



Serving the Hudson River with Pride for 55 Years

A Message from Our President

Of all the threats to the Hudson River in our lifetime, perhaps the most intractable is the contamination of the river's fish, water, and sediment with toxic Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). This array of chemicals has been linked to a range of cancers, birth defects, immunosuppressive diseases, neurological development issues and neurobehavioral changes and disorders. PCBs have been shown to affect motor skills and short-term memory in children and have other public health impacts. Between 1947 and 1977 several million pounds of PCBs were released into the Hudson by General Electric.

In 1984 the PCB-laden section of the Hudson was designated as a Superfund site, to be overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA ordered GE to dredge the targeted area for PCBs. After 2015 when the dredging ended, the expectation was the river would naturally purge itself of remaining PCB poisons. This has not happened.

Disappointingly, testing of the river sediment in the affected area, and the fatty tissue of river fish, where PCBs predominantly reside, reveal that levels of the toxins have not receded as expected.

Under Superfund law, the EPA is required to produce five-year reports on the health of the river. In compliance, the agency issued its most recent draft for public comment, claiming "...There are not enough sets of annual data available... to establish rates of decline... with statistical confidence." (E-10) and recommended continued data collection.

The coalition of environmental organizations, Friends of a Clean Hudson (FOCH) disagrees. In their recently published independent review and analysis, they conclude that "... sufficient data exist to draw conclusions." (Addendum, page 21) They assert that the EPA is "backing away" (page 15) from their responsibilities and point out that the EPA's insistence on collecting more data delays critically needed actions to rid the Hudson of PCBs.

Every day corrective measures are delayed, another member of our river community is at risk for developing cancer, or immunosuppressive disorders. Another baby might be born with PCB related complications, and another child may develop neural-behavioral problems, suffer from short-term memory loss, or experience arrested fine motor skills development, because of the presence of PCBs in the river.

As an environmental organization dedicated to protecting the Hudson, the Beacon Sloop Club agrees with the determinations of the Friends of a Clean Hudson. We add our voice to the chorus of river protectors demanding action.

As always, the Beacon Sloop Club stands ready to do everything necessary to protect our river.

Rob

Inside this issue:

The pumpkins are coming, funding opportunities for our watershed, a little bit of history, and much more....



NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING Wednesday September 25, 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING Friday, October 4, 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30 p.m.

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](#)

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,

BSC Officers 2023

President:	Robert May	(845)661-5123	robertmay2394@gmail.com
Vice President:	Vince Farina	(845)656 9546	intraining_99@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Aaron Verdile	(914)503-6227	EXTproductions@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Trish Murphy		misstrishy1986@gmail.com

BSC Committee Chairs and Contacts

Building:			
Community Sailing:	Vanessa Nisperos		vanessa.nisperos@gmail.com
Environment:	Tom LaBarr	(845)831-4267	labarrt@gmail.com
Environmental Tent:	Tom Elliott	(518) 265-6676	tomelliott789@gmail.com
	Mark McNutt		
Festival Coordinator:	Patricia Finnerty	(267)908 0716	patriciafinnerty267@gmail.com
Festival Music:	Susan Berliner	(845)527-8671	
Festival Publicity:	Joyce Hanson	(914)907-4928	joycehanson@mac.com
Finance:	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
Grants & Dev.	James Malchow	908)405-1433	jpmalchow@gmail.com
Harbor Membership			
Mooring Manager:	Ben Fiege	(845)764-5884	fiege.benjamin@gmail.com
Harbor Communications	Jeremy Baum	(914)213-5353	jeremybaum@jeremybaum.com
Instagram	Allison Walker		ajwalk36@gmail.com
Lecture Series	Steve van der Merwe	(914)879-1082	vandermerwede@yahoo.com
	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
Membership:	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
MLK Day	Matt Bowen	(845)522-0780	mattbowen@gmail.com
Monthly Music:	Ken Miller	(201)376-1316	powwow187@aol.com
Musical Outreach:	Ken Miller	(201)376-1316	powwow187@aol.com
Newsletter:	Alan Thomas	(845)463-4660	acthoma@yahoo.com
Town Liaison	Tom LaBarr	(845)831-4267	labarrt@gmail.com
Vendor Coordinator:	Joyce Hanson	(845)293-3621	vendors@beaconsloopclub.org
Web Site:	Metal	(646) 481-6360	metal@stationbuilt.com
	James Brown		empulsetech@gmail.com
Woody Sailors	James Malchow	(908)405-1433	jpmalchow@gmail.com
Woody Maintenance:	Steve Schwartz	(845)462-7756	sloopcapt@aol.com
	Max Smith	(484)336-6569	
Woody Scheduling:	Susan Berliner	(845)527-8671	

Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting

Minutes, September 6, recorded by Trish Murphy

Opening Music

At 7:30 p.m. on September 6th, the meeting opened with a fun sing along to the song "And the Green Grass Grew All Around" performed by Ben Mazer, Ken Miller, and Rob May

Opening Announcements

Tor was thanked for doing the garbage and recycles and for keeping a detailed log for the items and such for the past months. James Malchow was thanked for being last month's "Multrum Hero". First time new members Jaquina, Brian and Sage, and David were welcomed. Returning new members Christina and Mike and his wife were welcomed as well.

Treasurer's Report

Aaron gave a detailed treasury report for the month of July. (See treasurer's report for full details). Gail inquired about having a report specific to the strawberry festival. Aaron stated that he had completed such report and then provided details for the latter.

Corn Festival Recap

Rosemary opened the report by giving thanks to the over 40 volunteers that made the Corn Festival a success. Joyce was thanked for her hard work and dedication in organizing and implementing the festival. Konstantin was thanked for making signs. A whopping 925 ears of corn, 163 hot dogs, and 241 servings of chili and corn salad were sold. Nearly all items offered by vendors were compostable. Tinya Seeger was credited for providing a fun and interactive area for children that was offered to event goers at no charge.

Pumpkin Festival

Rosemary informed listeners that the Pumpkin Festival was set to take place on October 20th. Volunteers were urged to come forward. The Pumpkin Festival will boast delicious homemade pumpkin pies, chili, hot apple cider, and coffee.

BSC History Presentation 9/24

Alan Thomas and Tom Labarr will be guest speakers at the Beacon Historical Society September meeting at the Beacon Elks Club on September 24th at 7:00 p.m. All club members are welcomed to represent the club and help with the Q&A.

Stop Iroquois Kayaktion- Noon 9/28 Athens

"Food and Water Watch" has organized a protest to oppose the Iroquois pipeline. The protest is set to take place on September 28th at noon. The event will be approximately two hours in length.

Woody Report/ Harbor Report

The Woody continues to host free public sales, which will take place until the date of the Pumpkin Festival on October 20th. Preparation for winterization of the boat will begin the week after the Pumpkin Festival.

Nominating Committee

Gail and Rosemary encouraged anyone to come forward who wishes to make a nomination.

Clearwater Report

Rosemary stated that on October 5th the annual meeting will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ~~opening music will be performed by the renowned David Bernz, who will also provide attendees with a 20-minute speaking selection.~~ Guests can enjoy a potluck style luncheon.

Alan stated that all Clearwater members should have received a ballot by now. A "pay what you can" sail is set to take place on the 21st. "Friends of the Clean Hudson" will provide an informative talk.

Environmental Report

Captain Tom opened his informative report by addressing the appropriateness of recycled toilet paper for septic systems and recreational vehicles. His research paired with experience led him to conclude that there are in fact some types of recycled toilet paper that are suitable. He stated that his own septic system has successfully functioned with the use of such paper for 25 years.

Captain Tom also addressed the misleading nature of items that state they are made from recycled materials. For example, listeners learned that some water bottles claiming to be composed of 50% recycled materials are actually comprised of approximately 5% recycled materials. Due to a number of factors, not recycled products cost less energy and air pollution to produce. Captain Tom stated that during a recent trip to Costa Rica he noted that glass bottles were prevalently used as opposed to plastic. He stated that it would be beneficial, not just to the environment, but also to the human body if we were able to adopt this policy due to the overwhelming amount of microplastics in the average human body. Due to the influence of big oil in America it would be difficult for our country to switch to primarily using glass bottles. Captain Tom ended his reporting by encouraging listeners to not use reusable plastic shopping bags, but rather campus bags like the one he has been efficiently utilizing for approximately forty-five years.

