# 2020 Marine Patrol Annual Report



It's Been a Rocky Year!

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#### I. The Mission of the Marine Patrol

#### Introduction

Patrolling the waters of Lake George since 1962, the Lake George Park Commission's Marine Patrol successfully completed 58 years of continuous service in 2020. Through the years, the Marine Patrol has built up a solid record of service dedicated to the protection of Lake George and its users.

The primary mission of the Marine Patrol is to promote the safe and enjoyable use of Lake George. The Marine Patrol accomplishes this primarily by protecting and educating the public. The Patrol also plays a key role in protecting the valuable natural resource of Lake George. The Marine Patrol provides a wide array of services to the boating public. These include assisting stranded boaters, emergency response and first aid, fire suppression, search and rescue, removal of hazards, recovery of lost property and boater safety training.

Additionally, the Marine Patrol enforces the New York State Navigation Law, Environmental Conservation Law, Lake George Park Commission Rules and Regulations, and all other laws.

The Patrol has a very large and diverse area to cover. At 32 miles long, Lake George presents these officers with over 50 square miles of patrol area, including 176 miles of shoreline and 245 islands. Lake George exists within many localities; three counties (Warren, Washington, and Essex), eight townships (Lake George, Bolton, Hague, Ticonderoga, Putnam, Dresden, Fort Ann, and Queensbury) and one village (Lake George) all of which touch the lake and have a vested interest in it.

The enforcement programs of the Commission are coordinated by the Director of Law Enforcement, a marine patrol lieutenant. This position allows the Director of Law Enforcement the opportunity to work closely with the patrol on a daily basis while maintaining consistent enforcement of the Commission's regulations throughout the Lake George Basin.

#### **Patrol Operations**

The Patrol season began on May 22nd and ran through October 31st. Beginning on June 27<sup>th</sup> the Marine Patrol operated at full strength, seven days a week until Labor Day. During the summer season six to seven patrol vessels were on duty Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. A total of 6433 hrs were logged by officers in 2020.



The Patrol tows a large tree that was floating in the lake following a strong storm that blew through. The Patrol often clears navigational hazards from the lake to ensure everyone stays safe.

# **Equipment Upgrades**

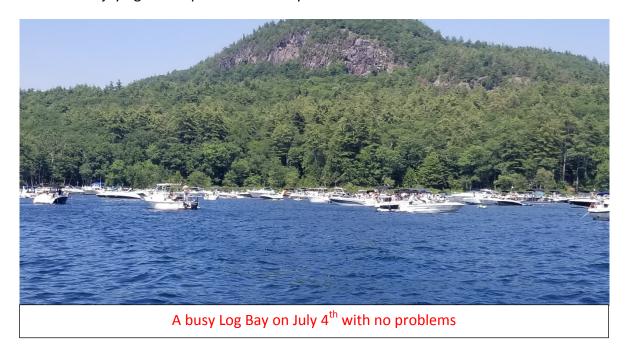
The patrol did not have any equipment upgrades in 2020.

# **II. Law Enforcement and Public Safety**

The Lake George Park Commission continued to work on public safety this year. The Patrol again partnered with the local marinas to improve boater safety. The marinas continue to show the rental boat safety video to all customers who rent boats.

#### **Log Bay Day**

Log Bay Day is a thing of the past on Lake George. Log Bay and Shelving Rock Bay were again open this year on the last Monday of July. The bays had normal weekday traffic with families and friends enjoying a calm problem free day.



