# Beacon Sloop Club Broadside



Volume 46 Issue 4

April 2019

# Serving the Hudson River with Pride for 46 Years

## A Message from Our President

May 3rd will be the 100th anniversary of the birth of our founder! There will be events around the globe to celebrate. Among many local celebrations, the Sloop Club is partnering with the Howland Center for an evening of song and stories on Saturday, May 4. Come join our many fine musicians and friends for a celebration of the joy Pete brought into our lives.

Pete's metaphor of the teaspoon of sand tipping the scale has always motivated the actions of the Sloop Club. In addition to our stewardship of the Hudson River, one of the Sloop Club's ongoing goals is to continually reduce our own impact on our planet. At the April meeting, we voted to take an important step toward reducing our carbon footprint by switching to renewable electricity. Our future power needs will be met through Community Distributed Generation from Wappingers Falls Hydroelectric, currently available to anybody with a Central Hudson bill. If we were to all change our household electric supply to renewable energy, we could make even more of a collective impact. Each grain of sand has the potential to change the world!

The Woody is home for rigging, and sail classes are up and running. Now is a great time to get involved with the boat! Come to a weeknight or weekend work party - no experience is necessary and all hands are welcome!

See you there! Susan

#### Inside this issue:

Preparing for the sailing season, Dancing to a Latin beat, GE done ??, women's work, and much more.....





NEXT EXEC. COM. MEETING Tuesday, April. 23, 7:00 p.m. NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, May 3, 7:30 p.m., Potluck at 6:30 p.m.

NameS	Street Address	
City State ZIP	PhoneEmail	
Membership donation \$ Renewal N	New Member Save Our Sloop Fund donation \$	
	Minimum of \$10.00. Please give more if you can afford it! e 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?		
Mail to: Beacon Sloop Club P.O. Box 527 Beacon, NY 12508  Link to Online Renewal: http://beaconsloop.org/Join.html		

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, Ben Mazer, Steve Schwartz,

#### BSC Officers 2019

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#### **BSC Committee Chairs and Contacts**

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Harbor Communication Kevin Haydon (845)797-2976
Harbor Membership Jim Birmingham (201)259-9634
Mooring Manager:

David Eberle

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Small Boats:

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## **Beacon Sloop Club General Meeting**

Minutes, April 5, 2019, recorded by Gail Moran

The meeting was opened with the song – "Take Me Home Country Road" in honor of Ken Miller's friend who passed away 2 weeks ago. A lot of people joined in the singing.

First time attendees included Silka Jackson from Nyack, whose dad attends on occasion. He is doing a research paper on Folk Music, Nora's friend, whose name I didn't get. He has open arms a good sense of humor and Scott, who moved here 7 or 8 months ago and is working for a solar company.

Thanks to Nancy & Michael, who will take home trash and to Mighty Zee for starting the fire.

#### **Treasury Report**

Details elsewhere in the newsletter.

Opening balance \$66, 693 and closing \$68,071

The Bonnie and Saul Woody fund is up to \$12,044.

#### **Woody Dinner**

It was a good time for all that attended and the BSC cleared about \$3146.

#### **Hydroelectric**

We have an opportunity to switch or electricity to Hydroelectric. There may be a small cost savings. A motion was made to switch and passed overwhelmingly.

#### **Hackensack Preservation Concert**

Ken Miller attended and accepted an award for the BSC for our environmental work. There were about a dozen different groups who attended and it was great to see them in one place. They all work together and he looks forward to them doing more in the future. The Hackensack Riverkeepers, a group that Pete and Toshi helped startup, give rides into the Meadowlands and also rents kayaks and puts on full moon paddles.

#### Strawberry Festival

This is only 2 short months away and is our biggest community outreach event, which gets people down to the river and encourages them to become environmentalists. It also raises a good deal of money for the BSC.. Please volunteer. June 8 is the prep day, June 9 is the festival.

#### **Lecture Series**

Really good crowd last week in spite of the last minute rescheduling.

Upcoming:

4-15-19 Will Kaufman, Woody Guthrie authority will speak on 'Woody Guthrie and Old Man Trump'. He will be performing, speaking and signing books.

5-9-19 Lance Ashworth will speak about the Fishkill Depot that was a depot for George Washington and there is a cemetery on the ground. he is fighting to preserve them from development.

July 13 - 50th Anniversary party

This year is the Beacon sloop club's 50th anniversary. A party is evolving.

May 4 - Riversweep in the morning. Joyce and Metal are coordinating.

#### Woody Report

The boat came back to Beacon on 3/31. We may be sailing in May. There is a work party tomorrow then on weeknights,

crews will be working on the boat. Any sailor who hasn't done 30 hours of maintenance please pitch in. We will have a potluck at the work parties.

