



Join the Parade and our community CELEBRATION OF HOPE for a joyous and peaceful world.
ALL WELCOME.



Sinterklaas!

An Old Dutch Tradition in the Hudson Valley

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019
RHINEBECK, NEW YORK



SinterklaasHudsonValley.com



Facebook.com/sinterklaashinebeck
Facebook.com/sinterklaaskingston



★ The Spirit of Sinterklaas

He was Odin.
And Good King Wenceslas.
Père Noël, Father Frost.
Then he was St. Nicholas.
He became Sinterklaas.
Then Santa Claus.
He's even been called
"Sandy Claws."

He is Mother Teresa, Gandhi,
the Dalai Lama and Schindler.
But whatever name we have
called him, he has always
been the same.

He loves children, is generous,
protects and honors the poor,
brings blessings and gifts,
protection, food and clothing.
He comes at the darkest time
to remind us of the light.

He is the good king,
the kind teacher;
he "flies" to those in need,
the creatures all love him,
he comes with good intent.
His bag is really full of love
and hope and caring...
He is humanity at its best.



★ 6 THINGS YOU MUST DO AT SINTERKLAAS!

- ★ **1. MAKE YOUR CROWN**
and Decorate your Branch for the Parade.
Crowns & Branches in the Fire House—
more info on page 6.
- ★ **2. MAKE YOUR WISH**
Kids and parents alike—visit the WISH LADY and
the PEACE DOVE. Details on page 6.
- ★ **3. GET YOUR STAR**
Read all about it in the blue box. 
- ★ **4. VISIT THE GIANT FISH!**
DON'T MISS the Mermaid and her sea star.
Receive a pearl of wisdom and the blessing
of the bubbles.
- ★ **5. FIND THE FISH?**
Throughout this book there many fish,
although not as many as in the Hudson River.
How many can you find?
- ★ **6. COME TO THE PAGEANT**
After the PARADE passes, follow along
to the PAGEANT and the STAR CEREMONY.
Remember to bring your STAR!



WELCOME!

This is the celebration where **CHILDREN** are
transformed into **KINGS** and **QUEENS** and honored as
the bringers of the light at the darkest time of year.

The tradition of Sinterklaas comes all the way from the
Netherlands, brought by Dutch settlers who arrived
in Hudson Valley over 300 years ago. Sinterklaas,
the patron of children and sailors, finds a welcoming
community in the Mid-Hudson Valley as we re-create
the story through the lens of modern-day America.

Our revived tradition is non-denominational and all
inclusive – everyone is invited to participate! The
young, the old, the in-between – absolutely everyone
and anyone who wants to be part of a community of
hope for a joyous and peaceful world are all welcome.

Inside this book you will find more than a schedule to
help you navigate the plethora of events and activities.

You will also find the history, the stories, and the
details that will add to the richness of the experience
for you and your family!



Be sure to get your STAR
for the Children's Star
Celebration after the parade.
Look for them on sale at
shops with the Sinterklaas
"Stars for Sale Here" sign, and
at the "Ask Me" table.
Read more on page 12.



WHY YOU NEED A STAR

At the end of the parade,
everyone will gather for the
final ritual of the pageant, the
moment you and your STAR
have been waiting for. The
Master of Ceremonies will call
upon all those present to honor
our children, our hope for the
future, our joy of today.

He will ask you to honor the
children. At that time you will
hold your STAR at the children's
waist level elevating them, for a
brief moment, on a sea of stars
above everyone in the commu-
nity. Then you will be asked to
stand again and raise your star
above your heads – thus placing
you, the children and the entire
community in its proper place in
the firmament—all of us as one
and at peace under the stars.



BIG FISH...

Little Fish...

Ancient fish...

Newborn fish...

And every one in between – those are our Hudson River fish—268 varieties of them! (and yes there is a shark, a dart and a seahorse among them!)

And all are endangered if even one is neglected.

All of them are needed to make our estuary work!

BALANCE

We can be delighted by the appearance this year of a 14 foot sturgeon leaping out of the River near Hyde Park and read all about it in all the papers at the same time that we are unaware that the tiny and humble Menhaden—a fish called “The Most Important Fish in the Sea” is also endangered.

One is seen leaping while the other goes unnoticed breeding, feeding, cleansing and nourishing the River and all its fishes.



The STURGEON and the MENHADEN

The Sturgeon, known as the dinosaur of the Hudson, is an ancient creature millions of years old. Some speculate that Jonah’s whale was really a sturgeon. Known as a Royal Fish—meaning that no one can eat it or sell it if caught—it must be turned over to the King and Queen, so no one can profit from its capture, and it is thus protected. Today, the sturgeon is protected by federal law and still it is the most endangered species in the Hudson River.

They are among the longest-lived of the fishes, living well over 100 years, and they can grow to immense sizes! In June 2018 a 14.1-foot-long female was seen leaping out of the water at Hyde Park. It seems mythical, but here have always been stories from “old timers” of giant sturgeon that big. Of course, no one believed them!

Sturgeon have bony plates covering the head and five rows of similar plates along the body. The tail fin’s upper lobe is longer than the lower. The toothless mouth, on the underside of the snout, is preceded by four sensitive tactile barbels that the fish drags over the bottom in search of invertebrates and “small fishes.”

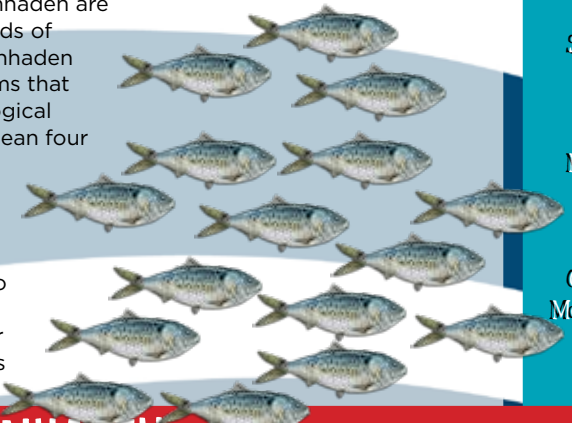
Namely the lowly Menhaden—known as the “most important fish in the sea” it is also the most expendable. Menhaden are filter feeders. They swim in vast schools of hundreds of thousands of fish. Mouths agape as they feed, menhaden are living vacuum cleaners sucking up algae blooms that deplete inshore waters of oxygen and create biological deserts in the sea. A single adult menhaden can clean four to seven gallons of water in a minute.

The name menhaden is a corruption of “munhawhatteaug,” which means fertilizer in Algonquian. Native Americans taught the pilgrims to plant them with their corn, enabling colonists to coax a crop from rocky New England soils. Bony and smelly, menhaden have rarely been caught for food. But their oil greased the wheels of America’s machine age after the Civil War, replacing whale oil as a cheaper alternative. Now they are the “fish oil” touted as a cure for most everything. And they are endangered, too.

The Mermaid, the Sea Star and You...

Water is the element of dreams and the Imagination. And so we asked the Mermaid—a creature of the imagination to team up with a Star Fish (a creature that presents as both imaginary and real) and together call attention to the plight of The Sturgeon and all Hudson River fish right down to the humblest of them all—the Menhaden.

At its heart, Sinterklaas is an exercise in learning the power of art to change the world. This year we call on art AND imagination to encourage our children to take action in support of a real world creatures.



BLESSING OF THE STURGEON

“What is your wish?” asked the fish.
If it is to swim with me – then come!
I am Sturgeon, ancient one.
Come with me, long belly and low
Where fertile rivers flow
From the waters of your mother—
Below the surface and into the deep,
We will swim with bodies bright –
Enter the dreamers sleep at night
Where thoughts may move in
synchronized time,
And words are formed in ancient
rhyme—
Pressed into prehistoric rock
It is written with our bones
Listen carefully! “This is your home!”

