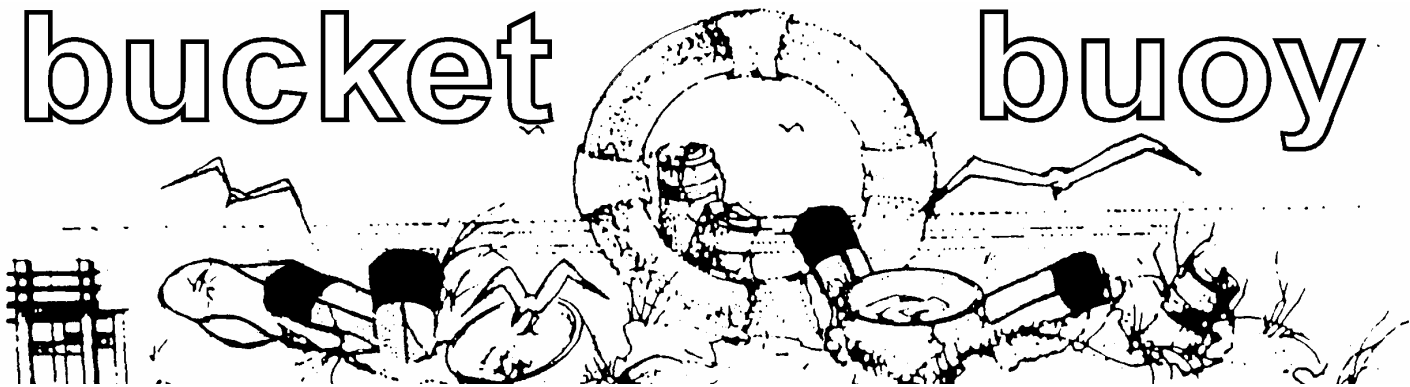


bucket buoy



Dear Fellow Lifeguards:

July 9, 2006

What a nice surprise to come down Saturday morning to crystal clear water, light north wind and some very clean little lines (I know, you guys out at RM probably had double overhead but for us JB guys the shoulder high waves were an unexpected pleasure.) That is one of the nicer things about working the beach; with the way it changes everyday, one never knows what you are going to get when you show up for work.

July 4th was exactly one of those days. Anyone who was down in the morning saw a beautiful day with a few clouds. By 4:15 pm a violent storm had come in with torrential rains and 60 mph gusts. And then an hour later clear skies and bright sunshine. Nothing like Mother Nature to keep us on our toes.

Finally, the water has finally approached seasonal temperatures. It went up 10 degrees in a week. So for all you Al Gore doubters take note... but at least we can do our buoy swims sans wetsuit now. (Now if they would just move the buoy in a little.)

Note: If you signed up for your hepatitis shots they should be starting this week. Let's not forget about them!



Natalie explains to Greg how difficult life can be, working the beach all summer and teaching in Hawaii all winter

NYSCOPBA UPDATE

Just when it seems like it can get no stranger our relationship with the union that takes our dues gets even more bizarre. Yesterday I received a e-mail from Natalie Carroway, the NY-SCOPBA attorney that read as follows:

Roy - Caught the latest "Bucket & Bouy" including the following statement: They make all sorts of promises but refuse to put anything in writing. Steve Levy and Bob Adler have been waiting since May3rd for a letter from NY-SCOPBA on lifeguard issues. For the last week and a half it has "been in the mail."

Just wanted to clear up a few issues . . . the letter was sent several weeks ago and was subsequently copied to Bob and Steve. Also, regarding grievances, there was a decision in the "1999 Grievance" in April of this year.

Publishing a letter to the membership such as you are, I trust that you wanted to be as accurate as possible so I figured you must not have had all the information. - Natalie

The response, sent yesterday was as follows:

Natalie - I am shocked - There was an answer to the 1999 Grievance in April and here it is July and this is the first I am hearing of it and I never got a copy? - It is representation such as this that we are so dissatisfied with - A grievance comes down after 6 years and three months later we hear about it through a e-mail WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING WHAT THE DECISION IS!!! ... Would you be so kind as to send me a copy of this decision - As to the May 3rd meeting letter, I have been informed by Steve Levy that a copy was just received yesterday - Where are my inaccuracies? I am curious to know - Roy

PS - I have yet to hear from Keith on this year's grievance or on the decision on the discrimination charges.

