



Champlain Eagle

FLOTILLA 15-8
PLATTSBURGH, NY
DISTRICT 1SR



April 2012

Commander's Comments

Saturday Apr 21st, Aline, Stephanie, Scot, Don, and myself set up a display at the Plattsburgh Farmers Market. It was an Earth Day celebration and the theme was WATER. Since that is one of the areas we are interested in we got to talk with lots of people about the environment, pollution, Lake Champlain, etc.

We also had an opportunity to talk with people about upcoming ABS courses, and we got the name of one potential new member. I think we were successful in our goals.

Our flotilla has also increased growth in a lot of areas such as training, communication skills, and working together for a common goal. We will soon have boats in the water and will be able to get started on our goals to prepare those who will need check rides. We have been working very well together, and very hard to complete our goals and missions. I want to personally thank every one who has helped in this task not only for the Coast Guard, but our community. If just one person who takes the ABS course decides to wear a life jacket on the water than our classes were worth it. We still have a long way to go but I know our flotilla is up to the task.

Again thanks for all you do, and Semper Paratus.



Carl Duford, Flotilla Commander

Member News



Never too young to save the planet: Sydney Zaremba-Woodward snags her copy of “Officer Snook And His Friends” coloring book. Flotilla 15-8 was invited to set up a table for Earth Day, April 21, at the Plattsburgh Farmers Market pavillion. The theme was Water and of course it rained outside but we met some visitors and potential members. Our emphasis was on Marine Safety. From left to right are Stephanie Lago; Scot Zaremba-Woodward, FSO-NS; Aline Pepe, FSO-MS; and Carl Duford, FC. Don Craig behind the camera.

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Flotilla 15-8 is pleased to introduce our two newest members, George Maynard of Plattsburgh (left) and David Desjardins, Chazy, NY. Desjardin is an Air Force veteran and likes to cook.



District Publication Award – At the April Flotilla meeting, I was presented with a Second Place Publication Award for our newsletter ***Champlain Eagle***. FC Duford collected this at the District meeting in March. As the editor, I am very happy about this because there are some 89 flotillas in the district that we competed against. It's not just a personal award, it's recognition of everything we do in the flotilla as seen here in pictures and reports. - *Don Craig, FSO-PB & Editor*



Diversity and Inclusion – Angelique Zarembo-Woodward is sworn in by FC Duford as Flotilla Staff Officer for Diversity. This is a new position in the Auxiliary and reflects the Coast Guard's new emphasis on Diversity and Inclusion: “A diverse workforce provides a variety of perspectives and talents

that will enhance the workplace. A diverse workforce allows an organization to capitalize on these strengths and become stronger and more capable. An inclusive work environment is also critical. To work at its best, a team needs to trust and respect each other. If a member feels excluded or marginalized, he/she is less inclined to work with the team, trust the other members, or add input. This becomes especially dangerous when people notice a safety concern, but they don't feel like they can speak up. Additionally, targeted individuals are more likely to leave the Coast Guard, which results in a loss of training, talent, and experience.”

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Our Award-winning FC - FC Duford received a handful of awards April 28 from Commodore Hal Marschal (left) and Commander Christopher Zorman, DIRAUX, at the Division Town Hall Meeting. Duford received one Sustained Aux award for 2411 Cumulative hours; an award from the National Commodore for sponsoring 5 new people in 2010; a Certificate of Appreciation for graduating from the Flotilla Commanders College; the Meritorious Team Commendation Award for the Lake Champlain Marine event in 2011; and finally a performance award for recruiting at least seven new members in 2011, that comes with a recruitment ribbon. He was busy last year.

VFC Charlie Schenck also received a Certificate of Appreciation for the Flotilla Commanders College.



The DanDee, above, patrol boat of Frank Williams IPFC, has been inspected and deemed satisfactory to be designated as an Operational Facility for this year. The call numbers are 262242. Hopefully, we'll all be on the water soon, but right now the water temperatures are still hovering around 38 F.

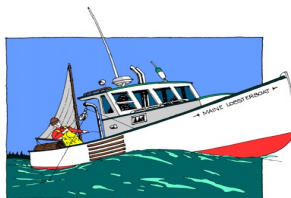
Favorite Website: NOAA

From time to time we run across a free website on the internet that is just so good we have to share it. However, we will not list anything here that requires a digital download or payment of money.

This is the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration who run the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Burlington, VT. This is a “must check” website anytime you plan to venture out on Lake Champlain. The site provides lake conditions such as water levels, temperature, wind velocity and direction, wave conditions, as well as precipitation and general weather forecasts:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/btv/html/lake.php>

They also have charts of Lake Champlain that you can zoom in on.



Refreshment Schedule For Monthly Meetings

May	Lois & Carl Duford
June	Margaret & Tom Malone
July	Bill Rowe & Bob Shivokevich
August	Philip Shivokevich & Catherine Zatylny
September	Scot Woodward & Eric Trotman
October	Hank & Patricia Schwartz
November	Ted Alwine & Stephanie Lago
December	Change of Watch dinner meeting



There's no particular reason for this picture, except we like it. This is a buoy tender at Station Burlington called the BUSL (pronounced bew-sl) – Boat Utility Stern Loading in military terms. Those are heavy steel buoys on the deck. They're being replaced by lighter foam materials and this boat will be taken out of service some day.

Coming Events

2-3 May, ABS boating safety course, South Plattsburgh Fire Department. Wednesday & Thursday.

6 May, Team Coordination Training (TCT), Whitehall. Sunday.

15 May to 15 June, Vessel Safety Check Month. Marina dates scheduled for May 19-20 and 26-27; June 2-3 and 9-10.

19-25 May, National Safe Boating Week. Kick off event scheduled for Saturday, May 19, with Power Squadron.

2 June, Saturday, ABS course 8 hour, South Plattsburgh Fire Dept.

8 June, Change of Command Ceremony, Station Burlington.

9 June, Surface Operation Training Day, South Plattsburgh Fire Department and Peru Boat Launch.

3 July, Fireworks, Station Burlington.

18 July, Division meeting and picnic, place TBD.

5 August, Dragon Boat Race, Burlington Harbor.

18 August, Triathlon, Burlington Harbor.

25 August, YMCA Cross Lake Swim, North Hero, Vt.

8 September, Military Appreciation Day, Crete Civic Center, Plattsburgh.

12 September, Division meeting and election, Queensbury, NY.

22 September, ICS 210 class, Whitehall Central School.

18 November, Division Change Of Watch.

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Photo credits: Don Craig and Frank Williams.

We welcome news articles and photographs relating to Flotilla 15-8 from all of our members.

Please visit our website at <http://wwgaux15-8.org/> for back editions of the Champlain Eagle.

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Bluff Point Lighthouse, Valcour Island