The media is full of accolades, history, and tributes to our remarkable friend and founder but he meant so much more to us than they can ever know.

It’s just shy of 45 years since the small band of well-wishers gathered to greet the Clearwater on her maiden voyage up the Hudson River. It was three years before the Clean Water Act; the river was in trouble, the Beacon waterfront was a tangle of rotting infrastructure, an abandoned dump, and raw sewage. That little gathering started a grassroots movement which spread to other communities up and down the river.

The task looked daunting but fired by Pete’s creative vision, his intellect, and unshakeable belief in the cumulative power of the people slowly and steadily the waterfront was transformed. Who would have thought when it started that today the dump would be a park, that thousands of people would come to waterfront festivals, and that we would be swimming in the Hudson?

Pete’s unique ability to leave celebrity behind, to be the first to pick up the ax or shovel, was infectious. He touched the lives of hundreds, maybe thousands, by treating us as equals, by sharing his passion for people, for music, for sailing, for the environment, for his community, as he put us to work.

Whether you were an environmentalist, a sailor, an aspiring musician, or just someone who loved the river, Pete was there to offer encouragement and advice (sometimes in the form of a red pen, sometimes in a song).

It has been an amazing journey full of small victories and occasional setbacks punctuated with the joy of music, hard work, and a little bit of whimsy along the way. Who remembers the dugout canoe or the raft?

Pete will live on in our hearts as we continue to tack to and fro against the winds of greed and injustice, making slow and steady progress, and hoping for a good run to a sustainable future.

It’s hard to say goodbye to a friend and inspiration of so many years but we can take solace in the fact that in our small way we helped him to realize his vision of a better world. The Beacon Sloop Club will continue to show what a dedicated grassroots movement can do and Pete and Toshi will forever be its soul.

With a little sadness and much hope we celebrate Pete’s life. Pete, we are so proud of your faith in us and your friendship. Your little club will carry on toward many more singing tomorrows….
If you haven’t yet; Please Renew.

BSC Membership Form

Name ___________________________ Street Address ________________________________

City __________________ State ___ ZIP ______ Phone ____-____-____ Email ______________________

Membership donation $________ Renewal ____ New Member ____ Save Our Sloop Fund donation $________

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?     How did you hear of us? ____________________

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

Link to Online Renewal: http://beaconsloop.org/Join.html

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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.

To our postal mail subscribers:
As you renew please consider converting to an electronic subscription. It saves $$s and paper.

The Beacon Sloop Club Broadside
Volume 41 Issue 2

BSC Officers 2013

President: Saul Rozinsky 498-5617 wa2kot@yahoo.com
Vice President: J.C. Calderon (917)459-0542 jc@calderonarchitecture.com
Treasurer: Sarah Elisabeth (917)682-4114 sarahannelisabeth@gmail.com
Secretary: James Malchow (908)405-1433 jpmalchow@gmail.com

BSC Committee Chairs

Building: David Eberle 242-7822 davideb@aol.com
Environmental: Steve van der Merwe (914)879-1082 sarahannelisabeth@gmail.com
Environmental Focus Tent: Betty Harkins 831-8606 BetHarkins@aol.com
Grants & Development: Kevin Haydon 797-2976 kevin_haydon@yahoo.com
Festival Music: Nancy Cahill 831-5774
Mooring Manager: Kip Touraine 534-8988 kpmtcarp@verizon.net
Festival Publicity: Joyce Hanson (914)907-4928 joycehanson@mac.com
Membership: Vane Lashua 337-9435 vlashua@thnktrk.net
Monthly Music: Michael R. Scolnick 354-9339 SCOLLAW@VERIZON.NET
Newsletter: Alan Thomas 463-4660 acthoma@yahoo.com
Community Relations: David Eberle 242-7822 davideb@aol.com
Small Boats: Kip Touraine 534-8988 kpmtcarp@gmail.com
Solar Trailer: Saul Rozinsky 496-5617 wa2kot@yahoo.com
Sound Bites: Gigi Fris 883-9749 gigifris@yahoo.com
Town Liaison Tom LaBarr 831-4267 labarrt@engr.newpaltz.edu
Vendor Coordinator: Rosemary Thomas 463-4660 rmthomas99@yahoo.com
Web Site: Jim Birmingham (201)259-9634 jimbirmingham@hvc.rr.com
Woody Guthrie: Jim Birmingham (201)259-9634 jimbirmingham@hvc.rr.com
Woody Maintenance: John McLaughlin 542-0721 johnrmlc@aol.com
Woody Scheduling: Susan Berliner 297-7697

Please submit articles for the Beacon Sloop Club Broadside by the 1st Monday after the Friday general meeting to acthoma@yahoo.com. 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 are by Alan Thomas unless otherwise noted.
**BSC Presidents Message Feb 2014**

We had a very well attended meeting this past Friday. Special thanks go to James Malchow and Gigi Fris for warming the place up, shoveling the snow, and getting everything ready for the group!

