



Riverlovers Currents

www.riverlovers.org

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Message from the President

As I write this we are marking the Autumnal Equinox; first day of autumn. The days and nights are both 12 hours long. At this time watch a sunrise or a sunset, and observe that the Sun rises exactly from the East, and sets exactly to the West. Try this for the Winter Solstice; first Day of winter. The sunrise will be 31 degrees south from due east and the Sunset will be 31 degrees south from due west.

Riverlovers had an interesting summer. Briefly, we kayaked in the Croton River, sailed on our members' sailboat, the Blue Monk across the Hudson River to Haverstraw, and hiked three sections of Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway. The best section was along the Colabaugh Pond. Very inspiring!

I participated in the Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim. It was a challenge to swim across the Hudson River, feeling adventurous and a sense of accomplishment. The swim is a fundraiser for the Riverpool in Beacon.

The annual Clearwater sail was a great success. We were treated to great music from singers Lydia Adams Davis and Karen Drucker, and accompanied by a guitarist and a banjo player, whose names I did not get. We sailed from the Yonkers Dock. Looking south we could see the New York City skyline, looking west the Palisades loomed over us, and looking east we could see the Yonkers skyline and the flames from the methane release at the Yonkers sewage treatment plant! Too bad the methane was not powering a boiler or an engine.

Riverlovers marched with our beautiful banner for the Croton Climate March. It was a sight to see over a hundred people marching the sidewalks of Croton. We stretched out, and carried our beautiful 9 foot Riverlovers banner through the sidewalks of Croton. Thank you Mel Fitting, Gunnar Andersen, and Janet Morra for assisting me.

We cancelled the September 21 potluck meeting so we could join Ferry Sloops for a benefit Concert with Tom Chapin and the Greg Jacquin Band.

We are going to visit the Storm King Art Center on Monday, October 15. We will meet at the Annsville Paddle-sport parking lot at 12:00 noon to carpool there. The featured special exhibitions are "Indicators: Artists on Climate Change" and "Outlooks: Elaine Cameron-Weir."

Our first fall potluck meeting will be at the Croton Point Nature Center, Friday October 19 at 6:30 pm. We will screen a PBS Nature special "Viva Puerto Rico." Puerto Rico is a tropical island infused with unique natural wonders, but special native wildlife is threatened with extinction. Meet the scientists, restoring Puerto Rico's rich biological heritage -- Manatees, Parrots, and Turtles.

We are going to return to the New York Botanical Gardens on Friday, October 26. We will meet at the Shop Rite in Croton parking lot at 12 noon and carpool to the Bronx. The featured artist is Georgia O'Keeffe with Visions of Hawaii. There will be botanicals from Hawaii in the conservatory. If anybody wants to visit these 2 activities a different day, we could revisit. On Friday, November 16, there will be a Thanksgiving potluck at 6:30pm, and we will screen a PBS special "What DARWIN Never Knew."

Come to our meetings, come to our activities. Members and non-members are 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.

Riverlovers Help Bag For Hunger

Daria Gregg

Starting way back in the 1990's when Riverlovers had a yearly spring Shad Fest and more recently with the Winter Eagle Fest, Shoprite has routinely donated goods to our events. When Shoprite called Gunnar Andersen requesting help with their campaign to help "Bag For Hunger" he said "yes." It was payback time.

A request was sent out and four Riverlovers responded: Gunnar Andersen, Kirsten Andersen, Daria Gregg and Carl Grimm. There we were four seniors with blue aprons labeled with the "Help Bag Hunger Day" logo and bagging groceries. Had we found new careers? I don't think Shoprite is going to hire us anytime soon. We baggers however found a new respect for the cashiers at Shoprite and the diplomatic work they do. Probably Kirsten had the best experience and had the most donations to the "Bag For Hunger" campaign. For us all it was interesting to see how few people bring their own bags and how those with the highest grocery bill were the most unlikely to donate to the fund. It was overall a positive experience, but probably we were all glad when the hour of bagging was over.

The Hudson River School's Second Generation

Thomas Cole died in 1848. Asher B. Durand (1796-1886) succeeded him as the head of the Hudson River School of painting. He brought a simpler expression of nature's bounty, relying more on direct observation than intellectual conception, though retaining Cole's moral and religious conviction. Durand paints *Kindred Spirits*, 1849, in memorial to Cole. We see Cole and Bryant standing in communion, sharing their love of nature on a ledge overlooking the Catskill Clove and Kaaterskill Falls. The Walton Family buys painting from the New York Public Library for 35 million dollars in 2006. It is now in Crystal Bridges Museum in Arkansas.

William Cullen Bryant's (1794-1878) *Eulogy to Cole*: "...pictures which carried the eye over scenes of wild grandeur peculiar to our country, over aerial mountain tops with their mighty growth of forest never touched by the axe, along the banks of streams never deformed by culture, and into the depth of skies bright with the hues of our own climate; skies such as few but Cole could ever paint, and thru the transparent abysses of which it seemed you might send an arrow out of sight. After Cole's death, Durand becomes the acknowledged leader of the Hudson River School.



Beacon Hills – Durand bought his new house in 1849 overlooking the Hudson near Newburgh. This may be the view from Durand's property looking across the river to Fishkill. Figures may be Durand's family on a casual walk enjoying the delights of nature overlooking the heavily wooded embankment. The framing trees offer a splendid view of the busy river under a placid sky.

