Serving the Hudson River with Pride for 48 Years

A Message from Our President

Congratulations to you all for receiving the tremendous honor of Clearwater’s 2021 Lifetime Contribution Award, conferred upon us at their 2021 Gala.

The award, which you will see on the mantle over our fireplace, reads “To The Beacon Sloop Club, Fierce Defenders of The Hudson River.” So, here’s to you, my friends, for fifty years of fierce defense - fierce it has been, and you’ve done it well!

We owe our gratitude to Clearwater for all the wonderful years of defending and celebrating our river together, side by side, deeply connected. The Clearwater community is our community, of which it is our great good fortune to be a part. We are also most fortunate that Clearwater has survived this year, with help from many of you, and many others.

To that end, we are, as you may know, having a new fundraising event, our upcoming Haikootenanny, to support their sailing program this season. All the money we raise from this event will go to a Clearwater sail for a local, underserved school, to bring their children out for a life changing experience on the Hudson River. Please join us and spread the word! It will be an evening to remember, and a fine opportunity for us all to do much good for the people of the River.

Happy Spring!

Inside this issue:
Funraising for kids, she sailors, the time is now for Danskammer, we’re in the movies, and much, much more…..

NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING Tuesday, March 23, 6:00 p.m.
NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING Friday, April 2 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
If you haven’t yet; Please Renew.

BSC Membership Form

Name ___________________________ Street Address ___________________________

City ___________________ State ____ ZIP ______ Phone ____-____-_______ Email ___________________

Household Membership donation $________ Renewal ____ New Member ____

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

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The Beacon Sloop Club 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,

BSC Officers 2021

President: Susan Berliner (845)527-8671 intraining_99@yahoo.com
Vice President: Vince Farina (845)656-9546 davideb@aol.com
Treasurer: Aaron Verdiile (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 vandermerwe@yahoo.com
Environmental Tent: Betty Harkins (845)831-8606 sarahannelisabeth@gmail.com
Harbor Membership: Mark McNutt (917)682-4114 BethHarkins@aol.com
Festival Music: Susan Berliner (845)527-8671 joycehanson@mac.com
Festival Publicity: Joyce Hanson (914)907-4928 achoma@yahoo.com
Grants & Dev.: Alan Thomas (845)463-4660 jpmalchow@gmail.com
HARBOR Membership: James Malchow (908)405-1453
Mooring Manager: Alan Thomas (845)463-4660
MLK Day: Bonnie Champion (845)255-6436
Monthly Music: Ken Miller (201)376-1316
Musical Outreach: Ken Miller (201)376-1316
Newsletter: Alan Thomas (845)463-4660
Small Boats: Alan Thomas (845)463-4660
Town Liaison: Tom LaBarr (845)831-4267
Vendor Coordinator: RosemaryThomas (845)463-4660
Web Site: Metal (646) 481-6360
Wayne Brown (908)405-1433
Woody Sailors: James Malchow (845)462-7756
Woody Maintenance: Steve Schwartz (845)527-8671
Woody Scheduling: Susan Berliner (845)527-8671

Printed on 100% Recycled Paper, All photos are by Alan Thomas unless otherwise noted.

Woody Captains:
Jim Birmingham, Patrick Gallagher, Tom LaBarr, Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz,
Ken Miller sang for us and Susan Berliner called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. She congratulated club members on receiving the 2021 Lifetime Contribution Award given to the club by HRS Clearwater at the Gala. Susan then asked for a moment of silence in memory of three who passed recently, John Chaplin, Alan Aunapu, and Daniel Peters.

Treasurer’s Report: Aaron shared the Profit and Loss Report for January 2021, which is in the newsletter, below. Susan thanked Aaron for his report.

Clearwater Goings On: Steve Stanne reminded us there is a Clearwater Board meeting next week. Spring crew is now being hired, including the new position of Program Director. Strategic Plan findings are being shared at the Board meeting. Steve asked for feedback on the Gala event, which many sloop club members had attended. Feedback was very positive, and several mentioned they wished the breakout period at the end could have been longer. Steve thanked Susan and the club for all their support.

