



OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week of September 5, 2016 to September 11, 2016

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2016- LABOR DAY!

WEEKLY MEETING: CONVENTION CENTER – 40th STREET

CREW CHIEF MEETING WITH AREA SERGEANTS: 08:00hrs

FULL CREW CHIEF MEETING: 08:15hrs

SEMAPHORE TEST: Finished for this season

OFFICERS' MEETING: 08:30hrs

CREW MEETING: 08:30hrs (Turn in individual stats, get schedule, assignments, and information from Crew Chief)

USLA ANNOUNCEMENTS: 08:45hrs

GENERAL MEETING: 08:50hrs

OCBPSRA: Physical Skills Events are completed for this season; turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Swim Day- Crew Chief determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: 56th St. / 136th St.

Tides: High: 10:46hrs

Low: 17:02hrs

Special Events: None

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

Officer in Charge: Lieutenant Ward Kovacs

OCBPSRA: Turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Run Day- Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 54th St. / 134th St.

Tides: High: 11:28hrs

Low: 17:47hrs

Special Events: Beach Wedding- Inlet- 14:00hrs

Beach Wheelchairs

After Labor Day, beach wheelchairs are only available via reservation and pick up at the Convention Center (410-723-8610) or the Public Safety Bldg. (410-723-6610)

OC Rec & Parks will be removing the beach wheelchair boxes from their locations beginning at 07:00hrs on Tuesday, Sept. 6th.



S.R.T. Name:	Monday 9/5/2016	Tuesday 9/6/2016	Wednesday 9/7/2016	Thursday 9/8/2016	Friday 9/9/2016	Saturday 9/10/2016	Sunday 9/11/2016	CREW
Daily Assignment								
								Totals
Rescues								
Preventative actions								
First Aids								
Ordinance Enforcements								

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

Officer-in-Charge: *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

OCBPSRA: Turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Swim Day- Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 52nd St. / 132nd St.

Tides: High: 12:13hrs
Low: 18:36hrs

Special Events: None



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

Officer-in-Charge: *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

OCBPSRA: Turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Run Day- Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 50th St. / 130th St.

Tides: High: 13:02hrs
Low: 06:42hrs

Special Events: Beach Wedding- 16th St.- 16:00hrs

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016- Pay Day

Officer-in-Charge: *Lieutenant Ward Kovacs*

OCBPSRA: Turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Swim Day- Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet / 48th / 128th St.

Tides: High: 13:56hrs
Low: 07:32hrs

Special Events: OC Rec & Parks Staff Meeting- HQ Training Room- 09:00hrs

Beach Weddings- 54th St.- 09:00hrs & 133rd St.- 14:00hrs

Beach Bonfire: Private Permit- 38th St.- 18:00hrs

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2016

OCBPSRA: Turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Run Day- Area Supervisor determines specific workouts

Surfing Beaches: Inlet (Conditional) / 46th St. / 126th St.

Tides: High: 14:55hrs
Low: 08:25hrs

Special Events: ESA Summer Surf Series- 48th St.- 07:30hrs to 17:00hrs

Beach Weddings- 28th St.- 13:00hrs; 2nd St. & 138th St.- 14:00hrs; 126th St.- 15:00hrs; 117th St.- 17:00hrs; 49th St.- 19:00hrs

Important Notice

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

Sunday, September 11
City Hall—08:30hrs

Sunday, September 18
City Hall—08:30hrs

Sunday, September 25
City Hall—08:30hrs

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

GENERAL MEETING: City Hall Council Chambers - 3rd St. - 1st Floor- 08:30hrs

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

OCBPSRA: Turn in your outside certifications and NIMS.

Opportunity to Compete: None

Workout: Run Day- Area Supervisor determines specific workouts.

Surfing Beaches: Inlet (Conditional) / 44th St. / 124th St.

Tides: High: 15:53hrs
Low: 09:21hrs

Special Events: ESA Summer Surf Series- 48th St.- 07:30hrs to 17:00hrs
MD3 Red Knights Parade of Brothers and 9/11 Memorial—27th St. to N. Division St.- 08:30hrs
Beach Weddings- 71st St.- 06:00hrs & 20th St.- 10:00hrs
OC Cruzers Car Show & Music- Somerset Plaza- 14:30hrs

A Day of Remembrance Celebration

9/11/16

MD 3 Red Knights

Parade of Brothers and 9/11 Memorial

08:30hrs- Motorcycle Parade
27th 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.