For those that don't know, the "1999 Grievance" was about the State paying former Lifeguard II's who returned after a two or more year absence as Lifeguard I's. I am curious if any of you affected know that the grievance was answered.

As to the grievance we are waiting for Keith to acknowledge; that one was sent to NYSCOPBA on June 22, 2006 and it was regarding the third rehire try that was denied our members. According to the NYSCOPBA contract that grievance should have been heard and answered by the State within 10 days. However, not one of my e-mails regarding this grievance sent to Keith Zulko has been answered and our members affected remain without jobs. Yet through this all NYSCOPBA keeps taking our dues and Mr. Zulko can't seem to find the time to address our members' issues.

With that said I am brought up to a very distasteful subject. I would hate to think that some members of our Corps are trying to sell out their brothers and sisters but from the literature I have seen being put out by a former member of the Executive Board, I can't help but wonder.

The literature I am talking about was a letter sent to all the shacks last week urging people to sign the NYSCOPBA membership cards so that we can have a new election and get our Shop Stewards back. That letter was so full of inaccuracies I can't help but question the motivation of its sender.

First I would like to make some things perfectly clear. The NYSCOPBA Constitution DENIES ANYONE WITHOUT SIX MONTHS CONTINUES SERVICE THE RIGHT TO VOTE OR BE A SHOP STEWARD!!! **Read it yourself.** No matter how many cards you fill out, according to NYSCOPBA until this is changed, you will not have the right to vote.

Secondly, according to the letter put out, Keith Zulko makes a lot of promises, yet I challenge anyone to show us those promises in writing! The questions are; why is Mr. Zulko so hesitant to put his promises in writing and more importantly why, given the overwhelming weight of evidence that we are being asked to fill out the membership cards for absolutely no reason that would benefit the Lifeguard Corps, is this being pushed so hard and so deceptively by certain Corps members.

Although I am not certain why NYSCOPBA is pushing so hard to get these cards signed (other than the additional financial benefits that NYSCOPBA receives) one reason could be that NYSCOPBA could be trying to use these cards to destroy our decertification attempt, an effort that the Shop Stewards voted unanimously to support. They might be trying to use these cards to show that the lifeguards are happy with NYSCOPBA's representation and therefore shouldn't be moved to a more appropriate and responsive unit.

So next time someone tries to trick you into signing a membership card ask a simple question; **"How is this going to help me get my vote?"** And if they tell you it has been "promised" just ask them to show it to you in writing.



Juniors learn how to go for a "Beach Flag" at an early age

OFFSHORE WIND PARK

By Steve Levy

Many of you are aware that a wind generation park has been proposed for an area 3.6 miles off Gilgo Beach. Part of the process includes public hearings where citizens have opportunities to voice their personal concerns to the government agencies overseeing development of the project.

The Mineral Management Service (MMS, www.mms.gov), a bureau of the US Dept. of the Interior, was designated in the U.S. Energy Policy Act of 2005 to oversee the development of renewable energy on the Federal outer continental shelf (the area from 3 to 200 miles offshore). MMS will be holding two free public scoping hearings this week for local citizens to attend and speak their minds.

The scoping hearings are part of the Federal regulatory review process for the project following the regulatory process of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The *first hearing* will be **held tomorrow**, Monday, July 10 at 7:00 PM at West Babylon High School's Performing Arts Center (500 Great East Neck Rd, West Babylon). The *second hearing* will be held **this Tuesday**, July 11 at 7:00 PM at Massapequa High School's Auditorium (4925 Merrick Rd, Massapequa).

Info? www.mms.gov/offshore/RenewableEnergy



Ok you Juniors, drop and give me 50 – no make that 100

2006 INTERBEACH RACES

By Field 6 Lifeguards

If we are in a position to hold our annual Interbeach races this year, the defending Champions – **that would be us** – want everyone to understand that you have no chance to win this year. Cary – dream on! Mike – RM who? Pool crews – you must be kidding! The Bay – the geese are faster. The Junior Lifeguard Competition team has a better chance of beating us than do all of you.

