



Riverlovers Currents

Volume 20, Number 12, December 2007

Important Schedule Change!

The December Potluck/meeting has been canceled due to the busy holiday calendar. The next Potluck will be on January 18th and we'll arrange for our participation in the Eagle Watch on Saturday, February 9th. It's outreach, it's environmental, it's service for the Nature Center, and it's outdoor fun all rolled up together. See the article elsewhere on this page for more details.

Notes From The November Potluck

by Gunnar Andersen

We gathered at the Nature Center on a chilly evening to share thoughts and salads. Yes, everyone brought *salad* – if anyone would like to coordinate the foods we bring to our Potlucks, raise your hand now!

It was resolved to skip the December Potluck because people are busy with other holiday activities.

It was also decided to switch the Potlucks back to the second Friday of each month. Attendance at Potlucks has declined since we moved to the third Friday, but since we are in the county calendar, we have to let them know before we change back. Keep an eye on the newsletter or website; since this change will come about in a few months.

Robin brought to our attention "Save The Rupert", an organization supporting the Cree communities in Canada whose lands are endangered by the proposed hydroelectric project to dam and divert the Rupert River. It was resolved that Riverlovers shall support the organization – more information is available at www.savetherupert.org.

A discussion of topics for future Potlucks included showing films, inviting musicians and other groups and starting an ongoing study group. Several people are currently working on implementing these ideas, so stay tuned.

Walkabout Coffeehouse Notes

This month at the Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse, on December 8th to be exact, the group Sol y Canto will be featured. They are known for rich vocal harmonies accompanied by Spanish guitar, percussion, wind and bass. Ballads and Latin rhythms are presented with a unique sound, and Sol y Canto, which means "sun and song," has played at the White House, the Kennedy Center and major festivals.

On January 12th, the trio Red Molly will present an eclectic repertoire ranging from contemporary songs to

bluegrass standards, old-time southern gospel, and classic American tunes. They have performed with artists like Aztec Two-Step, Jonathan Edwards and Bill Staines, among others, and have appeared several times at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival.

Join in the informal Teachabouts at 6:45pm, prior to the 7:30pm concerts, at the Memorial United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue in White Plains. There's plenty of free parking, and lots of fun. You and your friends can enjoy yourselves and support Clearwater at the same time.

Annual Bread, Soup And Eagles Event

The annual Eagle Watch falls on February 9, 2008, and once again we will be serving bread and soup. Even more people will be attending this highly successful program because Teatown is making Croton Point Park the center of Eagle Watch activities. Preparations include setting up a heated tent in the park near the rotunda.

We need volunteers to prepare soup and breads and to help serve. Cynthia is coordinating the volunteers, so please let her know in what way you can help and remember to **SAVE THAT DATE: Feb. 9, 2008!**

Pete's Nobel Peace Prize Nomination

Almost 8000 people have signed the petition, attesting to how deeply Pete has touched so many lives, from parents to children and grandchildren. He has shaped our sense of human responsibility, and joined us all together in song.

A new website has been established to publicize the campaign and encourage further support. The URL is <http://nobelprize4pete.org>, and e-mails of support from individuals and organizations can be sent to info@nobelprize4pete.org.

Pete is such an essential being and such a great ambassador for peace and justice, but he's also a very private and unassuming person, so many people don't really know much about him. The Nobel nomination campaign is collecting additional materials, and many people have little tales to tell about when they met him or when he sang at an event they attended.

Many of us have already seen "The Power of Song," the documentary of Pete's impact in the world, but if you haven't yet had a chance, you really need to make a special effort to see it. Pete is truly a special person, and he belongs to us all.

