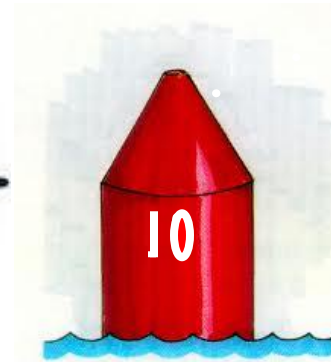
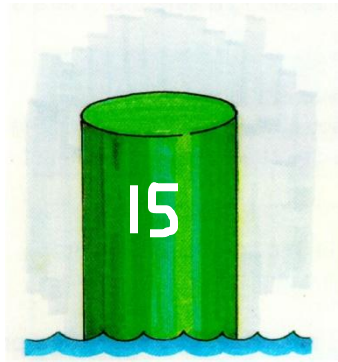


US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY DISTRICT 1 SOUTH, LAKE GEORGE FLOTILLA



MEMBER SERVICES
OPERATIONS AND MARINE SAFETY

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY
FELLOWSHIP

THE BEACON

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I hope this first year of publication in many years has been informative. There is always room for improvements so if you have suggestions, please contact me.
Happy New Year!

Elections

The October meeting was held with the election results being:

Lee Townsend FC for a second term

Jeremy Putorti VFC for a second term

Congratulations, Lee and Jeremy!

Two New Crew Members!

On a cool cloudy day, October 14, Jeremy Putorti and Gary Slusher successfully took their crew check ride. We thank Tom and Gail Venezia, QE's, for taking the time for this check ride.



Photo: Lynn Enny

QE Tom Venezia, Jeremy Putorti and George Enny preparing for the pre-underway check.



Photo: Lynn Enny

Gary Slusher, QE Gail Venezia, Charlie Pound and Lee Townsend preparing for an anchoring scenario.

COM-L Certification

After entering initial training to be a Communication Specialist over two years ago, Mike Balch has received word that he has satisfactorily completed his training to be COM-L III certified. This certification will enable him to work with the Coast Guard and other agencies as a communication expert in mid level disaster events. Mike has been using this training in the planning of such events as the Burlington Harbor Fireworks, USA National Triathlon Events and YMCA Cross Lake Swim. Congratulations, Mike.

Awards, Awards, Awards!

The Division Change of Watch was held Saturday, November 17 at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls. Several individuals and our Flotilla received many acknowledgements.

CG Auxiliary Achievement Award: Each year, Sector Northern New England presents awards for exceptional Auxiliarists who go above and beyond while supporting Station Burlington and the events held on Lake Champlain. This year Mike Balch and Charlie Pound were two of the three awarded the CG Auxiliary Achievement Award.



Photo: George Enny

Charlie receiving his award from BMCS Daniel Murray, OIC Station Burlington

Charlie was cited for his work finding facilities and crews to cover the seventeen or more marine events held on Lake Champlain in the summer of 2012. Station Burlington was very thankful for the weekly updates confirming events had Auxiliary coverage. This left CG Station Burlington's crews and facilities available to respond to emergency SAR cases.

Mike Balch was cited for his dedication in supporting major marine events with his communication expertise and COM L Training. Mike plays a key role in the planning phases of the larger marine events held on Lake Champlain. Mike also is a radio watchstander and Liaison for Division 15 at Station Burlington.

500+ Club: BMCS Daniel Murray with the support of SSNE, created an award for anyone who compiled over 500 hours in AuxData. Four members of Flotilla 15-10 received a certificate and SSNE coin. Mike Balch, George Enny, Lynn Enny and Jim Canavan were recognized.

Auxiliarist of the Year Award: Lynn Enny was awarded the Auxiliarist of the Year Award. Lynn was cited for her work as a coxswain, QE, TCT Facilitator, Radio Watchstander, Division Member Training Officer, and Division Vice Commander.



Photo: George Enny

FC Lee Townsend receives the Flotilla of the Year Award from VCDR Lynn Enny

Flotilla of the Year Award: For the second year in a row, Flotilla 15-10 was awarded the Flotilla of the Year Award. Flotilla 15-10 excelled in several areas including Operations, CG Support, Member Training, Public Education, Communications, International Affairs, and much more.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FLOTILLA 15-10 AND ITS MEMBERS!

Leadership Conference: FC Lee Townsend attended Leadership Training November 30 to December 2 at the CG Academy in Mystic , Conn. FC Townsend returned with several plans and goals for 2013.

Holiday Gathering: The annual Holiday gathering was held at the Olde Post Grill in Queensbury Tuesday, December 11. The Ugliest Sweater Award went to George Enny. We were pleased to have member Bill Smith stop by on his return to his home downstate. A collection of non-perishable food items was collected and donated to a local food pantry. Six gift cards were donated for Coast Guard families directly affected by Hurricane Sandy. They were sent to District 1 Chaplain and he called to assure that the cards were greatly appreciated and distributed.

Auxiliary 15-10 Member Highlight:

FC Lee Townsend liked one of the suggestions discussed at Leadership Training: Why it is important to get to know the members better. The idea resulted in— let's start with our newest member. Last month we welcomed Paul Conners. So Paul was sent a list of questions with the option of not answering anything he felt was too personal or uncomfortable. Paul quickly answered all the questions and there is no need to rewrite his excellent contribution. I can see a new PB officer in the making! Thanks, Paul.



