A Message from Our President

Happy May to you all! I hope this finds you healthy and coping in our second month of quarantine. Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you need help. Don’t forget you have friends here to lend a helping hand, ready to mobilize.

Our second virtual First Friday Meeting was again well attended, with another fabulous Song Circle, bringing us good friends from near and far. It has been a special joy to reconnect with those smiling faces from miles away!

We are so fortunate that we have been able to sustain our organization, and to have the wonderful volunteers who have kept us together and moving forward during this time. We owe special thanks to the folks who have worked so hard on our meetings, technology, newsletter, the Woody, harbor, festivals, finances and future events - all the things that keep our spirits and mission going. Huge thanks also to all you essential workers who have taken care of us and kept everything going around us so we could all stay safe during this time.

Please consider the monthly donation option to Clearwater, great or small. Even a few dollars a month from each of us are teaspoons of sand that can collectively tip the balance. They need our support now more than ever!

As we start to see the light of the county beginning the process of reawakening, I hope you stay healthy and safe, and look forward to seeing you all once again at the river

- Susan

Inside this issue:
The virtual sloop club, please weigh in on Indian Point, strawberry alternatives, safe harbor work and much, much more.....

NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING Tuesday, May 26, 6:00 p.m.
NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING Friday, June 5, 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
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](http://www.beaconsloopclub.org).

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**BSC Officers 2020**

- **President:** Susan Berliner (845)527-8671
- **Vice President:** Vince Farina (845)656 9546 intraining_99@yahoo.com
- **Treasurer:** Aaron Verdile (914)503-6227 EXTproductions@hotmail.com
- **Secretary:** Tom Elliott (518) 265-6676 tomelliott789@gmail.com

**BSC Committee Chairs and Contacts**

- **Building:** David Eberle (845)242-7822 davideb@aol.com
- **Community Relations:** David Eberle (845)242-7822 davideb@aol.com
- **Environmental:** Steve van der Merwe (914)879-1082 vandermerwee@yahoo.com
- **Environmental Tent:** Sarah Elisabeth (917)682-4114 sarahannelisabeth@gmail.com
- **Environmental:** Betty Harkins (845)831-8606 BethHarkins@aol.com
- **Festival Music:** Susan Berliner (845)527-8671 joycehanson@mac.com
- **Festival Publicity:** Joyce Hanson (914)907-4928 acthoma@yahoo.com
- **Finance:** Alan Thomas (845)463-4660 achoma@yahoo.com
- **Grants & Dev.:** James Malchow (908)405-1433 jpmalchow@gmail.com
- **Harbor Membership:** Jim Birmingham (201)259-9634 jbirmingham@hvc.rr.com
- **Mooring Manager:** Mark McNutt (845)463-4660 achoma@yahoo.com
- **Membership:** Alan Thomas (845)463-4660 achoma@yahoo.com
- **MLK Day:** Bonnie Champion (845)255-6436 bonniejchampion@gmail.com
- **Monthly Music:** Susan Bozso (203)438-4044 bozso.susan@gmail.com
- **Musical Outreach:** Ken Miller (201)376-1316 powwow187@aol.com
- **Newsletter:** Alan Thomas (845)463-4660 achoma@yahoo.com
- **Small Boats:** Tom LaBarr (845)831-4267 labarrt@gmail.com
- **Town Liaison:** Rosemary Thomas (845)463-4660 rmthomas99@yahoo.com
- **Vendor Coordinator:** Metal (646) 481-6360 metal@stationbuilt.com
- **Woody Captains:** Jim Birmingham (201)259-9634 jbirmingham@hvc.rr.com
- **Woody Maintenance:** Steve Schwartz (845)462-7756 sloopcapt@aol.com
- **Woody Scheduling:** Susan Berliner (845)527-8671

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Printed on 100% Recycled Paper, All photos are by Alan Thomas unless otherwise noted.
Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting
Minutes, May 1, 2020, recorded by Tom Elliott

[This meeting was conducted on Google Meetings, facilitated by Alan Thomas]. Participants listened to Ken Miller sing “Early Morning,” for the opening song. Thank you, Ken!

