



The Compass

October 2018

Newsletter of North River Friends of Clearwater

NEXT MEETING, OCTOBER 3

The next NRFC meeting will be held on October 3rd at Stephen Smith's office, LaBella PC (previously Novus Engineering), 25 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY. Potluck will be at 6:30 PM followed by the meeting at 7:00 PM.

NRFC CALENDAR

- 10/3 NRFC Monthly Meeting, 25 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY, Potluck 6:30, Meeting 7:00.
- 10/5-8 Columbus Day Camp & Paddle, Location TBD.
- 10/14 **Chefs for Clearwater**, The Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, NY, 4:00-8:00 PM. Tickets available on www.clearwater.org.
- 11/7 NRFC Monthly Meeting, Location TBD, 6:30 potluck, 7:00 meeting.
- 11/9-12 Veterans' Day Camp & Paddle, Tussings.

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.

The Compass Deadline

The deadline for submitting material for the November 2018 edition of The Compass is October 22nd. E-mail items to nrfc_compass@yahoo.com, or mail to Sue Thrasher, 1 Aaron Dr. #4, Coxsackie, NY 12051.

NOTES FROM STEPHEN

Clearwater Annual Meeting:

You are invited to join **Clearwater** for the annual membership meeting on Sunday, September 24, 2017. The meeting will open with a song at 9:30 AM at Scenic Hudson's River Center, 8 Long Dock Road, Beacon, NY 12508. The meeting will include a screening of Jon Bowermaster's most recent film in The Hudson: A River at Risk series 'Restoring the Clearwater'. The day's events will include live music, a guest speaker, **Clearwater's** board of directors election results, potluck food, membership signups and **Clearwater** merchandise. This is a free event open to the public.

I will be attending the Annual Meeting and will bring back our charter.

Clearwater's September Upriver Visit

I also should mention that the City of Rensselaer is extremely accommodating when it comes to **Clearwater**. I called them a few days before **Clearwater** visited in order to ensure that the power would be on for the band. They quickly had the lawns mowed and some high weeds and grass around the dock cut down. We need to make a point of informing them whenever **Clearwater** is going to visit and perhaps we can partner with them on an event sometime. —ss

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

NRFC CAMP & PADDLE JULY 2018

NRFC paddlers and rowers had a lovely weekend at our quasi-car camping event on the Franklin Falls impoundment of the Saranac River, part of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. No real rain, blue sky, starry nights, beautiful views, and a bald eagle that repeatedly patrolled up-and-down his (her?) section of the river. His or her nest must have been close-by but we didn't glimpse it, unfortunately.

Some background: as some might know, the NFC Trail is a 740-mile-long water trail stretching from Old Forge, NY and ending in Fort Kent, Maine. It's a waterway that encompasses 22 rivers and streams as well as 56 lakes and ponds. Portages between these bodies are many and some can be seriously strenuous. Also included are sets of both class III and IV rapids – only runnable by expert whitewater jockeys (with appropriate boats, of course). Many dams control the Saranac River along the way, both for recreational use and hydroelectric generation. But, no, we did NOT do any of the whitewater parts! Our fragile boats: Kevlar and fiberglass cockleshells, all, would be seriously punished if we did. Our camping/paddling was along the Franklin impoundment – approximately 3 miles in length, and was completely flat water.

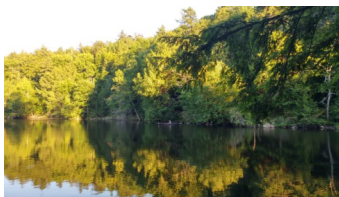
Our picturesque 2-tiered camping site offered views both upriver and downriver, a nice selection of trees for hammock stringing, a fire circle

with good siting, and even a not-too-far away brown-house. We had but a 5-minute down-hill walk from our vehicles, but the trail was thickly forested and so seemed much more wilder-ness-y than it really was. Of course, potluck food options were grand (paella!!) and of course, being NRFCers, we had way too many delicious things to share. We even had Chinese take-out as our Friday evening meal, quite a treat when non-campground camping.

Saturday morning saw us paddling downstream to the hydro-dam and spillway that led to the Union Falls impoundment, and were we sure surprised to have one of our rowing members drive right up to us on the beach as if it had been planned. Just a convenient karmic coincidence. The day ended softly with us all making our way back to camp. Rain appeared on the horizon the next days but couldn't deter our enjoyment of this sweet event.

If you wish to go sometime on your own, there is no actual marked site so just look for the small dirt pull-off on the north shore, Route 18, about 3 or so miles north of Saranac Lake Village. There's also a basic boat launch site a mile or so up the road if you don't wish to hand-carry in. No cell service, so plan accordingly.

- - - -So say the participants - Dave, Patti, Steve, Vicki, Jas, & Lydia



See page 3 for more photos.

◀ 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 _____

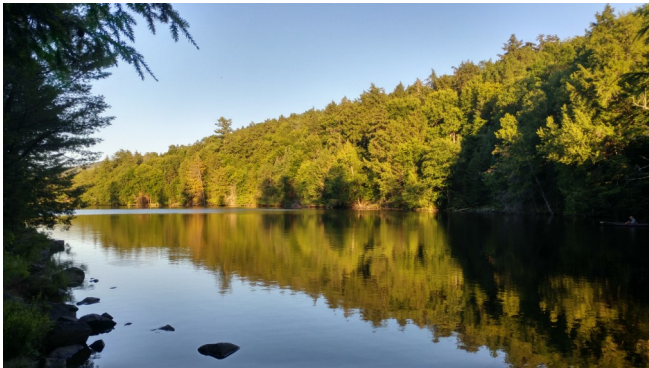
City/State/Zip _____

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



Above photos by Lydia Kosinski

Additional photos by Vicki Kelsey:



NRFC OFFICERS

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V. President	Stephen Smith	518-225-5499
Treasurer	Lydia Kosinski	518-527-2200
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Membership	Jas Yolles	518-462-6873
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