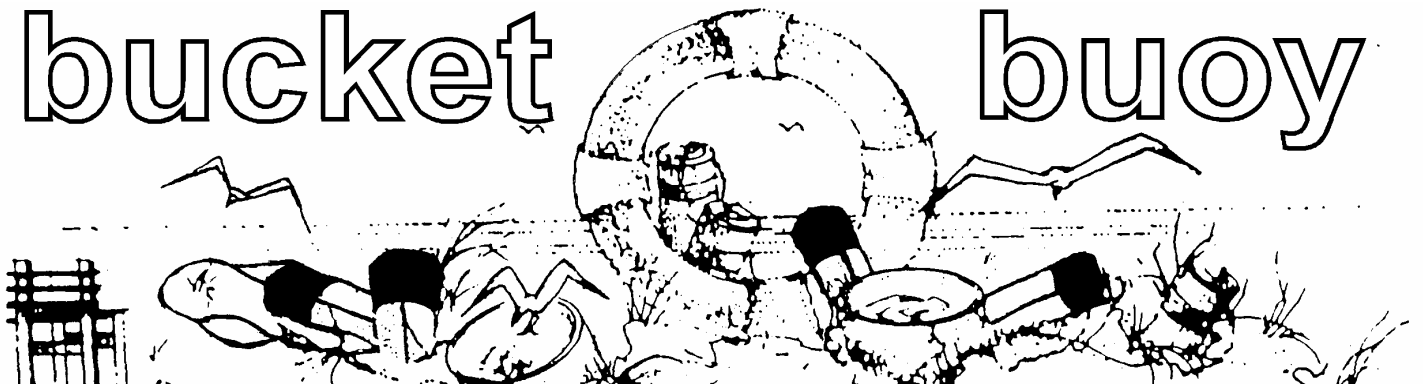


bucket buoy



Dear Fellow Lifeguards:

June 19, 2005 - Happy Father's Day

While this week started with the sad event of Casey Pasquale's wake and funeral, it did have the effect of reminding us of the incredible brotherhood that the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corp forms. So many lifeguards and former lifeguards came to show their respect that it was difficult to keep track. While it was good to see such old time legends as Al Magill, Ed Wanser, Ron Mugavin, Frank Russel and others, we wished it was under different circumstances.

This sad occasion that brought so many together showed us that our lifeguard family, just like a real family, knows no time limits. Your birth brother or sister will always be your brother or sister. It is the same with us. Once you have accepted being a member of the Corp you are with us for life. The loss of one hurts us all.



Acquaintances are remade when two ex-lifeguards show up for the new hire, Duane to rejoin and Ron for his son

HOMAGE – CASEY PASQUALE

By Chris Rafferty

Many of the nicknames, laughs, and stories we pass here on the stand are generated from the experiences we share together in the water. And as watermen and women, talking about the surf and the people involved is as inevitable as the pre-season lifeguards talking about the 'movement at the draft'. Well, whenever Casey's name comes up in conversation about surfing, his legacy as the "Drop-in King" always draws good-natured laughs and smiles from his friends. In the lineup we never knew if he was grinning from the stoke, or cause he was about to snake us on a wave (he definitely earned his reputation as 'the Drop-in King', though he always denied the title—albeit tongue-in-cheek. I bet he's up there preparing a denial right now ☺). Dennis Coglietta once told me with a chuckle, "Whenever that Buick Century wagon with the wood grain siding pulled up, I just knew I was getting less waves." I'll miss that so much about Casey, not just the goofy drop-in tales, but the fact that he was so much fun in the water, and he definitely always added good cheer and story no matter what the activity.

If you've surfed Lincoln or Franklin in the past decade, chances are Casey was out there with you, sitting on his big board with a broad smile, cheering you on as you paddled into a wave. Casey had the spirit and soul of a surfer. Whether he was trimming the waves with his favorite longboard or dancing to his favorite music at a Phish show, he was always out 'sharing in the groove', and spreading it in kind. He was an outgoing, friendly, altruistic human being. We miss him already. There is a simple and honorable way to keep Casey's spirit alive: promote spirit in the water. Next time you see someone you don't know going for a wave, whether a new guard here at JB or someone at another spot, take a risk, cheer 'em on like Casey would, and spread the stoke that was Casey Pasquale. "For whatever we lose (like a you or a me), it's always ourselves we find in the sea." -ee cummings.