#### Sailing Class

Starts 4-10. Wednesday's 7-9.

Learn sailing theory and then join a crew and get practical experience.

#### Youth Sail Training

Michael from the Wednesday crew is putting together a young sailing program for 13-18 year olds to learn to sail the Woody. It would be Saturdays.

#### May 3 Spirit of Pete Seeger

This would have been his 100th birthday.

There is a web site from a record company coming live in a couple weeks. Tinya said we are encouraged to do things in Pete's spirit and enter it on the site. Small things are fine and good. Enter all year. They will keep track of them and they will go in the Smithsonian Folk archives. Williteri@si.edu

Also part of the Spirit of Pete: April 28. Tom Chaplin concert May 4 the Puffin Association June Revival

#### Announcements

- -Ambulance Corp breakfast Sunday
- -Women's Work concert April 7
- -Mighty Zee wrote a book 'The Critter That Only Eats Litter' She left a copy at the club.
- -Craig Wolf May is a memorial month for Pete. Howland Cultural Center will have an art show with an opening 2:30 4:30, May 4. That night a concert.
- Sunday the 5th, 2-5:30 at the Tompkins Cultural Center 7pm a program at the Bardavon with the Vanaver Caravan and Tom Chaplin
- -Wayne Kocher told us about China planting thousands of trees that can be seen by satellite and encouraged us to take climate action





### **Beacon Sloop Club Youth Sailing Program**

It was announced at the general meeting of the Beacon Sloop Club that the club will be sponsoring a Young Sailors Program with the intent of creating a program to acquaint young people in the arts of the sailor, to instill in them a sense of stewardship for the environment and to train them in the sailing of the Woody Guthrie.

The ultimate goal of the program will be to recruit, train and put on the water a cadre of youth, both boys and girls, between the ages of 13 and 18 who can fulfill all crew positions required for sailing the Woody Guthrie. Although the exact dates have not been finalized it is proposed that beginning in late May meetings will take place on Saturdays at the Sloop Club clubhouse from noon to 4 PM. Each meeting will include approximately one hour of instruction in the arts of the sailor and weather permitting, sailing on the Woody Guthrie.

Michael Barnett, who is heading up the project, is looking for adults who are proficient in sailing the Woody and are able to devote some time on Saturdays to help out with the training and sailing and of course we are looking for young people who would be interested in participating in this exciting new program.

For more information, both adult volunteers and interested youth are encouraged to call Michael at 646-641-9455 or email him at

MICHAELGHH2@gmail.com

## The Woody Report



The Woody is back in Beacon and preparation for the sailing season has begun in earnest, with each crew starting weeknight activities along with the weekend work parties. Rigging has begun, as well as prep and painting of the spars, notably the new boom.

We are still waiting for space to open up at White's Marina to be able to haul out and inspect and paint the hull. Stay tuned, as that will require a coordinated effort among may people to get the turned around and ready to sail.



Photos by Patrick Gallagher and Ralph Szur

## Learn to sail

The Beacon Sloop Club Sailing Class

Learn the basics of sailing in a classroom situation and potentially become a member of the crew on the "Woody Guthrie", historic wooden replica of a gaff-rigged Hudson River Sloop, when she is re-launched.

8 Sessions, Wednesday evenings, beginning April 10th and finishing on May 29th. Classes run from 7 – 9 PM and the cost is \$50. We furnish a textbook for you to keep.

at the Beacon Sloop Club 2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon, NY

For more information contact Jim Birmingham @ 201-259-9634 or email jbirmingham@hvc.rr.com.



Photo by Jean Noack

#### Women's Work Raises Funds and Awareness

A huge thank you goes out to Lydia Adams Davis and all the Wonderful and talented women who took the stage and supported this year's Women's Work event at the Howland Center. There were a few men behind the scenes as well.

The event raised much-needed funds to support the club's sailing program and the Woody Guthrie, and was a lot of fun too. This is a great example of a grassroots event to support the club's programs and interact with the community.

## The Annual Woody Dinner



A great time was had by all at the Woody Guthrie Dinner held at the beautiful Chalet on the Hudson, overlooking Storm King Mountain.

Our sailors, friends and guests enjoyed good food, dancing to the Latin sounds of the Judith Tulloch band and, of course good company.

Thank you to Susan, Joyce, Margaret, and everyone else who helped organize and make this a memorable event. How better to support the Woody?



