A Message from Our President

Thank you to everyone who came out to help with our annual Strawberry Festival! Your participation helped us produce another fantastic event. It’s always amazing to see how many people come and pitch in to help the club and community each year.

According to Tom LaBarr we sold 1836 shortcakes, 522 smoothies, and 479 plates of chocolate-covered berries. We had great musical performances on both stages, great displays at the E Tent, a fundraising booth for the Woody Restoration, the club tent selling BSC merchandise, and more. Elsewhere crafters, food vendors, and advocacy groups sold goods and educated the public. We also had special treats like Tom Lake and Chris Bowser preparing and serving traditionally cooked fish, public sails by the Mystic Whaler, and a performance by the Arm-of-the-Sea Theater. Altogether it really was a wonderful event, and it’s impossible to hold it every year without the help of all of our volunteers. Thank you.

While the club has been in a frenzy over the Strawberry Festival, we have also been moving forward with the restoration of the Woody Guthrie. At the June meeting Jim Birmingham reported that by the end of the month it’s likely the club will have all the information it needs to make a decision about which builder submitted the best proposal. I encourage everyone interested in the Woody to attend the July 3rd membership meeting to hear the latest report.

Thanks,

James

Inside this issue: Strawberry Festival, a Woody update, the lecture series wraps up, and much, much more……
The Beacon Sloop Club is a non-profit, volunteer 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:
Chris Ancliffe, Tom Baldino, Jim Birmingham, Steve Feyl, Patrick Gallagher, Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz, Kip Touraine

Newsletter input is due to the editor by the Monday following the membership meeting, by email to acthoma@yahoo.com, or by mail to Alan Thomas, PO Box 430, Hughsonville, NY. Please allow one week for items requiring scanning or special handling.

Printed on 100% Recycled Paper, All photos are by Alan Thomas unless otherwise noted.
Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting
Minutes, June 5, 2015

The meeting began @ 7:35 with the Song: Sailing Up My Dirty River.

James welcomed two first – time attendees.
Sarah Elisabeth gave the Treasury Report. The closing balance was $216,493.

Jim Birmingham gave the Woody Report. We have received one bid from Chris Brennan and are expecting one from Jim Kricker. Mystic decided not to bid. We hope to have a recommendation to present at the July meeting.

In the meantime, work has been going on Tuesday evenings to prepare the boat. Everyone is welcome and needed at these work parties. Contact Steve Schwartz at sloopcapt@aol.com

Susan Berliner, Rosemary Thomas and Tom LaBarr gave an update of the Strawberry Festival. They reminded us that this is our biggest fund raiser. We need everybody’s help and there is enough work for everyone - Set up Saturday AM at 9, Prep party at LaBarr’s, setup Sunday at 9; Strawberry booth throughout Sunday, cleanup at 5 PM Sunday, and pot washing Monday morning at LaBarr’s.

We discussed raising the price of the shortcake to $6. A vote was taken and the decision was no. We got donations from Wayne Kochler and Dave Eberle to offset what we wouldn’t make.

James reminded us that the Clearwater Hudson River Revival is the week after the Strawberry Festival. June 20- & 21. We hope to have two presences – one at the Sloop Tent and perhaps one at the Waterfront (if we have enough volunteers). Contact James.

An update was given on Saul. He is still in the hospital but off support machines and doing some walking. He is transferring to a rehab facility next week. He likes & wants visitors.

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Announcements

Alan Thomas announced that David Rocco will lead a ‘I Love NY, Path through History’ hike up to the plane crash site on Mt Beacon on June 20.

Vane Lashua spoke about a June 18 Juneteenth event at 6PM at the Howland Center. Juneteenth is the day the Union Cavalry rode into Galveston and announced that the South is free and so is the day that slavery ended. This is a NAACP event. There are also events in Peekskill and White Plains.

Wayne Kocher urged us to call our senators and congress people about the dangers of Indian Point. It needs to be closed. It is not supplying the electricity they purport they are.

It is also leaking but they are diluting the leaks to “safe levels”. With the recent transformer fire, thousands of gallons of oil went into the Hudson River.

Meeting adjourned.

Gail Moran

Sailing and Wooden Boat Books Available

Several years ago, a colleague of ours here at Beacon Institute - Bob Gainer - died suddenly. Bob was a very accomplished and enthusiastic sailor, and when he died his collection of sailing books came to us. It is an eclectic selection of books on sailing, seamanship, boat building, navigation, etc. We’ve decided to display the books in our storefront bookstore and invite folks to take what they’d like, with a modest donation to Beacon Institute requested.

The books will be in our store beginning Saturday, June 13. But if the Sloop Club could put any of these books to good use, we’d be thrilled for you to have them (and NO donation expected).

If anyone from the club is interested in these books, just come by our storefront at 199 Main Street on Friday or Saturday and help yourself. Just tell whoever’s working that you’re from the Beacon Sloop Club.

