



WORCESTER COUNTY SEARCH & RESCUE

Team Incorporated, P.O. Box 159, Holden, Massachusetts 01520



Greetings: William C. Latimer Founder and Editor WCSART:

WCSART is a current Member of NASAR
National Association for Search & Rescue

The sole purpose of this News Letter is to inform members and Associates of current and upcoming events, activities, and News items of interest. Worcester County Search and Rescue is a non-profit, volunteer Search & Rescue organization serving the Worcester County area in central Massachusetts. All our members are Volunteers, and are dedicated to the welfare and promotion of all SAR events and Education.

YEAR END UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES

EDITORS COMMENTS AND REVIEW OF WCSART ACTIVITIES:

A volunteer program could not function it was not for the dedicated efforts of it's members to contribute to the program. I must say the members of our organizations have supported our programs 'above and beyond' any expectations. Not only do we have a team of dedicated and hard working volunteers, we have a large contingency of organizations that help and support our group. My sincere thanks to all those that assist our organization on all its program venues to aid the public. Whether it is out Water Rescue out on Lake Quinsigamond, Mountain Rescue Patrols, Communications Teams, missing person Search & Rescue Team and our list of Volunteer pilots, each of these volunteers give it 100% when the duty calls. We may not have all of members as many national volunteer organizations have, but 'quality' overwrites 'quantity.' There is not enough room in this News Letter to highlight all our activities, so please go to our 'News' Page on our web site.

<http://www.wcsarteam.com/News>

Scroll down to read all the activities and events in Year 2007.

Again, a hat-tip and a Job well done to all!

SPECIAL CITATION AWARD BY MRPA 2007



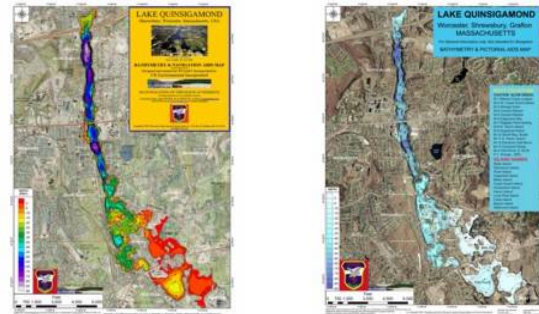
On October 23, our Water Rescue Team was invited to the Massachusetts Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) annual Awards luncheon in Sturbridge to receive the 'Special Citation Award' for our Water Rescue Safety Patrol (WRSP) program out on Lake Quinsigamond. The Award is given to a person or organization that has in some special way helped in promoting recreation and leisure services within the State of Massachusetts. This was a great honor for our WRSP Team and organization. Team members attending were Bill & Brenda Latimer, Joe Apicella, Glen Wians, Sue Murchant, Chris Maider, Don and Emily Brickman. This Award is for all our WRSP Team Members that were active this patrol season.

WRSP END OF SEASON, BUOY REMOVAL



Weekend 4 November, was our last official patrol out on Lake Quinsigamond for the season. We assisted in the last Rowing Race for the year and removed the Buoys out on the Lake. The weather was cold and windy out on the Lake. WR3 Vessel with Joe Apicella & Chris Maider, WR9 Vessel with Glen Wians & Bill Latimer assisted as chase boats for the Rowing Race with also the Environmental Police Vessel. After the race, with the assistance of Scott Norton (WR7), Steve Cronin and his Pontoon Boat with Billy Bonofiglio, Linc Pearson and the Shrewsbury Police, all the Buoys out on the Lake were removed and taken to a storage location. A messy Job and 'thanks' for all those that assisted. This was our last official 'mission' for this 2007 season out on Lake Quinsigamond. Lake Drawdown started on 11 November and the Corazzini Docks have been removed for the season.

MAP UPDATE OF LAKE QUINSIGAMOND



Style 'A' Bathymetry and sounding Map Style 'B' Pictorial Aids Map

As of December 07, the Map Project of Lake Quinsigamond is finally finalized after several revisions, style sizes, and paper changes as well as pricing. It has been a learning experience but I now believe the final revision of the Maps is completed and we now have a good, hi-resolution color Map of the Lake.

There will be two Styles of Maps at 18x24 inch on dry-polyproline paper. Style 'A' will be a Bathymetry Depth and Sounding Map with a Topo overlay. This is good for those that want a detailed 'depth' reading of the Lake and is geared more for fisherman and recreational divers. Style 'B' is a general Pictorial Navigational Aids Map with Landmarks, Island Names, Buoy locations, and a contour Depth scale. This Map is good to have for detailed information on the Lake and is best for the general boating public. Special large mural style Maps can be provided on request (Color or B&W), but will not be a 'stocked' item. At this time we have no local vendors to distribute our Maps and they must be purchased via our on-line Map Web site at [http://www.wcsarteam.com/MAP_LQ].

Check our Web Site for Map Info and Revision updates and pricing

Support our fighting troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and God Bless America!

