



# OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

**Week of September 8, 2013 to September 15, 2013**

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2013**

**GENERAL MEETING:** City Hall Council Chambers—3<sup>rd</sup> St —1<sup>st</sup> Floor—0830hrs

Parking is available in the City Hall lot; enter Council Chambers through rear of the building.

**OCBPSRA:** Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet (Conditional) / 8<sup>th</sup> St. / 76<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1003hrs

Low: 1619hrs

**Special Events:** Concert & Cruzers—*Troy Mawyer*—Somerset Plaza—1500hrs

Beach Wedding—32<sup>nd</sup> St.—1830hrs

#### **Important Notice**

Please note the dates, times, and location of the remaining weekly meetings and adjust your calendar accordingly.

Sunday, September 8  
City Hall—0830hrs

Sunday, September 15  
City Hall—0830hrs

Sunday, September 22  
City Hall—0830hrs

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013**

**Officer in Charge:** Lieutenant Ward Kovacs

**OCBPSRA:** Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** 6<sup>th</sup> St. / 74<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1048hrs

Low: 1708hrs

#### **Reminder: Stats are Important!**

Throughout the year, we are often asked for our stats by various agencies. If you are leaving town after work, don't forget to turn in your stats before you leave.

**Crew Chiefs:** Don't forget to record the stats in Google Docs before you leave.

The stats still run from Monday thru Sunday, so this week ends on 9/8/13.



#### **Winter Mailings**

Newsletters and all return-to-work information and notifications for the 2014 season will be sent to the winter address that you provided. Updates and/or adjustments should be made through the office--either in person or by e-mail.

#### **2013 W-2 Forms**

The Town of Ocean City will send your W-2 form to the permanent address on record for you. This is the address that is printed on your paycheck. W-2's will be sent out by January 31, 2014. If you need to make any changes and/or adjustments, you must fill out a change of address form and submit it to the City Hall Human Resources department by January 1, 2014.

S.R.T. Name:	Monday 9/9/2013	Tuesday 9/10/2013	Wednesday 9/11/2013	Thursday 9/12/2013	Friday 9/13/2013	Saturday 9/14/2013	Sunday 9/15/2013	CREW
Daily Assignment								
Rescues								Totals
Preventative actions								
First Aids								

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013**

**Officer-in-Charge:** *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

**OCBPSRA:** Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** 4<sup>th</sup> St. / 72<sup>nd</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1136hrs

Low: 1803hrs

**Special Event:** None

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013**

**Officer-in-Charge:** *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

**OCBPSRA:** Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** 2<sup>nd</sup> St. / 70<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1229hrs

Low: 0609hrs

**Special Events:** Beach Weddings—2<sup>nd</sup> St.—1300hrs & 47<sup>th</sup> St.—1820hrs

MD 3 Red Knights Parade of Brothers and 9/11 Memorial—27<sup>st</sup> & Boards to Memorial Service at N. Division St.—1130hrs

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013**

**Officer-in-Charge:** *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

**OCBPSRA:** Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day— Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** N. Division St. / 68<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1330hrs

Low: 0706hrs

**Special Events:** OC Bike Fest—Inlet Lot—1100hrs to 2000hrs

## **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2013—Pay Day**

**Officer-in-Charge:** *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

**OCBPSRA:** Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day— Area Supervisor determines specific workouts

**Surfing Beaches:** 65<sup>th</sup> St. / 145<sup>th</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1436hrs

Low: 0808hrs

**Special Events:** OC Bike Fest—Inlet Lot—1000hrs to 2000hrs

Beach Wedding: Inlet—1830hrs

### **A Day of Remembrance Celebration**

#### **MD 3 Red Knights Parade of Brothers and 9/11 Memorial**

0830hrs—Motorcycle Parade

27<sup>th</sup> St. Boards to N. Division St.

Memorial Service—N. Division St.

On This Day, Please Remember All the Public Safety Personnel Who Have Risked Their Lives for Others.



### **Employee Evaluations – Not the Entire Picture**

Although having satisfactory evaluations is very important, they are only one aspect of each employee's summative performance rating. Employee commendations, incidents, responsibility for equipment, amount of time worked, amount of time taken off, fulfilling work agreement, and last day worked are all considered by the review panel. Only once a full and complete assessment is made will a final recommendation be made to the Captain, regarding an employee's status for the next season.

### **Request for Recommendations**

Between seasons, I am often asked to complete references and recommendations. If you need me to provide something like this for you, I ask that you make the request in writing. In that request you should give me any information that will help me in giving you the best possible recommendation. I will need to know to whom it goes and if there is a particular format or form that is required. It will also be helpful to remind me of some of the Beach Patrol activities that you have been involved in, such as JBP, Camps, special duties, etc. I also will need a fair amount of lead-time since personnel files are secured in Ocean City while I am in La Plata. You may send your request by e-mail or if you are required to mail to a physical address, you may use:

Captain Butch Arbin  
134 West Quail Lane  
La Plata, Maryland 20646

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2013

OCBPSRA: Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Swim Day—Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet (Conditional) / 63<sup>rd</sup> St. / 143<sup>rd</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1543hrs  
Low: 0913hrs

**Special Events:** OC Bike Fest—Inlet Lot—1000hrs to 2000hrs

Beach Weddings: 67<sup>th</sup> St.—1600hrs & 109<sup>th</sup> St.—1730hrs & 27<sup>th</sup> St.—1800hrs & 136<sup>th</sup> St.—1830hrs



Keep your feet in the sand,  
until the lifeguard's in the stand!



## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

**GENERAL MEETING:** City Hall Council Chambers —3<sup>rd</sup> St. —1<sup>st</sup> Floor

0830hrs--Parking is available in the City Hall lot; enter Council Chambers through rear of the building.

OCBPSRA: Will resume in June 2014

**Opportunity to Compete:** None

**Workout:** Run Day—Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

**Surfing Beaches:** Inlet (Conditional) / 61<sup>st</sup> St. / 141<sup>st</sup> St.

**Tides:** High: 1646hrs  
Low: 1019hrs

**Special Events:** OC Bike Fest—Inlet Lot—1100hrs to 1700hrs

### Reminder: Stats are Important!

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**Crew Chiefs:** Don't forget to record the stats in Google Docs before you leave.

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### UPCOMING 2013 BEACH PATROL EVENTS

Sept. 22	Last Day of 2013 Season
Sept. 23	First Day of Extended Patrol
Nov. 25	Fall Newsletter
April 1	Spring Newsletter & Invitations to Return
May 26	Memorial Day—1 <sup>st</sup> Day of 2014 Summer Season!

### Upcoming Town of Ocean City Special Events

Sunfest	Sept. 20-23	Inlet Lot	1000hrs to 2200hrs
Park Place Jewelers Beach Treasure Hunt	Sept. 21-22		
Concert & Cruzers <i>Troy Mawyer</i>	Sept. 22	Somerset Plaza	1500hrs
ESA Surf Contest	Oct. 5	48 <sup>th</sup> St. or Inlet	Dawn to Dusk
Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk & Run	Oct. 19	Inlet	0730hrs

<u>Stats.</u>	<u>Week 15</u> 8/26/13 to 9/1/13	<u>Week 15</u> Year-To- Date 2013	<u>Week 15</u> 8/27/12 to 9/2/12	<u>Week 15</u> Year-To- Date 2012	<u>Week 15</u> 8/29/11 to 9/4/11	<u>Week 15</u> Year-To- Date 2011
<b>Action</b>						
Preventions	1966	32063	41	58705	2057	79652
Rescues	136	1928	17	2656	167	1524
Minor First Aid	20	1229	4	1342	26	1946
Ambulance Calls	8	134	8	213	6	298
Police Calls	4	134	4	120	3	75
USCG/MDNRP	1	9	1	7	0	8
Lost/Found Persons	19	472	19	512	24	555
N. Surf Beach Population	0	633	21	551	293	811
S. Surf Beach Population	121	3220	211	3767	251	2598
Inlet Surf Beach Population	8	673	82	1043	94	820
Beach Wheelchair Usage	27	470	25	442	25	452

## **OCBP Question-of-the-Week for The Worcester County Times**

**This Week's Question:** Last year when I took my family to the beach around this time I remember water almost like a swimming pool behind the guard stands. My kids sure loved playing in it. Does this happen often and what causes it?

We commonly refer to these as tide pools. However, they are not only formed by the outgoing tide but are also formed when large waves are driven further onto the beach by wind or during storms. Tropical activity in the Atlantic during this time of the year can cause larger than usual waves and surf conditions. When this happens, these waves bring more water onto the beach and if it becomes trapped in a low area a "tide pool" may form. These low areas on the beach are formed as waves push sand into large mounds running parallel to the shore with the area behind the mound (to the west) being lower than this newly formed retaining mound. As water is pushed over this mound, it cannot make its way back into the ocean as runoff and becomes trapped in the low lying area. Although the amount of water, the size of the low lying area and the depth of low lying area, may vary from a few inches to a few feet deep and the size may be as small as a backyard pool or as large as several city blocks, most tide pools are only a few inches deep and less than a block long. Because of the relatively small quantity of water, the sun heats it and it is much warmer than the ocean and it usually has no wave action making it very inviting. When a child comes to the beach and finds a tide pool, they become very excited. It is like having a backyard pool on the beach. However, tide pools pose their own dangers. Because a tide pool seems like the perfect place for small children to play, parents often do not give the same attention to their children as they would if they were playing in the ocean. Further complicating this is the fact that most often the tide pool ends up forming behind the guard stands. This means that the SRT (lifeguard) is only scanning this area as part of their secondary scan giving much less attention to this water hazard than the large body of water directly in front of them. Parents often have a false sense of security due to the shallow depth of most of these tide pools but those of us in water safety realize it only takes 1 inch of water to drown a toddler. A second hazard associated with this phenomenon is the risk of injuries from running and jumping into such a shallow area. Although not a safety concern another potential issue has to do with this trapped water becoming stagnant, dirty, and smelly. Therefore, the Public Works Maintenance Department sculpts the beach to facilitate the drainage of these tide pools after they have remained for a couple of days. Sometimes you might find a tide pool that behaves more like a waterslide than a pool. In this instance wave action is bringing more water into the low area while breaks in the retaining mound allow water to flow back into the ocean resulting in strong currents being formed in the tide pool. When this happens the tide pool becomes far more dangerous as people playing in the tide pool might find themselves washed into the ocean. This action is the perfect model of what is happening out in the ocean as waves come across the underwater sand bar and then make their way back out to the deeper water which is the mechanics and cause of the deadly Rip Currents you have heard so much about. Although we have given some cautions about tide pools, they can be fun when enjoyed safely. However, this season we have seen far less formation of these tide pools due to the unusually moderate wave action and very little tropical activity in the Mid-Atlantic area.