The First Harvest in the Wilderness: Using funds bequeathed by one of its founders, Augustus Graham, the Brooklyn Museum commissioned Durand to paint this work in 1855, thus officially establishing its collection of American art. Durand brings an almost religious fervor to his theme of fidelity to nature. "Art is unworthy and vicious which is at variance with the truth, and that is only is worthy and elevated which impresses us with the feelings and emotions that we experience in the presence of reality." Durand's composition depicts an expanse of rugged terrain and forests under stormy skies. The American wilderness yields to progress as a lone farmer reaps his

first harvest in a field, still dotted with the stumps of recently cleared trees and gleaming under a sudden shaft of light that penetrates the heavy clouds.

Detail "Graham" – Durand's dramatic landscape pays tribute to Grahams' efforts as a cultural pioneer – a boulder resting by the side of the road identifies or glorified pioneer by the name of "Graham".



In his *Studies from Nature*, Durand balances traditional landscape conventions with the direct observation we see in this accomplished foreground study of a fallen tree in southern Vermont. Tree bark, leaves, and the splintered wound where the trunk was shattered are rendered as a precise record of surface textures, detail and color. Equally convincing is his record of the distant mountains glimpsed through the branches of the fallen tree.

Study from Nature, Rocks and Trees in the Catskills, 1856, 21 1/2x 17, New York Historical Society. Durand allows the pre-established formula of the Hudson River mode to give way to the immediacy of the happened-upon, where the closeness of the view establishes the spectator more directly on the spot. The suddenness of the moment is conveyed by the spontaneity of the stroke, slickness is abandoned for the sketch like and the scumbled, and smooth finish is replaced by tactile pigment. These rocks and trees form a beautiful composition without the need of change or adaptation. The compositional structure of such a painting takes its shape from the rocks and trees themselves, their weights and volumes and linear balances playing against each other within the limits of the picture frame.

Durand's example invites us to speculate why Impressionism similar to that of Europe did not develop in America. He was a pleinairist. He was able to abandon formalistic composition for the close-up view. He was capable of painting with a spontaneous stroke, of using painterly rather than linear style. But, he thinks of light as a divine attribute, suggesting that his observations were not as analytically free from sentiment as were the Impressionists. It is natural that the artist interested in the sentiment and divinity of light and atmosphere would take the path that incorporated the real with the ideal; not the coloristic analysis of Impressionism but the poetry of light in luminism.



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 A special screening of films from the "Hudson River Stories" series by director Jon Bowermaster on Wednesday, October 3 at 7:30pm in the clubhouse at the Shattemuc Yacht Club in Ossining. Come an hour earlier for the Ferry Sloop potluck – bring a dish.

CLEARWATER will be hosting free dockside events this fall! Come down to the river and press some apples for cider with our crew, paint a pumpkin, tour the deck of the ship, and enjoy the turn of the season together. There will be music and kid-friendly activities on:

October 5 - **Fall Festival-Apple Cider and Pumpkins @ Yonkers@5:00pm-7:00pm.**

October 7 - **Dig Into Archaeology Day**, Croton Point Nature Center, 1pm - 4pm.

October 28 – **Fall Festival-Apple Cider and Pumpkins @Kingston@ 3:00pm-5:00pm.**

Friday, October 19, 6:30pm, **Riverlover's Monthly Potluck Supper** at Croton Point Nature Center. PBS Nature Special, "Viva Puerto Rico."

My Note

Warren Lindholm

At the Croton Climate March there was much rhetoric about the dangers of Indian Point and that Solar Power is all that is needed to mitigate Climate Change. I listened to a speaker who made the outrageous claim, "That if Indian Point blew up there goes Montreal; there goes Washington D.C. and anything in between." Just simply spreading fear with this fake info! I asked people about closing the Bowline Power Plant, which is across the Hudson River.it. Nobody knew about it. I recommend a small book titled "CLIMATE GAMBLE Is Anti-Nuclear Activism Endangering Our Future."



Riverlovers Clearwater Sail

Our 2010 sail was videoed by Mel Fitting. It is now posted on YouTube, available for streaming. It can be accessed at <https://youtu.be/banu0DTmNTA>. More of his videos are at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaYn8I26NlSa71sreWnS-Bw>.

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
	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
 October Newsletter Contributors: Cynthia Andersen, Daria Gregg, Warren Lindholm

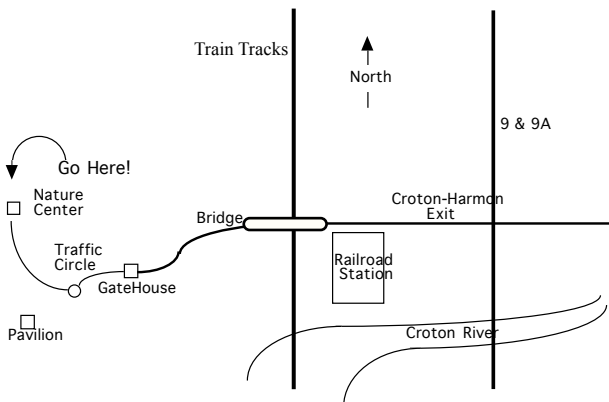
Riverlovers Monthly Potluck and film "Viva Puerto Rico"



Riverlovers, Inc.

P.O. Box 285

Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520



Friday, October 19, 2018
6:30pm
Croton Point Nature Center