# **Vessel Sanitary Inspections**

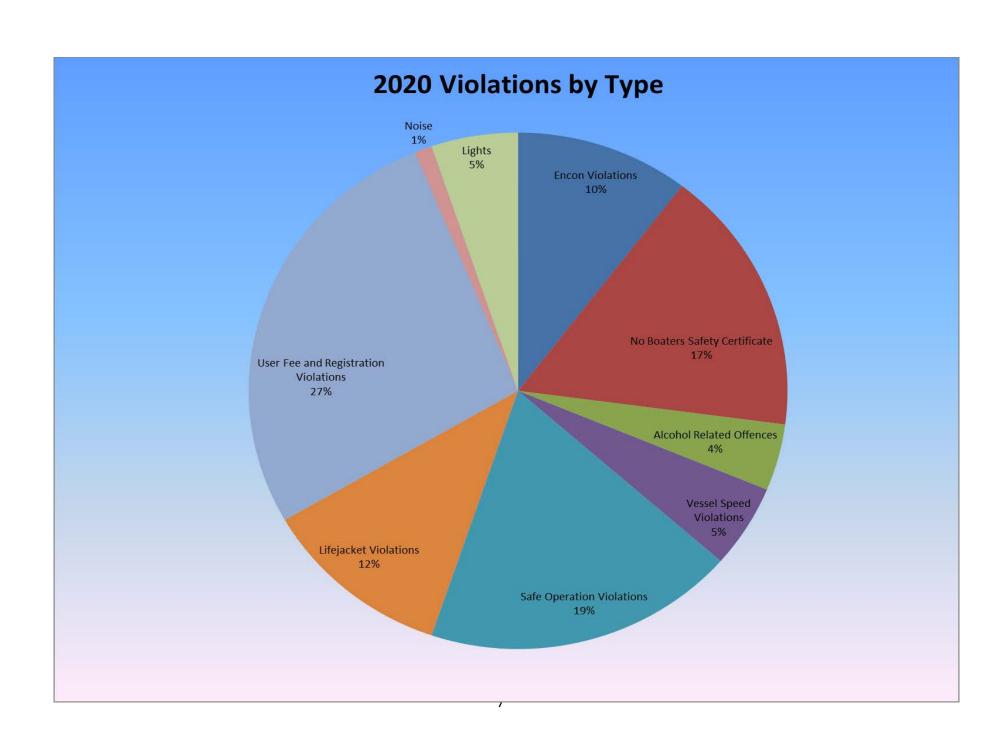
Due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the Marine Patrol did not conduct sanitary inspections in 2020. As soon as it is safe for the officers to board vessels, this program will be restarted.

# **Marine Patrol Officer Activity Statistics**

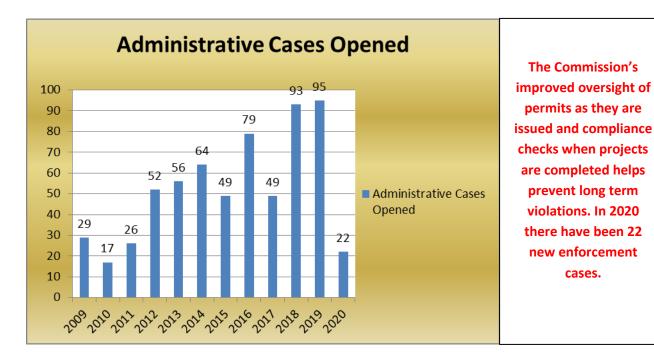
		2019	2020
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	Courtesy Gas	8	14
	Vessel Tows	36	76
	EMS/First Aid/Rescue Calls	28	71
	Searches	14	11
	Fires	1	6
	Reported Drowning	0	2
	All Other Boater Assists	125	144
	Assists to Other Agencies	75	95
	911 Hang Up Calls	29	110
LAW ENFORCEMENT	Arrests/Citations-		
	Navigation Law	79	57
	Arrests/Citations-All Other	45	39
	Total Arrests/Citations	124	96
	<u>Partial Breakdown of Citations</u>		
	PWC Citations	51	39
	BWI Arrests (includes TOTs)	7	2
	Vessel Noise Citations	2	1
	Vessel Speed Citations (includes "No Wake" zones)	11	5
	Complaints Addressed	336	601
	Accidents Investigated	22	18
	Incident Reports Filed	21	34
	Regattas Patrolled	9	11
	Warnings Issued	852	1219
	Vessel Noise Tests	2	2
SANITARY INSPECTIONS	Total Sanitary Inspections	194	0 Due to
			COVID-19
RECOVERED PROPERTY	Total Property Value	\$21,150	\$39,516
PATROL HOURS	Total Patrol Hours	6140	6433

