

S U M M E R 2 0 1 2

the Bucket Buoy

The Official Newsletter of the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps



End of Season Reflections

The end of the summer of 2012 is upon us. Summer does seem to flash by so quickly, yet is filled with so many recollections.

We started way back in May with our re-hire procedure, this year at Suffolk County Community College. With an actual track for the run, and a faster pool for the swim, just about everyone seemed content with the new facility. We are encouraging Parks to continue utilizing this facility for future testing. We also distributed our Summer T-shirt at the rehire test this year. Thanks to Tom Darnaud for stepping up to design, order and distribute the T's. A job well done Tommy D.!

Opening weekend brought the crowds and they have not stopped coming to enjoy our beautiful beaches and safe waters.

Attendance at NY STATE PARKS was up 5.6% this year with all of LI Parks increased also. Attendance at Jones Beach was 4,219,343, Robert Moses was 2,701,507, Sunken Meadow was 1,404,559 all our other parks were up in attendance also.

Safety First!

Another summer has come and gone and with it there have been many positive suggestions regarding lifeguard equipment and safety procedures. We welcome further comment regarding these issues. Please email any ideas or suggestions to: Bob Adler

badlerclu@aol.com

or

Cary Epstein

mailto:jonesbeachguard@gmail.com

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I do not have the stats yet for rescues this year, but last year we had over 3600 recorded rescues, so I am sure it will be up there again this year. Just think of all those we rescued who went home to their families because of your actions and dedication to saving lives. You all should be proud of yourself and job you perform.

We of course have been working to obtain a fair wage and contract with NYS.

The NYSLC Negotiation Team (Bob Adler, Rich Malen, Bruce Meirowitz, Peter Martineau of NYSUT, and Arty Shertzer of UUP) has met with Gov. Andrew Cuomo's representative Joe Bress and members of the Governor's Office of Employees Relations (GOER) this summer four times on June 14th and July 26th in Albany, August 3rd and 10th in NYC. Good progress has been made and additional meetings are to be scheduled in the fall.

On July 17th we held a very successful rally drawing attention to our lack of a contract and also highlighting our 1st Annual Jones Beach Invitational Tournament. We had lots of media coverage for both events, and that was great. NYSUT stepped up with help to notify the media of our rally and signs and posters were designed and printed by NYSUT.

Our Tournament went well, with Fire Island winning the event. All the visiting teams enjoyed the day and expressed a desire for the event to continue. This was a new type of event for us as it replaced our traditional 3 days of inter-beach competition. Hopefully the Corp will submit more teams next year to participate. We held our Annual Summer Party that night at Shooters in Wantagh, and everyone attending seemed to enjoy themselves.

Our Jr. Lifeguard program continues to be a great success again this year. Thanks to Scott Riegel and all the instructors for spending every Sunday morning with our Junior Lifeguards.



Lifeguard/Junior Lifeguard Tournament Circuit

The USLA National Lifeguard Tournament was held again this year in Cape May, NJ. I had the privilege of competing both this year and last year. Jones Beach lifeguards did well against some formidable opponents. Everyone should be proud of those who chose, at their own expense, to compete at this and all the other events.

Our Competition team also attended events at Smiths Point and Newport R.I. As always they did a great job competing and representing the Corps. A team of 3 girls represented us at the All Womans Tournament & we managed to finish overall 5th place! Imagine what we could do if we had a real team! Great work Ashley Smith, Caryn Smith & Maggie Johns!



The Fisherman's Dog

Good Luck JBLC Lifeguard Jared Adler

We are located along Beach Channel Drive, Rockaway's scenic waterfront overlooking Jamaica Bay and the Manhattan skyline. We're also 2 blocks from the beach and one or two blocks from the A train depending which stop you are coming from. We serve classic New York street food and a rotating menu of locally caught seafood including the trucks namesake "The Fisherman's Dog" a fried cod loin in a hot dog bun with a lemon and dill aioli.

Think of us as a new take on a New England style clam shack. http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/thefishermansdog/thefishermans-dog-food-truck?ref=recently_launched



Lifeguard News



Keith Washington gets a married!

