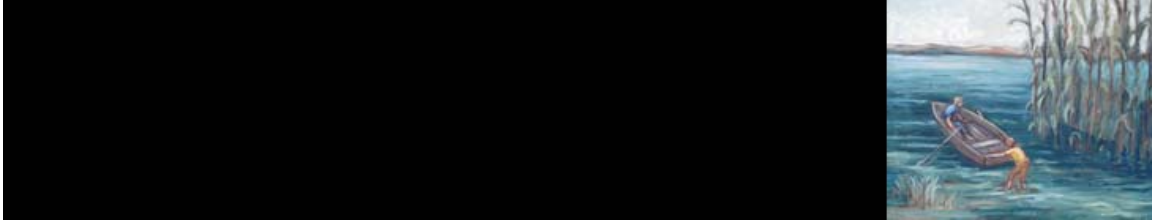


The Hudson Touchdown << FISHING



The Hudson Touchdown August 10, 2009

Posted by cantueso in history, legend, photography

It was January 15, 2009

The captain was Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger, 57, a former fighter pilot. With a call sign of “Cactus 1539” the plane contacted the air traffic control in New York:

“Hit birds. We lost thrust in both engines. Returning back towards LaGuardia.”

But he could not go back, and when he saw he could not reach any other airport either, he told the controllers: “We are going to be in the Hudson.”

The controllers at La Guardia saw the plane pass at less than 900 feet above the George Washington Bridge and touch down on the river in midtown Manhattan.

The plane began drifting southward with the current. The cabin started to fill with water. The flight attendants told passengers to move forward by climbing over seats. One passenger was in a wheelchair.

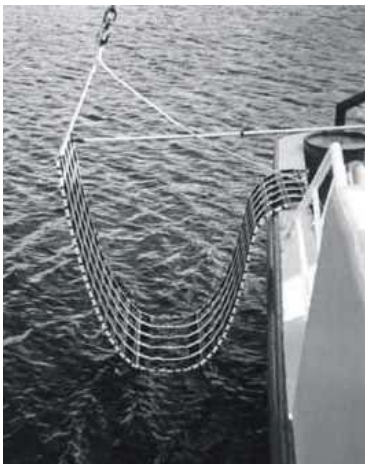


The captain was the last person to leave the aircraft. The passengers stood on the slides and on the wings, some knee-deep in water. Some swam away from the plane.

Air temperature was about 20°F and the water was near freezing.

Captain Vincent Lombardi with his ferry was first to arrive at the side of the plane. Captain Brittany Catanzaro arrived a few minutes later.

More help came, some by helicopter, and divers who jumped into the water to save people from drowning, ambulances ready to take people to the hospitals.



Some used a Jason’s cradle to fish people out of the water.

Not a single life was lost.