# Marine Patrol Appearance Ticket Breakdown – 4 Year Trend

VIOLATIONS	2020			2019			2018			2017		
	Total	Vessel	PWC									
EQUIPMENT												
No Lake User Fee- LGPC Sticker	12	5	7	8	5	3	14	8	6	14	12	2
Unregistered Vessel- NYS Reg.	14	11	3	15	10	5	8	7	1	13	13	0
Lifejacket Violation	11	9	2	19	15	4	18	17	1	16	15	1
Other Equipment Violations	5	5	0	6	6	0	6	6	0	8	8	0
OPERATION												
Vessel Noise Violations	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Speed - Restricted Limit	4	3	1	9	4	5	22	10	12	16	11	5
Exceed Speed Limit	1	0	1	2	1	1	4	4	0	6	3	3
Boating While Intoxicated	2	2	0	7	6	1	7	7	0	13	13	0
Reckless/Unsafe Operation	4	3	1	3	1	2	3	3	0	7	5	2
Skiing/Towing Violations	11	5	6	7	6	1	15	13	2	7	4	3
No Boater Safety Certificate	16	0	16	31	3	28	18	0	18	31	3	28
PWC After Hours	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	3
Other Operation Violations	4	3	1	0	0	0	7	7	0	14	13	1
OTHER												
Water Quality, Littering, etc	1	0	1	2	2	0	3	3	0	3	2	0
Fishing, State Lands, etc	7	7	0	7	3	0	11	10	0	12	8	0
Underage Alcohol	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	17	8	0
Disorderly Conduct, Assault, etc	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0
All Others	2	2	0	4	3	0	1	1	0	7	7	0
TOTALS	96	56	40	124	68	51	141	96	41	189	125	48



### **Civil Enforcement Program**



## **Invasive Species**



The Marine Patrol is actively engaged in the education of the boating public and enforcement of existing invasive species regulations. The marine patrol also inspected the unattended launches around the lake. The patrol's goal was to help educate the public about the inspection program as well as ensure that all vessels were properly inspected prior to launching into the waters of Lake George.

#### III. Public Assistance and Education

#### **New York State Safe Boating Course Instruction**

Brianna's Law: New York State has passed a new law which will require everyone who operates a boat to have a safety certificate by January 1, 2025. This law is being phased in as follows:

If you were born on or after:	You will need a boaters safety certificate when operating a motorized vessel during:
January 1, 1993	2020
January 1, 1988	2022
January 1, 1983	2023
January 1 1978	2024

# All operators of motorized vessels, regardless of age, will need a boating safety certificate by January 1, 2025

Due to COVID-19, in person boater education classes were not able to be taught. The Marine Patrol looks forward to going back to teaching students in a classroom setting in the future. The Patrol currently has 9 Officers certified to teach boater safety classes in New York. If you have a group interested in hosting a class, feel free to give the Lake George Park Commission a call.

#### **Recovered Property**

The Marine Patrol recovered lost and or stolen property valued at more than \$39,516 during the 2020 season. Every year an assortment of missing vessels, canoes, and PWCs are routinely located by the patrol. In addition, a wide variety of smaller items such as knee boards, water skis, lifejackets and tubes are recovered by the patrol. Any lake user who loses an item on or around the lake should check with the Patrol to see if the item has been found or turned in. At the end of each season, all recovered property is turned over to the Warren County Sheriff's Department.

#### V. Real Stories from the Marine Patrol

#### **Unusual Incidents, Accidents and Rescues**



**Needs Some Practice Parking:** On Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>, Officer Skip Kneeshaw responded to Red Rock Bay for a boat that ended up on the dock (shown above). During his investigation he learned that the operator was attempting to dock the boat and shifted from reverse to forward. When going into forward, he pushed the throttle a little too hard and the boat drove right up on the dock. Neither he nor his wife was injured in the accident. The boat was removed fairly easily by a tow company and there was little damage to the boat.

