



Riverlovers Currents

www.riverlovers.org

Volume 32, Number 1, January 2019

Message from the President

We will have many indoor and outdoor activities for winter and springtime 2019. With the decisive 2018 elections over perhaps the increasing environmental challenges from the present administration can be reversed.

2018 was a wonderful year: sailing on the Sloop Clearwater, sailing on our member's sailboat, the Blue Monk, kayaking the Croton River, visiting the Botanical Gardens where we saw the Georgia O' Keefe Visions of Hawaii show and several walks in our nearby parks.

For the December potluck we screened a little more than the half of the PBS DVD "What Darwin Never Knew". For the January 18, 2019 potluck meeting at 6:30 pm in the Croton Point Nature Center we will screen the second half, or possibly the beginning of "What Darwin Never Knew".

We are excited about visiting The Hudson River Museum to see the Maya Lin "A River is a Drawing"; a ground breaking exhibition which focuses on the theme of the Hudson River. We plan on visiting the Museum on Saturday January 12 at 12:30 pm, carpooling from Croton Shoprite at 11:30 am. Rain date will be on Sunday January 13. If interested let me know (914-319-3379).

The Teatown Hudson River Eaglefest is Saturday, February 9; rain date: Sunday, February 10. We need volunteers. There are many activities: live eagle demonstrations, movies, vendors, and outreach tables and there will be wild eagle viewing. See Gunnar's article on EagleFest below.

Come to our meetings come to our activities. Everyone is welcome. Together we can be educated and educate others to protect the Hudson River and save the Earth and its climate for ourselves and future generations.

EagleFest 2019

Dear Riverlovers, we will have our annual "soup kitchen" a Teatown's EagleFest, providing lunch for the EagleFest volunteers. With the closing of Umami Café, we have lost our largest soup contribution so **YOUR SOUP DONATIONS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.**

This year the EagleFest will be held on Saturday, February 9 (inclement weather date is Sunday, February 10) at Croton Point Park.

Riverlovers and Ferry Sloops will once more be serving home-made and donated soups and baked breads at the Croton Point Nature Center for volunteers and vendors

from 11am to 2pm. We need volunteers to bring soups, breads and butter, and to help serve. We also need volunteers for the Outreach Table from 9am to 4pm.

Riverlovers will get plenty of exposure, since large crowds are expected at the big tent. Call Gunnar at 914-432-3112 if you can help with soups at the Nature Center or call Warren at 914-739-9028 if you can help out at the Outreach Table. If you are, or even if you are not, volunteering at the EagleFest, please come and see the various activities.

Why a Citizens Oversight Board?

by Marilyn Elie

Our country does not have a well-defined policy in regard to where and how to store high level radioactive waste. Bury it in a big hole someday, somewhere is about as far as we have gotten in determining what to do with plutonium, cesium, and a multitude of radioactive daughter products that are part of used fuel rods which are lethal for 240,000 years. Even burying it is problematic as the earth moves over that length of time and the computer estimates for the lifetime of the casks the high level radioactive waste is stored is about 350 years... If we seal it in a national depository it will not be possible to monitor the casks and it will be very easy to forget about them as the centuries pass.

It is much safer and more sensible not to transport high level radioactive waste to a national depository but rather to store it above ground on site where it can be budgeted for, safely stored, regularly inspected and transferred to new casks as the original ones fail. Transporting them would mean contaminating other communities and leaving a trail of radioactivity through our cities and neighborhoods over our highways, railways and waterways. Storing casks on site above ground would make them more visible and harder to forget as the years roll by and local governments change.

It is obvious that an onsite storage site must be supervised as part of a regular and ongoing program. Who should do this supervision and how should it be set up to last for such an unthinkable long time?

Currently we have a local volunteer group in Cortlandt, a Task Force set up by Cortlandt Supervisor, Linda Puglisi which is set to expire when the reactors close and a New York State Task Force appointed by the Governor. It is

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Sanford Robinson Gifford

Cynthia Andersen

Sanford Robinson Gifford (1823-1880) was the son of a wealthy ironmaster. He was raised in the town of Hudson and was influenced by Thomas Cole, the founder of the Hudson River School of Painting. Gifford was interested in effects of light and color luminism. He travelled in Europe from 1855-1857. Gifford liked the way Turner dissolved forms in light, he wrote, "I am interested in the light giving properties of the sky as carried to earth by the atmosphere which imbues nature with sentiment, unity and expression."



