Serving the Hudson River with Pride for 47 Years

A Message from Our President

As we begin a fresh decade in a complex climate, at the Sloop Club we can distill our thinking onto a simple concept: one well. Remember Pete’s anthem that we sang to open our meetings - “one ocean lapping all our shores?” Once nailed to the outside of our old blue ferry diner, those words have hung inside since that restoration long ago - an ever present reminder of our global purpose.

The connectedness of every drop of water is at the heart of our mission: what happens to the river happens to the earth. We all drink from one well.

It was never lost on the Sloop Club that how we treat our water is how we treat every living species. So when we speak of preserving and protecting the river and surrounding waterways, the surrounding waterways surround the planet.

In the critical year ahead, the factors that impact climate change are the same factors that come to bear on our water. We may be a little grassroots organization, but in every action we undertake - every festival, every sail, every sing-along, every time we gather together to raise our voices, our sails, awareness or funds - we are acting as grains of sand that will eventually tip the scale.

It’s big work, but magically we always find new ways to make it something we all love doing. It’s your ideas, your hands and your voices that make the Sloop Club the amazing place it is. Let’s join together to make this another great year!

See you at the river,
Susan

Inside this issue:
Holiday spirit through song, tucking in the Woody, looking forward to a new year, and much more…..

Photos by Jean Noack and Patrick Gallagher

NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING Tuesday, January 28, 7:00 p.m.
NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING Friday, February 7, 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
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? ☐ I would like to help with ____________________ ______

Mail to:  Beacon Sloop Club  P.O. Box 527  Beacon, NY  12508
Link to Online Renewal:  http://beaconsloop.org/Join.html

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, Ben Mazer,
Steve Schwartz,
The meeting opened with a song performed by a group of four Sloop Club members. President Susan welcomed everyone to a new year and a new decade. There were three first time visitors to the meeting, and Susan had each say hello and say a few words to club members. Susan reminded us that we are a carry in, carry out facility and recruited Michael, Metal and Gail to take recycling and garbage away at the end of the meeting.

Treasury Report: Aaron reported on the month of November financial results, noting that Woody Nickels had brought in $16.00 this time. Overall it was a good month with $3,902 in income against $2,708 in expenses. The biggest boost was the income from the “Little Boxes” event. It was noted that paperweights are still available for sale. Eight have been purchased so far.

2020 Budget: Aaron next reported on the 2020 budget, which has been in development for several months. The budget predicts approximately $65,000.00 in income and the same amount in expenses. Most lines in the budget that project income have been based on this year’s results or this year and the prior year’s results. Expense budgets for the Woody’s maintenance and operational needs have been carefully constructed by the captains and submitted for review.

Voting: Alan Thomas moved that the 2020 budget be adopted by the membership as delivered. The motion was seconded. There was a brief period of discussion with questions about budget development, which were addressed by Aaron and Alan. A vote was taken by a show of hands, and the budget was unanimously adopted.

Membership: Alan mentioned that membership dues have traditionally been renewed annually in the month of January, covering a full calendar year. Online applications have had an effect of scattering some renewals throughout the year. Members are encouraged to stay on the annual basis if they can. Membership for one year is $25.00, but if that is too much for some, a $10.00 membership can be obtained. Alan was asked if a five-year membership could be purchased, and the answer was yes, “Just make sure I know if it is for five years of membership.” Donations beyond the cost of memberships are always accepted, too. This year, renewing members all receive a Sloop Club pen. The pens are available in a variety of colors and say BEA CON SLOOP CLUB, Beacon, NY “Serving the community since 1969.” There is a form for memberships in the newsletter each month, and Aaron or Alan can also provide you with a form.

2020 Events: Susan ran down dates for the coming year’s festivals and events. June 14 (Strawberry Festival), July 11 (Woody Guthrie “Funraiser” at the Red Barn), August 16 (Corn Festival), October 18 (Pumpkin Festival), and November 21 (Little Boxes).