PROFILE OF A MEMBER

Contrary to what some think of him, Bob Adler really is a good hearted person with noble intentions and an undeniable love for the Lifeguard Corps. Because of his uniqueness we chose to feature him in today's B&B.



Adler began his Jones Beach career in 1974 after swimming the 100 free during the new hire test in an astounding 56 seconds – not world class but Bob was anything but lithe back in the old days. In fact, Bob's relationship with the Corps goes back to when he was 7 years old, fell in a pool, and was miraculously pulled from the bottom by an older Jones Beach lifeguard - Steve Rosenbluth. Clearly, it was predestined for Bob to take the ultimate walk down the beach years later.

Most folks recognize Bob as the eternal West End II weekender; however, he didn't begin at WE2 until his youngest son was four (1992). Despite the belief to the contrary, he was a gentleman to the wives and always provided a cooler of sodas for the children. But his real prowess – and his true introduction to lifeguard training – was his job as a victim during rookie training. It was at the end of rookie training that Bob would play the victim, donning a flowered bathing cap, flailing hopelessly, and ultimately "drowning" in front of a class of new lifeguards. A small breathing apparatus ensured he would stay submerged until he was found by the new rookie class. When finally "found" and brought ashore, it was only a matter of time before the victim emerged from his water stupor with a boogey man like shout that scared all who weren't in on the joke.

Later, Bob would become fixture at Rookie training and ultimately with the Junior Lifeguard Program. Sure he's vocal (yes, that would be an understatement) but his intentions are not self-serving – he sincerely wants to help develop the next generations of Jones Beach lifeguards. But his work doesn't end with the Junior Lifeguards – he personally funds the Competition Team and goes out of his way to research new types of lifeguard equipment including uniforms, lines, and buoys. In fact, much of his work – unpaid and often unrecognized – can be seen in this year's uniform where Ocean Pool suits have returned. Guess who worked tirelessly during the past year to ensure that this occurred? Adler. He's always thinking of ways to improve our equipment and processes.

People who don't know Bob aren't aware of his multitude of talents. He is a SCUBA instructor since he was about 16, an avid rock and ice climber, an accomplished marksman with a bow and arrow and the person we turn to with any financial planning questions. Add to all this talent the fact that he's a great kayak surfer and you have quite a package.

Finally, there is his relationship with his incredible family. His eldest son Jameson attends the United States Naval Academy and is becoming quite the world-class sailor; Katherine is a Jones Beach lifeguard who will also be a member of the USNA Class of 2009; and his youngest, Jared, is a member of this year's Rookie lifeguard (don't know if he's going to attend the academy but the third is a charm). Then there is his wife Margaret. It is no secret to many that Bob's best friend has been having health problems the past few years. However, through Bob's tireless support – he has immersed himself into breast cancer research to understand how he and his children can help – Margaret's condition has dramatically improved over the past few months. The Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps community wishes Margaret a complete and speedy recovery.

(over)



New Hire Guards awaiting their assignment/fate

NEW HIRE STATISTICS

This year's New Hire Test had exactly 100 participants which make the percentage statistics really easy to figure out. 79% passed and 20% went under a minute in the 100 yard free.

There were 10 retreads (former Jones Beach Lifeguards) one of whom had been out for 31 years (Robert Bertrand - he did an impressive 1:05 but ended up declining the job).

There were numerous children of lifeguards and former lifeguards including Patrick Mugavin, (son of Ron Mugavin), who finished 2nd place overall.

The top time in the 100 was posted by Ian Prichard who did a very impressive 51.4 in the slow WBH Pool. Upon "Googling" Ian I came across the University of Virginia's website which gave the following information for Ian Prichard: NCAA All-American: 2003: 1650 Free (1st), 500 Free (H.M), 800 FR (H.M), 1650 Free (1st); 2002: 1650 Free (1st), 800 FR (1st), 500 Free (H.M); 2001: 200 Free (H.M), 500 Free (H.M), 1650 Free (H.M), 800 FR (H.M) - ACC Champion: 2003: 800 FR; 2002: 500 Free, 1650 Free, 800 FR; 2001: 500 Free, 1650 Free - UVa Career Bests: 200 Free: 1:36.71; 500 Free: 4:16.32; 1000 Free: 8:59.12; 1650 Free: 14:51.70; 200 Breast: 2:02.89 - .. 2004 Olympic Trials qualifier.

