

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, November 6: 7:30PM, Splash Monthly meeting.

Friday, November 30: 7PM, Nautical Mile Festival of Lights Boat Parade

Saturday, December 1: Nautical Mile Festival of Lights 2PM-5PM, Children's activities in main parking lot, kids eat free at participating restaurants; **6PM, Land Parade: Splash will be participating in the Land parade.**

Tuesday, December 4, 2007: Holiday Party. See information inside

Anyone interested in volunteering for these events please call the SPLASH hotline. (516) 378-4770

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY TRAVEL NEEDS PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE splashtravel.net. Same great prices and service as Travelocity and Orbitz, the only difference is Splash gets some of the commission...Give it a try and let us know what you think!

As sad as it is to end our season with SPLASH we can begin to think and plan ahead for 2008. Volunteers will be needed for all of the scheduled festivals next year. As the new coordinator, Pat Healy would like to remind you that your help will be needed and appreciated for next year's activities.

For more information on protecting our Long Island environment, join us for our monthly meeting which meet every 1st Tuesday of the month. All are welcome. Volunteers wanted, make a *SPLASH!*

Meetings held first Tuesday of the month, 7:30 PM at

Freeport Recreation Center
130 East Merrick Road
Freeport, N.Y. 11520



SPLASHnewsletter

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November 2007

Skipper's Log...

“Keys In Our Hands”

The more I learn about the environment, the more I realize how complex and yet at the same time, how simple it is. In nature's circle of life you cannot remove a piece of the circle without affecting something else. In the past 100 years we have made some extreme changes to the circle. Many of the changes were intended to improve our lives but others were made with the sole intent of personal financial gain with little or no regard to the consequences of the circle. We have been so blinded by our advances that we not only have done catastrophic damage to the circle but ultimately to ourselves. A perfect example of this damage is the government's list of super fund sites all around our great country. This list proves the super damage we have so thoughtlessly inflicted on ourselves. The “Love” Canal and the story of Erin Brockovich are just two of the hundreds of stories that come to mind. There are over 1,300 super fund sites in the United States and roughly 11 million people including 3.5 million children live within 1 mile of these toxic locations. On Long Island we have 28 super fund sites including 16 in Nassau County and 12 in Suffolk County. That does not include “brown field” sites. Brown fields are below super fund sites but still considered serious health hazards. Right about now you must be saying to yourself “all right Rob, enough with the doom and gloom stuff get to the point!” Ok, ok, my point is that we are at a cross roads in America. Do we stay with the status quo or do we start to hold ourselves accountable and make changes to our daily lives that will help our planet further on down the road. Each one of us hold's the keys to change. Right here, right now we can affect the outcome with a special set of keys...*the ones in the voting booth!* Please vote responsibly with the environment in mind.

...Sea ya on the water...Rob

P.S. For ideas on how to improve the environment log on to:
www.operationsplash.net

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SPLASH is an all-volunteer

Not-for-profit organization

OUR MISSION: To provide a solution to the growing problem of waterfront pollution through public education and individual participation.

Email:

operationsplash@optonline.net

Splash October 2nd Meeting Recap

Treasurer's Report

Balance was reported.

Rob also reported that we spent \$7,808.00 in August and September on repairs to our work boats. East Rockaway just got their SPLASH boat back in the water today. We got new head gaskets, free of charge from the Town of Hempstead. Also we're looking to get a spare boat, because the Wantagh boat is on the fritz again. On the horizon, Rob reported that a couple more boats are getting donated as fundraisers.

1st Vice President – Don Harris (absent) No report

2nd Vice President – Stefanie Scherner

Stefanie reported that the next newsletter will be reporting the SPLASH Holiday Party, which will be December 4th. She will be start collecting raffle prizes. She asked the membership to solicit prizes from business owners.

She announced that Pat Healy, Corresponding Secretary, will be the volunteer coordinator for Festivals. Stefanie also reported that she contacted a lot of newspapers to offer SPLASH as a news piece. She asked for members to offer their writing skills for use in promoting SPLASH in magazines. Rob added that the Lido Festival was a lot of fun, between the clam chowder and clam eating contests.