Hacker Craft and Kayak Collision: On Friday June 26<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Johns was called to investigate an accident between a Hacker Craft motorboat and a kayak in Silver Bay. Upon investigation it was learned that a female in a kayak was paddling east from the Silver Bay Association with a group of friends, each in their own kayak, when they noticed a motorboat approaching from the north. As the boat continued on a direct collision path towards her, the woman attempted to get the attention of the boat operator. She waved her paddle in the air and tried to yell to him. When she saw that the boat was not going to stop, she jumped out of the kayak in an attempt to get away. The boat continued on and struck the kayak. While interviewing the boat operator, it was learned that he saw several kayaks off to his left as he was proceeding down the lake. He did not see the kayak to his right. He was attempting to keep his distance from those kayaks when he struck the kayak on his right. Although shaken up, there were no injuries in the

accident and alcohol and drugs were not involved. The operator of the boat was ticketed for failure to yield to the starboard vessel. It is always important to maintain a proper lookout while operating a boat. There can always be swimmers or kayaks that are hard to spot.



This is the front of the kayak hit by the Hacker Craft. The Hacker Craft sustained no damage.

**Drowning:** On Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> about 4:30 pm, Patrols were dispatched to Shepards Park Beach for a missing swimmer. After a short search, the 19yo male victim from New Jersey was found floating near the patrol docks just north of the beach. The victim was immediately pulled from the water and placed on the dock where Sgt. Angelo Paccione and Warren County Road Patrol Officer Jesse Pound performed CPR until EMS arrived. Unfortunately, he did not survive.

**Two Boats Collide:** On Friday July 10<sup>th</sup>, Officer Bob Sutphen was called to an accident in Sabbath Day Point involving two motorboats. Officer Sutphen learned that a 20' Glastron was traveling in a northerly direction at a slow speed while 18' SeaRay had just picked up a water skier and was traveling in the same direction. The SeaRay, with the water skier, had the bow of the boat out of the water and did not see the Glastron, striking it in the starboard side in the stern. This caused the SeaRay to ride partially on top the Glastron. After the collision, the SeaRay was able to back off the top of the Glastron. This was a close call as someone in the Galstron was sitting in the seat next to where it was struck. He was able to see the imminent collision coming and get out of the way. The Glastron received significant damage due to the collision. Another example of how failing to maintain a proper lookout can be extremely dangerous.

**False Alarm:** On Saturday July 18<sup>th</sup>, Narrow Island Ranger Station received a call from a camper's daughter reporting her father had fallen on Hatchet Island and had a head injury. Don from Narrow Island immediately called the Marine Patrol to respond to Hatchett Island. Officer

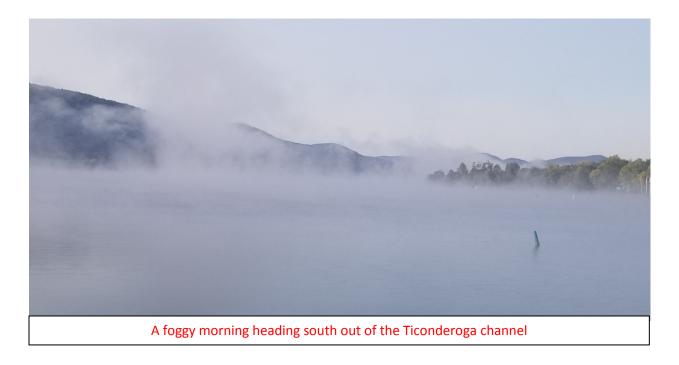
Glen Mitchell took the call and also called Warren County Dispatch to have Bolton Fireboat respond to the scene. Upon arrival Officer Mitchell found the individual who had supposedly fallen. He was on his dock and did not appear to have any injuries. He told Officer Mitchell he did not call for help. Officer Mitchell cancelled the fireboat and began investigating what was going on. He found that the man on the island called his daughter the previous day and told her he had fallen and lost his glasses. She attempted to call him back in the morning and could not get ahold of him. Thinking the worst, she called Narrow Island franticly looking for help for her father. In the end, the man called his daughter back and all was well.



