



Bucket & Buoy



13 July 2011

Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps: Saving lives since 1929



Presidential Address

Tom Donovan - President, JBLC

With Memorial Day and July 4th behind us, there were many lessons learned and old thoughts reaffirmed...On “Happy Birthday America” Day, Sunken Meadow was shutdown before our Lifeguards were on duty and has seen record crowds all Summer long. From our point of view – Safety First – this situation requires that we revisit pre and in-season staffing levels; it is unfathomable that so many patrons had already taken to the water before our Lifeguards clocked in and that the number of bathers was way out of proportion to the complement of Lifeguards.

This is not a new issue; decades of discussions have revolved around proper staffing levels. I'm wondering now how many times we can dodge the bullet; while I personally consider myself to be a lucky person, I can assure you that when it comes to protecting the public, the events at SM reaffirmed that I'd rather be safe than lucky. To be continued...

Our new rookie and retread class – included 33 New Hires, 3 retreads, and 3 former Lifeguards (those with less than 5 years). Congratulations to all!

Speaking of fast, here are a few of the faster re-hire and new hire 100 times (perhaps in my dreams I can be as fast as our women Lifeguards):

Men	Women
Brian Koralewski, F6, 49.1	Heather Glenday, RM5, 56.3
Bryan Galan, ZB, 50.1	Alana Biagioli, SM, 56.5
Justin Lynch, CM, 50.1	Shannon Daly, RM5, 56.8
Jesse Lohrer, SM, 50.3	Shirlee Manoogian, RM3, 58.4
Robert Smith, F2, 51.2	Kristen DeGrazia, F2, 58.6
James Chang, WBHP, 51.3	Maria Dellagiovanna, EBO, 58.8
John Pangal, SM, 51.8	Savannah Puca, RM2, 58.8
Chris Johnson, F6, 51.9	Clara Russell, SM, 59.0
Alan Marcel, SM, 52.1	Caityn Biagioli, F2, 59.5
Sean Lane, WBHP, 52.3	Megan Donlevy, RM2, 59.6
Kevin Donlevy, F2, 52.5	Catherine Cash, RM4, 59.8

Another year, another successful draft. This year, the “board” was especially active for all ranks with many people finding new homes at “new” beaches and facilities. A “healthy” draft is especially good for the Corps because it infuses new blood and ideas into the micro-companies we call crews. In the end, everyone wins.

Now that we're in full summer mode, allow me to reiterate some basic principles. One, the *Chain of Command* is now from Captain to Park Manager for most issues. Two, it is especially important to remember that our **Overtime Policy** clearly states that you are to never sit more than 1 hour at a time; this is to protect you as well as our patrons. Our job is not easy and requires a high level of vigilance that is compromised when fatigue sets in. Since the last thing we want is for a lifeguard to be so fatigued that their performance suffers, *we must reaffirm the OT rule*. If you have any questions, please contact your Beach Representative.

A combination labor/management officer training session was held recently in Babylon. This year included, in addition to Captains and Lieutenants, training for Boatswains. This is another example of how our relationship with NYSUT is helping to further professionalize the Corps.

All currently employed lifeguards may use the WBHP for workouts from 8 AM to 12 PM on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. If you want to understand why the

times are limited, please contact Jay Liegey (CM, x616) or Tom Curtin (EBHO, x615).

Finally, OBEW - actually the son of the son of the son of OBEW - miraculously appeared on the shores of RM4. Perhaps something to do with MIB III?? Who knows. Evidently secret quasi-religious ceremonies have already taken place. The entire subject is clouded in secrecy. More to follow. For those who have no idea what I'm writing about, please ask one of the crustier members of your crew (most likely your Captain). It has something to do with JBLC lore and really is funny. Really.



NYSLC Update

Bruce Meirowitz - President, NYSLC

While I'd like to tell you that the years of being without a contract are over, they're not...**but we're getting closer**. Negotiations are still ongoing; with the recent contractual offers to CSEA, we look forward to movement and ultimately resolution on our contract.

On very positive note, I am pleased to announce launch of a new and exciting NYSLC development program called **TLC - Train, Learn, Compete**. TLC is a statewide Lifeguard Exchange program that offers Lifeguards from other State parks to experience life from a different stand. If you are interested in hosting an exchange Lifeguard – or are interested in being one yourself, contact me via email at brucemeiro@yahoo.com.

