



#### NEXT MEETING, MARCH 4

The next NRFC meeting will be held on March 4 at Steve Smith's office, Novus Engineering, 25 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY. Potluck will be at 6:30 PM followed by the meeting at 7:00 PM.

#### CLEARWATER VISIT, SUMMER 2015

Our Clearwater Board Member reports that preliminary plans have the boat sailing from Kingston to Rensselaer at the end of July. They are looking at spending about a week upriver until about the weekend of August 8. This is the time that we should target for any groups that we can get to charter, as well as our own fundraiser sail. Please forward any ideas and contacts for sails that we might promote to Steven Smith. The more early-bird applications we can submit, the better. —ss

#### DONATIONS FOR THE BUSMANS

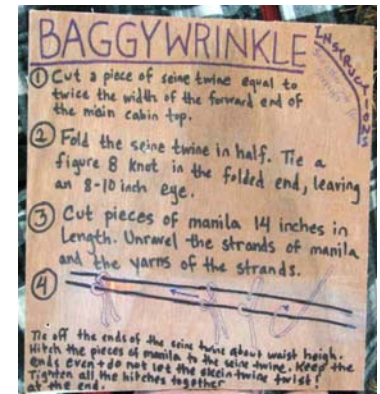
The Scotia home of Jill and Kent Busman, directors of Camp Fowler, burned to the ground early this month, and their precious dog, Jonah was lost in the fire. There is a fund set up for them at the First National Bank of Scotia. (Apparently, there are some other funds that are possibly fraudulent.) Anyone wishing to make a donation for them, should write the check to "Busman Family Fire Fund." —kt/gt

#### BAGGY WRINKLE BASH, FEB. 20

*Baggywrinkle – a soft covering placed around cables to prevent sail chafe.*

NRFC will be making this protective gear on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Trimarco residence in Guilderland. Please contribute an hour or two of your time. No previous skill required; we will train you. See how Clearwater recycles old/used rope by unlaying 14-inch segments and hitching individual yarns for a twelve-foot-long baggy wrinkle. We will work in teams of two, and we have two-plus lengths to complete this winter. Observe materials in the accompanying photos; and please show up to work. — np

Photos by Bob Hansen



#### ◀ Membership Application ▶

Enclosed is my check/money order/cash for membership in North River Friends of Clearwater for the category checked:

Individual (\$15.00/yr.)  Family (\$20.00/yr.)  Additional Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone (optional) Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to:** North River Friends of Clearwater, P. O. Box 3842, Albany NY 12203

I would like to know more about Hudson River Sloop Clearwater

## MARK YOLLES OBITUARY

Long-time NRFC member, Mark Yolles, died peacefully on February 10, 2015, at Memorial Hospital in Albany due to complications relating to a recent bout of congestive heart failure and septicemia. Below is his obituary, published in the Albany Times-Union and written by Paul Grondahl:

Mark Yolles, a civic activist and urban booster who helped renovate and repopulate the Mansion Neighborhood after the displacement of the South Mall construction, died Tuesday at Albany Memorial Hospital of congestive heart failure and other complications. He was 87.

“He was a grass-roots guy and a doer,” said his son, Jas Yolles.

The Brooklyn-born, Ivy League-educated Yolles was a suburban refugee and inner-city settler. He and his wife, Pola, who died in 2010 at 80, moved from Delmar in 1974 with their three sons into an Elm Street house that needed a complete overhaul.

He restored the row house, found others to buy fixer-uppers on the block and helped breathe new life into a neighborhood in transition starting in 1974.

Soft-spoken by nature, he let his actions speak the loudest. His activism was of the roll-up-his-sleeves and sweat-equity variety.

“He was someone who got things done,” said Tom McPheeters, who moved to Elm Street at the urging of Yolles.

Yolles carried construction tools and a can-do attitude, helping the other Elm Streeters restore their houses. He brought about social change with a minimum of hoopla.

“He wasn’t a protester or someone who drew attention to himself,” McPheeters said. “He was an organizer, idea generator, cheerleader and leading champion for the neighborhood.”

“He was the heart and soul of our neighborhood and saw the value in city living for everyone,” said Holly Katz, chair of the Mansion Neighborhood Association. Yolles and his wife

were active in the group for many years. The couple knew each other since childhood and were married for 60 years.

“He was the inspiration for volunteerism in the neighborhood,” said Marci David, a longtime Elm Street resident. “He didn’t make much ado. He just did it.”

Yolles attended David’s annual Kentucky Derby party, tracked partygoers’ \$1 bets and kept the bills in a hat with a sign in the band that said “bookie.”

He had a bachelor’s degree in government studies from Yale University and a master’s degree in education from Columbia University. He spent most of his professional career as a high school guidance counselor in the Albany and Scotia-Glenville school districts. The couple and their children lived in Rome, Italy, for six years during stints in the 1960s and 1970s. He also served briefly as executive director of Equinox, the Albany social services agency.

He was a longtime volunteer with the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants. “He was always our go-to person who did whatever was needed,” said Jill Peckenpaugh, director of the USCRI Albany field office. “He was humble, and I valued his humor and the great care he took with our refugees.”

Yolles and his wife were members of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany. He was a board member, chaired committees and organized the annual rummage sale.

“He helped us make a difference in the lives of our community and he was good at bringing people together,” said the Rev. Sam Trumbore.

