

# ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

## Albany Institute of History & Art

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## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## HUDSON VALLEY HOPS IS BREWED IN HISTORY AND FULL OF LOCAL FLAVOR

Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 4PM-7PM

ALBANY, NY— On Saturday, April 18 from 4PM-7PM, the Albany Institute of History & Art will host the fourth annual Hudson Valley Hops. This fun, regional craft beer and cider tasting and fundraiser for the museum is sponsored by [TimesUnion.com/TableHopping](http://TimesUnion.com/TableHopping). It's an opportunity for the community to see brewing and distilling artifacts from the Albany Institute's collection, hear from industry experts, and receive a commemorative glass. Special this year, there will be a one-time tasting of Chatham Brewing's "Albany Institute Ale", which was brewed exclusively for this event!

Beverage production is rooted in Hudson Valley history, from colonial rum distilleries to craft beer breweries and hard cider companies. This year's Hudson Valley Hops brings that history to the forefront and layers artifacts of the past with the flavors of the present. Photographs, advertisements, and packaging from historic producers from the Albany Institute's collection will be on view for this event.

Great local flavors will come from current producers. Participating breweries include: Adirondack Pub & Brewery, Brewery Ommegang, Brown's Brewing Company, Chatham Brewing LLC., C.H. Evans Brewing, Crossroads Brewing Company, Druthers, Keegan Ales, and Olde Saratoga Brewing Company. Special guests Albany Distilling Company and Nine Pin Cider Works will be joining the event for the first time. These Albany-based spirit and cider producers are part of the local craft beverage movement that is flourishing in New York's Hudson River Valley.

Tom Crowell of Chatham Brewing thinks the Hudson Valley is a great place because of all the breweries, "There are lots of opportunities for collaboration. Also, the number of farms and interest in growing New York State products that can be used in brewing makes it an exciting place to be."

Crowell is taking that collaborative spirit and thirst for locally produced beers and producing an event exclusive beer: "Albany Institute Ale." While Chatham Brewing has created custom beers for bars and restaurants, this is the first time they are making one for an event. The theme of Hudson Valley Hops inspired them to try to get as close as they can to an all 100% New York State beer. According to Crowell, the beer can be described as "a standard ESB [Extra Special/Strong Bitter]" with a nutty sweetness. Albany Institute Ale was made with New York State 2-row pale malt as a base; some Light and Dark Crystal to show off a copper hue and give a slight caramel flavor; and local Columbia County grown hops, including Cascade from Germantown Hop Farm and Nugget from Spring Hill Farm to add a subtle bitterness. Although it is called an extra special bitter, compared to an IPA, this will not be a bitter beer.

Throughout the afternoon, guest speakers will be on hand to share their insight with event attendees:

- **Tessa Edick**, author of *Hudson Valley Food and Farming: Why Didn't Anyone Ever Tell Me That?* will be here as part of the launch of her new book and will talk about her in-depth exploration of Hudson Valley foods. Books will be available for purchase and signing.
- **Gerry Lorentz**, Dean of the Northeast Center of SUNY/Empire State College, will explore the ancient history of brewing
- **Bill Newman**, craft beer pioneer and former owner of the Wm. S. Newman Brewing Company of Albany, NY will talk about how he got into brewing in the early 1980s and established one of the first craft breweries on the East Coast
- **Roger Savoy**, owner of Homebrew Emporium, will share his insight into the homebrew market

Additional sponsors include: Ben & Jerry's; Café 217/ Susie's Pub; The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center; The Gingerman/Washington Tavern; The Grill at 138™; Iron Gate Café; Lionheart Pub; Maggie's Sports Bar; Mazzone Hospitality; Milano Restaurant & Bar; New World Bistro Bar; TimesUnion.com/TableHopping.

The event costs \$30 for Albany Institute members and \$35 for general public (in advance) and \$35 for Albany Institute members and \$40 for general public (at door). Participants must be 21 and over (IDs will be checked at the door). Reservations for Hudson Valley Hops can be made online at [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org). Limited parking is available in the Albany Institute of History & Art's parking lot off of Elk Street.

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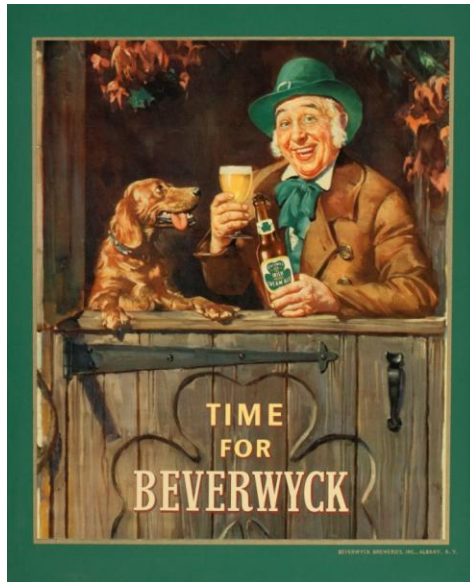


IMAGE: Time for Beverwyck, Beverwyck Breweries, INC., Albany, N.Y., ht. 17" x w. 14", Albany Institute of History & Art, 1993.19.2

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Founded in 1791, the Albany Institute of History & Art is New York's oldest museum. Its collections document the Hudson Valley as a crossroads of culture, influencing the art and history of the region, the state, and the nation. With more than 35,000 objects and one million documents in the library, it is an important resource for the region, giving our community a sense of the part the Hudson Valley played in the American story, and our own place in history. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are open year-round and create a sense of place, allowing visitors to meet the people who helped shape this region. Over 25,000 people visit the Albany Institute of History & Art every year, enjoying the collections, workshops, school programs, and lectures, helping to build an understanding of the history and culture of our region. Among the museum's best-known and most-loved collections are the 19<sup>th</sup> century Hudson River School landscape paintings by artists like Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, the 19<sup>th</sup> century sculpture collections, and, of course, the famous Albany Mummies that came to the museum in 1909 and have been on view ever since. For more information, please visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) and be sure to follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute](https://www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute)) and Twitter (@AlbanyInstitute).

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