

# The Beacon



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**May 2021** 

# **Greetings from one of our Flotilla Members**



My name is Kenneth Watt, and I am the Flotilla Human Resources Staff Officer. I have been a member of this flotilla, and the USCG Auxiliary, since May of 2019.

I graduated from Topeka West High School in Topeka, Kansas. I later earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Washburn University in Topeka, graduating with a double major in Cultural Anthropology and Sociology, and academic honors. I earned my Master of Arts Degree in Latin American Studies from the University of California in Los Angeles, with three areas of focus: Geography, Urban Planning, and Cultural Anthropology. As a graduate student, I received a university fellowship to conduct research and carry out field work in the country of Guatemala.

My interest in serving my country as a volunteer began many years before joining the USCG Auxiliary. A year prior to completing my undergraduate degree, I began the application process to serve as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer. I was accepted into the Peace Corps after graduation and worked in the country of Guatemala (Central America) from November 1988 to February 1991. I served most of my time working in a small community 20 kilometers from the El Salvador border. This immersive opportunity afforded me many benefits, including becoming fluent in Spanish, a chance to live and travel extensively in Central America, and to develop life-long friendships. Most importantly, I met my wife Irma, who at the time was a third-year

## Burlington VT Flotilla 15-2, D1SR

Flotilla Commander: Bob Bernier Flotilla Vice Commander: Alan Nye Human Resources Officer: Kenneth Watt

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

#### **Open Flotilla Positions**

# FSO-MS Marine Safety & Environment Officer

Please volunteer for the position 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 7029/7030?

Each member should submit one monthly. FC Bob Bernier 802-373-6517

USCG Station Burlington 1 Depot St. Burlington, VT 05401

Meeting virtually 1st Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Biology student at the national university in Guatemala City. Irma and I met on Thanksgiving Day in 1989, and were married in Guatemala City, one month after my service ended. Irma and I recently celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have three adult children.

Additionally, I was actively involved with the Boy Scouts of America for thirty years; first as a Boy Scout, and then as an adult Scout leader for the past twenty years in the Kansas City, Kansas area and Vermont. As a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts, I have taught Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, and Citizenship in the World, and Personal Fitness. The best part of Scouting, however, has been watching both of my sons make the journey from first year Cub Scouts all the way to earning the Eagle Scout rank (2013 and 2021).

Professionally, I have worked in the fields of education, both as a bilingual classroom educator for the Los Angeles Unified School District, and currently as an online college instructor, teaching World Geography for New England College in New Hampshire. In the fall, I will begin teaching Anthropology remotely for Saint Clair County Community College located in Port Huron, Michigan. In addition to the field of education, I have worked in the areas of community planning and development, grant writing and grant management, and until 2020, I was the Chief Operations Officer for a language translation and interpretation company I had begun in Kansas City in 2014.

I grew up being inspired by the stories my grandfather, John Welch, would share with me about his time traveling the world as a Chief Petty Officer on the U.S.S. Utah during World War I. My uncle, Jack Welch, who served in the Navy during Viet Nam, and later retired from a career as an aircrew member with the U.S. Coast Guard, was always someone I looked up to. Being a member of the USCG Auxiliary and our Flotilla is a real privilege, and the opportunity to serve as the FSO-HR is a real honor.



Brendan Day SO-FS, 014-15

## Shelburne Bay Biscuits (recipe yields 1 dozen biscuits)

When making biscuits from the box directions, the toughest part is the fact that sometimes the biscuits don't rise or that they cook too quickly causing them to become hard as a stone to skip across Lake Champlain. Most of the fat in the boxed recipe comes from the shortening that is in the mix.

From the box directions, you will usually end up with a poorer quality biscuit that is too dry, and you do not get the great airy, fluffy texture that constitutes a good biscuit. In this recipe - derived from some old chefs I've worked with in the past - we are going to take a trip down to Shelburne Bay, wherever that may be, to include some tasty tactics to really butter your biscuit.

### **Ingredients**

- 2 1/2 cups baking mix (I prefer Bisquick, but if you are partial to another brand, look for something with a low-fat content)
- 3/4 cup cold whole milk
- 4 tablespoons cold butter (1/2 stick)
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 ½ cups grated cheddar cheese

#### **Topping**

- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1/4 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- pinch salt

#### **Directions**

- 1. Preheat the oven to 400 F
- 2. Combine Bisquick or other mix with cold butter in a medium bowl using a large fork or a rubber spatula. You don't want to mix too thoroughly. There should be small chunks of butter in there that are about the size of peas. Add cheddar cheese, milk, and 1/4 teaspoon garlic. Mix by hand until combined, but don't over mix.
- 3. Drop approximately 1/4-cup portions (or use an ice cream scoop) of the dough onto an ungreased pan and leave it in its natural shape.
- 4. Cook for 15-17 minutes or until the tops get golden brown. (For a more robust taste, in the last 5 minutes of baking, top each biscuit with rosemary instead of using parsley flakes at the end.)
- 5. When you take the biscuits out of the oven, melt 2 tablespoons of butter in a small bowl in the microwave. Stir in 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder and the dried parsley flakes. Use a brush to spread all of this garlic butter over the tops of all the biscuits.



ETHAN WATT-BORRAYO 2021 EAGLE SCOUT

Boy Scout Ethan Watt-Borrayo, son of Flotilla Staff Officer Kenneth Watt and wife Irma Sandoval-Watt, passed his Eagle Board of Review on April 29, 2021. After a nine-year journey through the Scouting program, Ethan has earned the rank of **Eagle Scout**.

Ethan began his Scouting journey in 2009 as a Tiger Cub in Overland Park, Kansas. After moving through the Cub Scout ranks, Ethan joined BSA Troop 91 of Prairie Village, Kansas.

After moving to Vermont in 2019, Ethan joined BSA Troop 624 of Essex Junction, moving through the various Scouting ranks and holding several leadership positions within the troop, including Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Outdoor Ethics Guide, Troop Scribe, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Patrol Leader.

On February 3, 2020, Ethan led his Scout troop on a visit to the Burlington Coast Guard Station. During this visit, U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary members shared information about their organizations with the Scouts. Ethan was greatly motivated by that experience; he said that seeing his father actively participate in the Auxiliary played an influential role in his persevering to reach Eagle Scout.

Citizenship in the community, nation, and world, and service to others, are core values of the Scouting Program. One major component of earning the Eagle Scout rank is to undertake a service project in which the Scout demonstrates leadership and good citizenship that benefits the local community. Ethan's project involved providing leadership and carrying out the planning and implementation of a recreational walking path for the residents at the Ethan Allen Residential Home in Burlington, Vermont.

A long-time supporter of Scouting, the United States Coast Guard gives recognition to Boy Scouts who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout, Sea Scouts who have earned the rank of Quartermaster, Venture Scouts who have earned the Summit Award, and Girl Scouts who have earned the GSUSA Gold Award by presenting these Scouts with a letter of commendation for their achievement.

# **Upcoming Events**

**Division Change of Watch (COW)** 

13 Nov 2021

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Submit articles/photos NLT 2 weeks prior to the next meeting, or as directed.

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