

## **2014 RSYC Cruise Week 1: The Southern Strategy**

The theme of this year's Cruise will be the historical Forts of the Lake. The first week of the cruise will take us south to Fort Ticonderoga with several stops on the way. Please find an outline below:

Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>- Meet up at Kingsland Bay for the kick-off of the cruise. Moorings are available for the early arrivals. (Bring a flag: French, British, or American).

Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>- Travel to Westport for the Independence Day festivities. A parade and street dance are set to begin at 5 p.m. Fireworks will take place at 9:30 p.m. Call ahead for reservations if you wish to stay at the Westport Marina docks at 518-962-4356. Moorings may also be available or you can just anchor out.

Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> - Travel to Chimney /Crown Point to explore our past. Crown Point is the location of both Fort Crown Point (British), Fort Frederick (French), the Champlain Memorial Lighthouse, as well as A New York State park with Campground. Also of note are the new Champlain Bridge and the Chimney Point State Historic Site in Vermont. Museums are located on both sides of the Bridge. Dockage is available at the nearby Champlain Bridge Marina at 802-759-2049. An anchorage is available in the cove between the Bridge and the Champlain Monument. The Bridge Restaurant is located at Chimney Point (West Addison, VT) and serves three square meals and provides take out. Possible pot luck at Crown Point State Park.

Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup>- Travel to Fort Ticonderoga (French, British, American) to further explore our past. There is an anchorage with good holding in the cove just to the South of the Fort. For those who desire a marina, I suggest the Chipman Point Marina, or possibly Bouy 39 Marina (actually near Bouy 73), just to the South.

-11 a.m. Travel up the LaChute River (near our anchorage), in dinghies, to Bicentennial Park at the actual village of Ticonderoga. Heritage Museum and visitor's village is located here. From here hike up Mount Defiance (853 ft. elevation) on the road built by the British to mount canons overlooking both Fort Ticonderoga and Fort Independence in Vermont. The view is outstanding. Pack your own lunch to enjoy at the top.

- 3 p.m. Visit to Mt. Independence State Historic Site on the Vermont shore opposite our anchorage. Good access point is from Catfish Bay. This is an American Fort built in 1776. Excellent trails and a Visitors Center are available.

Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> - Fort Ticonderoga will be having some re-enactments from sunup to sundown. The Fife and Drum corps will be playing during the day. See additional information sheets.

Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>- Visit the LCMM at North cove just north of Basin Harbor (or stay in Basin Harbor) and across from Barn Rock Harbor. LCMM has invited us to visit their extensive facilities that document Lake Champlain's maritime history over the past 400 years. Details on where to moor your boat will follow.

Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>- Travel north to up the Lake to Fort Cassin Point and proceed up Otter Creek paying attention to stay in the middle of the creek. Arrive at the Vergennes village docks for free dockage with water and electric. The Village is a short walk away. The impressive Vergennes' Falls are just off to your right. Enjoy talk by Lake Champlain Maritime Museum interpreter in the Park. Excellent restaurants are in Town as well as an excellent bakery called "The Laundry".

Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>- Travel downstream back to the Lake and travel North to Burlington. Stay at the Burlington Community Boathouse (802-865-3377) docks or transient moorings (Reservations would be a good idea). Further dockage is available at the Ferry Dock Marina (802-864-9804).

There was in fact a fort here: the Burlington Battery Redoubt located at Battery Park. A 13-gun earthwork was built and used to protect Burlington from the British during an attack upon Burlington in June 1813 during the War of 1812. The U.S. Army set up a base here between Pearl and North Streets and fronted by Park and Front Streets. The base included a two story hospital, barracks, officer's quarters, storehouses, gun sheds, magazines and a guardhouse. The military hospital was used extensively following the battles at Plattsburg. Hike up the hill to Battery Park and review the fleet below and how it was protected by the canons located here.

Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> -Travel Northwest to Valcour Island where both Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battles were fought. Our harbor choice is yet to be decided. The naval battles took place on the west side of the island as well as in Cumberland Bay. Please see information sheets on how the battles of and Valcour (1776) and Plattsburgh (1814) were won.

July 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> -Lake Champlain Races at Plattsburgh. Some of our fleet will be racing and have asked for us to be positioned nearby.