



Serving the Hudson River with Pride for 54 Years

A Message from Our President

Ours is a club steeped in rich tradition. For example, our monthly membership meetings form an unbroken sequence of gatherings dating back to the Club's origins, over 50 years ago. Always on the first Friday of every month, that tradition continues uninterrupted. But antecedents to our meetings may date to an earlier age. Mahicans inhabiting nearby Dennings Point from about CE 1500 to CE 1700 governed their society by consensus. It's not hard to imagine that the egalitarian Mahican councils on Dennings Point 300 years ago may have resembled our own regular sessions, which are openly democratic, and invite everyone to participate, and express their opinions to help shape our decisions.

The Sloop Club's song circle which concludes every monthly meeting was initiated by our founders and has continued without pause for more than four decades. Over the years many accomplished musicians have sat in on the circle, swapping songs with beginners on an equal footing. But that tradition, too, hearkens back to an earlier time. The custom of hootenannies, popularized by Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger, in which every musician was welcomed to perform in informal musical settings, was a staple of folk music in the 1960's and is similar in spirit to our own song circles.

For nearly a half-century, our sloop *Woody Guthrie* has cruised the Hudson River. Over the years, venerable captains and countless volunteers have handled the tiller, worked the sheets, hoisted the halyards, and spoke in the specialized seaman's jargon, just as we do today. Accurately designed to replicate a river ferry sloop from the 18th century, a ferryman from that time would feel very much at home on the *Woody*.

Our festivals also enjoy a rich history. They descend from the Clearwater Revivals, but here too, traces of a distant past linger in our own practices. Native Americans regularly celebrated along the river in pre-contact eras.

The Lenape were well-known for their raucous partying at Danskammer (Dutch for "dance chamber") just upriver from where our festivals are held. We are the inheritors of these song and dance traditions along the river.

Every time we act to preserve our Hudson, we follow in the footsteps of courageous activists whose names are enshrined in history books as pioneers in the conservation movement. We inherit the mantle of river protector from those early visionaries and we further their cause whenever we safeguard this natural wonder entrusted to us.

When we continue the rich traditions of our club, we embellish our history. Our future is built on the solid foundation of the past.

Rob

Inside this issue:

Holiday cheer for a good cause, PCBs 5 years later, upcoming events, and much, much more....



NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING Wednesday December 27, 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING Friday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30 p.m.

Name _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ - _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Email _____

Household Membership donation \$ _____ Renewal _____ New Member _____

Membership suggested donation \$25.00. Minimum of \$10.00. Please give more if you can afford it!
If you can't afford the minimum, the fee may be waived.

Newsletter format (check one): Printed E-mail Please consider e-mail it saves money and paper.

Additional Members at this address _____ Email _____

_____ Email _____

Would you like information on Clearwater Membership? I would like to help with _____

Mail to: Beacon Sloop Club P.O. Box 527 Beacon, NY 12508

[Link to Online Renewal](#)

The **Beacon Sloop Club Broadside** is the official monthly newsletter of the **Beacon Sloop Club, Inc.**

The **Beacon Sloop Club, Inc.** is a non-profit, volunteer environmental education/action and sailing organization dedicated to cleaning up the **Hudson River** and its environs. Our main focus is the **Beacon, Fishkill** and **Newburgh** area.

Members meet the first Friday of every month at the **Sloop Club Building** located just across from the Beacon train station. Look for the building with the Norway spruce tree growing out of the roof! A potluck dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.; bring a covered dish to share and your own place setting. The general meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and lasts about an hour or so. The meeting is followed by a sing-along.

The Beacon Sloop Club and newsletter are accessible from the web: www.beaconsloopclub.org.

Woody Captains:

Jim Birmingham, Patrick Gallagher,
Tom LaBarr, James Malchow,
Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz,

BSC Officers 2023

President:	Robert May	(845)661-5123	robertmay2394@gmail.com
Vice President:	Vince Farina	(845)656 9546	intraining_99@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Aaron Verdile	(914)503-6227	EXTproductions@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Mary Arnold	845-891-4509	marykonizarnold@gmail.com