MLK Parade: Bonnie spoke about the MLK Day activities and encouraged all members to come and participate. This year there are about fifty student essays that have been written, addressing the theme, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” Tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. the essays will be read by club members and six will be chosen as winners. Winning authors will receive a certificate and a $50.00 prize. Please come to David Eberle’s house, if you would like to help in reading the essays.

On Monday, January 20, the event will begin with an 8:00 a.m. breakfast at the Springfield Baptist Church in Beacon. At 9:30 a.m. a proclamation will be read and winning essayists will read their work. This will be followed by a parade at 10:00 a.m., where attendees will sing selected songs from the civil rights movement as the walk through the streets of downtown Beacon. Please come and partake in this longstanding community event started by Pete Seeger and keep community spirit and togetherness alive. Bonnie noted that rides are available to the church and more drivers are needed.

Lecture Series: Now that the new year is here, it is time for the lecture series to begin. Alan told us that the first lecture is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, and 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the Red Barn. The speaker is Betsy Garthwaite, who will be speaking about the Building of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. Hear the whole fascinating story. Other speakers are looking at their calendars for the months of February through May. The third Thursday of each month is the target date for the lecture, but this could vary. Lectures may often be held at the Sloop Club itself, not always at the Red Barn.

Woody Report: Captain Steve reported that the Woody is in its Haverstraw winter home, warm (warmer than here) and happy, and covered from the weather. No work party is called for tomorrow. Because of this year’s strategy for keeping the rigging up through the winter, there will not be a “block” party later this winter, but a “whipping” party may be called, to prepare lines that will be needed for the coming sailing season. Stay tuned.

Announcements:

Gene recommends everyone watch the movie “Dark Waters,” which is playing at the Rosendale Theater. It discusses the truth about DuPont corporations pollution record.

Joyce recommends the movie, “The Devil You Know,” which can be rented on Netflix. It discusses PFOS and may make you wonder the next time you fry an egg.

Mary Poppins offered a pair of size 10 snow boots and a wall clock to whoever might need them. She read an inspirational verse titled, “True Friend,” the text of which she passed out to many after wishing God’s blessing on the membership in 2020.

James recognized Ken Miller, who was in the assembly, thanking him for being the real expert in installing the new wood stove insert into the fireplace now keeping us warmer than before.

Joyce offered members free calendars from Connie Hogarth and cards of a painting of the Woody.

Aaron encouraged members to attend the “Roaring Twenties” event sponsored by Beaconarts.org that will be held at St. Rocco’s on February 22.

Ingrid announced that environmental reading materials and books will soon be available at the Sloop Club as a lending library. Hope announced a music collection will also be coming.

Lydia reminded members of the “Women’s Work Musical Festival” scheduled for April 19, and encouraged members to attend and consider making a donation to a “tip jar” to help offset performers train fare and other expenses.
Area Folks Meet To Combat Pollution

On Dec. 6th and Dec. 13th, in the City of Newburgh, there were two events where folks joined to combat pollution of our area. On the 6th at the Newburgh Calvary Church conference, speakers discussed the pollution of Washington Lake the source of Newburgh’s water supply for many years. One polluting chemical was PFOA, a chemical found in fire fighting foam used by the Air National Guard at Stewart Base for many years. On December 23, 2019, Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed a bill that will phase out the use of PFOA firefighting foams in NY (Times Herald-Record On-Line. Dec. 26, 2019). The damage from this often colorless, tasteless chemical group has created unnecessary pain and suffering, as Mark Favors experienced.

Mark Favors, raised in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the first speaker at the Calvary Church is now an impressive spokesperson for a Clean Water Coalition. Kidney cancers began to appear in his family (whom about five of sixteen have died). At first lifestyle choices and other excuses were blamed. Kidney transplants occurred, but in two cases the donated kidneys were rejected as they also had cancer! The near-by Air Force base couldn’t be the culprit, they thought. Yes it was! Unbeknownst to them, the water was being contaminated by PFOA chemicals in the fire retardant foam used at this very base since the early 1970’s.

