Welcome back to another semester with the Hudson River Valley Institute!

We are anticipating another strong semester. We have good batch of interns this semester; and you’ll be meeting them a few at a time in our newsletters. The interns will be working on a wide range of projects this year, following the HRV NHA’s theme “Corridor of Commerce,” on the history of industry and travel in the Valley.

Over the winter break a substantial amount of work was added to the Digital Library. A large group of George Washington letters, ranging from the dates 1779 to 1783, has been put on the web, http://www.hudsonrivervalley.net. Three new sets of lesson plans have also been created and prepped to put on our website, and they will be added to the website within the next month.

We continue to thank you for supporting the Hudson River Valley Institute and hope that we continue to meet your expectations.

Meet the Interns

Kim Wilson, a senior who is majoring in History and secondary education, is interning at the Hudson River Valley Institute as intern coordinator. She essentially fills the roll of liaison between the interns and the directors, Christopher Pryslopsi and Colonel James Johnson. She keeps track of all of the
interns progress both within the office and on their independent research projects. She provides feedback to all the interns, as well as answering questions and providing assistance on individual projects. She devised a system for keeping track of the time and work that interns and volunteers put into the Institute. She maintains a work-journal that documents the progress of the semester, and reports to Mr. Pryslopski and Colonel Johnson in weekly meetings. Kim is also the President of the History Club at Marist College, and in November she was one of two representatives from Marist to attend the SCUSA conference at the Military Academy at West Point.

Neil Bhatiya, a junior who is majoring in History, is researching the history of the West Point Foundry site in Cold Spring, New York. His work will chart the rise of the Foundry, from its incorporation in 1818 to its decline at the turn of the twentieth century. He plans to highlight important developments related to the transportation improvements that provided access to markets, the role of Superintendent Robert Parrott in the development of artillery at the Foundry, and the living conditions of its laborers. He also plans to discuss the environmental impact the West Point Foundry site had on the Hudson River Valley, as well as the restoration and preservation efforts of organizations such as Scenic Hudson, Inc. and the Putnam County Historical Society. Neil also serves as treasurer to the History Club and he is also interning at the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (FERI), on the “Remembering Greatness” biographies project.

~Events In Honor of Black History Month~

Thursday, February 24th
The Metropolitan Museum of Art will be sponsoring a slide show of African-American Artists and their art at the Ossining Public Library. Randolph A Williams, a consultant for the Metropolitan, will host the event. It will begin at 7:30p.m. and admission is free. (914) 941-2416.

**Saturday, February 26th**

At St. Paul’s Church National Historic Site there will be a Presidents Day and African American History Month Program. Besides various Past Presidents, Harriet Tubman will visit the program, and there will also be a demonstration of African-Americans who fought in the Civil War on the side of the Union. The event begins at noon and runs until 4p.m., admission is free.

**Monday, February 28th**

There will be an exhibit at the Irvington Public Library of photographs of the Civil Rights Movement by James Hinton. For more information call (914) 591-7840.

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**Contact Us**

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*The Hudson River Valley Institute*

*Your Gateway to the Historic Hudson River Valley*

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