Menhaden, Big Eye, Ladyfish, Eel
Shiner, Walleye, Pumpkinseed, Shad
Stargazer, Goldfish, Dace, and Chub
Open our eyes

Carp, Herring, Minnow, Rudd
Alewife, Sucker, Snapper, Pike
Stonecat, Redhorse, Pickerel, and Trout
Open our ears

Salmon, Kokanee, Rockling, Cod
Mummichog, Silverside, Needlefish,
Smelt
Madtom, Lizardfish, Moonfish, and Hake
Open our hearts

Largemouth Bass, Schoolmaster, Sead
Puffer, Croaker, Warmouth, Scup
Stoneroller, Butterfish, Tonguefish,
and Drum
Open our voices

Mackerel, Hogchoker, Sleeper, Spot
Goby, Bluegill, Bowfin, Jack
Catfish, Pollack, Pipefish, Perch

Open our hands to heal the waters
Mothers, Fathers, Sons, and Daughters

– Gigi Alvaré, 2019

MENHADEN service ~ sacrifice ~ fertilizer ~ enricher ~ balance

RHINEBECK FESTIVAL DAY: DECEMBER 7

SAMUEL'S SWEET SHOP 42 E Market St **21**

BEGIN your Sinterklaas Day...

10:00am **BEAR BEAUTY CONTEST** Dress your favorite bear up in anything you wish, meet other bears, and maybe win a prize. All children and adults are invited to submit entries! Many categories! Many honors!

Use the **MAP** on page 8 to find all the Sinterklaas venues in the Village. Match the numbers from the schedule to the numbers on the map to find your way!

ASK ME Ladies!

Have questions? Want to buy Official Sinterklaas Stars, Bejeweled Fish and Headbands, Flags, and more? The Ask Me Ladies can help. Find their booth in front of the Beekman Arms. Or look for the ladies on the street wearing their Ask Me hats.

HOT MEALS!

Fun food all over town. Visit Our Local Restaurateurs And the Churches are serving:

4 Church of the Messiah Parish Hall 11:00am-5:00pm

19 Reformed Church Spaghetti Dinner 4:00-6:00pm

Get a Keepsake of the day from Sinterklaas PhotoBooth

in front of CVS. Have your children's picture taken while sporting their crowns and branches!

For Your Convenience

• Baby Changing Station at Saplings (Montgomery Row, next to Paper Trail)

• Find Porta Potties in the Municipal Parking lot.

BECKMAN ARMS 6387 Mill St (Rt 9) **2**

12:00pm - 2:00pm

OPENING CEREMONY

Words Before All Else

with Jeanne Fleming, Creator of Sinterklaas. Become a fish, join our school with the Holders of the Flame 2019—The Terranova Family. Enjoy appearances from the King of the Sea, Poseidon and some MerFolk who will teach us to breathe under water with this year's Honored Animal, the Sturgeon. See the Polar Bear Swim and be there to pick the first Pocket as Mother Holly opens the doors of the Storytelling House. There will be tales of big fish and little fish and lots of songs. Famed storyteller, Jonathan Kruk will tell the tale of the Mermaid of the Hudson and the legend of St. Nicholas and Dutch New York, Hanukkah Stories, and more!

UPSTATE FILMS 6415 Montgomery St **23**

BINDLESTIFF FAMILY CIRKUS

Perfect for ages 3 + up

12:30pm, 1:45pm, 3:15pm

SINTER CIRKUS with The Bindlestiffs

1:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:00pm

RAZZLE DAZZLE

Presenting Comedy Magic for Families

3RD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 31 Livingston St. **10**

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC!

2:00 Caprice Rouge

2:30 Hudson Valley Gamelan

3:00 Bard College Georgian Choir

3:30 Grumpus Magic

4:15 Raspberry Hill Players

FIRE HOUSE 76 E Market St **6**

10:00am-4:00pm

CROWNS & BRANCHES WORKSHOP

Children are at the heart of the Sinterklaas story:

They are **KINGS & QUEENS** of the Day and we honor them in the Parade and the Pageant. Make sure they get a chance to make their crowns and adorn their branches for the evening events!

• **CHILDREN:** Before you leave the workshop be **SURE** to visit the **WISH LADY**: Make your wishes for your family, your community and the world. Tie them on your branch.

• **ADULTS** be sure to place **YOUR** wishes in the **Peace Dove!**

• Parents: **PURCHASE YOUR STARS** so you can participate in the Children's Star Celebration following the Parade.

• Grab a flag for the Parade

REFORMED CHURCH SANCTUARY corner of South St. & Route 9 **19**

SONGS OF FREEDOM & FAITH

2:00 Southern Dutchess Community Choir

2:30 Souls United Interfaith Gospel choir

3:00 Reggie Harris with Betty and the Baby Boomers

3:30 Vassar Devils

LIBERTY PUBLIC HOUSE 6417 Montgomery St **9**

In the Bar

3:00 Caprice Rouge, Eastern European Music

After Party...

9:00 Hot Jazz & Raise a Glass with Heartstrings Hot Club & Sinterklaas Cast

OBLONG BOOKS 6420 Montgomery St. **15**

STORYTIME Reading & Book Signing
3:00 Susan Cooper: "The Shortest Day"
A reading to herald the winter solstice. For families and children ages 4-8



CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH 6436 Montgomery Street **3**

2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm

INTO THE LIGHT: A Holiday Spectacular

Presented by The Vanaver Caravan & The Arm of the Sea Theater. A Holiday story of a young girl's journey throughout the world searching for the light. Features giant puppets and international music and dance!

METHODIST CHURCH PARISH HALL 83 E Market St (next to the Church) **12**

TOY THEATER

BIG TINY PUPPET SHOWS

1:00-5:00

CONTINUAL PERFORMANCES

• Modern Times Theater: Imaginarium With the Bozo Brothers

• Sarah Nolan: Lisa The Wise

• Liz Joyce and a Couple of Puppets: Little Red Riding Hood

THE GALLERY 47 E Market Street **24**

FISH BOWL THEATER

2:00, 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00pm

Leela Puppet Theater

Classic Rajasthani circus featuring death-defying acts and magic

THE COURTYARD E. Market St. **16**

1:00-5:00pm

Enter the GIANT FISH!!



DON'T MISS the Mermaid and her Sea Star. Receive a Pearl of Wisdom and the Blessing of the Bubbles.

TOWN HALL 76 E Market St **20**

MUSIC & DANCE

2:00 Roger the Jester

2:45 Uptown Lowdown Dancers

3:00 Mid-Hudson Mexican Folkloric Group

3:30 Ol' Factory Brass Band

4:00 Dog on Fleas

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 83 E Market St **11**

HORNS A PLENTY!

2:00 Brasskill

2:30 Giglio Band

3:00 Hungry March Band

3:30 Demolition Brass Band

4:00 Funkrust Brass Band

Inspired by the Hudson Valley BrassRoots Festival.

FOSTER'S PARKING LOT Center of Town **7**

presented by the Bindlestiff Family Cirkus

THE JOSHUA J. SUPERSHOW

starring Joshua J. Superstar.

This spectacle fuses side-splitting comedy, nail-biting circus stunts, and tons of audience participation.

HOME SPUN

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Take a whirl around!

PLUS SPECIAL GRUMPUS PERFORMANCE

ALL AROUND TOWN

Roaming the streets for your entertainment... and on The "Thorough Fair" Starting at 2pm!

East Market Street — between Rte. 9 to Center St. when the street closes.

ALL THE BRASS BANDS: Ol' Factory Brass Band, Giglio Band, Hungry March Band, Brasskill, and Demolition Brass Band

• BATALA

• LE VELO ROUGE

• FAERIES OF THE FOREST

• ROGER THE JESTER

• POKINGBROOK MORRIS DANCERS

• BOND STREET STILT BAND

THE POLAR BEAR with his Trainer & Musical Sidekick Sing a song & watch the bear transform.