Clearwater Environmental Report: Manna Jo Greene gave us highlights of the past months efforts and reminded us that this information can be found at the bottom of the ENews now being published by Clearwater.

NYPSC received 1,600 public comments at the recent hearing, most asking for the transfer or Indian Point to Holtec be denied. The comments were excellent, but stopping the transfer is still a long shot. An oversight board on decommissioning is still possible, though.

The siting board has accepted the Danskammer application as complete, so now a year-long Article 10 process will begin, March 31 will be the first public meeting. Stay tuned for action alerts during this process.

Seven communities on the lower Hudson are concerned the Champlain-Hudson Power Express project will disturb sediment and risk PCB contamination in drinking water.

DECs planned update of the Ashokan water diversion to the lower Esopus is drawing attention from environmental groups. The turbid water now released from the reservoir affects a 32 mile stretch from the source to the Hudson River.

On a positive note, fracked natural gas is now banned in the Delaware River basin. Rob May added that a “teach-in” on March 12 and a more public event on March 23 will shed light on the Danskammer situation. Alan Zollner said grants are available to help K-12 students become interested in the field of watershed utility operations. Manna Joe, Rosemary, and Susan all asked Alan to forward the info to them. Susan thanked Manna Jo.

Woody Report: Captain Steve reported that he and James Malchow visited the Woody in the Haverstraw Marina on Wednesday. She is sitting pretty in the water and all systems are working fine. A deferred maintenance item, switching the jib horse to the correct position for the traveler, was completed. Metal, now Sailor’s Committee secretary, plans to create a computerized and prioritized list of maintenance work to help guide projects. The plan is to bring the Woody back to Beacon by the end of March, which is contingent on the charging dock being in place. Further research shows that if the existing underwater cable can’t go forward, a new one of the same type can be installed at a cost of $400, much less than previously thought. The idea of placing it in conduit will not work, though. Ask Steve for details. There was discussion of using the old Woody Mooring ball in the harbor if the dock was late or working with the city for a temporary use of the ferry dock. Steve said he will let maintenance crews know when the dock plan is set and told us that help will be needed in Haverstraw, too, in the next 2 - 3 weeks.

Sailor’s Meeting: James announced there will be a regular Sailor’s Meeting on March 14, at 6:00 pm. Email James if you have not been receiving the Zoom link emails and he’ll get you on the list.

RiverSwim: Alan Zollner told us that the event is scheduled this year on July 24, with an early splash in just before 9:00 am. Alan expressed gratitude that the Woody would be available to help out, and said volunteers are needed for what will be a somewhat modified event this year. Please mark your calendars and register on riverpool.org.

Building Report: Alan Thomas reported that no further water had come into the building since the 12/23 storm. There will be a little clean up needed inside before any meetings or other use, though.

Winter Lectures: The lecture series for 2021 is full. On 3/18 Louise Bliss talks about the race-about sloop “Eleanor;” its history and restoration. April 15 will be Polly Wells’ film, “We Began to Sing,” and a discussion with film makers, and Bill McKibben, of 350.org, will anchor the series on May 20.

-rise Up Spouting! A Haikootenanny: Tom Elliott told the group that a new fundraiser to help Clearwater and put a classroom of underserved students in an education program onboard, is scheduled for April 11. A flyer with links to event details and a web page linked to the Sloop Club website will be in use soon. A donation of $20 allows entrants to submit one haiku in the event, and $25 gets five seventeen syllable poems in. Entrants and attendees vote to choose the best haiku in four categories, “Soaring and Rapturous,” “Brilliant,” “Funny,” or “Just Plain Strange.” Tom encouraged everyone to enter, saying it will be a fun event for a good cause, and if he can write a haiku, anyone can!

Environmental Report:
Tom LaBarr warned us not to believe in the advertisements from companies saying their plastic bottles are 100 percent recyclable or even reusable. Buy glass bottles instead.

