



Riverlovers Currents

www.riverlovers.org

Volume 34, Number 11, January 2021

Message from the President

Where to start? I apologize for not writing messages for Riverlovers Currents. There was not much to write about in these difficult times. The Croton Point Nature Center has been closed indefinitely.

The last activity was the Eaglefest in February 2020, with a large turnout.

I was able to kayak the on the Croton River, in August. I saw Snowy Egrets, Cormorants, and even a Bald Eagle near the riverbank. Wow!

The Town of Cortlandt Pool was closed for the 2020 season due to concerns for the Covid-19 virus. I usually swim at the first rapids in the Croton River. The river water from the rapids felt like ice water instead of just cool. Why? Apparently, the Croton Dam water was not flowing over the spillway. This is called stratification where the cold water at the bottom of the reservoir was released through 3 four-foot openings to keep the Croton River flowing. The surface water in the Croton reservoir is heated by the sun and warm air, and when there is enough water in the reservoir to flow over the spillway, this warmer water flows into the river below. The last time I went kayaking the river warmed up, and I finally was able to swim in the Croton River.

The Peekskill Riverwalk has been extended south from China Pier to Lents Cove Park. The walkway goes around the Wheelabrator Westchester plant and goes past the Charles Point Marina, then on to Lents Cove Park in Buchanan. The northern section extends from the Peekskill Waterfront Park to the Hudson Highlands State Park by the Annsville Paddlesport Center. There are beautiful views of the Hudson River on this Walkway. With these mild winters we are experiencing due to Climate Change, we will go on walks on different sections of the Walkway this Winter. We will practice social distancing and wear our masks!

There are so many activities that myself and other Riverlovers have participated in this year, that I will bring it up in future messages.

I regret to inform you that our member Lorraine Magerle died July 15, 2020. She loved nature and loved to go kayaking, canoeing, and sailing. She will be missed.

Since we had no meetings or activities this year, we are not requesting dues this year. If you wish to donate, Thank You.

Hibernation

Gunnar Andersen

In response to the pandemic, Riverlovers has suspended all activities over the last 9 months. No monthly potluck meetings at the Nature Center, no movies, no hikes, or group visits to museums, not even any Currents newsletters. Do not, however, think that Riverlovers has folded. We are still alive – just in hibernation and ready to wake again when the conditions change for the better. As you can see from this newsletter, we have figured out how to edit, format and publish remotely.

In an effort to lessen any hardships caused by the pandemic, Riverlovers has decided to suspend the collection of dues for 2021. So, NO DUES WILL BE COLLECTED THIS YEAR! Your membership will be renewed automatically – you need do nothing. Of course, if you really insist, we will always accept your membership contribution.

Our annual membership sail on the Clearwater was also cancelled in 2020 along with associated fundraising for Clearwater. Keeping in mind that the ship Clearwater has many expenses even when not sailing, Riverlovers has dipped into the reserve to send Clearwater a donation. We are also placing a link on our webpage to facilitate donations to Clearwater. Please consider making a donation to Clearwater. Go to Riverlovers.org and look for the link Support Clearwater.

Many thanks to Donna Stein for organizing virtual meetings of the sloop clubs. We now meet monthly via Zoom. I believe that we have representation from all the sloop clubs (from NYC to Albany). We discuss ways in which we and the Clearwater board can share activities and help build membership. Would this have been possible without the current situation forcing us all to become experts at Zoom? I cannot say, but it would certainly be difficult to get this geographically diverse group together for physical meetings.

The annual Teatown Eaglefest will go on in a modified format this year, but without the Riverlovers “soup kitchen”. The EagleFest will take place on January 30 to February 7. As of this printing, we do not know any more, but for the latest information check www.teatown.org.

Thomas Cole's Refrain The Paintings of Catskill Creek

Cynthia Andersen

Cole explored the Catskill Creek landscapes in a series which he created again and again from 1827 to 1845—virtually the whole course of his mature career. His fascination with Catskill Creek, which enters the Hudson River at Catskill, New York, speaks volumes about his artistry and his commitment to the environment. These iconic images, as timeless and timely as ever, are essential to understanding this pioneering artist and proto-environmentalist who captured nature's beauty and underscored the essential need to protect the environment. The exhibition we Riverlovers saw several months ago was organized by the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in association with the Hudson River Museum.



Autumn Landscape (View of Mount Chocorua)
1827-28, Oil on canvas.

Cole's paintings of Catskill Creek constitute the most sustained sequence of landscapes he ever made. The views in the paintings are all anchored along a stretch of Catskill Creek near the Village of Catskill, where Thomas Cole lived and worked. Part of this waterfront, located less than a mile and a half from the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, has been preserved as a public park by the land conservancy groups Scenic Hudson and Greene Land Trust.

