



# Clearwater of NJ Newsletter

January 2009

Volume 2, Number 1

Clearwater of New Jersey  
P.O. Box 303  
Red Bank, New Jersey  
07701

Clearwater Hotline:  
732-872-9644  
e-mail:

[info@mcclearwater.org](mailto:info@mcclearwater.org)

[www.mcclearwater.org](http://www.mcclearwater.org)

[www.myspace.com/njclearwaterfestival](http://www.myspace.com/njclearwaterfestival)

#### Upcoming Events and Meetings

Sunday, January 4, 2009  
Monthly Membership Meeting  
Eatontown Community Center, 72 Broad St. 2pm

Saturday, January 10  
Fort Monmouth Restoration Advisory Board Open House, 10am-3pm  
Gibbs Hall, Eatontown

Saturday, January 17  
Budget Meeting  
Jim Franchi's House, 1PM

Monday, January 19  
Environmental Committee Meeting  
Cobblestone Restaurant, Eatontown, 7PM

Monday, January 26  
BOD Meeting,  
Eatontown Library, 7pm

For more info on CoNJ meetings go to:  
[www.mcclearwater.org/calendar.php](http://www.mcclearwater.org/calendar.php)

## MCFC Becomes *Clearwater of NJ*

By Andrea Spinelli and Ed Dlugosz

Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater, Inc. (MCFC) has formally changed its name to **Clearwater of New Jersey (CoNJ)** to better reflect our outreach domain and membership demographics. We feel that the change is justified and important to make all members feel inclusive and to show our commitment to the whole state. The name-change idea has been percolating for a long time. The real impetus came during our membership sail on the Sloop Clearwater in September between Andrea and I while we discussed membership and fundraising, the dual banes of all nonprofits. Over the next few weeks we talked and Andrea enumerated the benefits in a very cogent way. Among the benefits are:

- It announces and confirms to the public that our scope and outreach **includes the whole state** and that we are **NOT** a small, local organization, unlikely to care about or have an impact on anything outside of Monmouth County.
- It forever **removes the limits** on our ability to attract statewide members and volunteers because it announces that we are **NOT** exclusive to only one of the 21 counties of New Jersey.
- It **UNLIMITS** our vision for and of ourselves, and therefore, our mission. It allows our existing members that live throughout NJ and surrounding states—from upstate NY to Washington DC to Sarasota FL—to see Clearwater of NJ as a stronger asset to help with their environmental issues.
- It **eliminates the reluctance** that non-local corporations have to provide funds to a perceived local, Monmouth County organization

We took our proposal to the Board of Directors (BOD) and got permission to bring it the membership's attention. We put it in emails, on our alternate MySpace website, and announced it at two monthly general membership meetings for review and comment. The members' approval response was almost unanimous and very enthusiastic. Mike Meade, a dad to one of our youngest Clearwater instructors, may have summed it up best: "... I was a member for about 7 years, and I never actually felt like I was really a part of it, because I didn't live in Monmouth County. No matter what level I got involved, there was always this part of me that said "you don't belong." If you really don't feel like a part of the organization, what purpose does it serve to get involved." Pete Seeger, our MCFC founding members, and the HRSC BOD have all applauded our change. There was a lively discussion of the permutations of the name. The BOD, after review of the responses and name suggestions, chose the name **Clearwater of New Jersey** in a formal vote on at the December 15<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting. It will be hard after 35 years to not fall into familiar patterns of speech and writing but see it as a spark for the new century. We will complete the transition over the next few months. Be patient. Let us know if we are inconsistent during the transition.

## Board of Directors

President: Chrissie Goedkoop  
Vice President: Ed Dlugosz  
Treasurer: Tim Johnson  
Secretary: Joellen Lundy  
Ben Forest  
Jim Franchi  
Andrea Spinelli  
Al Schnitzer  
Marylin Johnson  
George Moffatt  
Lynn Humphrey

Article Deadline for the February issue of MC Clearwater Newsletter is Monday, January 19

E-mail your articles to [info@mcclearwater.org](mailto:info@mcclearwater.org)  
By the deadline stated above, please use the phrase "MC Clearwater article" in the subject of your e-mail

CoNJ Membership Info:  
[www.mcclearwater.org/docs/membership-form.htm](http://www.mcclearwater.org/docs/membership-form.htm)

If any of the links do not work, cut and paste the full URL into the address box.

