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New York and Region Clearwater Coffee House Organized

By TESSA MELVIN

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LEAD: AN unusual folk-singing revival will get under way in northern Westchester next Saturday evening when the folk singer Pete Seeger performs at the opening of the Walkabout Clearwater Coffee House at the Harvey School Hall in Katonah. Organizers of the monthly nonprofit coffee house say they hope the audience will sing in the chorus and help with the environmental-action programs of Walkabout Clearwater, a nonprofit environmental organization chartered by the Poughkeepsie-based Clearwater Inc.

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The 106-foot Clearwater sloop, known as the flagship of the environmental movement, has sailed the Hudson and the surrounding waters for two decades, promoting a healthy environment through songs and educational programs. This Boat 'Sails' Inland

Like its sponsor, the Walkabout Clearwater has its own group of singers and its own boat, but there is a difference. The Walkabout Chorus is open to anyone who walks in, and the boat itself is a seven-foot model of the Clearwater built to "sail" inland carried on the shoulders of volunteers at parades and festivals where the real Clearwater cannot go.

While the Clearwater's Sloop Singers are a tightly knit group of professionals, the members of the Clearwater Chorus include anyone who shows up for the single rehearsal always held on the day of an event.

"One of the beauties of the Walkabout Chorus is that any and everyone can join. There are no auditions," said Ron Dressler, a Walkabout coordinator and a member of the Sloop Singers. Monthly Performances Planned

The Walkabout Clearwater Coffee House plans to hold performances the second Saturday of each month at 8 P.M. The first half hour of each evening will be devoted to a choral "teachabout" in which songleaders will teach simple arrangements and help the audience practice simple harmonies. "The teachabout shows people how easy folk singing really can be," Mr. Dressler said.

The choruses perform throughout the New York, Connecticut and New Jersey area, singing voluntarily at revivals and folk festivals and in professional performances in Westchester, on Staten Island and in upstate New York. Two years ago, Walkabout Clearwater and 10 members of the chorus went to Sweden to promote that country's environmental program.

On Feb. 11, Sally Rogers, a songwriter and recording artist, will appear at the Walkabout Clearwater Coffee House and on March 11, Tony Trischka and Skyline, a banjo group that recently disbanded, will perform a special out-of-retirement benefit for Walkabout Clearwater. On April 8, the Walkabout Chorus will give a special performance before an appearance by the folksinger Tom Chapin.

Tickets are \$6 in advance, \$7 at the door. For information about the Coffee House and the programs of Walkabout Clearwater, call 232-0950.