

“On the Great Warpath”

The 2022 ACBS Annual Show and Meeting

For those members of ACBS Chapters that were unable to attend the impressive events at Coeur d’Alene this past September; salvation is at hand, perhaps closer to home. The Lake Champlain Chapter will be hosting the Annual ACBS celebration in Burlington Vt during the week after Labor Day in 2022. The Champlain Valley is at the center of “The Great Warpath” that witnessed most of the major conflicts that defined early North American history. For those that can spend more than the 2-3 days of the Show, there is much to see along our 120 mile pristine, mountain ringed lake. ***Bring your boat!***





Burlington Harbor Marina/Larry Asam Photography

The locus of the events will be on the pictured new marina on Burlington's elegant waterfront. The Chapter plans to populate the adjacent Waterfront Park with an array of attractions, including local artisans and crafters, exotic automobiles, vendors of vintage boating supplies, a display of historic racing sailboats, and of course a rich variety of Vermont delicacies – all within easy walking or shuttle distance of the event's hotels and the downtown "Church Street Marketplace.

Beyond the immediate waterfront activities the Chapter host pre-events throughout the week at storied locations along the Lake that will be accessible by both boat and land. For the more adventurous attendees there will be 3-4 day cruises to the show site from Montreal and Kingston NY. ***Yes, Lake Champlain connects to the Atlantic Ocean via both the St Lawrence and Hudson Rivers!***



Burlington Community Boathouse and Marina

If you are interested in spending a week but won't be cruising all the time, there are many many beautiful rides to be taken and historic sites to be explored. These include 1) the **Saratoga National Battlefield** where Washington's Continental Army defeated "Gentleman Johnny" Burgoyne's larger army of seasoned troops. This set the stage for the critical intervention of France that led to the US victory at Yorktown and subsequent independence. 2) The handsomely restored **Fort Ticonderoga** where Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold captured the cannons that drove the British out of Boston; 3) **Plattsburgh and Valcour Island** where heroic patriots prevented the British from driving south to split the colonies in the Revolution and War of 1812, and 4) The Canadian **Ile aux Noix** on the outlet of Lake Champlain from which the British launched their successful campaign to drive the French out of Canada in the French and Indian War, and from which the Americans launched their failed attempt to enlist Canada in the Revolution. There are too many more to cite here, but one little known battle involved a Rebel raid on Vermont's lakeside town of St. Albans during the Civil War. And not to be missed is the Underwater archaeology focused Lake Champlain Maritime museum with its replica Canal Schooner **Lois McClure**, replica of Benedict Arnolds

Revolutionary war gunboat ***USS Philadelphia*** (the original was raised and is in the Smithsonian) and the startling video of Arnold' sunken gunboat ***Spitfire***, as it rests today on the lake bottom 250 years later.



Benedict Arnold's 1776 Revolutionary War gunboat "Spitfire, photographed on the Lake bottom by Lake Champlain Maritime Museum circa 1997

So the Burlington area has a lot more going for it than ice cream, teddy bears, and craft beer – as important and interesting as those venues are.

Please plan to take some time to come to Burlington for at least a few days next September, first to see the boats, (***and have yours be seen if possible***), but also take advantage of the many other attractions that make the Champlain Valley such an attractive and special place.

Details of the planning for this week of events will be kept up to date on the Chapter's web site ***lcacbs.com***. Registration for all of the events will open around April first on a first come first served basis via the ***acbs.org*** web site. Numbers of slips and event seats are finite. Feel free to email questions to the Chapter President, Sue Haigh at ***suelafever@gmail.com***.



/s/Gene Porter; Co Chair ACBS 2002 Annual Meeting and Show

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