

## **2014 RSYC Cruise Week 2: The Northern Strategy**

The Cruise continues looking for battle sites and historical Forts of the Lake. The second week of the cruise will take us north to Fort Montgomery at Rouses Point and its Canadian counterpart, Fort Lennox, several miles to the north in Quebec with important stops on the way. Please find an outline below:

Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> Visit Bluff Point, Valcour Island. This island played a significant role during the American Revolution. It was here in the narrow channel on the western side of the island that Benedict Arnold anchored the American fleet to lie in wait for a large British fleet under command of Sr. George Carlton. In the morning of 10-11-1776 the pivotal Battle of Valcour took place. The American fleet would escape under the cover of darkness to fight another battle. The second major battle that took place here (just to the North in Cumberland Bay) was the Battle of Plattsburgh during the War of 1812 on 9-11-1814. The American fleet led by Thomas MacDonough, won the naval battle that day and towed the captured British fleet south to Whitehall. The British land forces retreated once word of the naval victory had spread.

Visit the Bluff Point Lighthouse built in 1874. In 1930 the lighthouse was taken out of service and replaced by a steel tower. In 2004 the old light returned to active automated service. It continues to guide boats through the passageway between the New York Shore and Valcour Island. The lighthouse is open for tours on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup> -Travel North passing Isle LaMotte and the site of Fort St. Anne at the northwestern corner of the island where St. Anne's Shrine and a granite statue of Champlain stand today. Ft. St. Anne was built here in 1666 to protect the settlement from the Mohawks. Champlain first established a base here in 1609.

We will continue on to Rouses Point and anchor or stay at Gaines Marina (Reservations are suggested at 518-297-7000). The Rouses Point Bridge has a mast height limit of 56 feet at Lake Level of 93 feet. Visit Ft. Montgomery subject to Border Patrol limitations and no trespassing on private property.

Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> -Continue north stopping at the Canadian Customs Pier in Lacolle Quebec on the Western shore above Ft. Montgomery. Continue North to Ft. Lennox at Isle aux Noix. This was the major British Shipbuilding area for Lake Champlain and it shows. The area is now covered with marinas on the Western shore where shipyards once stood. Ft. Lennox is intact and staffed by Parks Canada staff. There is a visitor's pier on the Eastern side of the Island. The pier on the Western side is for the ferry service. Please see attached materials for historical information. Gosselin Marina (450-291-3170) has slips and moorings. Many boats simply anchor by the visitor's pier at Isle aux Noix. Several boats can tie up to the visitor's pier.

Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy a tour of Ft. Lennox. Picnic and explore the Island.

Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. –Travel south to pass the border at Rouses Point stopping just under the Rouses Point Bridge for US Customs. Continue South to Deep Bay (Point au Roche State Park, 518-563-0369) for an overnight anchorage. Moorings are \$22.00/night for non-New York boats regardless of length. Expect staff to collect the mooring fees at your boat between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. The Park has hiking trails and a visitor's center.

Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> –Head East through the Gut to the Inland Sea and Burton Island for an overnight visit. Reservations for powerboats in the inner basin are at 802-524-6353. Sailboats either pick up a mooring or tie up at the outer docks first come first served.

Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> –Travel South to Shelburne Bay for anchorage at Allen's Point. The British raided this Bay in 1813 after their failed attempt at Burlington.

Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>- Travel South to Point Bay Marina.