

bucket buoy



Dear Fellow Lifeguards:

August 28, 2005

As Labor Day quickly approaches the crowds seem to diminish, the days shorten up and weather cools down (a little) but here on the beach the nonsense continues. Yesterday we received a memo from the Coordinators' office with a list of 21 rules that suddenly were thrust on the lifeguards without any discussion with the Union. First, it should be noted that unilaterally changing conditions of employment is a violation of the Taylor Law and is what is called an "improper practice."

While I can't fathom that the current administration would intentionally violate New York State law it puzzles me why such a memorandum would be sent out without any review by the administration. In fact, when one looks at some of these rules the absurdity is so clear that it is apparent that they were not reviewed before they were put out (a fact that Sue Guliani confirms in an earlier conversation).

A case in point is the rule that decrees that "no personal items are to be left in the shack." Why do we have lockers? Are we now to bring all our clothes and valuables down to our stands when we sit? Is the State now going to issue us micro-waves and coffee makers to replace the personal ones in the shacks? How about the weights and exercise equipment that people supply? Is the State now going to provide those?

One of the primary purposes of a Union is to negotiate working conditions. When management decides they are changing the conditions of employment without Union input they are basically telling their employees that they care little about their employee organization and even less about them as employees.

Let management be put on notice that we do not accept and will not stand for their "bully boy" techniques. We fully intend, as our initial step, to address this inappropriate practice in our upcoming negotiations.

Notes on Post Season: As of Saturday the post season list has gone down to seniority number 223. That means that anyone with a lifeguard draft number lower than 223 should have been given the opportunity to work post season. For those that haven't been called yet, don't despair. The dropout rate of the people offered employment is phenomenal and one never knows what is going to happen. If you want to work and haven't been called yet stay in touch with the Coordinator's office.

Calling all Gulls: Make sure you join us at Field 6 at 1:00 pm Sunday, September 4th for the ceremony celebrating the making of the 65th Gull. Special award to all former Gulls that show up. Food party to follow later in the day. Expect many "blasts from the past" as well as recently made Gulls to show.



Young Adler and a young Norman guarding Hecksher Pool



Somewhere in Paradise someone finds beachside heaven

COBRA KAYAK CONTEST

As the summer wanes to a close the one event surf kayakers have learned to depend on is rapidly approaching, the Annual Dennis Angermaier Cobra Kayak Classic. This event, the country's only one design Kayak Surf Contest, will be held at the west side of RM 5 at 8:00 a.m., Saturday the 10th of September, 2005. Although this event usually takes place the Saturday before Labor Day, this year because of the tide, the event had to be put off one week. Let's hope for waves.

For anyone who has not seen this contest, I have to recommend a visit. It's amazing what these guys can do with a kayak.



REGGIE STILL REMEMBERS

What would you do? About the mid 60's at Field 1 we had a young lifeguard we called Flats Flannery because he was the man that cleared the flats. One day he made a very good rescue of a young blond girl about 12 or 13 years old. The father of the girl took Flats's name and address. About a week later Flats came in and showed us the keys to a brand new Chevy that had been delivered to his house along with a Thank You note from the father of the girl he rescued. It turned out that the man owned Baldwin Chevrolet on Merrick Road.

We all gave a big WOW and told him how great that was.

Well the administration heard about it and Flats was ordered to give the car back because lifeguards were not permitted to accept gratuities for doing the job they are paid for.

Poor Flats came to me as his Lieutenant and said "Reggie, what should I do?"

I said, "Well Flats, it would take you several summers to pay for that car so you can quit and keep the car or you can go to Mr. Baldwin Chevy and tell him your problem and see if he would tell a little white lie so that if the beach calls he would tell them that you gave the car back. BUT, Flats, don't you ever, ever bring that car to the beach again."

So Flats kept his job and, the word was, kept the car but I wouldn't know because, the truth is, I never, ever saw that car down at the beach again.



Now this is the proper way to equip a Beach Buggy



What else is RM for but to relax on a crooked couch?

TREASURER REPORT

As reported last week there was \$167.73 left of the special events money in our treasury. Still to be paid is the banner for the winning team. Other non-races expenses include \$91.40 for a printer cartridge for the **B&B**. We were reimbursed \$9.22 from NYSCOPBA for our expenses. Telephone, meeting and gas charges have not been reimbursed since 1998.

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LABOR DAY LIFEGUARD PARTY!

Saturday, September 10th from 8pm-10pm is the Jones Beach Lifeguard End of the year party in coordination with "Friends of Bradley Smith". Come have one last hurrah with your lifeguard buddies before winter sets upon us. All proceeds will be donated to the campaigning fund for lifeguard Brad Smith who is running for Town of Hempstead Council. Brad has been a JB lifeguard for the past 8 years, working 6 years at the EBHO, 1 year at CM and 1 year at F2. All proceeds from the party will go to Brad's campaign. Don't miss your last chance to party with everyone! \$20 donation at the door gets you drink specials, free BBQ, live music, 2 raffle tickets and more! Hope to see you there!



All the people in the Angermaier Run Swim Run Photo by Donovan

HATTERAS & COSTA RICA TRIPS

Winter trips are starting to be planned with a surf trip to Costa Rica for Jan. 3 - 12, 2006 being arranged by Joe Clerici and a Hatteras trip from Sept. 24 to Oct. 1, 2005 being arranged by Mike Defina. The Hatteras house is a 4 level, 7 bedroom house on the water with a pool and Jacuzzi. The Costa Rico trip is to an ocean front hotel in Nosarra, on the Nicoya peninsula.

Those that have taken these trips in the past tell about good waves and great times. For info or to join contact the above.



Yes, the Sunken Meadow Mainstand can get crowded at times

See us on the web at www.jonesbeach.com or www.jblifeguard.com -Till next time - Roy J. Lester - e-mail: BucketBuoy@AOL.Com



Hecksher Lifeguards make sure the pool is ultra safe JUNIOR LIFEGUARD 05 RECAP

By Scott Riegel

The 2005 Program was an incredible success and I would like to personally thank the nearly 300 participants and their parents; the many trainers who gave up their Sunday mornings to work with their groups; and Sue Guliani and her staff for enabling our Junior Lifeguard program to "quickly" become – after 8 years – the standard of all Junior Lifeguard programs.

A special *Thank You* must go out to FPL Energy for their amazing \$10,000 donation to the program – their commitment is a major reason why the program has become so successful (local, regional and national competition successes do not *just happen*).

Thanks again – I'm looking forward to continued support and cooperation for the 2006 season.

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THE COMICS

A duck walks into a drugstore and asks for a tube of ChapStick.

"That will be \$1.49," the druggist says to the duck.

"Put it on my bill," replies the duck.

* * * * *

Joe and Steve are hunting when Joe keels over. Frantic, Steve dials 911 on his cell phone and blurts, "My friend just dropped dead! What should I do?"

A soothing voice on the other end says, "Don't worry, I can help. First let's make sure he is really dead."

After a brief silence the operator hears a shot. Then Steve comes back on the phone.

"Okay," he says nervously to the operator, "What do I do next?"

* * * * *

A poodle and a collie were walking down the street. The poodle turned to the collie and complained, "My life is a mess. My owner is mean, my girlfriend is having an affair with a German Shepard, and I'm nervous as a cat."

"Why don't you go see a psychiatrist?" asked the collie.

"I can't," replied the poodle. "I'm not allowed on the couch."

* * * * *

Scientists have finally figured out why dogs are such bad dancers. It turns out that they have two left feet.



TD - 8-15-05 - RM4 - What more can I say? - Photo by Donovan