President Susan brought the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Telling the more than forty people signed into the meeting, she said, “it’s great to see your faces,” and welcomed everyone including guests from far away.

Treasurer Aaron gave the financial report for March. Net income of $201 was received against $335 in expenses, producing a loss of $134 for the month. The cash balance fell from $103,932 to $103,799 for the period. Aaron noted that $1,050 of income reported in March was from Woody Dinner ticket sales primarily through Brown Paper Tickets and asked about its status. Alan Thomas explained that the event has been postponed, and that ticket buyers were given a choice of holding on to the tickets for a future date or receiving a refund. This offer still stands. Tickets may also be converted into a donation. Some purchases were made by check, which Aaron noted have not been cashed and can be returned. With no further questions, Susan thanked Aaron for his report.

Woozy Report:
Captain Steve reported that James, Andy, and a few others have done wonderful spring maintenance on the Woody at the Haverstraw Marina. Decks have been oiled several times, flashings worked on, and white paint touched up. Moving the boat to Beacon in early June is being considered. If that happens, more maintenance can be performed in Beacon Harbor. All this work is being done with the utmost care to maintain social distance. At the moment there is still no problem leaving the boat at Haverstraw. Steve commended James Malchow and helpers for their good work.

Harbor:
Captain Jim reported that there has not been a lot of activity in the harbor. Docks are still in place, secured to existing pilings. Further work on installing new pilings is complicated by social distancing requirements now. Jim is planning a way to get the charging dock in place using two crew members observing pandemic work rules to accommodate the Woody when it comes. He still hopes to perform further harbor maintenance this year when state and CDC guidance can allow it.

Lecture Series:
Alan thanked all those who participated and helped with last month’s virtual event, “Chasing Coral,” a streaming documentary film on the worldwide coral bleaching epidemic. Alan expressed thanks to Jeff Orlowski for making the free streaming available to the us. If you missed it and have a Netflix account, you should be able to see it there. Alan confirmed David Amram will be this month’s speaker, reaching us virtually through the internet. Mr. Amram is a performer, composer, “folkie” and world music enthusiast, and a friend of Pete. The talk will be about folk and world music and their connection through rhythm and shared techniques. Also expect to hear stories of musicians he has known and worked with over the years. The event is on Thursday, May 21st at 7:00 pm. Please log on early to work out any technical details before the lecture begins.

Indian Point:
President Susan told us that IP reactor #2 did indeed shut down as planned last month. Next year the last reactor, #3, is scheduled to shut on April 30. Now we are moving into the decommissioning phase. Manna Jo Greene is working hard on this next phase. John M. noted that the proposed sale by Entergy to Holtec is still a problem, and that the plant still is very “hot,” so a lot is at stake in this next phase. Susan echoed his concern.

[Manha Jo Greene, Clearwater Environmental Action Director, joined the meeting later and added these comments].

Even though Reactor #2 closed, there is a lot yet to do. NYSPSC oversight needs to be established with the passing of pending legislation. Currently there are 1800 tons of nuclear waste materials that need to be safely handled as the plant is decommissioned and this is in the hands of Entergy corporation or whoever they sell the plant to-- hopefully not Holtec.

Environment Report:
Captain Tom told us that pollution has been trending down during the “pause” caused by the Coronavirus pandemic worldwide, but here in the U.S. the present administration continues to kill or roll back environmental protection laws. Now is when we need to renew our efforts in writing to our congressional representatives to keep environmental protection on the top of the national agenda. We need to become more politically active. Susan heartily agreed and thanked Tom for his report.

Clearwater:
James reported that Clearwater is still here, which is wonderful. He told us Clearwater is planning a virtual Revival Festival on Father’s Day weekend, which should be fun and bring our community together. He told us that the Clearwater is being cared for and kept safe by seven sailors who are self-quarantining on board the boat in Kingston.

