

The Hudson River: The Westchester Experience Teacherhostel, July 24 to July 27.

Teachers from Orange, Ulster and Westchester counties, Massachusetts, and the Riverside Park Fund in New York participated in the four day program designed to inform them about the history and resources of the Hudson River in Westchester by bringing them to the historic sites along the river, going on the river, and seeing the changes from colonial times to the 21st century. The program combined music, art, science, history, and language arts while giving the participants an opportunity to directly experience the river itself.

"I think what you created was amazing and the best course I have taken... and I am very old! Thanks for your leadership, organization and the gin and tonic!!!" Pam Park
Middle School Teacher

Participating organizations in the program included Beczak Environmental Center, Hudson River Museum, Lyndhurst, Philipse Manor Hall, Philipsburg, and Scenic Hudson, Sunnyside, and the Yonkers Riverfront Library. In addition to the talks, walks, and curriculum workshops at these locations, participants went out on the river with the Riverkeeper following a discussion on the future of the GM site with Sleepy Hollow Mayor Philip Zegarelli held at the top of the Tarrytown Lighthouse. On the final day of the program, the participants joined the Teaching the Hudson Valley summer institute at the Wallace Center in Hyde Park for a panel discussion on the trends in the region, individual sessions with the Hudson River Estuary Program and Institute of Ecosystem Studies, and a performance by with Pete Seeger.

Upcoming Events

- SEPTEMBER 16:**
Ramble with Sybil bus ride with Vin Dacquino
- OCTOBER 10:**
The Excavations at Bethsaida, Israel bus trip to University of Hartford
- OCTOBER 14:**
Amistad — A visit to Poughkeepsie
- OCTOBER 16:**
Treasures of the Temple: Have Artifacts from the Jerusalem Temple Been Discovered? Richard Freund, University of Hartford, JCC NYC
- OCTOBER 19:**
Builders of America Exhibit opening University of Hartford
- OCTOBER 28:**
American Splendor: Hudson River Art, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford
- NOVEMBER 13:**
Cosmic Geography: The Impact of Assyria's Attack on Jerusalem, Peter Feinman, Institute of History, Archaeology, and Education, JCC NYC
- DECEMBER 4:**
Herod's Jerusalem, Kathryn Gleason, Cornell University, JCC NYC

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The American Revolution in the Hudson Valley Teacherhostel, June 27 to June 30.

Participants in the 4-day program included teachers and educators from the Bronx, Dutchess, Long Island, Orange, Ulster, Westchester, and upstate New York. The program consisted of classes at West Point and visits to American Revolution historic sites and museums including Constitution Island, Fort Montgomery, Knox's Headquarters, the Last Cantonment, Mount Gulian, Washington's Headquarters, West Point Museum, and the Van Wyck Homestead. The classes, visits, and curriculum workshops educated the teachers on the resources available for teaching the American Revolution in the Hudson Valley while providing a first-hand perspective on where the battles actually occurred.

The plenary speaker for the program was Barnet Schecter, author of *The Battle for New York: The City at the Heart of the American Revolution*. His topic at The Thayer Hotel was "REDEFINING THE BATTLE FOR NEW YORK IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION." As the title of his book suggests, he sought to remind the teachers that the American Revolution was not something which just took place in the Boston area and at Yorktown with a frozen winter at Valley Forge in-between. New York City and the surrounding areas (which often later became part of the City), played an important role in the effort to divide and conquer the colonies.

This theme was further elaborated on by Ray Raymond, former political officer in the British Consulate and current SUNY professor and by Major Jason Palmer, West Point history department, the host for our West Point visit. Prof. Raymond spoke approvingly of the American side his

own ancestors had supported. At Washington's Headquarters, he described his admiration for George

"I was enthusiastic from the moment Peter mentioned his idea of bringing history teachers together to visit the historic sites of the Hudson River Valley. My first response was as an historian, "What a lucky group to get an inside look at such an important part of American history."
Richard de Koster
Executive Director
Constitution Island Association, Inc.

Washington, the strategist over British tacticians. Raymond echoed the comments of Schecter of the significance of the Hudson Valley in the war which formed a nice segue into Major Palmer's talk and military tour of West Point including Fort Putnam. These talks provided the framework around which one could observe the unfolding of American history as one visited the sites.

