



THE GUARDIAN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE LIFEGUARD CORPS Dennis M. Kane, Editor OCT. 19, 2009

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Taconic Park

Thousand Islands Park

To my fellow lifeguards,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the lifeguard corps for their support and introduce myself to the members of the newly formed New York State Lifeguard Corps. I have been a Jones Beach Lifeguard since 1968 as a lifeguard and a boatswain. I have served as a member of the Jones Beach Lifeguard Union as a shop steward, trustee, elections chair and am currently Vice President. In addition, I have served as a NYSUT and AFT delegate for over twenty years. I was involved in the decertification process and the creation of our union under the auspices of the United University Professions.

The results of our first election are listed on the side of our stationary. I would like to congratulate the officers and delegates and thank them for their service to our union. These positions are for one year so that we could begin to organize. Future officers and delegates will serve a two year term. We plan on a state-wide meeting in early February to update negotiations, discuss representation and a membership drive to include all of our brothers and sisters across the state.

Mike DeFina, a member of the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps has created a website to keep all of our members informed and up-to-date. I encourage you to check this website frequently for the newest information. As noted above, the website is www.NYSLC.net.

In addition, you can contact me at (516) 551-1875 or by email at brucemeiro@yahoo.com.

I look forward to meeting you this summer.

In Solidarity,

Bruce Meirowitz
President

Welcome to the New York State Lifeguard Corps!

In 2003, the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps (JBLC) began efforts to separate from NY-SCOPBA. After a lengthy legal battle, we were finally successful. That victory was due in large part to the assistance of NYSUT/UUP (New York State United Teachers/United University Professions). That transfer, which took place on Jan. 29, 2009, caused the creation of the NYSLC.

By now, you should have received an introductory letter from NYSUT/UUP and an enrollment form. If you did not receive it, or inadvertently discarded it, an enrollment form is attached. To garner voting rights and other union benefits, you must complete and return the form ASAP. Enrollment costs you nothing. As a union shop, you are already paying dues.

In that transitional period, members of the JBLC Executive Board served as interim NYSLC officers. At the direction of UUP, we created a temporary Constitution and By Laws. These documents will serve us until the NYSLC Representative Assembly meets. That meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 2010. Elections for the NYSLC Executive Board and Regional delegates were held in September. Election results are in the Oct. 4th issue of "The Bucket & Buoy" (the JBLC newsletter), and the first ever issue (Oct. 13th) of "The Guardian" (the NYSLC newsletter).

Several Regions do not have Representatives. To get involved in union activities, contact NYSLC President Bruce Meirowitz at (516) 551-1875, or **brucemeiro@yahoo.com**.

A website dedicated to the NYSLC has recently been completed. It can be found at **www.nyslc.net**. It links to the JBLC site, so please explore these two sites.

We are creating a Master Contact List to send you information and newsletters. Please email us with your worksite and other contact information. Encourage your co-workers to do the same.

As 2nd VP, I am the Editor of both the JBLC and NYSLC newsletters. We openly solicit photos, news and articles from and about our lifeguards. To see what we publish, go to the website and explore the previous editions. I can be reached at **dennismkane@yahoo.com**. JBLC members will receive issues of both once the Master Contact List is completed.

These are exciting times for all of us. The NYSLC will provide us with more bargaining power and improve the terms and conditions of our employment. Help us help you. Send in the form and get involved. See you at the Assembly.



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Richard C. Iannuzzi, President
Alan B. Lubin, Executive Vice President
Maria Neira, Vice President
Kathleen M. Donahue, Vice President
Lee Cutler, Secretary-Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

I, _____ hereby enroll as a member of the New York State Lifeguard Corps, New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) and its national affiliate, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), AFL-CIO. I understand that my membership will become effective on the first day of the month indicated on this signed enrollment form.

Union dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes. Dues paid, however, may qualify as business expenses and may be deductible in limited circumstances subject to various restrictions imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. Dues for membership in NYSUT and AFT are as specified in each respective organization's Constitution and Bylaws, and may be amended from time to time.

New York State United Teachers maintains dual affiliation with the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO and the National Education Association where applicable. Membership in the State and National organizations must come through a local unit of NYSUT.

Membership in NYSUT or any successor organization begins, and eligibility for benefits is effective, as of the month/year indicated on this signed enrollment form. Membership is continuous and carries over automatically from year to year. Re-enrollment is not necessary unless the member changes employers; except that membership shall be deemed continuous where there is: (a) merger or consolidation of employing entities or governmental units; (b) an accretion of any existing local or bargaining unit; and/or (c) a successor employer. NYSUT reserves the right to recognize continuous membership in any other instance or circumstance.

Membership dues include subscriptions to the publications of NYSUT and AFT. NYSUT includes a \$12.00 for a subscription to New York Teacher for one year. AFT dues include \$20.00 for a subscription to American Teacher.

Name _____ Email Address _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

Signature _____ Month/Year Effective ____/____

Return to NYSUT
Attn: Member Records
800 Troy Schenectady Road
Latham, NY 12110

Fax: 518-213-6477

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