

# BTV Flotilla 15-02, 1SR



Volume 17, Issue 17

September 2020



- Make a plan: https://www.ready.gov/plan
- Build a kit: https://www.ready.gov/kit
- Prepare for disasters: https://www.ready.gov/be-informed
- Teach youth about preparedness <u>https://www.ready.gov/kids</u>

You are the Help, until Help arrives.

Check out the interactive video at the link below: https://community.fema.gov/until-help-arrives

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 National Preparedness Month/Elections
- **2** Calendar of Events/Open Flotilla Positions
- 3/4 Lake Champlain Maritime History

### **Burlington VT Flotilla 15-02, 1SR**

Flotilla Commander: Robert T. White Flotilla Vice Commander: Bob Bernier Human Resources Officer: Kenneth Watt

http://wow.uscgaux.info/about.php?unit=014-15-02 https://www.facebook.com/US-Coast-Guard-Auxiliary-Flotilla-15-02-Burlington-VT-351235695499189/

#### **Flotilla Elections**

Elected officers are elected by members of the flotilla. The Flotilla Commander (FC) and the Vice Flotilla Commander (VFC) are both elected positions.

The prospective Flotilla Commander must, by the date of nomination, have: a favorable OS PSI determination recorded in AUXDATA; be a member of the Auxiliary for one year prior to date of election; successfully complete the Administrative Procedures Course (APC) or the Flotilla Leadership Course; successfully complete IS 100 and 700 courses; be a member of the Flotilla to which they seek elected office; meet one of the following requirements: Have obtained an Auxiliary qualification (interim certification acceptable) and be current in one of the Auxiliary programs or mission areas as defined in Auxiliary Manual sections 8.B.2.-8.B.10; or, have served as a staff officer or elected officer at any organizational level for two years; or, have twenty-five (25) hours of documented activity in Auxiliary programs or mission areas that are authorized in Auxiliary Manual section 2.B and as reported on Activity Report forms, not including Member Activity forms (ANSC-7029), for the previous year.

The prospective Vice Flotilla Commander must, by the date of nomination, have: a favorable OS PSI determination recorded in AUXDATA; be a member of the Auxiliary for one year prior to date of election; successfully complete one of the following: Administrative Procedures Course (APC) or the Flotilla Leadership Course; and successfully complete IS 100 and 700 courses; be a member of the flotilla to which they seek elected office; and meet one of the following requirements: have obtained an Auxiliary qualification (interim certification acceptable) and be current in one of the Auxiliary programs or mission areas as defined in Auxiliary Manual sections 8.B.2.-8.B.10; or, have served as a staff officer or elected officer at any organizational level for two years; or, have twenty-five (25) hours of documented activity in Auxiliary programs or mission areas that are authorized in Auxiliary Manual section 2.B. and as reported on Activity Report forms, not including Member Activity forms (ANSC-7029), for the previous year.

Flotilla elections will be held in November/December. William "Bill" Rowe is the Chair of the Screening Committee.

## Preparedness for Individuals & Families

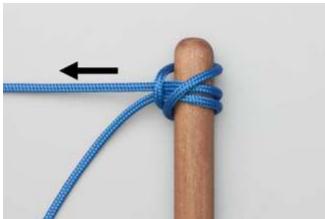
 $\frac{\text{https://www.healthvermont.gov/emergency/prepare/preparedness-}}{\text{individuals-families}}$ 

Act now to prepare for any emergency – flooding, an ice storm, power outage, flu pandemic or disease outbreak. You may need to evacuate or stay where you are to keep safe. (Click on the above link for more information.)

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

No in-person meetings scheduled at this time

## Pile Hitch



https://www.animatedknots.com/pile-hitch-knot

Official Vermont Boating Safety Course Online https://www.boat-ed.com/vermont/

Flotilla 15-02: U.S.C.G. Station Burlington

Meeting Location: 1 Depot Street Burlington, VT 05401

1st Wednesday of each month **Meeting Time:** 

at 19:00 hours (7 p.m.)

FSO-IS FSO-MS Open Flotilla Positions
Information Systems Officer
Marine Safety & Environment Officer

Please volunteer for one of the positions listed above. You will learn a lot, help the flotilla function more effectively, and receive help from other knowledgeable members when needed.