THE POCKET LADY Sinterklaas' Symbol of Generosity. Find her with her "Pocket Lady Pal" just about anywhere around town. Go inside her beautiful cape and see what secret surprise she has in store just for you!

MOTHER HOLLY Hear stories of creatures large & small.

OUR OWN GRUMPUSES Dancing all around town.

THE CHINELOS Traditional dancers in spectacular costumes from the state of Morelos, Mexico.

SAPLING 6423 Montgomery Row **13**

2:00-5:00pm

Hudson Valley Wild presents 7 short films about

LIFE UNDER WATER

featuring our honored animal the Sturgeon and other sea creatures. Continuous loop.

REFORMED CHURCH South St. & Rte 9 **19**

5:00pm LIVING NATIVITY

DAPSON-CHESTNEY PARKING LOT **5**

5:30pm

HAVDALAH Candle Lighting

Walk 2 blocks west from the traffic light. Led by the Northern Dutchess Hebrew School, J.A.N.D. and Temple Emanuel.

Bring your Crowns & Branches, STARS & Flags to the:

17 CHILDREN'S STARLIGHT PARADE

6:00 pm Parade begins on West Market St. and proceeds through the Village and continues to the Municipal Lot for the Star Pageant. See the map for the route.

EVERYONE Follow the Parade to the Pageant Bring your Stars!



FOLLOW THEIR LEAD! Rhinebeck Rotary Club & Interact Club: Partners, Marshals & Puppeteers! Thank you for your support!

Be sure to join the parade after it passes by! Bring your STARS to the Pageant!



14 THE PAGEANT including the Children's STAR CEREMONY

In the Municipal Parking Lot immediately following the Parade.

Completion of the Day ... Join together at the end of the Parade and be a part of the Children's Star Ceremony. See all the members of the parade plus Fire Juggling, the Grampus Dance, the Blessing of the Sturgeon and Their Friends, live music, sing along, The Peace Dove, and more.



WHO'S WHO IN THE PARADE & PAGEANT

HEAR, HEAR!

Uncle DeWitt's Bell heralds the way.

SINTERKLAAS

with his white horse.

THE HOLDERS OF THE LIGHT 2019

The Terranova Family—
Lucas, Maureen, Saxton, Sterling & Sabine



THE SEVEN SISTERS

Stars from the cosmos that look down on us from afar and allow us to look up and dream.

THE HONORED ANIMAL THE STURGEON:

Find the story on page 3.



THE GRUMPUSES

are Sinterklaas' wild sidekicks who carry out his judgment on the children—either switches for the bad or candies for the good. But, our Grumpuses are people you know in the community who are candy men, there for joyous revels and to delight the children.

THE SNOW KING & QUEEN

from the celestial realm.

THE STAR CHILDREN:

Prince + Princess who brings us the Sinterklaas Star year.

THE CRESCENT MOON

THE POLAR BEAR!

Sing to him and watch him dance.

ALL THE KING'S HORSES

the Hobby Horse Brigade.

GRANDMOTHER EARTH

on whom we all live. She's the mother of us all, the Guiding Spirit of the Parade reminding us to take care of her.

THE 4 SEASONS

The moods of Grandmother Earth. We especially honor Winter this time of year.



THE ABBOTS BROMLEY HORN DANCE

The most ancient Dance ever recorded. There are 12 characters representing a deer hunt. The pattern of the dance mimics the way in which a deer walks through the woods—in a figure 8 pattern—to the accompaniment of a haunting slip jig.

THE CAROUSEL

A child's Toy Box writ large!

THE BLUE DOG

Some things have no explanation!

ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON

A cosmic play of Good and Evil.

THE TURTLE.

On whose back the Earth was formed.

CREATURES FROM THE FARM

The sheep, the cows, the llamas, the rams. They join their wild brothers.

HONORED ANIMALS

from the PAST: BUTTERFLY • ELEPHANT • OWL • HONEYBEE • HUMMINGBIRD • FOX • HORSE • THE CROW • GOOSE • BEAR • TURTLE

A PARLIAMENT OF OWLS.

THE CHINESE LION. For good luck.

A SWARM OF BEES.

Community.

THE PENGUINS.

Visitors from the arctic.

THE TWIN SERPENTS: LUX & LUMEN

WILD WOMEN—If you have Wild Men (The Grumpuses) you have to have Wild Women. Thanks to Abby Saxon we do have a fantastic gaggle!

MUSIC OF ALL TRADITIONS:

Bagpipe, Dixieland, Irish, Didgeidoo, Balkan, Ukrainian, Samba, African, Bolivian, Mexican & Indonesian.

CHINELOS. Whirling reminders of Mexico and its Holiday Traditions.

THE POCKET LADY Our symbol of generosity

THE PEACE DOVE

Our wish for the world. The night ends with a wish for Peace in the world so that we will all live in community with each other, enjoying and celebrating our differences, hoping for Joy for All in this, our precious World.



KEY TO THE MAP

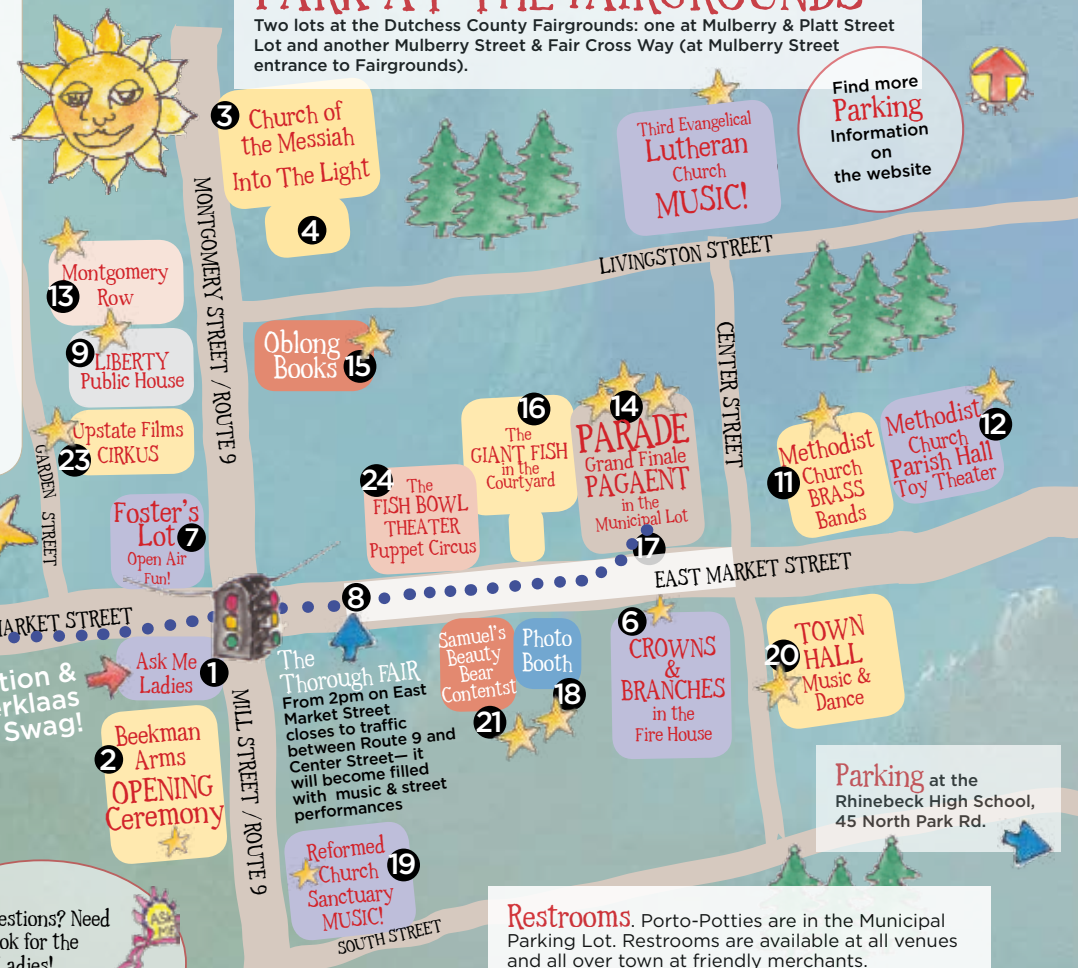
- "Ask Me" Ladies (get information)
- Beekman Arms
- Church of the Messiah
- Church Of Messiah Parish Hall
- Dapson Chesney Funeral Home
- Fire House (Crowns & Branches)
- Foster's Lot
- The Thorough Fair
- Liberty Lounge & Public House
- 3rd Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Methodist Church
- Methodist Parish Hall
- Montgomery Row
- Municipal Lot: Site of the Parade Grand Finale & Pageant (Porto-Potties, too)
- Oblong Books
- The Giant Fish in the Courtyard
- Parade Route
- Photo Booth by CVS
- Reformed Church Sanctuary
- Rhinebeck Town Hall
- Samuel's Bear Beauty Contest
- Starr Library
- Upstate Films: Bindlestiff Family Cirkus
- Fish Bowl Theater

