A Message from Our President:

Our January meeting got off to a snowy start. A small group, sufficient for a quorum, gathered for the potluck and enjoyed two picture-perfect chicken pot pies, brownies, and other goodies. Many thanks to Michael Scolnick for arriving early, getting the fire going, and starting the New Year with song. More people came, maybe 35 in total, including two new faces, and most stayed for the circle of song around the fire.

The headline news remains – our beloved Woody is coming due for major restoration work in the next couple of years. Think six figures here. This significant work, on the frame of the boat, needs to be scheduled well in advance to ensure both the shipbuilder is available and the necessary funds are raised.

Our first step in fund raising is awareness. Everyone needs to understand what we’re trying to do and why. This work is needed to enable the Sloop Woody Guthrie to sail for another 30 plus years. The Woody has provided tens of thousands of people with free sails in her 32 years on the Hudson, and we plan to continue. For many people, the Woody is their first and only direct experience with the Hudson.

In many ways, raising this amount of money is like making stone soup. You begin with nothing, announce the goal, and then everyone finds a way to help. What we’re asking people for right now is 1) to identify any potential grant opportunities and 2) to suggest ideas for grass roots events. Please contact either me or Kevin Haydon directly.

Let’s also take a minute to thank Mel and Vinnie for making the first donation. They raised $342.50 for the Woody from their Broad Old River 2 CD project and are selling it in Florida too!

Our members are what make us strong. Please take a minute to renew your membership now.

Wishing you all a happy New Year,

Rosemary

Inside this issue:
Digging out, the winter lecture series begins, energy saving tips, librarians, and much, much more….

NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING IS Tuesday, January 25th 7:00 p.m.
NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS FRIDAY, February 4th, 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30
Please Renew for 2011

BSC Membership Form- (all renewals are due in January)

Name ___________________________ Street Address ___________________________

City ___________________________ State ___ ZIP _______ Phone _______-_____ Email __________________________

Amount Enclosed $_______, ____ Renewal ____ New Member ____ How did you hear of us? __________________________

Are you a Clearwater member? ____ Would you like information regarding a Clearwater membership? ____

Newsletter format(check one): Printed ☐ E-mail ☐ Please include your e-mail address if you want your newsletter e-mailed to you.

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.

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

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.

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Please submit articles for the Beacon Sloop Club Broadside by the 1st Monday after the Friday general meeting each month (early submissions are much appreciated) to acaa@thnktn.net

Input requiring scanning must be in 1 week in advance To: Alan Thomas PO Box 430, Hughsonville, NY 12537

Printed on 100% Recycled Paper, all photos by Alan Thomas unless otherwise noted
Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting Minutes, January 7, 2011

Opening. After a day of heavy snow in the region, some 35 stalwart members & guests shared the pitch-in buffet and enjoyed the warmth of a nice fire built by Michael Scollinick. Club President, Rosemary Thomas opened the business meeting by welcoming first-time visitors from NYC.

Treasurer’s Report - Rosemary for Sarah Elisabeth reported a closing balance of $54,384. (See Treasurer’s Report elsewhere in the newsletter). Rosemary reminded the Club that though this sounds like a fair total for the beginning of the year, now begins two years of very serious renovations to the Sloop Woody Guthrie, expected to cost upwards of $200,000. We are thus in need of determined fund-raising. Rosemary challenged the membership to bring forward ideas, grant opportunities, merchandise concepts, fund-raising efforts, musical connections, and so on to the attention of the development committee and officers of the Club.

Membership – Tom LaBarr reminded all that Annual renewal is due this month. Renew at http://beaconsloopclub.org or use the membership form in this newsletter.

