



NJ Friends of Clearwater Newsletter

October 2009

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New Jersey Friends of
Clearwater
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Upcoming NJFC Events and
Meetings

Clearwater General
Membership Meeting:
Sunday, October 4
72 Broad Street, Eatontown

Fort Monmouth RAB Mtg.
Open to Public! Please
Come!
Wed., October 7
Gibbs Hall, Tinton Ave,
Fort Monmouth, NJ

NJFC BOD Meeting
Monday, October 26
Eatontown Library

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

**ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
DUES
RENEWAL
DUE
9/30/09!**

Clearwater Festival Shines in Bad Times

Ed Dlugosz

The 34th Annual NJ Friends of Clearwater Festival continued a cherished Clearwater tradition despite the bad financial climate that threatened it. Clearwater was able to overcome the hurdles through the efforts of diehard volunteers, the gift of song by its many entertainers, and a few stalwart sponsors.

The one-day 2009 Clearwater Festival was held on August 15 in glorious sunshine in the beautiful Sunset Park at the gateway to Asbury Park's reawakening boardwalk and downtown. This was the ninth year of the fabulous festival in Asbury and we'd like to take some small credit for giving credence of the city's renaissance—we've believed in it before the big developers arrived. Soulful and funfilled music was in the air and bright thoughtful environmental displays piqued the interest of fest-goers.

As always, the Clearwater Festival's purpose is to educate the public to take active ownership of the Earth's environment. Active ownership means doing the small individual things to maintain and conserve our natural resources as well as to take part in fighting the negative policies and practices of polluting businesses and our government. Our Festival theme this year illustrates those issues: *Clean Ocean Zone: Fight for Clear Water!* For years cities and states have used the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of NJ and NY as the dumping grounds for garbage and contaminated waste. The Hudson and other of our rivers and streams have carried both industrial and residential pollution into our Ocean and harming our watersheds along the way. A new, inexcusable threat is looming and we need to fight the business and political support for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) offshore ports, virtual insanity islands. Two other Clearwater campaigns were also highlighted at the festival: Environmental Justice and Fight Fort Monmouth Contamination. For more information on these and other issues, see our website at: www.mcclearwater.org/news.php.



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Article Deadline for the November issue of NJFC Newsletter is Monday, October 24, 2009

Email your articles to newsletter@mcclearwater.org
By the deadline stated above, please use the phrase "MC Clearwater article" in the subject of your e-mail

NJFC Membership Info:
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.

Clearwater Gift of Song

By Ed Dlugosz



As always, the 34th Annual NJ Friends of Clearwater Festival presented the best and brightest of musical talent as lure to the public to bring our message of environmental hope, action, and stewardship. Our performer lineup combined and contrasted international and local musical talent starting with our main stage headliner bluesman Guy Davis—son of legendary actors and civil rights activists Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis—folk icon and humorist Oscar Brand, and all the way to a talented local songstress who lives two blocks from Sunset Park. This year's singer-songwriter Main Stage had a wonderful mix of musical talent that filled the air with music and put the festive in Festival.

Hard-driving Christine Martucci—fresh from her self-penned dramatic portrait of Janis Joplin "Breakfast with Janis" at the Paramount Theater—showed the audience a slightly different musical aspect in her solo set. Folk music legend and historian Oscar Brand entertained the crowd with humorous songs and asides from his 70+ year career and his longest radio show in history. The Quincy Mumford Band provided the audience their distinctive blend of folksy grooves, jazzy riffs, and reggae rhythms. The Melissa Chill and Matt Dye Band with Matt O'Ree offered a great blend of country and classic rock. Singer-songwriter Mimi Cross' set was evocative and refreshing. Ken Shane's deep voice resonated with the audience. Longtime friend of Clearwater, Guy Davis was nothing short of wonderful. The audience responded to his mix of storytelling and authentic blues sound. As he has said, "the blues transcends time, the ethics that brought about the blues. I think the blues just has to say that, like the music, the people got to keep surviving."