[At this point, secretary Tom’s computer crashed. He rejoined the meeting after 3-5 minutes down. James was still reporting, about Clearwater activities, talking about support of Clearwater by the Sloop Club].

Gail suggested that the membership vote now to donate money to Clearwater right away. Susan said that the Executive Committee needs to look at this idea in its upcoming meeting, and then bring something back to the membership at next month’s meeting. Alan noted that we have a line item in the budget for support, but changes should go through the Executive Committee. As Finance Chair, he feels we need to look at our own organization first and then others. Joyce commented that the current budget is set at $2,000, but the timing of that gift shouldn’t matter.

Mel told us she totally supports the Executive Board’s decision and pointed out that on the coming “Giving Tuesday” individuals can support Clearwater on their Facebook page. The event is Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Also there is a Tribute to Toshi Seeger on Mother’s Day (May 10th) from 10 am to 11 pm. Donations can be made then, too. Manna Jo told us that Clearwater has raised enough to eek by with its reduced staff of five, and that Clearwater has been awarded a Federal forgivable loan that, when funded, can bring furloughed staff back for eight weeks.

Continued on Page 4
Minutes, cont’d

She said Clearwater was hopeful it might be able to bring back paid crew, too. She confirmed plans for a Father’s Day virtual Revival and a Mother’s Day Tribute to Toshi Seeger event.

James reported that the Clearwater crew is grateful for people’s generous donations of food but are occasionally receiving multiple meal donations at the same time. Susan recommended we coordinate food donations to Clearwater crew through James, since he is in close touch with the crew.

Cancellations:
Susan reported that the Strawberry Festival is not yet canceled - plans to create a modified Strawberry Festival event are being looked into in case it needs to be canceled. Alan Zollner said plans were still in place for River Swim to occur as planned, but things are not looking good for it to stay that way. The River Pool opening date of July 1 is also still possible, but questionable.

Woody Nickels:
Konstantin reported that no donations were made since last month. Apparently, people now are not comfortable in going to the bottle redemption center, but he is hopeful it will rebound soon. Please check hours if you are planning to go there.

Announcements:
Alan T. told us there is a Pete Seeger Birthday event this Sunday 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. See “Sunday Brunch” on Andy Revkin’s Facebook page. Karen added that the Sunday event is coming from Tompkins Corner Cultural Center and indicated it will be a fund raiser for Clearwater. Nora told us that Mutual Aid of Beacon is delivering food to folks in need and is looking for volunteer drivers, too. Also, the Universal Unitarians are starting a food bank that will deliver food to those in need.

Another member encouraged us to contact our elected representatives to support the U.S. Postal Service. They are doing fine work and are more relevant than ever but are under attack. Rob M. encouraged all to contact the NY Public Service Commission to demand the gas pipeline still running beneath the Indian Point plant be shut down because of faulty engineering analysis performed there. Comments can be left online at: https://letters/shut-off-fracked-gas-under-indian-point-now.

With no further announcements, Susan adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm., and the Circle of Song began!

Minutes recorded by Tom Elliott

Strawberry Thoughts from your festival committee

Our Strawberry Festival will not happen this year. It’s very disappointing, but I take solace in two thoughts. First, as one of our vendors tells her students, we are living through history right now. This is an extraordinary time. Second, as James suggested, let’s do something strawberry (shortcakes? smoothies?) at either Corn or Pumpkin Festival, so we don’t miss out on everything.

I’d like to thank everyone who worked on the festival up to this point, including our much-loved musicians who were ready to come out and play.

While our cherished strawberry soiree may be scuppered by the great pandemic of 2020, we can individually mark the date and celebrate the fine, local, Hudson Valley strawberry, each in our own way.

There are many places to pick fine, local berries and hopefully the spring will be kind enough to allow that by June 14th. I’m planning a short sojourn in a local strawberry field, with home baked biscuits and whipped cream to help me through. What are your plans? Does anyone need the biscuit recipe?

