



HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY HUDSON RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



A Monthly Newsletter from the [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#) and the [Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area](#)

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What's New?

Greenway Joint Board Meeting

On January 16, 2008, the Hudson River Valley Greenway held a joint meeting of the Boards of the Communities Council and the Conservancy, including the National Heritage Area, at the Henry A. Wallace Center of the Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, NY.

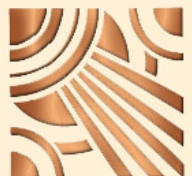
The Greenway was privileged to have as a guest speaker [Senator Stephen Saland](#). Senator Saland addressed the Board members and meeting attendees, announcing the awardees of the 2007 [Greenway Trail Grants](#). Senator Saland has long been a champion of the Greenway's programs. Along with [Senator Vincent Leibel](#), Senator Saland helped to secure the funding for the 2007 round of trail grants. Many of the recipients of the grants were on hand to talk about their projects, giving the Board a first-hand look at how the funds would be used to improve trails throughout the Greenway trail system.



Greenway Joint Board Meeting, January 2008

This year's recipients of Greenway Trail Grants are:

- Rhinebeck Bike/Walk Tour (Town of Rhinebeck)
- Red Hook Heritage Breadbasket Trail (Winnakee Land Trust)
- Mount Gulian Trail Interpretive Plan (Mount Gulian Society)
- Plum Point Park at Kowawese State Park (Town of New Windsor)
- Storm King: Birthplace of the Environmental Protection Movement (Friends of Palisades Interstate Park Commission)
- Take-A-Hike! Program (Hudson Highlands Land Trust)
- Hoosic River Greenway (Hoosic River Watershed Association)
- Kline Plantasies Killitie Trail (The Children's Museum of Science and Technology)
- Appalachian Trail at Bear Mountain: East Face Bridge (NY-NJ Trail Conference)
- Milton-on-Hudson Train Station (Town of Marlborough)
- Highland Landing Park (Town of Lloyd)
- Kaplan's Pond Trail Construction and Extension (Village of Croton-on-Hudson)
- Irvington Trail Parking (Village of Irvington)



In addition to the Trails Grants, Greenway Community Grants were awarded to the Towns of [East Fishkill](#), [Kinderhook](#), and [Montgomery](#). A Greenway Compact Grant was awarded to the [Village of Wappingers Falls](#). Additionally, a Greenway Water Trail Grant was awarded to the [Hudson River Maritime Museum](#) in the City of Kingston.

The Greenway Board Meeting also included informative presentations from Tara Sullivan, Executive Director of the [Hudson Fulton Champlain Quadricentennial Commission](#), as well as Ned Sullivan and Seth McKee of [Scenic Hudson](#). The Greenway was also pleased to have John Clarke from Dutchess County Planning, and Sarah Olson, Superintendent at the Roosevelt/Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, welcome the Board and present the latest endeavors at each of their organizations. The [webcast of this Board Meeting](#) may be viewed through the Greenway website.

New Greenway Trail Designations

Two new segments were added to the Greenway Land Trail at the Board Meeting. The Peach Hill Park Trails in Dutchess County and the Piermont Trail in Rockland County were officially designated as part of the Greenway Trail.



New Communities

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is pleased to welcome the [Town of Northumberland](#), [Town of Saratoga](#), [City of Saratoga Springs](#), [Village of Schuylerville](#), [Town of Stillwater](#), and the Village of Victory as newly designated Greenway Communities. The total number of Greenway Communities is now 242. In addition, the Village of Pelham in Westchester County joined the [Westchester County Compact](#).

State of the State

On January 9th, Governor Spitzer gave his annual State of the State address, and outlined some very important initiatives in the Hudson River Valley. With the upcoming Quadricentennial, there will be nationwide as well as international focus on the Hudson Valley. One of the key projects that the Governor is supporting is the transformation of the abandoned Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge into the "Walkway Over the Hudson." This historic structure will once again be a notable feature of the Hudson Valley, providing spectacular views up and down the River. The Greenway is pleased to have supported this project for a number of years, and hopes that this will be a cornerstone of the Quadricentennial celebrations. Governor Spitzer also announced funding for grants to improve the Hudson River Estuary, as well as \$100 million for repairs at state parks. The Greenway and National Heritage Area look forward to working with our New York State partners as we strive to preserve our heritage while promoting economic development.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Applications for the next round of [Greenway Communities Grants](#) will be due February 13th for our March Board Meeting. Applications received after this date will be considered for our June Board Meeting. Applications can be downloaded from the Hudson River Valley Greenway Website by clicking [here](#).

