

# HRVI December Newsletter

HRVI



YOUR GATEWAY TO THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

## Hudson River Valley Institute

### Holidays in the Hudson Valley: 2011 Edition

The Hudson River Valley is a particularly special place to live and work during the holidays, and an even better place to visit. During the month of December, many of the unique places and landmarks of the region have special holiday events and tours in celebration.

The home of Franklin D. Roosevelt will have a [holiday open house on December 10](#), 1-5 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be offered in the Wallace Visitor Center. The Eleanor Roosevelt site will [also have its open house](#) on the same day, from 4-7 p.m., with free admission.

The Samuel Morse Estate at Locust Grove in Poughkeepsie, NY, is once again offering a historic [four course dinner and twilight holiday tour](#) on December 3. The dinner will be presented by Chef Charles Fell from the Artist's Palate using recipes from the estate's archives. The all-inclusive cost is \$110 per person or \$800 for a table of 8. The estate is also offering decorated holiday tours Saturdays in December and the week after Christmas. \$10 for adults and \$6 for children under 12, the mansion will be decorated in the theme of the "Nutcracker".

On Sundays in December, a special children's holiday hunt event in the mansion will be held along with a storytelling performance by Lorraine Hartin-Gelardi. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 per child. [The holiday open house](#) for the Vanderbilt mansion will be on Sunday, December 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with free admission all day.

Clermont state historic park in Germantown, NY will be holding "[A Children's Christmas](#)" on December 3-4 from 10 a.m.-noon. Designed for children 3 to 10, Christmas stories and treats

*Continued on page 4*

### Inside this Issue:

Poughkeepsie prepares for Celebration of Lights	2
HRVI Intern publishes in Review	3
Winter Welcome Week	4
Holidays in the Valley, continued	4
Current Happenings at HRVI	5
Meet the Intern	5
Contact Us/ Staff Listing	6

### Special points of interest:

- *Former HRVI Intern publishes in Review*
- *Holidays in the Hudson River Valley*
- *What's Happening in the Hudson River Institute*
- *Meet the Intern*



---

# Poughkeepsie prepares 18th Annual Celebration of Lights

---

Friday 2 December, 2011

First Tree Lighting at 4:30 p.m.

Parade Begins 6:30 p.m.

Experience the splendor of the Holiday season during the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Poughkeepsie City Celebration of Lights parade and tree lighting! Touted by Dutchess Tourism as the “Best Event” of the season, the Celebration of Lights will include free entertainment, refreshments, and holiday fun for the entire family.

The first tree lighting ceremony will take place at 4:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army located at 19 Pershing Avenue. It will be hosted by Middle Main Poughkeepsie and will include free food, warm drinks, arts and crafts, and the distribution of clothing and food for the needy by Vassar College’s *Bright Nights*.

The parade, led by Mayor John Tkazyik and members of the Common Council, will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Main and Garden streets, and will continue down Main Street.

Among those participating in the parade are the Amerscott Highland Pipers, Poughkeepsie High School Jazz Ensemble and Middle School Choir, Poughkeepsie Exempt Fireman’s Association Color Guard, DARE, Arlington Rotary Club, Columbia Elementary School PTA, Dutchess County Girl & Boy Scouts and several Hudson Valley Philharmonic brass ensembles, as well as performances by Arm of the Sea Theatre and IABAS Traditional Brazilian Band along with over 200 children from local elementary schools. The parade will culminate with an appearance by Santa Claus himself; following the progression of many colorful parade floats.

Join in for the occasion, as the Celebration of Lights promises to be a fun-filled evening for all ages. Just remember to bundle up out there, the approaching holiday season also means the start of winter weather here in the Hudson Valley!

By Christina Ritter

City of Poughkeepsie Celebration of Lights  
**MIDDLE MAIN POUGHKEEPSIE** Christmas Tree Lighting



December 2nd 2011  
4:30pm-6pm  
The Salvation Army  
19 Pershing Ave  
Poughkeepsie, NY

*Kick off the Celebration of Lights on Middle Main and help us light the Christmas Tree in high fashion!*

Enjoy free food and hot drinks, Arts & Crafts, Storytelling, and Holiday Songs

Vassar College “Bright Nights” will be distributing clothing, food, and toiletries to those in need.

