



C L E A R W A T E R

# Navigator

AUTUMN 2007



## Young Women at the Helm 2007

This year Clearwater continued its leadership program for teenage girls from the New York City area. Twenty-two girls participated, camping at night on the banks of the Hudson while spending their days sailing on the sloop.

Young Women at the Helm is a chance for girls to get an intensive experience learning to sail the *Clearwater* while investigating the ecology of the estuary and learning about the history of the Hudson Valley. The girls make new friends, develop confidence and stretch the boundaries of what they thought was possible.



*"I definitely think this experience was very inspirational. It taught me that there are so many things out there that I could do with the rest of my life and that I should explore my options. It taught me that life doesn't end in the Bronx."*

*—Stephanie Jaquez, Rocking the Boat  
(interned for a week and taught at YWH)*

*"We actually helped raise the sails and things like that. I learned some knots that I never did before. And I never thought that I could, with the help of other people, raise a 3000 pound sail. It was interesting, you have to put some hard work into it but it pays off, later you feel good about it."*

*—Giomary Solis, JrROTC High School for  
Graphic Communication Arts*

*"The first week I was a student – I was learning. But when I came back as an intern it was very, very different because I had to start being conscious of where I was and what I was saying and what I was doing because a lot of those young ladies look up to you when you're in that position."*

*—Stephanie Jaquez, Rocking the Boat*

*"I've never touched a catfish before and I actually picked it up."*

*—Shamira Ford, JrROTC High School*

*"I think it's an important program for Clearwater to do because it stresses the importance of the role that women play in society and a lot of females never see themselves as working on a ship. And I honestly never thought of that and now I love it."*

*Now that I have been on Clearwater for a few times, I am actually thinking about getting a boat license. We are already clocking down our hours for using the row boats which can go towards my license. So I am looking forward to it."*

*—Stephanie Jaquez, Rocking the Boat*



Photos taken by 2007 YWH participants.

*The Young Women at the Helm program would not have been possible without the generous support of the New York City Environmental Fund and from Clearwater membership.*



# 2007 Annual Gathering A Huge Success

## Clearwater volunteers rock!

Thanks to the superb coordination of Maryellen Healy and her extensive team of volunteers, this year's Annual Gathering at the University Settlement camp truly charted a new course for Clearwater's future. Over 200 people attended, quadrupling in size from last year.

## Pete meets Pete!

Gathering in an open-air amphitheater amidst a pine grove, our first keynote presenter was Commissioner Pete Grannis of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, who was married on the Clearwater 36 years ago. Commissioner Grannis emphasized the DEC's renewed commitment to combat climate change, foster green and healthy communities, connect New Yorkers to nature, build a toxic-free future, and safeguard New York's unique natural resources.

Commissioner Grannis recognized Clearwater's invaluable contribution to protecting the Hudson River and our ongoing help in meeting related aspects of these goals. (The Commissioner's keynote address is available on our website.) After his talk, Clearwater's founders, Pete and Toshi Seeger, and new Executive Director, Jeff Rumpf, warmly greeted the Commissioner.

Moving up to the campus theater for the outgoing board meeting, staff and chartered sloop clubs presented their annual updates in a coordinated powerpoint, which was rich in photo images that greatly enhanced their reports. Each section of the day was bracketed with music from a variety of traditions.

*Pictured below: Eric Marshall, Clearwater Board President, speaking at the Annual Gathering.*



*Majora Carter, Executive Director of Sustainable South Bronx, delivering one of the keynote presentations at Annual Gathering.*

## Achieving diversity that reflects all our stakeholders

Our second keynote presentation by Majora Carter, Executive Director of Sustainable South Bronx, focused on Environmental Justice and their model grassroots efforts to "Green the Ghetto" – setting the stage for an afternoon "Ways to Work Together"/Sloop Club Congress diversity panel. Following a delicious potluck lunch, we resumed the conversation with Majora, board member Kitama Jackson, Maria Maresky of the Children's Media Project, Michelle Rhone-Collins of the Beacon Community Center, Jeff Rumpf and Pete Seeger. Kitama showed a brief video about this year's Young Women at the Helm program to add a powerful multi-media touch. Ideas flowed during this interactive session, generating a series of action points that will be incorporated into our ongoing Master Action Plan (see page 3 for a description of the MAP).