RHINEBECK FESTIVAL MAP

PARK AT THE FAIRGROUNDS

Two lots at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds: one at Mulberry & Platt Street Lot and another Mulberry Street & Fair Cross Way (at Mulberry Street entrance to Fairgrounds).

Find more Parking information on the website



Restrooms. Porto-Potties are in the Municipal Parking Lot. Restrooms are available at all venues and all over town at friendly merchants.

Have Questions? Need help? Look for the Ask Me Ladies!



A LITTLE SINTERKLAAS HISTORY

The Tradition of Sinterklaas Day

Many people ask: what is this celebration that happens early in December? Why have a special interest and pride in this time of year?

The answer: we are honoring the Hudson Valley's Dutch heritage by recreating customs that the settlers from Holland brought to the Hudson Valley. The Dutch people who came to Rhinebeck over 300 years ago brought a celebration with them that was already a deeply rooted part of their traditions.

The ritual was simple enough. Each year on December 6 (that's the Dutch tradition, ours is the first Saturday in December), a town resident dressed up as Sinterklaas (that is, elegantly garbed in a bishop's tall hat, red cape, shiny ring, and jeweled staff). Mounted on a white steed, this Sinterklaas would ride through town knocking on doors late at night. He would be accompanied by his long-time sidekick, the Grumpus. Also known as Black Peter, the Grumpus — a wild looking half-man, half-beast character — rattled chains and threatened to steal away the naughtiest children in his big black bag. And for those "less bad" he had switches for exacting lesser punishments! And for the good children — Sinterklaas and the Grumpus would deliver a bag of goodies.



Over the years, as towns developed and houses grew closer together, Sinterklaas' ride turned into a Parade that still happens in Holland to this day, and is the most popular of all Dutch holidays.

Who was Sinterklaas?

At the start, Sinterklaas was a real person named Nicholas, born in the 4th century in Myra, Asia Minor. As a grown man he became a bishop. Little else is known about him—except that he loved children.

A story is told about Sinterklaas to illustrate this point: Three little boys

dined at an inn and, after eating their fill, informed the innkeeper that they could not pay their bill. To exact payment, the innkeeper chopped them up into little bits and cooked them in a stew.

Nicholas heard about the awful deed and came to the inn to find pieces of the boys boiling away in the pot. He told the innkeeper that if he, Nicholas, could find one little piece of each boy that was good, he would perform a miracle and bring all three back to life. Now, what child does not have at least one little piece of good in him? And so Sinterklaas returned the boys to life and took them into his care.

There is also the story of the three sisters: Once upon a time there were three beautiful daughters of a poor peasant. The first was very blonde, the second had raven hair, and the third auburn. When they grew up they fell in love with three pleasant young men. But the sisters could not get married because they had no dowry. That made them very sad. One night, as Sinterklaas was out riding, he looked through a window and saw the three lovely, but sad sisters. When he heard why they could not marry the young men they loved, he went back to his palace and gave the Grumpus three little bags. Each contained a hundred golden ducats. He asked the Grumpus to drop the little bags into the girls' shoes, and an hour later they were rich. They married the three nice young men and lived happily ever after!

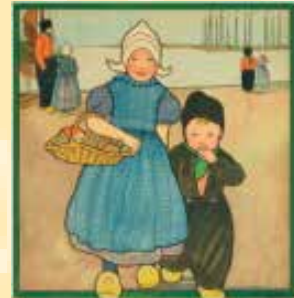
To this day, children leave a carrot in their shoes hoping to attract Sinterklaas' attention and rewards.

How this kindly 4th-century bishop made his way from Asia Minor through Italy, Spain and all of Northern Europe where he is still honored today is hard to say, but by the 11th century he had become the patron saint not only of children and unwed maidens, but of sailors and the City of Amsterdam as well.



His association with Amsterdam goes back to the time of the Spanish Inquisition, which had spread to Holland in the Middle Ages. Rumor had it that a Nicholas was Bishop of the Cathedral in Amsterdam. When the Spaniards came from Spain to trade with the Dutch, they also smuggled in adults and children whose lives were threatened by the Inquisition against Jews in Spain. Nicholas took in all the children no matter their faith.

Today in Holland



There is not a single family in Holland that does not in some way or another honor the old "Bishop" and his servant, the Grumpus, with

a party, a small get-together or by going to somebody's else's house to celebrate. There may be many presents, or just a few, tables laden with traditional candles and cookies, or just a pot of hot chocolate. The house may be teeming with children, or have perhaps just a few grown-ups around the dining room table—but the Sinterklaas spirit is everywhere.

Every December Sinterklaas arrives in Amsterdam by boat. He comes from Spain where he lives throughout the year. We reenact this journey, in our bi-coastal celebration, with Kingston playing the role of Spain and Rhinebeck the role of Holland. Our Sinterklaas makes his way in a Children's Maritime Parade in the Rondout of Kingston, boards the Tugboat Cornell, sailing off to reappear a week later in Rhinebeck.

In Holland he is traditionally greeted by a group of Grumpuses and a million people come out to see his arrival and triumphant parade through the streets of the city. The rest of the country watches on TV. It is far and away the most wonderful and exciting festivity in the land!

St. Nicholas, Sinterklaas, and Santa Claus in the Hudson Valley



When the early Dutch settlers came to America, they brought with them their venerated old bishop, St. Nicholas, and their favorite holiday, Sinterklaas. Indeed, after landing in the New World, the Dutch explorers, led by Henry Hudson, built their first church on the island of Manhattan in 1642, dedicating it to Sinterklaas. When the British took control of New Amsterdam in 1664, they adopted the Dutch recognition of Sinterklaas and merged it with their own observance of the Winter Solstice and Father Christmas—the merry, roly-poly, Falstaffian figure in high boots. Eventually, these two old gentlemen, both commemorated in December, merged into one.

Over the next few generations, Sinterklaas found his way into American literature. In 1809, the writer Washington Irving (who lived in the lower part of the Hudson Valley) created a jolly Sinterklaas for his popular Knickerbocker Tales.