This Space Reserved For Jan Ravase

by Cynthia Andersen

Going through my Riverlovers Folder, I came across a *Currents* interview of Gunnar and me, written by Jan Ravase in July of 1996. It was charming and of course I found it extremely interesting. I realized we had not done interviews since Jan started the idea way back then. I called Jan and asked if she would like to begin an interview series anew and she agreed. I decided to begin the interview series by interviewing Jan, herself. Jan Ravase has been a Riverlover since as long as I can remember and things just don't feel quite the same when she is not around. Jan grew up and attended private schools in Peekskill. She was born on February 22 during one of the biggest recorded blizzards of the 20th century. No wonder she has so much energy and verve.

Putting her education at Merrimack College, where she majored in History and Secondary Education, to good use, Jan began teaching school in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. After her father died, Jan returned to teach in Peekskill where she taught the children of some of her own school-mates. One of her students was John Testa, the current mayor of Peekskill. Jan has also taught school in Maine and Yonkers, where she was a director of religious education.

Religion has played an important part in Jan's life. I attended a memorial service for her mother two years ago and it was obvious that Jan and her mother were very involved with the Church of the Assumption in Peekskill. It was a memorable day in which the congregation honored Jan's mother's service to the church. Jan did a superb job creating and directing the service; we Riverlovers who attended were moved to tears.

Jan has many hobbies and interests which reflect her sensitivity and romanticism. She has been compiling a unique postcard collection from all over the world since childhood. Her post cards mean a lot to her and she feels a deep sense of communication with the people who send them to her. Jan loves travel, particularly to cities in the U.S.A. where she visits major art museums and gathers postcards of works of art. I was lucky to view her favorite cards of 19th century French art. Now that's romanticism! She recently returned from trips to San Francisco and Niagara Falls with stops at wineries along the way. Where would a real romantic travel to again and again? Bermuda, of course; a place that Jan visits at least every two years.

Jan has a love of nature as well as art. Plants, flowers and animals have always been an important part of her life. A neighborhood cat named Pitch is cared for communally by the members of Jan's housing development. Jan became his favorite when he literally walked into her life five years ago. Jan loves Pitch so much she was willing to give up keeping canaries, which she did for many years.

Jan believes in service to the community; both religious and secular. She is active in Our Lady of Loreto in Cold Spring and is an affiliate of Mary Knoll in Ossining. We are very proud that she has chosen to be a member of Riverlovers, and she is an active member helping to carry out our goals of raising awareness of environmental issues in the community. We look forward to reading Jan's interviews in the coming issues of *Currents*.



Close Indian Point Update—Part I

Greetings to those who are engaged in the struggle to close Indian Point.

The relicensing of the reactors at IP 2 and 3 must be stopped. Even if you feel that nuclear power may offer some advantages, the reactors at Indian Point are located in the wrong place. The risks are just too great.

The steering committee of the Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition would like to provide you with this overview of the relicensing process. This is part one in a three-part series. The first, this one, deals with actions individuals can take. The second will outline the process of relicensing. The third part deals with what is currently happening to prevent relicensing.

Remember that there are a great many unknowns and a court case or Congressional action could change the dates of many items. You may find it helpful to file this tentative guide away for future reference.

Here is what to do NOW! Pick one action and do it!

Write, not e-mail, a note to Governor Spitzer. Remind him of his campaign promise and tell him why closing Indian Point is important to you. Ask Spitzer to use the power of his office to prevent the relicensing of the reactors at Indian Point. Use a note card and don't make a big deal out of formal terms of address or anything else. Just get something in the mail. This is something you can do with your kids. Here is the address: Governor Eliot Spitzer, Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany, New York, 12224. You can fax him at 518-474-1513.

If you prefer, write Attorney General Cuomo. Thank Cuomo for his involvement in Westchester County's court case to expand the criteria for relicensing. Ask him to continue to use the power of his office to prevent the relicensing of the reactors at Indian Point. The address is New York State Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, New York, 12224. If you prefer to call, you can reach his office at 518-474-7330.

Talk to your friends and neighbors about Indian Point. Give them the facts they don't see in the media. Share your concerns and listen to their questions. If you need help with answers, call 1-888-I-Shut-It.