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Teacher Hostels, cont. from page 1.

Special thanks go to: Charles Lyle who was not part of the scheduled program but who happen to be at Mount Gulian when the teachers were there and spoke about his current work at that site and Constitution Island; Cliff Foley and Mary Schmalz, retired teachers and late additions to the program, who brought the teachers up to date on the plans for development next to the Van Wyck Homestead following the June 18 article in the New York Times; Mel Johnson, Washington's Headquarters site historian, who engaged in an impromptu discussion with speaker Ray Raymond that enlivened the program and provided ideas for the February birthday celebration; Grant Miller, New Windsor Cantonment, who filled in at The Last Encampment when the flood conditions prevented Don Van Leuven from leaving his day job to meet us.

The program ended with a scenic cruise of the Hudson River.



Re-enactor Larry Maxwell who was joined by his daughter Grace Maxwell who is a principal and teacher in Korea.

The Hudson River Art Teacherhostel, July 22-23

Teachers from Boston to Buffalo and from the Hudson Valley participated in the weekend program designed to inform them about the Hudson River Art experience by bringing them to the historic homes and sites. The educators stood where the painters once stood at various scenic venues. Despite the rains which washed out roads prior to the program and made landscape walks a challenge, the participants were able to gain insight into the Hudson River Art experience especially with lunch from the site of the Catskill Mountain House, the preeminent tourist site in America in the first half of the 19th century.

Participating organizations in the program included the Catskill Center, Mountain Top Historical Society, Olana State Historic Site, and Cedar Grove, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. Special thanks for making the program a success despite the challenges from nature and staff departures go to: Raymond Beecher, Greene County Historian, for his talk about his involvement in saving Cedar Grove as an historic site; Aaron Bennett, Catskill Center, for informing the teachers about the ecology of the region and the related lesson plans available to them; Bob Gildersleeve, Mountain Top Historical Society, a retired teacher, for his efforts as a guide in making the local landscape come alive and for auto-

graphing his book to his appreciative fans following the bus tour; Carri Manchester, Olana, for her crucial help in making the program a reality; Richard Philip, a volunteer at Cedar Grove who did a superb job picking up the ball during an interim period.

"Thank you for the wonderful seminar weekend on the Romantic painters. The group's Romantic Ramblings covered so much more than mere painters and I came home with ideas, increased knowledge, new insights, new friends and an eagerness to do more in the Catskills/Hudson River Valley. I plan to share my weekend with my colleagues this fall and endorse your Teacherhostel offerings."

Julia Bliven
Liverpool High School

One possible outcome of the program was the recognition of a more extensive program in the future on the Catskills which brings together the ecology, art, history, and literature of the region from the Ice Age to the Tourist Age.

"Even in the pouring rain, Teacherhostel participants returned smiling and clearly affected from an extended tour of Olana's landscape to discuss their impressions of the estate and learn about educational opportunities."

Carri L. Manchester
IPA/Director of Education, Olana

The Roosevelt Experience Teacherhostel, July 17-20.

Teachers from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and the Hudson Valley participated in the program designed to inform them about the Roosevelt experience by bringing them to the historic homes and sites in Hyde Park where they lived and are commemorated. Participating organizations in the program included the Eleanor Roosevelt at Val-Kill (ERVK), Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (FERI), FDR Library, National Park Service (NPS), Scenic Hudson.

Special thanks for making the program a success:

David Woolner and Chris Breiseth (FERI), Susanne Norris and Fran Urbin (NPS), Jeff Urbin (FDR Library), Andy Bicking (Scenic Hudson), Cathy Collins, Jennifer Triplett, and Lara Cifone (ERVK) and to our guest speakers, Ray Raymond and Joyce Ghee who provided contrasting insights along with David Woolner to Roosevelt the global strategist with Roosevelt the local and county historian. During the program one was constantly reminded of these two aspects of the life of Franklin Roosevelt as a leader in the global arena, who helped create institutions which continue to this very day, with his love of local history in Hyde Park, Dutchess County, the Hudson Valley, and New York. Perhaps it was his own childhood experiences and love of local history which help keep him grounded during years of the Depression and world war.

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2. To increase the public awareness of the benefits of archaeology and history through public programs.
3. To provide history and archaeology enrichment programs at the k-12 level
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