



Division 15 District 1SR US Coast Guard Auxiliary

# The Watchstander

December 2012

## Division Change of Watch Caps Successful Year



The Change of Watch and Awards Banquet at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls November 17 celebrated another productive year for the 195 Auxiliarists of Division 15. Besides food and fellowship, it featured the Color Guard presenting colors, a few speeches, many awards, a raffle, the collecting of items for Coast Guard victims of Hurricane Sandy, and, of course, the swearing in of division and flotilla elected officers: Lynn Enny as Division Commander (DCDR), Craig Hammer as Division Vice Commander (VCDR), and Flotilla Commanders and Flotilla Vice Commanders for 2013:

15-2: Nancy Blanchard, FC	Jean-Miguel Bariteau, VFC
15-4: Charles Poltenson, FC	Richard Gabriels, VFC
15-8: Carl Duford, FC	Charles Schenck, VFC
15-9: Daniel Miller, FC	Michael West, VFC
15-10: Lee Townsend, FC	Jeremy Putorti, VFC
15-13: Richard Gasser, FC	David Hirle, VFC

Lynn Enny of Flotilla 15-10 was honored as Auxiliarist of the Year for her exceptional contributions in multiple areas: coxswain, QE, watchstander, instructor, editor, TCT facilitator, IS Officer, Division Member Training Officer, and Division Vice Commander. *Enny, right, with DCO Hal Marschall.*



John Ravas of 15-9 was named New Auxiliarist of the Year. As an active Instructor, Vessel Examiner, and Flotilla Communications Officer, he has shown commitment and enthusiasm.

Flotilla 15-10, Lake George, again won top honors as Flotilla of the Year. Their core of active and dedicated members travel throughout the division and beyond to teach, crew, stand watch, maintain radio guard, cook—doing whatever and going wherever the Coast Guard or Auxiliary needs. *Left, 15-10 FC Lee Townsend accepts the Flotilla of the Year award from Lynn Enny.*

BMCS Daniel Murray, Officer in Charge at Station Burlington, created a 500 Club. Sector Northern New England (SSNE) recognized these members:

Margaret Malone	506 hours	Flotilla 15-2	Burlington
Heidi Trask	537	Flotilla 15-13	Bridge Flotilla
Margaret Peggy Burgess	570	Flotilla 15-8	Plattsburgh
George Enny	572	Flotilla 15-10	Lake George
Rebecca Molinari	632	Flotilla 15-2	Burlington
Michael Balch	645	Flotilla 15-10	Lake George
Gregg Trask	672	Flotilla 15-13	Bridge Flotilla
Carl Duford	751	Flotilla 15-8	Plattsburgh
Franklin Williams	1239	Flotilla 15-8	Plattsburgh
Lynn Enny	1639	Flotilla 15-10	Lake George
James Canavan	1738	Flotilla 15-10	Lake George

Sector New York (SNY) presented coins to three members for exceptional duty: Mike West for his work on the Clinton Canoe Regatta, flotilla logs, and supporting USCGA cadets on at the Union College swim meet; John Hinds for 10 years of patrolling a weekly water ski event; and Charles Poltenson for his role in reviving Flotilla 15-4.

SSNE gave Auxiliary Achievement Awards to Mike Balch, Rebecca Molinari, and Charlie Pound (*left, with Senior Chief Daniel Murray*). Outgoing Division Commander Gregg Trask was cited for his work.



Division 15 recognized achievement with Certificates of Appreciation:

15-2	15-4	15-8
Nick Flora	Richard Gabriels	Margaret Peggy Burgess
Nancy Blanchard ( <i>right</i> )	Terry Tremblay	Frank Williams
Richard Bayer	Scott Kuhne	Theodore Alwine
Phil Gullion	John Posillico	Donald Craig
Margaret Malone		Michael Ratner
		Robert Shivokevich
15-9	15-10	15-13
Dan Miller	Charlie Pound	Josh Behrendt
Mike West		Dave Iuliano
Mary Lou Wood		Heidi Trask



Heidi Trask and Lynn Enny compiled statistics for the yearly slide show and Josh Behrendt prepared the slides. The following tables are taken from that presentation. The first shows the number of hours recorded by each flotilla as of November 1 and the percentage of active members (those whose Auxiliary time is recorded in AuxData). Flotilla 15-8 ranked highest with 80% active.