On our other stage, the **Circle of Song**, were more Friends of Clearwater. In fact all the singer/songwriter performers are members of Clearwater, both locally and nationally, and most were members of the longstanding Hudson River Sloop Singers. The *Circle of Song* is round-robin hootenanny (sing/play-along) of traditional Seeger, Clearwater and other environmental and folk songs. Each of the scheduled performers led a set. Maryellen Healy and Vinnie Cerniglia, each wonderful singer in their own right, have organized the CoS for years. Steve Kaplan and Shirl Lawrence led the first two sets, respectively. Vince

Cerniglia and Joe Kaminski followed with their own set of songs. Maryellen Healy strong alto led Clearwater favorites. Local performers, Mike Meade (of Lackawanna Rail) and Ingrid Heldt led the next two sets: Mike with a bit of Bluegrass and Ingrid with her ethereal soprano renditions of her own peace and hope songs. Hearty Eric Russell and Jan Christensen sets featured sea chanteys and folk. Following a round robin the set leaders were joined by Tise Tobin, Bob Conroy, and Guy Davis to perform in The Hudson River Sloop Singer Reunion. The Reunion song set loosely followed the play list of the newly digitally remastered 1987 **Broad Old River 2** album—originally captured Sloop Singers' set at the 1986 Hudson River Revival—released for the first time at the 2009 NJ Friends of Clearwater Festival. All proceeds from the sailed of this album go to support the Sloops Clearwater and Woodie Guthrie. The BOR2 is available at Clearwater online catalog CLEARGEAR in music & media at: <http://clearwater.org/takeaction/cleargear.html#music>. Thanks again to Mel and Vinnie for producing this album.



At the Clearwater Festival Children's Area, another set of performers entertained the kids with song and magic. Longtime Clearwater member and performer Dawne Allynne offered fun and song in her Dawnie with Peanut Butter 'n' Jammin' persona. In her other persona, Dawne's performances are soulful and powerful with an R&B/roots edge. New member Danny Alderman again delighted the children for the fourth year in a row in Asbury. Like all our performers Danny is a multi-talented professional musician for "Big People" and as a children book author (some with partner Kim Eagle). A new performer at the Festival was Robert Francis—Dork of Deception—the first Magician in memory. Robert enchanted the kids with his prestidigitation.

All these performers understood the situation we faced and presented us with a gift of song. Clearwater gave our heart-felt thanks to each of our performers for unselfishly answering our call and donating their talent and time. Without their generosity, this year's Festival would not have occurred in this year of economic meltdown. Please support these wonderful artists by attending their shows and buying their albums:

Main Stage

Lauren Pennington: <http://www.myspace.com/laurenpennington>
Ken Shane: <http://www.kenshane.com/index.html>
Oscar Brand: <http://www.oscarbrand.com/>
Mimi Cross: <http://www.mimicross.com/>
Rob Dye: <http://www.myspace.com/robbyeband>
Melissa Chill: <http://www.myspace.com/melissachill>
Christine Martucci: <http://www.christinemartucci.com/>
Quincy Mumford Band: <http://www.myspace.com/quincymumford>

Circle of Song

Maryellen Healy: <http://homepage.mac.com/maryellenhealy/music/Personal4.html>
Vinnie Cerniglia: <http://www.myspace.com/melandvinnie>
Steve Kaplan & Shiril Lawrence: aka Great Blue: stevekaplan@optonline.net
Joe Kaminsky: kaminsky_joseph@yahoo.com
Mike Meade: www.lackawannarail.com/
Ingrid Heldt: <http://iheldt.net/>
Eric Russell:

Jan Christensen: https://www.zoominfo.com/people/Christensen_Jan_329203391.aspx
Hudson River Sloop Singer Reunion: <http://www.broadoldriver.blogspot.com/>

Children's Area

Dawnie of Peanut Butter 'n' Jammin': <http://www.dawniemusic.com/bio.shtml>

Dawne Allynne: <http://www.dawneallynne.com/>

Danny Alderman: <http://www.dannyandkim.com/index.html>

Robert Francis, the Dork of Deception: <http://www.myspace.com/dorkofdeception>

Environmental Justice Roundtable

Urban environmental activists and educators from Newark, Camden, Trenton, Elizabeth, Neptune, and Asbury joined us at the EJRC to talk about ways to make the urban environment more livable and sustainable. Organizer Ed Dlugosz was joined by Moderator Kerry Butch and colleagues at the COS stage at 2pm. EJ is when the unequal burden of pollution and the hardships and health problems it brings are purposely brought upon the most people most unable to fight it: i.e., the children, elderly, and poor. Kerry used a Q&A format to elicit the panel participants'