Yup...you read that correctly! Central Malls very own "money grip" Keith Washington tied the knot this August! The party & food was out of this world. We wish nothing but love & happiness to the new Mr. & Mrs. Washington!



Matt Caines Completes NYC Sea Paddle

Congratulations to WBHO Matt Caines for Completing the NYC Sea Paddle on August 17th. The 26.5 mile stand up paddle race raised over \$5000 which was donated to help support Autism charities along with Surfers' Environmental Alliance projects.

JB Guards Lifeguard Ironman US Championship

Congratulations to the 43 lifeguards who watched over the 3,000 Ironman triathletes in the Inaugural IRONMAN US CHAMPIONSHIP triathlon held in New York City & New Jersey Saturday August 11th, 2012. The 2.4 mile swim was held in the Hudson River, the 112 mile bike ride on sections of the Palisades Parkway & 26.2 mile run throughout NJ & ending in NYC! Totally worth the #swagbags!



Letters to the Editor

"Let's get on the same Page."

By Ryan Black LGII RM2

We are a diverse workforce on the JBLC. We run the gamut from High School to Retiree. However, the common bond we share is our desire to protect the public. Along with this, we earn the same salary. Together we enjoy workers rights (the lifeguards at Tobay apparently did not), knowing that our jobs will be there if we meet certain criteria.

I have received varying perspectives from a portion of the Corp and this concerns me. It is apparent that morale is low; morale I believe is directly related to our rate of pay. In 1971 JBLC decided to strike, during which disgruntled employees exhibited a tremendous amount of internal fortitude and stood "together" with a belief in our workers rights.

In comparison, today our workforce is divided. Some workers feel our rate of pay is OK...others feel we deserve less, but the majority believe we deserve a raise. Keep in mind that the rate of inflation increases on average 2.5% a year, regardless of our income. If we are not "together" we could lose this battle. IT reflects the old saying "divide and conquer". That's what all the political powers that be need to hear in order to dismiss our request for a raise.

In conclusion, we need to all be on the same page and support our union's efforts in a pay raise and retroactive pay."

Class of 1967- By Roy Reynolds

"For the first time since 1967, I did not take the test; and yes I could still pass it; but it was time, at age 63, to hang up the speedo. I'm not going to get all sentimental about it, but I owe it to the Corps and friends to say thank you for the memories and experiences that make me what I am today, a better man with peace of mind.

Here's a quick summary: Rookie year, two weeks at Zach's Bay and then they wanted volunteers to go to Robert Moses; I was on my way-13 years at RM3 and the next 32 at RM5. There was the 24 hour sit in the lifeguard stand, the Union Strike in 71, got arrested, it was fun. They stole my 54' Chevy twice while at work. Then my first Miss Fire Island contest, "Hey that guy has a ring through his Nipple!" My Lieutenant, Kenny Hunt, called me a "hump", so it must be. Bob Lenti, Pat Linehan, Ken Larsen, Jay Losee, Joe Scalise, Al McGill, Steve Brink, Rick Conway, Frank & Skip, Ken Lyons, Dennis Angermaier, The O'Connors, The Harstedts, The Motes, Duffy too; these were some of the people in those early years. Bought the Oak Beach House in 72. Met my wife, Ginny, at the beach in 73, with her three kids, John, Kurt and Erik, we got married and had one of our own, another Roy.

Then there was Bear, Lion, Seal, Lundwall, Burkley, Udo, Donovan, Harold, Tommy D., Tommy Byrnes, just to name a few, with so many characters around me its not hard to do. Now its time to paddle aside and let some others take the ride. Shannon Daly asked why, I said "cause I'm an old guy". She says "You're not old, I saw you in the hurricane surf"; that was music to my ears and with her memory in mind, I know its time. I guess there is a point in life, where we become memories, memories to others and memories of others. Thanks for the memories and God bless you all (even the coordinators).