It was a bittersweet mix of tears and laughter as people reminisced, shared stories and songs. There is no doubt that we've lost several loved and respected leaders over the past few months. But if there is any good that can be taken from our recent experiences it is that we see new energy and talent emerge to help us move forward.

Now, we put our energy into continuing to raise money to fix the Woody. This is a huge project. The experts differ on its approach and scope. One fact remains, we are only about half the way to our fund raising goal. But we are moving along.

The next stepping stone is the Woody dinner. If you haven't made your reservation yet, please stop here, and make your reservation now!

We got a generous donation of some dried and split firewood. Thanks, Diggit. The way the Winter has been going, it may not be enough to carry us through Spring. We can use more firewood.

Hope Altkin has undertaken two important projects. First is the Sloop Club Memory Book – a project she started a few years ago. Hope is asking members to each write a few sentences about a member who has passed. Her second project is to coordinate volunteers. If you're thinking about a work party or similar activity, contact Hope, she'll help you round up a crew.

Think Spring! Till next month

Saul.

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**In Memoriam**

Ron Bel
1936-2014

Long-time member Ron Bel passed away on January 15th. Ron was one of our hardest working volunteers, always one of the first to arrive and the last to leave. You could find him at every festival, selling apple fritters or peaches, or loading equipment with a gang of kids in tow. A tinkerer, many of the gadgets you find around the club are Ron’s doing. When he and Saul got together they could fix most anything. We especially miss Ron at our winter meetings where he would serve hot cider in a way that made you feel you were getting something special.

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**Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting**

**Minutes, February 7, 2014**

The meeting began at 7:31 p.m. with ten musicians leading the club in singing “My Rainbow Race.”

Saul Rozinsky welcomed newcomers from Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, and New Jersey. Saul said we would keep the meeting short in order to move into a circle of song and remembrance.

Sarah Elisabeth gave the Treasury Report. The Opening balance was $159,790 and the closing balance was $164,934.

Tom LaBarr gave the Woody Report. Bids are still coming in for the Woody repairs and are likely to be in the range of $200,000 to $300,000. There will also be a sailor’s meeting on February 23rd at 11:00 a.m.

Tom LaBarr also announced that the annual Woody Dinner is going to be on February 27th. It is a buffet dinner at the Towne Crier Cafe. Tickets are $75 and approximately half of the money goes to the Woody.

Robert Dermer announced that he will mill the wood needed for the Woody restoration at no cost to the club.

Saul Rozinsky announced that on February 20th the club will hold a lecture about songs of protest.

Jake O’Malley announced that work is going on to make a major new free trade agreement called the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Many people are trying to stop it. He encouraged people to read into the issue.

Gloria Waslyn said there is an exhibition all month in memory of Pete Seeger in Kingston at the Uptown Gallery.

Hope Altkin announced that the club has lost many important members in recent years and she is reviving the club legends project. Hope invites anyone who would like to participate to contact her.

Hope Altkin also announced that she is going to take on the role of volunteer coordinator to try and be sure that we have enough volunteers for various club events and work parties. Hope passed around sign up sheets for people to give their contact information.

The meeting broke at 8:05 p.m.

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**Join Clearwater for a 2014 Winter Open Boat**

**Saturday, March 15; 4:00-8:00PM**

Come visit the sloop and celebrate the winter months with friends! Bring a potluck dish to share, enjoy local music, meet the captains and learn about the sloop restoration. It all takes place at the Home Port “barn” on the Hudson River Maritime Museum property at 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston, NY 12401 (MAP)

For more information, email Events@Clearwater.org or call (845)265-8080, x7105
**NTSB calls for tougher standards on trains carrying crude oil**

In a press release on January 23rd the National Transportation Safety Board today announced a series of recommendations (see Safety Recommendation Letters R-14-001-003 and R-14-004-006) to the Department of Transportation to address the safety risk of transporting crude oil by rail. In an unprecedented move, the NTSB is issuing these recommendations in coordination with the Transportation Safety Board of Canada.

Crude oil shipments by rail have increased by over 400 percent since 2005, according to the Association of American Railroad's Annual Report of Hazardous Materials. The NTSB is concerned that major loss of life, property damage and environmental consequences can occur when large volumes of crude oil or other flammable liquids are transported on a single train involved in an accident, as seen in the Lac Megantic, Quebec, accident, as well as several accidents the NTSB has investigated in the U.S.

