A Message from Our President

...we will not fight to save what we do not love.
-Stephen Jay Gould, Natural Historian

Protecting the Hudson River and its environs is only possible when people learn to love the river. So, we dedicate ourselves to providing free access to the waters of the Hudson for everyone. Those who know about our river will fall in love with it and will be motivated to join us in preserving it. Everything we do is with that purpose in mind.

For example, we offer free public sails aboard the Woody Guthrie, inviting our guests to enjoy the magnificent vistas of our fine river. To witness a full moon rising over the mountains on the eastern shore and observe its reflection shimmering upon the water's surface from the deck of the Woody, is to fall under the spell of the river and, perhaps feel the impulse to protect it.

Our festivals draw people to the Hudson. Viewing the river from Pete and Toshi Seeger Park during a festival can soften the most jaded hearts. Children visiting the Environmental Tent during our festivals are delighted and amazed by the diverse river creatures they meet there, often sparking a life-long love affair with the river. Thus, affording a new generation a chance to share the rapture of our mighty stream.

The Community Sailing program widens access to the Hudson River for traditionally underserved populations. Our neighbors, who may have felt overlooked in the past, now share an appreciation of the river. Through river walks and sailing opportunities, we hope that community sailors will join in defending this precious natural resource.

The River Pool is another avenue for attracting our friends and neighbors to the river. River Pool bathers, safely immersed in the cooling waters of the Hudson, will certainly feel a visceral attraction to the river, and are often the river's most vigorous defenders. Those who participate in our celebrated annual River Swim across the entire Hudson River, benefiting the River Pool, report that they experience a unique bond with the river. They too, have coalesced to join the cause of preserving our threatened waterway.

This is how we fight to save what we love. By partnering with our allies, we unlock the power to protect our river. It is the power of love.

Rob

Inside this issue:
A strawberry blow-out, sailing begins, legislative acts, upcoming events, 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_____________________________  

_______________________________________ 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

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The Beacon Sloop Club Broadside

The Beacon Sloop Club, Inc. 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.

Wooody Captains:
Jim Birmingham, Patrick Gallagher, Tom LaBarr, James Malchow, Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz, 

BSC Officers 2023

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Woody Captains:
Jim Birmingham, Patrick Gallagher, Tom LaBarr, James Malchow, Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz,

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Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting
Minutes, June 2, recorded by Mary Arnold

Opening Music—Lydia Adams Davis, "Sing, Sing Like Pete."

President Rob May Called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The Sloop club is a Carry in/Carry out facility: Please bring home leftovers and dishes. Polly volunteered to take recyclables. Ben Seibert volunteered to take trash. Vickie Fox was the Multrum hero for May.

Rob welcomed recent Sailing class graduates Catherine "Cat" Pomeroy, James Doherty, Ben Seibert, and Steve Porter and his wife Lynne. He welcomed Alley who wants to learn to sail, and Courtney who just moved here two months ago from Wisconsin.

Treasurer's Report—Alan Thomas: April Cash income and expenses and changes to investment accounts was presented.

Strawberry Festival Report—Joyce Hanson: Next weekend on Sunday, June 11. "We have a lot of challenges, but despite challenges, we are going to have a great festival. Jay and Polly have worked hard to get Hudson Valley strawberries. We are bringing back baking at the site." She is selling T Shirts for $20 a piece at the meeting, and they will be available for $25 at the site. Fundraising continues to be important because of increased festival expenses.

Tom LaBarr: Strawberry Prep Party is at the 10 a.m. at Yard at 4 Hanna Lane off Route 52 in Beacon. There will be refreshments, and people are welcome to bring potluck dishes to share. We have a donated refrigerated truck for the berries. The goal is to hull and slice about 1/3 of the berries, and after lunch to combine ingredients for the biscuit mix. Another volunteer crew on Saturday will be setting up the tent in the park. Rosemary Thomas is seeking volunteers to stay overnight in the park. Volunteers needed Sunday starting at 8 a.m. for set up and continuing throughout the festival until 5 p.m. and to clean up the site afterwards. Two or more volunteer hours gets you a free shortcake, and four or more hours a free T Shirt.