["Teaching the Hudson Valley" place-based K-12 curriculum development proposals](#): Funded by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area for public and private schools and site educators in the region to help teachers develop place-based lessons that complement core curriculum and standards and partner with significant cultural, historic, and/or natural resources. For details or assistance, phone Debi Duke, 845 229-9116 x35, FDR National Historic Site, or e-mail rova_TeachingtheHudsonValley@nps.gov. (March 17)

Other Grant Opportunities:

[New York Main Streets Program](#): To provide financial and technical resources to help communities with efforts to preserve and revitalize mixed-use main street/downtown business districts. The Program will provide grants to stimulate reinvestment in properties located within mixed-use business districts located in urban, small town, and rural areas consistent with Articles 16A and 17B of the Private Housing Finance Law (PHFL). (March 25)



[2008 Water Quality Planning and Implementation Grants](#) for New York City Watershed Communities. Eligible projects include preparation or updating of a municipal Master Plan or Comprehensive Plan, or a component thereof, demonstrating that the municipal authority has considered land use influences resulting from the New York City Watershed Memorandum of Agreement and the need to enhance water quality protection in the NYC Watershed. (March 31)

[Safe Routes to School \(SRTS\)](#) is a federal, state and local effort to enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school. The Safe Routes to School Program is funded by the Federal Highway Administration. Projects must have a minimum total cost of \$25,000. The maximum total cost for non-infrastructure projects is \$150,000; for infrastructure projects, \$400,000. The program is federally funded with the following provisions: no local match is required; and, Program monies cannot be used as a match for another federal agency's funds. (April 1, 2008)

[Conservation Trust grants from the National Geographic Society](#) For conservation and research programs promoting sustainable use and preservation of the earth's biological, cultural, and historical resources. Grants of up to \$20,000 each to individuals who have conducted prior research or conservation work related to the proposed program. (Open)

[Collaboration Grants](#) Applications for grants from Dyson Foundation's Strategic Restructuring Initiative, which supports collaboration of two or more organizations intent on establishing a continuing relationship to increase efficiency and service. Grants awarded in four categories: assessment, planning, integration, and enhancement. (Open)

[Waste Reduction, Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Programs](#): Statewide and municipality-specific state assistance programs for waste reduction, recycling and household hazardous waste (HHW) programs. (Open)

[Management Assistance Mini-Grant Program](#). helps board and staff members and volunteers develop skills by providing financial support to hire consultants and to help defray professional-development costs. (Open)

[Environmental Training and Technical Assistance Grants](#): Applications for training and technical-assistance funds to strengthen nonprofit environmental organizations in areas including fund raising, organizational development, and planning. Can be from regional, statewide, or local grass-roots organizations serving low-income or minority constituencies that have environmental issues as a significant part of the organization's agenda. (Open)



[Local Agricultural Protection Municipal Planning Grant Program](#) from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. Grants up to \$25,000 or 75% of planning costs for local agricultural protection plans. Eligible plans identify farmland proposed to be protected, the land's value to the local economy and as open space, and likelihood / consequences of commercial development.

[Google's In-Kind Advertising Services to Nonprofits](#) This program supports organizations that share the company's philosophy of community service worldwide in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy, and the arts. (Open)

[The Trust's National Preservation Endowment](#) offers financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, for-profit companies, and individuals involved in preservation-related projects. (Open)

Upcoming Events

- 7/3-13: Eighth Annual Great Hudson River Paddle ([registration now open!](#))
- 7/29-31: Teaching the Hudson Valley Summer Institute at Hyde Park. This year's topic will be "Teaching the Hudson Valley Diversity: Culture, History, and Nature 1609-2009."

Other Upcoming Events Around the Region

2/02: [Family First Saturdays at the Neuberger Museum of Art](#): What I see when I look around: Like the artists featured in Person of the Crowd, create art about observations on everyday life. Workshops are for children ages 5-10. (914) 251-6100.



[It's Groundhog Day!](#): Come spend the morning at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum's Outdoor Discovery Center and celebrate Groundhog Day. Meet a live hedgehog. (845) 534-5506 x204

[Black History: A Celebration Through Word and Song at Mount Gulian](#): Myra Armstead, Professor at Bard College, will share the story of James Brown, Mount Gulian's gardener in the 19th century. The program will include a performance of gospel music by the members of HIS Choir, led by Gretchen Reed. (845) 831-8172.