PS – The above article in no way reflects the non-biased opinion of the Editor regardless of his assigned beach.



Field Six in their traditional July 4th Photo (Thanks to EBHO)

USLA SPOTTING ARTICLE

AKA "OBSERVATION OF POTENTIAL RESCUE VICTIMS IN AN OPEN WATER ENVIRONMENT" by William J. Richardson - 1997 (Part II)

Observation Techniques: Visual Scanning: Several basic and key observation techniques must be employed to enable the lifeguard to adequately observe all the people in their area of responsibility. Visual scanning requires the guard to sweep their area of responsibility continually, looking from side to side, checking each person or group of

persons briefly to ascertain any of the previously defined indications of difficulty of distress.

Watch swimmers close to shore as well as those offshore. The guard begins to put their visual scanning effort together with the keys described earlier in this paper to determine who needs assistance and who doesn't. Watch all classifications of bathers, waders, fanny dippers and swimmers with equal intensity to locate trouble.

Use of Optical Equipment: Guards absolutely must wear good sunglasses, for the protection of their eyes but also to aid them in seeing the water and swimmers, particularly when glare is a problem. Sunglasses will also aid in preventing eye fatigue due to long periods of exposure to the sun. Good quality Polaroid lenses will almost completely eliminate glare and make scanning the water much easier.

Quality binoculars are also important. Be careful not to use binoculars with too tight a field of vision as they are extremely limiting. Never rely totally on binoculars when scanning as they generally limit your field of view and cause "tunnel vision". Use them to verify your initial instincts and to key on those clues that require much closer scrutiny, such as, hair in the eyes or the eyes themselves or to establish why two people are close together in the water.

Overlapping Responsibility: Beaches with multiple towers or stands need to keep them close enough together to allow overlapping of vision to avoid creation of blind spots or areas without coverage between guards. In this situation there is no clear boundary between the stations and guards must overlap their visual scanning effort and eliminate the potential for one guard thinking that a potential victim is in someone else's water.

Cross Checking: Because glare and other natural conditions may obscure portions of an area, guards must cross check with each other to insure that all areas are covered completely. Communications becomes an important tool for lifeguards in these situations. Radios or telephones are the best methods to properly communicate in these circumstances.

CONCLUSION: Emergency personnel are all expected to respond quickly and efficiently once an emergency arises. This is the case even with lifeguards. However, lifesaving on open water beaches must be preventive rather than just reactionary. Using the known concerns of the environment, topographical and other possibly non-aquatic keys, lifeguards can initiate contacts with the public to prevent accidents before they happen.

Using good scanning skills and keying in on Dry Land and Swimmer Observations as a means of recognizing potential rescues also allows the guard to make contact before the incident progresses to a drowning scenario.

Preventative Lifeguarding is the key to success in the elimination of drowning. Pre-recognition and observation skills are essential elements in that process.



Even when feeding a line observation remains important

THE COMICS

The teacher was discussing different jobs held by the parents of the students. When she called on Little Johnny, she asked, "And what does your father do?"

"Oh, he's a magician," replied Johnny.

"Really? And what's his best trick?"

"His best trick is sawing people in half."

"Wonderful!" exclaimed the teacher. "Tell me, are there any more children in your family?"

"Yes ma'am, I have a half brother and two half sisters."

* * * * *

Little Johnny's chemistry teacher wanted to teach his class a lesson about the evils of liquor, so he set up an experiment that involved a glass of water, a glass of whiskey, and two worms.

"Now class, observe what happens to the two worms," said the professor putting the first worm in the glass of water. The worm in the water moved about, twisting and seemingly unharmed. He then dropped the second worm in the whiskey glass. It writhed in pain for a moment, then quickly sank to the bottom and died. "Now kids, what lesson can we derive from this experiment?" he asked.

Little Johnny raised his hand and wisely responded, "Drink whiskey and you won't get worms!"