## LNG Terminal Opposition Position

At a recent press conference and an accompanying letter to Governor Corzine, Clearwater of New Jersey, [formerly Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater] presented their opposition to offshore LNG terminals in a statement that read:

Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater opposes the importing of Liquefied Natural Gas and the siting of any LNG terminals off the seacoast of the United States, especially in the New Jersey/New York Bight. Clearwater has fought for over 40 years to keep the rivers and the seas clean and clear. The siting of these islands off our coast pose a contradiction to common, economic, environmental, and political sense. Clearwater as a founding organization of the COA coalition, have helped author the Clean Ocean Zone legislation that is now pending in Congress.

In an era of Global Warming/Climate Change, we need to reduce our greenhouse gas footprint and our dependence on fossil fuel, especially from the unstable foreign producers not increase it. The same team that has brought us exorbitantly high fuel prices and worldwide pollution such as the Exxon Valdez disaster wants us to trust them. NO!

Clearwater joins with the signatories of the letter to Governor Corzine and NJ to urge that we halt all LNG facilities off the coast and instead:

- Conserve
- Employ Alternative Energy including Offshore Windpower, Solar, Geothermal, & Wavepower

## Sea Level Rise Workshop

By Ed Dlugosz

As a result of the Clearwater announced Field Trip, Ed Dlugosz—Eatontown Environmental Commission (EC) Chairman & Clearwater VP—and 30 other EC, Environmental nonprofits, local, county, and NJ state representatives participated in the well-organized Sea Level Rise Workshop: How Prepared Are You for Rising Waters? The multimedia, video teleconferenced workshop was organized, prepared, and presented by Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve (JCNERR), in cooperation with the Maryland and Virginia Chesapeake Bay NERRs, and guest speakers. The theme was Planning for Sea Level Rise: Regional and Local Considerations for Coastal Areas.



The JCNERR is located on 114,665 acres—regarded as the largest and least disturbed estuary (<1% subjected to human development) in the Northeastern United States—from Tuckerton NJ seaward to the Atlantic. The NJNERR reserve's estuary is formed by the wondrous Mullica River as it flows into the Great Bay and to the Atlantic. The seaward edge of the

wetlands features the real-time research and education capabilities of a Long-Term Ecosystem Observatory (LEO 15). The lead state agency of JCNERR is Rutgers University, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences (IMCS). The workshop was held at the Jacques Cousteau Coastal Center, 130 Great Bay Blvd., Tuckerton, NJ 08087, only one half mile from Tuckerton Seaport where JCNERR's display "Life at the Edge" is open 7 days a week.

The presenters included Dr. Mike Kennish of Rutgers IMCS; Sandy Coymans & Jack Willy of the Maryland NERRs; Skip Stiles of Virginia Wetlands Watch; Bo Juza representing FEMA; and Dr. Rick Lathrop of Rutgers, CRSSA. The full agenda and links to their presentations are available by clicking:

[www.jcnerr.org:80/coastal\\_training/register\\_rising\\_water.htm](http://www.jcnerr.org:80/coastal_training/register_rising_water.htm)



Clearly delineated in each and every presentation is that the earth's natural ability to handle sea level rise (SLR) through migrating estuary wetlands and other natural strategies are foiled by the overdevelopment of land, especially in the coastal communities, where migration is thwarted by bulkheads, stone, and other established barriers. The case studies from NJ, Maryland, and Virginia show that there are many factors—including political, financial, and territoriality—in addition to climate change that are hampering the defensive coastal planning and execution process. A Chesapeake Bay study shows that ~10 cm (3.9 inch) rise of sea level rise would inundate 420,000 acres of shoreline and tidal wetlands of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem . With a similar SLR to the Chesapeake, NJ's rate of 4+ mm per year, and the combination of much slower buildup of wetlands and the sinking of our lands, it is a losing battle in our more densely developed and populated state unless effective strategies can slow the tide.