Photo: Lynn Enny



Photo submitted by Paul Connors

Name: PAUL CONNORS

Town/City of Residence: GLENS FALLS

Do you have family? What are your family interests?

YES, A HUGE FAMILY IN THE GLENS FALLS AREA AND SONS IN BOSTON, SAN DIEGO & NEW JERSEY

MY FAMILTY IS PRETTY ACTIVE IN GOLF, BOATING (UNTIL WE SOLD THE BOAT THIS PAST FALL), SNOWSHOEING, DAY HIKES, ICE SKATING, PHANTOMS HOCKEY, PATRIOTS FOOTBALL AND BOSTON RED SOX (WHILE ORIGINALLY FROM UPSTATE NY, MY WIFE AND I SPENT TOO MANY YEARS IN MASSACHUSETTS & MAINE TO NOT ROOT FOR NEW ENGLAND TEAMS), AND SPENDING TIME WITH OUR GRAND CHILDREN AND FAMILY.

Are you currently employed? What are your responsibilities at work?

YES. PRIMARY JOB IS WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC AS AN PROJECT MANAGER OVERSEEING ACQUISITIONS AND SPECIFICALLY THE INTEGRATION OF THE ACQUIRED COMPANY'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INTO GE.

I AM ALSO A PARTNER IN A GLENS FALLS COMPANY CALLED 'REDESIGN4SENIORS' WHERE WE FOCUS ON PROVIDING SOLUTIONS FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS & COUPLES WISHING TO AGE IN PLACE IN THEIR HOME AND FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL CHALLENGES OR THOSE INDIVIDUALS PROVIDING CARETAKING OF THOSE WITH MENTAL AND PHYSICAL DISABILITIES.

Do you have hobbies?

AMATEUR RADIO, RESTORING ANTIQUE OIL LAMPS & FIRELESS COOKERS, SKATE SAILING, CHURCH JOB MINISTRY, HELPING PEOPLE WITH COMPUTERS/TECHNOLOGY AT HOME...

How did you hear about the Auxiliary?

I MET SEVERAL USCGAUX MEMBERS WHILE LIVING IN PORTLAND, ME AND MARVELED AT THEIR OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO THE USCG MISSIONS AND BE VALUED BY THE USCG AS A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION.

Why did you join?

I WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE ORGANIZATION AND MISSION OF THE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION I HAD BEEN A PART OF FOR 10 YEARS WHILE IN MAINE AND DECIDED AFTER RETURNING TO NY NOT REMAIN INVOLVED WITH THAT ORGANIZATION.

I STILL FELT I HAD MANY SKILLS THAT I COULD CONTRIBUTE AND STILL DESIRED THE COMRADERY I HAD FOUND IN PAST COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS. AS I HAD AN INTEREST IN BOATING, SAR, & COMMUNITY SERVICE, I FELT THE USCGAUX MIGHT BE ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THOSE SKILLS TO USE, TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ACTUAL MISSIONS AND SERVICES THAT DIRECTLY BENEFITED THE MISSION OF HLS AND THE USCG, AND TO MEET PEOPLE WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS AND VARIED BACKGROUNDS.

What are you interested in doing while a member of the Auxiliary?

I BECAME INVOLVED IN MANY DIFFERENT PARTS OF VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS – TEACHING SKILL CLASSES, LEADING GROUND SAR MISSIONS, FLYING AS PART OF A SAR AIRCREW, HEADING UP LOGISTICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIR MISSION ROLES.

I CONTINUE TO BE INTRIGUED WITH THE AUXCHEF PROGRAM AND WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO FUTURE TRAINING IN THAT AREA.

WHILE I HAVE A RADIO BACKGROUND, FOR A MISSION ROLE I'D LIKE TO BE BECOME INVOLVED IN OUR BOAT CREWS. FOR AN ORGANIZATION ROLE, I'D LIKE TO BE SUPPORTIVE WHERE I CAN BEST BE UTILIZED BY BOTH THE FLOTILLA AND THE DISTRICT – THAT MIGHT BE IN TRAINING OTHER MEMBERS OR THE PUBLIC, OR IT COULD BE HELPING WITH AUXINFO AND AUXDATA.

Have you had any Auxiliary training or plan on getting training? In what area(s) would you like training?

I WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE TRAINING IN AUXCHEF, AUXINFO/DATA AND BOAT CREW QUALS.

MT: There are many opportunities for on-line training. Please ask for information from MT Mike Balch or any other member as to the links for this training.

FLOTILLA DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday January 8- Monthly meeting

Friday to Sunday March 22-24- Great Upstate Boat Show- Dome

DIVISION DATES TO REMEMBER:

Teleconference Meeting Wednesday January 16

Other important dates are listed in *The Watchstander* Division Newsletter and on Division web page. <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=014-15>

DISTRICT DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 15-17- D-Train, Mystic, Ct

The editor thanks Margaret & Tom Malone, Frank Williams, Lee Townsend, and George Enny for their contributions to *The Beacon*.

Pictures taken by Lynn and George Enny, Frank Williams.

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