### **SRT of the Week Assistant Crew Chief Paul Vassalotti**

Assistant Crew Chief Paul Vassalotti has been with the Beach Patrol for 4 years. He is the Assistant Crew Chief (a leadership training position) to Crew Chief Kelly McGrath in the middle south area of Ocean City with Crew 6, which covers the beach from 24<sup>th</sup> Street to 33<sup>rd</sup> Street. Paul is active in the Junior Beach Patrol program. He also helps out with Family Olympics, Movies on the Beach, and Surf Camp. In his free time, Paul likes to participate in Ultimate Frisbee. He just graduated from Salisbury University and plans on moving to Puerto Rico in January.

ACC Paul Vassalotti and the other lifeguards of the Ocean City Beach Patrol are glad to answer any of your beach and water safety questions.



### **Mobile Rescue Units**

- Mobile means MOVING! Do not become stationary unless your assignment requires it.
- Two or more quads should never congregate. This reduces the overall coverage of the beach.
- Your primary responsibility requires that you remain available at all times.
- Inform dispatch of "ALL" your actions; they need to know what resources are available and where they are.
- NEVER leave the quad unattended with an SRT not authorized to operate it. It needs to be readily available in an emergency.
- Perform Rescues if and when necessary.
- Back up SRTs making rescues in your area of responsibility or as directed by dispatch.
- Respond to medical emergencies in your area of responsibility or as directed by dispatch.
- Supervise all OCBP personnel enforcing all policies and procedures.
- Assist with moving rovers when appropriate and circumstances permit.
- Patrol in your area of responsibility assisting the SRTs especially between stands and including ordinance enforcement.



Keep your feet in the sand,  
until the lifeguard's in the stand!



#### Guidelines for Modified Surfing

Note: The surfing ordinance is in effect until Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> each year.

- Surfers must still wear a leash.
- Swimmers **always** have the right of way.
- Surfers must remain no less than 50 yds. from the nearest swimmer or non-surfer.
- Surfers should be moved to the area between the stands.
- If there are too many swimmers, then the surfers must relocate or stop surfing altogether.
- The use of skimboards and other watercraft (kite surfers, windsurfers, kayaks, etc. is still prohibited
- If a surfer injures another person, he/she is responsible, and we must ID the surfer, involving the police if necessary.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Bowling Tournament**

Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
Ocean Lanes 72<sup>nd</sup> St.  
1900hrs



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#### OCBP DIVE TEAM

##### Tentative Fall & Winter Schedule

October 19	Oyster Dive	Eastern Bay (Kent Island)
October 12-14	Outer Banks Trip	North Carolina with Sea Colony Scuba
TBD	National Aquarium	Baltimore
March 16-23 (not all)	Spring Break Trip	West Florida
April 18-20	Twilight, Night Dives	Fort Lauderdale Air & Sea Show (working)

Sergeant Falcon sent an email to the Dive Team list on Sunday, August 18. If you did not receive it and you want to be on that list, you must send him an email: [jfalcon465@yahoo.com](mailto:jfalcon465@yahoo.com) ~ or ~ [jfalcon@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:jfalcon@oceancitymd.gov)



#### Help Wanted

##### YMCA Pool Lifeguard Position Available

The Pocomoke YMCA is in need of part-time lifeguards for the hours of 1100hrs to 1600hrs.

If interested, contact MaryBrad Kelley:  
[lsfitdir@yahoo.com](mailto:lsfitdir@yahoo.com)



We are looking for Banquet Houseman this fall/winter to help with our conventions. If any of the lifeguards are looking to supplement their income when BP slows down please send them my way.

The hours are pretty flexible and can work around any schedule.

Mark Elman, General Manager  
Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel  
10100 Coastal Highway  
Ocean City, MD 21842  
410-524-3535 ext.7158  
[www.clarionoc.com](http://www.clarionoc.com)



The OCBP Women's team was featured in the September issue of The Sandpaper, a Town of Ocean City online employee publication.



The **OCBP** Women's competition team held a car wash at the 74th St. firehouse to raise enough money to send our women's team to Sandy Hook, NJ, to compete against female guards from all across the country.

This summer the women of OCBP held its first all women lifeguard competition at 130th st. Four teams of eight competed against each other in events such as land line, surf dash and tug of war. The OCBP has more than 30 females this year which is one of the greatest in Ocean City's history, including 5 in supervisory roles.