[Groundhog Walk at Olana](#): Join an early morning outing in search of groundhogs looking for their shadows. Pre-registration required by 4:00PM the Friday preceding. (518) 828-0135

2/03: [James Fenimore Cooper and Thomas Cole](#): Thomas Cole, founder of the Hudson River School, and James Fenimore Cooper, traditionally called "our first novelist," began their careers at the same moment and were responses to the American culture. Cedar Grove presents this discussion as part of its Salon Series. (518) 943-7465

2/03,10,17 [Cabin Fever Escape at Special Saratoga National Historical Park](#): Enjoy "Armchair tours" of Glacier National Park, Gettysburg National Park, and Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. (518) 664-9821 x224

2/09: [Community Free Days at Dia:Beacon](#): Residents of Dutchess County are invited to visit Dia:Beacon free of charge. The date coincides with "Second Saturday Beacon." (845) 440-0100.

[Storytelling and Art-Making at the Albany Institute of History and Art](#): Preschool children and their companions will hear a story by Robert Sabuda and have the opportunity to create their own snow scenes. (518) 463-4478 x435

[Valentines Workshop at the Harness Racing Museum](#): Children are invited to play games and paint horseshoes to give their Valentines luck. Reservations required. (845) 294-6330

[Udu Drum-Making Workshop](#): The New York State Museum welcomes Mikki Conn who will instruct participants in how to make this ceremonial Nigerian drum using red clay. Registration required. (518) 473-7154

[Exquisite Orchards - Afternoon Tea](#): Spend the morning at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum for tea and scones while learning about orchids. Orchids will be available for purchase. Registration required. (845) 534-5506 x204

[Family Art and Gallery Adventure at the Albany Institute of History and Art](#): Explore drawing from direct observation. Learn the fundamentals of composition and proportion by sketching galleries. (518) 463-4478

[EagleFest](#): Van Cortlandt Manor participates this year in Teatown Lake Reservation's popular EagleFest, a day-long celebration of the bald eagle's winter return to the Hudson River Valley. (914) 271-8981

2/13: [Art Sandwiched-In](#): Bring lunch or buy one in the café and enjoy an informal talk and gallery tour of Person of the Crowd with exhibition curator and Museum Director Thom Collins at the Neuberger Museum of Art. (914) 251-6100



- 2/15-17: [Presidents Day Weekend Tours](#): The Civil War impacted all citizens including artist Frederic Edwin Church. Join Olana for themed tours that shed light on the influence of the Civil War on Church and his art. (518) 828-0135
- 2/16: [Owl Prowl at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Learn about owls and then enjoy a short hike trying to call in some of these fascinating hunters of the night. Registration required. (845) 534-5506 x204
- 2/19-22: [Winter Time Tunnel Camp](#): Children in 1st through 7th grades are invited to the New York State Museum's highly acclaimed Time Tunnel day camp. Registration required (518) 402-5019
- 2/21: [Day Breaks at the Neuberger Museum of Art](#): Exploring the African art collection: Kids can enjoy an afternoon of creativity and fun with a storytelling performance and art workshop. Reservations required (914) 251-6113
- 2/23: [Gallery Talks at Dia:Beacon](#): Enjoy this presentation on artist Joseph Beuys. (845) 440-0100 x44
- [Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy this house tour specifically geared toward children and families. (518) 828-0135
- 2/23-24: [Maple Sugar Tours](#): Get a taste of maple sugaring at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. Includes a walk through the forest, stopping at points of interest to learn aspects of making maple sugar. (845) 534-5506 x204
- 2/26-4/1: [Hudson Highlands Nature Museum's After School Program](#): Children in K through 2nd grade will learn about bears while children in 3rd through 5th grade will learn how to make snowshoes, shelter, and fire. Registration required. (845) 534-5506 x204

Quadricentennial Countdown



335 Days Until the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial
Visit www.exploreny400.com for more information

Heritage Spotlight

[Madame Brett Homestead](#)

Located in the City of Beacon, the Madame Brett Homestead is the oldest house in Dutchess County. The home is named for Catheryna Rombout Brett who inherited the land from her father and settled here during the summer of 1708 with her husband, British Navy lieutenant Roger Brett. Constructed in 1709, the home gained significance as the residence of the first white woman to settle in the Hudson River Highlands.

The Dutch-style house was built in two phases: the first about 1709 by Roger and Catheryna Brett, with a more elaborate addition around 1715.

During the American Revolutionary War, the Homestead was used for shelter and as a storage facility for the Americans. Notable guests at the home included George Washington, Baron von Stuben, and Marquis de La Fayette. In 1800 Brett's great granddaughter, Alice Schenck Teller, remodeled the home with her husband, Isaac Teller. After her husband's death, the home was renamed "Teller's Villa" and became a boarding house.