Woody Guthrie-Tom LaBarr for David Cohen. After a continuing and thorough review by the Kricker team at White’s Marina, needed restoration work has been identified and costs estimated. As of now the entire cockpit and the combing will be replaced, but structural timbers, joints and planking newly identified will require a couple of seasons of work – and of fund-raising as mentioned above. ** The Woody Block Party will take place at 10am, Sunday, February 13, once again hosted by Jim Finnegan at his home, a yellow church building near White’s Marina in New Hamburg. Attendees take apart, lubricate and maintain the “blocks” used in the rigging of the Woody. They also share stories, nautical tales, music, food and drink they have brought. The Annual Woody Dinner is scheduled for February 26th at River Terrace Restaurant in Beacon. $50 per person is the suggested donation. Tom is scouting for raffle prizes and musical talent for the event. We're expecting a full house, so reserve early.

Environmental Committee- Alan Thomas for Sarah Elisabeth & Steve Van Der Merwe. The BSC Lecture Series kicks off on Friday, January 21, 2011 with the extraordinary documentary “Food, Inc.” at 7 PM in the BSC call Steve at (914) 879-1082, or email vandermerwede@yahoo.com.

Photo and Video Guidelines, Rosemary Thomas. Because of a request from some members Rosemary asked those present for their feelings about allowing photography and video recording at Club meetings. There was virtually unanimous agreement that since the meetings are open, there should be no formal prohibition of photography and video recording as long as individuals are free to request privacy. This input will be brought to the executive committee for further discussion.

Reminder: 2011 Festival Dates. The Strawberry Festival will be on June 12, the Corn Festival on August 14 and the Pumpkin Festival will be on October 16. (6-12, 8-14, 10-16).

Announcements. Jacob Bernz announced resumption of the Something to Say Cafe, 7:00-9:00pm, Saturday, January 22. ** New Jersey Friends of Clearwater has a meeting and circle of song every third Thursday in the Methodist Church (close to the Stone Pony) in Asbury Park.

Respectfully submitted,
Vane Lashua

Annual Beacon Sloop Club Holiday Sing

Saturday the 18th of December saw a standing room only crowd at the Sloop Club for the annual Holiday Sing. What a wonderful and joyous celebration of the season with friends and neighbors.

So many great musicians performed and led sing-alongs; too many to single out individually. But... the stars of the show had to be the Rivertown Kids who have been nominated for a Grammy.

Thank you to David Bernz and all who helped organize, set-up, clean-up, provide refreshments, and otherwise make this event so enjoyable.

The Beacon Food Pantry has asked that we pass along their Thank You to all who brought donations. You helped brighten the holidays for someone less fortunate.
I had every intention of supporting A11443B. In fact, the way the bill had always been presented was that this bill would put a moratorium on high volume fracturing drilling vertically and horizontally. I still believe until we determine that this particular method is a safe method for extracting oil and gas, we should not be endangering the water supplies or homes.

As you know, there was a movie that some people believed is a documentary, when in fact it is an agenda movie. The movie is exaggerated; lacks balance, and alluded to a cause and effect relationship that does not exist. In fact, the movie is totally misleading and serves no beneficial purpose for anyone. All of that having been said; I was still going to vote for the bill.

During the lengthy debate that took place, in regards to this bill in Albany, a number of facts were revealed. First, the Governor had already placed a moratorium through an executive order on the horizontal high volume fracturing. It stated that the moratorium would be in place not for a specific time, but until the DEC formulated the appropriate regulations, combined with a deep enough study, the revelation of all the materials used in the fracturing liquid and reassured it was a completely safe endeavor. Therefore, there was no need for this bill. This bill however was not something new, it had been developed in the Senate, almost six months earlier, and it contained a major flaw. The major flaw was that it included a moratorium on low volume fracturing.

In the past forty years low volume fracturing has been used to drill over fourteen thousand oil and gas wells in New York State. Over that period of time, only ten complaints were lodged with the DEC regarding these wells. On evaluation by the DEC, only one of these complaints turned out to be valid, which was also rectified by the DEC in short order. Although this is anecdotal, it certainly shows in a very clear way that the hydro fracturing process has been occurring for forty years and there has been no damage to the environment as a result of it. It is a relatively simple process. The mixture used during the process, consists of water primarily; the percentage of the chemicals in the liquid and their harmfulness will also be disclosed. The liquid is used to break up and partially dissolve some of the shale. The effect of the hydro fracturing only travels a couple of meters passed the actual main core. This method has a very limited seepage beyond the main channel and then the pressure of the gas brings all the material back up through the original hole. It is not like it's pumped into the ground and it stays there, it is in fact the largest extent recaptured.