<b>Flotilla Unit Participation</b>	<b>1502</b>	<b>1504</b>	<b>1508</b>	<b>1509</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>1513</b>	<b>Division 15</b>
2012 TOTAL HOURS	3301.5	2199	5529.8	6594.1	5882.1	1884.5	25391.0
2012 PERSON-YEARS (2011)	<b>1.5</b> (1.1)	<b>1.0</b> (0.1)	<b>2.6</b> (2.5)	<b>3.1</b> (4.1)	<b>2.8</b> (3.1)	<b>0.9</b> (1.0)	<b>12.2</b> (11.9)
Roster Members	35	24	40	61	20	20	200
AUXDATA Active	19	15	32	32	15	15	128
<b>Flotilla Active</b>	<b>54%</b> <b>(42%)</b>	<b>63%</b> <b>(43%)</b>	<b>80%</b> <b>(71%)</b>	<b>52%</b> <b>(63%)</b>	<b>75%</b> <b>(64%)</b>	<b>75%</b> <b>(75%)</b>	<b>66.5%</b> <b>(60%)</b>

The most active members in each flotilla were cited:

#### **Members with Most Individual Hours in Each Flotilla**

<b>1502</b>	<b>1504</b>	<b>1508</b>	<b>1509</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>1513</b>
Rebecca M. 631.7	C. Poltenson 1009.25	F. Williams 1238.5	C. Hammer 945.4	J. Canavan 1737.5	G. Trask 672
M. Malone 505.6	R. Gabriels 476.5	C. Duford 750.5	T. Venezia 780.5	L. Enny 1639.4	H. Trask 537
N. Flora 473.1	T. Tremblay 336.5	P. Burgess 569.5	G. Venezia 751.5	M. Balch 645.1	D. Iuliano 241

#### **2012 Individual Awards**

<b>MOST</b>	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
VSC's	<b>R. Gabriels - 106</b>	<b>J. Oddy- 81</b>	<b>C. Poltenson – 34</b> <b>R. Molinari -- 34</b>
MDV's	<b>F. Williams - 152</b>	<b>H. Connors - 60</b>	<b>R. Gabriels– 39</b>
PE Hours	<b>R. Shivokevich - 35</b>	<b>C. Duford- 34</b> <b>P. Burgess - 34</b>	<b>F. Williams - 31</b>
PA Hours	<b>C. Poltenson - 91</b>	<b>M. Malone - 82</b>	<b>D. Craig – 81.5</b>

Coxswain Hours	D. Craig – 95	T. Malone – 49.8	G. Enny -- 47.5
Boat Crew Hours	F. Williams – 102	N. Flora -76.7	R. Molinari – 48.7
Air Hours	R. Volungus – 118.2 J. Wilson – 42.2	D. Miller – 23.7	C. Hammer – 23.1
Watchstanding Hours	M. Balch – 245	R. Molinari – 243	C. DiSchino – 91.3

Members who gave direct support to the Coast Guard were recognized:

**- International Affairs – Watchstanding**

James Canavan

**--USCG Wire – Watchstanding**

Charlie Pound

Lynn Enny

George Enny

**- Station Burlington - AUXCHEF**

Heidi Trask

Phillip Gullion

Nicholas Flora

The slideshow noted those who had recently received Auxiliary awards:

