

Official Newsletter
of the
California Surf Lifesaving
Association

The **CALSURF**
V o l u m e 2 0 N o . 2

President's Report
Coronado Lifeguard Service
Storm Surf



2016 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Mike Beuerlein
Vice President	Bill Humphreys
Secretary	Kai Bond
Treasurer	Rob Williams
1st Delegate	Mike Silvestri
2nd Delegate	Gus Avila
3rd Delegate	Jay Butki
4th Delegate	Casey Graham
Past President/ Advisor	Rob McGowan

On the Cover: One of the towers at Coronado -
Photo by Sean Carey

INSIDE CAL SURF

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2016 CALENDAR

USLA Spring Meeting
April 28-30
Gettysburg, PA

CSLSA Regionals
July 23
Huntington State

Taplin Relays
August 6
Hermosa Beach

USLA Nationals
August 10-12
Hermosa Beach

CSLSA Fall Meeting
October 13-14
Santa Cruz

USLA Fall Meeting
November 3-5
Location TBD

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Certification – Vince Lombardi
Competition – Jay Butki
Exchange – Doug Leach
Special Awards – Al Pepito
Legislation – Adam Sandler
Membership – Charlotte Graham
Newsletter – Richard Godino
Training – Mike Scott
Junior Lifeguards – Skeeter Leeper
Website – Bob Moore
Ways and Means – Rob Williams
Public Education – Mike Silvestri
Public Relations - Kai Bond
Professional Standards - TBD
Grants - TBD
Original Founders - Rob McGowan
By Laws/Policies & Procedures - Bill Humphreys
Statistics - Ian Burton

CAL SURF MAGAZINE

Cal Surf News Magazine
is the official publication of the
California Surf Lifesaving Association
P.O Box 366, Huntington Beach CA 92648
www.CSLSA.org Fax (714) 374-1500

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Sean Carey - Coronado

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Sean Carey - Coronado
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Scott Hubbell – L.A. County

ARTICLES NEEDED!

Agency Profiles / How to Articles
California Lifeguard History
Junior Lifeguard Stories / Unusual Rescues
Submit online to newsletter@cslsa.org

The CSLSA is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of California. Its principle goals are water safety, education, and the promotion of professional lifeguarding standards. These goals are accomplished through beach safety presentations to school groups, educational exchange programs with members of the International Lifesaving Federation and participation in regional and national competitions.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MIKE BEUERLEIN

Thank you to the Los Angeles County Surf Lifesaving Association for hosting the Fall 2015 CSLSA Board of Director's Meeting at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center. Charlotte Graham, Bob Moore and crew did an outstanding job with all of the events. Since then, the CSLSA Executive Board represented our members at the Fall 2015 USLA Meeting in Kona, Hawaii. In addition, CSLSA Executive Board members have attended two Executive Board meetings. Our Executive Board will take information from the Spring 2016 CSLSA Meeting on Coronado Island to represent our members at the Spring 2016 USLA Meeting in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on April 28th, 29th and 30th.

The following people were elected to the 2016-17 USLA Executive Board at the Hawaii meeting: Peter Davis (President), Rob Williams (Vice-President), Nikki Bowie (Secretary), Michael Bradley (Treasurer), Ralph Goto (Advisor), Chris Brewster (Liaison Officer), Ed Zebrowski III (Executive Delegate). Under this new administration, USLA will focus on its newly completed strategic plan which places increased emphasis on professional standards, lifesaving legislation and training. Public Education remains as USLA primary mission and the USLA Textbook is being revised for 2017. Thanks to the Los Angeles County Surf Lifesaving Association, the 2016 USLA National Lifeguard Championships will be held at Hermosa Beach on August 10-13.

USLA programs continue to benefit regions, chapters and agencies. Their partnership with the National Weather Service and Sea Grant is a perfect example of how these collaborations continue to help USLA accomplish its public education mission. USLA certified agencies provide rip current data to National Weather Service researchers who analyze the data to predict rip current conditions. This is the information that is provided for media outlets to issue public safety warnings. Sea Grant has produced many of the rip current warning signs that are posted at beaches around the world in different languages.

As you all know, CSLSA is a volunteer organization and a lot of work takes place in between our biannual Board of Directors Meetings. There are too many examples for me to cite them all, but I would like to cite a few:

- San Clemente Lifeguard Chief Bill Humphreys volunteered to spend 5 days this past March holed up in a conference room in Denver working as a member of the USLA Textbook Revision Committee. In addition, he has been battling to make the USLA meeting delegate count more representative of regional membership totals. Bill also developed an RFP for sponsorship and has been working as our Bylaw Committee Chairman.
- Youth National Team Manager Gus Avila, an attorney, and Youth National Team Coach Casey Graham, a high school teacher and Port Hueneme Lifeguard, have already voluntarily hosted practices and camps for the team this year, including one in Florida.
- Mike Silvestri, our 1st Executive Delegate and Public Education Chairman, has been utilizing his contacts to help with sponsorship and develop many new membership discounts in addition to his numerous public education projects.