Announcements:
Susan announced that Jim Birmingham, who is moving south soon, has donated his 4 x 7-foot utility trailer to the club. It should make an excellent oven trailer for the Strawberry Festival. Joyce said she thought Dave Eberle can store it.

Donna Stein, of the NYC Sloop Club told us they are airing their “Eco Logic” program for virtual radio.org. She invited BSC members to join their virtual club meetings and hoped the clubs, whose leaders now meet regularly in a Sloop Club Committee, will have more interaction and crossover. Lydia said she has been joining, and their meetings are very good.

With no further announcements, Susan adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm, and the Circle of Song began, led by Ken Miller
Rise Up Spouting!

How has your year been going? Be honest. Perhaps you’ve spent your days in quiet contemplation at the river’s edge? Made meat pies of your neighbors? Fomented a bloody putsch on the steps of Capitol Hill? No matter! Now’s your chance to come clean and help raise much needed funds.

It’s easy! In 17 elegant syllables, compose a haiku illuminating your personal journey over the past 10 months.

Never written haiku? You’ll love it! Anyone can do it - that’s the beauty. Simply unburden your soul in exactly 17 syllables, divided into three lines: first line - 5 syllables, second line - 7 syllables, third line - 5 syllables. If you can howl it, you can write it.

Send $20 to the Beacon Sloop Club, or register through Brown Paper Tickets, and email your tiny masterpiece to tomelliott789@gmail.com - all by Wednesday, April 7th. Then join us online Sunday, April 11th at 5:00 for a festive Spout Out! Haikootenanny. Everyone will have an opportunity to read their haiku to an adoring assemblage of like-minded spirits who will then vote on their favorites. Democracy lives!

Will your haiku be soaring and rapturous? Brilliant beyond words (but not beyond 17 syllables)? Deplorably funny? Stranger than brushing your teeth in the river? How about someone else’s teeth? There will be prizes for all levels of decompensation.

Winners of the People’s Choice Vote in each category will receive an historic one-of-a-kind Clearwater face mask, suitable for wearing or framing, lovingly hand crafted from sweaty old Revival tee shirts, hopefully washed, as well as the worshipful veneration of your truest soulmates.

But wait! There’s more! All entrants will receive an official voucher for a free slice of future Pumpkin Fest pie, which, let’s face it, you will have probably made yourself.

Be brave! Join the noble ranks of your fellow haikooligans and spout forth! Spout fifth! Spout sixth! For a one time additional $5, you can write as many haikus as your heart can bear (but submit no more than 5). That’s $25, and two full months of rollicking, nip roaring, non-stop solitary fun! What are you waiting for? All entries are due by email on April 7th.

Sound expensive? It is expensive! But the entire proceeds from this event will go to our Help Clearwater Stay Afloat initiative to provide a free sail to an underserved school right here on our leg of the river.

Come join the turpitude! If you want to attend, but not compose (or be composed) the event is free to members. You will still have the opportunity to redeem yourself by donating if you choose.

The best part is...everyone wins. You’ll have a fun, mind expanding evening with good friends, and the joy of giving 50 local schoolchildren the gift of an amazing, life changing experience on the Hudson River.

Help make history! Zoom on down to the First and Possibly Last Annual Beacon Sloop Club Spout Out! Haikootenanny Google Meet on Sunday, April 11th at 5:00. You’ll receive the link in your email.

Scribe on!!!
**Hudson Valley Environmental Related News**

- NYSEG (NY State Electric and Gas Corporation) has been fined $1.5 million dollars by the Public Service Commission to settle consumer complaints that occurred during the August 2020 Isaias Storm that left 183,000 thousand without electricity in Northern Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties. Westchester County Executive George Latimer suggested that this could result in rate reduction by stopping a proposed planned rate increase. The violations included: failure to respond within a certain time to those calling, failure to contact 80% of its customers on life-support equipment within 12 hours. Still pending is the case against Con Edision that left nearly one million electric customers without power for over one week.