Have you submitted your 7029? Each member should submit one monthly.

Here are some thoughts from our current Flotilla Commander, Robert White, on his experience as FC:

- It's been great working with such dedicated and enthusiastic shipmates.
- As FC for 15-02, I just need to keep the ship going in the right direction. There is plenty of power in the members to move in any direction needed.
- Working first hand with the enlisted men and women is a bonus - something most flotillas do not get to experience on a regular basis.
- I have used VFC and FC training to improve myself and improve myself in my full-time job. It is a great learning experience for any manager, or anyone interested in becoming a supervisor or manager.

#### **4 Key Points to Discuss with Boaters:**

- 1. Always Wear It
- 2. Take a Boating Safety Course
- 3. Get a Vessel Safety Check
- 4. Don't BUI



#### CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE - PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

Disclosure of this material is subject to provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974. This Act, with certain exceptions, prohibits disclosure, distribution, dissemination, or copying of any material containing home address, home telephone number, spouse's names, and social security numbers, except for official business. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Coast Guard and/or civilian criminal sanctions.



Painting by Ernie Haas / Courtesy of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Lake Champlain Maritime History
A Glimpse into the 1819 wreck of Steam Boat *Phoenix*--Karen Weber

Remains of the *Phoenix* were located in the murky depths of Lake Champlain 201 years after its demise--almost to the day. The side-wheel steamer built in Vergennes in 1815, was one of the first two steamboats in service on the lake providing commercial transport for passengers between Whitehall, NY to St John, Quebec with stops along the way. It ran twice a week -- the journey took two or three days.

She sank after catching fire on the night of Sept. 4, 1819. Divers discovered her hull in 1978, but the vessel's wheels remained lost—until now. Discovery of her 5' wide, 18' diameter paddle wheels was made in late August by Diver, Gary Lefebvre and his wife Ellen using an ROV. The two had been studying a list of 3000 sonar targets. It is interesting that the two charred paddle wheels were found 100 yards apart and a mile from the hull. Apparently, the wheels, which were attached near the engine, had become disengaged from the hull during the fire and sank to their location (about 180 feet). The hull continued to burn down to the water line while drifting south and eventually disappeared below the surface. What is left of the 147 foot long, 27 foot wide hull now lies 60-110 feet below the surface on the north face of Colchester Shoal reef just off Vermont's Colchester Point. Identification of the vessel was based on the location, the style of construction and the presence of extensive charring on the timbers. Research into the history of this wreck was provided by a group of scholars including Dr. Kevin Crisman of Texas A&M University, Dr. George Schwarz of the U.S. Navy's Naval History and Heritage Command, and Chris Sabick of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.

On that fateful night, The Phoenix headed north from Burlington bound for Plattsburgh with 46 souls on board. At 11 pm a passenger happened below and discovered a fire burning in the galley. Panic set in. The first of two lifeboats were filled to capacity with women and crew. The second lifeboat was lowered and left too soon leaving twelve people on board the burning ship, including its captain and designer, Jahaziel Sherman of Vergennes, VT. It is said that the captain was forced to use his pair of pistols to maintain order as they abandoned ship. Both lifeboats were rowed to Providence Island south west of South Hero. The passengers left behind were directed to jump into the water and find a float, some in their night clothes. Only six of the twelve left at sea were rescued the following morning, including Captain Sherman.

Two possible causes of the fire include a candle left burning in the galley and arson by a rival shipping line.

The *Phoenix* is one of the oldest known steamboat shipwrecks in North America. It has been designated as part of the <u>Vermont Underwater Historic Preserves</u> and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is marked and accessible to advanced scuba divers.

Take a Virtual Tour of the wreck here: https://youtu.be/h4ugqyvd94E

The Vermont Public Radio series "History Under the Waves" looks at five historic wrecks that lie at the bottom of Lake Champlain and offers a narrated history of the *Phoenix* here: <a href="http://www.vpr.net/vault/champlain-400/audio/SPOT-0728T.mp3">http://www.vpr.net/vault/champlain-400/audio/SPOT-0728T.mp3</a>