A11443B, which came up for a vote, unfortunately also placed a moratorium on new permits for a highly successful and clearly safe process for drilling. In fact, the moratorium was only placed on drilling for oil and gas. Therefore, it leaves in place the use of hydro fracturing to drill water wells. According to this bill, water wells could have been drilled using hydro fracturing. Obviously, there was no serious effort made to curtail the use of these chemicals, and in fact NYS has the strictest regulations for fracturing to control the chemicals used. As I said before, the DEC unlike the EPA, will in fact have the list of every chemical and their percentage used in the fracturing process. If it is safe enough to drill for water, it should be safe enough to drill for oil & gas.

The movie, misleading as it was, showed a number of things that scared people. One of them is being able to light water on fire, standing water or even running water outside in areas where natural gas is a naturally occurring phenomenon. Methane can seep through the ground, is released on occasion and can also be lit on fire. This phenomenon has nothing to do with hydro fracturing, it exists in areas where natural gas is present and is untouched. The same thing is true with lighting your faucet on fire. It can be done in areas that have no hydro fracturing at all because methane once again is in the water, and it comes out through the faucet. To claim that this phenomenon is a result of hydro fracturing is misleading and fallacious.

As far as methane goes, it can be found in many water wells throughout the state where natural gas occurs in shale, where there has been no drilling of any kind. It can also be found in low volume fracturing as an ingredient in the drinking water and it is considered harmless. One school in NYS had methane well drilled in its parking lot, and it now receives the benefit of having low cost energy in the areas where natural gas occurs. The high cost energy has been a significant detriment to the growth of the economy of New York. By putting a moratorium and preventing drilling, we are certainly slowing down any economic recovery and benefits to those areas of the state that have natural gas. Unfortunately, those of us who live in this area will see little benefit since the existing pipes in delivering natural gas already have a full volume, and the price that we pay is determined by the ability of shipping through the pipe line than by the cost of extracting the gas itself. People who are in the business of drilling these wells will have no idea when this moratorium will be lifted. In spite of the date in the bill; past history in NYS shows that we continue our areas in ad infinitum. Simply when this moratorium ends we will roll it over again in the name of protecting the environment. In this case the environmentalists are totally wrong, and the politicians who supported this bill, once they became aware of the flaws in the bill were just pandering.

We keep talking about energy independence, the need to develop energy in our country so we don’t have to buy fossil fuel from other countries. This is an ongoing discussion until it comes time to do it, and then the environmentalists alternate dependency on Middle East, Mexico or building of wind mills and solar panels, which have a limited cost to benefit ratio. The governor fortunately did the right thing by vetoing this bill, and I give him a lot of credit. This man stood up for what was best for the people, best for the state and even best for the environment because natural gas is a cleaner source of energy than oil and coal. He was able to recognize that it has no negative impacts on the environment.

I wanted you to know that I did not change my vote lightly, but clearly I believe that when all the facts were in the correct vote was a no vote. Science and facts have to be taken into account and we cannot do “feel good things” with significant consequences.

Sincerely,

Joel M. Miller
Member of Assembly
102nd Assembly District
millerj@assembly.state.ny.us
Woody Report

As always, I enter the New Year filled with thanks for the opportunity to work on our precious Woody and with all the crew and captains who work together on our mission to bring free sails to the community.

Just after the après Christmas blizzard, I was nursing myself out of the flu when a call came in from Alan Thomas.

The nor’easters 60mph winds had pulled back our tarp and deposited snow inside the bilges. Fortunately, kind folks like Steve Van der Merwe, Bruce Fox, Steve Feyl, Thom LaBarr and Robbie and Alan showed up within hours of the message to restore order to the mess. Robbie actually shoveled the snow off of the Heron as well. Thanks, guys!