UPCOMING 2016 BEACH PATROL EVENTS



Off-site Pre-Employment Physical Skills Evaluations

We are planning to hold off-site testing at SSU and York College in the February-March time frame. Exact dates will be announced once each of the schools confirm availability.

Upcoming Town of Ocean City Special Events

ESA Summer Surf Series	Sept. 10 & 11	48 th St. or Inlet	07:30hrs
OC Bikefest	Sept. 15-18	Inlet	11:00hrs to 20:00hrs
9/11 Parade of Brothers	Sept. 11	27 th St. to Inlet	08:30hrs to 13:00hrs
OC Hotel Week	Sept. 6-11	Various Locations	
OC Bikefest	Sept. 15-18	Inlet/Convention Ctr.	11:00 to 20:00hrs
Sunfest	Sept. 22-25	Inlet	10:00hrs to 22:00hrs

Discover an ocean of Fun!

The Town of Ocean City has several off-season 5K events planned, which may be of interest to recreational and competitive runners!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| The Live Like Rob 5K on 10/15/16 | The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer on 10/22/16 |
| The Seaside 10 on 10/29/16 | The OC Museum Society 5K Race/Walk on 11/12/16 |
| The NFL 5K on 11/5/16 | The OC Winterfest of Lights 5K on 12/4/16 |
| The St. Pat's 5K on 3/10/17 | The Komen Race for a Cure on 4/8/17 |
| The Mothers Day Memorial on 5/14/17 | |

<u>Stats.</u>	<u>Week 14</u> 8/22/16 to 8/28/16	<u>Week 14</u> Year-To- Date 2016	<u>Week 14</u> 8/17/15 to 8/23/15	<u>Week 14</u> Year-To- Date 2015	<u>Week 14</u> 8/18/14 to 8/24/14	<u>Week 14</u> Year-To- Date 2014
Action						
Preventions	2380	47905	3365	56417	5408	42121
Rescues	63	927	107	2110	212	2437
Minor First Aid	130	1695	78	1171	40	1036
Ambulance Calls	15	260	13	190	88	286
Police Calls	7	120	9	130	4	110
USCG/MDNRP	0	8	1	7	4	18
Lost/Found Persons	12	345	25	399	18	423
N. Surf Beach Population	4	327	54	446	0	336
S. Surf Beach Population	11	1255	55	2593	0	2837
Inlet Surf Beach Population	4	255	68	644	NA	913
Beach Wheelchair Usage	44	424	31	412	42	438

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: Please record the stats in Google Docs before you leave.

The stats still run from Monday thru Sunday, so this week ends on 9/11/16.

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

This Week's Question: I noticed that the lifeguards clear the water and then walk backwards when leaving the beach for the night. Why do they do this?

Every Surf Rescue Technician (SRT/lifeguard) on the Ocean City Beach Patrol clears the water in front of their stand every evening between 5:20 and 5:30 p.m. (earlier if we feel it will take longer to inform everyone of the dangers of swimming without the Lifeguard) All SRTs covering ten miles of beach, simultaneously will blow their whistles and point toward the west with their semaphore flags as an indication that the beach patrol is no longer on duty, prior to climbing down from the lifeguard tower for the evening. As the SRTs are calling everyone out of the water, many beach patrons will approach the stand and ask, "Why are you clearing the water?" This gives the SRT the opportunity to explain the dangers of swimming when the beach patrol is not on duty.

Our beach patrol has always made it a priority to let swimmers know when we were off duty. This includes published hours and a community supported education campaign. This procedure of clearing the ocean is to indicate to the bathers, still in the ocean, that the lifeguards are about to leave and should stop all water related activities for the day, in hopes that it will reduce the chance of after-hours drownings. Unfortunately, we have had several cases where parents felt they could provide safety for their children and allowed them to swim without the lifeguard and in several cases the parent as well as some of their children paid the ultimate price of this very poor decision and lost their lives. Tragically just last summer a poor decision by adults cost a 12 year old girl her life when she was allowed to swim an hour and a half after the guards had cleared the water and left for the day.