To the Editor:

Regarding Clearwater

A great big Thank You to everyone raising funds to help Clearwater through this challenging time. Always remember, Clearwater was built by grassroots activism and it’s grassroots activism that will keep it going. There is nothing stronger than the power of people working together to a common goal. Please keep it up!

Rosemary

Father’s Day: Virtual Revival

Jun 20 @ 11:00 am – 11:00 pm

This year’s Virtual Great Hudson River Revival will be brought to you online Saturday, June 20th of Father’s Day weekend. We hope you will join us for a day full of music, storytelling, activism, education, and celebration. The program will run from 11am-11pm with lots of familiar personalities, as well as new and exciting performances. Some of the scheduled performers include: Chapin family, The Riks, Matt Turk, Arm of the Sea, David and Jacob Bernz, Reggie Harris, The Mammals, John McCuchon, Tiokasin Ghosthorse, and Andes Manta. Stay tuned for more exciting details.
Environmental Action Updates – Mannajo Greene

**ACTION ALERT:** Please call your **NYS Assembly member** and your **NYS Senator** to urge their support for the proposed **NYS Decommissioning Oversight Board (DOB) Bill S8154/A10236**. Tell them that New York needs Decommissioning Oversight Boards to protect the best interests of our state and the four reactor communities, starting with Indian Point, to ensure the safest possible decommissioning and protect the Decommissioning Trust Funds from practices that could compromise but putting profit ahead of public health and safety.

If you want to take an extra step, here is a **sample letter** you can write to them, but please take action by calling, writing or both -- and please let me know you have.

Bill sponsor in the Senate is Peter Harckham, with Lix Kruger, Jen Metzger and James Skoufis as cosponsors -- so if they are your representative, please thank them.

Assemblymember Sandy Galaf is the Assembly Sponsor -- we need more Assembly members to cosponsor please.

Dear Senator or Assembly member _____:

With Indian Point 2 closing last week and IP-3 scheduled to close in April 2021, it is urgent that the NYS Legislature passes the NYS Decommissioning Oversight Board legislation (**A.10236 / S.8154**), which AM Sandy Galef and NYS Sen. Peter Harckham and others have introduced to create a statewide board to oversee the decommissioning of Indian Point, and later the reactors in western NY. This legislation would bring New York State agencies and community members to the table to oversee and monitor the decommissioning of any nuclear plant in the state.

Decommissioning is the dangerous and multifaceted process of deactivating and dismantling of a nuclear power plant, which requires decades of meticulous work to ensure it is done as safely as possible. With so much at stake during decommissioning, NY State has a vested interest in ensuring that it is done carefully, efficiently, and completely. This is especially true because the company proposing to do the decommissioning, Holtec, is inexperienced and untrustworthy, with an extensively documented history of malfeasance, including lying to public officials, bribery and corruption. The NYS Attorney General's Office and Riverkeeper have filed contentions intervening in their license transfer application, especially with a focus on the lack of financial solvency Holtec’s limited liability corporations provide. Holtec’s plan is to do quick and dirty decommissioning to keep any balance left in the Decommissioning Trust Fund and any other profit they can gain, at the expense of public health and safety.

The proposed Decommissioning Oversight Board, composed of state officials and experts in the field, will enable New York to monitor the decommissioning process in all of its complexity. The board will deal with key aspects of decommissioning, including legal, financial, environmental, and economic concerns. This will allow the state to bring together the necessary resources and expertise to effectively oversee the decommissioning process.

New York State needs to pass legislation to empower Decommissioning Oversight Boards.

Background: Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant is the first nuclear plant in New York State to close down and begin the process of decommissioning. We need to be proactive and set a precedent for this process to ensure that it is done properly, in a way that protects the interests of the surrounding community, NY State taxpayers, and the environment.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) only oversees certain aspects of this process, but they have a long history of lax oversight. New York cannot rely on the NRC to oversee this process alone.