“The large-scale shipment of crude oil by rail simply didn’t exist ten years ago, and our safety regulations need to catch up with this new reality,” said NTSB Chairman Deborah A.P. Hersman. “While this energy boom is good for business, the people and the environment along rail corridors must be protected from harm.”

The NTSB issued three recommendations to the Federal Railroad Administration and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the first would require expanded hazardous materials route planning for railroads to avoid populated and other sensitive areas.

The second recommendation to FRA and PHMSA is to develop an audit program to ensure rail carriers that carry petroleum products have adequate response capabilities to address worst-case discharges of the entire quantity of product carried on a train.

The third recommendation is to audit shippers and rail carriers to ensure that they are properly classifying hazardous materials in transportation and that they have adequate safety and security plans in place.

The NTSB has investigated accidents involving flammable liquids being transported in DOT-111 tank cars, including the Dec. 30, 2013, derailment in Casselton, ND, and the June 19, 2009, derailment in Cherry Valley, IL. After the Cherry Valley accident, the NTSB issued several safety recommendations to PHMSA regarding the inadequate design and poor performance of the DOT-111 tank cars. The recommendations include making the tank head and shell more puncture resistant and requiring that bottom outlet valves remain closed during accidents. Although PHMSA initiated rulemaking to address the safety issue; it has not issued any new rules.

“If unit trains of flammable liquids are going to be part of our nation's energy future, we need to make sure the hazardous materials classification is accurate, the route is well planned, and the tank cars are as robust as possible,” Hersman said.

The NTSB and the Transportation Safety Board of Canada issued these important safety recommendations jointly because railroad companies routinely operate crude oil unit trains in both countries and across the U.S.-Canada border.

The recent increase in rail transport of oil into the Port of Albany and along the Hudson has raised safety concerns for our local communities and the River.

**EPA Issues Annual Report on Chemicals Released to Land, Air and Water in New York Data Finds Reduction from Previous Year**

(New York, N.Y.) The annual U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report on the amount of toxic chemicals released to the land, air and water by industrial facilities in New York State in 2012 showed a slight decrease over the previous year’s data. The Toxics Release Inventory report issued today by the EPA covers 633 New York facilities that are required to report their releases to the agency. Total releases to land, air and water reported in 2012 was 13.8 million pounds, which was a 6,000 pound reduction from 2011.

“The Toxics Release Inventory allows the public and policymakers to better understand the pollutants released into our air, water and land each year,” said EPA Regional Administrator Judith A. Enck. “This powerful tool helps people better understand pollution problems in their communities and take action to protect their health and the environment.”

Facilities must report their toxic chemical releases by July 1 of each year. The EPA made a preliminary set of data for 2012 available on July 26, 2013. Nationally, over 20,000 facilities reported on approximately 682 chemicals and chemical categories for calendar year 2012.

For program overview and to view the data, visit: [http://epa.gov/tri/](http://epa.gov/tri/)

To view New York’s TRI fact sheet, visit: [http://epa.gov/triexplorer/statefactsheet.htm](http://epa.gov/triexplorer/statefactsheet.htm)

**New York State Issues Long-Term Energy Plan Still Open for Comments**

The New York State Energy Planning Board approved New York's long-term energy plan taking no position on fracking. It does call for the expanded use of natural gas instead of oil to reduce harmful air emissions. Absent were the 2009 plan’s claims of economic and energy gains from expanding production from the Marcellus Shale.

The plan instead focuses on increased use of renewable energy and clean technology including solar, wind, bioenergy, geothermal and hydrokinetic energy sources, and projects utility bills will be among the lowest in the country. It calls for a reduction of carbon emissions from the energy sector of 50 percent by 2030.

There is a 60-day public comment period and six public hearings will be held on the plan. You can read and comment on the plan at:

Walkabout Coffeehouse
March 8, 2014

SaraThomsen.com

Memorial United Methodist Church
250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605
Doors open at 6:30pm, open seating. Walkabout Chorus "Teachabout" at 6:45pm
Featured performance at 7:30pm.
Tickets: In advance: $18.00 - At the door: $23.00.

Thank You to John McLaughlin, the captains, and crew who came out on a cold and snowy morning to secure the Woody for the winter. With the winter we have had it was time well spent to protect “the most beautiful boat on the river” (OK I stole that from Steve).

Sailor’s Meeting, Sun Feb 23, 11:00
The Beacon Sloop Club came out in force (along with over a thousand others) for Beacon’s first singing Martin Luther King Day Parade. There were members throughout the crowd led by Bonnie Champion, supporting Pete’s idea of a day to remember the events of the civil rights movement. A day to march and sing the songs that inspired people to confront their oppressors fifty years ago.