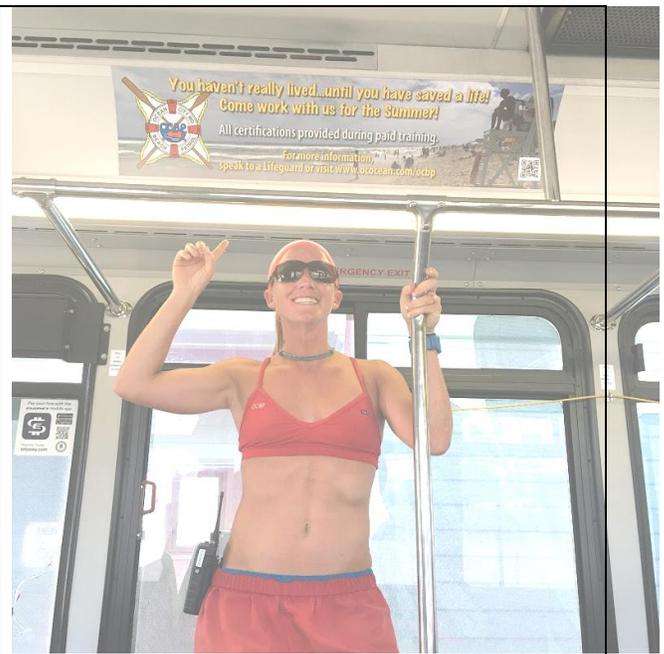
Surely before and after-duty drownings can occur on any beach. In fact, just this week we had dozens of rescues when the Beach Patrol was no longer on duty for the day. Luckily for these people that chose to swim without lifeguards, we had limited personnel who remained on duty till dusk just in case people decided to make the poor choice and think they could handle the ocean without lifeguards. Like all beach patrols, we do everything we can to reduce these tragic occurrences. Clearly, public education is the key. We have found that both our public education efforts and the practice of calling all swimmers ashore before we get off duty has greatly reduced not only the number of off duty rescues (911 calls) but off duty drownings as well. By clearing the water prior to our departure, any swimmers who do re-enter the ocean know there is no longer a guard watching them. Clearing the water at the end of our shift may seem routine, but we must never take the goal of this policy lightly and in fact, Ocean City ordinance makes it illegal to remain in the ocean when a surf rescue technician has directed someone to leave the water. Before we started clearing the water of swimmers prior to going off duty at 5:30, it is very possible that a swimmer could have entered the water while guards were on duty, only to turn around and find the stands empty and pulled back for the night. In most cases this would not be a problem. However, if the swimmer were to become caught in a rip current, the situation could quickly take a tragic turn, despite their intentions to swim only under the watchful eyes of the beach patrol. In contrast, by pulling everyone out of the ocean before we leave the beach, we know that those who enter the water during unguarded hours are taking that risk knowingly. It is critical that we continue our efforts to educate the public, warning them of the dangers of swimming on unguarded beaches. Sadly this past week a father and son went swimming on an un-guarded section of Assateague Island National Seashore which resulted in the death of the father and the near drowning of the son. This is why we do whatever it takes to make sure people leave the ocean before we cross over the dune, leaving our beaches for the night.

As for walking backwards the SRTs are trained during Surf Rescue Academy to never turn their backs to the ocean and be aware of everything going on in their water. During this academy (which is similar to a military boot camp) all rookies are taught the necessary skills, techniques, procedures and protocols necessary to become a certified Surf Rescue Technician. The academy instructors, like drill sergeants, are constantly emphasizing and reminding the rookies of the critical importance to never turn their backs to the ocean. Returning SRTs receive the same treatment during their annual re-certification. Therefore, when you see a lifeguard walking backwards it is because they have chosen to continue what was emphasized in Surf Rescue Academy although walking backwards off the beach is not required at the end of their shift. Your SRT has probably continued this practice as a result of their pride and professionalism for their job. As you can see, the Ocean City Beach Patrol and the individual SRTs take the responsibility of guarding the beaches of Ocean City very seriously. We want you to have a safe and enjoyable stay at the beach and remember to "Keep your feet in the sand until the Lifeguard's in the stand!"

SRT of the Week: Crew Chief Kelly Keefe

Crew Chief Kelly Keefe has been with the Beach Patrol for eight years. She is in charge of Crew 16, which covers the beach from 128th Street to 136th Street. Kelly is active as an instructor in the Junior Beach Patrol program, the Women's Comp team director and as a member of the OCBP Triathlon Club. As a United States Lifesaving Association member, Kelly is also very involved in competitions. She is an active competitor, on the sprint team, and involved in recruiting and training. Kelly enjoys being active, loves being outside and the beach. She also loves laughing and sunsets. In the off season Kelly is a teacher in Howard County Public Schools, coaches lacrosse, and works as a Sports Trainer at Shropshire Sports Training. Kelly recently married Joe, another Surf Rescue Technician who works part-time with the patrol while he is on active duty with the United States Coast Guard.