Male in Seizure at the top of Calf Pen: Also on Saturday July 18<sup>th</sup>, Patrols (shown above) were dispatched to the Calf Pen jumping rock for a male in seizure at the top of the rocks. Upon arrival, patrols found a group of people on the rocks yelling to them and pointing out the victim. As there are no docks in this area it is extremely difficult for the patrol to get close to shore here. Because the State Police operate a 2 man patrol, Trooper Ed Stannard was able to get on board with Sgt. Paccione (shown above) so they could attempt to get close to the rocks in the Commission Impact Boat. This boat has rubberized sides to allow it to get close to rocks like these without causing damage. During this time, the victim came out of seizure and the group of individuals was able to slowly bring him down the rock ledge. Once at the bottom, Bolton Fireboat arrived and transported the subject to EMS.



The Story Doesn't Match the Evidence: On Thursday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Officer Sutphen noticed the boat pictured above on the shoreline just north of Deer Leap. The boat was abandoned when he found it. Officer Sutphen was able to get the registration number and trace it back to the owner. It was found that the owner's grandson had taken the boat out the previous night. Her grandson told Officer Sutphen that he lost control of the vessel due to a failure in both the throttle and steering. The accident happened about 2:00 am. He called a friend to come pick him up and was going to go back and retrieve the boat that next day. Officer Sutphen was skeptical about this story so he and Sgt. Angelo Paccione inspected the vessel when it was pulled from the water by a tow company. With the boat on a trailer, the throttle and steering systems were checked and found to be working properly. The operator was again interviewed and changed his story to "I was going too fast, saw land but it was too late." Being that the accident was not called in and investigated right away, officers were not able to determine if alcohol was involved. The operator was ticked for reckless operation and for having an expired registration. As a side note, the operator's brother was ticketed 5 days prior to the accident by Officer Kneeshaw for having an expired registration also.



**Boat versus Stand-Up Paddleboard:** On Friday July 24<sup>th</sup>, Officer Sutphen responded to a close call between a boat and a stand-up paddleboard. The paddleboarder was moving in a northerly direction when it was hit by a motorboat attempting to come up on plane. With the bow in the air, the operator of the boat did not see the individual on the paddleboard. The paddleboarder did see him coming however and dove off the board just before the collision. The fin on the paddleboard was damaged but no injuries were reported. The operator of the vessel was ticketed for reckless operation.

Near Drowning: On Monday July 27<sup>th</sup>, patrols were dispatched to the area of Diamond Island for a swimmer in trouble. Officer Ray VanAnden and Warren County Officers Gary Mazzacano and John Dunn arrived at the scene to find the victim still in the water being held up by several people. Officers were able to get the victim out of the water and into the Warren County patrol boat. Once there Warren County Officers transported the semi-conscious victim to North Queensbury EMS in Sandy Bay. Officer VanAnden conducted the investigation at the scene. He found that the victim decided to jump in the lake for a swim. He was not a good swimmer so he put on a PFD. The PFD was not secured properly and came off immediately and the victim began to go under. His friend on the rental boat, who also did not know how to swim, saw he was in trouble and began throwing additional PFDs to the victim. Those PFDs would not reach him. A passing boater who noticed what was happening pulled up and he and other boaters held the victim above water until Patrols arrived. A follow-up at the hospital showed the victim was doing well. Remember; always use a Type IV PFD when attempting to save someone who is drowning. They are heavier and can be thrown farther to the victim.

Suspicious Individuals: On Thursday July 30<sup>th</sup>, Officer Skip Kneeshaw responded to a call in Kitchell Bay in Huletts Landing for a report of 2 suspicious males attempting to speak to 2 teenage females. Upon investigation Officer Kneeshaw found that 2 males in a boat with a Pennsylvania registration approached the 2 teen females at their dock asking multiple questions. They then asked the girls to join them and show them around the lake. Both girls declined and recorded the registration of the boat. The photo also showed a temporary user fee registration on the boat. Based on the Pennsylvania and user fee registrations, it was determined that the vessel in question was launched at Million Dollar Beach Launch at 7:15 am the same morning. Officer Kneeshaw alerted the other patrols to be on the lookout for this vessel, especially the patrols in the southern end of the lake. Officer Keith Knoop was able to intercept the vessel shortly after the incident. He interviewed the occupants in the boat and had Warren County do a background check on both to check for any previous arrests. He also warned both about predatory behavior. The girls who were approached did the right thing about declining to get in the boat as well as take pictures and report the incident immediately.

