

## Volunteers make the difference!

Call Virginia at 845.679.6482 to find out how *you can* make a difference.



### Welcome Marita Lopez- Mena, Executive Director

Marita comes to  
Woodstock Land

Conservancy with an extensive background in non-profit management in museums, healthcare, and the environment.

She was the founding executive director of the Hudson River Maritime Museum, development director for Scenic Hudson, and executive director of the Benedictine Health Foundation, as well as director of marketing/public relations, and volunteer services at the former Benedictine Hospital.

Since 2000 she has been a consultant to non profits regionally, nationally and internationally. Marita is a volunteer for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), serves on the Advisory Board of Breast Cancer Options and the Hudson River Maritime Museum. She also is a member of the board of trustees at Sawyer Savings Bank in Saugerties.

In her spare time she has written for regional publications. Marita attended Pratt Institute, and received a BA in Literature from Bard College. She resides in Woodstock, NY.

## Hikes and Events

**July 5** 🍂 Morning hike at Bluestone Wild Forest / Onteora Lake with Michael Drillinger, exploring its lake, ponds, trails, and quarries.

**August 2** 🍂 View *The Night Sky* through telescopes at the Zena Cornfield with UCCC Prof. Steve Schimrich.

**Sept. 6** 🍂 *Mushrooms of Forests and Fields* - Mushrooms play an integral part in the natural world. We will collect samples and learn the basics of ID of this vast world of mycology.

**Sept. 28** 🍂 *Hudson River Valley Ramble* - Licensed guide, Michael Drillinger, will lead us to spectacular views where photographer, Dan Goldman, will walk us through the '*art of seeing*' - opening our eyes to the vast and inspiring world around us.

**Oct. 4** 🍂 *This Scavenger Hunt at Comeau* will tap into the natural urge of kids to explore their surroundings.

**Please visit our website for more info about WLC events**

**Zena Cornfield: A Community Fest**  
celebrating 25 years of meadow, light, air,  
views – our landscape forever!!

Save the Date - Saturday, August 9th,  
2 to 5:30 pm for art, photography, nature  
walks, picnic, and special programming.



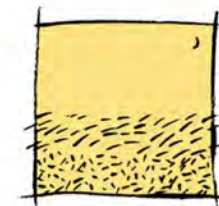
# LAND LINES

## SPRING 2014

Events on the land — Letter from the  
President — Meet Marita Lopez-Mena  
— and more —



Celebrating 25 years  
of land conservation.



WOODSTOCK LAND  
CONSERVANCY

[www.WoodstockLandConservancy.org](http://www.WoodstockLandConservancy.org)



## President's Letter

After the long slog of winter, spring is bursting out everywhere in an explosion of green beginnings. And WLC likewise - with exciting developments on many fronts.

After an extensive search, we've found our new Executive Director, Marita Lopez-Mena. You will meet her in this newsletter, and please make a point of saying "hi" and welcoming her when you see her at one of our events - she's a real people-person, and you'll love her as we do!

We've just announced our acquisition of a very important addition to our Mt. Guardian Preserve. Though the funding campaign for this is on-going, we're thrilled to help keep this gorgeous and highly visible mountaintop wild and pristine.

To continue moving forward on this and such other initiatives as a rail trail on DEP lands along the Ashokan, a sustainable agriculture project at the stellar new Thorn Preserve, a new, very large acquisition near the Bluestone Wild Forest, and another dramatic hilltop preserve open for hikers, we need your support.

Donations of any size are hugely important and deeply appreciated, and gifts of your time and energy are extremely important too! Do you have a passion for trails? Want to create safer places for kids to hike, bike and experience nature? Do you enjoy organizing and staffing events? Are you a great motivator and coordinator of volunteers? Have an interest in permaculture or organic gardening? If so, please email us at [info@woodstocklandconservancy.org](mailto:info@woodstocklandconservancy.org), and come work and play with us - it's fun!

Your resources, energy and creativity are vital to helping us do the important work of conserving this precious landscape we live in and enjoy every day. We cannot do this crucial work without you.

So please have a happy, productive and nature-connected summer, and look for us on the trail...  
Patty Goodwin, WLC President

Get the latest Catskill Mountain Rail Trail news.

Visit: [catskillmountainrailtrail.org/](http://catskillmountainrailtrail.org/)

## The Tree Sails Away

In a fine example of recycling, the old tree in Ludin's field was down on the ground and the 46-year old Sloop Clearwater needed five, thick new planks of high-quality wood. Jordan Voelker from Limber Tree Services was crucial in getting the behemoth out of the field and into the hands of the boat's restoration crew.



The tree yielded a 20-foot long chunk of white oak, which was then chain-sawed into a manageable size for the shop sawmill. The planks created were subsequently steamed and carefully fitted into Sloop Clearwater's curvaceous stern - a job not easily done. The passage between field and river all in all took six months of labor before the boat sailed away.

Jim Kricker, owner of Rondout Woodworking, is the millwright and boatbuilder who headed the restoration crew along with Clearwater captain, Nick Roger.

Kricker said, "The group that worked on the project was comprised of several professionals, winter maintenance crew from Clearwater, and some adventurous young volunteers who never

worked on a boat restoration crew before." He went on to say, "Our daughter, Susannah, and her friend, Olga, who was visiting from Poland, were part of that last category. It's interesting that women now outnumber men sometimes on these jobs. They are confident and work very well together."



Clearwater sailed down river in June from Albany to the 2013 Great Hudson River Revival in Newburg. Kricker said, "That

might have been the most exciting part of the job - work was still being completed en route to the Revival. The restoration crew bailed at Newburg in the nick of time."

Woodstock Land Conservancy is proud to have supplied the tree that has morphed into part of the much-loved boat that goes sailing up and down the Hudson River spreading its environmental message. - Marita Lopez-Mena



## REMEMBERING CHRISTINE BECKER

An incredibly generous spirit, Christine exemplified a beautiful balance of body, mind and soul cultivation. As an avid naturalist, hiker, gardener, kayaker, animal lover - she worked tirelessly for land conservation in her role on the WLC Board of Directors. We will miss her keen eye, deep thinking and ready smile.