General Announcements

President Rob May provided a friendly reminder that general announcements will be confined to a 3-minute time limit. Tor began by giving a detailed reporting of the 16 oz of trash from the last meeting. The information brought attention to the importance of being aware of what we dispose of and if it is properly sorted at the time of disposal. Alan with Riverpool stated that wooden silverware is provided with takeout orders in Europe as opposed to plastic. He went on to state that on another topic, the Cross River Swim was a success. He thanked all the volunteers that participated. The next annual meeting will be held on November 16th. Efforts of volunteers are needed to remove the large river pool from the Hudson for winter storage. Riverpool is currently in its 15th year of operation. John, president of Riverpool, came forward to encourage interested listeners to join the board or contribute in other ways to the organization. Those wishing to attend the annual meeting can do so on zoom or in person. Wayne stated "Food and Water Watch" spoke with him. He then passed around easy reading material on the dangers of fracking. Lydia Adams Davis invited all to join a musical performance at the Town Crier in Beacon on September 22nd performed by herself, Maggie Seligman, and Jay Strauss. Lydia explained that "Music for Humanity" is an organization that provides scholarships for the community. Noble Coffee Roasters hosts venues that are proud to support this cause. For more information refer to LydiaAdamsDavis.com.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made in seconded at 8:22 p.m. Circle of song immediately followed.

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)

The house version of this bill contains \$10 million for Orange County and \$10 million for Dutchess County sponsored by Pat Ryan, along with significant funding for other Hudson and Mohawk Rivers watershed projects, including sewer infrastructure, flood reduction projects, invasive species management, and safe drinking water. The current Senate version of the bill does not have these provisions. Both houses of Congress are in the process of negotiating to create a final version of the authorization bill.



This old renovated diner is the home of the Beacon Sloop Club. Here sloopers gather weekly to work on club projects and monthly for a social and business meeting. The only sloop club to have its own building to use, this picturesquely painted diner is owned by the City of Beacon, is heated by a wood-burning stove in winter and should boast a Clivus Maltren someday. (Photo by Tobey)

You Can Start a Sloop Club

HISTORY OF HUDSON RIVER SLOOPS & THE BEACON SLOOP CLUB

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Beacon Elks Lodge 900 Wolcott Avenue Beacon, NY, 12508 United States ([map](#))

Join the Beacon Historical Society **September 24** for a presentation on the history of Hudson River Sloops and the Beacon Sloop Club, whose volunteers have raised awareness of our city's maritime heritage for nearly half a century. We will welcome long-time Sloop Club members Alan Thomas and Thomas LaBarr for the presentation.

All are welcome! There is plenty of free parking.

<https://www.beaconhistorical.org/.../history-of-hudson...>



W. H. Bartlett

VIEW NEAR ANTHONY'S NOSE

Pumpkin Festival Call for Volunteers October 19-20

On Saturday we need people to help with:
Potato Washing and other tasks

On Sunday we need people for
Set up

Pumpkin moving

Pie Selling

Cream whipping

Earth care

Potato Baking and serving

Soup and Chili

Take down and cleanup

Membership and Merchandising

And

Many, Many, More tasks

Contact:



Patricia Finnerty (267)908-0716
patriciafinnerty267@gmail.com

Rosemary Thomas (845)463-4660
rmthomas99@yahoo.com

Please come out and support the community and the Sloop Club and have a little fun down by the riverside.

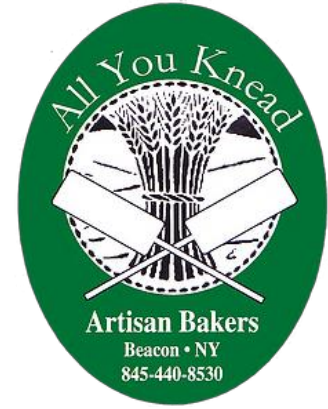
The Woody Gets an Upgrade



Supported by grants from the Hyde & Watson Foundation and the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley, the Woody's electrical systems have been upgraded to meet current Coast Guard standards.