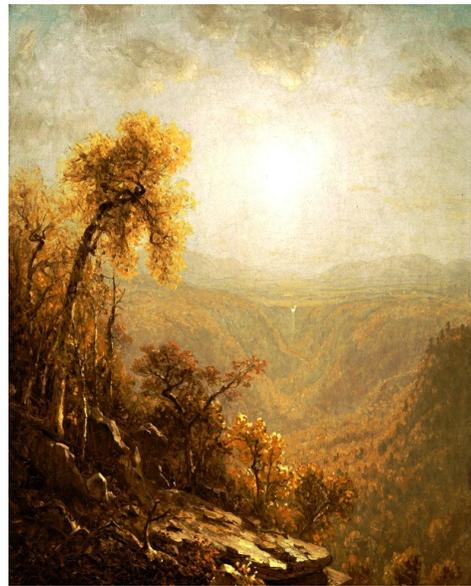
A Lake Twilight, 1861, 16 x 38, Private Collection

This picture was painted in the year the Civil War broke out. It's almost surreal stillness has been interpreted as "menacing quietude". The action of the hunter arranging the deer he has shot in the bottom of his canoe contributes to the uneasy sense of cruelty and foreboding.



Catskill Mountain House, 1862: Gifford, 9 5/16 x 18 1/2, Private Collection

A fellow painter, Worthington Whit-tredge wrote: "The particular part of the Catskills which pleased Gifford best was the summit, or the region round about the Mountain House. Upon the edges of the cliffs of North and South Mountains, overlooking the great plain of the Hudson River, how often his feet have stood! The very lichen there remember him." For Gifford, as for many artists based in New York, the Catskills were a perpetual inspiration. This is not a literal account of the place: it is an essay in light and atmosphere, in which Gifford's characteristic mature style is very apparent: short dabs of pigment are built up to create an almost tangible atmosphere filled with misty light in which the forms of the mountains and forests are dissolved, and the rich colors of a late autumn afternoon are muted. The open simplicity of the design emphasizes the overriding importance of air itself in Gifford's work.



A Gorge in the Mountains (Kaaterskill Clove), 1862, Metropolitan Museum of Art. This is actually Haines Falls on the western side of the Clove from Kaaterskill Falls. The theme is a reddish sunset glow which, as it enters a deep central ravine, modulates into gray shadow. Mist clings to the earth, and wherever mist controls, the paint surface is smooth. Where light hit unimpeded, impasto appears, even as tiny touches in the far distance. The foreground which is shaggy as an early Cole is flooded with a pink radiance that brightens cliffs and gives birches pink bark. Since it is autumn, no green breaks into a color harmony. Foliage is either mist-gray, pink or gold. Light is the spiritual subtext.



Twilight, Hunter Mountain, 1866, 30 5/8 x 54 1/8, Terra Museum in Chicago. We see a daffodil-yellow sky flecked with red clouds. Gifford shows us the remoteness of the wilderness, conveying stillness and silence with palpable force. Tree stumps in the denuded foreground represents an accelerating civilization and the loss of an unspoiled landscape. The Catskills had been laid to waste by generations of loggers, leather tanners and farmers who had stripped the valley and hilltops of their trees. Streams were clogged with the debris of a dying forest. Clearing of the land as a threat to the wilderness was an ideal extolled by the H.R.S. This painting spurred the recovery of the Catskills. This painting became the woodland's elegy and it helped to shape and informs much of the debate which is still very much alive in the Catskills today- how the wilderness is to be treated.



What's Happening When

Sundays, 10am-3pm. **Farmer's Market** at VFW Hall on Main St. in Beacon. Local cheeses, eggs, pasta, bread, lamb, fruits and vegetables.

Ferry Sloops: Now that their boat is out of the water, join Ferry Sloops during the off season months for a series of hikes along the Hudson River. One hike will be planned each month from December through March. The Hudson River will be the theme of the hikes. January TBA – go to info@ferry.sloops.org

Riverlovers: January 12. 12:30 – carpooling from Croton Shoprite at 11:30am: Riverlover's trip to The **Hudson River Museum**: Maya Lin show: "A River is a Drawing". Rain date: Sunday, January 13.

Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse presents: Seamus Kennedy 7:30pm, Saturday, January 12, 2019 in the first floor sanctuary at Memorial Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY. Tickets: \$20 in advance online/\$25 at the door; Students with ID: \$15; Children ages 6-12: \$10. Visit www.walkaboutchorus.org for more information, or call (914) 946-1625. Doors open at 6:30pm.

Friday, January 18, 6:30pm, **Riverlover's Monthly Potluck Supper** at Croton Point Nature Center. PBS NOVA Special, second half of "What DARWIN Never Knew." The film answers the question: "Why is there such a stunning diversity of life?" Bring a dish for the Potluck.