CC Kelly Keefe and the other lifeguards of the Ocean City Beach Patrol are glad to answer any of your beach and water safety questions. If you think you would like a position with the Patrol like Kelly or Joe's, ask any of our guards or visit our website at www.ococean.com/ocbp.



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



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 the Beach Patrol Duty Officer 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 the Dispatcher or Duty Officer.
- Respond to medical emergencies in your area of responsibility or as directed by the Dispatcher or Duty Officer.
- Supervise all OCBP personnel in your assigned area and be sure to enforce 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.

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

2016 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-2s will be sent out by January 31, 2017. 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, 2017.

Equipment Turn in Reminder

If you are not returning to work after Labor Day, (or live over 30 miles from OC and working weekends), all equipment must be returned after work Monday, September 5, 2016, (before 19:00hrs), or the value of all missing equipment will be deducted from your last paycheck. Your direct deposit will be cancelled and your final paycheck will be mailed to your permanent address on file by certified mail once we can confirm that the equipment deduction was taken out of your pay. Once deducted, if you return any missing equipment at a later date, you will have to wait for reimbursement, which may take an additional four weeks.



Guidelines for Modified Surfing

Note: The surfing ordinance is in effect until Sept. 30th 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.



Now Hiring for the Off-Season

Linda Watson, Director of Human Resources at The Clarion, is looking to fill various positions for the upcoming fall, winter, and spring seasons.

Among the available positions are servers, bartenders, as well as banquet and housekeeping staff.

Ms. Watson can be reached at 410-390-4028 or at lwatson@clarionoc.com

Help Wanted: Swim Personnel!



Lifeguards and Swim Instructors Needed

Colby Phillips, our Unit 15 and the Director of Ocean Pines Aquatics, is looking for winter lifeguards for the Sports Core pool (20-40 hours per week), as well as swim instructors.

If interested in either position, please contact Colby:
cphillips@oceanpines.org



Swim Coaches Needed

The Salisbury YMCA is looking for two coaches:
A Gold Group swim coach is need for Sept. thru April.

A full-time head swim coach is needed year-round.

If interested in either position, please email Karen Mull:
pasrule@prodigy.net

Attaguards



Message from the Town website

Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 5:17 PM

Name: Gwendolyn L.

The guard on 45th Street is to be highly commended. He rescued my grandson from a rip current. He knew instantly that our grandson was in trouble before we did. He was lightning fast, calm, and kind. Kudos to him and eternal thanks. Kudos to the department for how well you train the beach patrol.

Sent: Sunday, August 28, 2016 8:20 PM
To: Michael Stone
Subject: OCMD Life Guard - Cierra Kopecky

Mr. Stone

We had the pleasure of meeting Cierra Kopecky this season, in June, on the 70th Street beach. We have 2 young girls and they were beyond thrilled to have a "Girl Lifeguard". My husband and his brother have been loyal Ocean City beach-goers and both now own condo's in Ocean City. We have been vacationing with our girls, and my in-laws 2 boys, since they were born.

This is the first year that they have shown interest in your lifeguards (getting a little older and more aware :-)).

Cierra was very kind and so nice to the kids! She was able to engage them while attending to her responsibilities (don't worry). During lulls, she taught the kids how to spell their names in the lifeguard language - they loved it. She was even kind enough to go for a swim with them after one of her shifts (she changed out of her uniform:-)). My girls were so very excited to have an actual lifeguard hit the waves with them.

We then returned in August to find Cierra has been reassigned to the Condo Area (118th-ish). She had given us her number in June as I told her we would be back down again during the summer. Of course, my girls were bummed that she had moved and asked to see her. She was so nice to respond as I reached out seeing if we could come visit her on her new beach. She made time to talk with them and told them how much fun she had over the summer being a lifeguard. The admiration and smiles on my girls faces was priceless.

As a mother, I am so thrilled and encouraged to see strong, young girls be so kind and willing to engage with my young daughters. Cierra is an amazing addition to your team! I hope we are able to connect with her for summers to come when she returns to her duties.

Here are photos of the gang in June and again in August. They just loved her!

Thanks for your time!

Amy L.
Smucker Natural & Specialty Foods, Inc.
Regional Sales Manager, Natural East