Cole's repeated attention to Catskill Creek signifies his love of the views near his home and illustrates his development of a profound sense of place. The exhibition considered these paintings as a series unified by place as well as their stable composition and recurring motifs, even as they exhibited variations reflecting changes in the artist's life and times, including intrusive development of the landscape. During Cole's lifetime, Catskill Creek was increasingly threatened by industry, which is represented in the paintings by the smoke coming out of the trains.



View Near Catskill, 1828-29, P.C.

The exhibition was based on scholarship developed by H. Daniel Peck, Exhibition Curator and John Guy Vassar, Jr., Professor Emeritus of English at Vassar College, in his book *Thomas Cole's Refrain*, published by Three Hills, an imprint of Cornell University Press. "The exhibition tells the story of Cole's discovery of Catskill Creek, with its Catskill Mountain background, and his ever-deepening attachment to it over the course of eighteen years. The paintings contain mysteries—enigmatic figures, evocative human structures, and symbolic landforms—that tell stories of their own," notes Peck. Masha Turchinsky, Director of the Hudson River Museum stated, "Just as Thomas Cole identified with Catskill Creek and the mountain scenery around his home, so too do we feel re-energized in our landscape along the Hudson. Cole's revolutionary creativity and his perceptions of the wildness inherent in American scenery not only continue to reward our close looking, but inspire our ongoing environmental advocacy". They invited all to join them and to discover something new in these absolutely beautiful paintings.



River in the Catskills
1843, 27 1/2 x 40 3/8, MFAB



What's Happening When

Sundays, 10am-2pm. **Farmer's Market** at VFW Hall on Main St. in Beacon. Local cheeses, eggs, pasta, bread, lamb, fruits and vegetables

Ongoing. **Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse** presents virtual concerts via Zoom. Check their website for details. www.walkaboutchorus.org.

Saturday, January 30 thru Sunday February 7. **Teatown's Hudson River Eaglefest**, a series of engaging virtual presentations and limited in-person programs. Check the Teatown website for details. www.teatown.org.

Date TBD. **Riverlovers Monthly Potluck** at the Croton Point Nature Center will resume when it is deemed safe.

REMEMBERING: Terry Arnold

Cynthia Andersen – January 2021

I am starting a new column for **CURRENTS**: REMEMBERING. I will start with the iconic Terry Arnold. In the April 2008 edition of CURRENTS, Jan Ravase interviewed Terry and wrote a wonderful piece about her in the column entitled "Riverlover of the Month" and she has given me permission to reprint it (with editing).

Back by popular demand, the first interview in the new 21st century series is our favorite mother figure, Terry Arnold. She was born in Ossining, went to UCLA, and studied design in Stockholm, Sweden. But one would think that she had degrees in ecology, culinary arts, and quilting.

Over the past ten years she lost her beloved spouse, Bob, on March 6, 2001, but gained twin grandchildren from professors Robert (a geophysicist, electrical engineer and oil expert) and Kelly (an English teacher). Alise and Robert will be eleven on June 1st. They and other members of her family and friends have been the recipients of quilt tops and over 100 sweaters.

Somehow, Terry tends to more than 2000 flower and vegetable plants, and cans the vegetables, many of which stand stocked in her pantry. (I'm fortunate to have a jar of raspberry jam.) We discussed the winter weather, where Mother Nature has a sense of humor, and she recalled a tornado which cut through the property years ago, causing power outages in the area from a week to a month.

Terry is a living history book for Clearwater and Riverlovers. She has been working the Revival kitchen since 1978, thirty years beyond the initial Smithsonian solar cooking demonstration. Our Sloop Club started in 1988 in her living room. In a nutshell, Terry, Riverlovers is so happy you continue to be with us—you put the



tablecloth on our table! When I asked for an outline of her health, she said, "I'm like the river that flows both ways!"

Editor's Note: Sadly, Terry Arnold died on May 22, 2012. We will go on remembering her always as one of the founders of Clearwater; Riverlovers Sloop Club was founded in her living room. Terry Arnold was an inspiration to all of us as a constant supporter of Clearwater's mission; working tirelessly for a cleaner, healthier environment.

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 (\$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

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
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Newsletter Distribution	Cynthia Andersen	432-3112
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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: Gunnar Andersen, Warren Lindholm

Riverlovers Monthly Potluck Not being held currently.



Clearwater in the Snow



Riverlovers, Inc.

P.O. Box 285

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