Election results were announced and new board members Mitchell Bring, Ed Maestro, Sean Nolon, and Allan Shope were welcomed, as we welcomed back David Church, Ann Davis, Eric Marshall, and Susan Shapiro for their second terms. Deep gratitude was expressed to Robert Henshaw for his six years of active service to Clearwater on the Board, and to Annie Osborn for her leadership as President. Annie passed the torch to Eric Marshall, announcing him as our next Board President.

In usual Clearwater style, the day closed with music – a reunion of Hudson River Sloop Singers, along with some new blood, including Jeff's 14-year old son, Walker, who gave a powerful and impassioned performance that brought the house down. The reunion was followed by a lively dance set created to entertain the breakdown crew and lingering music lovers.

*Pictured below: Clearwater Sloop Singers performing at this year's Annual Gathering.*



Photos on pages 2-3 are by Dona Crawford.

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Executive Director Jeff Rumpf  
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# Master Action Plan: A MAP to Chart Clearwater's Course

My first 2 months at Clearwater have been an exciting exploration! I have met hundreds of Clearwater's family members, learning with fresh eyes what makes Clearwater special. As much as I have enjoyed the socializing I have also been intentionally prospecting and researching for the concepts, core values and key alliances we will need to chart our future course. The MAP process is about converting this wealth of information into a working plan with specific objectives and the people accountable for results. Thank you to everyone who has given me feedback and please know that everyone's input will always be welcome.

I am excited to begin the next step to refine the plan and set up the volunteer committees and staff teams we will need to get the work done. Key vision concepts in our 3 main departments include:



## Education:

### Training the next generation of environmental leaders.

Clearwater has a great reputation as the seed for environmental change. We will now more purposely nurture that seed throughout its development. We are designing innovative programs that have more continuity and potential to reach a greater diversity of students. Building on our successful Young Women at the Helm pilot program, we will offer more multi day, multi week programs that have the potential to continue to change lives and build environmental leaders.

## Celebration & Clearwater Spirit:

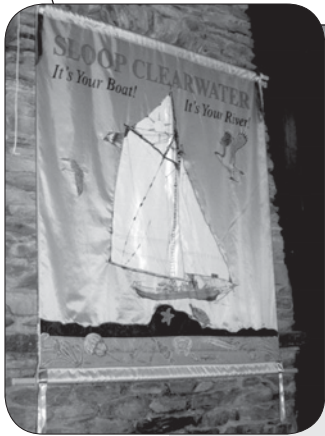
### Connecting Clearwater to the core values of our founders.

Pete and Toshi have and will always be our defining inspiration. Clearwater is not just about environmental science and education - we also represent an intense passion for the river, the diversity of its people and music that resonates deeply in the Clearwater soul. It is clear we must stay connected to this legacy and make sure it is carried on.

## Advocacy:

### It's our river!

Clearwater must use its grassroots advocacy niche to represent, organize and support the voice of all the people of the river. Our work is not done. Significant existing and emerging threats and opportunities need our special grassroots advocacy. We must strengthen our efforts and work closely with our complementary sister agencies to address Indian Point, PCB cleanup, Environmental Justice and the huge emerging issue of global warming. We must continue to strengthen our role as a key leader of the Watershed Alliance. Clearwater will carry on the inspiration and mobilization of the people of the river for the river!



This emerging vision for Clearwater does not come from me but from all of you who have offered your feedback. We are and will continue to be a great grassroots organization. As Executive Director I will work hard to maximize our results with a strong Master Action Plan. This MAP will only work with your support. Please do your part to make Clearwater the representative grassroots organization the Hudson Valley

needs. Please check our website, read the *Navigator*, attend events, volunteer, spread the word, and always renew your membership! I believe more than any other organization, we have and will change the world!