Please take the opportunity to thank these dedicated individuals, and all the members of our CSLSA Executive Board, who volunteer on behalf of our membership to accomplish the CSLSA mission.

[PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, from page 3]

California Assembly Bill 489 became law on January, 2016. It adds Ocean Lifeguards to the list of those eligible to receive the California Medal of Valor, our state's highest honor for public safety employees. This law also adds a representative of USLA to the California Medal of Valor selection committee. Our very own Rob Williams has been appointed as the USLA representative.

Project Wipeout remains as CSLSA's signature public education program. Ian Burton (CSLSA's *Project Wipeout* Coordinator) and Mike Silvestri (CSLSA Public Education Chairman) continue to do a great job working with Linda Reuter (Hoag Hospital's *Project Wipeout* Director) on the *Project Wipeout* Committee. This year, the annual Lifeguard Conference will be held on Wednesday, July 13th, from 6:30 PM to 9 PM. The agenda will include sharks, lightning, spinal injuries and a Lifeguard health topic. We appreciate all of the agencies that continue to provide the staffing to keep *Project Wipeout* events (Orange County Fair, Imaginology, Festival of Children) going throughout the year.

CSLSA's partnership with the John Wayne Cancer Foundation (JWCF) continues to be solid and represents our largest Public Education program to date. 27,000 Junior Lifeguards throughout the state will receive critical education this summer on skin cancer recognition and prevention. Educating these 9 to 17 year old children is a vital step in cancer prevention for communities up and down the California Coastline. JWCF introduced the *Block the Blaze* program to USLA and efforts are underway to make this a national program.

The 2016 California Surf Lifesaving Championships will be held on July 22nd for the Junior Lifeguards and July 23rd for the Lifeguards. We once again thank the Huntington State Beach Lifeguard Association for stepping up for the 3rd year in a row and providing an excellent venue for our regional competition. As always, Scott Hubbell continues to provide sponsorship and support for our programs.

I am pleased to announce that we have some very qualified individuals who have offered to

serve as Co-Chairs for some of our committees. Chris Egan will be teaming with Casey Graham to lead our Junior Lifeguard Committee. Skip Prosser will be teaming with Jay Butki to lead our Lifesaving Sport and Fitness Committee. Bill Richardson will be teaming with Al Pepito to lead our Awards and Special Presentations Committee. Leslie Schwene will be teaming with Doug Leach to lead our Exchange Committee, and Ben Sonne will be teaming with Mike Scott to lead our Training Committee.

CSLSA Board Members continue to be actively involved in the California Marine Safety Chief's Association, the Orange County Marine Safety Chief's Association and the Orange County Training Officer's Association. These collaborations have elevated our profession. I have been fortunate to attend the last two California Marine Safety Chief's Association Meetings representing the City of Huntington Beach and CSLSA.

Many thanks to Sean Carey, Damon Bassett, Fire Chief Mike Blood and the Coronado Beach Lifeguard Association for hosting their first CSLSA Board of Directors Meeting. We look forward to a productive Meeting.

Lifeguards for Life!





CORONADO AGENCY PROFILE

Coronado has always had a tradition of a colorful and robust Beach Lifeguard Service. Going back to the Tent City Days of the late 19th and early 20th century, people have come from far and wide to enjoy the beautiful beaches of the Crown City. Throughout its fascinating history, Coronado has seen the evolution of the Lifeguard services from a small group of Red Cross volunteers with little equipment and training to the current staff of 7 full time permanent professional Lifeguards and over 30 seasonal staff. Recently, I was collaborating with some of our public library staff in researching the history of the lifeguard service and a librarian located a news article from early 1917 announcing that a volunteer "Lifesaving Corps" was being formed by the Red Cross to guard bathers on the city beach. So at this time, the earliest documented lifeguards went to work in 1917 which means we could be coming up on our 100th anniversary of lifeguards in Coronado. Anyone with more information is encouraged to contact me because I am in the process of trying to gather more data. It is not clear when the lifeguards first came to be paid by the city of Coronado but for many years they were part of the Recreation Dept. In late 1998 the first two full time permanent Lifeguards were hired and in 2000 the Lifeguard Division was transferred to the