Saturday, February 9, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, **Teatown Hudson River EagleFest** at Croton Point Park. Celebrate the return of the eagles to the Hudson River Valley with viewing scopes observing wild eagles and live bird-of-prey shows in heated tents. Join Riverlovers in providing a soup and bread lunch for the EagleFest volunteers.

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also scheduled to disband when the last reactor closes. This Task Force serves at the pleasure of the Governor and can be extended or disbanded by the Governor now or in the future. It does not represent a wide range of stakeholders nor has it dealt with the mechanics of decommissioning in any meaningful way.

What is called for is legislature to establish a permanent Citizens Oversight Board that charged with coordinating reports and information. Its members would represent a wide range of stake holders, some elected and some appointed by elected officials. The COB would hold public informational meetings and listen to citizen input. And keep up with any new technological developments in fuel rod storage. It would prepare reports with recommendations for future actions and publish information on the current condition of the casks and how they are being supervised.

There is no good solution to the problem of nuclear waste. We can only store what we have created as safely as possible and stop making more.

President's Note: from the New York Times article, *Big Oil Angles, Quietly, to Ease Emissions Cuts*. Briefly, this an effort of the oil companies to roll back the year 2025's new car miles per gallon efficiency standards to the year 2020's new car mpg efficiencies. This is through Big Oil influence-peddling to our lawmakers. The roll back would increase CO2 emissions by more than the amount that some midsize countries produce in a year. This, under the guise of the Car Freedom Agenda. All this is ignoring Climate Change. Shame on the oil producers and the gasoline refiner Marathon. Shame on our elected officials and shame on you President Trump!

Application for Riverlovers Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Renewal ___ New ___ Additional Contribution \$ _____

Please send check (\$25 individual, \$35 family) for 2018 to:
Riverlovers, P.O. Box 285, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

I want to have *Riverlovers Currents* delivered electronically.

Send to this e-mail _____

Yes! I Also Want To Join Clearwater

Please sign me up in the following membership category:

Individual	\$50	Mariner	\$500
Family	\$65	Sailing-Master	\$1000
Contributor	\$100	Benefactor	\$5000
Sponsor	\$200	Student	\$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please include check payable to Clearwater, or charge by credit card

Visa	MC	Discover	Amex
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Account No. _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Mail To: Clearwater, Inc.
724 Wolcott Avenue
Beacon, NY 12508

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



Interest Group Coordinators

Interest Group	Coordinator	Phone
Envir. Education	Bill Flank	238-8240
Membership	Gunnar Andersen	432-3112
Newsletter	Cynthia Andersen	432.3112
	Gunnar Andersen	432.3112
Newsletter Distribution	Cynthia Andersen	432-3112
Outreach	Warren Lindholm	739-9028
Photographer/Archivist	Beverly Dyckman	739-5057
Potluck	Warren Lindholm	739-9028
Publicity		

Web Page: www.riverlovers.org

Riverlovers Officers

President:	Warren Lindholm	739-9028
Vice Pres. (programs):		
Secretary:	Cynthia Andersen	432-3112
Treasurer:	Daria Gregg	944-8396
President-Emeritus	Gunnar Andersen	432-3112

Newsletter Submissions

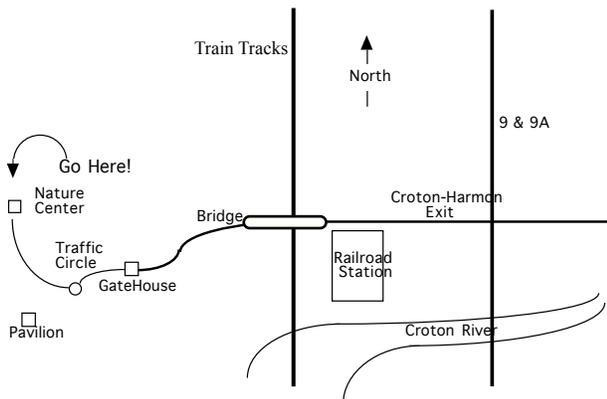
Please send news articles and other items of interest to Riverlovers Currents, P.O. Box 285, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520. Include your name, address, and phone number. Names can be omitted on request.

Newsletter Committee: Editor, Cynthia Andersen; Associate Editor, Mel Fitting
 January Newsletter Contributors: Cynthia Andersen, Gunnar Andersen, Marilyn Elie, Warren Lindholm

Riverlovers Monthly Potluck part 2 of "What Darwin Knew"



Riverlovers, Inc.
 P.O. Box 285
 Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520



Friday, January 18, 2019
6:30pm
Croton Point Nature Center