



# The Compass

August 2018

Newsletter of North River Friends of Clearwater

## NEXT MEETING, AUGUST 1st

The next **NRFC** meeting will be held on August 1st at Vicki Kelsey's home, 3276 Delaware Tnpk., Voorheesville, NY. Gathering will be at **3:00 PM**. Weather permitting, we'll be outside, but the house and shed will both be available in case of rain or cold.

### **DIRECTIONS:**

#### FROM ALBANY

Go SW on either Rt. 85 or 443. Out in the boonies, they will meet at the bottom of the aptly named letter S hill at a Stewart's store, then continue up the hill together. At the top of the hill they split again, and you will follow Rt. 85 toward Rensselaerville (LEFT turn) for 1.8 miles. The house is on the right up a longish driveway, with a mailbox that says Kelsey 3276 at the bottom.

#### FROM THE NORTHWAY

Take the Northway to the end, staying in the second lane from the right. Turn right, then get immediately to the left turn lane to turn onto Johnston Rd. Go to the end, then turn left again. Go to the end of that, and turn left again onto Rt 155. Follow that into Voorheesville and take the first turn off the traffic circle onto Rt. 85A. Go to the end, then turn right onto Rt. 85 and follow the above directions.

It sounds complicated, but we're only about 1/2 hour from Albany.

—vk

## SPRING GARAGE SALE 6/3/2018

Hurray! , **NRFC** did it.. We held our biannual garage sale this lovely June day selling our wonderful stuff. Once again, we were completely dependent on everyone pitching in, not just collecting things to sell, of course, but volunteers for our VERY early morning set-up, cashiers and crowd controllers, and the really, really, really important take-down folks. **NRFC** came through despite, as usual, conflicts with other worthy organization's training sessions (OLD SONGS) so lots of folks were not available mid-day. Regardless, **NRFC** had a nice sale on a beautifully warm and sweet blue day, making over \$400! Much better than our Fall '17 sale. Regardless, every penny counts and so we earned a little cash to help us fund the educational outreaches **NRFC** does for **Clearwater**. These monies, plus the funds raised at the Linda at the Concert for (**NRFC**) **Clearwater**, has made us solvent.

It's not just about the money - I always need to say this - but connecting with an inner city community who get terrific deals on the stuff we sell. Plus, we get publicity for our mantra that recycling, repurposing and reusing stuff really works. As usual we even had re-re-repeat customers. And new ones too: who can forget the sight of the 1950's maple table (in need of a really good cleaning) being driven away in a pristine ragtop

Continued on page 2

## SPRING GARAGE SALE CONT.

Beemer with cream leather upholstery? -- Thanks so much to Jas, Nancy, Vicki, George, Kitty, Steve, Rudy, and Chuck for working the sale. Special thanks to Steve, who not only performed for a bit, but whose sweet new high capacity van assisted so greatly in schlepping stuff to and fro. And, of course, thanks to the Dunbrook family for use of the Station. And thanks to all the people who donated their stuff. Could not have happened without all of you!

P.S. Does **NRFC** want to have another garage sale in Sept? We're tentatively on the books for 9/23, but some **NRFCers** said after this last one that it's getting too hard to put them on, given lessened donations of saleable items, and available workers. People should also recognize the substantial work involved by VP Steve and helpers in putting on the music fest at the Linda, so that type fundraiser requires much work, too. Members should discuss this at the August meeting and, hopefully, be prepared to propose a design, and to staff, an alternate fundraiser for that Sept. weekend. All ideas welcome! —lk

<b>NRFC OFFICERS</b>		
President	Dan Kelsey	518-479-9113
V.President	Stephen Smith	518-225-5499
Treasurer	Lydia Kosinski	518-527-2200
Secretary	Vicki Kelsey	518-872-0663
Membership	Jas Yolles	518-462-6873
Merchandise	Barbara Kuban	518-852-1716
Newsletter	Sue Thrasher	518-731-7320
<a href="mailto:nrfc_compass@yahoo.com">nrfc_compass@yahoo.com</a>		

## NRFC SPONSORED SAIL FOR THE RIVERVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH SUMMER CAMP

On July 14<sup>th</sup> nearly 30 campers, teen counselors and adults from the Riverview Baptist Church Summer Camp attended an educational sail aboard **Clearwater** that was entirely sponsored by **NRFC**. Stephen provided musical entertainment during the trip. The sail took place on a perfect day of sunshine and a light breeze that filled the sail and helped keep us cool. As we are all familiar with what happens on an educational sail, I won't describe the trip further but want to mention some of the preparation that went into this event.

After a nice meeting with Nancy Papish in Schenectady, I was armed with the information necessary to make the sail happen. On May 30<sup>th</sup> I met with Rev. Roxanne Booth of Riverview Baptist Church and went over all of the things Nancy mentioned, including the \$5 per adult fee, the need for proper clothing and most importantly, for this to be an ongoing educational experience. The camp program is ideal for this purpose. Along with fun and entertainment, the camp provides many educational experiences, including trips to libraries, museums and to Barbara Heinzen's property which is an environmental preserve and natural classroom located on the Hudson between the Hannacroix and Coeymans creeks. **Clearwater** also provided copies of "Taking Passage on

Continued on page 3

### ◀ 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

## NRFC SPONSORED SAIL CONT.

Clearwater” and several videos that the kids got to review before boarding. I also provided a copy of Nancy’s **Clearwater** video that was shown during the last Linda performance.

