the fountainhead of a truly American identity. Recognizing the area's national value, Congress formed the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in 1996 to recognize, preserve, protect, and interpret the nationally-significant history and resources of the valley for the benefit of the nation.

The Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) is the academic arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. Its mission is to study and promote the Hudson River Valley and to provide educational resources for heritage tourists, scholars, elementary school educators, environmental organizations, the business community, and the general public. Its many projects include the publication of *The Hudson River Valley Review* and the management of a dynamic digital library and leading regional portal site.

As the center for the study of the Hudson River Valley, the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College is the central hub for information about the region that Congress called "the Landscape that defined America."

www.hudsonrivervalley.org



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