SPECIAL ISSUE: ANNUAL MEETING 2017

Ballot Inside!
It is vitally important that you vote, by mail or by attending the Annual Meeting.

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater Annual Membership Meeting 2017:

Sunday, September 24, 2017
9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Scenic Hudson’s River Center
8 Long Dock Road
Beacon, NY 12508
What a difference a year makes! Due to major restoration work on the sloop, both the 2015 and 2016 sailing seasons had to be cut short. This year, Clearwater is on track to complete a full sailing season—mid-April through October—for the first time since 2014. We also witnessed—and many of us participated in—the return of the Clearwater Festival, much to the delight of all involved. What a great weekend that was!

The environmental and educational mantle that we have been given, by Pete Seeger and the other Clearwater founders, is one that is too important to let fail, and countless members and supporters stepped up this year to make sure Clearwater would live to “sail” another day. We’re doing great work on aquatic invasive species, microplastic pollution, youth leadership, and on issues like Indian Point, PCBs and the anchorages. We also held a very successful clean water forum in Washington and a decommissioning conference regarding Indian Point.

Thanks to all of you, I have every reason to believe that Clearwater’s future is a very bright one.

Betsy Garthwaite
Board President

Sunday, September 24, 2017
9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Scenic Hudson’s River Center
8 Long Dock Road
Beacon, NY 12508

Directions
By train: The River Center is a stone’s throw from the Beacon train station. Exit the platform on the River side, turn left onto the road and walk up the hill until you see the River Center on your right.

By car: From Newburgh-Beacon Bridge, go 1.8 miles south on Route 9D, right on Beekman St., right on Red Flynn Drive then immediate left on Long Dock Rd.

AGENDA:

—All times subject to change—

9:30 am
Potluck, Coffee, and Networking (ballot closes at 11 am)

10:00 am
Welcome and Opening Song

10:15 am
Screening of Jon Bowermaster's latest film, Hope for the Hudson: Restoring Clearwater

10:35 am
Recognition of outgoing board members

10:45 am
Guest Speaker—TBA

11:00 am
Staff department presentations

11:30 am
Clearwater board meeting with Q & A

12:15 pm
Sloop Club charters

12:30 pm
Musical performance

1:00 - 3:00 pm
Sloop Club Congress to meet at Beacon Sloop Club

ELECTION 2017: YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT!

Clearwater members near and far vote to elect Board candidates into office every year—and it’s that time again. Board members serve 3-year terms, and may serve three consecutive terms before they must rotate off for at least one year. Here’s how the process works:

1. A nominating committee, comprised of Board members and non-Board members, identifies and recruits a slate of candidates.

2. The full Board of Directors accepts or amends the slate.

3. Additional candidates are added by petition with five Board members’ or 30 Clearwater members’ signatures.

4. A ballot is mailed to the membership 4 weeks before the Annual Meeting (September 24).

5. All current members are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to vote. There have been times in the past when Board members were elected almost solely by those who were able to attend the Annual Meeting—a small minority of Clearwater’s thousands of members! [N.B. Ballots are anonymous, but must include the member code to the right above your name on the original copy of the address label in order to be counted.]

6. Votes are counted and the new Board members announced.

7. The new Board convenes, electing its officers and Executive Committee, and reconstituting its committees.

Board members play key, creative roles in setting policy, oversight, fundraising, event planning, program development, financial management, public relations, and project management, and must serve as articulate, credible spokespersons and ambassadors for Clearwater. It is vitally important that you vote, by mail or by attending the Annual Meeting.
The Candidates

**Peter Capek**
Peter Capek is a long-time volunteer at the Revival. With his wife Mikki, Peter has managed the T-shirt booth at Revival for over 30 years. Peter is retired from 35 years at IBM Research, where he did computer science research. As an occasional hiker and former camper, Peter has long been interested in environmental issues and has educated himself about them. He plans to continue to work at Revival and hopes to improve communication between the Board and those who make the event succeed!