Have a Nice Day

By Thomas L. Friedman, NY Times Op-Ed Columnist, Published: September 15, 2009

Applied Materials is one of the most important U.S. companies you've probably never heard of. It makes the machines that make the microchips that go inside your computer. The chip business, though, is volatile, so in 2004 Mike Splinter, Applied Materials's C.E.O., decided to add a new business line to take advantage of the company's nanotechnology capabilities — making the machines that make solar panels. The other day, Splinter gave me a tour of the company's Silicon Valley facility, culminating with a visit to its "war room," where Applied maintains a real-time global interaction with all 14 solar panel factories it's built around the world in the last two years. I could only laugh because crying would have been too embarrassing.

Not a single one is in America.

Let's see: five are in Germany, four are in China, one is in Spain, one is in India, one is in Italy, one is in Taiwan and one is even in Abu Dhabi. I suggested a new company motto for Applied Materials's solar business: "Invented here, sold there."

The reason that all these other countries are building solar-panel industries today is because most of their governments have put in place the three prerequisites for growing a renewable energy industry: 1) any business or homeowner can generate solar energy; 2) if they decide to do so, the power utility has to connect them to the grid; and 3) the utility has to buy the power for a predictable period at a price that is a no-brainer good deal for the family or business putting the solar panels on their rooftop. Regulatory, price and connectivity certainty, that is what Germany put in place, and that explains why Germany now generates almost half the solar power in the world today and, as a byproduct, is making itself the world-center for solar research, engineering, manufacturing and installation. With more than 50,000 new jobs, the renewable energy industry in Germany is now second only to its auto industry. One thing that has never existed in America — with our fragmented, stop-start solar subsidies — is certainty of price, connectivity and regulation on a national basis.

That is why, although consumer demand for solar power has incrementally increased here, it has not been enough for anyone to have Applied Materials — the world's biggest solar equipment manufacturer — build them a new factory in America yet. So, right now, our federal and state subsidies for installing solar systems are largely paying for the cost of importing solar panels made in China, by Chinese workers, using hi-tech manufacturing equipment invented in America.

Have a nice day.

"About 95 percent of our solar business is outside the U.S.," said Splinter. "Our biggest U.S. customer is a German-owned company in Oregon. We sell them pieces of equipment." If you read some of the anti-green commentary today, you'll often see sneering references to "green jobs." The phrase is usually in quotation marks as if it is some kind of liberal fantasy or closet welfare program (and as if coal, oil and nuclear don't get all kinds of subsidies). Nonsense. In 2008, more silicon was consumed globally making solar panels than microchips, said Splinter.

"We are seeing the industrialization of the solar business," he added. "In the last 12 months, it has brought us \$1.3 billion in revenues. It is hard to build a billion-dollar business."

Applied sells its solar-panel factories for \$200 million each. Solar panels can be made from many different semiconductors, including thin film coated onto glass with nanotechnology and from crystalline silicon. At Applied, making these complex machines requires America's best, high-paid talent — people who can work at the intersection of chemistry, physics and nanotechnology.

If we want to launch a solar industry here, big-time, we need to offer the kind of long-term certainty that Germany does or impose the national requirement on our utilities to generate solar power as China does or have the government build giant solar farms, the way it built the Hoover Dam, and sell the electricity.

O.K., so you don't believe global warming is real. I do, but let's assume it's not. Here is what is indisputable: The world is on track to add another 2.5 billion people by 2050, and many will be aspiring to live American-like, high-energy lifestyles. In such a world, renewable energy — where the variable cost of your fuel, sun or wind, is zero — will be in huge demand. China now understands that. It no longer believes it can pollute its way to prosperity because it would choke to death. That is the most important shift in the world in the last 18 months. China has decided that clean-tech is going to be the next great global industry and is now creating a massive domestic market for solar and wind, which will give it a great export platform.