**Sustained Service Award (750 Hour increments)**

Reid Allen- 1<sup>st</sup> Award

Jean-Miguel Bariteau (*below*) - 1st Award

Charles DiSchino- 1st Award

Nicholas Flora- 3rd Award

Rebecca Molinari (*below*)- 1st Award

Charles Poltenson- 1<sup>st</sup> Award

Terry Tremblay- 4<sup>th</sup> Award

Carl Duford - 4<sup>th</sup> Award

Robert Shivokevich- 1st Award

Scot Zarembo-Woodward- 1st Award

Richard Castle- 1st Award

Craig Hammer- 8th Award

John Hochmuth- 4<sup>th</sup> Award

Keith Munro- 1st Award

Michael Balch - 6th Award

Lynn Enny- 9th Award

Charles Pound - 5<sup>th</sup> Award

Lee Townsend- 2<sup>nd</sup> Award

David Hirtle- 6<sup>th</sup> Award

Deanna Joiner - 1<sup>st</sup> Award

Heidi Trask- 2<sup>nd</sup> Award

Frank Williams- 12<sup>th</sup> Award

Ronald Volungus- 12<sup>th</sup> Award (9307 Hours)

Thomas Malone- 13<sup>th</sup> Award (9983 Hours)

Margaret Malone- 13<sup>th</sup> Award (10324 Hours)

Gregg Trask - 14<sup>th</sup> Award (10667 Hours)

James Canavan- 16<sup>th</sup> Award (12731 Hours)

Gail Venezio - 19<sup>th</sup> Award 14445 Hours)

Thomas Venezio- 24<sup>th</sup> Award (18157 Hours)



**Annual Pubic Education Service Award**

Peggy Burgess

Lynnda Hochmuth

Lynn Enny

**Annual VE/MDV Service Award**

Rebecca Molinari

Justin Oddy

Richard Gabriels

Charles Poltenson

Hugh Connors

Frank Williams

### Annual Operations Service Award

Margaret Malone  
Ronald Volungus

Rebecca Molinari  
James Wilson

Donald Craig  
Michael Balch

George Enny  
Lynn Enny

### CG Meritorious Team Commendation

Thomas Venezia

Gail Venezia

### Marine Safety Training Ribbon

Stephanie Lago  
George Enny

Aline Pepe  
Lynn Enny

### Commandant's Letter of Commendation

Thomas Venezia

### Auxiliary Recruiting Service Award

Carl Duford

### Life Membership

Gail Venezia



Coast Guard guests who attended were CAPT Gordon Loebel from SNY (*below right, with the DCDR*), LT CDR Bradley from SSNE, BMCS Daniel Murray of Station Burlington, and BMCS Thomas Cairns of USCGC *Wire*. Representing the Auxiliary were District Commodore Hal Marschall, District Commodore-elect Vin Pica, District Chief of Staff-elect Alex Malewski, District Captain Jim Canavan, and ASC Gordon Nash of First Northern.

Both the outgoing and incoming Division Commanders thank all who helped: Nancy Blanchard, programs; Jim Canavan, Gail and Tom Venezia, awards; Frank Williams, photography slide show; Josh Behrendt and Heidi Trask, slide show; Margaret Malone, invitations; John Hinds and Josh Behrendt, raffle; and Terry Tremblay and the Color Guard (*above*): George Enny (15-10), Paul Phillips (15-9), Mary Lou Wood (15-9), and Richard Gabriels (15-4).



## Conference for Elected Leaders Is Held at CG Academy

First Southern Region's annual Leadership Conference was held at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, November 30-December 2. Division elected officers and Flotilla Commanders received orders to attend. All six of the 2013 FCs—Nancy Blanchard, Charles Poltenson, Carl Duford, Dan Miller, Lee Townsend, and Richard Gasser—attended, as well as Mike West, Terry Tremblay, Jim Canavan, Tom Venezia (*bottom right, with 2013 District Commodore Vin Pica*), Gail Venezia, and instructors Rod Halsted and Lynn Enny (*center right, with Wes Doody*). The conference addresses the practical side of leadership, such as running meetings, resolving conflicts, meeting report deadlines, and writing awards, as well as discussing the characteristics of outstanding leaders.



