Serving the Hudson River with Pride for 53 Years

A Message from Our President

They say when a boat is happy, it dances on the water. If that's so, then our sloop Woody Guthrie is doing a jig upon the waves right now. That’s all because of the remarkable efforts of Steve Schwartz, Max Smith and a host of skilled Sloop Club volunteers, who labored to provide the Woody with a much-needed facelift. First, the boat was hauled out of the river and the barnacles were removed from the hull. Then it was scraped, painted and repaired. The entire operation was completed in less than one week by an expert and dedicated crew. Now the Woody is back in the water carrying a full contingent of grateful guests every night of the week. Many thanks to all those who joined in the refinishing efforts. The Woody looks better than ever!

On Saturday, September 10th friends, family and admirers of Betty Harkins will gather together at the clubhouse to celebrate her remarkable life. Come share your thoughts, stories and remembrances of our dear friend. May Betty's memory live forever in our hearts, and her love of our Hudson River stay with us always. And may we strive to protect and cherish our river with the same passion and commitment that Betty showed throughout her life.

Rob

The taste of fresh corn is one of the joys of summer, especially if it is washed down with freshly squeezed thirst-quenching lemonade and accompanied by a generous helping of zesty homemade chili and delicious hot dogs. Fortunately, there was plenty to go around at the Beacon Sloop Club’s Corn Festival on August 14th. Friends, families, neighbors, community members and visitors enjoyed the delicious fare while listening to a wide range of delightful music. Many thanks to all the organizers, planners, volunteers, and liaisons. A huge thank you goes to all those who put up and took down the tents, who did the hauling, moving, shucking, cooking, serving, cleaning and patrolling. The fine musicians, performers, vendors and sponsors are also deserving of our appreciation. Everyone joined together on a beautiful summer day for a memorable celebration of summer and the river.

Inside this issue:
Fall sailing, saying goodbye to a friend, planning for Pumpkin Fest, and much more.....
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 _________________________________

______________________________________________________________

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

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, James Malchow, Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz,

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After a beautiful riverside potluck in not-too-hot weather, we opened the meeting with "You Got to Walk that Lonesome Valley", Ken Miller and friends leading us on banjo. President Rob May welcomed one and all. Hope Altkin volunteered to take home the recyclables and Carl from Ireland - with us for the very first time - volunteered to take home the garbage. Aaron Verdile delivered the *treasury report* for the month of July.

Rosemary Thomas reminded us that the *celebration of the life of Betty Harkins* will take place at the clubhouse September 10 from 2-5. You can bring a dessert, but most importantly, bring stories about Betty to share with her family. They will also bring stories to share with us. Betty's favorite song was *Sailing Down My Golden River*. Bring an instrument and help us sing.

Matt Bowen announced that the *memorial for Connie Hogarth* will take place October 2 at Riverfront Park. Bring your own chair.

Steve Schwartz gave the *Woody Report*: the boat is in great shape. It has been taking out lots of guests. The boat painting was finished last month. Max Smith, head of our Maintenance crew, did a fantastic job and so did the volunteers. However, Steve reminded us, the sailing stoppage due to Covid weakened the sailing program, and we are now repairing the damage. In 2020, the boat did not go out at all. 2021 was devoted to new crew training. But guest sailing is the what the Woody is all about. Steve also pointed out that the volunteer crews who take our festival guests out on the river need our thanks. They work all day under the sun. The Woody's sailing season generally ends at or just after the Pumpkin Festival in mid-October.

Steve also gave us the *Harbor Report*: the BSC Board has decided to divest ourselves of the Ed Teach boat. Antony Tseng advertised the boat for sale on various internet sites and we now have several interested parties. Selling the boat will help us recoup the expenses we've had keeping the boat.

Rosemary recapped the *Corn Festival*: it went beautifully with abundant (about 40) volunteers. "We learned a lot at the festival," said Rosemary. To make the different tasks more clear for everyone, we will be bringing back the old system of festival binders for all the different aspects of volunteering. But our new "binders" will be online. We will also be creating new signs for the Pumpkin Festival: *River Ecology, Pumpkin Pie, Chili, and Pay Here*. Someone suggested making the guest-sail sign-up location easier to find. Alan Thomas announced that two books and a pair of eyeglasses were left behind at the Corn Festival.

