



Riverlovers Currents

www.riverlovers.org

Volume 33, Number 1-2, January-February 2020

Message from the President

This is the time of year of falling snow, chilly temperatures, and yearnings for spring's approach.

The Riverlovers continued to explore the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway on two hikes one North and one South. During the South hike we went from Spring Valley Road towards Kitchawan Road, and on the North hike we went from Spring Valley Road to Blinn Road, which is getting close to the Croton Dam. We enjoyed the natural scenery on both hikes.

Our members' sailboat the Blue Monk now has a slip at the Half Moon Bay Marina. It's nice to be able to walk to the sailboat, instead of climbing aboard from the 7 foot dinghy.

For the October potluck we screened "Rivers of Life, part 1 the Nile". The world's longest River travels more than 4000 miles north all the way from the Equator to the Mediterranean Sea. One of my favorite parts is when two local women join a kayak race, including the waterfalls with class 6 rapids, the hardest rapids in the world!

For the November potluck meeting, we enjoyed a PowerPoint slide show of the "Site Crew for the Clearwater Festival". Photos and narration by our own Robert Reardon. We saw how the performance stages were assembled, and how the dance stage was made perfectly level. We saw pictures of all the volunteers needed to make the Clearwater Festival possible! We screened "Rivers of Life, Part 2 the Amazon." The grandest river system on earth, amassing one fifth of Earth's fresh water as it flows east from the Andes to the Atlantic Ocean. Boiling streams, clear lagoons, and pink river dolphins are some of the many secrets and extreme worlds in this documentary. The Amazon River has more than 1,000 tributaries and gets to be 28 miles wide during the rainy season.

Weather permitting, we will continue to explore the Briarcliff-Peekskill trail way. I would like to venture North from Blinn Road to the Croton Dam. Another outdoor idea would be to drive up to the Perkins Memorial tower. There is a side road with a beautiful view of our Hudson River, Anthony's Nose, and the iconic Bear Mountain Bridge.

The January meeting will feature a talk by Cynthia Andersen concerning the current show at the Yonkers

Hudson River Museum: "Thomas Cole's Refrain: The Paintings of Catskill Creek". At the meeting we will plan for a group trip to the museum.

EagleFest 2020

by Gunnar Andersen

Dear Riverlovers, we will have our annual "soup kitchen" at Teatown's EagleFest, providing lunch for the EagleFest volunteers. We provide a very important service at the EagleFest. Many of the Eaglefest volunteers work all day out in the cold and greatly appreciate a hot bowl of soup and a warm place to eat.

This year the EagleFest will be held on Saturday, February 8 (inclement weather date is Sunday, February 9) at Croton Point Park. Riverlovers and Ferry Sloops will once more be serving home-made, 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 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 at the Outreach Table. If you are, or even if you are not, volunteering at the EagleFest, please come and see the various activities.

Winter Maintenance

Volunteer Saturdays are back!

Starting on December 7th and throughout the winter (excluding holidays) we would love some extra hands to work on winter projects with our crew.

Volunteer Saturdays are from 9am-4pm at the HRMM (in the grey barn) @ 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston, NY. Tasks may include woodworking, painting, coating, sanding and lots more. Come for the day or just a few hours. The captain and crew will be delighted for any time you can share working with us.

Volunteers should BYO lunch, dress for potential work outdoors, and be excited to complete work tasks that will mend, improve, and give back to the boat that gives so much to us!

**Pay Your Dues Now
Support Our River**

Thomas Cole's Refrain
The Paintings of Catskill Creek
 by Cynthia Andersen

I will be giving a talk and power point presentation on Friday evening, January 17, 2020 at the next Riverlover's Potluck Meeting at the Nature Center. Potluck dinner is at 6:30 pm; lecture begins at 7:30 pm. The subject of the lecture is *Thomas Cole's Refrain; the Paintings of Catskill Creek*.

Riverlover's will be going on a field trip to the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers to view these paintings of Thomas Cole. I will set the stage for you so you will have a better understanding of these iconic works. The date of the field trip will be decided at the January 17th meeting.

Cole explores 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.



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

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



North Mountain and Catskill Creek
 1838, Yale University Art Gallery.

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.



Sunset in the Catskills
 1841, Museum of fine Arts, Boston.