### **Clearwater Hosts Guest Speaker From AmeriCorps NJWAP**

By Al Schnitzer

On Sunday December 14 Clearwater of New Jersey was honored to host guest speaker Andrea Spahn from the AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassador Program (NJWAP).

This program, which is designed to raise awareness of watershed issues, makes Watershed Ambassadors available to community organizations and

schools. They also involved with monitoring New Jersey's rivers, as well as conducting training sessions on assessment techniques for local community volunteers.

Andrea is the local Ambassador, and works out of the Monmouth County Planning Board in Freehold. She gave a detailed, informative slideshow presentation to us about the types of monitoring done, which includes visual and biological assessments. She also described the different local watershed areas, which include the Navesink River WMA, the Shrewsbury River WMA, the Shark River WMA and the Manasquan River WMA. Data gathered by Andrea and the other ambassadors is used for education, local decision-making, research, open space acquisition and for monitoring restoration projects. The CoNJ Environmental Sail Program and Environmental Committee are planning to work with Andrea to set up a series of training sessions and implementing stream monitoring projects.

AmeriCorp's NJWAP is hosted by the NJDEP Division of Watershed Management. For more information, including how to volunteer, you can contact Andrea at [aspahn@co.monmouth.nj.us](mailto:aspahn@co.monmouth.nj.us) or at the Monmouth County Planning Board, 1 East Main St. Freehold, NJ 07728 (732)577-6794

#### **Next General Membership Meeting, Sunday January 4, 2 PM**

Rescheduled Guest Speaker: Julia Millan Shaw, Alaska Wilderness League! Ms Shaw will present a slideshow detailing the Arctic Refuge and give a legislative update of the current threats to this special place.

NOTE: We have just confirmed that our meeting places for all 2009 will be:

- **Board of Directors: Eatontown Library, 33 Broad St, Eatontown, NJ**
- **General Membership: Eatontown Community Center, 72 Broad St**

#### **CoNJ ELECTION Results For 2008-2009**

As a result of the elections of December 14, 2008, ***Clearwater of NJ (CoNJ)*** proudly announces these elected members of Board of Directors and their officer positions:

- Chrissie Goedkoop – President
- Ed Dlugosz – Vice President
- Tim Johnson – Treasurer
- Joellen Lundy – Secretary
- Ben Forest
- Lynn Humphrey

#### **Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Open House, January 10, 2009**

The Quarterly RAB meeting and Open House will be open to the public from 10am to 3pm on Saturday January 10<sup>th</sup> at Fort Monmouth (FM) Gibbs Hall on the Suneagles Golf Course on Tinton Ave in the borough of Eatontown. The meeting will be followed by displays of the newly identified, potential contaminated FM parcels discussed in the Phase 2 Environmental Condition of the Property (ECP) Report, published in August 2008. The displays will locate the sites and identify the contaminants of soil, groundwater, surface water, and stream sediment. Members of the RAB, the FM DPW, NJDEP, and Monmouth County Health Department will be on hand to discuss the

findings and answer questions. No special access is required.

## **Membership Renewals Are Now Past Due!!**

***Up to date paid membership required for December BOD elections.***

Individual: \$25.00 Family: \$35.00 Low income/Senior Citizen: \$10.00

Lifetime Individual: 250.00 Lifetime Family: \$400.00. Renewal forms

available at: <http://www.mcclearwater.org/docs/membership-form.htm>

Make tax deductible check or money order payable to: Clearwater of NJ and mail to: CoNJ Dues, P.O. Box 303, Red Bank, New Jersey 07701

**For more, up-to-the-minute CoNJ news and archives go to:**

<http://www.mcclearwater.org/news.php>

### **Quote of the Month:**

"There must be a reason why some people can afford to live well. They must have worked for it.

I only feel angry when I see waste. When I see people throwing away things we could use."

**Mother Terese (1910 - 1997) A Gift for God, 1975.**

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**If you would like to be removed from the Clearwater of NJ Newsletter List**

**Please e-mail Lynn ([newsletter@mcclearwater.org](mailto:newsletter@mcclearwater.org))**

**With the message: "Remove from MC Clearwater Newsletter List" in the subject box**

Newsletter Information  
Editorial Committee:  
Ed Dlugosz, Lynn  
Humphrey, Jack Charlton,  
Al Schnitzer