



FLOTILLA



NEWSLETTER OF THE LCT FLOTILLAS OF WORLD WAR II

HONORING THE MEN WHO SERVED ON THE LANDING CRAFT OF THE U.S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES

Volume 3, No.2

October 2002

2003 REUNION SET FOR DULUTH, MN

WALT SLATER VISITS THE OUTER ISLAND



Attendees at our June reunion in New Orleans chose Duluth, Minnesota as the site for the 2003 LCT Flotillas reunion. The dates have been set as Thurs-Sat, June 5, 6 and 7, 2003. The main event will be a tour and ride on the *Outer Island*, formerly the LCT(5)-103 located in Bayfield, Wisconsin.

Bud Farmer and Ron Swanson went to Duluth in August to inspect the hotels, area attractions and transportation arrangements. In Bayfield, they met with Ken Dobson, part owner of the *Outer Island*, where Bud and Mr. Dobson (photo above) discussed preliminary details for the LCT tour. Registration materials will be mailed out later this month and we will provide more details in our December issue.

In a related story, Walt Slater (LCT-982) visited the *Outer Island* later in August and was treated to a one-hour cruise aboard this vintage WW2 landing craft. Accompanied by his wife, daughter and son-in-law, they made the trip from Ohio to visit with relatives in Superior, Wisconsin, just across the river from Duluth, Minnesota, site of next years reunion.

Walt's son-in-law, David Crawford, a commander in the U.S. Navy, grew up in Superior and recalls an earlier ride on the LCT as a 12-year-old lad. His Boy Scout troop attended camp on one of the nearby Apostle Islands where the *Outer Island* delivered vehicles and supplies and worked on docks and piers on the shores of Lake Superior.

The *Outer Island* had broken the shaft to its port engine and was in drydock at Washburn, Wisconsin when Walt's entourage arrived. Repairs had been completed on the shaft and the crew took the opportunity to also paint the entire hull.

continued on page 13 . . .