

CLEARWATER



Yes, I want to keep the *Clearwater* sailing!

*Receive a Clearwater Live CD when you donate this amount or above to both funds!

Today's Annual Fund Gift: \$35 *\$50 \$100 \$200 Other_____

Sloop Restoration Gift: \$35 *\$50 \$100 \$200 Other_____

Help us reach our goal of \$250,000—To be matched by a NYS Grant!

Today's Total Gift Amount:_____

I'd like to receive the Clearwater Live CD. Save the postage, no CD is necessary.

I've enclosed a check or money order payable to **Clearwater**.

Please charge my: __Visa __MasterCard __Discover __American Express

Cardholder's name: _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

Please keep me informed about Clearwater events and environmental issues.

My email address is: _____

Clearwater is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are 100% tax-deductible.

CLEARWATER



Clearwater is on the move again and the excitement level is so high in our office that I can hardly wait to share it with you!

Because of your support and commitment to our beloved Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, we made a huge difference in the life of the river and the people who live along its shores in 2007!

Thanks to you:

- Under-privileged teenage girls had a life changing experience during *Young Women at the Helm*, a multi-day sail program on the *Clearwater* that builds **self-esteem, leadership skills, and environmental literacy**.
- We expanded the shore-based *Tideline Discovery* program to the Beacon waterfront as part of our **commitment to expand our programs to more at-need children along the Hudson**. Through this hands-on program these kids now know the importance of our Hudson River.
- Our *Environmental Action Department* successfully persuaded the NYS DEC and US Fish & Wildlife Service to require all three rail companies operating in the Hudson River corridor to implement a **bald eagle protection plan**. This includes a Carcass Removal Program/Reporting System and Habitat Conservation Plan under the federal Endangered Species Act. **The results were immediate - we've already seen a decline in eagle mortality rates!**
- **We continue to lead the way in protecting the Hudson's watersheds**. For the fifth consecutive year, **Clearwater coordinated the Hudson River Watershed Alliance (HWRA)**. Accomplishments this year include launching the HRWA website and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping project, planning the HRWA Annual Conference (scheduled for 11/16/07), and starting a monthly networking breakfast series.

You are saving the river and changing the behavior that threatens it! On behalf of everyone here at Clearwater, I thank you. We could never accomplish all the work we do without you and your continued support.

But Clearwater still needs your help with two special projects. Can I count on you?

First is the most significant rebuild of the sloop ever, a total hull rebuild that will keep the *Clearwater* going for another 30 years of sails, teaching an additional ½ million children about the river and inspiring the next generation of environmental leaders.

History tells us that most sloops have a useful lifespan of only 10-15 years and the *Clearwater* has been going strong for over 30! While we've made a number of significant (and necessary) repairs over the last few years we now have to face the daunting task of replacing the entire hull, including planking and some frames, and to inspect the horn timber.

This massive undertaking will cost \$500,000 but is long overdue and must be done if the sloop is to remain America's Environmental Flagship. This work is so important that the

State of New York has offered us a dollar for dollar matching grant of up to \$250,000 to make sure we get it done.

This is a great opportunity! Every dollar we raise for this sloop restoration will be matched by a dollar in grant funds from the State. If we can raise the \$250,000 match we can accomplish this important project for half-price and avoid tying up even more of our organizational dollars!

Second, to make a clear distinction between our membership dues and general organizational donations, we've decided to establish an Annual Fund. Monies raised through the Annual Fund will help cover the costs of keeping Clearwater "open for business" that grants don't cover – things like time spent scheduling educational programs with school districts, attending public meetings to advocate for better development along the river or for safety improvements at industries along its shores, and the background research that must happen before we can launch a new program or expand an existing one.

For Clearwater to restore the sloop's hull and maintain our programs, I'm asking you for two things:

- **Please make a special contribution to our Sloop Restoration Fund** so we can raise \$250,000 and receive a match of \$250,000 from NYS. Help ensure that *Clearwater* will be the voice of the Hudson for another 30 years!
- **Help launch our new Annual Fund** with a special gift so we can continue to reach as many people as possible with our unique and compelling Clearwater programs.

As a Clearwater supporter, I know you understand that the sloop and our education programs both reflect key components of our mission. I know you want to make a meaningful difference in the world today that will benefit future generations so please give as generously as you can to these initiatives. Every contribution is important to our urgent and ongoing efforts to restore the sloop and foster a clean and green Hudson Valley.

Clearwater is the Flagship of the environment, and we depend on you to be the wind in our sails.

Most Sincerely,

Jeff Rumpf
Executive Director

P.S. In a perfect world I'd hope for 250 gifts of \$1,000 each for our Sloop Restoration fund and if you can give a gift like this I'll be eternally grateful, but remember that every gift is an important step toward securing this matching grant so please send the most generous gift you can right away. We need to book the time for these repairs!

P.P.S. I've taken the liberty of enclosing a gift form for your convenience, or you can donate online at www.clearwater.org If you have any questions please call Christine Kane in the Clearwater development office at 845-454-7673 x118.

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www.clearwater.org