The Beacon Sloop Club, inc.
Profit and Loss
 July 2024

	Total
Income	
Contribution, Gifts, Grants	175.00
Legacies and Bequests	150.00
Woody maintenance fund	75.00
Total Contribution, Gifts, Grants	\$ 400.00
Corn Festival	
Vendor	355.00
Total Corn Festival	\$ 355.00
Gross Sales of Inventory	25.00
Total Investment Income	\$ 270.02
Membership	
Paypal	410.00
Snailmail	125.00
Total Membership	\$ 535.00
Other Revenue	
Harbor Mooring Fee	750.00
Total Other Revenue	\$ 750.00
Pumpkin Festival	
Vendor	30.00
Total Pumpkin Festival	\$ 30.00
Strawberry Festival	
Shortcakes & Smoothies	287.00
Total Strawberry Festival	\$ 287.00
Total Income	\$ 2,652.02
Gross Profit	\$ 2,652.02
Expenses	
Bank Expense	
Paypal	28.36
Total Bank Expense	\$ 28.36
Corn Expense	43.20
Cost of Inventory	1,078.15
Facilities	
Harbor	181.50
Utilities	63.93
Woody Maintenance	118.92
Total Facilities	\$ 364.35
Other Expenses	
Advertising & Promotion	24.84
Sailing Class	30.00
Website	68.60
Total Other Expenses	\$ 123.44
Printing, etc.	
Broadside	297.97
Postage, Mailing Service	31.80
Total Printing, etc.	\$ 329.77
Pumpkin Expense	43.20
Special Events Expenses	32.49
Special Events Facilities	
Environmental	121.45
Total Special Events Facilities	\$ 121.45
Total Special Events Expenses	\$ 153.94
Strawberry Expense	698.25
Ads / flyers	93.93
Compost	159.98
Eco supplies	686.80
Sanitation	694.26
Total Strawberry Expense	\$ 2,333.22
Total Expenses	\$ 4,497.63
Net Operating Income	-\$ 1,845.61
Net Income	-\$ 1,845.61
Opening Cash Balance 7/1/2024	\$ 151,200.39
Closing Cash Balance 7/31/2024	\$ 149,354.78
Change in Investment Value	360.97
Total Balance 7/31/2024	\$ 149,715.75
Unrestricted & soft	\$ 118,301.73
Hard Restricted (total)*	\$ 31,414.02
B & S Rozinsky Fund (hard)	\$ 24,915.23
Board designated funds (soft)	\$ 16,312.25



Volunteer Leadership Opportunities

Building Committee Chair: Maintaining the clubhouse is an important responsibility. While the City of Beacon owns the property, we are its custodians. The committee chair is responsible for identifying projects and organizing work parties and working the grants committee to identify funding needs. Some expertise in the building trades is helpful, but not required.

Environmental Tent Chair: Tom Elliott will be stepping down at the end of the year. This is a popular activity for both children and adults, sparking a sense of wonder at the diversity of life to be found in the river. You can join Tom and Pat at the Corn and Pumpkin festivals to learn the ropes.



Current Calendar

BSC Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 25, 7:00 pm
At the clubhouse

Beacon Sloop Club Membership Meeting

Friday, October 4, 6:30 – 10:00pm
At the clubhouse

HISTORY OF HUDSON RIVER SLOOPS & THE BEACON SLOOP CLUB

Tuesday, September 24, 2024
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Beacon Elks Lodge 900 Wolcott Avenue

Spirit of Beacon Day

Sunday Sept. 29
11 am – 4 pm
Main St. Beacon

Clearwater's Annual Meeting

Saturday, October 5
10 am – 2 pm
Theater at the University Settlement Camp
Lunch is potluck



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.

Reminder:

Nominations for 2025 officers will take place at our November membership meeting. We also have opportunities for committee positions. Our nominating committee (Gail, Rosemary and James) is looking for your help to identify qualified candidates

HUDSON RIVER PCBS + THE PATH TO A HEALTHY RIVER
Monday, September 30 at 6pm
Beczak Environmental Education Center
35 Alexander St, Yonkers, NY 10701

Jen Benson
Environmental Action Director
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater

Drew Gamils
Senior Attorney
Riverkeeper

Hosted by:

Beacon Sloop Club

PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

- ★ SUNDAY OCT. 20 - NOON - 5 P.M.
- ★ PETE & TOSHI SEEGER PARK
BEACON, NEW YORK
- ★ PUMPKINS & PIE *For Sale*
- ★ *Sailing* ON THE WOODY
- ★ *Live* MUSIC *free* ADMISSION
- ★ www.beaconsloopclub.org

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