For more information, contact Christine Haake at [chaake@hudsonriverhousing.org](mailto:chaake@hudsonriverhousing.org) or call 845-454-5176.

**Hudson River Housing, Inc.**  **DOING THE MOST GOOD**

Flyer courtesy of: [middlemain.com](http://middlemain.com)

---

## Celebration of Lights– Full Schedule

- 4:30-6:00. p.m. First Tree Lighting
- 6:30 p.m. Parade begins at Main and Garden Streets and Second Tree Lighting at Main near Market St.
- 6:45 p.m. Parade continues down Main Street
- 7:15 p.m. Third Tree Lighting at Dongan Square Park at Clover Street
- 7:15 p.m. Fireworks and Fourth Tree Lighting on the Walkway
- 7:30 p.m. Concert featuring the Mighty Wurlitzer Pipe Organ at the Bardavon
- 8:00 p.m. Screening of The Goonies at the Bardavon (\$5 per seat)

Parking is available in City of Poughkeepsie Municipal lots.

For further information, go to [www.bardavon.org](http://www.bardavon.org) or call the Bardavon at (845) 473-2072.

Michael Diaz is both a graduate of Marist College and former an intern of the Hudson River Valley Institute. He is also now

published in HRVI's peer reviewed journal. His article is titled, "Can you on such principles think of quitting a Country?" Family, Faith, Law, Property, and the Loyalists of the Hudson Valley During the American Revolution," Diaz received a research grant through the Open Space Institute's [Barnabas McHenry Hudson River Valley Award](#) grant program. Much of the research was conducted at [Boscobel State Historic Site](#). Diaz utilized the

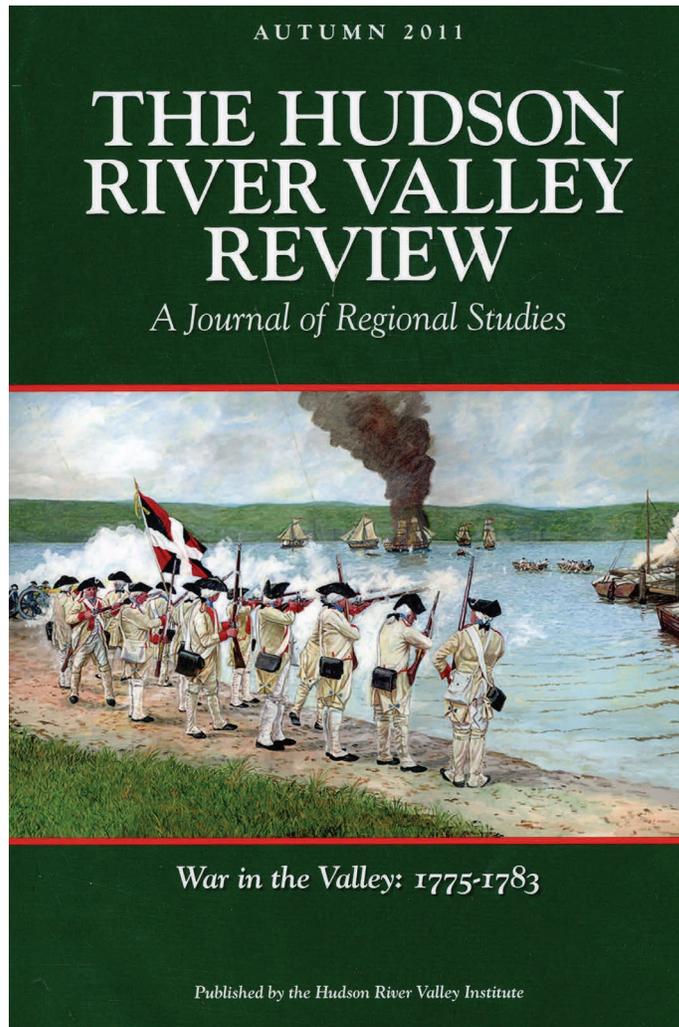
Dykman Papers to gain an understanding of a prominent loyalist family in the Hudson Valley. Other research was done at Highland's Church, founded by prominent mid-Hudson loyalist Beverly Robinson.