- Members of the Ulster County Legislature’s Energy and Environmental Committee are working towards a zero-waste system (meaning not sending anything to landfills). Their strategies include, consumer education, composting, reusing materials including single use products, “repair cafes “, and “buy nothing” trading groups.

- “Stop Danskammer” is a three-minute film about the City of Newburgh residents’ opposition to the expansion proposal of this plant. The film is sponsored by the New Paltz Climate Coalition and Flicker Filmworks.

- On 2/8/21, the Board of the Westchester Legislators unanimously passed a resolution opposing the proposal for the Newburgh Danskammer expansion. Legislator Ruth Walter, of Bronxville, said the plant’s proposal would add two million tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually into our environment.

- A Newburgh Food Co-Op is in the discussion phase, a vision of Councilman Anthony Grice. A group is planning to set up a for-profit (profits go right back into the business). Local groups are invited to send representatives to become involved. In addition, a teaching space for food preparation, partnership with local farms, restaurants, and food pantries being planned. For more information check their face book site.

- Two former New Windsor officials pleaded guilty to not disclosing the presence of asbestos at a demolition site in 2015, therefore exposing workers to the released airborne asbestos. The demolition was of Air Force and Army barracks located at the Stewart International Airport site. The town officials did not ask for bids from companies specializing in asbestos removal and hired a non-asbestos removal company, without informing them that asbestos had been identified in some of the buildings. The two former New Windsor officials, James Petro and Richard McGoe, admitted that they knew the buildings were contaminated. New Windsor had received a $2.5 million state grant for this demolition project. Sentencing is scheduled on May 27, 2021. The officials have agreed to plea agreements and prosecutors recommended prison sentences of six to 12 months, and also fines between $4,000 and $40,000. Asbestos exposure accounts for almost all of the cases of Mesothelioma, a cancer of our lung lining. This type of cancer may take years to develop and has a poor prognosis.

Submitted by Nora Gallardo, Member of the Beacon Sloop Club

**March 2021 Environmental Action Update**

**Manna Jo Greene**

**Big News! Danskammer Update: Siting Board deems the Danskammer application complete.**

On Feb. 16 the Chairman of the NYS Public Service Commission, who chairs the Article 10 Siting Board, accepted Danskammer’s application for a proposal to build a new fracked gas plant on the shores of the Hudson just north of Newburgh as complete. This marks the start of the Article 10 permitting process, which can take 12 to 18 months. During this time, evidentiary hearings will be held with opportunities for public comments, the first of which will be convened on March 31 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. See Notice of Public Hearing. We need everyone to sign up and weigh in to urge the Siting Board to reject this unfortunate proposal. Written comments are accepted through August, but let’s start now to stop this egregious project. Watch the Clearwater website and FB page for talking points and further updates.

**Tues., March 23 at 7 p.m. One Year to Stop Danskammer: The Countdown Begins. Update and Training to prepare for March 31 Hearing.** Please plan to attend both the training and hearing. Pre-register: RSVP here (Please note this is not the registration link for 3/31 hearing. That can be found here: Notice of Public Hearing)

**Wed., March 31 Please register to offer virtual public comment on the Danskammer expansion, 1:00 p.m. Password: March31-1pm — click on Register now and Join on March 31.**


**6:00 p.m. Password: March31-6pm — click on Register now and Join on March 31.**


**NYS Public Service Commission Public Hearing on Holtec’s application to transfer Indian Point’s Licenses to do quick and dirty decommissioning.** On Feb. 23. the PSC held 7 hours of virtual public comment and by Feb. 26 received more than 1,600 written comments — most of which urged the agency to reject the license transfer because Holtec has a long history of bribery, perjury, and corruption — malfeasance so serious that they are barred from doing business with the World Bank and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Read Clearwater’s comments here. and thanks to all who took action to weigh in.