In the Spirit of Clearwater,  
*Jeff Rumpf, Your New Executive Director*

# Holiday Giving

## Adult and Children's Tees

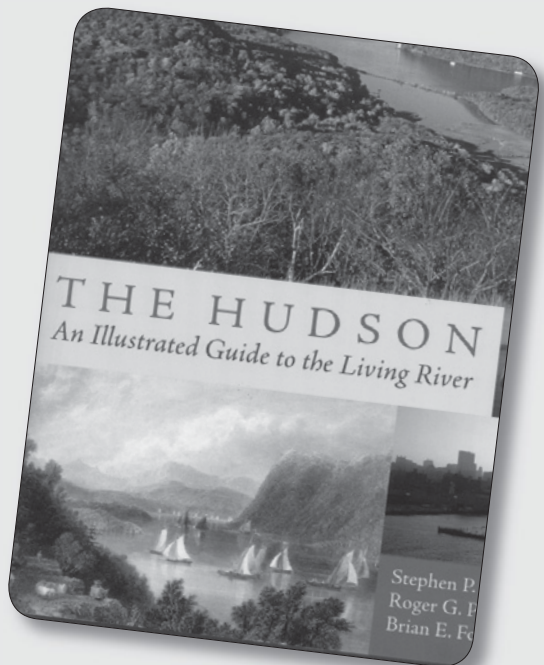
Featuring a new take on our classic sloop woodcut and Clearwater's topsail sunburst, these vibrant tees are union-made in the USA of 100% cotton.

Adult tees are available at a cost of \$15 each, in Hunter Green, Royal Blue, and Heather Grey. Kids' Tees are available at a cost of \$10 each, in Gold, Royal Blue, and Red.



## Revised Edition of The Hudson: An Illustrated Guide to the Living River

This second edition of the classic Hudson River lover's book has been revised to include several updates, including information about invasive species and the status of environmental battles in the Hudson. A must-have for those wishing to learn more- or to teach others- about the river that flows both ways! \$28.



## Revival 2007 Tees

Did you or someone you love miss this year's Great Hudson River Revival? You can experience the joy of the festival all year round by wearing one of our Revival 2007 tees. Union-made in the USA of 100% cotton, these tees are either available in Grey, or in a Khaki 'Volunteer Edition'; both only available in size L. \$10.

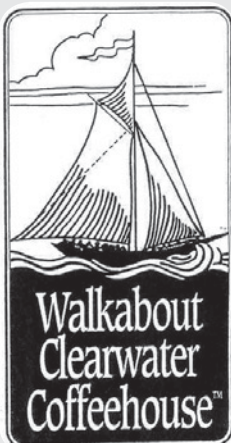


*To heighten the experience, every purchase of a Revival 2007 tee comes with a complimentary copy of Clearwater Live!*

Merch photos taken by Catherine Stankowski.

## Correction!

The correct URL for the Turtle Island Sloop Club—A virtual sloop club for everyone is: [groups.yahoo.com/group/tisc](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tisc)  
We apologize for any confusion.



## WALKABOUT CLEARWATER

*Voices together for a cleaner, healthier, more peaceful environment*

Walkabout Clearwater is a land-locked sloop club known for its people's chorus as well as its seven-foot-tall model of the *Clearwater*. The model goes where the real ship can't, and every year, from October through May, it docks at the Memorial United Methodist Church in White Plains, NY, for Walkabout Clearwater's monthly coffeehouse concert series, currently in its 19th season. The Coffeehouse's "circle of song" includes top performers, pre-concert singalongs, and refreshments (including fair trade coffee and collectible mugs). Plus, literature and displays from environmental organizations, activist groups, and other folk music and folk arts venues will be presented.