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 considers these paintings as a series unified by place as well as their stable composition and recurring motifs, even as they exhibit 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 significant details.

The exhibition is based on new scholarship developed by H. Daniel Peck, Exhibition Curator and John Guy Vassar, Jr., Professor Emeritus of English at Vassar College, in his book of the same title, 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 states, "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. We invite all to join us and to discover something new in these absolutely beautiful paintings."

We hope you will join us at our Potluck on January 17, where we will discuss our visit to the museum. Come with your questions about Thomas Cole, the father of the Hudson River School.



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.

Friday, February 7: **Jazz and Poetry at the UU** Join us for an evening of Jazz and Poetry by the Gunnar Andersen Quartet and local jazz musicians and poets, followed by a wine and cheese reception at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 2021 Albany Post Road (9A), Croton-on-Hudson, NY. No admission (contributions accepted). For more info call Gunnar [914] 522-0339.

Saturday, January 11, 2019, 7:30pm, **Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse** presents: Jay Ungar and Molly Mason in the first floor sanctuary at Memorial Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY. Tickets: \$25 in advance online/ \$30 at the door; Students with ID: \$15; Children ages 6-12: \$10. For more information visit www.walkaboutchorus.org Doors open at 6:30pm – Questions? [914] 946-1625.

Friday, January 17, 6:30, **Riverlover's Monthly Potluck**, at Croton Point Nature Center. Join us for a potluck dinner at 6:30 and at 7:30 a talk by Cynthia Andersen concerning the current show at the Hudson River Museum: "Thomas Cole's Refrain: The Paintings of Catskill Creek".

Date TBD, a Riverlovers visit to the **Hudson River Museum** to view the Thomas Cole show (see item above)

Saturday, February 8, 2020, 9am - 4pm, **Teatown's Hudson River Eaglefest**, Croton Point Park. Riverlovers serves soup and bread to volunteers at this annual event. See page 1 for more details.

Governor Cuomo Proposes Styrofoam Ban

Reprinted from Clearwater.org

On Tuesday, December 17, 2019, as part of his 2020 State of the State address, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced the 5th proposal of his 2020 State of the State Agenda – prohibiting the distribution and use of expanded polystyrene, commonly known as Styrofoam, single-use food containers. The proposal also bans the sale of expanded polystyrene packaging materials known as packing peanuts. Additionally, the bill would authorize the State Department of Environmental Conservation to review and take action to limit or ban other packaging material upon a finding of environmental impact. This would be the strongest statewide ban in the United States and would go into effect by January 1, 2022.

"Styrofoam is one of the most common pollutants and a public health hazard that impacts humans and the environment alike," Governor Cuomo said. "From take-out containers to packing peanuts, this material is everywhere and it will continue to pollute our waters and harm our wildlife for generations to come if we do not act. With this proposal, we can build on our nation-leading initiatives to

protect the environment and move New York another step closer to a greener, more sustainable future."

"Every day we see styrofoam in the Hudson River, and our crew does its best to retrieve it and dispose of it properly. We'd be much happier to not see it in the first place, and this ban would go a long way towards achieving that goal." said Hudson River Sloop Clearwater Executive Director Greg Williams.

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
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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-February Newsletter Contributors: Gunnar Andersen, Warren Lindholm

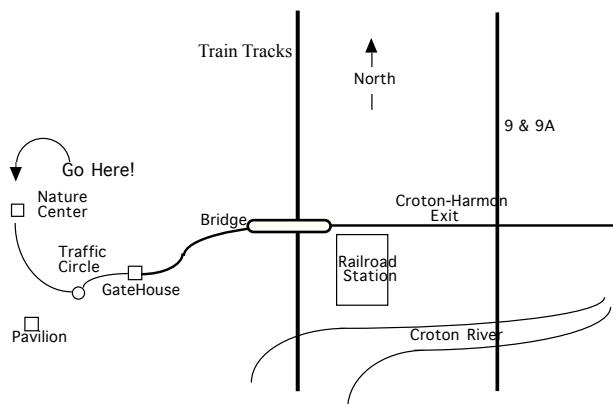
Riverlovers Monthly Potluck and Lecture by Cynthia Andersen on Thomas Cole's Refrain



Riverlovers, Inc.

P.O. Box 285

Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520



Friday, January 17, 2020
6:30pm
Croton Point Nature Center