**Nancy Cincotta**
Nancy Cincotta, LCSW, MSW, ACSW, MPhil, is a resident of New York City and currently serves as the Psychosocial Director of Camp Sunshine, a retreat for families of children with life-threatening illnesses in Casco, Maine, and is a psychosocial consultant for various illness-related organizations in New York. The 2016 winner of the Association of Pediatric Oncology Social Worker’s Lifetime Achievement Award, Nancy has extensive expertise working with children and families at all stages of illness and bereavement in individual, family and group modalities.

**Joan Gaylord**
Joan Gaylord is a writer and a journalist, a graphic designer and a photographer whose work has appeared in regional and national newspapers. She is the past communications coordinator for Pace Law where she managed press relations and social media in addition to her work as editor of their magazine. Though she has lived in the Hudson Valley most of her adult life, Joan grew up in Western Pennsylvania—skiing, riding horses, and wading in streams.

**Beth Levine**
Beth Levine is a lifelong resident of the Hudson Valley who had her first ride aboard the Clearwater as a child in the 1970’s. Beth is an attorney who currently serves as Senior Vice President, Associate General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer of the Tarrytown-based biotechnology company Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. She lives in Croton-on-Hudson and is excited to bring her experience, skills and passion for the environment, music and Hudson Valley to the Clearwater organization.

**Aaron Mair**
Aaron Mair was the Sierra Club’s 57th national president. Mair, a national Environmental Justice activist, led a decade-long battle that he led to shut down a polluting solid waste incinerator in an inner-city community in Albany, New York. Mair was also a key figure in leading the fight and securing the Sierra Club’s participation in the Clean Up the Hudson campaign against General Electric, and building their environmental justice and diversity programs.

**Henry Neale**
Henry Neale is a lawyer with a general practice in White Plains, including representation of civic groups on parkland issues. He is an experienced policy advocate urging State Government to adopt and enforce laws protecting the environment and to fund them adequately. He was a candidate and party official and has worked with campaigns in nine states. He lives mostly in Scarsdale but partly in Claverack, where he paddles his low-tech kayak on the Hudson between Albany and Tivoli but with ambitions to go much farther.

**Kyle Rabin**
Kyle Rabin has worked in the environmental and sustainability field for nearly two decades including several years devoted to causes connected to the Hudson River Estuary and surrounding communities. He is wholeheartedly committed to clean water protection and strongly identifies with Clearwater’s mission and the importance of environmental education and stewardship. Kyle received an MS in Environmental Science from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and a BA in Environmental Studies from Binghamton University.

**Jeremy Rainer**
Jeremy Rainer is a sound engineer and producer at WFUV FM in New York. His family fostered in him a deep love and respect for Pete Seeger and the principles he stood for. In 2014, he co-produced “Seeger Fest,” a memorial festival for Pete and Toshi. Jeremy has been going to the Revival all his life, and he’s been a Festival volunteer for nearly twenty years. His commitment and devotion to Clearwater runs deep and wide, and he looks forward to bringing that passion to the Clearwater board.

**Don Raskopf**
Don Raskopf is a long time Clearwater member and volunteer who lives in Beacon NY. He has served one term on the Clearwater board and would like to continue his work with the board for the next 3 years. Don cofounded Ban Fracking Now, a joint effort of Beacon Climate Action and the Environmental Action department. He is a member of the Beacon Sloop Club and helped to restore the Woody Guthrie. He works as a carpenter for Freeman Woodworks in Beacon.

**Robi Schlaff**
Robi Schlaff is an active board member seeking her third term. She is an attorney and former special counsel to Commissioner Pete Grannis at the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, where she worked on climate change, environmental justice and chaired the NYS Sea Level Rise Task Force. Robi is currently the director of the Westchester County Office for Women coordinating domestic violence and sexual assault services for the County.