The family continued to live in the home until 1954 when the site was considered for construction of a supermarket. It was at this time that the Melzingah chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) purchased the home and saved it from demolition. Today, the DAR operates the Madame Brett Homestead as a house museum. In 1976, the home was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Many of the original features of the home have been retained. The scalloped shingles, Dutch doors, and sloping dormers are all original to the home. Inside, the original furnishings demonstrate the evolution of American taste through seven generations of a single family. Several rooms have been redecorated in the prevailing styles of the day (primarily Federal and Colonial Revival), while others, such as the original kitchen, maintain their 18th-century appearance. All furnishings are from the family's personal collection, including Georgian, Empire, and Victorian furniture; Oriental carpets; a collection of 18th-century Chinese porcelain; silver; and paintings.

The Madam Brett Homestead, at 50 Van Nydeck Avenue in Beacon, is open 1-4 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month. Guided tours. Group and Guided tours are available by appointment during the week. Admission fee. 845-831-6533.



Green Tip of the Month

This month, turn down your thermostat by 2 degrees. Each month would reduce your carbon footprint by about 53lbs of CO2. Over the winter months that comes to a savings of about 318lbs!

Shandaken

A Greenway Community since July of 2006, Shandaken is an unexpected trove of natural and built treasures. Shandaken is a cornucopia of different cultures and attractions. Located along the Route 28 corridor within the Catskill State Park, the mountainous town lands are over two-thirds state owned and include Slide Mountain, the highest peak in the Catskill range, at 4,220 feet. While the town is located in one place on the map, it sometimes refers to all of the small hamlets and communities including Phoenicia, Shandaken, Oliverea, Big Indian, and others.



Shandaken was originally settled around the Revolutionary War period. The town was formally established on April 9, 1804 when Governor George Clinton signed chapter 80 of the laws of 1804. Shandaken was separated from the Town of Woodstock and the first Town meeting was by law held the following year at the Home of William Rogers, the first Town Clerk. Shandaken hamlet is located in the central portion of Shandaken Township.

The word "Shandaken", an American Indian derivative meaning "rapid waters", refers to the Esopus Creek, which flows through the Town and supplies water to the Ashokan Reservoir, one of New York City's major water sources. Shandaken Centre once housed a chair factory and several substantial hotels and was a thriving business center with wagon and blacksmith shops, grist mill, sawmill, grocery and general stores, Post Office, railroad station and church.

Today, the main streets of these towns are charming to behold, with small cafés and restaurants, antique shops and boutiques. The French restaurants were founded by chefs from the Old Country searching for a retreat from the city in the 1950s. The restaurants are spread out in the different hamlets, just like the ashrams. The ashrams were established enough that they were visited in the 1960s by the likes of Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin. You'll find one in Phoenicia, one in Mount Tremper, and one in Big Indian, each focusing on a different path to enlightenment.

Rounding out Shandaken's plethora of fanciful locales is the World's largest kaleidoscope. The kaleidoscope is 37 feet tall and was built on a whim from a converted silo. Twenty people can crowd inside at the bottom, and watch 254 hexagonal images dance across a palette that appears to be 50 feet in diameter, in perfect and symmetrical tandem.

Did You Know?

Did you know that Troy once produced the secret ink for all U.S. currency?

During the 19th Century, Titus Eddy ran a successful printing and ink manufacturing business in the City of Troy. His success attracted the attention of the government who hired Titus to invent and manufacture the formula for the ink used to print United States currency.

Titus kept the secret formula well-guarded. It was said that he would lock himself in a room to manufacture the ink each year. No one knew the secret formula, including the six men he had hired to assist him. Titus would even purchase different ingredients under different names to help preserve the secret. Eventually, Titus accumulated a substantial fortune and lived in one of Troy's most prominent homes.



When Titus died, his son James inherited the business along with the secret formula and continued producing the ink until 1908. When James died in 1918, the secret formula died with him, and his estate went to his wife and daughter. In memory of her husband, Elizabeth Shields Hart Eddy, herself was a descendent of the very prominent Hart family of Troy, provided the funds to establish the James A. Eddy Memorial Foundation with a vision of caring for the aging community. Today the Eddy serves over 30,000 people annually and has become a nationally-recognized leader in high quality senior services.

Have some good Hudson Valley Trivia you'd like to share with everyone? [Let us know!](#)

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And the National Heritage Website at www.hudsonrivervalley.com