BSC Committee Chairs and Contacts

Building:	Tom Schmeelk	((845)298-2867	
	Vince Farina	(845)656 9546	intraining_99@yahoo.com
Community Sailing:	Vanessa Nisperos		vanessa.nisperos@gmail.com
Environment:	Tom LaBarr	(845)831-4267	labarrt@gmail.com
Environmental Tent:	Tom Elliott	(518) 265-6676	tomelliott789@gmail.com
	Mark McNutt		
Festival Coordinator:	Patricia Finnerty	(267)908 0716	patriciafinnerty267@gmail.com
Festival Music:	Susan Berliner	(845)527-8671	
Festival Publicity:	Joyce Hanson	(914)907-4928	joycehanson@mac.com
Finance:	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
Grants & Dev.	James Malchow	908)405-1433	jpmalchow@gmail.com
Harbor Membership			
Mooring Manager:	Ben Fiege	(845)764-5884	fiege.benjamin@gmail.com
Harbor Communications	Jeremy Baum	(914)213-5353	jeremybaum@jeremybaum.com
Lecture Series	Steve van der Merwe	(914)879-1082	vandermerwede@yahoo.com
	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
Membership:	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
MLK Day	Bonnie Champion	(845)264-5663	bonniejchampion@gmail.com
Monthly Music:	Ken Miller	(201)376-1316	powwow187@aol.com
Musical Outreach:	Ken Miller	(201)376-1316	powwow187@aol.com
Newsletter:	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
Small Boats:			
Town Liaison	Tom LaBarr	(845)831-4267	labarrt@gmail.com
Vendor Coordinator:	Joyce Hanson	(845)293-3621	vendors@beaconsloopclub.org
Web Site:	Metal	(646) 481-6360	metal@stationbuilt.com
	James Brown		empulsetech@gmail.com
Woody Sailors	James Malchow	(908)405-1433	jpmalchow@gmail.com
Woody Maintenance:	Steve Schwartz	(845)462-7756	sloopcapt@aol.com
	Max Smith	(484)336-6569	
Woody Scheduling:	Susan Berliner	(845)527-8671	

Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting

Minutes, December 1, recorded by Mary Arnold

Opening Music: *The Greenland Whale Fisheries* by **Lydia Adams Davis, Ken Miller, Mary Poppins, Ben Mazer and Ingrid Anderson**

President Rob May called meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. He announced that BSC is a Carry in/Carry out facility. **Alan Zollner** was recognized as the most recent Multrum hero, and Alan also volunteered to take home recyclables. **Rob** will take home the trash.

Treasurer's report: **Aaron Verdile** presented the income and expenses for October. Despite income from the Pumpkin Festival, it was a negative month with the large expense of \$18,000 for the yearly insurance bill. See treasurer's report for complete information.

Holiday Sing: **Susan Berliner** reported the annual event will be next Saturday Dec 9 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with multiple members performing and leading sing-a-longs. Bring finger foods. The Holiday Sing is a fundraiser for the Common Ground Farm which provides food distribution throughout the community. **Joyce Hanson** noted that last year we raised \$1,000. Donation checks should be made out to Beacon Sloop Club with a notation for Common Ground.

Woody Report: **Steve Schwartz** reported the boat is at Safe Harbor in Haverstraw Bay, "buttoned up for the winter." He thanked **Max Smith** for all the work organized and completed for Woody winter maintenance. There may be additional work projects throughout the winter.

Harbor Report: **Mary Arnold** said harbor work has been completed, all the boats, moorings, and floating docks have been removed. The floating docks spend the winter at White's Marina.

Winter Lecture Series: **Alan Thomas** announced the 19th year of Winter Lecture Series, usually on the third Thursday of Month, January through May. This series is still being planned, presenters include Bill Davies, of the Poughkeepsie Rowing club and John Mylod on the Hudson River Fishery.

Martin Luther King Parade: **Mary Poppins** announced the Parade will be on January 15, MLK day, starting Springfield Baptist Church. Line up is at 8:30, with the parade starting at 9:15. "Everyone, this is so important to continue this going. Tell your friends, neighbors, enemies, tell everybody to show up for a good cause." In addition to the Parade, there is an essay contest, and a program in the Church after the parade. The parade was initiated by Pete Seeger. **Vickie Fox** noted, "This was Pete's last great idea. It's great to bring some meaning back to this."

Clearwater Report: **Rosemary Thomas** reported the sloop is at Scarano's in Albany being painted and will come back to Kingston soon. The Clearwater passed the Coast Guard inspection. Major work will be done winter of '25 and '26. Wood for the repairs needs time to season, and the project needs money. There will be a Zoom board meeting on Tuesday at 7 p.m. with breakout sessions on the Gala. Steve Schwartz has volunteered to take the Woody out again as an auction item. The Zoom link is on the Clearwater website.