Fire Department which has been a great benefit for the public and the Lifeguards. Coronado is geographically located between the city of San Diego to the north and the City of Imperial Beach to the south and lies about 12 miles north of the Mexican Border. Coronado is sometimes called an island, an island it nearly is, however it is connected to the "mainland" to the south by the Silver Strand, a narrow isthmus about 7 miles long. The city beach that is guarded stretched just 1.75 miles and recently the city added one Lifeguard tower to the bay side at Glorietta Bay Park to protect the ever growing bathing public as well as the customers of the recently constructed Coronado Boathouse facility. Within the City boundaries of Coronado is the Silver Strand State Beach, one of California's State Parks. This beach is located about 3 miles south of the city proper and guarded beach and is patrolled by State Park Lifeguards and Peace Officers. Also within Coronado are two key navy bases. Naval Air Station North Island or NASNI, a Master Helicopter Base, contains three Aircraft Carrier Berths on the San Diego Bay side of the Island and a two large runways capable of accommodating anything from a small Cessna to Air Force One. North Island is so huge it actually takes up more land area than the city of Coronado itself and it is considered the birthplace of naval aviation. The other important base is Naval Amphibious Base Coronado or NAB. NAB houses the Naval Special Warfare Command which includes the entire training apparatus for those wishing to become Navy SEALs and the west coast headquarters for SEAL teams One, Three, Five, and Seven (Yes, these are the toughest men in the world...HOOYAH!) So obviously Coronado is a military town with military roots and many of our Lifeguards have been veterans or gone on to join the military. As a result our Lifeguard Service gets a lot of support from the community.

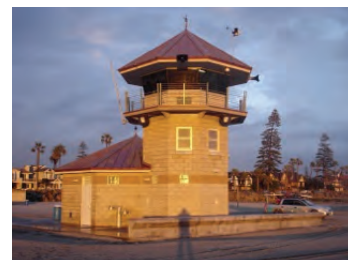
Coronado Beach is staffed 365 days a year (366 on leap years) from 9am until dusk daily. Our beach is managed by a full time Captain who reports directly to the Fire Chief. The Captain has two full time Sergeants, each of which

Seven Lifeguards. Full time Lifeguards are required to be EMT's among other things and are certified divers and members of our Dive Team. Our winter staffing consists of 4 Lifeguards on weekdays including the Captain and one Sergeant with 5 on weekends. In the spring and fall we adjust staffing to 5 on weekdays and 7 on weekends. We operate on the tower zero concept with one Main Tower centrally located and a headquarters facility adjacent to it. These facilities were constructed in 2007-2008 and much of the Lifeguards input and recommendations were adopted in the designs resulting in a facility which allows us to smoothly coordinate our services and manage operations with very little difficulty. During the summer our daily staffing is 14 on weekdays with 6 to 8 towers open and 2 vehicles patrolling. Lifeguard tryouts are held in late winter or early spring once the Regional Lifeguard Academy sessions conclude and most of our new hires are graduated of that program. Our communications network consists mainly of the 800 MHz radios provided by the Fire dept. and though we do not carry enough radios for every Lifeguards we do have an adequate number for each tower, vehicles and vessel to be equipped. For medical emergencies we have the benefit of working with our own Coronado Fire dept. who provides us with the best ALS ambulance service in San Diego (in my humble opinion). For law enforcement issues we rely on the Coronado Police Dept. who recently acquired Ford Explorers with all-wheel drive so they are capable to drive right out on to our beach which is roughly 200 yards wide, so their responses can be much quicker now.

Our compliment of equipment includes 3 Ford rangers and 2 Polaris Rangers in the 800cc crew model which can accommodate 5-6 people. All of our patrol vehicles are fully equipped with the standard water rescue equipment and BLS medical equipment including oxygen kits and AEDs. We also have an AED in our Main Tower and one additional at the Boathouse on the bay side bring the total number of AEDs to seven units. Our vessel fleet consists of two Yamaha

PWC's, one 15 foot Zodiac equipped with a 50 HP outboard for dive operations, and a 20 foot Parker Center Console Patrol vessel used in the Bay and for extended dive operations. Finally, equip all of our vehicles with rescue paddle boards and have a few extras around for the towers that need them the most as well as for training. Rescue boards are used a lot at our beach, particularly on the Bay and we require all our lifeguards to be proficient in their use.

Coronado is a great City to work for and has a spectacular beach. The locals are friendly and the atmosphere is very healthy and happy for the most part since this not only a military and family oriented town, but it is also a tourist destination that caters to visitors while still managing to maintain a small town USA feeling. As a lifeguard service we are moderately busy with over 500 rescues in 2015 and the estimated beach attendance was just over 3 million. It is rare that we Lifeguards experience a fatality or similar tragedy here in Coronado because the city has made beach safety a high priority and adequately budgets for lifeguard services. Most of our Lifeguards tend to be very dedicated to their jobs and physical fitness and training are high priorities. A large number of our Lifeguards go on to careers in the fire service, law enforcement, and military, including several in the SEAL teams. However, some of us lucky ones are called to the lifesaving profession and are able to make it a career. I am proud to work in Coronado with such fine young men and women and honor and appreciate their service here as their selflessness to go on into other service oriented jobs. But I consider myself one of the truly lucky ones.



CORONADO



HURRICANE MARIE SURF - AUGUST 2015



The Wedge



Angelo Guilatti and his broken board at Malibu



Zuma



Davin Galinto and Doran Ortioff check out the waves on the peninsula at Long Beach



The Wedge #2



It never surfs here! Waves at Inner Beach Cabrillo