**Drowning:** At about 3:30 pm on Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup>, a county wide marine rescue call went out for a possible drowning near the Paulist Father's boathouse in the southern basin. Park Commission Officers Gary Mazzacano and Keith Knoop were the first to arrive at the scene followed by Warren County Officers Jeff Webster and John Dunn. They found subjects frantically waving to them from a pontoon boat and a small bow rider. It was learned that a subject from the pontoon boat had jumped into the lake for a swim and yelled for help. Three other subjects from the boat jumped in the water in an attempt to save him but were unable to do so. Of the 3 who attempted to save the swimmer, 2 were able to make it back to the boat. The third struggled to try to hold his friend up and got into trouble himself. He was pulled into a passing boat, the small bow rider. After arriving, Officer Knoop deployed a pelican marker to mark the spot where the witnesses thought the victim was last seen while Officer Mazzacano and Dunn assisted in bringing the semi-conscious individual on the bow rider as well as the witnesses to a nearby dock where EMS transported the 28yo male to Glens Falls Hospital. The individuals on the pontoon boat were turned over to Warren County and State Police Officers for witness statements. Marine Patrol Officers Mazzacano, Knoop, Kneeshaw and Sgt. Ross along with Warren County Officers Webster and Dunn secured the scene while Warren County Sheriff's Department Dive Team searched the area. It was not until the next day that State Police Divers using sonar discovered the body of the 22yo victim from the Bronx in 105' of water.

**Be Careful While Swimming:** On Saturday August 15<sup>th</sup>, Officer Jeff Webster responded to the Sabbath Day Point area for a report of an injured swimmer. Upon arrival he found a victim with a deep cut to his right arm. It appears while swimming, the boat drifted towards him and he cut his arm on a sharp part of the pontoon. The injury required medical attention beyond basic first aid. Swimmers often swim too close or too far from the boat which both can be dangerous.



**Turned a Little too Soon:** On Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup>, Officers Scott Andersen and Skip Kneeshaw were called in from home at 9:43 pm to respond to an accident with unknown injuries in the Narrows. Upon arrival the officers found the above boat on Ranger Shoal. During their investigation it was found that a man and his 2 young sons, ages 9 and 13, were traveling from near Fox Island to Their home in Northwest Bay. The operator thought he was past all the buoys and islands and he was safe to turn west towards Northwest Bay when he ran aground. All three were checked out by Bolton EMS at Green Island and found to be fine. The boat however sustained damage in excess of \$10,000. Officers Andersen and Kneeshaw gave the father and his 2 sons a courtesy ride to their home in Northwest Bay.

Disorderly Person at the Hague Boat Launch: On Friday August 21st, Officer Mike Rogan was called to The Hague Boat Launch for a male refusing to leave. Upon arrival, Officer Rogan found that the parking attendant had asked a boat owner parked in the launch to leave as he was parked there for over the 2-hour limit. Other people were waiting in the area to get into the dock at this time. The owner of the boat became belligerent to the parking attendant and refused to leave. Officer Rogan was able to get him to leave with a parking violation issued by the town for parking in excess of 2 hours.



Patrols were called to this sunken ski boat in Hague on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. A crane on a work boat was able to lift this ski boat out of the water enough to pump it out so it could be towed to the Hague Boat Launch to be put on a waiting trailer. It turns out a seal on the bottom of the boat tore open and allowed water to flood into the boat.

Close Call: On Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup>, Officer Sutphen was called to investigate an accident at a marina in Bolton Landing. It appears a boat attempting to approach the dock for gas accelerated suddenly and struck the stern of a second vessel. An employee of the marina was pumping gas into that vessel at the time and location of the impact. That employee dove into the water to avoid getting struck. After diving into the water, the hull and prop traveled over the employee before striking a third vessel. Thankfully there were no injuries. There was approximately \$5,000 worth of damage to all the boats involved.

**Injury while Tubing:** On Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup>, Officer Ray VanAnden responded to a personal injury tubing accident near Long Island. Officer VanAnden found that a 12 year old boy had been thrown from the tube he was riding when he hit the wake of another vessel. The youth had a proper size PFD on but received a neck injury from the impact of the waves. Officer VanAnden assisted in getting the youth to EMS who transported him to the Glens Falls Hospital for evaluation. He was checked over and released. Remember, when tubing, slowdown in rough water. The landings are not always soft.