The Krickers have been hard at work repairing the cracked and rotted frames that needed immediate attention. They also discovered the starboard plank Kip tarred last August was damp in certain spots; not sure if it is to be replaced or patched where the wood has been compromised. At any rate we will be sailing this summer, instead of sinking in the Hudson or drying out on blocks.

Three cheers to Alice Vaughn’s silver tongue for sealing the deal with the Coyote Foundation. This is the third year in a row they have sent the Woody a check for 5k. We would not have known of their existence save for Alice, our book-binding California girl.

Much gratitude to Jim Finnegan who will again be hosting our annual Woody Block Party. Jim decided to move the date away from Super Bowl Sunday so people didn’t have to rush off to another celebration. Instead, he has penciled in February 13th, the night before Valentine’s Day. As usual, we will begin to take apart the blocks around 10 am that morning, and continue until all blocks are clean and oiled. The party will be pot luck, as is traditional.

LaBarr will again be hosting the annual Woody Fundraising Dinner, but look elsewhere in the newsletter for information on those tickets.

See you at White’s, watching the eagles fish on the ice floes! - Gigi

Sound Bites by Gigi Fris

“Check-out” the Friday librarian crew members!

So what do Friday night sails and libraries have in common? Librarians of course! The Friday night crew boasts not one but TWO regular crew members who are “librarians by day, sailors by night.”

Friday crewmembers Steve Feyl and Alicia Estes both let their metaphorical “hair buns” out on Friday nights to help sail the Woody. Steve is an Associate University Librarian at the Mortola Library at Pace University in Pleasantville, NY and Alicia is Head of Business & Documents Information/Services in Bobst Library at NYU.

Steve started working at a local public library back when he was 14 years old and has continued working in libraries ever since (doing stints with the NYPL and the College of Mount Saint Vincent along the way). Steve’s link to libraries goes well beyond his working life as his wife Sarah and sister-in-law Christa are also both librarians as well!

As for sailing, Steve had never sailed before moving to Beacon and joining the Sloop Club in 2004 and taking the Sloop Club’s sailing class. He’s learned a lot over the past 6 years and is particularly grateful for the patience and expertise offered to him by Friday’s Captain Ben Mazer. “I’ve learned to appreciate sailing a lot from Ben and the rest of Friday’s crew. I came to club with next to no knowledge at all and now have a great appreciation for sailing, the river, and the needs of the environment.”

Steve has also experienced some very exciting moments while sailing as well. “During the Quadricentennial flotilla in 2009 I was in the tender pushing the Woody up the river when we got stuck in the mud flats off Bannerman’s Island. After helping free the boat from my position in the tender I somehow found myself being dragged behind the Woody backwards! I thought for sure I was going to capsize and would be going for an impromptu swim that day but thanks to everyone’s help and quick thinking on board I didn’t end up “in the drink” that day!”

Alicia has been in the library field for over 20 years, the majority of this time has been at NYU. Her other interests include travel, tennis...and of course sailing!

So the next time you come out for a “long overdue” sail on a Friday night this summer, make sure to say “hey” to Steve and Alicia and talk up a book or two!

"It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers." — James Thurber
The Winter Lecture Series Begins Friday Jan. 21st 7:00 PM at the clubhouse with:

How much do we know about the food we buy at our local supermarkets and serve to our families?

Featuring interviews with such experts as Eric Schlosser (Fast Food Nation), Michael Pollan (The Omnivore’s Dilemma) along with forward thinking social entrepreneurs like Stonyfield Farms’ Gary Hirschberg and Polyface Farms’ Joe Salatin, Food, Inc. reveals surprising -- and often shocking truths -- about what we eat, how it’s produced, who we have become as a nation and where we are going from here.