In Newburgh, the NY State Health Department reported in 2016 that the PFOA blood levels in the Newburgh area was found to be 15 times the national average from this retardant. Because the Air Force under the Defense Dept. has sovereign legal immunity, legal actions include the chemical manufacturers, such as the 3M Company, which may drag its feet hoping the statute of limitation occurs. PFOA (PFOA plus PFOS are structurally related to about 5,000 similar chemicals) was developed by 3M and then sold to DuPont in 1971). DuPont used these chemicals in the manufacturing of such products as carpeting, fire-suppressing foams, and the now banned Teflon).

Mr. Favor’s advice: “People need to speak up and make these people accountable.” He blamed both Democrats and Republicans who did not support legislation protecting the general public. “Four hundred military bases located in the U.S. have contaminated their vicinities,” Mr. Favors said. As a result of Newburgh’s water pollution, another speaker at Calvary Church, Dr. Erin Bell, a professor of epidemiology from Albany University, discussed a health study to begin in the spring of 2020. They will study the blood and urine of Newburgh’s residents who agree. Thyroid, kidney, immune system, cognitive development problems, and other ailments are suspected, Dr. Bell indicated.

The second event, on December 13th at Kaplan Hall Suny Orange College, the “Mid Hudson Regional Renewable Energy Forum” was held, and included presenters from NY State agencies, area utilities, municipalities, businesses, and institutions. Representatives spoke of present and proposed projects to accelerate the transition to a Renewable Economy. Other meetings are planned, so check website below.

Continued on Page 5

Environmental Education
Tom LaBarr

CARBON FOOTPRINT When talking about climate change, people sometimes think in terms of the future of the planet. However, the environmental effects of global climate change are already happening — glaciers and arctic ice are shrinking, summers are hotter and come earlier, storms are more severe, and these changes are affecting plants, animals, and communities. What causes climate change? Incoming sunlight passes through the atmosphere, warming the Earth, which then radiates that warmth back into the atmosphere as infrared energy. Molecules of gases like water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, and some artificial chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons and hydrofluorocarbons, capture that energy. When these molecules release this captured energy, some of it is directed back toward the Earth. These “greenhouse gases” act like an insulating blanket, holding heat in the atmosphere. This process is vital to maintaining the Earth’s temperature, allowing life to exist. However, an excess of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, mostly because of fossil fuels combustion, deforestation, and the release of certain man-made chemicals, is causing an unnatural warming of our planet. Scientists have warned that continued reliance on fossil fuels, tropical deforestation, and intensive animal farming will cause global temperatures to rise for decades to come.

The effects that scientists had previously predicted would result from global climate change are now occurring: loss of sea ice; accelerated sea level rise; and longer, more intense heat waves. The global climate is projected to continue to change over this century and beyond. While some climate change is to be expected, the overlay of human-induced warming on a naturally varying climate guarantees that temperature rise is not uniform or easily predictable. New York is taking aggressive actions to address climate change head-on through investments in renewable energy, including offshore wind, solar, and energy storage and efficiency. In addition to these actions to reduce carbon dioxide, New York is also addressing methane emissions. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that is the second largest contributor to climate change (carbon dioxide is first). The oil and gas sector, landfills, and farming contribute the majority of methane emissions in the state. New York is addressing methane emissions through specific actions in its comprehensive Methane Reduction Plan (https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/mrpfinal.pdf).

While making sweeping global changes is critical to stabilize rising temperatures and mitigate the effects of climate change, we also need to examine our own impacts on the environment and how we can reduce our carbon footprint.