Then in 1822, a Dutchess County man, Henry Livingston, Jr. wrote a lighthearted poem — "A Visit from St. Nicholas" (until recently wrongly attributed to Clement Moore) which featured a jolly old elf, his descent down a chimney on Christmas Eve, and a sleigh drawn by eight tiny reindeer (like Odin's flying horse!). The Father Christmas image stuck, but he acquired an English name—Santa Claus—a direct derivation from Sinterklaas.

And to bring things full circle, Rhinebeck is now home to Leopold Quarles von Ufford, who for 40 years was the Dutch Ambassador and played Sinterklaas around the world.

America, a country of invention and opportunity, a land where everyone could write



their own life's story, added the latest chapter to a tale that had begun in ancient times with Odin, a mythical figure embodying the archetype of The Good King, who rode through the night in the land of the reindeer on his flying white horse doing good deeds for children.

THE GIFT OF THE WHALE

A Special Story for the Year of the Fishes



When the Great Spirit created this land, he made many beautiful and good things. He made the sun and the moon and stars. He made the wide land, white with snow, and the mountains and the ocean. He made fish of all kinds and many birds. He made the seals and the walrus and the great bears. Then the Great Spirit made the Inupiaq. He had a special love for the people and showed them how to live, using everything around them.

Then after making all this, the Great Spirit decided to make one thing more. This would be the best creation of all. The Great Spirit made this being with great care. It was the Bowhead Whale. It was, indeed, the most beautiful and the finest of the things made by the Great Spirit. As it swam, it flowed through the ocean. It sang as it went, and it was in perfect balance with everything around it.

But the Great Spirit saw something else. He saw that the Inupiaq people needed the Bowhead Whale. Without the whale, it would be hard for them to survive. They needed to eat muktuk, the flesh of the whale, to keep warm and healthy during the long, cold nights. They needed its bones to help build their homes. They needed every part of the great whale.

So the Great Spirit gave the Bowhead to the Inupiaq. He gave them a way to hunt it from their boats covered with walrus hide. He made a special time each spring, when the whales would swim. In that whale road, the Open Lead, the whales would come to the surface and wait there to be struck by the harpoons of the Inupiaq. They would continue to do so every year as long as the Inupiaq showed respect to the Bowhead, as long as the Inupiaq only took the few whales that they needed in order to survive.

But the Great Spirit decided this also. At that time each year when the Open Lead formed, when the whales came to the surface to be hunted, the Great Spirit made it so that a heavy cloud of thick mist would hang just above the ice, just above the heads of the whales and the Inupiaq. That thick mist would hang here between the sea and the sky. "Though I give you permission to kill my most perfect creation," the Great Spirit said, "I do not wish to watch it."



MAKING THE CELEBRATION OUR OWN



Today we create our own version of the SINTERKLAAS myth and enact it in our own way, for our own time.

We focus on the Good King, the Noble Soul, the one who brings light out of darkness, befriends the children and all the creatures, and inspires our souls.

We continue the tradition of making Sinterklaas a touchstone—one through which we can come together in community, putting aside what divides, to focus on what brings us together—our humanity, our love for children, our hopes for the future.



Transforming the Story

Good children, bad children; naughty or nice; coal or presents. Judgments and contrasts abound.

Right alongside the Sinterklaas legend there is a more ancient story of the Bel Snickle, the Grampus, the Rupelz, Shab, the Krampucz. A sort of scary character—who comes out of the woods and who stands in marked contrast with the kindly Sinterklaas, the Good King. A leftover from a harsher time. And even though he is played by someone from the neighborhood, and even though he does not REALLY cart children away in his black bag or punish them with the birch rod that he carries, he is still there—a reminder that if you are not good, well...punishment will follow.

In Rhinebeck, we turn that tradition upside down by turning a negative symbol into an empowering one.

CROWNS AND BRANCHES

What is the meaning of the Crowns and Branches that are made by and carried by the Children in the Parade?

Since St. Nicholas loved children so much, it makes sense that on his Name Day, children—who at all other times of the year are the least powerful people in the society—are turned into the most powerful for just this one day. Children are crowned Kings and Queens with Crowns and Sceptors (Branches) of their own making in a bustling and beautiful workshop!

In Rhinebeck, the birch rod—the indispensable instrument of medieval education—is transformed by imagination and art into a symbol of empowerment and love. It becomes the Branch—the Royal Scepter—a symbol of creative power in the hands of today's children.

And so, on this day in Rhinebeck, children are raised up from being those least powerful to the most powerful! The rods are turned to Royal Scepters and the Children are crowned royalty for one glorious day!

Having seen the Wish Lady, each child will leave the workshop with something to carry in the Parade and to take home.

STARS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

What are the STARS that every family will carry in the Parade? What is their purpose? The Stars are what make Rhinebeck's celebration unique from all other Sinterklaas celebrations. These STARS make families, friends and relations the active myth makers of our community and

its future, for these are no ordinary stars!

From the moment you take possession of your STAR, you assume a key role in a community ritual. On Sinterklaas Day hundreds of your neighbors, friends, and family will join in an illuminated pageant through the heart of Rhinebeck.

You will carry your STAR in your own way—perhaps close to your chest and cradled with care, or held aloft dangling freely in the winter breeze. A gathering constellation will light the path for the many children who, adorned with their Crowns and Branches of their own creation, are the honored Kings and Queens of the Day.

You and your STAR play an important role in the pageant that takes place at the end of the parade.

After the evening's festivities are over, take your STAR home with you to grace your hearth throughout the dark winter with the vivid memory—like a burning ember—of when we all came together to celebrate our children, our community, our lives and each other.

And then, as custodian of your communal STAR, you can bring it back

next year, adding to an ever-expanding universe of stars, helping to build our special Sinterklaas tradition.



THE HAVDALAH

Right before the Parade begins, a special ceremony takes place at the foot of the hill on West Market Street. Led by Rabbi Yael Romer and the children and folks

from the Jewish Alliance of Northern Dutchess and Temple Emmanuel, this beautiful Jewish Ceremony marks the end of the Jewish Sabbath and opens up the secular time of The Sinterklaas Parade. The Havdalah Ceremony is a weaving together of all those in the community in a web of interdependence, symbolized by intertwined candles.

Be sure to get your STAR for the Children's Star Celebration after the Parade. Look for them on sale at shops in town, and at the "Ask Me" table.

THANK YOU.

It took a Village, a Town, a Valley, and 2,500 Stars!

We all know that Sinterklaas was NEVER just one person—he is only the NAME we give to a certain spirit of generosity, love and sense of community that sustains us at the darkest times and lights us up with wishes for peace and good will toward all. Here are his local embodiments called by their more familiar names... (list up-to-date as of noon November 17, 2019)

Thank you for lighting up our Universe!

Beyond the Beyond

\$5000 +
The Stinchcomb Family Fund
Robert C. Duffy and his children Victoria and Caldwell
The Frost Memorial Fund

Infinity and Beyond

\$2,500+
Thomas Thompson Trust
Foster's Coach House & Heermance Farm

The Universe

\$1000-\$2499
Arts Mid-Hudson
Douglas Baz Photography
Sarah Bissonnette-Adler Production Coordination
Carolyn Marks Blackwood
Cale Communications
ENTA Education Network for Teachers and Artists
Matthew Fass Website Design
Jeanne Fleming and Wonderworks
Dal LaMagna
Mid Hudson Federal Credit Union
Mirbeau of Rhinebeck
M. Suzy Morris Costume Design
Omega Institute
Richard Prouse Stage Scenery
Albert Shahnin Fine Art
Stewart's Shops
ThinkingPartners
Iliana Van Meeteren
Martha Tobias Special Events
Williams Lumber
Winter Sun & Summer Moon