**Taylor Vogt**
Taylor Vogt is a twenty six-year-old current student of the New School studying environmental policy and sustainability management. In High School, he completed a science research project studying deer overpopulation at Teatown Lake Reservation. He is currently engaged in a capstone project with the Department of Public Works and Transportation for Westchester County to study revitalizing the county’s hydrogen refueling infrastructure. He graduated from Pace University in 2013 with a bachelor’s degree in political science and environmental studies.
CAST ONE VOTE FOR
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

ADDITIONAL VOTE FOR
FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Amendments:
With the approval of last years’ amendments to Clearwater Bylaws Articles VIII, IX, X and XI, the organization will further pursue implementing e-balloting in 2018 to increase participation and save resources.

Future ballot mailings will be sent to the email address associated with your membership. If you have not provided an email please do so here: ____________________________

For those who do not use the web or email, you may opt-in to receiving a paper ballot by US Mail by checking this box:

YES NO

Additional ballots will not be available.

Casting Your Vote

Clearwater’s bylaws provide that the Board of Directors shall consist of up to 25 elected members. There are slots for up to eleven (11) new members on this ballot. Each candidate needs a plurality of yes’ votes to be elected. Ballots will be tallied and results announced at the Annual Meeting.

Ballot Rules
Please vote yes or no for up to eleven (11) candidates. Individual members may cast one ballot; each adult member of the family covered by a Family Membership may cast one ballot. Space is provided if you wish to write in the names of other candidates. Note: Any write-ins should not currently be proposed candidates, and must meet the quorum requirement in votes the same as the nominated candidates.

Ballot Validation
To insure that only members vote, a letter code is included on the right hand side of the mailing label (indicated by ‘MI’ or ‘MF’ next to your mailing address on the ballot). Be sure this code is printed to the back of your ballot. Handwritten or photocopied codes will not be accepted.

Mail Your Ballot
Send your ballot to: Board of Elections, Clearwater, 724 Wolcott Avenue, Beacon, NY 12508, to be received no later than September 21, 2017.

Alternatively, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting, but you must use this ballot. Additional ballots will not be available.

Celebrate the Bounty of the Hudson Valley with Chef Terrance Brennan and Six Local Celebrity Chefs

Support Clearwater’s Educational Mission at the 2nd Annual Chefs for Clearwater Event
Join hosts Chef Brennan and CIA President Dr. Tim Ryan for cocktails and hors d’oeuvres overlooking the Hudson, followed by an exclusive five-course menu.

With Master of Ceremonies Tom Chapin, guest speaker Peter Kaminsky, bluegrass music by Two Dollar Goat, and a live auction with auctioneer George Cole.

For tickets and sponsorship opportunities visit www.chefsforclearwater.org
Washington, D.C. Briefing for Clean Water

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), and Clean Water Action held a briefing in Washington, D.C. on June 29, 2017 on federal protection for clean water, which is increasingly under threat from steep proposed EPA budget cuts and recent decisions rescinding key federal rules.

Speakers discussed impacts of proposed funding cuts and rollbacks in clean water protections on public and environmental health, and how to undo the damage.


The full briefing is available at www.Clearwater.org.

Support Youth Empowerment!

Thanks to your support, this July Clearwater brought 12 kids onboard for a special LGBTQ+ Allies two-day youth empowerment program.

More than half a million people have experienced their first real look at the Hudson River estuary’s ecosystem aboard Clearwater.

Help us to continue our founders’ mission to connect people to the river. Each day Clearwater provides learning in a natural setting, cultivates public awareness through environmental advocacy and renews our collective commitment to the health of the Hudson River through musical celebrations, including the renowned annual Clearwater Festival.

Please join us by making a donation today.

Great Hudson River Revival!

Thank you to everyone who supported Clearwater by attending this year’s Great Hudson River Revival. What an incredible weekend it was! We hope to see you in 2018.