*For ticket information, call (914) 242-0374.*

# In Memory

## Don Taube

Rivers are ever changing by their nature. The constant flow of water ceaselessly eroding rock and earth creates new landscapes that are etched upon our memory. This process, which shapes the river we have come to love, is endless. There is no forever to the river.

I am sure you too have a special place on the river, where you go to find comfort, or to bask in the sunshine of a beautiful day. No matter how often you return you discover something new and special, something that makes you more anxious to return before the river takes it away. This past July our river reclaimed one of its most special places.

Captain Donald Taube, shipwright, caulker, welder, sailor, philosopher, teacher, friend, was taken from us this past summer, long before we were ready to see him go. If the name seems unfamiliar to you, perhaps the picture of a mustachioed man wearing red suspenders at the helm of the *Clearwater* or schooner *Pioneer* strikes a chord. Don was charismatic and funny and could hold court on any number of topics from the evolution of ship design to the latest New York Times headlines. Starting a conversation with Don was like opening a tiny door that lead to the world's largest library. And much like any librarian (at one time pursuing a degree in library science) you had to get on his good side before he would show you around.

I had sailed by my favorite place on the river for years before I finally stopped to explore it. And when I did, I realized that its outward beauty did little justice to its splendor. It was a place of wonder, amazement, comfort, and friendship. The waters of the river have taken my special place. Goodbye old friend, goodbye.

*—Jonathan Kabak  
Captain, Lettie G. Howard*



Dave Conover

*Jonathan Kabak plays guitar in honor of Don Taube, pictured to his right.*

## John Dabrowski

It is with great sadness that we communicate the passing of John Dabrowski, former Board Member of the Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater. Known for his strong commitment to the environment and to voluntarism, John will be missed by all who knew him.



Steve Stamm



Photo from the collection of Helyn Chrobocinski.

*Helyn and Bruce Springsteen, at the 26th Annual MCFC Festival in August 2001 at Asbury Park.*

## Helyn Capoano Chrobocinski

The Clearwater community mourns the loss of Helyn Chrobocinski, a long time member and former President of the Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater, Sloop Singer, and wonderful person. Helyn touched the lives of many people over the many years that spanned her involvement with Clearwater, most recently by creating the beautiful artwork that graced the cover of this year's Revival program book. We will remember her gentle spirit, her love of Bruce Springsteen, and her passion for the mission of Clearwater and its people.

# Greenland Comes to the Hudson



What's the connection between Greenland, the world's largest island, and the Hudson Valley? As it turns out, the connection is kids who like to be outside. Recently, Clearwater had the privilege of bringing together a group of teens from Greenland and students from an after school program in Poughkeepsie called "No Child Left Inside." The sloop took the kids (and associated adults that included Clearwater founder, Pete Seeger) out sailing for a few hours.

Once on board, the Greenlanders had the chance to share first hand experiences with how global warming and pollution have dramatically affected their traditional lifestyle, making routine activities like dog sledding, fishing, and hunting more treacherous as the ice thins. A melting Greenland could have dire consequences for river towns like Poughkeepsie as sea levels rise. Pollutants like PCBs have traveled from hotspots like the Hudson River to the once pristine Arctic and contaminated the food chain there.

Despite the sobering news, it didn't detract from a great day on the Hudson. The kids got the chance to raise sail, sing songs with a master folk singer, touch a hogchoker (a favorite Hudson River flatfish), make new friends and gain a glimpse of what life is like in different parts of the world.

—Dave Conover  
Education Director



Dave Conover



Chris Bowser

# Hudson River Watershed Alliance: A Legacy for the Future



On October 12, 2007, more than 40 professionals working on water-related resources in the Hudson River Watershed boarded the sloop *Clearwater* for a 3-hour sail to brainstorm about regional initiatives that will advance watershed protection throughout the entire Hudson River watershed.

James Tierney, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Water Resources, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (pictured below) shared his vision for the Hudson River watershed with guests and was encouraged by the idea of the Hudson River Watershed Alliance.

