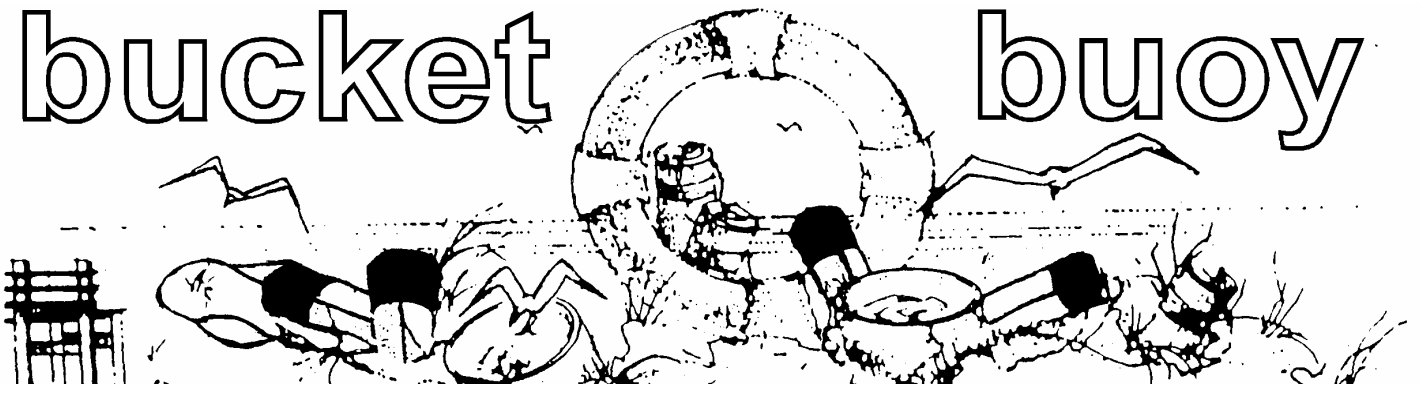


# bucket buoy



Dear Fellow Lifeguards:

July 8, 2007

This weekend there are concerts around the earth bringing attention to the global warming crisis our planet is facing. They come in the wake of record temperatures in California reaching as high as 127 degrees. (Actual temperature, not heat index) This week also saw articles in newspapers that stated "Ponds that have provided summertime water in the high arctic for thousands of years are drying up as global warming advances."

No matter what side of the political spectrum you are on, global warming is an issue that will affect us all. Other articles in this week's newspapers spoke about how our Long Island wells are becoming contaminated and of the global shortage of fresh water. I guess that is all to be expected when you have a population sharing this planet that went from 3 billion in 1959 to a projected 9 billion by the year 2050. They all use water, they all use fuel and they all are part of the problem.

Of course, there are those that feel technology is the answer and refuse to worry because they are looking at solution such as dumping 20 million tons of sulfur dioxide particles into the atmosphere to lessen sunlight by 2% or building a 60,000 mile long sun shield at the cost of \$3 trillion dollars that would float in space and shade parts of the earth.

Whatever the solution will eventually be, the issue is one that has to be dealt with now as the crisis is coming at us faster than anyone had predicted. Heat waves and erratic weather patterns are becoming common place. In fact a mini heat wave is predicted for this week and as lifeguards we are directly in the path of this oncoming train.

Those of us who spend our summers protecting the waters know how heat waves and erratic weather patterns can affect our jobs. Heat drives crowds to the beach, often unsafely burdening the staff that is schedule there. Weather causes high surf and rip tides that endanger swimmers. It also causes beach erosion and flooding that threatens to pollute our swimming areas. Look at the number of south shore bay beaches that were closed this week as a result of the heavier-than-usual rains.

The question then becomes, what can each of us do against a world wide crisis? First of all remember, as lifeguards, people respect your opinion when it comes to the ocean. Speak out about how this crisis will affect your ocean and your beach. Become part of the solution. Urge your elected officials to look at alternatives to our current gas guzzling mentality. Advocate for bike paths. Take your bike when you can. Do simple things like shut off lights that aren't being used and bring your own shopping bags when going to the grocery store. Lead by example. I know these are all small things but, if enough of us start doing them, hopefully our children will be able to enjoy the beaches we have learned to love so much.



Bob saying a few(?) words to his Junior charges



Part of the WBHP Crew on a sunny Sunday afternoon

## USLA MEMBERSHIP

By Cary Epstein

It is still not too late to support the Jones Beach Chapter of the United States Lifesaving Association. Become a part of the most elite group of open water lifeguards nation wide. The fee is only \$30 and this year you will be getting a Jones Beach USLA Chapter T-shirt along with other goodies sent from the USLA national headquarters. To register simply go online to [www.jblifeguard.org](http://www.jblifeguard.org) and click on forms. Fill out the form that says online USLA submission. You can drop off your money at the Central Mall shack or mail it to Cary Epstein/Jones Beach USLA, 41 Avalon Road, Hewlett, NY 11557.