Officers Nominations/Elections for 2024: The slate of officers includes incumbents **Rob May President, Vince Farina Vice President, and Aaron Verdile Treasurer** running unopposed with no new nominations from the floor. **Secretary Mary Arnold** is not running. There were multiple nominations for Secretary from the floor, and each declined the nomination. **Susan Berliner** asked if there were volunteers. New member **Trish Murphy** expressed interest. Susan Nominated Trish, with a Second by **Joyce Hanson. Alan Thomas** moved that the current Secretary cast one vote for the slate. **John McLaughlin** seconded the motion. The motion carried. **Secretary Mary Arnold** cast a vote for the slate of officers.

Report Environmental: **Tom LaBarr** reported that the Coast Guard has renewed its plans to make a "parking lot" for large commercial vessels. The proposal was previously abandoned because of public outcry. He urged us to speak up again at public meetings and to write to elected officials. **Alan Zollner** noted that these large boats anchored off the shore will have lights on all night long, and **John McLaughlin** noted they will be running generators, contributing to air pollution. Tom will include this issue in meetings on the Harbor with **Fishkill Town Supervisor Ozzie Albra.**

General Announcements:

John McLaughlin reported that Riverpool just had its annual meeting, and invited people to join the Riverpool board and the River Swim committee for the 20th cross river swim in 2024. "I want to thank this club and its many contributions to this swim this year. **Alan Zollner**, who has kept club together, put together a wonderful annual report." There will be a full Riverpool program this year, with the refurbished pool going in the river around July 1, and the Swim on Saturday, July 27 (Raindate Sunday, July 28). John will serve as the new president, with outgoing president Alan Zoellner as VP. "Alan, you have done such a wonderful job. Thank you so much. Riverpool is about swimming in the river. River pool, not just a little wading pool, concept of a swimmable Hudson River. You will see some action from the state budget on swimmable rivers."

Alan Thomas showed the plaque that we will present to Simone Williams of All You Knead Artisan Bakery for her support of the Pumpkin Festival.

Joyce Hanson spearheaded some early fundraising for Common Ground Farm's food donation program.

Mary Poppins is selling holiday hats with a jingle bell for \$20. \$5 from every sale goes to Common Ground

Adjournment: Vince Farina motioned to Adjourn; Ben Mazer seconded the motion. Rob May adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Circle of Song followed, led by Ken Miller

Environmental News

"Mandrake, water is the source of all life. Seven tenths of this earth's surface is water. Why, you realize that seventy percent of you is water.... And as human beings, you and I need fresh, pure water to replenish our precious bodily fluids. You beginning to understand?" – General Ripper, Dr. Strangelove.

Hudson River PCB Superfund Site:

The EPA is required by law to conduct a review of hazardous waste sites every five years where cleanups do not remove all contaminants from the site. It's expected that the EPA will release its new draft five-year review of the Hudson before the end of the year.

The recent webinar hosted by The Friends of a Clean Hudson, consisting of the Hudson Fishermen's Association, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Hudson Riverkeeper, Scenic Hudson and the Atlantic Chapter of the Sierra Club revealed data showing that the EPA's dredging remedy has fallen short of its goals for reduction of toxic PCBs concentrations in the river's fish and sediment in the upper portion of the Hudson.

The Friends of a Clean Hudson are calling on the EPA to officially acknowledge that the dredging regime did not protect human health and the environment and that long-term advisories against consuming fish are not a solution. The EPA must undertake further active remediation in order to meet the original goals and allow for a natural recovery to be achieved.

Clearwater Environmental Action director, Jen Benson will be at our January membership meeting to review the study results and answer questions.



Martin Luther King Day Singing Parade

Monday, January 15, MLK day,
starting Springfield Baptist Church.
Line up is at 8:30,
with the parade starting at 9:15

The Holiday Sing

The Sloop Club rang out with song and holiday cheer as we once again raised funds for those in our community who are food challenged. Thank you to all who came out to perform, or sign along!



BEACON SLOOP CLUB WINTER EDUCATION SERIES

**Competitive Rowing in the Hudson Valley
w/ Bill Davies**

**Thursday, January 18
7:00 PM**

**The Beacon Sloop Club
(2 Red Flynn Dr., Beacon)**

A Free Event



Have you seen the new film, *Boys in the Boat*, or read the book? Poughkeepsie was once home to "the greatest one-day sporting event in America", the culmination of a "carnival" regatta week on both sides of the river. The talk covers rowing as a competitive sport in the Hudson Valley from the 18th to the 21st century.