## *Auxiliarists in Action*

**I**ncoming DCDR Lynn Enny reports on Division 15's response to the destruction that Hurricane Sandy left in its wake. "At the Change of Watch, we gathered items for the Coast Guard victims of Sandy. BMCS Cairns had a load of cleaning items, etc., to distribute. At Leadership Training, we learned there were several Coast Guard members who had to move because their housing was ruined. They worried the move was going to take any extra money they had, so Christmas might not be happening for them. To support those families, gift cards were being collected to give them. Flotillas 15-9 and 15-10 sent 6 gift cards from each flotilla to Chaplain Jamie Stallryan. He called yesterday expressing his thanks and assuring me that the Coast Guard families affected by Hurricane Sandy will get these cards."

**J**ean-Miguel Bariteau, Auxiliary Interpreter and Flotilla 15-2's incoming VFC, was one of three members of the Interpreter Corps who deployed to Senegal December 1 to act as translators at a two-week training program for Senegalese military and marine forces. This training was part of a multinational initiative called Africa Partnership Station (APS), designed to help African countries to secure their coastal waters. The US Navy vessel HSV-2 (High Speed Vessel) *Swift* was docked in Dakar during the training period to provide a base for the instructors to live and work.



The 21 countries that participate in APS provided instructors from France, Spain, Brazil, Germany, Denmark, and Ghana, as well as the United States. The USCG was there to teach counter-intelligence and drug interdiction. Senegal does not have a Coast Guard but does have teams that cover areas like fishing enforcement. Classes were held aboard the *Swift* and at the Senegalese marine base. On December 14 the 53 French-speaking Senegalese participants graduated with certificates.



Bariteau did not just work in the classroom as translator. Half the students' time was spent on hands-on training, where what they learned in the classroom was demonstrated and practiced. Topics included intelligence, boat boardings, port security, preventive medicine, and gathering information. He trained his class of commandos in hand-to-hand combat. As a police officer, paramedic, and Auxiliary coxswain, Bariteau was familiar with the subject matter he presented. "It's the same things I do as a police officer," he said, "such as handcuffing, controlling the subject, investigating, clearing a room, and weapon retention." In addition, he worked as a liaison between the US military and Senegalese, translated documents, and spent evenings translating the English powerpoint presentations—filled with nautical and technical terms—into French for the next day's classes.



At a reception held December 8 aboard *Swift*, the US ambassador hosted guests from Senegal's government and military and from APS nations. As part of the Navy's Community Relations project, one APS group visited a nearby orphanage to paint, while another worked at a teen center.



Travel to Senegal was tiring: a day and a half from Burlington through Newark and Spain to Dakar, and no quicker to return. But it was well worth it, Bariteau says. "They were happy with the work that we did. Without us [the interpreters] they couldn't run the program."





**F**lotilla 15-8's Flotilla Staff Officers (FSOs) for 2013 were sworn in at its Change of Watch and Awards Dinner in Plattsburgh December 13. FSOs for 2013 are shown above: Ted Alwine, Hugh Conners, Lois Duford, Scot Zarembo-Woodward, Frank Williams, VFC Charles Schenck, Stephanie Lago, Peggy Burgess, John Meredith, Bob Shivokevich, and FC Carl Duford.

**M**ike Ratner has been a Coast Guard Auxiliary member for 40 years, having joined in June 1972. Ratner is a member of Plattsburgh Flotilla 15-8 and serves as its FSO for Computer Services, maintaining the flotilla's website which can be seen at <http://www.uscgaux15-8.org>. At right, Ratner receives his 40-year certificate and a congratulatory handshake from 15-8 FC Carl Duford.