The USLA Regional Lifeguard Tournament is this Wednesday 7/11 in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Right now we have a team of approximately 20 lifeguards and are looking for more lifeguards to compete! If you are interested please contact Cary Epstein ext 616 at JB. Just around the corner is USLA Nationals August 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina! I hope to see many JB faces down south in August!



A smidgen of Field 2's crew and yet another picture of Bob

## UNION ELECTIONS

The beginning of August will bring us our bi-annual Local Union election. Along with this election will also be a vote on constitutional changes that the Constitutional Committee will be proposing. Although it is true that when we eventually go into a new unit we will have a new constitution, since we have no current time-frame for that we, at this time, have to have a document that we can operate under. Currently we are using the AFL-CIO inspired constitution from our former Local 2744 from when we were under Council-82. Although not a perfect document, it has withstood the test of time and has many of our concerns in it.

The Constitutional Committee has taken that document and suggested many changes to it to bring it up to today's realities. They have also cleaned up awkward wording and addressed issues that have not previously been addressed. We will be getting more information out within the next couple of weeks.

(over)

For those interested in running for an office in the Union, please remember that you need a petition with 20 signatures denoting the position you want to run for. Timelines will be carried in next week's *Bucket and Buoy* after being finalized at Wednesday's Shop Steward Meeting at NYSUT Hall in Jericho at 7:00 PM. Make sure your Shop Steward is there!!!



*Harv teaches the Juniors the fine art of Buoy carrying*

## CPR CERTIFICATION

Ok, how can I say this nicely? Monday is the last CPR course this summer and if you haven't been certified by July 11, 2007 and if your expiration is from last year you are sh\_t out of luck. Frank Salino and his crew has done a great job of making sure everyone has had a chance to get certified and if you haven't at this point, you have no one else to blame. This year's classes were the most professional ever given and it is obvious that Frank really put some effort into them. Thank you, Frank.

So the bottom line is, the price is right, the classes are good and the camaraderie is 1st class. So to those few who this message is intended for; don't screw up. Monday is your last chance.



*A very stern Frank prepares to impart CPR/AED knowledge*

## SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW LG

This Monday, at Nassau County Supreme Court, 4<sup>th</sup> floor at 9:30 am the trial of Rob Kafer versus the NYS Dept. of Parks goes into its third day. Several lifeguards have come by during the previous two days to show their support of Rob. The trial and the State's position has been an eye-opener for them.

I think something like this is important for JBLC members as a whole. It has been reported that many things have come out in testimony, including the fact that the State feels that they do not have to notify anyone in writing if they decide not to rehire them for any reason. That fact alone should send a chill down the spine of anyone who loves the job.

However, don't take our word for it. Come down and hear it for yourself. And know that if you were in that position, you too would want the support of your fellow lifeguards.

On another note, I understand that a 1<sup>st</sup> step grievance is scheduled for next Saturday on the third try issue. Just to refresh anyone's memory that is where the State agreed (and even wrote it in their own notes) that if anyone fails the rehire test they will have two additional tries as long as taken before the draft. In turn for that change, we agreed to add a run component into our rehire procedure. When it came time to collect the State blatantly breached its agreement and refused to allow the third try. Of course we grieved this last year too but the State ignored it and NYSCOPBA did nothing to move it forward.

To be honest, I am not hopeful for a fair resolution to this grievance. When Ron Foley was put in charge he promised us that this type of nonsense would not go on during "his watch." Unfortunately we have seen no evidence that his actions match his words. Let's see what happens this Saturday.



*How come the nicest smiles come out when a camera's there?*

## LIVESTRONG

Dear Editor: I have attached a photo of Lance Armstrong receiving his Jones Beach LG cap. He really did seem to be pleased. Tommy Koehler (WE2) and I were flown out to ride with him in his invitational Ride For the Roses in Austin. Ride for the Roses is the original fundraiser that gave birth to the Lance Armstrong Foundation and takes place every October for his top fundraisers and team Captain winners (which is how we made it there).

I am taking the challenge again this summer and trying to raise 10,000 dollars. If you use the photo in the *Bucket and Buoy* please include my donation site; [www.philly07.livestrong.org/koehler](http://www.philly07.livestrong.org/koehler).

His foundation does SO much for cancer victims and survivors and he has taken it to the National level as the President's ambassador in cancer research. Education and early detection is essential.

Our message is "Unity is strength, knowledge is power, attitude is everything". Thank you, - Eileen Koehler



*Eileen Koehler presents Lance with his very own JBLG Cap*

## THE COMICS

Did you hear about the Pepsi executive who got fired?  
Seems he tested positive for Coke.

\* \* \* \* \*

A man entered the local paper's pun contest. He was so anxious to win he sent in ten different entries, hoping at least one would win. **Unfortunately no pun in ten did.**

\* \* \* \* \*

Two neighbors appeared in court, each woman accusing the other of causing trouble in the building.

"Let's get to the evidence," the wise judge said in an effort to end their bickering. "I'll hear the oldest woman first."

The case was dismissed for lack of testimony.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have CDO – It's like obsessive-compulsive disorder only it's in alphabetical order, as it should be



*Pop Quiz; what is F 6's favorite Sunday morning newsletter?*