Sgt. Ross and MPO VanAnden talk in the South Basin

Sandy Bay Mooring Replacements: On October 12<sup>th</sup>, Officer Mike Rogan, a trained diver, worked with Sergeants Shane Ross and Angelo Paccione to mark all the missing bases in Sandy Bay where the moorings had broken off. Officer Rogan went to the bottom of the lake in the outer area of Sandy Bay and was towed by the sergeants with the patrol boat. When Officer Rogan found a mooring base that was not marked on the surface, he signaled the officers in the boat to stop. Rogan then deployed markers so the contractor the Park Commission hired to replace the moorings could easily find them. This saved the Commission a great deal of money by not paying the contractor hours worth of labor fees to search the lake bottom. This company was able to get the job done a day sooner than anticipated. A job well done by the 3 officers.

# Other Accidents Investigated by the Patrol Not Listed in the Stories

Date	Time	Location	Officer	Injuries	Description
6/7/20	3:30pm	Long	MPO	No	Boat hit rocks between Long Island and
		Island	Knoop		Speaker Heck Island. Prop and lower unit
					damage
6/21/20	11:57am	Dome	Sgt. Ross	Yes	PWC operator hit his head on the handlebars
		Island			requiring medical treatment beyond first aid.
6/26/20	3:30pm	Sawmill	Sgt.	No	A boat tied to the dock at a marina was
		Bay	Paccione		struck by a second boat pulling into dock.
6/28/20	6:08pm	East	MPO	Yes	A female victim slipped while boarding a
		Dollar	Kneeshaw		boat tied to the dock. The victim's leg slid
		Island			down into the water slicing her calf open on
					the propeller.
7/12/20	12:17pm	Outside	MPO	Yes	Vessel hit the wake of another boat. A 6 yo
		Sandy	VanAnden		male on his knees in the bow struck his head
		Bay			requiring medical treatment.
7/17/20	11:30am	Vickers	MPO	Yes	Victim slipped and fell on rocks. Victim had a
		Island	Mitchell		serious knee injury. Transported by Hague
					EMS to Glens Falls Hospital.
7/21/20	4:00pm	L.G.	MPO	No	While backing out of a parking spot, the
		Village	Knoop		operator shifted to forward and applied too
		Area			much throttle causing the vessel to strike
					another boat.
8/3/20	12:18pm	Sawmill	Sgt. Ross	No	Vessel pulled forward after backing up and
		Bay			hit the dock causing minor damage.
8/17/20	3:15pm	Basin Bay	MPO	No	While backing out of a dock, the operator
			VanAnden		shifted into forward and struck a second
					vessel causing damage.
8/22/20	2:28pm	Hague	MPO	No	Seal under the ski boat broke while being
			Sutphen		operated. The boat quickly took on a
					considerable amount of water and sunk.
8/26/20	4:30pm	Crown	MPO	No	While attempting to dock the boat, the
		Island	Rogan		operator misjudged and struck the dock
					causing damage to the dock.
10/10/20	3:07pm	Green Is.	MPO	No	Boat was taking on water. Operator pulled in
			Rogan		to the nearest dock for safety of passengers.

#### **Boating While Intoxicated**

In 2020, the patrol continued to focus on removing intoxicated operators from the lake. In 2020, there were 2 BWI arrests on Lake George.

Friday July 10<sup>th</sup> East of Log Bay: On Friday July 10<sup>th</sup> at about 7:10 pm, Officers Bob Sutphen and Scott Andersen were patrolling east of Log Bay when they noticed a pontoon boat dragging its anchor and had its motor trimmed up. When the officers stopped the pontoon boat to let them know about the anchor, they noticed that the operator seemed confused. Officer Sutphen also noticed that the operator had red glazed eyes and his speech was slurred. When asked if he had been drinking, the operator responded he had 2 drinks earlier. After failing all the field sobriety tests Officer Sutphen administered, he was arrested for BWI. His BAC Level was 0.15%. He was processed and released to a sober third party.

On Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup> near Long Island: On Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup> at about 9:45 pm, Officers Andersen and Sutphen were patrolling in the area of Long Island when they noticed a vessel operating without a stern light. The vessel was stopped and while interviewing the operator, officers noticed the operator had glassy eyes, slurred speech and smelled of alcohol. Officers also noticed an open bottle of liquor on the floor and a full bottle on the rear seat. The occupants were asked about their stern light and replied it was a rental boat, and it did not have one. When asked where they were coming from and where they were going, they replied they had dinner in L.G. Village and were headed to their hotel in Silver Bay. Officer Andersen proceeded to conduct field sobriety tests which the operator failed. Lt. Johns and Officer Webster were called to assist in transporting the rental boat back to Green Island as the other occupant in the boat was also intoxicated. The operator was arrested and transported to Green Island for processing. His BAC Level was 0.22%. He was arrested for BWI and transported back to his hotel by Lt. Johns and Officer Sutphen in the Marine Patrol's state patrol car.

With the 2 BWIs on Lake George this year, Law Enforcement kept the message out there that operating under the influence of alcohol and drugs is dangerous and will not be tolerated. While there were fewer arrests this year, we feel more people understand that a sober operator is the way to go.

These are just a few of the stories from the patrol during the 2020 season. Due to the ever changing conditions and job responsibilities, the patrol members must be prepared for whatever comes their way.

#### VI. Acknowledgements

The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has always provided the Marine Patrol with valuable training opportunities in addition to equipment and cost reimbursement through federal boater safety programs.

The Town of Lake George again donated a dock for Patrol use during the 2020 season.

The Warren County Sheriff Deputies works closely with the patrol throughout the summer. They also provide multiple training opportunities for the patrol including annual range certification.

New York State Troopers work closely with the Marine Patrol all summer and provide critical support. The State Police also put daily patrols out in May while the Commission was short staffed.

The Department of Environmental Conservation's Division of Law Enforcement assists in providing support when needed.

The Department of Environmental Conservation's staff at the Green Island Maintenance Facility does an excellent job servicing and maintaining all the Marine Patrol vessels every year.

Enough can't be said about the professionalism and dedication of Lake George Park Commission's Marine Patrol Officers. The Marine Patrol has been charged with a great responsibility. They provide assistance, education and quality enforcement to all of the lake's visitors. This is a responsibility that these exceptional men take very seriously, and it shows. Year after year, positive comments regarding the Marine Patrol are both common and well deserved. They are the most visible ambassadors of the Lake George Park Commission and are directly responsible for the continued success of the Marine Patrol program.



# **2020 Patrol Roster**



(Sitting L to R) Skip Kneeshaw, Jeff Webster, Mike Rogan, Scott Andersen (Standing L to R) Ray VanAnden, Gary Mazzacano, Keith Knoop, Angelo Paccione, Shane Ross, Joe Johns, Bob Sutphen and Chris Mueller (Commission Mechanic)- Missing- Glen Mitchell

# Returning this year were:

Lieutenant Joe Johns (20 <sup>th</sup> year)	MPO Glen Mitchell (13th year)

# Lake George Park Commission

75 Fort George Road, PO Box 749 Lake George, New York 12845

> Phone: 518-668-9347 Fax: 518-668-5001

> www.lgpc.state.ny.us

# TO CONTACT THE MARINE PATROL

#### **EMERGENCIES**

MARINE RADIO CHANNEL 16 Request "Marine Patrol"

LG MARINE PATROL DISPATCH 518-743-2500

(Warren County Sheriff's Department) or 911

#### NON EMERGENCIES

LG MARINE PATROL HEADQUARTERS 518-668-9347

(Monday – Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm)

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

TO REPORT ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES 800-TIPP DEC

LAKE GEORGE CAMPGROUND INFORMATION 800-456-CAMP

NYSDEC – Warrensburg Office 518-623-1200

Marine Patrol statistics have been accumulated and categorized to provide a snapshot of the activities going on around Lake George. They provide crucial data on areas of special concern and help determine future patrol needs.