Marc Moran
Chief Operating Officer
Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries

also, all regular books in the store are75% off (a huge bargain) as the space is being re-purposed.

Upcoming Events at the Beacon Institute

Exploring the Beauty of Denning’s Point: A walking workshop on photography with Joseph Squillante
Saturday June 27, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM EDT

Walk & Talk at CEIE | Forestry Walk with Ethan Pierce
Saturday July 11, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM EDT

Artist Talk with Alison M. Jones
Saturday July 11, 2015 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM EDT

Third Thursday at CEIE: The Extended Brain | How Doing Makes Us Smarter
Thursday July 16, 2015 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM EDT

Walk & Talk at CEIE | Geology Walk with Bill Prehoda
Saturday July 25, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM EDT

Walk & Talk - Mushroom Walk with Joe Dizney
Saturday August 8, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM EDT
**Upcoming Clearwater Public Sails**

**Independence Day Sail**  
Saturday, July 4, 3:00-5:00 PM  
From Poughkeepsie – Clearwater  
Celebrate Independence Day on the deck of the sloop Clearwater! Experience the Hudson River and its shores from a new perspective! Help hoist the sails and steer the boat with the 11-foot tiller. Meet the crew of the tall ship and enjoy or sing along with the music they make on board. Learn about the river’s history, biology and environmental issues. Relax and enjoy being on the water. Tickets $50, members $35, kids $15.

...  

**Invasive Species Sail**  
Sunday, July 12, 6:00-8:00 PM  
From Poughkeepsie  
Help hoist the sails and steer the boat with the 11-foot tiller. Meet the crew of the tall ship and enjoy or sing along with the music they make on board. Learn about the river’s history, biology and environmental issues. Clearwater’s Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator Samantha Epstein will identify invasive species in the river and discuss how to prevent their spread. Tickets: Adults, $50; Members, $35; Children 12 and under, free.

...  

**“Constellation” Art Sail**  
Sunday, August 1, 7:00-9:00 PM  
From Beacon  
Sail onboard the sloop Clearwater for an exclusive look at the art installation Constellation, appearing over the mysterious Bannerman’s castle on Pollepel Island. Artist Melissa McGill will join us on board to discuss the hand-blown glass bulbs that will illuminate the sky, and what they represent. Tickets: Adults, $100; Members, $75; Children 12 and under, $25.

**Crude Oil Transport Forum July 9 in Kingston**  
Clearwater will co-sponsor the “Trains, Pipelines & Barges: Forum on Crude Oil Transport” event Thursday, July 9, at 6:30PM, at Kingston City Hall. The event is being organized by the Coalition Against Pilgrim Pipeline New York.  
This year, from July 6-12, more than 100 informational events are being organized across the U.S. and Canada.  
At the July 9 forum, you can learn about the dangers posed by what is largely unregulated transport of crude oil and the serious environmental, public safety, and health risks. Hear about where New York fits into the big picture of fossil fuel reliance, infrastructure expansion, and the global economy.

Speakers will include representatives from the Bakken Shale Fields of North Dakota, Riverkeeper, Catskill Mountainkeeper, and elected officials from Ulster County, and the City of Kingston. The City Hall is at 420 Broadway in Kingston, NY.

**Controller Tom DiNapoli Writes To Oil Companies On Transportation Safety**  
“Rail lines carry petroleum crude oil through communities large and small, across important agricultural lands and other vulnerable natural resources,” DiNapoli said in a statement on Monday. “Recent rail accidents resulting in catastrophic losses from oil spills pose serious risks for the public, the environment, and the companies involved. We need to know what companies are doing to safeguard against future mishaps which can lead to serious legal liabilities for the companies. As trustee of the state pension fund, I am concerned that future liability claims may harm the interests of the retirement system’s members, retirees and beneficiaries.”

The complete text can be read online at:

Woody Guthrie Restoration Project RFP Bid Evaluation Results and Recommendation

Executive Summary

Both bidders have been very cooperative and the committee feels confident that either one could complete the project to the total satisfaction of the BSC. In order to select a bidder to partner with an evaluation matrix was developed to help determine which bidder most closely matched the requirements of the RFP. Each evaluation criteria was weighted as to its importance and each member of the committee completed their own evaluation. The results were totaled and averaged. Roundout woodworking was the clear winner based on the evaluation matrix. The committee also felt that the opportunity presented to perform the restoration at the Hudson River Maritime Museum will provide many other advantages, some listed below.