Woody Report—Steve Schwartz: the Woody is in the water, fully rigged, the lights all rigged, and crews have had practicing all week. Woody is set to make the Cornwall festival this Sunday, and it will be rocking and rolling in the week to take guests out. "I don't know how it happened, but we did it early."

Harbor Report—Steve Schwartz: last weekend the last moorings went in and there are several new boats, including a couple of power boats, in the harbor.

Sailing Classes—Steve Schwartz thanked Mary Arnold for organizing a successful class. Mary noted that approximately 20 people finished class.

Community Sailing Program—Jamie Cupolo: 10 kids and their parents attended the River Walk held at the Pete and Toshi Park on May 27. They made windmills, learned how to tell direction of the win, about currents and tides, and about invasive species. Upcoming events: Canoeing and kayaking on July 1 and a Clearwater Sail on July 8. For more information, contact Vanessa.Nisperos@gmail.com.

Jamie also reported that the Coast Guard Auxiliary has established flotilla based in Newburgh. Volunteers can participate for an hour or more a year.

Clearwater—Rosemary Thomas: the Clearwater was at Kingston Earth Fair on May 13, and the boat is in Brooklyn right now. "If you know people who are interested in going out on a public sail let them know. If you know of any opportunities or business sponsorships, talk to me." She reported that Manna Jo Green has retired. Alan Thomas reported there are books on table donated to the Clearwater by the Brooklyn Sloop Club. They are available for a donation. Konstantin Doren reported that vintage Clearwater T Shirts will be for sale at the Festival.

Riverpool—Alan Zoellner: there will be a picnic party tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 1 in the park, and they will install the pool the weekend of June 17. "If you are a parent of a young child, if you would like to have a place to swim, we would love to see active parents with young kids who want to give a safe experience in the Hudson."

The Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim is August 5, with rain date of August 6. Go to www.riverpool.org to sign up. "Thank you to Beacon Sloop Club for working with us. Thanks to Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the Kayakers who volunteer." Alan said kayakers are needed to escort the swimmers. Swimmers should sign up early.

Environmental Report—Tom LaBarr: A new disease called plasticosis is showing up mainly in sea birds. "Birds are eating the plastics instead of food source. It's not poisoning them, but they can't eat enough regular food to stay alive and they are dying of malnutrition. We all have microplastics in us. Do not buy anything packaged in plastic."

General Announcements

Tom Schmeelk is hosting a free concert on the lawn at Locust Grove on Sunday, July 23 from 2 to 5 p.m. featuring music by RJ Storm. Bring a picnic lunch. In case of rain, the concert will be inside.

Eugene Hamond announced that at the end of June, "Nora and I going on a delegation with folks to Cuba to study climate change. Nora is trying to put together another culture and arts delegation in February."

Vickie Fox: there is an action on Tuesday in support of the Save the Hudson bill to stop Holtec from dumping of radiological wastewater at the Indian Point. The bill is sponsored by NYS Senator Pete Harckham and Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg. You can get a free bus from Cortland town hall, or you can drive up to Albany.

Lance Harkins, son of the late Betty Harkins, offered a vintage game built by a family member to anyone who might cherish it. He shared experiences growing up in Beacon connected to the Seeger family, and a vision he had of Toshi Seeger entreating us to carry on Pete and Toshi's mission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM
The Woody Update

We’re sailing! The season kicked off with the River Fest in Cornwall. A huge thank you to our crew who transited the boat. The conditions, with waves and debris washing over the rather flimsy dock, were such that it was deemed unsafe to load and unload guests. It was a tough call for our captains, but clearly the right one.

We fared better at the Strawberry Festival, getting in five guest sails, some with real wind. Thank you again to our crews and captains. So many people come to the festival wanting to sail.

Meanwhile, we have had some spectacular weeknight sailing, with double rainbows, smoke enhanced sunsets, clean runs to Bannerman’s, and more. Several of our nights, Friday especially are looking to add a few more crew members, so if you have been thinking about it, now’s the time.

In the News:

More about Captain Steve than you want to know…

The June 9, Highlands Current’s, Then Now & How column featured an interview with our own Captain Steve Schwartz. You can find it here:

highlandscurrent.org/steve

The Woody is featured on Scenic Hudson’s Honoring the Past Page….