The focus of the paper developed over the course of the research. Diaz has always been interested in the American

Revolution; the idea of disgruntled people actually taking actions to cause change is fascinating. Given his interest in the Revolutionary War and the nature of the documents, the article took shape focusing on loyalists' struggle within the Hudson River Valley. This is Diaz's first publication, but we hope it isn't his last. In the future, he would like take a closer look at the interconnectivity of Loyalists within the Hudson River Valley. He has also considered continuing his research on the prominent Loyalist families of the Valley, like the Robinsons. Lastly,

given the sesquicentennial (150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) of the Civil War, Diaz has put some thought into politically divided families during the Civil War era.

By Peter Rottenbacher



---

## Winter Welcome Week

---

The [Hudson River Valley Heritage Area](#) is once again proud to sponsor “Winter Welcome Week,” an informative experience spanning four days that highlights the final winter of the American Revolution. The focal point will be General George Washington’s headquarters located in Newburgh, New York, where the General’s encampment was located from April 1, 1782 until August 19, 1783.

The building that became headquarters for General Washington was previously the Jonathan and Tryntje Hasbrouck fieldstone farmhouse. Washington’s time in Newburgh during the final year of the war is of significant im-

portance. He spent the year negotiating with Congress on a myriad of issues, as well as addressing unrest amongst the officer corps of the Continental Army that later would acquire the nomenclature the “Newburgh Conspiracy” which Washington would later pacify in his famed “Newburgh Address.”

Last year’s event featured reenactors who led the tours throughout the house. To add more authenticity, reenactment soldiers camped around the house itself, to give insight into life of a Continental Soldier in the final winter of the Revolutionary War.

The State Historic Site of Washington’s Headquarters is located at 84 Liberty Street in Newburgh, New York. Admission to the event is included in the normal museum fees (\$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors or students, free for children under 12). Further information can be found at the [event page](#) as well as the [Washington’s Headquarters State Historic Site webpage](#)



---

## Holidays in the Hudson, cont.

---

will be offered. Cost is \$3 per child. The John Kane House in Pawling, NY will be decorated for Decem-berfest in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century style and will offer tours Dec. 2-9, from 5-8 p.m., December 3 and 10, 5-8 p.m., and December 4 and 11, 1-4 p.m.



The Lyndhurst estate in Tarrytown, NY, is also offering holiday events, with their Fairy Tale holiday gatherings from Dec. 4 through 19. Hot cider and music will be provided as one tours the rooms, holiday decorated for the holidays. Reservations are required, and times and costs can be found at [www.lyndhurst.org](http://www.lyndhurst.org). Daytime holiday tours will be offered Dec. 27-31, 10 a.m. through 4 p.m.

On December 12, the Newburgh historical society will provide a tour of more than a dozen historic Newburgh houses, beginning at the home of Captain David Crawford. The tour starts at noon, at a cost of \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. For more information visit the [Newburgh Historical Society](#).

Poughkeepsie will be kicking off the holiday season with the [Celebration of Lights Parade and Fireworks](#) on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. After a parade and visit from Santa, *A Christmas Story* will be shown at the Bardavon beginning at 8 p.m. for \$5 per person. Come on December 5 to Vassar College to enjoy [carols](#) at 7 p.m. The Historical Society of Rockland holiday tradition, the

[Dollhouse and Art Exhibition showcase](#), will be a treat for both parents and children and continues through February 28, Tues. - Sun., 12-4 p.m. The fee is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. Finally, on Dec. 11-12 will be a presentation of Tchaikovsky’s *The Nutcracker* at the New Paltz Ballet Theatre. Show times and ticket price can be found on their website, [www.upac.org](http://www.upac.org).

By Samantha McNerney

---

## Hudson River Valley Institute promotes growth

---

With all of the current happenings within the Hudson River Valley, it is easy to forget the rich history of the area, which proved so important during the formation of the United States. The Hudson River Valley Institute has recently taken the time to promote interest in this period in their latest issue of the [\*Hudson River Valley Review\*](#). It has been a full eight years since the *Review* has covered the Revolutionary War, and even then, it has not focused fully on the human element of the conflict.

