



OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL NEWS RELEASE

TOWN OF OCEAN CITY

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NEVER, NEVER SWIM ALONE!!!

SWIMMING NEAR A LIFEGUARD COULD SAVE A LIFE! YOURS!!

Ocean City Beach Patrol Crew Competition 2012

On Saturday, July 28, 2012, over 200 members of the Ocean City Beach Patrol will compete in this annual intra-squad event between crews. The event takes place on North Division Street in front of the Quiet Storm Surf Shop (this year's headline sponsor) following the lifeguards' workday, at 6:30 PM. These are competitions between the 17 crews that guard the beaches of Ocean City. This even has great spectator appeal and visitors to Ocean City are encouraged to support the lifeguards from your beach in this high-energy lifesaving exhibition and competition. Many local businesses support the crews from their area by providing banners, uniforms, food and other gifts to show their appreciation for the work these lifeguards do everyday keeping their patrons safe.

The crews usually dress up and have a theme for their crew. Last year a crew dressed up and competed in business suits. Their theme was "taking care of business" on the beach. Another crews dressed up like they were off the set of Brave Heart. Local businesses support the beach patrol and make it possible for crews to design and purchase t-shirts. You never know what you are going to see each year at the Crew Competitions. The public is welcome and encouraged to come out and watch the events.

Come out and join us as we cheer for the crews and watch your lifeguards demonstrate their athletic skills as they compete in the following events:

Run Swim Run Relay – A team of guards from the same crew will combine their most basic lifesaving skills of running and swimming as they handoff a rescue buoy.

Land Line – A team of guards from the same crew will rescue a swimmer in distress by swimming out a 150 meter line and then be pulled to shore with the "victim" by other members of the crew.

Paddle Board Relay – A team of guards from the same crew will paddle out 150 meter on a 11 foot rescue board and return to shore before handing it off to the next waiting crew member.

Soft Sand Relay – A team of guards from the same crew will each sprint 150 meters before handing off a rubber relay baton, in this pure running race, in soft-sand.

Tug O War – A team of guards from the same crew will pull against other crews drawn randomly in this double elimination event that emphasizes strength and endurance.

This competition, which has been held since 1976, was renamed in honor of Lt. Warren Williams following his untimely death in May 2003. Warren served admirably for over 40 years beginning in 1963 when he came to the Patrol as a college student. After graduating from the University of Maryland, Warren became an engineer for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. However, this "full time" job didn't cause any reduction in his dedication to the Patrol. During his many years of government service at the NASA base at Wallops Island, Virginia, Warren, his wife and son lived in Whaleyville which meant quite a commute to his "regular" job but close enough to Ocean City for him to continue his service to the Patrol. Lieutenant Williams held the rank of Lieutenant at the time of his passing and will be remembered by those who worked with him as one who always had the welfare of others as his priority and was always willing to do anything for the betterment of the Patrol and Ocean City.

"Anyone can get a "JOB" But YOU can make a difference!"

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