-Roy Reynolds
(Class of 67')

Cops: Man missing off Jones Beach alive and well -- in Florida

Originally published: August 1, 2012 11:22 PM

Updated: August 1, 2012 11:37 PM

By BILL MASON bill.mason@newsday.com



Photo credit: Kevin P Coughlin | Concerned friends and family members wait on the shoreline as Nassau County Police and New York State Park Police search for a swimmer who was reported missing at Jones Beach State Park. (July 28, 2012)

We of course had the submersion at Field 6 that turned out to be a total fake. After days of searching for the victim he was eventually discovered to be alive. The "victim" and his son have been arrested and are being prosecuted. The crew at Field 6, supplemented by lifeguards from all over Jones Beach did an outstanding job in conducting a lengthy water search in challenging conditions. Thanks to everyone for your dedication.

Another possible submersion search was carried out at RM2 with guards from all the other RM fields participating. The also turned out to be a false alarm, but the system did work. Thanks to the RM guards for their efforts.

A “sand rescue” was successfully completed at RM4. A man tunneled into the berm, then entered the tunnel. His wife evidently stood on the sand above him to take his picture and everything collapsed. The guards responded quickly and managed to locate first his hand then his face. An Oxygen mask was applied and the victim was extracted and went home, alive! Great job, RM4!

Here is a letter to the Editor of Newsday, on August 27th, submitted by a patron:

“On a recent Monday, a stretch of ocean at Robert Moses Beach was particularly rough. It was impressive to watch the reaction and response of the lifeguards.

They anticipated the swimmers distress before the swimmers themselves even knew they were in trouble. The lifeguard’s skill is something we take for granted, but seeing it in action makes us more appreciative.”

We said, and I agree totally with the patron’s remarks!

We had shark sightings at RM2 and Hither Hills. We had a whale sighting at RM2. We all had Dolphin sightings. The ocean was particularly warm and full of sea life, what a great thing for all to enjoy.

Pointing out the dangers to us all, a fellow lifeguard from East Hampton, 17-year-old Doris Quigley, was left partially paralyzed after hitting her head on a sand bar at Atlantic Avenue Beach in East Hampton. Quick work by her fellow lifeguards saved her life, and a Fund Raiser for her will be held on September 8th. Donations may be made to the East Hampton Lifeguard Association, 7 Meadow Way, East Hampton, NY 11937. (631 324-2787)

The 10th Annual Dennis P. Angermaier Memorial Lifeguard Scholarship Run-Swim-Run Relay was held on Saturday August 11th in very challenging Ocean conditions.



Volunteers are needed for Wheels 2 Water on September 23rd at Lido Beach. Please consider helping out a great event. Please let Anthony (516-729-1061) or Ed (516-316-6595) know if you are coming and are surfing, volunteering or coming down to support. Ask your friends, family if they surf to come and help. This is a great event and all are welcome to come!!



WHEELS 2 WATER

LONG ISLAND

2012 Events for Paralyzed Surfers

This year we are doing two events in Nassau County!

On Sunday August 12 we will be hosting an surf event in Long Beach at National Blvd. We are happy to announce that the city of Long Beach will be supplying lifeguards and a path along the sand for easier access (more info to follow as it comes in).

Long Beach, NY
August 12th

National Blvd. • 10:00 AM

We NEED volunteers as much as surfers for this event.

Please let **Anthony (516-729-1061)** or **Ed (516-316-6595)** know if you are coming and are surfing, volunteering or coming down to support. Ask your friends, family if they surf to come and help. This is a great event and all are welcome to come!!

Lido Beach, NY
September 23rd

Also we will be having our first ever event in Lido Beach on Sunday September 23. More information to follow on that event but mark it down and save the date.



VOLUNTEERS are needed to help surfers in the water.
DONATIONS are needed to help with the costs of specialized boards, wet suits, life vests and food and drink at the events.



For more information please contact

Testaverde Fund for Spinal Cord Injury, Inc.

www.testaverdefund.org

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Got lifeguard news or information? Submit your stories to jonesbeachguard@gmail.com all year round! Don't forget to join our Facebook Group "Jones Beach Lifeguards-Lifeguards for life" & follow us on Twitter @Bucketbuoy. HAVE A GREAT WINTER!



*"LIFES A BEACH & WERE JUST PLAYIN
IN THE SAND BOX".*