From the first skirmish at Lexington and Concord to the final shots at Yorktown, [\*the American Revolution\*](#) was responsible in the creation of a nation which would grow to become the world's most powerful in a mere 150 years. By ex-

amining the character of the individuals who formed this collective force, readers can achieve a greater understanding of how America came to be.

In addition to this newest issue, The Hudson River Valley Institute has made available a selection of podcasts, [the latest](#) focusing on the so-called “borscht belt,” a colloquial term used to describe a number of summer resorts in the Catskills mountain range popular with Jewish tourists during the first half of the 20th century. This podcast, along with all the others, is [available for immediate streaming](#) on

the Hudson River Valley Institute website.

The *Review* and podcasts are but two components of HRVI, with a study of a dozen themes in the Hudson Valley's history forming a core of historical content. This is in addition to [comprehensive guides](#) to the modern historical sites, [pages on each county](#) included in the Hudson Valley and [numerous photo galleries](#).

By Brian Rees



---

## Meet the Intern: Marcus Cimino

---

Marcus Cimino is currently serving his first semester as an intern at the Hudson River Valley Institute. Marcus is a history intern who emphasizes on economic history, as well as various historic figures in



the Hudson Valley's past who have made a dramatic impact on the region. Marcus grew up in Croton-on-the-Hudson and because of this, he is proud to serve at the institute, which focuses on the region he has always resided in. After graduating Marist College after the 2012 summer session with a BA in History and a concentration in public history, Marcus is hoping to be a talent-seeking agent for an independent record label, promoting punk/hardcore and electronic music. In the field of academia,

Marcus will seek to continue his dedication to political activism; namely promoting Libertarian values, fiscal conservatism, and constitutional responsibility within our government. He is already a common figure in the blogosphere, and will hopefully be contributing to Libertarian websites such as Mises.org, or Lewrockwell.com. His capping (graduating) thesis will focus on the failures of the New Deal and its common misconception amongst political and economic historians.

# Contact Us

---

The Hudson River Valley Institute  
Marist College  
3399 North Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387

Phone: 845-575-3052  
Fax: 845-575-3176  
E-mail: [hvi@marist.edu](mailto:hvi@marist.edu)

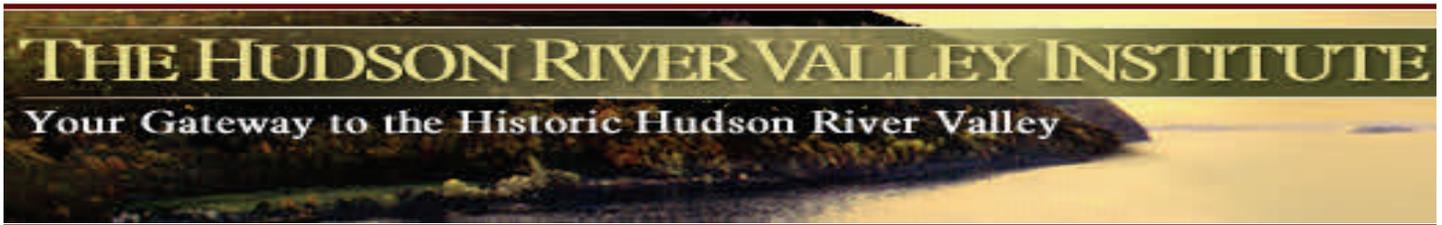
*The Hudson River Valley:  
"The Landscape that Defined America"*

The Hudson River Valley is one of only 49 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](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.org)



## Staff

---

Dr. Thomas Wermuth, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Director, Hudson River Valley Institute  
Dr. Colonel James M. Johnson (U.S. Army, ret.), Executive Director, Hudson River Valley Institute  
Christopher Pryslopski, Program Director  
Jason Schaaf, Educational Supervisor  
Andy Villani, Coordinator

## Contributors to the Issue:

---

Brian Rees, Editor/Intern

Sean Vitti, Intern

Travis Fink, Intern

Jason Schaaf, Staff Editor

Marcus Cimino, Intern

Christina Ritter, Intern

Christopher Pryslopski, Staff

Samantha McNerney, Intern

Peter Rottenbacher, Intern

Andy Villani, Staff