The Super Nova

\$500 - \$999
A. L. Stickle Variety Store
The Art of Building
The Beekman Arms
Betsy Jacaruso Studio & Gallery
CO: A Co-Working Space
Enjoy Rhinebeck
Hammertown Rhinebeck
Haven Spa
Margaret C. Howe
Hummingbird Jewlers
Jordan Matthews
Paper Trail
Rhinebeck Bank
Rhinebeck Farmers' Market
Tatiana Serafin
Sue Sie
Renee and Craig Snyder



The Galaxy

\$250 - \$499
Aroi Thai Restaurant
Sandra and John Blair
Buns Burgers
Karen Burke
Central Hudson
Charny and Wheeler P.C.
College Planning Connections, LLC
Mike and Cecily Frazier
Vicki L. Haak, CPF
Haggerty Law Offices
Jen Hammoud
Hetta Glogg
Katharine Malaga
Wendy Bush Lyons, Esq.
Monique Martin
Maya Kaimal Foods LLC
Fr. Richard McKeon and Tim Lewis, Church of the Messiah
Merriweathers
No Sugar
Roger and Cheryl Norton
Oblong Books & Music
Kimberly and Brian Orcutt
Felicia Keesing and Rick Ostfeld
Phyllis G. Palmer
Paula Redmond Real Estate, Inc.
Susan Ragusa
Warren S. Replansky, Attorney at Law
Rhinebeck Animal Hospital
Rhinebeck Architecture
Rhinebeck Department Store
The Rogovic Family
Samuel's Sweet Shop
James and Abby Saxon
Sunflower Market
The Turpin Foundation
Andy and Linda Weintraub
Al and Aida Wilder
Al Boutin and Lindy Wright
Emily Houpt and Victor Zelek



The Milky Way

\$125 - \$249
Aba's Falafel
Anonymous
Atelier Renee Fine Framing
Ellen Bowe
Assemblyman Kevin A. Cahill
Hannelore Chambers
CJ's Italian Restaurant and Pizza
Clear Yoga
The Courtyard
DF Craft Construction
Darryl's
Dr. Tom's Tonics
Anne Moehle Ferrara
Sarah Hill and Guillermo Fesser
Fraleigh & Rakow Insurance
David and Joanne Gelb
Veronique Guccione
Edward J. Haas
Hudson Valley Pottery
Hudson Valley Vintage
Iconic Hair
JSA Sustainable Wealth Management
The Kroeg
Andrew Stewart and Cricket Lengyel
Liberty Public House
Robby Long
Greg and Sheila Lynch
Mark and Gretchen Lytle
The Mabreys: Vicki, Sienna & Grant
Mike and Sally Mazzarella
Momiji Hibachi & Sushi
Montgomery Row
Patricia O'Connor
Olde Rhinebeck Inn c. 1745
Thomas Ostrofsky
Peter Amendola a Jerry Pagliari
Pegasus Footwear
Periwinkles at Rhinebeck
Georgia Dent and Jeff Perry
Susan Phillips
Pilates Center, Beth Graziano
Pizzeria Posto
Diana Devlin and David Reynolds
Rhinebeck Convenience Store
Rhinebeck Yoga Center
Rikert's Auto Body, Inc.
Smoky Rock BBQ
Staley Read Estate LLC
Twin Ponds Nursery
Zimmer Brothers

Star Clusters

\$75 - \$124
Jill Lundquist and Doug Baz
Ed Bergstraesser
Mike and Colleen Bloxham
Elaine Collandrea
Dodd and Dorothy Crane
Peter Dolese
Joseph and Nancy Drago
Ryan Fortwendel
Oliva! Gourment Olive Oils & Vinegars
Ruby Palmer Studio
The Pelosi Family
Kurt and Lisa-Sue Quackenbush
Hector and Debbie Rodriguez
Dorna Schroeter
George Reskakis
The Tourtelot Family
The Wollens Family
Van Norstrand & Hoolihan CPA
Chiling Weng
Justin Watrel
Linda Woznicki

Be A Star

\$20 - \$74
Gail Bennek
Liza Berdnik
Charles Buehler
Deborah Duke
Nancy Ebel
Linda Faber
Steven and Susan Gauspohl
Howard and Jane Korn
Anne McGrath and Stephen Mosto
Barbara Pokras
M. Christine Shaffer
The Sullivan Family
Jon Wechsler

This project is made possible, in part, through funding from Dutchess Tourism, Inc and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson.



Thank you to:



HOW IT ALL HAPPENS

Sinterklaas is truly an event that takes a community. Actually it takes a really **BIG** community of friends and neighbors, near and far, who love the magic that happens in the telling of this very special story, in our own voices, filled with **LOVE** and reverence for the time of year and for the children of the world.

What's the nitty gritty of it all? Its a lot of people working many hours, **VOLUNTEERING** — some of us all year long — to coordinate, schedule, promote, make, build, assemble, borrow, poster, print, phone, deliver, monitor, cook, feed, clean, create, and . . . well the list could go on.

And the **BIGGEST CHALLENGE** of all is to raise the funds it takes to produce this big, complicated and growing event. We need your help.

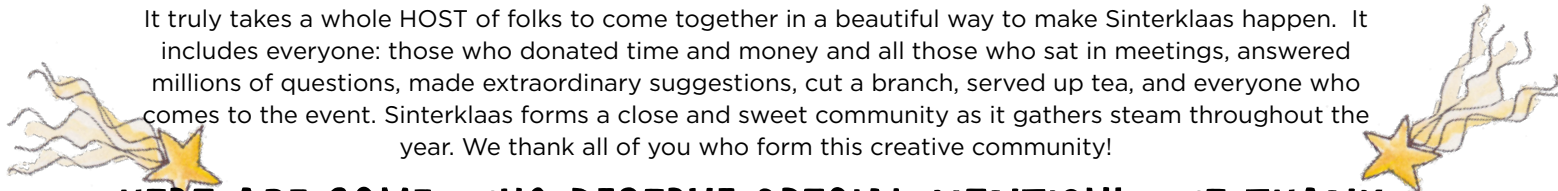


DONATE WHAT YOU CAN. BUY A STAR. BE A FRIEND AND SUPPORTER OF SINTERKLAAS.

sinterklaashudsonvalley.com



It truly takes a whole HOST of folks to come together in a beautiful way to make Sinterklaas happen. It includes everyone: those who donated time and money and all those who sat in meetings, answered millions of questions, made extraordinary suggestions, cut a branch, served up tea, and everyone who comes to the event. Sinterklaas forms a close and sweet community as it gathers steam throughout the year. We thank all of you who form this creative community!



HERE ARE SOME WHO DESERVE SPECIAL MENTION! WE THANK...

COUNTY & STATE

County Executive Mark Molinaro and Dutchess County Sheriff Butch Anderson, Sue Serino and Kevin Cahill for their support!

VILLAGE & TOWN

The Village Board, Mayor Gary Bassett for all you do! Sgt. Pete Dunn continues to be extraordinary! And the Rhinebeck Fire Department for inviting us into your home! Kyle and Crissy Eighmy! The Town Board, Elizabeth Spinizia, Supervisor, and the Rhinebeck Chamber of Commerce.

FAMILY!

The Rhinebeck Rotary and Interact Club for Puppeteers and Parade Marshals. Thank you, Rotarians for your vast and deep support! We truly can't do it without you!

WARMTH!

To the Frost Memorial Fund!! Never forgotten.

A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT

to Elijah Bender whom we have gotten to know!

TERRANOVA!

New Land! Under the sea! Holders of the Flame & the breath 2019, The Terranova Family: Lucas, Maureen, Saxton, Sterling and Sabine. Keep breathing.

AND THE LINEAGE:

The Wright/Pearson Family 2018; The Hoolihan/Kruger Family 2017; The Hewitt Family 2016! The Cruikshanks 2015! and The Stickles, 2014!

KEEPERS OF THE FLAME

George and Phebe Banta for showing up and believing in us!

FORTITUDE, COURAGE AND LOVE!