In October, Applied will be opening the world's largest solar research center — in Xian, China. Gotta go where the customers are. So, if you like importing oil from Saudi Arabia, you're going to love importing solar panels from China.

Smuggling Europe's Waste to Poorer Countries

By Elisabeth Rosenthal, NY Times, Published: September 26, 2009

ROTTERDAM, the Netherlands — When two inspectors swung open the doors of a battered red shipping container here, they confronted a graveyard of Europe's electronic waste — old wires, electricity meters, circuit boards — mixed with remnants of cardboard and plastic.

"This is supposed to be going to China, but it isn't going anywhere," said Arno Vink, an inspector from the Dutch environment ministry who impounded the container because of Europe's strict new laws that place restrictions on all types of waste exports, from dirty pipes to broken computers to household trash. Exporting waste illegally to poor countries has become a vast and growing international business, as companies try to minimize the costs of new environmental laws, like those here, that tax waste or require that it be recycled or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally responsible way.

Rotterdam, the busiest port in Europe, has unwittingly become Europe's main external garbage chute, a gateway for trash bound for places like China, Indonesia, India and Africa. There, electronic waste and construction debris containing toxic chemicals are often dismantled by children at great

cost to their health. Other garbage that is supposed to be recycled according to European law may be simply burned or left to rot, polluting air and water and releasing the heat-trapping gases linked to [global warming](#).

While much of the international waste trade is legal, sent to qualified overseas recyclers, a big chunk is not. For a price, underground traders make Europe's waste disappear overseas. After Europe first mandated recycling electronics like televisions and computers, two to three million tons of electronic waste was turned in last year, far less than the seven million tons anticipated. Much of the rest was probably exported illegally, according to the [European Environment Agency](#). Paper, plastic and metal trash exported from Europe rose tenfold from 1995 to 2007, the agency says, with 20 million containers of waste now shipped each year either legally or illegally. Half of that passes through this huge port, where trucks and ships exchange goods around the clock.

In the United States, more states are passing laws that require the recycling of goods, especially electronics. But because the United States places fewer restrictions on trash exports and monitors them far less than Europe, that increasing volume is flowing relatively freely overseas, mostly legally, experts say. Up to 100 containers of waste from the United States and Canada arrive each day, according to environmental groups and local authorities in Hong Kong. "Now we are collecting far more, but they can't prevent it from going offshore. People talk about 'leakage,' but it's really a hemorrhage," said Jim Puckett, director of the [Basel Action Network](#), a Seattle-based environmental nonprofit that tracks waste exported from the United States.

The temptation to export waste is great because recycling properly at home is expensive: Because of Europe's new environmental laws, it is four times as expensive to incinerate trash in the Netherlands as to put it — illegally — on a boat to China. And the vast container ships that arrive in Europe and North America from Asia filled with cheap garments and electrical goods now have a profitable return cargo: garbage like steel cables, circuit boards and leftovers from last night's pasta meal. "The traffic in waste exports has become enormous," said Christian Fischer, chief consultant on waste to the European Environment Agency, which released its first study on the topic this year, "but we need much better information about it."

The Dutch have taken a lonely lead in inspecting waste exports and curbing the traffic, providing a rare window into the trade. They estimate that 16 percent of the exports are illegal. But in most ports where customs inspectors typically check imports far more thoroughly than exports, much probably passes through unnoticed. In July, a shipment of 1,400 metric tons of British household garbage that was illegally sent to South America — labeled as clean plastic for recycling — was apprehended only after it landed in Brazil.

Rotterdam uses X-rays and computer analysis of shipping documents to pick out suspicious containers. But other countries need to do more, said Albert Klingenberg of the Dutch environment ministry, adding: "When they can't get it out in Rotterdam, they go to Antwerp or Hamburg." The [European Union's](#) laws governing waste disposal require more recycling of paper and plastic each year, and generally prohibit dumping in landfills. Incineration is now heavily taxed in most European countries. The regulations also prohibit exporting waste to poorer parts of the world unless

the receiving country accepts that kind of waste and it is going to a certified recycler. The guidelines fully ban the export of certain hazardous materials and so-called “problematic” waste, defined as waste that is not amenable to recycling and so would be harmful to the environment at its destination, for example, waste that is soggy or mixed household garbage. The European laws generally follow the guidelines of the 1992 Basel Convention, the treaty that regulates dangerous exports of waste, and a proposed 1998 amendment.

