



The Bucket and Buoy

The Official Newsletter of the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps

Dennis M. Kane, Editor

August 23, 2010

Thank You!

(Editor's Note: The following letter is from Brian X. Foley, NY State Senator (D-Blue Point) to Governor Paterson.)



Dear Governor Paterson,

I write this letter on behalf of the New York State Lifeguard Corps (NYSLC). As a State Senator from a district on Long Island with a rich maritime history as well as an abundance of public and private beaches, I have a great appreciation and respect for the work done by our lifeguards. These brave men and women risk their personal safety in patrolling our oceans, bays and pools to protect the residents of New York.

As you are well aware, the NYSLC has been operating without a formal contract since the end of 2003. Although the union has been officially negotiating with the State since July 2009, talks remain at a standstill. While I understand that the State is operating under severe fiscal strain, 8 years without a pay increase has taken a tremendous toll on the lifeguarding profession in New York. In light of the fact that other public employee unions have been able to exercise their collective bargaining agreements during this fiscal year, it seems unfair to deny this most basic right to NYSLC. I respectfully urge that your administration treat NYSLC with the same fairness, equity and good faith that has been extended to all other state employee unions.

I thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to hearing back from you in the near future.

Kindest Regards,

Brian X. Foley, Senator

As part of our ongoing efforts to obtain a new contract, we developed relationships with local legislators. As the unfairness of our situation became apparent, they stepped up to help us. At the top of that list are Senator Foley, Assemblyman Harvey Weisenberg (District 20: Long Beach) and Assemblywoman Ginny Fields (District 5: Town of Islip and Fire Island). At election time, please support those who are supporting us!

Dramatic Sunken Meadow Rescue

Story and Photos by Lisa Valentine

On Saturday, August 21st at @12:20 PM, I was on 1 East at Sunken Meadow Main Beach, when a passenger boat heading east came around the jetty. It appeared to either be disabled, or just drifting toward the west side of our beach. The lifeguard on 2 West repeatedly whistled for the boat to move out, but it became apparent there was a problem, as the boat foundered closer to shore with engine off. Soon the Bay Constable vessel arrived, as well as a Kings Park fire rescue boat, and then a second Bay Constable boat, who instructed the operator to move his boat towards our Main Stand. The operator of the passenger boat signaled a request to the Main Stand guards that he wanted to beach his craft, that he had a sick passenger needing assistance. We cleared the water of patrons in front of the Main and 1 East. Several SM guards & Captain Paul Reilly were able to hold the boat steady at the shore just east of the Main. Three other guards, an EMS worker and the victim's father removed the victim, a 16 year old girl from Darien, CT, from the boat to the beach via stretcher, and ultimately to an a waiting ambulance. The patient was transported to nearby St. Catherine's Hospital with a possible ruptured spleen. We don't know her condition, but we may through the SM EMT's later this week. After the victim was removed from the boat, the guards pictured below assisted the Bay Constable in affixing a tow rope to the boat. They gave it a push-off, so the Bay Constable could tow the craft back to deeper water.

Below Left: On the Main Stand is Boatswain Kevin Mongan. Carrying oxygen bag: Boatswain Joe Reade. To his right, Boatswain Erik Joven. At rear right side of stretcher, LG Timmy Smith. In background, Boatswain Alana Sprow. Victim's father is at the rear of the stretcher. (Editor's Note: No, it is not Bob Burkley.)

Right: SM lifeguards remove victim from passenger boat.



RM Cobra Kayak Contest:

Saturday, August 28,

8:00 AM, at RM5.

Alternate date (if no surf on

8/28): September 4 or 5,

depending on the

Union Rally date.

**Check the jblc.net
website for updates!**

Contact Roy Reynolds at
631.885.1926 or RM5.



Pages 3–5: 2010 Rookie Class training. All images by Dennis Kane.



2010 JBLC Rookie Class







Beach Representative Assembly (BRA) Meetings: Usually the 2nd Wednesday of the month, at NYSUT offices, 1000 Woodbury Rd., Suite 214, Woodbury. Winter meetings are held at NYSUT at 7:00 PM, and Summer meetings (June through September) at 7:30 PM, at WBH upstairs.

Next Meeting: Wed., Sept. 1 at 7:30 PM, at WBH upstairs. This will be an important meeting, as we will discuss our Labor Day weekend Rally encouraging the State to give us a contract.

Editor's Notes: A special edition of the Bucket & Buoy is available only online. Titled "In Memoriam", it is our annual issue devoted to JBLC guards and Alumni who passed away in the previous year.

Please stay connected. We publish the newsletter year-round, at least once a month off-season, and when something important happens. Please send me pictures and stories.

We are always open to contributions. dennismkane@yahoo.com



Kier and Erin Goeke.



Field 6, 1976

Stay Connected.

For our next contract-related activity, contact your Beach Rep. We will post the details soon. Additional pictures from the rally are on my Facebook page.

For the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps website, click here: www.jblc.net

For the New York State Lifeguard Corps website, click here: www.nyslc.net