Very impressive resume – now let's see how he does under Eddie's training.



Ali the trainer explains to her charges how it's done

NOTES AND OTHER TIDBITS

Rehire: There are still 22 lifeguards who have sent in their paperwork but have yet to take the rehire test. Next Saturday is the last day to get this done. If you are one of these be warned, if you don't take the test by next Saturday, you will be replaced on the "Board". If you know anyone who is in this position please let them know about this deadline.

Uniforms: The boardshorts are "in the mail". We are expecting them any day now so keep the faith. As far as the outerwear goes, no word yet as to when and where.

Union dues: Those of you that took the test at Nassau probably have received a check by now for the five hours. You also probably noticed the deduction for Union Dues in that small check. We have no idea why this was done this way and will be investigating it this week. Never before have we been paid with a separate check and have been told on numerous occasions that such an arrangement is impossible because some lifeguards don't start within two weeks of taking the test and anyone with a two week break in service would be removed from the payroll for the summer. Now this seems to have changed without any notification to us. We will be talking to NYSCOPBA this week to see if we can get those dues refunded.

Elections: This year is an election year for both NY-SCOPBA and our Local/Sector. Although we have been told by some members that we can vote in the statewide election, no one I know of has received a ballot and in fact we have been told by NYSCOPBA that unless you are on the payroll in March you will not be allowed to vote.

This inability to vote has been one of our driving forces behind our decertification drive. We fought long and hard in Albany to have NYSCOPBA change the rules that deliberately preclude us but they have refused to do so. All the more reason why paying \$17.00 a check bothers me.

Our Local election will be held as we usually do with mailed secret ballots. As far as the election for Chief Sector Steward, we are awaiting word from Albany on how that will be conducted. Stayed tuned for further details.

Vehicles: Cary Epstein might have arranged to get the Lifeguard Corp 10 four wheel drive vehicles for our use next year. A certain car manufacturer wants to become the official sponsor of the JBLC for beach vehicles. If it works it will be great for the beaches. Keep your fingers crossed.

Offshore Windmills: The Long Island Offshore Wind Park will host two informational open houses this coming week: Tuesday June 21 at Tanner Park Senior Center, Wilson Avenue, Copiague and Wednesday, June 22 at Massapequa Park Village Hall, 151 Front Street. Open houses are from 2 – 4 PM and 7 -9 PM both days. Specialists on all aspects of the project will be available to explain issues, answer questions and listen to concerns.

Worthless but cool bit of information: Ten million trillion neutrinos will speed harmlessly through your brain and body in the time it takes to read this sentence. By the time you have read this sentence, the first ones to pass through you will be farther away than the moon.



A \$10,000 check presented to the Jr LG's by FPL Energy LLC

THE COMICS

A man was driving along the highway, and saw a rabbit hopping across the middle of the road. He swerved to avoid hitting the rabbit, but unfortunately the rabbit jumped in front of the car and was hit. The driver, being a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulled over to the side of the road and got out to see what had become of the rabbit. Much to his dismay, the rabbit was dead. The driver felt so awful, he began to cry.

A woman driving down the highway saw the man crying on the side of the road and pulled over. She stepped out of her car and asked the man what was wrong.

"I feel terrible," he explained. "I accidentally hit this rabbit and killed it."

The woman told the man not to worry. She knew what to do. She went to her car trunk and pulled out a spray can. She walked over to the limp, dead rabbit, and sprayed the contents of the can onto the rabbit.

Miraculously, the rabbit came to life, jumped up, waved its paw at the two humans and hopped down the road. 50 feet away the rabbit stopped, turned around, waved at the two again, hopped down the road another 50 feet, turned, waved, and hopped another 50 feet and turned and waved again.

The man was astonished. He couldn't figure out what substance could be in the woman's spray can! He ran over to the woman and demanded, "What was in your spray can? What did you spray onto that rabbit?"

The woman turned the can around so that the man could read the label. It said: "Hair Spray - Restores Life to Dead Hair. Adds Permanent Wave."