Sloops: the Special Boats That Transformed the Hudson

For two centuries, the queen of local waters was the Hudson River sloop, specially built to handle the river’s navigational challenges.

By Reed Sparling

Hudson Valley Press

Strawberry Festival
Still Going Strong Since 1972

By Jennifer L. Warren
BEACON – It was a vision that would have made Pete Seeger proud….very, very proud.

Upcoming Clearwater Public Sails:

Public Sail – Cold Spring, NY
Jun 24 @ 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Fourth of July Public Sail – Poughkeepsie, NY
Jul 4 @ 4:30 pm – 6:45 pm

Public Sail – Beacon, NY
Jul 8 @ 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Coxsackie Farmers Market Public Sail – Coxsackie, NY
Jul 12 @ 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Birdwatching Public Sail – Catskill, NY
Jul 14 @ 6:00 pm – 8:15 pm

Public Sail – Kingston, NY @HRMM
Jul 16 @ 5:45 pm – 8:15 pm

Last two photos by:
Patricia Finnerty & Rosemary Thomas
New York Assembly Passes Legislation to Protect the State’s Streams

In March 2023 the Supreme Court ruled in the Sackett v. EPA case, that many streams and wetlands previously subject to regulation by the EPA were not covered by the Clean Water Act of 1972.

The New York Legislature has extended waterway protections, in a bill sponsored by state senator Pete Harkham and the Environmental Conservation Committee. This bill adds class C streams to those already covered by New York’s environmental laws. Additional protections for over one million acres of freshwater wetlands, was provided with the passage of the New York State budget in April.

New York Senate Passes Bill Preventing Discharge of Radioactive Waste into the Hudson

The New York State Senate passed legislation sponsored by Pete Harkham prohibiting the discharge of radioactive waste into the Hudson River. The bill garnered unanimous bipartisan support in the Senate, but the Assembly failed to bring it to a vote. The Assembly must return to Albany to pass this legislation. Holtec’s release of tritium contaminated water is still planned for August.

Governor Hochul Kicks Off Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act Listening Tour

- **NEW! Virtual Meetings:** June 26, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and July 26, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- **North Country:** July 14, 1 to 3 p.m., North Country Community College, Sparks Athletic Complex Alumni Gymnasium
- **Capital Region:** July 20, 1 to 3 p.m., University at Albany, Campus Center Auditorium
- **NEW! Brooklyn:** August 9, 6 to 8 p.m. Brooklyn College
- **Lower Hudson:** August 15, 1 to 3 p.m., Westchester County Center, Little Theater
- **NEW! Bronx:** August 22, 6 to 8 p.m., La Central YMCA gymnasium
- **Long Island:** August 24, 1 to 3 p.m., Suffolk County Community College, Suffolk Credit Union Arena

To register for any of these sessions, visit [www.ny.gov/bondact](http://www.ny.gov/bondact).
The Community Sailing Program
River Walk

Photo by Susan Giannoni

Vanessa kicked off the sloop club’s community sailing program with the River Walk, introducing young people and their parents to the waterfront and basic sailing concepts. Attendees learned about the wind, tides and currents, sail boats, invasive species and dock safety and etiquette. Parents had an opportunity to learn more about the club and what we do.

To sign up for future events contact Vanessa Nisperos:

vanessa.nisperos@gmail.com

Annual Great Newburgh To Beacon Hudson River Swim

Date: Sat, Aug 5, 2023, Rain date: Sun, Aug 6, 2023

Register Now! Register online, click here.

Note: Advanced Registration is required, walk ins are not permitted.

Volunteer Kayak Escort Information
Volunteer kayak escorts guide the swimmers across the Hudson River to provide a safe environment for registered participants.
THANK YOU TO OUR STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL SPONSORS!

Ryder Truck Rental in Rock Tavern solved a huge problem for us by providing a refrigerated van, for just the cost of additional insurance. It worked perfectly. Thank you to Joyce for making the deal, and Jay and Tom for being our designated drivers.

New York State Music again provided us with free publicity.

This year’s strawberries were purchased through Hudson Harvest and sourced from two farms, Wright’s Farm in Gardiner and Davenport Farm in Stone Ridge.

I huge thank you to Jay for finding local berries after our original supplier lost their crop to frost.
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)