Continued on Page 5
Environmental Education cont’d

This includes paying attention to the waste we generate that ends up in landfills. WHAT IS A CARBON FOOTPRINT? A carbon footprint is the total sum of all greenhouse gas emissions for activities in a given time. Activities like driving, purchasing consumer goods, disposing trash, and using electricity all add to your individual climate impact on the planet. HOW CAN I CALCULATE MY CARBON FOOTPRINT? Determining your and your family’s carbon footprint is a daunting task, but there are several online calculators available to assess how your habits and daily activities affect the planet; Once you know your carbon footprint, you can use this information to identify the best strategies you and your family can follow to reduce your personal contribution to the climate crisis, including waste generation, and set a good example for friends and neighbors.

Area Folks cont’d

Mark Lowery NY DEC, Climate Policy Analyst, said that the three main sources of green house gases in New York State are: transportation (36%), housing (30%), and electricity generation (15%). He stressed the use of Hybrid electrical cars, more plug-in stations for refueling, and on-board batteries (60-315 mile capacity). Rev. James Child, a Kingston School Board member, said his God In Christ Church, had converted empty land owned by the church into a community solar electricity source.

“Sustainable Westchester” is also implementing community solar energy purchasing, and SUNY Ulster has a training program for Green Job Certifications. According to a 2018 U.S. Energy and Employment Report (USEER), there will be more jobs in wind, solar energy and in other clean energy sectors outnumbering fossil related jobs by a rate of three to one (“On The Burning Case For A Green New Deal” by Naomi Klein pg. 281.)

NYSERDA will do energy audits to guide homes and farms on how to reduce energy waste. NYSHCR, another state agency, will provide weatherization resources for low and moderate-income residents to improve heating efficiency (518-474-5700). There is to be in the Hudson Valley increases in electrical vehicle charging stations, projects for flood damage control, and community use of solar and wind power.

In the movie, “Dark Waters” based on true events, a West Virginia farmer continued to speak out about the death of his cattle from dumped PFOA, even though he had to face the contempt from: the legal profession, his community members due to job loss fear at DuPont, and the representatives of the DuPont Company, even though 3M, and DuPont’s own studies, as early as the 1980’s, revealed that contamination with PFOA chemicals caused cancers in lower animals. Also, officials at DuPont suspected that pregnant employees, depicted in “Dark Waters,” who produced Teflon, were giving birth to infants with similar rare facial deformities.

By
Nora Gallardo

Clearwater Winter Open Boat

January 11, 2020 @ 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Hudson River Maritime Museum Barn
50 Rondout Landing, Kingston NY 12401

Free Winter Open Boat celebration in the barn at the Hudson River Maritime Museum with potluck food, music, and kids activities. Sloop tours will be included.

“From Senegal to Seeger”, a Benefit for Clearwater

Sunday, January 19, 2020 7:00 PM
The Towne Crier Cafe, Beacon, NY

Clearwater and the Towne Crier Cafe in Beacon, NY present “From Senegal to Seeger: Stories of the American Banjo,” with Michael J. Miles’ the acclaimed one-man show featuring musical and written works of Pete Seeger, Carl Sandburg, Woody Guthrie, Walt Whitman, Johann Sebastian Bach, Mark Twain and others.

The show has been featured several hundred times in art centers and theaters all across America. This will be the very first time in Pete's hometown of Beacon. Learn more about Michael here.

This is a fundraising event to support Clearwater, founded by Pete Seeger in 1969 with a mission to preserve and protect the Hudson River. Clearwater will be at the event with information about their environmental programs. There will be a raffle!

For Tickets
Annual Holiday Sing

A huge thank you goes out to Aaron Verdile for once again organizing our holiday sing. This event is a great all-inclusive sloop club tradition, bringing together members and friends to share seasonal music from many cultures. Thank you also to all who performed, brought goodies to share, or sang along.

We also want to thank all those who showed their community spirit by donating to the food pantries. Your contributions set new standards for generosity and helped to make the holidays more festive for those less fortunate. Of course, this is also a sloop club tradition.

MLK Day Singing Parade
January 20
Springfield Baptist Church,
8 Church St, Beacon

Breakfast begins at 8:00
Essay Contest and Proclamation 9:30

Parade kicks off at 10:00

Come March With Us!

