

# bucket buoy



Dear Fellow Lifeguards:

August 21, 2005

Well, the long postponed Interbeach Races finally wound up Friday night with the traditional "10 Man Ocean Relay in The Dark" Race. This time Mother Nature cooperated, waiting until the last swimmer came in before starting to sprinkle. Although the showing was small the enthusiasm was high and the races were tight. Don Kramer's dive over the finish line in the Kayak relay, while bleeding from the head, was a classic. Chris Coffin's win in the Iron Man was also a great race. What struck me was how close so many of the races were (except for the 2 mile run where Toomey "ran" away with it). Shows what a competitive group works here.

I also have to comment on the wave shortage for the races. We used to have a joke at Field 6 that whenever Captain Jay predicted that it was "going to be huge tomorrow" we could depend on water flatter than Zach's Bay. It seemed that it didn't matter if there was a force 5 hurricane right off shore, all that had to happen was that Jay would predict waves and the world would go flat.

I felt that way with last week's **B&B** wherein I wrote "If the above forecast is correct then Irene could hang out off the coast and generate about a week of swell. ... Regardless of Irene's fate we still might be seeing a lot of waves the rest of the summer." It was a mere hours after that was written that Irene started to be a dud. Although it might be heady to know what power Jay and I have over the swell, I sometimes wish we had the power to create swell rather than just flattening it!

**Short Notes:** Next weeks' Shop Steward's meeting is the last of the season. Make sure you bring your negotiating wishes.

**Short Note 2:** A.J. Hepworth turned me on to a great web site that allows one to virtually fly over the world and get a bird's eye view of everything. Check it out - <http://earth.google.com/>

**Short Note 3:** Ron Colby, film maker from Hollywood is looking for old pictures from the 30's through the 60's of Lifeguards for his documentary on the Jones Beach Lifeguards. He will be touring the beaches beginning August 27<sup>th</sup> through Labor Day with equipment to copy these pics. Bring them in if you got them.



Lee, Eddie, Brad and Rob make sure the boats get out safely

## THE LIFEGUARD NATIONALS

by Cary Epstein

Last Wednesday a number of Jones Beach Lifeguards began their journey south, some trailing boats while others were toting fins, rescue cans and force field paddle boards - destination Virginia Beach for the 2005 USLA National Lifeguard Tournament.

In addition to the contingent of 15 lifeguards, 27 Junior Lifeguards and their parents participated in Thursdays junior nationals. As expected, our Jr. program dominated once again on a national level, competing against such teams as LA County, Chicago, Pompano Beach and Long Beach. While our lifeguards prepared for the adult events on Thursday, Cary Epstein spent 10 hours running up and down 3 courses guiding the Juniors for their races. Blazing the 95 degree heat with no wind, the need for more coaches was fulfilled by eager parents. Thanks to all who helped out!

With sweltering heat and humidity on day 2 and 3, the daily dose of waves rolled through as lifeguards from across the country battled it out in all events (including the unofficial surfing and body surfing competition). Impressive performances was turned in by all, with special recognition going to Scott Zanville who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the senior men's beach flags, and 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the open men's beach flags. Gregg Solnick placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the men's surf swim, 4<sup>th</sup> in the men's 35-39 rescue race, 5<sup>th</sup> in the men's 35-39 American Ironman and 5<sup>th</sup> in the men's 35-39 surf boat rowing with Mike Scanlon. Other impressive finishes: Chris Veit 9<sup>th</sup> place 30-34 Men's 2K Beach Run, Rick Shalvoy 4<sup>th</sup> place in men's 45-49 surf boat, and rookie Matt Caines a product of several years in our Jr. Lifeguard program and competition team, ran away with a medal, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the open men's run swim run and gaining the possibility of a chance to attend the 2006 world lifesaving championships in Australia as a member of team USA.

The new 10'6 Force Field purchased by NYS over last winter was a newly welcomed addition to our team, allowing us to compete in events with new equipment up to the highest equipment standards of many of the other beach patrols. On a final note, while walking down Beach Street USA in VA Beach, a group of us spotted what seemed to be someone wearing a Jones Beach t-shirt in the distance! As we got closer to our surprise we found out that it was! A Fort Lauderdale lifeguard was proudly wearing a Jones Beach t-shirt that he had traded 2 years ago at the national lifeguard tournament in Cape May, NJ. Upon finding out that we were the real JB, he felt there was something we should know. On the wall in the lifeguard locker room, it clearly reads "If you want to be a real lifeguard, lifeguard at Jones Beach, NY".

Thanks and congratulations to all who competed, and special thanks to all the lifeguards who stayed behind to man our beaches while we were gone. Let's hope to get an even larger turnout for USLA Nationals 2006 in Huntington Beach, California.

The Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps National Team 2005 Cary Epstein, Brad Hepworth, Scott Zanville, Claude George, Brad Smith, James Green, Gregg Solnick, Mike Scanlon, Rick Shalvoy, Chris Veit, Eric Florio, Matt Caines, DJ Paulson, Justin Lynch and Matt Rogers.



The JB Nation Comp Team visits Virginia - Photo by Epstein

## TREASURER REPORT

As reported last week there was \$3,193.73 left in the special events money in our treasury. The T-shirts bill came to \$2,976.00 and an ice bill came to \$50.00. Still to be paid is the banner for the winning team. Other non-races expenses include \$94.51 for a printer cartridge for the **B&B**.



Kayak goes one way, competitor another, in kayak relay race



*Matt & Vickie listen to Chris tell how he beat the iron odds*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Fellow Lifeguards: I had the very good fortune to be able to attend all three evenings of our inter-beach Lifeguard races. What I observed was a vast assembly of extraordinary talented individuals, the highest forms of teamwork and esprit de corps, overwhelming camaraderie, incredible professionalism and an awful lot of good-hearted buffoonery.

If you weren't there "you missed it". Without naming names, you missed an awesome final event of an ocean relay in the dark with two rival teams competing fairly and with great team spirit to finish with the tenth ocean swimmers only a couple of yards apart. You missed the super sportsmanship as the two teams shook hands and laughed about who swam the course the straightest. You missed the four leg kayak relay that ended with a split hair decision as the winning finisher dove his kayak across the finish line just barely missing the area post, but coming up with a really good bloody cut to the temple acquired in the shore break after a tumble on a dinky sized wave. You missed the RN wife of a Captain miraculously provide butterfly bandages to aforementioned nasty cut allowing the injured Lt. to resume the handshaking that everyone present just had to give him for such a great display of desire to win for his team. You missed the toughness displayed in the ironman event, and the impromptu volunteering done by non-team members who just stepped up to help out a fellow Lifeguard. You missed a hearty display of camaraderie as a Captain's crew accompanied him through to the finish of a brutal 2-mile soft sand run, and the new kid on the block that won that race. You missed the repeat performances by teammates who filled in twice because their studs were back at school already. You missed the rookie vs. the veteran in beach flags, and the very tough repeat win of the top female in flags. You missed out on the crazed organizer of "The Races" who stepped up undertake this massive responsibility.

That Lifeguard also competed in between making sure it all got done. He will never forget that no good deed goes unpunished, but his heart of gold and dedication will be hard to beat. You missed the work crew who got help as needed every time they asked, and even when they didn't. You missed a party that couldn't be beat after the pool events, hosted by some of the most dedicated individuals I have ever met. If you weren't there you just plain missed out on all the fun. Let's hope you make it next year. — **Bob Adler**



*It looks as if the boat has wings as it sets off in the Ironman*

## Shop Stewards Meeting

**Sunday, Aug. 28, 2005 - 10:15 a.m. - WBH Meeting Room. Last meeting of the summer!**

See us on the web at [www.jonesbeach.com](http://www.jonesbeach.com) or [www.jblifeguard.com](http://www.jblifeguard.com) -Till next time - Roy J. Lester - e-mail: [BucketBuoy@AOL.Com](mailto:BucketBuoy@AOL.Com)



*JB Biathletes after kicking butt at Long Beach – photo by Meehan*

## SHOP STEWARDS MEETING

Last Sunday's meeting started with a unanimous vote to accept the minutes, as amended, for the last three meetings.

The next business was discussion of a suggestion by Bob Lenti to move the Shop Stewards' Meetings to Saturday at 8:45 am for next year and to start the meetings earlier in the season (6-3-06). Roy brings up that that would allow him to report on the meetings in Sunday's **B&B**. Mark Davy makes that motion and Matt Lindborn seconds it and it passes unanimously. They also make a motion to limit the meetings to two hours. That passes unanimously.

Chris Rodgers brings up that the **B&B** had reported that he was absent from a meeting he had actually attended. Apologies for that. Chris is trying really hard to represent the East End and shouldn't get negative press that doesn't have a valid basis. Sorry Chris.

Communications were also brought up as well as hand signals. **Agenda for the next meeting:** Winter negotiation items, Shop Steward meeting format, appointment of Chief Negotiator, appointment and formation of committees, schedule for winter meetings and improving relations with the police and Coast Guard.



*Injured Don gets to sit while his construction crew works*

## THE COMICS

Sitting behind a couple of nuns at a baseball game (whose habits partially blocked the view), three men decide to badger the nuns in an effort to get them to move.

In a very loud voice the first guy says, "I think I'm going to move to Utah, there are only 100 nuns living there."

The second guy speaks up and says, "I want to go to Montana, there are only 50 nuns living there."

The third guy then says, "I want to go to Idaho, there are only 25 nuns living there."

One of the nuns turns around, looks at the men, and in a very sweet calm voice says, "Why don't you go to Hell. There aren't any nuns there."



*Mark is the first to congratulate 2005 Iron Man Chris*