AWARDS FOR THIS YEARS PROGRAMS

With the WRSP Program lasting until November and our MRSP Team wondering about the weather conditions, we did not have any 'official' WRSP and MRSP final Dinner Banquet. Each year WCSART paid for the Dinners, but due to the Fuel cost for the WRSP Program and Map Projects, we had no funds left to sponsor Dinner Banquets this year. Next year we may just have 'cookouts' as our year end gatherings, everyone seems to like these; however, with that being said, I would like to recognize the following as we would do at our Dinner Banquet: As you know, the support of the Community is a great help to our Group and **Certificates of Appreciation** for assistance went out to the *Marine Corps League of Worcester* for letting us use their dock facilities. **Angela Snell**, from the *Shrewsbury Parks & Recreational Department* for assistance in our WRSP program. **John Mullaney** from *Regatta Point Sailing Club* for monitoring Emergency Frequencies out on the Lake. **Paul Norton** from the *Environmental Police* for his support to our WRSP Program. **Linc Pearson** from the (Lake Quinsigamond Watershed Association) LQWA for all his help on our Mapping project, Buoy removal, and promoting our WRSP Team. Special **Certificates of Appreciation** for recognition went to **Joe Apicella** for the dedicated hours of Patrols out on the Lake and for being our WRSP Team Coordinator. **Mac Reynolds** for keeping the MRSP Team active this past year. We would also like to thank **Ken Polito**, Board of Directors from the LQC (*Lake Quinsigamond Commission*) for supporting our Group out on the Lake this season. The *Shrewsbury & Worcester Police Department* for their support on Lake Quinsigamond to Boating Safety. I would also like to recognize **Mark Rubin** (WB1ARZ) who is the founder of WECT (*Worcester Emergency Communications Team*) for his support in providing much needed Communications personal in several missing person searches this year. Finally, my wife **Brenda** (who is the Secretary/Treasure) for our Organization who has been responsible for our finances and putting up with me being 'active' just about every weekend during the WRSP & MRSP season, and my personal 'thanks' to all those that have been active this year. As I said in my Editorial statement, a volunteer group can only be successful by the caliber of its volunteers to be dedicated to a cause, and we have fulfilled that cause and obligation to the public.

FLOTILLA COMMANDER CHANGE 10-01



Bill Latimer past Commander



Joe Antinovitch 2008 Commander

For our USCG Auxiliary members, this upcoming year 2008 new Worcester Flotilla 10-01 Commander is Joe Antinovitch. Congratulations to Joe and we wish him success. Bill Latimer term is up and will be acting as FSO-CM with the Flotilla, and on Division 10 Staff acting as SO-CM in Communications.

JOE APICELLA JOINS USPS



Joe Apicella, our WRSP Team Coordinator has joined the Worcester County Sail & Power Squadron (U.S. Power Squadron) and plans to be active with the USPS this upcoming year.

On November 7th, Bill Latimer and Joe Apicella attended the Power Squadron Dinner Banquet held over at Tweed's Pub where Bill presented a Power Point Presentation on our WRSP Program. The USPS promotes Boating Safety, Vessel Safety Checks and Boating Education to the Public.

ELT/EPIRB YEAR END REPORT

Our ELT remote Receiver (121.5MHz) on Mt. Wachusetts has been active this year resulting in facilitating our DF Team. Since January 2007 this year we have shut off 4 ELT's and notified AFRCC on two that we did not activate on resulting in missions by Air Force Auxiliary Units sending in Teams to silence same. The Helo at UMass had the most hits this year. Several modifications were made to the receiver on Mt. Wachusetts to desensitize false activation and limit the 'alerts' within a 100-mile radius of Mt. Wachusetts. Our DF Team has the latest Ltronics, Tracker, Vecta2, Units on the Market. As a courtesy, we always advise CAP Units and USCG Auxiliary personal of active 'hits' when we receive a signal by giving the bearing and possible distance from Mt. Wachusetts.

MISSING PERSON SAR NEW HAMPSHIRE



Staging Area



Austin, Wayne, Bill



Mac, Mike SAR Map

On Tuesday, 04 December, WCSAR Team was dispatched for two days to Allentown NH for a missing person search. Also, members of WECT (Worcester Emergency Communications Team) assisted in the search by providing Team members for two days for Communications support. It was extreme cold weather and snow conditions in the Search Area. Bill Latimer, Mac Reynolds, Mike Ahern (Chris Maider on standby), and Wayne Santos (N1CKM), Austin Group (KC2SAH) comings from WECT assisted on the search. There were over 200 volunteers aiding in the search, which had gone on for 5 days, and at the time of this writing there have been no results and the public search has been suspended until further notice. Law Enforcement agencies are continuing on investigation all possibilities. Great Public support from the State of New Hampshire and all those that volunteered in this search.

SALUTING BILL PASSED

For our Military Members: The *Saluting Bill* was passed on 25 July 2007, allowing veterans and servicemen out-of-uniform to be able to salute the *U.S. Flag* instead of placing the right hand over the heart. This *Saluting Bill* gives the *U.S. Flag* the proper honor and respect it deserves.

MRSP (Mountain Rescue Safety Patrols)

Will start in January 08 after the first major snowstorm. All Team members keep watch of schedule. Training exercise on Mt. Wachusetts to be planned.

*** HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2008 TO ALL ***