

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, September 4, 2007: 7:30 Monthly meeting.

September 15- 16: Lido Beach Festival.

September 22: Clean up with the Sierra Club and the Rotary Club

Volunteers needed. Call SPLASH Hotline, 516-378-4770

PLEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT SPLASHTRAVEL.NET FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS. WE HELP YOU GET THE SAME GREAT DEALS ON ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS WHILE YOU HELP SUPPORT CLEAN WATER!

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!*

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

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

Freeport Recreation Center
130 East Merrick Road
Freeport, N.Y. 11520
(516) 378-4770



SPLASHnewsletter

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September 2007

Skipper's Log...

Hey folks, great news...Operation Splash is very proud to announce the beginning of two new chapters. These new chapters will help Splash in our on going efforts to clean America's waters. The East Rockaway/Bay Park Chapter just received the old clam seeding boat donated to us by our good friends from the Town of Hempstead. Operation Splash and the Town Of Hempstead go way back to Splash's beginning. Commissioner of Waterways Ron Masters and Deputy Commissioner Steve d'Esposito and their crews have always been there to assist us. Our job would be much harder without the T.o.H. and their help is greatly appreciated! So now the two fine young men who have really spearheaded the Bay Park effort, Brendon Moran and Greg Wahlers, have been busy rigging the boat and also drumming up new members. As far as getting new members, I don't think that it will be a problem. The people in Bay Park are real water people with a great love and respect for the Bay. Good luck and smooth sailing!

The second new chapter is in Amityville and, thanks to Mr. Todd Brice and friends it looks like the beginning of something good. The Amityville chapter is planning a big clean up on Saturday, Sept. 22nd and Todd has already secured a generous grant from Morgan Stanley to cover expenses for the clean up and a barbeque. Being that they do not have a boat yet, we will be bringing the Wantagh boat out to help (if I can ever get her to stop leaking). If you live out that way and want to help, call the Splash phone line at 516-378-4770 and we'll hook you up with Todd.

That's all the good news for now my friends. So remember, as the sun slowly sets in the western sky and we look out over the bay we can surely say to ourselves.....*"Holy moly, there's a lot of crap out there, we gotta get going!"*

Sea ya on the water...Rob

Happy 80th Birthday to long time Splash member Charlie Fisenne.... Charlie and his lovely wife Ann are truly great stewards of the earth. Whether it be planting flowers and taking care of plants in Baldwin or putting 50 year olds to shame (that would be me) with his tireless energy and inspiring enthusiasm. The first time I met Charlie and Ann was during a clean-up. It was a cold, rainy day and as we hauled water lugged boat parts, tons of wood and garbage. I thought to myself who the heck are these people and why don't they slow down. Truthfully I don't think they know what it means to slow down. Thanks for all you do!

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Third Vice President
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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.

Splash Meetings 7-03-07 and 8-7-07

Treasurer's Report

Balance was reported. Rob reported for Kathy that most of the disbursements in June were for boat repairs; we received \$2,400.00 from a boat sale.

First Vice President – Don Harris Environmental Educational Program for schools.

Ready to take names of schools that may wish to see his 45 minutes slide program as well as a video re: pollution and need for clean waters.

Second Vice President – Stefanie Scherner

Stefanie announced that SPLASH membership is up to 600. SPLASH has acquired magnets, tattoos, and decals from Creative Imprinted Accessories. Baldwin Chamber of Commerce Picnic was held on July 15. Special thanks to Charlie and Fran for their help. Announcements have been sent to local newspapers re: SPLASH meetings. Look for the announcements in your local newspapers. Let her know if you have others places of interest where SPLASH meetings can be published.

Third Vice President – Skip Zawrotny

Skip reported that the Wantagh Boat is still at the (Freeport) Museum, under repairs. Rob added that the Mill Road trap required repairs due the recent excessive rains, and that has stalled the work on the Wantagh Boat. Skip thinks the boat repair has been delayed approx. (4) days. (PS- the Mill Road trap has collected over 400 barrels of garbage in (2) years.) Rob DiaGiacomo reported that there's a lot of styrofoam along the Meadowbrook Parkway. Skip also reported that the Freeport boat is back in the water and has made 11 trips to date. He's looking for a Monday morning captain. The Bay Park boat is close to operational; a motor has been donated, but it needs to be re-rigged. He is expecting it to be ready a week from Saturday. Captain Joe discussed the SPLASH account at Rick's Marine gas dock. Stefanie suggested putting a "thanks" for Rick's in the next newsletter or postcard.