"See it. Bring your kids if you have them. Bring someone else's kids if you don't." - David Edelstein, New York Magazine

"A cleverly written and well produced documentary. Kenner crafts an intelligent, visually compelling argument grounded in old-fashioned investigative research and journalism."
- Maria Garcia, Film Journal International

"Does for the supermarket what 'Jaws' did for the beach."
- John Anderson, Variety

To View trailer: http://www.foodincmovie.com/trailer-and-photos.php

A Wall of Glass

Unless you are a fan of Frank Lloyd Wright you wouldn’t think of building one or more walls of your house out of glass when you live in our climate zone. Yet since the 1950’s houses have been built with more and larger windows.

If you measure your windows and add up the amount of surface area that they cover, you would be surprised that you have what amounts to a “wall of glass” on your house.

The windows that face south can add a great amount of heat energy to your home if managed well, but that is for a future article. What I want to bring to your attention is the amount of energy (and money) we lose through glass.

The window industry measures the energy efficiency of their products by thermal transmission or u-factor. The amount of “reflectivity” effects this measurement, so to give an example, a “clear” pane of glass loses over 84 percent of the infrared energy in your house to the outside air. Double pane and storm windows help by as much as 24 percent, which still can result in 60 percent of your heat going right outside. That number is further reduced by air leakage around your window frames. About 25 percent of an annual home heating and cooling cost is because of windows.

So, what to do? The cheapest things that you can do are to caulk and seal air leaks, and to apply insulating shades. Window quilts provide an “air” barrier to prevent the warm air from your house making contact with the glass. Steve Van Der Merwede has sent me a couple of links to making your own window quilts. They can be purchased commercially.


Ken Miller

WOODY SAILOR’S BLOCK PARTY

SUNDAY FEB. 13TH 10 A.M. ‘Til 3 P.M. AT JIM FINNIGAN’S YELLOW CHURCH AT 9 DIVISION STREET IN NEW HAMBURG THREE BLOCKS NORTH OF WHITE’S MARINA

Directions / Questions: 845-297-9347

Coming to the Sloop Club February 18th 7 P.M.

The Economics of Hydraulic Fracking - speaker Dr. Jannette M. Barth, Ph. D., president of J.M. Barth & Associates, Inc., former Chief Economist NY MTA, author of “Unanswered Questions About the Economic Impact of Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale: Don’t Jump to Conclusions”.

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Beacon Sloop Club Treasury Report
Submitted by Sarah Elisabeth

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**Forest to Faucet**
Thursday, February 10, 2011: 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
(Snow Date Feb. 17)
Sponsored by: The Hudson River Watershed Alliance and the Hudson River Estuary Program
Donald Steinmetz of the Highlands Environmental Research Institute will present this new GIS tool, based on data developed by the US Forest Service. Fran Dunwell and Scott Cuppett from the Hudson River Estuary Program, and Jennifer Grossman from the Highlands Coalition and Open Space Institute will discuss the importance of clean water and watershed management in the Hudson Valley.
To Register Contact Barbara Kendall, HRWA Coordinator: barbara@hudsonwatershed.org 914 474 2759
Location: Sterling Forest Visitor Center, 116 Old Forge Road, Tuxedo, NY 10987

**Something to say café**

Featured performer

**Cameron Stenger**

The something to say café is a concert and open mike on one Saturday of every month. Our cafés are held at the Beacon Sloop Club at the riverfront across from the Beacon train station.

The next café will be...

January 22nd
7:30 to 9:30

everyone gets 2 songs. All ages of audience welcome. Refreshments served. For more information...

Call Jacob at 845-702-8280. Leave a message.
Or visit folkusiclives.com

**Simply Valley**
Every Sunday Farmers Market at the Beacon Waterfront 10-4pm

**All Local Hudson Valley Products**

Sprout Creek Farm Cheeses
(Toussaint and Ouray Cheese)
Fresh made Lamb, Mushroom Spring Rolls
Fresh Made Pasta
Mario’s Brick Oven Bread
Mary Finger Organic Free Range Eggs
Special Large Quantity orders call 845-562-0192
5th Annual
Woody Guthrie Benefit Dinner
&
33rd Anniversary Party
Saturday, February 26th
At the River Terrace Restaurant,
2 Beekman Street, Beacon
At the corner of Beekman Street & Route 9 D
Proceeds for the Woody’s Seating Area!