As his health declined and he entered hospice care, Yolles made peace with end-of-life issues.

“He was very thankful that he’d lived a good life,” Trumbore said. “He became a model to me about how to end your life well.”

After Yolles sold the Elm Street house, he continued to rent in the Mansion Neighborhood. He stayed active in the South End Improvement Corp., Trinity Alliance, United Tenants, the Catholic Worker-Emmaus House and other South End groups.

A memorial service will be 2 p.m. Sunday [February 15] at First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany.

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**North River Friends of Clearwater**  
**P.O. Box 3842**  
**Albany, NY 12203**

## WINTER MAINTENANCE 2015

On January 28<sup>th</sup> we dodged THE BLIZZARD headed south to Kingston. Four NRFC members lucky enough to be retired drove to HRSC's homeport to work on our sloop. Inside the warm, large (compared to our old digs in Saugerties) barn/shop, the work of the day was the exterior of the yawl boat. (Last winter we scraped, sanded, and prepped the interior of the yawl boat to which the winter crew later applied a gleaming coat of white paint.)

This year's winter crew – headed by Jesse, all the way from Washington State – stopped their work on the sloop and ALL of us focused on the yawl boat. Scrapers and putty knives in hand, we began to scrape off big sections of green paint which was not adhering to the hull. The gunwales were to be scrapped down to bare wood. A strip of reflective tape had been applied directly below the entire gunwale last year and now had to be removed. The adhesive was very much in contact and there was no chance of peeling it off. The trick was to get tape/adhesive off but leave the paint intact; the slow, careful scraping most challenging work of the day.

We took a midday break for a yummy lunch of soup, cornbread, sandwiches, fruit, cookies, donuts, and chocolate. The winter crew took an afternoon break for calisthenics to combat the urge to take a nap or slow down. At day's end the reflective tape was gone, the gunwales were bare, the sections of loose paint were flaked off, and the hull's exterior was ready for sanding, and painting. The last donut and cup o' joe of the morning's gastronomic fortifications were polished off, and materials for making baggy wrinkles back at home (see other article) were packed into the car. Satisfied with our work, we had just one thought: "yawl come back now!"

– np

Photos by Bob Hansen



### NRFC CALENDAR

- 2/20 NRFC Baggy Wrinkle Party, 10:00-4:00, Trimarco's home, 6224 Randomwood, Guilderland.
- 2/21 Clearwater Open Boat, 2:00-6:00 PM, HRSC Homeport, Rondout Landing, Kingston.
- 3/04 Monthly NRFC Meeting, Novus Engineering, 25 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY, Potluck 6:30, Meeting 7:00.
- 3/22 Clearwater Open Boat, 4:00-8:00 PM, HRSC Homeport, Rondout Landing, Kingston.
- 4/01 Monthly NRFC Meeting, Novus Engineering, 25 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY, Potluck 6:30, Meeting 7:00.
- 4/25 Canal Clean Sweep, Lock 7.
- 5/06 Monthly NRFC Meeting, Potluck 6:30, Meeting 7:00.
- 5/16 Village of Waterford Canal Festival, 9:00-6:00.
- 6/3 Monthly NRFC Meeting, Potluck 6:30, Meeting 7:00.
- 6/7 NRFC Garage Sale, Dunbrook's Garage, Albany.

### NRFC OFFICERS

President	Dan Kelsey	518-479-9113
V. President	Stephen Smith	518-225-5499
Treasurer	Lydia Kosinski	518-432-4152
Acting Secretary	Sue Thrasher	518-731-7320
Membership	Jas Yolles	518-462-6873
Program	Pat McDonald	518-465-3344
Merchandise	Barbara Kuban	518-852-1716
Newsletter	Sue Thrasher	518-731-7320

[nrfc\\_compass@yahoo.com](mailto:nrfc_compass@yahoo.com)

### The Compass Deadline

The deadline for submitting material for the April 2015 edition of The Compass is March 16. E-mail items to [nrfc\\_compass@yahoo.com](mailto:nrfc_compass@yahoo.com), or send to Sue Thrasher, 51 Van Dyck St., Coxsackie, NY 12051.

### Newsletter by e-mail

Want to save our \$\$\$? Save a tree? De-clutter your house? Have the newsletter sooner? — Get The Compass on-line by sending your e-mail address to Bob Hansen at [thecompass@nycap.rr.com](mailto:thecompass@nycap.rr.com).

## WORTH RECYCLING

Aluminum is made from bauxite ore. One ton of aluminum requires four tons of ore. Aluminum cans can be recycled forever without the aluminum degrading. Recycling takes 95 percent LESS energy than producing new aluminum. Twenty recycled cans can be produced from the same amount of energy needed to produce one new can. [Sources: Can Manufacturers Institute, Russell]

Steel is made from iron ore. One ton of steel requires 2,500 pounds of ore PLUS 1,400 pounds of coal and 120 pounds of limestone. Recycling takes 60 percent LESS energy than producing new steel. (Source: Scottsdale)

Plastic is made from oil and natural gas. It can be recycled, usually once but it downgrades. Recycling takes 70 percent LESS energy than new production. Recycling plastic into products like lumber or fleece saves the oil and natural gas required to produce these items from new supplies.

NOTE: These facts were found in Save the Pine Bush October/November 2014 Newsletter "Sally's Recycling Corner: Top Things to Recycle." —np