President's Report – Rob Weltner

Rob reported that Stefanie represented SPLASH on the Nautical cruise line with several student field trips. He also reported that he and SPLASH member, Dave Denenberg, are scheduled to have a meeting (July 18th) with the Nassau County Dept of Public Works commissioner; the Nassau County Parks Commissioner, and the Nassau County Storm Water Commissioner to discuss the County's status of storm water management projects. He said other groups have also expressed interest in attending. Rob also intends to use the meeting to discuss the facts revolving around Nassau County incorporating SPLASH's work (in storm water projects) in their report to the State. He said the County is using our statistics without our permission. He also said that the County claims in this report that they are addressing the Phase (2) Storm Water issues, as mandated by the State, but the only work cited is SPLASH's work, not any of their own funding.

SPLASHTRAVEL.NET is "up and running". If you are planning a trip and use this web site SPLASH receives a portion of the sale. Wantagh Boat is an on-going problem. It is still leaking even after repairs of over \$2,200. First East Rockaway boat did not come to fruition because of fuel tank problems via ethanol additive and the condition of the engine. We now have an old army surplus boat previously used by the Town of Hempstead for its clam seeding program. It will work out much better for the East Rockaway crew. This boat also had some soft spots underneath which were worked on by volunteers. Bottom painting was completed and it's looking good. We presently have a beautiful 25' Wellcraft for sale. It's a nice family week-end boat. It is by the Seaport museum. Clean up coming September 22 in conjunction with the Sierra Club and the Rotary Club. We will start out in Freeport and head out to some of the islands. The New Amityville chapter of Splash is also having a cleanup in September. Rob will try to visit both clean-up sites. Volunteers welcomed. There is an issue as to where SPLASH can put large sections of debris the crews collect, i. e. logs, poles, derelict floating docks, etc. It is also noted that the bottom of dumpster is falling out and should be replaced. Suggestions were made as to camouflaging the dumpster.

Captain's Corner

The Freeport boat is really getting a work out...With the containment float breaking twice due to recent storms, we had our work cut out for us regarding clean-up and repairs. Rob has spent many hours on the project and deserves a huge THANK YOU from all of us. The Bay Park boat was sent to its East Rockaway home last week and the group has started their trips....Thank you Brendan and Greg for your efforts....Good Luck!!! The Wantagh boat is still being made ready..... it seems when one problem is fixed, another pops up.....but, we're close and with any luck, it will start operation soon. Finally, thank you all for your cooperation regarding the garbage issue with the dumpsters at the marina.
- Capt Skip

SPLASH Meeting 7-3-07 and 8-7-07 (continued)

A lengthy discussion followed regarding bonding and budgeting money through the County. Dave explained several points about the process and administrating of County budgets. He also said that the Dept of Public Works has several storm water management related job openings that were budgeted, but the Department has yet to fill those positions.

Skip added that at April's SPLASH meeting, a NC DPW employee made a presentation to the membership regarding her work at the County in overseeing their storm water projects. Rob said he hopes to help the County get their facts straight at the July 18th meeting.

Old Business

Rob reported that (at the time of this meeting) Jones Inlet will not be getting dredged. The project funding was denied because the State was going to pay for it; but the DEC maintained that it should be federally funded. Presently, there is no dredging scheduled by the Fed's. Note: Since this meeting, Newsday reported that the State has decided to move ahead with the dredging in October.

New Business

Rob DiaGiacomo suggested a barbecue/cleanup; Rob Weltner suggested Rob DG to organize it for next year. Marvin asked Skip for a list of captains so he can volunteer on crews...Gary said the SPLASH website is easier to use; so he asked for all members to send in pictures. Concern for abandoned boats on marshes was expressed. Christian Browne, Candidate, Nassau County Legislature, 5th District was in attendance to learn more about SPLASH. A greater effort is needed to help the existing committees. We have grown to more than 600 members and help is needed with the coordinating and mailing of the newsletter. More help is needed in working at festivals, etc. Bay Park discussion re: beginning of new SPLASH unit.

Meetings adjourned

A big Splash thank you goes out to Ramco window 373 South Main Street, Freeport for donating \$250 dollars in windows for the new wheelhouse in the Wantagh boat. Splash and Mother Nature are always grateful for the help. Call them at 516-379-4303 for all your window and storm door needs...ask for Bob. Be sure to tell him you're a Splash member.

Operation Splash relies heavily on support from local business. However two businesses really have been very generous to the clean water cause we represent. John and his family Dawn, Tracy, Kate and of course Ralph from Tru-Value hardware in Freeport and Outboard Service on the Nautical Mile have gone over the top with support time and time again. The last few months we have been bleeding money on leaking old boats and broken debris traps, etc. If it weren't for these two businesses and their support we might be out of business. So Splashers when you shop at these places please tell them thanks...they've earned it...Rob