If you can do more, arrange a get-together of friends or colleagues focused on Indian Point. Call the IPSEC Speakers Bureau so that you can have someone there to help answer the tough questions. (1-888-474-8848)

Most people cannot spend a lot of time on closing Indian Point, but everybody can do something. Empower yourself and act now!

The IPSEC Steering Committee



What's Happening When

Sundays at the Beacon Sloop Club, **Farmers' Market** 10am-4pm. Local cheeses, eggs, pasta, bread, lamb & mushroom spring rolls.

Dec 1, Sat, 1pm, **Those Amazing Animal Tracks**, at Nature Center. Learn shapes, habitats and adaptations of animals found at Croton Point. Info: 862-5297.

Dec 4, Tues, **first evening of Hanukkah** and a chance to spread more light in this world.

Dec 5, Wed, 7pm, **Ferry Sloops meeting at Croton Point Nature Center**. Share the beauty of the river with our sister Clearwater Sloop Club non-profit environmental organization and sailing group. Inspire people to appreciate and protect one of our greatest resources.

Dec 8, Sat, 1pm, **The Clay of Croton Point**, presentation at Nature Center. Native Americans made pots from the abundant clay beds at Croton Point. Learn more about their pottery traditions. Info: 862-5297.

Dec 8, Sat, 7:30pm, **Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse featuring Sol y Canto**. At Memorial United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Ave, White Plains. Tickets \$17.50 in advance, \$20 at door, children 5-12 \$10, open seating. Proceeds benefit Walkabout & Clearwater. Refreshments available. Free parking. Informal songfest starts at 6:45pm. Info: www.walkaboutclearwater.org or call 914-242-0374.

Dec 9, Sun, 1-4pm, **MALFA Open House** at Croton Point Nature Center. Meet and learn from your local archaeological organization. Info: 862-5297.

Dec 14, Fri, 8pm, **Annual Beacon Sloop Club Seasonal Sing**, at Beacon Sloop Club clubhouse. Free admission. Guests invited to bring a new gift toy, make a donation to Clearwater and bring along a favorite finger food to share.

Dec 15, Sat, 1pm, **Candle Making for Kids & Families**, free at Croton Point Nature Center. Info: 862-5297.

Dec 16, Sun, 10am-3pm, **Indoor Farmers Market**, with New York State produce, meat, poultry, cheese, wine and entertainment. At County Center, White Plains. Parking \$4. Info: 995-4050.

Dec 25, Tues, **Merry Christmas** and Peace on Earth.

Dec 31, Mon, 9pm-1am, **Happy New Year Alcohol-Free Party** sponsored by County Parks Dept. Free music & entertainment, free parking. Food & beverages for purchase. \$15 in advance, \$20 day of event at County Center, White Plains. Info: 995-4050.

Jan 1, Tues, **Happy New Year**. Resolve to make the world a better place. Think globally, but act locally and support Riverlovers and Clearwater.

Jan 12, Sat, 7:30pm, **Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse featuring Red Molly**. At Memorial United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Ave, White Plains. Tickets \$17.50 in

advance, \$20 at door, children 5-12 \$10, open seating. Proceeds benefit Walkabout & Clearwater. Refreshments available. Free parking. Informal songfest starts at 6:45pm. Info: www.walkaboutclearwater.org or call 914-242-0374.

Jan 18, Fri, 6:30pm, **Riverlovers Monthly Potluck** on the third Friday of the month at Croton Point Nature Center. Set up our participation in the February 9th Eagle Watch. Check our website for the latest info, at www.riverlovers.org.

Here's how to join Riverlovers...