NYSLC is excited to tell you about about finishing the renovation of **competition Shock Dory** just in time for the USLA Nationals next month in Cape May, NJ. Finally, our rowers will be able to focus on rowing to win rather than on the condition of the boat. Incidentally, **NYSLC will offset a portion of competition team expenses**. Contact me for details.

I've been fortunate to have been traveling to all NYSLC regions meeting with FT Lifeguards. One of the many goals has been to establish committees to investigate and recommend specific contractual language for our next settlement. If you are interested in serving on NYSLC committee, please contact me.

Finally, based upon an incident last year, NYSLC has been reviewing the statewide LG II qualification process. It probably wouldn't surprise you to know that different qualification processes exist around the State. This initiative along with others are focused on creating a level field with consistent policies, procedures, and processes on which all NYSLC Lifeguards can work.

If you have any NYSLC questions, email them to me at brucemeiro@yahoo.com cc: BucketAndBuoy@gmail.com.



JBLC Elections

Union Meetings: Next scheduled meeting is 8/10 at JB WBH Marine Dining room, tentative start at 7PM. We implore all members of the Corps to become involved in *your* union. We cannot emphasize this enough – for our efforts to continue to be successful long after the old farts retire, we need you **now** to join us and learn about how our union operates.

2011 Union Elections: There will be an Executive Board Election this year, as well as the annual Beach Rep Elections. If you have any questions, contact Tony Battisti, Election Chairperson, at the EBHO or email a.battisti@verizon.net.



Bulletin Board

Lifeguard Directory: One last call to add or edit your information. [Click here](#) or type this heinous address into your web browser: <https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dHZhTmQyU05DUU9wNGU1VmNnN2s2MGc6MQ>

New York State Retirement System: Reminder to all - if you have not joined the NYS retirement system by now you are a total screw up. When Tier 6 appears – and it will very soon – you will be missing out on lots of \$\$\$\$. If you began under a lower Tier, you can “buy back” into it. Folks, if you plan on being in a profession that allows you to continue to Lifeguard, you want in the system. Contact regional Human Resources at 631-669-1000 for more information – there is a procedure and forms.



2011 Competition Circuit

Cary Epstein, CM

I mean it, one last time, the **USLA Regional Championships** will be held on July 13th in Ocean City, Maryland and the USLA National Lifeguard tournament this year will be taking place in Cape May, New Jersey August 4th-6th. If you're planning on competing, please let me know ASAP!!

The **Smith Point Lifeguard Tournament tryouts** were held this past Sunday. Captain Costigan the mild-mannered Lt. at Zach's Bay, is really pumped up; the team is very strong across the board and includes several new members of the JBLC Competition Team.

Finally, we have the dates for our Inter-Beach races...

7/30 > All pool races and beach flags < WBHP

8/11-13 > All other races < Locations and times TBA



Junior Lifeguards

Scott Riegel (seafire124@aol.com), F6 (ext 618)

The 2011 Jones Beach Junior Lifeguard Tournament was held this past Monday – and was a resounding success. Teams from Long Beach, Town of Hempstead, and Town of Easthampton joined the Junior Lifeguard Juggernauts of Jones Beach to unleash nearly 300 competitors on events that included a Flat Tow, Run-Swim-Run, Paddleboard, Distance Swim, Ocean Relay, Beach Flags, and Distance Run.

In case you were unable to attend or work the event, here are a few videos to watch:

<http://youtu.be/RsFQII2wZ8> (Cary Epstein)

<http://youtu.be/pSgkfQrJCS0> (Cary, Jay Liegey, DJ Paulson)

Many thanks to all the Lifeguards, Alumni, Parents, and State workers who toiled under a scalding sun to once again show the community that not only are we the best Lifeguards in the world but we also know how to put on a world-class competition.



Community Events

Montauk Open Water Swim to be held on Saturday, 23 July at 7 AM with proceeds being used to build an indoor community pool in Montauk. There are 3 swims: 1/2, 1, or 2 mile swim beginning in Montauk and ending at Ditch Plains. \$35 to enter which includes commemorative cap and t-shirt. <http://www.active.com/swim-meet/montauk-ny/montauk-open-water-swim-2011>



Photos



Darn good read...



Captain Supervisor!



Did I tell you I'm doing an Ironman next week?



DJ was once a Junior Lifeguard...