The United States, during the Bush administration, was one of the few countries that did not ratify the convention. And much of the trash trade banned by Europe is still legal in the United States, where laws focus on only the most hazardous waste. That may change. A State Department official, who insisted on anonymity because the new administration had not formally reviewed its policy, said, “We’ll be grappling with that in this administration.”

Some types of waste exports are environmentally sound, experts say. If products and packaging used in Europe are manufactured in Asia it may make sense to ship them back for recycling. The waste trade — legal and illegal — is partly propelled by the fact that fast-growing economies like China’s and India’s need the raw material. From Rotterdam, paper, plastic and metals tend to be sent to China. Electronic waste tends to go to African countries, in particular Ghana, Egypt and Nigeria. But companies in Africa and Asia are “highly variable” in their recycling capabilities, dependability and safety records, said Mr. Fischer, the consultant to the environment agency.

In Rotterdam, inspectors uncover endless ploys to subvert the system: Containers are packed with legal goods in front to hide illegal material. TVs and computers are labeled as secondhand goods, which can be legally shipped, even though they are destined for dismantling. The inspections office here is filled with [plastic bags](#) containing evidence; grease-covered pipes, fluid from toner cartridges and a mix of paper and plastic scraps share space with more traditional trafficking fare like cocaine, weapons and fake Croc clogs. Despite fines of up to \$22,000, traffickers feel it is worth the risk to send trash abroad, although repeat violations can lead to criminal prosecution.

Last year, the Dutch returned 80 illegal shipments to their countries of origin, their usual policy. But that is not always possible. In one case, inspectors seized an American container carrying old paint cans and other material to Nigeria. They could not send it back, because the United States is not a party to the Basel Convention. Anyway, the hazardous contents were leaking, and the Dutch were left to dispose of them properly.

Switch To Reusable Drinking Bottles

By Lynn Humphrey

Do you send a juice box with your child to school or to daycare? They're easy to pack, fairly cheap, and fairly guaranteed to be drunk. The problem? Every school year, our nation's landfills-and streets, yards, playgrounds, etc.-are deluged with truckloads of these water bottles and juice boxes. Don't let your child be a part of a growing ecological crisis.

Think about this... Say you send a juice box with your child each day of the week. Multiply those 5 juice boxes a week times 52 weeks in the year, and you end up with 260 juice boxes. 260 juice boxes that eventually end up in the landfill. 260 juice boxes that probably cost you about \$130. Even worse, many people don't recycle their plastic water bottles. Also, juice boxes are not always accepted at local recycling centers. This just exaggerates the environmental problem even more. But juice boxes and plastic water bottles shouldn't just be an environmental concern. There are numerous questions regarding the safety of certain plastics used in plastic water bottles. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention says that some plastics leach a toxic chemical called Bisphenol A (BPA) into the water in your child's water bottle.

Don't risk jeopardizing your child's health, well being and safety when she heads back to school this fall. Instead, ditch the cardboard juice boxes and plastic water bottles and consider buying a reusable bottle that you can fill with water, juice, watered down juice, or whatever your child likes to drink. When deciding what bottle to buy, do some research on Bisphenol A (BPA), and come to your own conclusion on whether you trust a bottle that contains BPA. Safe, reusable bottles made from non-toxic material is healthy for the environment, and healthy for your children!

If you're looking for bottles that are BPA free, two great options are www.sigg.com and www.kleankanteen.com. Both Sigg and Klean Kanteen bottles come in great colors. And the best part, reusable bottles don't send a fountain of juice all over the inside of your car when your toddler accidentally squeezes them too hard.

But if you can't seem to get over the idea of using those convenient packages. Here is a web site that offers a better alternative of what to do with them when finished. <http://www.terracycle.net/>

Quote of the Month:

No man can put a chain about the ankle of his fellow man without at last finding the other end fastened about his own neck.

Frederick Douglass, speech, Civil Rights Mass Meeting, Washington, D.C., 1883

On Sept. 28, 1857: Harriet Tubman Leads Her Parents to Freedom

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