Photo courtesy of Econosmith.com
Environmental Action Updates

It's been a busy season for Clearwater's Environmental Action Department. Starting with a wonderful event, “When Nuclear Plants Close: A Regional Forum on Nuclear Waste Storage and Decommissioning,” which was attended by more than 100 local elected officials, staff, and interested citizens on June 9 at the Desmond Fish Library in Garrison. The video and powerpoints of this informative event can be found on our Indian Point webpage at www.clearwater.org/ea/indian-point-campaign/. Now that Indian Point Units 2 and 3 are slated to close in 2020 and 2021, it is important to focus on its safe decommissioning and a just transition for the plant workers, that ensure those with technical knowledge and critical institutional memory are retained after closure and those who are not retained or ready to retire are trained and placed in good jobs in related industries. A follow up forum focusing on this is planned. Clearwater is also calling on NY State to create a Community Advisory Board, which will include nuclear engineers, emergency responders, other experts, and citizen stakeholders to oversee and have effective input into the decommissioning planning.

After the Decommissioning Forum we went directly to Revival June 17-18, and collected over 6,000 signatures on a variety of petitions, which were delivered to congress as part of our “Cargo of Concern” along with 32 municipal and organizational resolutions calling for Clean Water and other environmental protection. The day after Revival we had a hearing in NYS Supreme Court on our challenge to the NYS Public Service Commission’s Tier 3 Nuclear Subsidy on June 19. This was followed by the very powerful and well-attended Congressional briefing we hosted in Washington, D.C. on June 29th. While in D.C., Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney, who received our Cargo of Concern, announced that the US Coast Guard has suspended processing the application for ten additional anchorages, which would have turned the Hudson River into a shipping crude oil corridor and parking lot. Then, for extra safety, the NY State Legislature passed legislation creating Tanker Avoidance Zones.

Finally, comments are due to EPA calling for a more robust cleanup of Hudson River PCBs on September 1st. For more information on any of these topics, please send an email to mannajo@clearwater.org and we will keep you posted.

Sail Aboard Clearwater this Fall!

Public Sail Dates:
- Sat, Aug 26, 2017, 4:00-7:00 Water Ceremony Sail from Beacon
- Sat, Sep 2, 2017, 2:00-5:00 Sail from Kingston
- Sat, Sep 9, 2017, 2:00-5:00 Sail from Rensselaer
- Weds, Sep 13, 2017, 5:30-7:30 Sail from Hudson
- Sat, Sep 30, 2017, 2:00-5:00 Sail from Yonkers
- Sun, Oct 29, 2017, 1:00-4:00 A Meditative Journey from Yonkers

Find tickets at www.clearwater.org
- Clearwater members: $35
- Adult non-member: $50
- Children: $15

Education sails and Private charters also available. Email Sail@Clearwater.org for information.

Free Tideline Events for the Family
- Esopus Meadows Walk and Wade
  - September 9, 2017
  - 2:00pm
  
Description: Come to Esopus Meadows and follow the Kline-Esopus Kill from its mouth to near its source. Become part of an exciting new citizen science movement by studying eight plant species on Scenic Hudson’s Phenology Trail at Esopus Meadows Preserve. Data we collect while enjoying a pleasant hike through a dense forest will help scientists gauge the impacts of a changing climate. Afterwards, go seining (fishing with a net) with a Clearwater educator to collect and identify fish. We will have any willing participants put on chest waders to help us catch fish. Native and invasive species will be discussed, and we will shed light on the present challenges facing the wildlife of the Hudson River Estuary.

- Sunset Seine and Sing
  - September 23, 2017
  - 5:00pm
  
Description: Join Clearwater at the “magic hour” around sunset, to fish the river with a net and find out what fish are living in our estuary. We will put willing participants in chest waders and seine. Native and invasive species, adaptations and diversity will be subjects of the discussion and we will focus on the present challenges the estuary faces. This will be followed by a “circle of song,” where musicians and participants will play instruments and sing river songs. Bring your own instrument and a picnic dinner.