(the local Clearwater Sloop Club in the Northern Westchester-Putnam County area)

Application for Riverlovers Membership

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Telephone _____
Renewal ___ New ___ Additional Contribution \$ _____

Please send check (\$15 individual, \$20 family) for 2008 to: Riverlovers, P.O. Box 285, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

Yes! I Also Want To Join Clearwater

Please sign me up in the following membership category:

<input type="radio"/> Individual	\$40	<input type="radio"/> Mariner	\$500
<input type="radio"/> Family	\$55	<input type="radio"/> Sailing-Master	\$1000
<input type="radio"/> Contributor	\$100	<input type="radio"/> Benefactor	\$5000
<input type="radio"/> Sponsor	\$200	<input type="radio"/> Student	\$10

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Please include check payable to Clearwater, or charge by credit card
 Visa MC Discover Amex

Account No. _____
Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Mail To: Clearwater, Inc.
112 Little Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Your Clearwater membership gets you the *Navigator* and other benefits, along with being part of Riverlovers' "parent" organization representing individuals and Sloop Clubs up and down the Hudson Valley "working for the River."

Riverlovers - Who We Are

Riverlovers, Inc. is a chartered Sloop Club of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc., an environmental non-profit membership organization whose most visible symbol is its member-owned and operated 106-ft. sloop "Clearwater." As a local affiliate, Riverlovers' purposes are:

- Maintaining an active Sloop Club in the Northern Westchester-Putnam County area;
- Meeting the needs and interests of individuals through a variety of interest groups, including monthly Potluck dinner meetings with varied programs, environmental education and awareness, boats and sailing, concerts and festivals;
- Organizing trips and recreational activities, seminars and workshops, learn-to-sail programs and Clearwater visits;
- Research, education and action to protect our rivers and our environment;
- Working for access and effective land use along the Hudson River and its tributaries;
- Boating projects on the Hudson River, to reach out to the surrounding community for educational and recreational purposes.

We invite you to join us. Contact our interest group coordinators, or write to Riverlovers, Inc., P.O. Box 285, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520. Together we can do a lot!

Riverlovers Officers

President:	Gunnar Andersen	432-3112
Vice Pres. (programs):	Robin Fox	271-6088
Co-Secretary:	Cynthia Andersen	432-3112
Co-Secretary:	Leesa Thompson	528-0098
Treasurer:	Daria Gregg	944-8396
President-Emeritus	Eric Marshall	827-3696



Interest Group Coordinators

Interest Group	Coordinator	Phone
Envir. Education	Bill Flank	238-8240
Membership	Gunnar Andersen	432-3112
Newsletter	Bill Flank	238-8240
Newsletter Distribution	Cynthia Andersen	432-3112
Outreach		
Photographer/Archivist	Beverly Dyckman	739-5057
Potluck	Robin Fox	271-6088
Publicity		
ShadFest	Robin Fox	271-6088

Web Page: www.riverlovers.org

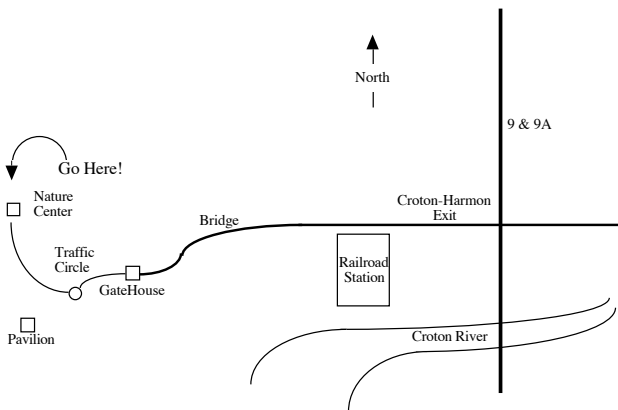
Newsletter Submissions

Please send news articles and other items of interest to Riverlovers Currents, P.O. Box 285, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520. Include your name, address, and phone number. Names can be omitted on request.

Newsletter Committee: Editor, Bill Flank; Associate Editor, Mel Fitting

December Newsletter Contributors: Cynthia Andersen, Gunnar Andersen, Bill Flank

Wait Till January to Read This Map!



Riverlovers, Inc.

P.O. Box 285

Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

First Potluck of 2008
Friday, January 18, 2008
6:30pm
Croton Point Nature Center