## Division 15 Welcomes New Members

- 15-8:** James Postlethwait  
Nanette Postlethwait  
**15-9:** Anthony Kirby  
Anthony Pazzola



## ...And Congratulates Those Promoted from AP Status

- 15-4:** Warren Snyder  
**15-8:** Allan Hachigian  
Mary Lago

*Welcome Aboard!*

Flotilla 15-8 and the Coast Guard Auxiliary lost a valuable asset and valued friend when Edmund L. Sussdorff died November 18 in Plattsburgh. Ed was 82. A member since 1995, he had served as Boat Crew, ATON Verifier, Vessel Examiner, and Flotilla Staff Officer.

It was always a delight to crew with Ed because of his wide range of knowledge and experience; he could talk about Lake Champlain's history, its geology, its behavior, and his adventures on it. Although retired, he remained a teacher.

Whether riding his motorcycle, piloting his seaplane, operating his boat, traveling about, or tending his home in Port Kent, Ed Sussdorff enjoyed life. We will miss him.

We extend our sympathy to Joan McCormick and to Ed's big family.



## **DIVISION 15's 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Wednesday, January 16:** Division Meeting via Conference Call, 1900

**Friday-Sunday, January 18-20:** Yankee Classic Sport's Show, Essex, VT  
Contact: Richard Bayer or Nancy Blanchard

**Friday-Sunday, March 15-17:** District Conference, Mystic Marriott, Groton, CT

**Friday- Sunday, March 22-24:** Great Upstate Boat Show, Glens Falls, NY  
Contact: Jeremy Putorti

**Sat., April 27:** Town Hall and RFO Meeting/Operations Tabletop Exercise/Division Meeting, Whitehall Central School, 0900. Contact: Lynn Enny

**Sat., May 18:** Surface Operation Training Day- South. Harris Bay Yacht Club, Lake George, 0900. Contact: Charlie Pound

**May 18-25:** National Safe Boating Week

**Saturday, May 25:** General Clinton Canoe Regatta, Bainbridge, NY.  
Contact: Mike West

**Monday, May 27:** Saratoga National Cemetery Memorial Day Remembrance.  
Contact: Ron Volungus

**Saturday, June 1:** Elk's Fishing Derby, Ticonderoga, NY. Contact: Dave Hirtle

**Sat., June 8:** Surface Operation Training Day- North. South Plattsburgh Fire House- AM. Lake Champlain- Peru Boat Launch- PM. Contact: Charlie Pound

**Tuesday, July 3:** Fireworks, Station Burlington. Contacts: Charlie Pound, Mike Balch

**Saturday, July 20:** Division Picnic/Meeting. TBD. Contact: Lynn Enny

**Friday-Sunday, August 16-18:** Wings Over Vermont Air Show- Burlington Harbor.  
Contacts: Charlie Pound, Mike Balch

**Wednesday, September 11:** Division Meeting and Election- UNO Restaurant,  
Queensbury

**Sunday, November 10:** Division Change of Watch- Queensbury Hotel. Glens Falls, NY

**Friday-Sunday TBD:** District Leadership Conference, Mystic Marriott, CT

**NOTE: DATES, TIMES AND PLACES MAY CHANGE.**

Dates to be determined: TCT Training Dates; AuxChef Training Dates; Marine Event Support – Station Burlington

The editor thanks Gregg Trask, Lynn Enny, Craig Hammer, Jim Canavan, Frank Williams, Don Craig, Charles Poltenson, Carl Duford, Jean-Miguel Bariteau, Heidi Trask, Josh Behrendt, Karen Wagner at DIRAUX, and Tom Malone for their contributions to *The Watchstander*.

Visit our division website at <http://a01415.uscgaux.info/>.

More information on APS and the *Swift* may be found at the website of the US Embassy at Dakar: [http://dakar.usembassy.gov/swift\\_dakar.html](http://dakar.usembassy.gov/swift_dakar.html) and the official blog of the USCGAux: <http://live.cgaux.org/?p=2523>.

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