Elena Erber who designed ALL our graphics, including this beautiful book and a lot MORE!

QUEEN TRIGGERFISH:

Martha Tobias!

STILL COMMITTED:

(Help!!! They won't let us out!!! Can you hear us????) After 12 years: The Wonder Women of the Sinterklaas Committee: Endless energy, the extraordinary TEAM: Lila Pague, Pat Sexton, Elena Erber, Lindy Wright, Sarah Bissonnette-Adler, Martha Tobias, Joanna Hess, Tricia Reed, Jill Lundquist, Joanne Gelb, Suzy Morris, Dorna Schroeter, Joanna Hess, Debby Franke Ogg, Nancy Karimi and Colleen Bloxham who keep stirring the pot all year long.

NO LEAKS!

Actually there's nothing secret about how much we love the Great Leader of the Crowns and Branches Workshop, Joanna Hess.

OUT OF THE DEPTHS!

Sarah Bissonnette-Adler and Matthew Fass. Surface!

SIZE DOESN'T MATTER!

The Toy Theater and Roberto Rossi!

STAYING POWER!

She Who Does Not Quit! Empress Becky Holt! And special thanks to the well-known trinket lady extraordinaire, Laura D'Attore and her Mermaid Jeniece Schroeter for making sure all the creative needs of the wee kings and queens are met. And to Jeff Newman: solid ground.

SQUIRRELS AHOY!

The Swap Team strikes again! Lindy Wright, Jill Lundquist, Linda Helbing, Nancy Karimi, Mel Dean, Debby Franke Ogg, Cheryl Norton, Dorna Schroeter, Suzy Morris, Anne Ballantine, Tina Shaffer, Dee Ballantine, Jillian Ballantine, Gail Benneck and Joanne Gelb.

ALWAYS BEA THERE!

Bea Lambert for continued inspiration.

BIG FISH/ LITTLE FISH:

To Paul O'Connor for our GIANT FISH. Abby Saxon, Jane Resnick and Lila Pague for our Little Fish.

MOTHER OF THE BRIDE!

The Exquisite Lila Pague

SHINE ON!

Lauree Ostrofsky, our Crescent Moon!

ALL THE HELPERS AT THE CROWNS AND BRANCHES WORKSHOP!

Joanna Hess, Coordinator, and her marvelous team: Johanna Bard, Mary Burns, Nina Doyle, Maribeth Feinberg, Karen Hinderstein, Melisca Klisanin, Robbie Puglisi, Sarah Miller, Tess Miller, Dorna Schroeter, Oona Shain, Loretta Spence, Saira Sukthankar, Linda Helbing, Norma Dolan and Cecily Frazier.

CREW!

To those who swoop in at the end and make it work: The Rhinebeck Rotary and Daytop.

KEEP HER IN OUR KITCHEN!

Colleen Bloxham. She's all ours, OURS!

SAY IT WITH A SONG!

Julia Haines, Harp and accordion. Gigi Alvare for Don Gato! Blessings on you both!

OUR MERMAID AND HER SEA STAR!

Cait Johnson and Terry O'Keefe. Pearls of Girls! With wisdom to share.

AND THEIR MERFOLK:

Mark Perez and Jeniece Schroeter.

ROCKIN' ROBIN

and Dan Shorstein for years and years and years.

WHERE WE LIVE!

CELEBRATION SPACES:

We thank the Rhinebeck Fire Department for their generosity for the Crowns and Branches space!

We thank the United Methodist Church for the SWAP, the Workshop, and Horns a'plenty! And the Bantas for our Star Party and Green Room at the Beekman Arms. Betsy Jacaruso Gallery for the Grumpus Hideout! Connie Bathrick and the Courtyard! Liberty Public House for our fabulous After Party! And Ruby Star for the bird's eye views. Foster's Coach House for opening the heart of our Village (the White Corner!) and forging a Town Green for all our performers and folks to gather. Our Vaudeville House and Cirkus Tent: DeDe Leiber and Upstate Films.

AND OUR NEWEST LOCATION!

CO: Co-working + meetings + events in an inspiring space in Rhinebeck! That's exactly what CO did for Sinterklaas by providing a space for our Grumpus to dance!



THE FISH BOWL!

Special Thanks for Connie Bathrick for comfort and grace!

SPECIAL TANKS (OOPS, WE MEAN THANKS!...)

To the United Methodist Church and Pastors Steve and Nan Ernst for our Celebration Space, Workshop, SWAP and Toy Theater and the Hornatopia!

SWEET MEMORIES...

Doug Baz for his 32 years of wonderful photographs that make it possible for us to tell the story and Dave Tobias and Michael DiPleco who have joined his ranks!

SINTERKLAAS CRAFT FAIR

presented by the Dancing Gelbs, David and Joanne, and all the artists and crafts people participating in the Fair! Special thanks to Dorna Schroeter and Bobby Fitzpatrick.

AND JILL!

Oceans of care!!!

WHAT IS YOUR WISH, ASKED THE FISH?

Our Ask Me Ladies! These women know what they are talking about! Dorna Schroeter, Fearless Leader. Gwen Bardon, Joanna Hess, Kiki Steele, Mary Burns, Ana San Juan, Cecily Frazier, Garnette Arledge, Amy Tully, Val Kilmer, Diana Devlin, Marie Dynes, Nancy Suthhard, Risa Getman and Janice Hulst-Murphy. And for set up and tear down: David Gelb, Al Boutin and Rudy Younger.

WHAT'S THAT YOU'VE GOT IN YOUR POCKET? IT'S A FISH!!!

Given joyfully by our Pocket Lady Carla Carbone, with Dani Reuben and retired Grumpus and Pocket Mate, Wally Carbone.

ICHTHYOLOGIST, BEAUTY QUEEN, CARPENTER, MARKETER AND SCHOLAR-

Dorna Schroeter! (notice how many times her name appears in these thank you pages!)

A SEA OF VOLUNTEERS!

Tricia Reed and Ana Sanjuan for reining them in and to all those who animated puppets! Now you are 300 strong!!

ALL THOSE WILD GRUMPUSES!

Mike Bloxham, Andy Crispell, Kurt Fisher, Matthew Gelfer, Chris Gilbert Clifford Hart, Richard Kopyscianski, Jamyang Lodoie, Robby Long, Harlan Matthews, Nick Matsakis, D. Miller Terrance McCorry, Mark Perez, Stephen Robin, John Schmitz, Steven Young, Andy Weintraub and Victor Zelek. And Grumpus Emeritus: Ricky Aldrich, Wally Carbone, Dodd Crane, David Gelb, Arun Lahiri, Bruce Lubman, Steven Pague, Richard Prouse, Heinz Sauer & Bob Wills. Trained by Martha Tobias.

SMALL FRY!

The 500 kids in the Chancellor Livingston School who made fishy pictures!

THOSE WILD WOMEN!

Abby Saxon, the Wildest! Thanks to June and Charlie Schreck for their beautiful work decorating the Wild Women sound cart (and pulling it!!)

GREAT WAY TO START

THE DAY! Bear Beauty Contest. Samuel's John Traver and Judge Hillary for keeping the tradition alive.

STREET ART! at Chancellor Livingston—Cynthia Baer and Kathy Giles, and at Rhinebeck High School—Fawn Johnson and the Art Club for their original paintings that hang in the trees!

SAINT PAT! You can findley lay down your cross.

FRESH FROZEN! the Snow King, Queen, and Star Child: Stefan Handl, Suzy Morris and Lark Wright.

TIBETAN WOOD for the branches!

SHE PLUNGED RIGHT IN!

The utterly talented and relentless Suzy Morris creator of The Mermaid, the Sea Star, the Snow King, Snow Queen, Star Child, the Owlettes, the Owl Queen of the Night and her Mouse, the gorgeous Sinterklaas Robe, those crazy Kukeri, African and Indian Elephants & the Caterpillar!

