



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Bill Powers 845-284-2240

Peekskill Celebration Announces Early Registration & Discounted Entry Fee for 2008 Dragon Boat Festival

Teams That Sign Up By End of the Year Save \$200!

Peekskill, NY -- December 2, 2007 -- Peekskill Celebration officials have announced early registration and a savings of \$200 for teams who sign up before the end of the year for the Dragon Boat Festival held at Peekskill Riverfront Green on August 2, 2008 during Celebration weekend. Sponsorship/registration fees are \$1,200 without the discount.

Registration forms and a complete list of rules and regulations can be downloaded from the event's website www.peakskillcelebration.com or by calling 914-736-2000. In order to receive the \$200 off savings, payment must be made by December 31, 2007.

"Even though Peekskill Celebration is months away, planning and logistics go on all year round. Since many of the participating teams are non-profits and small businesses, saving \$200 off the registration fee means a lot. For non-profits, the savings can be used towards their charitable efforts and for small businesses, the savings can be used for other business expenses. Our motto is: register now, save now," said Cathy Montaldo, Executive Director of Peekskill Celebration.

The 2008 Dragon Boat festival will be the fourth annual race and features competitors in two categories: professional or "open competitive" and amateur or "business class." Dragon Boats are 41-foot-long canoes with colorful dragon heads and decorative tails, hence the name. Crews consist of a minimum of 16 paddlers plus a drummer and steersperson. All team members must be at least 16 years of age. Practice sessions are offered to teams one and two weeks prior to the races are hosted by the Peekskill Yacht Club.

Last year's winners of the business class division, called EDU Crew, is made up of parents and supporters of the Peekskill and Hendrick Hudson Education Endowments. "It's a great way to raise funds for the Endowments, build teamwork among our supporters and develop friendly competition with other community groups," said EDU Crew Team Captain Chuck Newman.

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Peekskill Celebration Dragon Boat Early Registration

Team members raised funds for scholarships and other educational programs within the two school districts. They defeated two-time defending champions ITI Strategies/Ultimate Collision, thereby preventing a three-peat.

A visiting team from Canada, the Ottawa Police Blue Dragons, won the open competitive division, and are expected to return next year to defend their title.

Already scheduled to race in next year's Dragon Boat competition are: Hudson Valley Hospital Center with two teams, the Hendrick Hudson Sailor Moms sponsored by Wheelabrator, the Peekskill Fire Department sponsored by MTA, Peekskill Police Department sponsored by Bell Office, new-comer Yorktown Pennysaver, Westchester Community College, US Navy sponsored by Coldwell Banker, Entergy, ASAP Mortgage, winner of the first two Dragon Boat Festivals ITI Strategies/Ultimate Collision, and City of Peekskill sponsored by Bannister Insurance.

Now in its twelfth year, the annual Peekskill Celebration is the largest festival in the Hudson Valley and features fun-filled concerts through out the summer, and culminates in an extraordinary weekend of family entertainment, an unrivaled fireworks extravaganza, and colorful Dragon Boat Races not seen anywhere else in the Hudson Valley. Peekskill Celebration weekend runs August 1 - 3, 2008 with activities taking place at Peekskill Riverfront Green, Downtown Peekskill and Charles Point. Updated information is provided on the Celebration website www.peekskillcelebration.com.

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