1. Club participation
2. Relationship with Maritime museum for future collaboration
3. Building local boat building skills for future use
4. Supporting a youth apprentice boat building program
5. Spending the money locally
6. Ability to monitor/manage project
7. Ability for the BSC to fundraise
8. Attraction at HRMM
9. Time to completion
10. Cost savings

Costs: Roundout Woodworking offered to have volunteer labor offset the total cost to a maximum of over $90,000. For estimating purposes and factoring in the BSC’s ability to achieve the maximum discount, we took 50% of the $90,000 and subtracted $45,000 from the fully loaded bid. The fully loaded cost from Roundout is $409,170. The cost factoring in 50% of the maximum discount is $364,170. We also see the opportunity to negotiate additional discounts but did not include them in our evaluation.

The bid from Brennan Boatbuilding did not include the ability to lower the cost with volunteer labor. The cost from Brennan is $377,000.

Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of this committee that the BSC award the restoration project to Roundout Woodworking and begin contact negotiations as soon as possible.

Another Great Revival

Thank you to all of our members who volunteered at this year’s Great Hudson River Revival, exercising your dual citizenship with Clearwater, and especially to those who also worked at the Strawberry Festival. That’s an amazing amount of hard work and commitment and a great example of the strength of our team.

Thank you to Gail Moran for organizing the Beacon Sloop Club displays, to Susan Boszo for helping in arranging climate change speakers, to chief hawker Ken Miller, and to everyone who took a turn in the tent. Each and every one of you helped to raise awareness of the club, the Woody restoration, and environmental issues.

The Sloop Club congress met on Sunday morning to discuss common goals, the need to attract younger members, and ways to support Clearwater’s mission. It was a great opportunity to meet representatives of the other sloop clubs and swap ideas. The next congress will be at the Clearwater annual meeting this fall. All members are welcome to join the discussion.

The Woody was sorely missed again this year. She has been a fixture on the waterfront for many years and revival is one of our major outreach events, taking out more than two hundred guests on a good weekend. It will be so nice to get back where we belong after the restoration is complete.
One for the Record Books

This year’s Strawberry Festival drew a huge crowd and featured several new exhibitors, the Arm of the Sea Theater; Tom Lake’s fish bake demonstration, huge teepee erected by the Mountain Scout Survival School, and the better part of Main Street Music’s store reassembled in a tent.

In addition to our wonderful volunteer members we had Boy Scouts from scoutmaster Larry Wood’s Troop 41 from Glenham hulling berries and making biscuits. We hope to see them back again next year.

More than just a fundraiser or environmental event this was a real happening for the whole community. It was very gratifying when people came up and thanked us for what we do.

We would like to offer a special thank you to Organic Valley for donating cream, to Kitty at Beacon Natural Market for her creativity in turning the coupons into cream, to Lucky’s for the use of their cooler, to KeyFood for ice for smoothies, to Commodore Chocolatier for the chocolate covered berries, and Zafar Produce for finding berries at the last minute and giving us a discount.

The winter lecture series wrapped up with historian Tom Tarnowsky’s talk on the New York City Aqueduct system. It was fascinating to see how the system evolved as the city grew and the technology advanced. From the first system of hand dug tunnels to the most recent projects with modern equipment. The system that supplies the water needs of more than eight million people is an integral part of the Hudson Valley landscape and ecosystem.

It’s not too soon to think about topics for next year. If you know of a good speaker willing to donate their time please contact Steve Van der Merwe.
# Beacon Sloop Club Treasury Report

Submitted by Sarah Elisabeth

Monday, May 25, 2015

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Executive Committee meeting, Tues. June 23rd
7:00 pm., at the Clubhouse

Beacon Sloop Club meeting every 1st Friday of the month: next meeting July 3rd – potluck 6:30 pm.,
general meeting 7:30 pm

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

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

Exploring the Beauty of Denning’s Point: A walking workshop on photography with Joseph Squillante,
Sat. June 27, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Independence Day Sail, Sat., July 4, 3:00-5:00 PM
From Poughkeepsie – Clearwater, Relax and enjoy being on the water. Tickets $50, members $35, kids $15.

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Walk & Talk at CEIE | Geology Walk with Bill Prehoda, Sat., July 25, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM EDT

Woody Maintenance, Every Tues. 6:00 pm, at White’s Marina, New Hamburg

“Constellation” Art Sail, Sun., Aug. 1, 7:00-9:00 PM From Beacon. Sail onboard the sloop Clearwater for an exclusive look at the art installation Constellation, Tickets: Adults, $100; Members, $75; Children 12 and under, $25.

Walk & Talk - Mushroom Walk with Joe Dizney, Sat. Aug. 8 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM EDT

Corn Festival Sun. August 9
Contact: Bonnie Champion
845-255-6436
mailto:bonniechampion@gmail.com

Pumpkin Festival Sun. October 18
Contact: David Eberle

Committee Meetings:
(New members welcome)

Fundraising, Tues July 7, 6:00 pm at the Clubhouse – ideas for events, tabling, other fundraising activities

Merchandising, Thurs., July 9, 6:00 pm at the Clubhouse

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