On Thursday January 16th at 7:00 pm The Beacon Sloop Club’s 2020 Winter Lecture Series Presents: 50 Years Later, A History of the Building of the Sloop Clearwater w/ Betsy Garthwaite

The dream began with folksinger and activist Pete Seeger, who longed to recreate the iconic Hudson River sloop and get it sailing on the Hudson again. This talk will recount the story of America’s environmental flagship, from the laying of the keel in October of 1968 to her launching in May of ’69.

Betsy Garthwaite is the past President of the Board of Directors of the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. She is also a past Clearwater captain and has been involved in the organization for over 35 years.

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Designed by naval architect Cyrus Hamlin, and built by the Harvey Gamage Shipyard in South Bristol, Maine, the sloop Clearwater is a replica modeled after cargo vessels that sailed the Hudson River in the 18th and 19th centuries. With their large sail area and shallow draft, they were designed specifically for the variable winds and depths of the Hudson River. For more than a century sloops were the primary conveyance for goods and passengers traveling between Manhattan and the interior.

You may think you know the story, but there is much more than most people know. Betsy separates fact from myth based on meticulous research.

Come hear the story of our “Mother Ship”.

Photo by Jean Noack
### Beacon Sloop Club, Inc.
#### Profit & Loss
#### November 2019

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| Opening Cash Balance 11/1/19                  | $ 75,182.32 |
| Closing Cash Balance 11/30/19                 | $ 76,376.46 |

| Restricted (For Woody Use)                    |            |
| BSRF Opening 11/1/19                          | $ 13,382.52 |
| Contribution                                  |            |
| Change in Investment value                    | 261.02     |
| B & S Rozinsky Fund 11/30                      | $ 13,643.54 |
Executive Committee meeting, Tues., Jan. 28, 7:00pm.

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

Clearwater Volunteer Maintenance Days, every Saturday until March 28, 9:00 am, Hudson River Maritime Museum Barn, 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston NY

Clearwater Winter Open Boat, Jan. 11, 3:00 – 6:00 pm, Hudson River Maritime Museum Barn, 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston NY

Winter Lecture Series: 50 Years Later, a History of the Building of the Sloop Clearwater w/ Betsy Garthwaite, Jan. 16, 7:00 pm, Scenic Hudson’s River Center, Long Dock Park, Beacon

“From Senegal to Seeger”, a Benefit for Clearwater Sun., Jan. 19, 7:00 PM The Towne Crier Cafe, Beacon, NY

MLK Day Singing Parade, Mon. Jan. 20, 8:00 breakfast, 9:30 proclamation, 10:00 kickoff, Springfield Baptist Church, Beacon

Beacon Arts:Roaring 20’s Costume Ball and Fundraiser Party, Sat. Feb. 22, 6-9 pm, St. Rocco Society, Beacon

Clearwater’s 5th Annual Spirit of the Hudson Gala, Celebrating Tom Chapin’s 75th Birthday!, Sun. Mar 1, 3:00-7:00 pm, The Garrison, Rte 9 Garrison NY

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

Congratulations to Our 2020 Club Officers

President  Susan Berliner
Vice President  Vince Farina
Treasurer  Aaron Verdile
Secretary  Tom Elliot

Most people’s memberships are due in January. Please consider renewing.

Details of calendar events may be found elsewhere in the newsletter. For more info about the BSC: www.beaconsloop.org, or www.beaconsloopclub.org
50 Years Later: A History of the Building of the Sloop Clearwater w/ Betsy Garthwaite

Thursday January 16
7:00 PM
Scenic Hudson’s River Center
(Long Dock Park, Beacon)

The dream began with folksinger and activist Pete Seeger, who longed to recreate the iconic Hudson River sloop and get it sailing on the Hudson again. This talk will recount the story of America’s environmental flagship, from the laying of the keel in October of 1968 to her launching in May of '69.

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