Bill Davies began his rowing career on the lightweight crew at Wesleyan University and used his 1st paycheck after college to buy a single rowing shell. He began rowing his single on the Hudson River in 1983 and continues to row competitively at the Masters level. He has coached at the Craftsbury Sculling center in Vermont and the novice boys and girls crews for Lourdes High School during their program start-up. He is a past president of Mid Hudson Rowing Association (MHRA) and started their sculling clinic in 2003 which he runs every summer. He is currently an assistant coach for the Vassar Crew as well as head coach for the sweeps and sculls programs at MHRA.

www.beaconsloopclub.org

The Beacon Sloop Club, inc.
Profit and Loss
 October 2023

	<u>Total</u>
Income	
Contribution, Gifts, Grants	139.00
Woody maintaince fund	150.00
Total Contribution, Gifts, Grants	\$289.00
Gross Sales of Inventory	1,201.17
Investment Income	35.85
Interest-Checking	76.03
Interest-Money Market	5.18
Total Investment Income	\$117.06
Membership	
Paypal	75.00
Snailmail	50.00
Total Membership	\$125.00
Pumpkin Festival	
Apples & Cider	503.10
Pies, Chili & Soup	4,951.38
Pumpkins	814.68
Vendor	1,219.80
Total Pumpkin Festival	\$7,488.96
Total Income	\$9,221.19
Gross Profit	\$9,221.19
Expenses	
Bank Expense	
Paypal	50.20
Total Bank Expense	\$50.20
Cost of Inventory	
Cost of Inventory	1,314.45
Corn Expense	117.77
Facilities	
Festival	136.19
Utilities	118.15
Total Facilities	\$254.34
Other Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	18,272.00
Website	28.17
Total Other Expenses	\$18,300.17
Printing, etc.	
Broadside	55.69
Total Printing, etc.	\$55.69
Pumpkin Expense	49.98
Advertizing	48.00
Chili & Soup	354.71
Compost	50.00
Eco products	193.83
Pies	660.65
Pumpkins	692.55
Total Pumpkin Expense	\$2,049.72
Strawberry Expense	18.99
Total Expenses	\$22,161.33
Net Operating Income	-\$12,940.14
Net Income	-\$12,940.14
Opening Cash Balance 10/1/2023	\$127,847.81
Closing Cash Balance 10/31/2023	\$114,907.67
Change in Investment Value	-350.61
Total Balance 10/31/2023	\$114,557.06
Unrestricted & soft	\$91,053.46
Hard Restricted (total)*	\$23,503.60
B & S Rozinsky Fund (hard)	\$20,356.25
Board designated funds (soft)	\$15,651.20



*Presented to Simone Williams,
All You Knead Bakery*

*In appreciation of your generous support
of the Beacon Sloop Club,
the Hudson River,
and Our Community.*

Current Calendar

BSC Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 27, 7:00 pm
At the Clubhouse

Beacon Sloop Club Membership Meeting
Friday, January 5 6:30 – 10:00pm
At the clubhouse

RIVERKEEPER EVENT
[Webinar: What's next at Indian Point](#)

January 9, 2024: 6:00PM to 7:00PM

[Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse](#)
Guy Davis

Saturday, January 13, 2023, 7:30 pm
Community Unitarian Universalist
Congregation 468 Rosedale Ave
White Plains, NY 10605

Martin Luther King Day Singing Parade

Monday, January 15, MLK day,
starting Springfield Baptist Church.
Line up is at 8:30,
with the parade starting at 9:15

Winter Lecture Series:
Competitive Rowing in the Hudson Valley
w/ Bill Davies

Thursday, January 18, 7:00 pm
At the Clubhouse

Winter Lecture Series:
How Earth Scientists Learn About Climate
Change, w/ Kirsten Menking, Ph.D.

Thursday, February 15, 7:00 pm
At the Clubhouse



Anyone wishing to join a Woody crew can contact any captain or James Malchow to sign up. No experience is required. We will train you.

Winter Lecture Series:
The Hudson River Fishery
w/ John Mylod
Thursday, March 21, 7:00 pm
At the Clubhouse

Welcome Our 2024 Officers

President:	Rob May
Vice President:	Vince Farina
Treasurer:	Aaron Verdile
Secretary:	Trish Murphy

Thank you to all who participated in the nomination and voting process.

Please consider joining a committee. There are many opportunities to help with the operation of the club, and frankly, we could use some new blood.

Membership

For many people January is renewal time. Email subscribers received a note earlier this month with their renewal date.

We are an all-volunteer organization, and your support is what it is all about.

[Renew online](#)

[Download Form](#)

Details of calendar events may be found elsewhere in the newsletter.
For more info about the BSC: www.beaconsloop.org, or www.beaconsloopclub.org