Pete wasn’t able to march but he was with us for every step honoring a great man, honoring a great cause, honoring change through non-violence, and honoring the power of song. It was a day for all the people of Beacon, black and white, old and young, and as Pete wanted, “it was “More than a day off”.

Thank you again to Bonnie Champion for stepping up and organizing the rehearsals and performing all the other little tasks that made this happen.

Mark Roland kicked off the 2014 Environmental Lecture Series with a talk nominally about bicycle friendly plans for development. In a wide ranging informal discussion he touched on Hubbert curves and the increasing cost of fossil fuel extraction, climate change, and the impact of the automobile on small towns and cities.

He made the case for a slower paced lifestyle in town where pedestrians, public transit, and bicycles travelling at roughly the same rate are complimentary and promote interaction between people and businesses. He made a strong case that by reducing the dependence on cars our quality of life will improve above and beyond the environmental and health benefits.

Thank You Mark for a interesting and thought provoking evening!
Dear Sloop Club Members: Due to increased interest it was recently decided that a committee would be formed to review the Sloop Club’s online presence. There are presently four Beacon Sloop Club internet pages and we will be exploring ways to improve the pages and make them less unwieldy. We encourage anyone who has thoughts or concerns with the club’s internet presence to participate. While we may feel the need to gather in person, we expect that lots of the committee’s discussions we be done via email. For that reason, anyone interested in participating should email James Malchow at jpmalchow@gmail.com to add their name to the email list. If you know other people who might be interested, let them know as well. We will be starting discussion sometime next week.
Executive Committee meeting, Tues. February 28th 7:00pm., at the Clubhouse

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

Farmers Market every Sunday, 10-3 p.m., At the Long Dock Park, Beacon NY

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

Winter Lecture Series – Music for Social Change w/ Robert Cohen, Thurs. Feb. 20, 7:00 pm, at the BSC Clubhouse

EMPTYING THE SKIES, DOCUMENTARY FILM about the widespread poaching of migratory songbirds. Followed by Q&A with director Roger Kass. Fri., Feb. 21, 7:00 p.m. At the Cary Institute, 2801 Sharon Tpk., Millbrook. http://www.caryinstitute.org

Woody Guthrie Sailors Meeting, Sun. Feb. 23, 11:00 am, at the BSC Clubhouse

8th Annual Beacon Sloop Club Benefit Dinner, Thur., Feb. 27, 5:00 pm, at the new Towne Crier in Beacon.

A CLOSER LOOK: THE HUDSON RIVER photography lecture by Joseph Squillante, Sat., Mar 1, 5 p.m., in the gallery at the Beacon Institute, 199 Main St., Beacon. FREE. Contact: Jo Merchant jmerchant@bire.org http://bire.org/events/Squillante.php

Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse- Sara Thomsen, Sat. Mar. 8, 7:30pm, Memorial United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Ave., White Plains, NY

Winter Maintenance on the Woody Guthrie, contact a captain

Clearwater Open Boat Volunteer Workshop: Arts, Literature, and Boat Craftsmanship Saturday, Mar. 15, 4:00-8:00 PM Home Port & Education Center, 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston, NY

Winter Lecture Series – Sustainable Agriculture- w/ Erik Andrus(Vermont Sail Freight) & Keith Stewart (Organic Farmer and Author), Thurs. Mar. 20, 7:00 pm, at the BSC Clubhouse

Membership Reminder

For most people membership renewals are due in January. This is a very critical year for the Beacon Sloop Club. With the planned work on the Woody, ongoing discussions over parking and festivals, and key environmental issues such as fracking coming to a head it’s important that you renew, participate, and be counted. As always it’s not about the money, arrangements can be made for financial hardship. Our strength is in our membership.

Contact: Vane Lashua, or Sarah Elisabeth

Details of calendar events may be found elsewhere in the newsletter. For more info about the BSC: www.beaconsloop.org, or www.beaconsloopclub.org
8th Annual
Sloop Woody Guthrie Benefit Dinner
Reservation Form

Thursday, February 27th

At the Towne Crier Cafe,
379 Main Street, Beacon

Proceeds for the Woody’s Restoration!

Cocktail Hour 5:00 – 6:00
Cash Bar
Live Music by Painted Betty
Raffle Door Prizes

Donation: $75.00 per person
Deadline is February 24th

Name _______________________________________________
Name _______________________________________________
Name _______________________________________________
Name _______________________________________________
Phone___________________

Number of Persons ____

Amount of Donation $ _________

Please send Form & Check made out to:
Beacon Sloop Club / memo: “Woody Dinner”

Mail to: Beacon Sloop Club c/o Tom LaBarr
1347 Route 9D - Beacon, NY 12508