Stefanie announced the Nautical Mile Festival of Lights will be held on the last weekend in November. The Parade of Boats will be held on the Friday night; the land parade on the Mile will be on Saturday, SPLASH will be participating in the land parade.

Wantagh Report

Rob DiGiacomo reported on the status of the wooden beach signs he put up, which he fastened in concrete. Joe Shabini reported that the 'No Oil' light goes on in the Wantagh boat; Rob said not to worry about it; the boat runs with the light on. He added that the engine is still under warranty.

East Rockaway Report

Greg asked for volunteers to help with his boat ride on their new boat. He also introduced Brad from Berger Brothers Photo shop, who is offering to help with the promotion of SPLASH. Brad and his wife spoke to the membership about the coordination of photography and protecting the wildlife; they are offering free digital photography class for SPLASH members. *SPLASH...cleaning America's waterways.* Rob and Joe Shabini offered to captain education trips for wildlife photography. Greg also reported that he and Rob got pictures of Town of Hempstead employees dumping shrubs and other landscaping into the end of a street into one of the canals.

President's Report

Rob reported on (2) cleanups; one in Freeport with the Rotary and Sierra Club; and one on the same day in Amityville with The Great South Bay Society. Over 150 people volunteered at the Amityville cleanup. Rob said that it was well organized and they might hold it again next year.

Regarding the Sewage Treatment Plants issue, Rob used the chalkboard to illustrate the proposed plan to coordinate the Long Beach and Lawrence/Cedarhurst Sewage into the Bay Park plant sewage treatment plant. He said that the Bay Park plant has had many upgrades and should be able to handle the extra volume.

Town of Hempstead is using buoys to test and monitor the lower bay water depths.

New Business

A member asked if the Freeport crew could pick up large pieces and Rob said we now can. We should leave large pieces on the side (of the dumpster). The Town of Hempstead employees will take care of picking them up.

Old Business

A member asked the status of the inlet issue (opening the bays). Rob said that the idea is still around, but not settled. Steve Cooke announced a cleanup on Saturday, October 20th for his son, Corey, who is going for his Eagle Scout badge. Volunteers should meet at Waterfront Park at 9 am.

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

Captain's Corner

Our season is fast coming to a close. We've been blessed with some of the best weather ever for our daily trips. Thanks to our loyal Captains and crews for their efforts, especially our Saturday Captain, Scott Haimes, a third generation Splasher. Scott's dad ran our Monday crew for many years and his grandfather Fred was one of our original Captains, when we first started up our organization. You all deserve a big SPLASH salute!!!!

Unfortunately, our Bay Park and Wantagh operation has suffered due to more problems with the boats. Bay Park will be back in operation the week of Oct 21 and Wantagh ops will also resume the same week with the donated Sea Ox, the original boat was put back into operation but started leaking again after it was used to assist the Amityville group and Great South Bay Society with their clean-up on Sept 22nd, a great success with about 150 volunteers supporting the clean-up. It has been decided to retire the old boat at the present time until it can be repaired. It's time to start thinking about new boats to replace our aging fleet!!! Hopefully, the nice weather will continue, so we can make up for lost time. - Captain Skip



**Operation Splash
Holiday Party**

**Tuesday, December 4, 2007
7:00pm – 10:00 pm
Freeport Recreation Center
130 East Merrick Road, Freeport**

**\$15.00 per person in advance
\$20.00 at the door**

**Buffet dinner with good fun/spirits and lots of raffles
Come help us celebrate another good year!
RSVP by November 20th and save \$5.00**

Operation Splash Holiday Party

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Guests: _____

**Please make checks payable to: Operation Splash
PO Box 228 Freeport, NY 11520**

**Grab bag
Bring wrapped gift
for male or female
\$15.00 value**

**Good fun
&
Spirits**

50/50

**Music
&
Dancing**