Other distinguished guests included: Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro, representatives from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and Department of State, representatives from John Hall's and Nita Lowey's office, HRWA Steering Committee members, regional organizations, local watershed groups, county officials, educational institutions and many others.

The vast extent of talent, skills, and expertise aboard the sloop on that day represents the growing momentum and support for the Hudson River Watershed Alliance and watershed protection.

Participants expressed great enthusiasm for the HRWA and a collaborative effort to work toward watershed-wide protection.

—Katy Dunlap, Esq.  
Environmental Associate



Geoff Welch



Brian McMan

# Christopher Stutler Scholarship 2007



For the past nine years Clearwater has been a proud host of the Christopher Stutler Scholarship – thanks to the generosity of his parents, Bill and Von Ann Stutler. Their son Christopher was tragically killed in a car accident in 1997 and this scholarship was established in his memory. Christopher Stutler was a graduate from Croton-Harmon High School and had a passion for the Hudson. To honor him, the Stutlers have established this Scholarship Fund to support students at the Croton-Harmon High School who are interested in careers related to marine science and aquatic ecology. In addition to sponsoring a high school scholar, the Christopher Stutler Fund also provides four in-class presentations and a three hour education sail aboard the *Clearwater* for a 5th grade class at School 5 in Yonkers. The Scholarship Fund gives the scholar and the class opportunities and experiences that might not otherwise be available.

–Kristen Washer  
Onboard Education Coordinator

Our Christopher Stutler Scholar for this year was Cecelia Fusco, a senior at Croton-Harmon High School. Cecelia had this to say about her experience:

*“My name is Cecelia Fusco and I recently spent two weeks aboard the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. I am a student at Croton Harmon High School and was fortunate enough to be the 2007 Christopher Stutler Scholar. As the Christopher Stutler Scholar, I visited Joe Gonzalez’ fifth grade class at PS 5 in Yonkers with one of the onboard educators, Kristen, as well as spending two weeks onboard the Clearwater. This was really a once in a lifetime experience for me. It was exciting to meet all the crew members and to help young students cultivate a relationship with the Hudson River. This opportunity had an unparalleled impact on me and it is an experience that I would definitely repeat. Thank you to the Stutler family and all their supporters and friends for this incredible opportunity.”*

–Cecelia Fusco  
Clearwater’s 2007 Stutler Scholar

## More Quotes From Young Women at the Helm 2007:

*“It was a really great experience and I would love to do it next year.”*

–Giomary Solis, Jr ROTC High School for  
Graphic Communication Arts

*“Oh, you loop it and then you twist it. After I see it a couple of times it makes sense.”*

–Shamira Ford, Jr ROTC High School

*“As my career, I want to be a lawyer and I would love to come and volunteer here in the summer.”*

–Giomary Solis, Jr ROTC High School for  
Graphic Communication Arts

*“It’s fun that when you navigate you actually see the front of the boat moving, where if you were in school it would be a model or a video. It’s a first-hand experience and that is always better.”*

–Stephanie Jaquez- Rocking the Boat  
(interned for a week and taught at YWH)

**Yes, I care about the Hudson River and its watershed!**

To join online, go to: [www.clearwater.org](http://www.clearwater.org).

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 Benefactor     | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Contributor   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Sailing Master | <input type="checkbox"/> \$55 Family         |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Sponsor          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Limited Income |

**Payment** All membership contributions are tax-deductible.

Check payable to Clearwater    Check Number \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Clearwater Member Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I'd like to receive advocacy email alerts.



# Thank You!

Throughout the year, Clearwater holds a variety of events to support our programs and mission. We rely on the support of the local business community to provide in-kind donations of goods and services to make these events possible. From donating display materials at Revival to donating food and cleaning supplies for our Spring Cleaning and Film Screening events, we thank our generous donors for partnering with us and expanding our Clearwater family. Thank you!

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Honest Weight Food Co-op of New Haven

Overlook Farm Market & Country Store

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