

**Eleanor** sailing in the Catskill Creek in the 1970s. She will still be a 1903 Clinton Crane gaff rigged sloop with great sail power and her Raceabout style. Cabinetry details, color of the deck and a slight change in sail sizes along with the addition of an electric motor will be different. If you believe that loved boats have souls, then you will understand that Eleanor is still Eleanor down in her soul.

Thursday, June 11, 2020 Eleanor was moved from her perfect space at 99 South Third Street, in the Antique Warehouse that she has occupied for the past nine years. Thank you to the management team and friends at the warehouse that have watched with interest and patience the restoration project.

*Eleanor* was moved out into the 'waiting area' in the warehouse where she was picked up on Monday morning by Alcove Marina and hauled to Mikes' Riverview Marina in Catskill to prepare for her launch and rigging during the week of June 15, 2020. Her sails, being made by Bier Sails in Pennsylvania will arrive during the first part of July. The restoration of *Eleanor* has been the most ambitious restoration project of a national and state registered historic vessel of a 1903 Clinton Crane gaff rigged sloop of the Raceabout Class. I can make this claim because she, *Eleanor*, is the last remaining one of her fast and romantic turn of the century style.

Since March 2011 a family of volunteers from communities in Greene and Columbia County have dedicated every Thursday evening to this momentous project. This coming week will be a very exciting one as each step in the launch and rigging process is completed. Our rigger, Becca Buckler will be with us to expedite the rigging as Mike Aguilar, Proprietor of Mike's River View Marine oversees each step as he did from 1952 until 2001. He is the expert for handling wooden boats and wooden spars. Mike is on our board and is so excited at the prospect of seeing Eleanor sail again past his marina on the Catskill Creek and out into the Hudson River.

The last few weeks have been very challenging as we have worked in two and threes, wearing masks and distancing ourselves, but not dismayed. I will keep you apprised of our progress this coming week. I am attaching some fine photographs that show some of her restored beauty.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of this project.



### <sup>20</sup> July/August 2020



July/August 2020



<sup>22</sup> July/August 2020



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