On the day before the sail I visited the Church and provided a short talk on the history of **Clearwater** and Pete Seeger. I described **Clearwater** and told them that the boat was 108 feet long. When I asked if the kids knew how big that was, they kind of shrugged so I said, well let’s go find out. I had brought a 150-foot measuring tape and while one kid held the end we marched off the distance with, the other kids held the tape and called out the numbers as we went. They were shocked when we got to 108 feet and the person holding the end looked so far away. (Actually, I was surprised too. **Clearwater** doesn’t seem so big when you are on her.) Afterward I taught the kids to shout Garbage!, Garbage!, Garbage! At the right time in the song and finally, they were reminded how to dress and what to bring.

On board, education continued thanks to the wonderful staff of **Clearwater** and its volunteers. Along with Captain Nick Rodgers, and Education Coordinator Krista Norris, each deserves mention here for the wonderful job they did. Special thanks to Maude - Julia Blanchet (volunteer), Siobhan Sargent (volunteer), Aidan Reilly (volunteer) and Sarah Armour (engineer), and Amanda (sail trainee).

NRFC can be very proud of the work that it does to raise funds for deserving groups to take advantage of what **Clearwater** has to offer. I have often heard from adults how one trip aboard **Clearwater** in childhood stays with you for life. I cannot think of a greater gift that we can pass on to the next generation. —Stephen

### The Compass Deadline

The deadline for submitting material for the September 2018 edition of The Compass is August 20. E-mail items to [nrfc\\_compass@yahoo.com](mailto:nrfc_compass@yahoo.com), or call Sue Thrasher (518-291-6818) for updated home address information.



See page 4 for additional photos by Stephen Smith.



## CLEARWATER APPOINTS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GREG WILLIAMS TO TAKE THE HELM

BEACON, NY – Hudson River Sloop Clearwater’s Board of Directors has named Greg Williams as the organization’s new Executive Director to lead the organization; Betsy Garthwaite, Board President, made the announcement today.

As Clearwater’s Executive Director, Williams will be responsible for supervising all programs and operations, including developing and overseeing its strategic plans and fundraising goals. He will also work to further cultivate relationships with Hudson Valley partners and broaden both the base of support and the impact of Clearwater’s activities.

Williams has recently returned home to the Hudson Valley after thirty years of experience in building teams and improving communication among boards of directors, customers, vendors and investors. Williams’ formal education is in government, with a B.A. from Dartmouth College, and business administration, with an M.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign.

Returning to the Hudson Valley for Williams is a return to his roots, having grown up in Croton, NY attending Clearwater’s Great Hudson River Revival held annually at Croton Point Park.

“I was reminded of the urgency of public service by Pete Seeger himself in 2008: After performing on the David Letterman Show, he told the audience that he wasn’t getting any younger, and that some of us would have to step forward to drive his causes beyond his life” said Williams. “Leading Clearwater represents an opportunity to answer Seeger’s call. I am thrilled by the opportunity to return to the Hudson River Valley, where I grew up, and to carry on the work started by Pete and Toshi Seeger, whose message and influence is just as relevant today.”

Williams will replace Acting Executive Director, Amy Larson Bonder who has kept the organization on course since September 2017. Bonder is also Clearwater's Director of HR and Admin. As Acting

Continued on page 5



### Newsletter by e-mail

Want to save our \$\$\$? Save a tree? De-clutter your house? Have the newsletter sooner? **Receive interim updates & important info when available?** — Get The Compass on-line by sending **your** e-mail address to Sue Thrasher at [nrfc\\_compass@yahoo.com](mailto:nrfc_compass@yahoo.com).

## CLEARWATER EXECUTIVE CONT.

Executive Director, Bonder oversaw the day to day operations of the organization, the sloop's winter restoration, and successfully worked to ensure another successful Great Hudson River Revival music festival. Clearwater thanks Bonder for her many years of environmental leadership, 22 years of service to the organization, and commitment to the health of the Hudson River Valley.

Betsy Garthwaite, Clearwater's Board Chair commented, "I am very excited to welcome aboard a leader with Greg's capabilities as Executive Director. I look forward to working with him to strengthen this great organization and further its mission."

### About Hudson River Sloop Clearwater

Launched in 1969 by legendary folk singer and activist Pete Seeger, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater has been at the forefront of the environmental movement as champions of the Hudson River. To date, more than half a million people have experienced their first real look at an estuary's ecosystem aboard the sloop Clearwater. Clearwater has become the grassroots model for producing positive changes to protect our planet. For more information, visit [www.clearwater.org](http://www.clearwater.org).

—Clearwater Communications, July 19, 2018

### NRFC CALENDAR

- 8/1 NRFC Monthly Meeting, 3276 Delaware Tnpk., Voorheesville, NY, **3:00 PM**. (See page 1 for directions.)
- 8/10-12 NRFC Camp & Paddle, Location TBD.
- 9/5 NRFC Monthly Meeting, Location TBD, 6:00 potluck, 7:00 meeting.
- 10/3 NRFC Monthly Meeting, Location TBD, 6:00 potluck, 7:00 meeting.

**At Right:** "Great Blue Heron (aka Great Pencil Neck Geek) on lock railing"—Captain John Lipscomb on [#RiverkeeperPatrol](https://www.facebook.com/RiverkeeperPatrol)...southbound from Ft. Edward on the Upper Hudson.

—Riverkeeper from Facebook posting 6/21/18.

## CONTACT THE CLEARWATER BOARD

Allan Goldhammer reported on the CWSCC Yahoo group that Clearwater Board member Peter Capek brought to the Board at this most recent meeting the idea that the Board could have a direct contact point where anyone could write to the Board. After some discussion, it's been done!

located at:

<https://www.clearwater.org/about/board-of-directors/>

you will find:

[board@clearwater.org](mailto:board@clearwater.org)

In that paragraph is: "*Clearwater members and the public may communicate with the Board at any time: board@clearwater.org. Communications will be acknowledged and responded to, when appropriate.*"

Allan thinks Peter will be monitoring the box for now. Please spread word of this direct way to contact the Board. —st