Cocktail Hour 6:00 – 7:00
Cash Bar
Live Music
Door Prizes
Dinner Includes:
Soda
Penne A La Vodka
Choose Entrée:
Vegetarian Egyptian Moussaka
Stuffed Filet of Sole
Chicken River Terrace
With sun dried tomato, artichoke, shitake mushroom in a Chianti wine sauce
Dessert, Coffee & Tea

Donation: $50.00 per person

Reservations required. Deadline is February 21st
However, space is limited, so we suggest you reserve now!
For information, call Tom LaBarr: 845-831-4267

Cut here & return to Beacon Sloop Club

-------------------------------------------------------------
Names_______________________________________________Phone___________________
Number of Persons __________ Email_________________________________________
Amount of Donation $ __________.___

Please Select your Entrée
Vegetarian Egyptian Moussaka ______ ______ ______ ______
Stuffed Filet of Sole ______ ______ ______ ______
Chicken River Terrace ______ ______ ______ ______

Send to: Beacon Sloop Club/Woody Dinner, P.O. Box 527, Beacon, NY 12508
Current Calendar

Executive Committee meeting, Tues. January 25th 7:00 p.m., at the BSC clubhouse

Beacon Sloop Club meeting every 1st Friday of the month: next meeting February 4th– potluck 6:30 p.m., general meeting 7:30 p.m.

Farmers Market every Sunday, 10-4 p.m., At the Clubhouse, Beacon, NY

PLANET BLUE WITH CHRIS RUHE and Tonia Shou on radio station WVKR 91.3 FM, Every Mon., 5 to 6 p.m.

The Martin Luther King Day Concert for Social Justice, Mon., Jan. 17th, 7:30 pm, Howland Center, Beacon, contact Terry Udell at rivertownkids@live.com

BSC Fundraising Committee Meeting, Thurs. Jan. 20th, 7PM, at Bank Sq. Coffee House, Main St., Beacon

Winter Lecture Series: Food Inc., Fri. Jan. 21st 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse, Beacon, NY

Something to Say Cafe., Sat. Jan. 22nd 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse, Beacon, NY

Forest to Faucet, Thurs., Feb. 10, 9:00 AM, Sterling Forest Visitor Center, 116 Old Forge Road, Tuxedo, NY 10987, To Register Contact Barbara Kendall, 914 474 2759 barbarahudsonwatershed.org

Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse, Sat., Feb. 12th, 7:30 pm, Tom Chapin, 250 Bryant Avenue in White Plains

Woody Sailor’s Block Party, Sun., Feb. 13th, 10 a.m. at Jim Finnigan’s yellow church, 9 Division Street, New Hamburg, Three Blocks North of White’s Marina

Vigil for Peace every Saturday from 12-2 p.m. at the intersection of Rts. 9 and 9D opposite Staples and at the corner of the South Hills Mall.

Check the Woody group site or contact a captain or Gigi for maintenance schedules.

Grammy Awards, Sunday Feb 13th, 8 pm EST

Winter Lecture Series: The Economics of Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale w/ Dr. Jannette Barth, Fri. Feb. 18th 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse, Beacon, NY

Woody Fundraiser Dinner, Sat., Feb. 26th, 6:00 pm, River Terrace Restaurant, 2 Beekman Street, Beacon

Reservations required

Winter Lecture Series: Before Beacon was Beacon w/ Evan Pritchard Fri., Mar. 18th, 7 PM Beacon Sloop Club

Hudson River Reflections-Russell Cusick, exhibit of Hudson River inspired art and photo acrylic panoramas, through March 6, 2011, BIRE Gallery, 199 Main St., Beacon

2011 Festival Dates
Strawberry June 12th,
Corn August 14th,
Pumpkin October 16

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