**Clearwater March 2021 EA Report**
**Shrooms for Every Occasion**

Who knew that there were so many types and uses for the humble mushroom? We want to thank Alisa Javits again for the outstanding talk on all things fungi. From spore to fruit she explained the life cycle, cultivation, and many benefits derived from their use, as well as their role in nature.

For more information visit her website: [https://www.sugarshackmushrooms.com/](https://www.sugarshackmushrooms.com/)

Or stop by the Beacon Farmer’s Market in March or April.

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**The History and Restoration of the Eleanor: w/ Louise Bliss**

**Thursday March 18 7:00 PM**

**The Virtual Beacon Sloop Club**

Join Louise Bliss as she shares some of her experiences sailing on the Hudson River and the story of restoring Eleanor, an exemplary example of Clinton Crane’s race-about style sloop of the early 1900s or, the Golden Age of Sail.

Louise is member of the Hudson Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society and subsequently president, president of the Hudson River Historic Boat Restoration & Sailing Society Inc, president of the Hudson River Lighthouse Coalition: the first one, a member of the Hudson Power Boat Club and the Roe Jan Boat Club.

www.beaconsloopclub.org

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**Beacon Sloop Club Winter Education Series**

**Mar 22, 2021 07:00 PM**

**Mar 29, 2021 07:00 PM**

The National Women's Sailing Association, in collaboration with WomenWhoSail are excited to host a Women's History Month Special Edition of She Sailor Sea Stories, celebrating Clearwater’s legacy of creating a community aboard for women to lead, be their most authentic selves, and belong. Find out what happens when six former Captains found themselves at the helm of the fine and splendid Sloop Clearwater, from 1980 to present, during two episodes of storytelling the last two Mondays in March.

Featured Speakers include Clearwater Captains Cate Cronin, Betsy Garthwaite, Cindy Smith, Gioia Blix, Sam Heyman-Hicks, and Amy Nelson.

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Register Here
# Treasury Report - January

## The Beacon Sloop Club, Inc. Profit and Loss
January 2021

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| Opening Cash Balance 1/1/2021 | $100,127.93 |
| Closing Cash Balance 1/31/2021| $101,516.09 |
| Change in Investment Value   | $(114.41)   |
| **Total Balance 1/31/2021**  | $101,401.68 |

| Unrestricted                 | $78,264.32  |
| Restricted (total)           | $23,251.77  |
| B & S Rozinsky Fund 1/31/2021| $18,545.87  |
| Board designated funds       | $5,002.34   |

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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.bottlecanreturns.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 accept Gatorade, Snapple, vitamin water, ice tans, 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!
The History and Restoration of the Eleanor:
  w/ Louise Bliss
Thursday March 18
  7:00 PM
The Virtual Beacon Sloop Club

Join Zoom Meeting
ID: 81231622734
Passcode: 566727
(US) +1 408-638-0968
Passcode: 566727

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

She Sailor Sea Stories
You can choose to attend one or more of the following webinars.
Mar 22, 2021 07:00 PM
Mar 29, 2021 07:00 PM

Register Here

BSC Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 23
6:00 – 8:30pm
Meeting ID
https://meet.google.com/bcr-vgwc-pak
.Join by phone
(US) +1 662-502-2773 PIN: 481 767 331#

Tues., March 23 at 7 p.m. One Year to Stop Danskammer: The Countdown Begins. Update and Training to prepare for March 31 Hearing
RSVP here

Wed., March 31 virtual public comment on the Danskammer expansion, 1:00 p.m. To Register:
Notice of Public Hearing

We Began to Sing
Thursday April 15
7:00 PM
Screening and Q&A with Polly Wells, Annie Patterson & Peter Blood

The Virtual Beacon Sloop Club

Beacon Sloop Club Membership Meeting
Friday, April 2 ·6:30 – 10:00pm
Join with Google Meet
meet.google.com/onm-gkfs-hrc
Join by phone
+1 803-587-8953 PIN: 802 049 943#

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