Then Rosemary moved on to the *Clearwater Report*. Clearwater, which always needs to raise money due to its ongoing expenses maintaining the 106-foot-long boat, paying its staff, carrying out its environmental work, etc., has a new very down-to-earth idea for a fundraiser: Hike for the Hudson. "It's really a friendraiser," says Rosemary. This is how it works. You register as a hiker at [runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/clearwater](runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/clearwater) and pay $15.30. Why that number? For the 153 miles that the Hudson flows both ways.

Get your friends to register, too. Then you hike for 153 minutes. The Beacon Sloop Club has a hiking team which you can find on the site under "Find a Team". If you sign up with our team, we will notify you of group hikes we have planned. The BSC team hikes will be as easy or as challenging as you like, just like the Hike for the Hudson itself. If you get people to sponsor you, then you will be listed on the site as a fundraiser. The first BSC team hike will be at 8:30am on Wednesday, September 7 at Vassar Farm.

Tom LaBarr gave the *Environmental Report*. He reminded us that plastic picnic ware does not decompose in compost and that we should use reusable items when we picnic. The drought has become a major concern. Philipstown and Cold Spring are down to 40% of their reservoir capacity. Beacon is down to 60% and we are in a Stage One drought emergency. Meanwhile, one third of Pakistan is under water. Tom appealed to us to think of ways we can conserve water. One person suggested keeping a bowl in the kitchen sink to catch first-run and unused water, then using that to water the garden.

At the end of the meeting, Bonnie Champion offered clean aluminum pans from the Corn Fest to whoever wanted them; Joyce Hanson asked people to sponsor her as a hiker on our club's Hike for the Hudson team. She also announced that we recently lost long-time volunteer Bill Chestnut.

Vicki Fox announced that Vote Forward ([vote fwd.org](http://vote fwd.org)) has pre-printed letters you can send to help get out the vote in political "battleground states" like Georgia, Pennsylvania and Florida. Alan Zollner reminded us that we live in some swing districts right around here and that every vote counts - make sure you do get out and vote in November. Gail Moran pointed out that we also need to pay attention to school board elections.

President Rob invited us to join the song circle, and we adjourned at 8:28.
Beyond Plastics Releases Free Guide to Help Restaurants Reduce Their Use of Plastics

After years of pandemic-driven take-out orders, many consumers whose drawers are overflowing with plastic straws, disposable plastic cutlery, and single-use plastic packets of ketchup, soy sauce, and mustard are clamoring for less plastic with their food. Fortunately, a new guide called “Hold The Plastic, Please - A Restaurant’s Guide To Reducing Plastic” from Beyond Plastics offers restaurants detailed, practical, and inspiring advice for how to reduce the use of plastic in their operations and how to effectively convey those changes to customers, reporters, and the general public.

The free guide offers practical advice, tools, resources (including funding resources), and case studies, and is available at: https://www.beyondplastics.org/restaurant-guide.

Beyond Plastics have created an easy to print one pager you can leave with restaurants, graphics and sample text for sharing the guide on social media, an outreach email, and more.

FIND THE TOOLKIT >>

Join Clearwater’s Hike for the Hudson
Sept. 1 – Sept. 30

CLEARWATER'S HIKE for the HUDSON

Anyone, anywhere, can Walk or Hike and raise money to support Hudson River Sloop Clearwater’s education and environmental programs, or donate to support a hiker.

Alan Thomas created a Beacon Sloop Club team. If you register and join the team, we’ll keep you posted on club hikes. If you would like to organize a hike, contact Alan at: acthoma@yahoo.com

https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/clearwater

A blast from the past:

The Woody Update

The sailing season is in full swing, with guest sails going out weeknights at 6:00. There have been some impressive sunsets and nights of great wind. Our dedicated crews have been busy.

There is still time to learn to sail or join a crew. Several nights have room for a few more. It is so great to have James Malchow join the ranks of captains. Who would like to be next?
Free concert - Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation of White Plains Sept. 23, 2022

To celebrate our new location, the Walkabout Clearwater Chorus, along with David and Jacob Bernz and friends of the Sloop Clearwater, are inviting you to a very special Friday night FREE concert. Come see our beautiful new location and enjoy our famous refreshments and coffee and, of course, sing along with the Walkabout Clearwater Chorus and friends.

For more Info: https://walkaboutchorus.org/coffeeshouse-2022-2023/
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.

**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)