Tools of the trade

#### The General Electric Company Has Not Finished Cleaning The Hudson River Of PCBs



On April 11, 2019, the Reuters News Service announced that New York State officials plan to sue the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) for allowing the General Electric Company (GE) to stop cleanup of the PCBs in the Hudson River. GE began dumping PCBs into the Hudson from its Fort Edward plant in 1947, and from its Hudson Falls plant in 1951 (both about 40

miles North of Albany). The dumping ended in 1977 with an estimated 1.3 million pounds of PCBs discharged into the Hudson.

The dredging by the General Electric Plant to remove the PCBs from these areas began in 2009 and ended in 2012. After this, there were periodic studies of the water, animals, shoreline, etc. to monitor the PCBs left. Now GE wants the Certificate of Completion from the EPA. The EPA has been weakened by our present administration. Many, including Governor Cuomo, DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos, and Congressman Sean P. Maloney oppose the granting of this certificate until G.E. cleans up the remaining PCBs.

In November of 2018, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife service study of mink, which are semi- aquatic and eat fish, found that these mammals are so contaminated that their population has dropped by 40%. In December of 2018 a study commissioned by NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) was released which found that PCBs remain high in fish and riverbeds.

Representatives of General Electric supported a wait time after 2012 to observe what nature would do to break down remaining PCBs and claim their job is now done, although a study by Isamu Ogura found that the half-life of PCBs ranged from a few years to twenty years (National Institute of Advanced Science and Technology Vol.66 2004). This pattern of delay and denial is similar to why it took G.E. so many years to stop its dumping in the first place, made worse by the 1973 removal of the Fort Howard Dam that caused large amounts of PCBs to flow into the lower Hudson. Then also in 1976, what was described as" the worst flooding in 100 years" occurred flushing sediment south down the Hudson. Between 1991 and 1992, PCB levels in fish levels rose 300% in the upper Hudson River, attributed to PCB ground water leakage.

Doctor Majid Ali, a pathologist, once told me that we are in the mist of a human experimentation, as it is unknown how all the chemicals that most of the world are being exposed to will affect our bodies. Studies have shown exposure to PCBs are linked to endocrine disruptions. For example, one gland in this system is the thyroid, when damaged disrupts our physical and sexual development.

**Continued on Page 6** 



**Winter Lecture Series** 

Our March lecture featured architectural historian James Kelly who took us through the evolution of Hudson Valley communities beginning with the Dutch and English land grants of the 17th & 18th centuries, followed by the estate building boom made possible by the railroads, through the decline of the Hudson River Valley as a fashionable destination of the wealthy in the early 20th century, and on to the present day.

It was fascinating to see how structures evolved and were repurposed as styles and communities changed. While many are no longer here there are still opportunities to see the work of the major architects of the past all up and down the Hudson Valley.

Thank you to Jim and to all of those who attended for their flexibility, as we had to reschedule at the last minute. We had a great turnout and many stimulating questions.

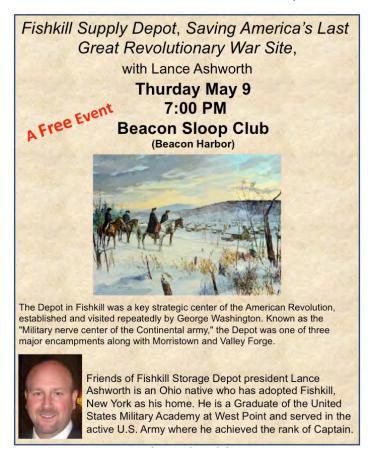
#### PCBs Continued form page 5

Other risks are: cancerous tumors, birth defects including limb deformities and neurological damage, such as learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders. It is complicated to pinpoint what exactly causes any of these conditions, as we are being exposed to other minute doses of environmental pollutants, and we have genetic differences.

What you can do? The Riverkeeper Organization, begun in 1966 by a group of New York State fishermen, ensure compliance with the 1972 Clean water Act by monitoring the health of the Hudson River. They stress on their web site that the public report polluting situations they observe, and also to call and write to our representatives and ask that GE complete their cleanup.

Submitted by

Nora Gallardo



#### The Fishkill Supply Depot

The Depot provided material and supplies to keep the Continental troops fighting. At the site equipment was built, collected and distributed, British soldiers were imprisoned and Americans received hospital care.

The Fishkill Supply Depot Site was entered into the National Register of Historic Places on January 21, 1974. The site was judged significant for its role in the Revolutionary War, for the historic architecture of the Van Wyck Homestead, and for its archeological qualities.

In 2007, archaeologists confirmed what local historians and others could not: the existence of a Continental Army burial ground on the site, where at least 300 soldiers lie forgotten in unmarked graves. Up until then the burial ground was considered folklore, something of local legend; no solid proof had ever been discovered.

"Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot" was formed to advocate for the preservation, study and proper interpretation of this sacred site. Since 2007, members of the FOFSD have spoken before the U.S. Congress, rallied behind legislation to amend the Battlefield Protection Act to include the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 and have sponsored various outreach events.

This free event is open to all. For more information visit our website <a href="www.beaconsloopclub.org">www.beaconsloopclub.org</a> or call (845) 463-4660, (914) 879-1082

10:24 PM 03/21/19 Cash Basis

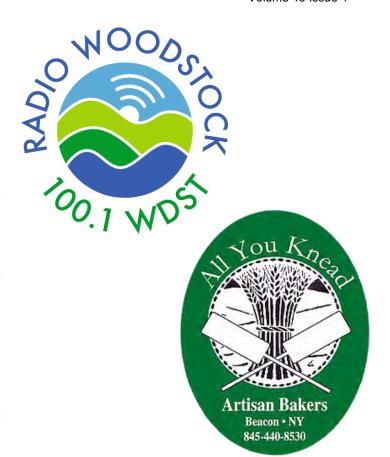
BSRF Opening 2/1/19 Contribution

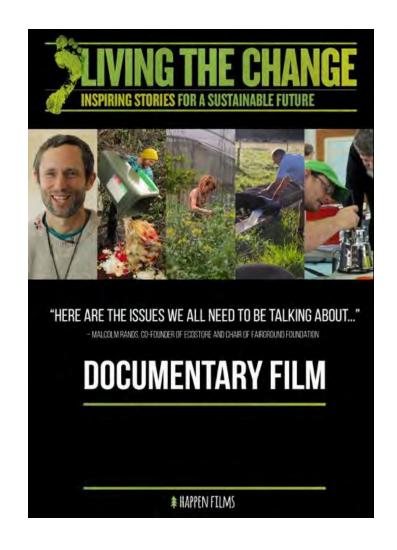
Change in Investment value

Bonnie and Saul Rozinsky Fund 2/28

## Beacon Sloop Club, Inc. **Profit & Loss**

Feb	February 2019	
	Feb 19	
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Contribution, Gifts, Grants		
Amazonsmile Foundation	16:20	
Bonnie and Saul Rozinsky Fund	25.00	
Contribution, Gifts, Grants - Other	53.00	
Total Contribution, Gifts, Grants	94.20	
Investment income		
Interest-Business	268.41	
Interest-Checking	2.18	
Interest-Money Market	9.65	
Total Investment Income	280.24	
Membership		
Paypal	25.00	
Snallmall	298.00	
Total Membership	323.00	
Special Event		
MLK essay contest - donation	225.00	
Woody Dinner	1,575.62	
Total Special Event	1,800,62	
Total Income	2,498.06	
Gross Profit	2,498.06	
Expense	3,130.40	
Bank Expense		
Paypal	38.93	
Total Bank Expense	38.93	
Facilities	30.33	
Festival	213.59	
Utilities	31.24	
Woody Maintenance	17.82	
Total Facilities	262.65	
Other Expenses	202.00	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	695.00	
Total Other Expenses	695.00	
	093.00	
Printing, etc. Broadside	100.76	
Total Printing, etc.	100.76	
Special Events Expenses	22.52	
Woody Dinner	22.53	
Total Special Events Expenses	22.53	
Total Expense	1,119.87	
Net Ordinary Income	1,378,19	
et Income	1,378.19	
Opening Cash Balance 2/1/19	66,693.18	
Closing Cash Balance 2/28/19	68,071.37	





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12,044.84

25.00 297.38

## **Current Calendar**

**Executive Committee meeting**, Tues., Aprr. 23, 7:00pm.

**Beacon Sloop Club meeting** every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month: next meeting, May. 3 – potluck 6:30 p.m., general meeting 7:30 p.m

Movies that Matter Beacon- Living The Change: Inspiring Stories For A Sustainable Future, Friday, April 26, Doors Open 6:45 Film starts at 7:30pm At McKinley Hall, 50 Liberty St., Beacon. Free.

BSC Winter Lecture Series Fishkill Supply Depot, Saving America's Last Great Revolutionary War Site w/ Lance Ashworth, Thur., May. 9, 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse

River Sweep-Waterfront Cleanup, Sat. May 4, 8:30 am, At the clubhouse. To register:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beacon-riverfront-park-cleanup-registration-59079841396

Oh, my gosh, Celebrating Pete Seeger's centennial, Sat. May 4, 8pm, Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon

Fourth Annual Pete Seeger Festival, Sun., May 5, 2:00-5:30 pm, Thompkins Corners Cultuiral Center, Putnam Valley



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.

Hold the date:

Strawberry Festival, June 9

Corn Festival, August 11

**Pumpkin Festival, October 20** 

Clearwater Festival, June 15-16