In order to protect the interests of the State and the host communities, State Senator Peter Harckham and Assemblymember Sandy Galef have proposed legislation to create an individual Decommissioning Oversight Board (DOB) for each NY nuclear plant at the time it announces its closure. ([S8154/A10236](https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s8154), see links below)

The DOBs will be empowered to participate in the decommissioning process. A DOB will bring together representatives of the relevant state agencies, members from the impacted communities, labor representatives, etc. It will have the ability to hire independent experts and access financial and other documents, and it will have our best interests at heart.

This is an issue of importance to our entire State. If the companies responsible for this process are left to do as they please, we the taxpayers will be left holding the bag. We must be proactive in making sure decommissioning is done properly: that means strong oversight of the process.

**Link to Assembly Bill:** [https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/a10236](https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/a10236)

**Link to Senate Bill:** [https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s8154](https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s8154)

We also ask your support for the Fossil Fuel Divestment Act! to get NY State to divest NY’s pension fund from fossil fuel corporations both because it’s not a safe investment due to the current instability of the market, and it’s morally irresponsible to invest in such corporations given the impact on climate.

Please let me know who in your office to follow up with about these matters.

Sincerely,
Thanks to those who were able to join us for the Earth Day 50th Anniversary Watch Party

Thank you also to Exposure Labs and Jeff Orlowski for making this possible!

Great filmmaking aside, the movie is a shocking and sometimes depressing expose on the loss of coral to climate change.

The Virtual Sloop Club, Some notes and hints

We have chosen Google Hangout Meetings as our primary platform. Google has made their premium version available to us free, as a non-profit, during the current crisis.

You can join the meeting in many ways, as a full video conference, using your device’s camera and microphone, dialing in on any phone as an audio only participant, or any combination of the two. So, everyone should be able to connect in some way.

For video conferencing we found that it works best if you use a Chrome browser, although other browsers do work. The following extensions can be added to Chrome to enhance the viewing:

Link to Google Chrome Extensions for gallery view and nod (raise hand):
https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/google-meet-grid-view/bjkeqbgpfpikgkfihqihifhfbqifc/related

If using a phone or tablet for video conferencing, you need to download the app for your device.
https://support.google.com/meet/answer/7291339?co=GENIE.Platform%3DiOS&hl=en&oco=1

Help for Google meeting is available at:
https://support.google.com/a/users/answer/9300131?hl=en

Please observe a few simple etiquette rules: Mute when not speaking. Don’t speak over people, wait your turn and raise your hand to be recognized. Use restraint in the chat window, too many threads can be a distraction.

Please Join Us online for an evening with a very special guest, David Amram, as he brings his unique experience and perspectives on the music world to the Beacon Sloop Club.

Some of you may know him as a performer at our festivals (or corn shucker) but he is much more than that. As a professional musician and composer for more than 70 years he brings a unique set of experiences to this event. For some insight into the first 50 check this out:
https://youtu.be/q5v6MeanQ28

Please plan to attend if you can.

Please join early as we will not be able to help with technical issues once we start. We will be online from 6-7 for set-up.

Meeting ID
meet.google.com/ruf-nejw-qux

Phone Numbers
(US)+1 929-269-1826
PIN: 604 096 288#

Live Stream At
https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/8435514e-4a30-4420-8685-95630a112c1f
# Treasury Report - March

## The Beacon Sloop Club, Inc.
### Profit and Loss
#### March 2020

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| Opening Cash Balance 3/1/2020   | $103,932.93 |
| Closing Cash Balance 3/31/2020  | $103,799.23 |
| Unrestricted                    | $82,638.12  |
| Restricted                      | $21,161.11  |
| B & S Rozinsky Fund 3/31/2020   | $14,462.98  |

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**Woody Nickels**

Go to the Fishkill Redemption Center and tell them to put your deposit proceeds in the Beacon Sloop Club envelope. Ask for a receipt.