SHAPESHIFTER!

Cindy Kubick, formerly Mrs. Beekman, creates a new role as Mother Holly with her house made by Ania Aldrich and Terry O'Keefe.

GOLDEN BOY!

The brilliant actor and artist Richard Prouse whose performance as Poseidon will live forever in the minds of all who saw it and whose painting genius for our stage always takes us into different worlds. And Mr. Barry Cohen who keeps it real. And the Village of Red Hook for the loaner!

THE DRONE...

of Distinction, David Gelb. Long Live Drone David! And his consort, Joanne!

WHEN HE'S NOT ON VACATION...

always there... Harlan Matthews.

FELLOW TRAVELERS

(to MFTA) Lindy Wright, Suzy Morris, and David Gelb

HALLELUJAH! THANK HEAVEN FOR...!

The Church of the Messiah, the Reformed Church of Rhinebeck, The United Methodist Church, and the Third Evangelical Lutheran Church — we will say it again—folks filled with love and generosity in their hearts: Rev. Richard McKeon Jr., Fr. Luis Perez, Pastor James Miller and Pastors Steven and Nan Ernst, and Anna Pavord, Liz Irwin and the ever gracious and generous Bonnie Rejero. The Jewish Alliance of Northern Dutchess, Rabbi Yael Romer, Kimba Baker and Temple Emanuel for a beautiful and moving Havdalah. And the Dapson/Chestney Funeral Home for hosting.

SCHOOL OF FISH!

To Riverkeeper for your vast knowledge and commitment.

A FEAST! All those who donated food for the hundreds of performers and volunteers. Thank you to Johanna Bard and Colleen Bloxham for keeping this army running with good food! Le Petit Bistro, Bread Alone, Maya Kaimal Fine Indian Foods, Sunflower Market, Migliorelli's, Bubby's Burritos, the Matchbox Cafe, Gaby's, Grand Cru, Rhinebeck Bagels, Terrapin, Aba's Falafels, Aroi Thai Restaurant, Pete's Famous Restaurant, Samuel's, Osaka Japanese Restaurant, Tops, and BUNS.

APPLY NAMED!

The Starr Library for its warm welcome to all our stars—human and puppet! Stephen Cook and the Board of Trustees, Brooke Stevens, Dave Wanzer, Ed and Veronica Schroeder.

FISH FACE!!

Thanks to Evelyn Avelado for the beautiful designs and to Nan Jackson at the Starr Library for the Coloring Workshops and Joanne Gelb for putting it all together. Thanks to all who colored the 700 beautiful fish masks for the children—especially Roger Norton, Becky Holt, Nancy Karimi and friends.



CATCH OF THE DAY!

Grace Schultz, Sarah Bissonnette-Adler, Stephen Kurowski, Jeff Newman, Tom Dressel, Peter Muste, Matt Rymkiewicz, Ricky de Zubiaurre, Alyssa Greenway, JJ Muste, Jen Hammoud, Vicki Rivera, Mark Schuyler, Mike Dunlap, Peter Muste, Susan Bissonnette, Barry Cohen, Michelle Rafferty Cary Kittner, Mary Pat Davies, and Francesca Hoffman.

SOUNDS RIGHT!

Omega Institute's Ken Kuter and Skip Backus for letting us hear!

Howie Callies for driving the puppet truck!

OUR OWN SPECIAL SINTERKLAAS!

Scott Cruikshank, man with a golden heart.

THE PUPPET MASTERS

Alex Kahn and Sophia Michahelles whose vision and dedication to the work is unmatched anywhere, who hosted the workshop and taught so many in the skills of pageant puppetry and who made that magnificent Horse and the Fox, Crow, Bear, Goose, Turtle, Hummingbird, the Bees, the Owls, the Elephants, Butterflies...and now the STURGEON!

ALL THE ARTISTS AND PERFORMERS!

To Ania Aldrich and Gigi Alvare for the original work and setting us on the path.

To my son Jordan, who has taught us much and Samantha Strong for keeping spirits alive.



AHOY MATES!

Those patient, long-standing, and supportive husbands: Al Boutin, Steven Michael Pague, Bernard Greenwald, Mike Bloxham, Peter Muste, David Gelb, Doug Baz, Donald Corrin, Dave Tobias, Albert Shahinian, Foster Reed and Harlan Matthews who play greater roles than anyone could ever imagine.

12 YEARS!!! WHO COULD HAVE IMAGINED IT!

Well, we ALL did! We imagined it minute by minute and idea by idea. Sinterklaas continues to be an ever astonishing achievement and shows what a community can do working and dreaming together. Thank you again to the greater Rhinebeck community for the privilege of being allowed to do the work.

It's widely said that Sinterklaas is magical.

How does one create magic? Is it hocus pocus?

I say: it's hocus FOCUS!

It's paying attention to every detail and caring for everyone along the way. That's what makes magic.

The Cheshire Cat in Alice in Wonderland says: "Imagination is the best defense against reality."

I say it's the best offense. Our imaginary mystical Creature—the Mermaid—and her half magical and half real companion—the Sea Star—inspire us to become more aware of the reality around us and how we can make it more like what we imagine or dream. They call to us to save all the endangered species—from the exotic, ancient and magnificent Sturgeon to the smallest, most expendable menhaden. Our imaginations allow us to live magnanimously, generously, creatively and hopefully IN our world.

Here's the clue to Sinterklaas magic... Keep your imagination going at every moment of every day that you have on this earth and create a world that is safe, abundant and loved, where we can all breathe freely.

LET'S BRING ABOUT A SEA CHANGE.

—Jeanne Fleming, Designer and Coordinator

SPEAKING FOR All of US at Sinterklaas!!

THE SINTERKLAAS COMMITTEES

THANK YOU ALL!

Steering Committee:

- Lila Pague, Chair
- George & Phebe Banta
- Kimba Baker
- Johanna Bard
- Mayor Gary Bassett
- Sarah Bissonnette-Adler
- Colleen Bloxham
- Marybeth Cale
- Stephen Cook
- Meg Crawford
- Scott Cruikshank
- Colleen Cruikshank
- Revs. Steven & Nan Ernst
- Elena Erber
- Joanne & David Gelb
- Sue Hartshorn
- Suzanna Hermanns
- Joanna Hess
- Emily Houpt
- Rebecca Holt
- Cait Johnson
- Alex Kahn
- Richard Kopyscianski
- Dede Leiber
- Peggy & Bruce Lubman
- Doug Baz & Jill Lundquist
- Liz Mazzarella
- Sally Mazzarella
- Rev. Richard McKeon
- Sophia Michahelles
- Paul O'Connor
- Fr. Luis Perez
- Joseph Phelan
- Richard Prouse
- Foster & Tricia Reed
- Rabbi Yael Romer
- Abby Saxon
- Dorna Schroeter
- Pat Sexton
- Martha Tobias
- Lou Trapani
- Sup. Elizabeth Spinizia
- Julie & Lou Turpin
- Livia & Bill Vanaver
- Linda & Andy Weintraub
- Howie Traudt
- Lindy & Al Wright

Jeanne Fleming
Hudson Valley Community Productions
118 La Bergerie Lane
Red Hook, NY 12571
845-758-5519
sinterklaashudsonvalley@gmail.com
sinterklaashudsonvalley.com



POSTER GALLERY

Sinterklaas is announced in a most unusual way—by beautiful paintings hung in all the trees at the center of town. Here is a small sampling of the 350 paintings — especially the honored naimal paintings — made by our high school students, the Senior Citizens Artists' Program at the Reformed Church, the Art Teachers and many other painters from around town! Be sure to visit EVERY one as you enjoy the day.