**A&A Redemption Centers**
794 Rt. 52 Fishkill
(across from Fishkill recreational center)

- Open 7 Days:
  - Monday-Saturday: 9:30-5:30
  - Sunday: 10:00-4:00

[www.bottlecamreturns.com](http://www.bottlecamreturns.com)

**Containers Accepted:**
They accept all soda and beer bottles and cans, water bottles, and other beverage cans, and all store brands of New York State returnable bottles and cans. They do not except Gatorade, Snapple, vitamin water, ice teas, Powerade, or juice bottles. (Please make certain all your containers are NY State returnable.)

**Count Them Before You Come In:**
You can save time by counting your cans and bottle before you go to the center. Put them in a clear bag labeled with the quantity.

Please rinse all your containers!
Details of calendar events may be found elsewhere in the newsletter. For more info about the BSC: [www.beaconsloop.org](http://www.beaconsloop.org), or [www.beaconsloopclub.org](http://www.beaconsloopclub.org)

Current Calendar

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.

### Upcoming Virtual Meetings

**BSC Lecture Series: An Evening with David Amram**
Thursday, May 21-6:00 – 9:00pm

*Join with Google Meet*
meet.google.com/ruf-nejw-qux

*Watch live stream*
stream.meet.google.com/stream/8435514e-4a30-4420-8685-95630a112c1f

*Join by phone*
+1 929-269-1826 PIN: 604 096 288#

**BSC Executive Committee Meeting**
Tuesday, May 26 · 6:00 – 8:30pm

*Meeting ID*
meet.google.com/kbf-krfb-aop

*Phone Numbers*
(US)+1 605-956-7483
PIN: 168 163 998#

**Beacon Sloop Club Membership Meeting**
Friday, June 5· 6:30 – 10:00pm

*Join with Google Meet*
meet.google.com/onm-gkfs-hrc

*Watch live stream*
stream.meet.google.com/stream/cd49762c-ba30-4ee5-ad36-96ce11da8bfe

*Join by phone*
+1 803-587-8953 PIN: 802 049 943#

Many local businesses have supported the Sloop Club through donations to our fundraisers, as vendors, or just by making Beacon a vital place to live. Here is a list of Beacon Eateries.

- **Baja 328** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery)
- **Beacon Pantry** (Takeout, curbside pickup)
- **Brothers Trattoria** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery)
- **Hudson Valley Food Hall and Market: MOMO Valley and Miz Hattie’s BBQ** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery)
- **Max’s on Main** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery)
- **Melzingah Tap House** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery within 5 miles)
- **Quinn’s Restaurant** (Takeout, curbside pickup)
- **Royal Crepes** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery)
- **Stinson Hub** (Takeout, curbside pickup)
- **Sukhothai Restaurant** (Takeout, delivery)
- **The Beacon Daily** (Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery)
- **The Pandorica** (Takeout, curbside pickup)
- **Towne Crier Café** (Takeout, curbside pickup)
An Evening with David Amram, 
Self-described Ethno-Funk-Ologist 
“A Very Different kind of Cat”

Thursday May 21
7:00 PM
@ The Virtual Beacon Sloop Club

Join with Google Meet
meet.google.com/ruf-nejw-qux
Watch live stream
stream.meet.google.com/stream/8435514e-4a30-4420-8685-95630a112c1f
Join by phone ‪+1 929-269-1826 PIN: 604 096 288#

Join us online, as renowned musician and composer David Amram discusses his many experiences in World Music and Folk Music.

David met Pete Seeger in 1948 when he was playing banjo for a Henry Wallace rally. He will share stories about Pete and other performers as he discusses world influences on folk music. He will show different rhythmic patterns that guitar pickers can use to enhance their own work.

There will be time for questions and discussion.

Called “one of the most versatile and skilled musicians that America has ever produced” by the Washington Post, David Amram is an American treasure.

Equally at home with the NY Philharmonic, the Woody Guthrie Festival, the greats of jazz, or the Beats, he plays 35 instruments. In 2017 he received the Folk Alliance International Living Lifetime Achievement Award.

“A Godsend to those who believe in the power of music to change lives and inspire” – (Wynton Marsalis)