



Newsletter of the Catalina Channel Swimming Federation March 2008

Welcome to a new season of open water swimming. The temperatures in the Catalina Channel appear to have bottomed and started to trend warmer.

We've already had one successful crossing this year. A "George Young Memorial Relay" swam the Catalina Channel on the 81st anniversary of the very first crossing on January 15th, 1927. The 2008 relay swimmers -- Davina Walker, Alexia Nalewaik, Diana Corbin, Don Van Cleve, David Palomino and Greg Farrier -- had pleasant conditions and an experience they won't ever forget. Several Fin Whales escorted the relay for what seemed an hour. You can see the photos and video clips of their breath-taking wildlife experience at the official Federation website: SwimCatalina.org



Now is the time to renew your \$25 membership with the Catalina Channel Swimming Federation. Please send your check before March 31st. See Carol Sing's address at the bottom of this newsletter. Or consider becoming a lifetime member (for only \$250), like two Catalina crossers did earlier this year. A huge "thank you" to Claudia Rose and Dorothy Thomas-Reed. Both decided to increase their commitment to the Federation. Perhaps you would like to follow in their wake. Your annual and lifetime membership contributions help marathon swimmers achieve their dreams. You might also consider becoming a volunteer. In the near future, there will be workshops and training programs for kayak escorts and official observers for Catalina Channel swims.

Membership forms are currently online at the website: SwimCatalina.org just click on the “Application Forms” link. Also, for swimmers with ideas of making an attempt this summer, your forms are now available. It’s not too early to schedule a date with a certified pilot and submit your “Notice to Attempt”. Already, we’ve received word of several exciting swims, including a planned double-crossing. Don’t delay in setting a date and faxing your applications into the CCSF office.



We’re excited to announce that Catalina Channel Swimming Federation logo apparel is now available to order. Click on the link CafePress.com/SwimCatalina You have a wide selection of shirts, hats, tanks and hoodies. In various colors and in sizes even a marathon swimmer can fit into. Not to mention household items and calendars. All with the official CCSF logo. There are plenty of gift ideas for your support crew. Or something for you to proudly wear while you’re training. The Café Press link is always available at the CCSF homepage.

The banquet committee has set the date for the post-season party. Please mark your calendars for the first Saturday of November. The weekend before the Presidential election, we’ll celebrate the successful 2008 swims across the Catalina Channel. Plan for a brunch-time engagement, just like we had this past November. Carol Sing is coordinating the event. If you’re a party person, she could use your organizational skills.

If you have photos you’d like to share with the swimming community, there’s a page on the Catalina Channel Swimming Federation website which is just begging to be updated. The “Photo Gallery” link has two recent additions. Not only the pictures from the George Young Memorial Relay, but also Paula Selby’s video presentation from the 2007 Catalina Banquet. While you’re day-dreaming about the 2008 season, watch the collection of pictures from nearly a dozen successful 2007 swims.

IMPORTANT CCSF CONTACTS:

Swimmers making attempts should write David Clark Info@SwimCatalina.org
Kayakers & Observers, please reach Paula Selby Support@SwimCatalina.org
Treasurer Carol Sing is collecting membership fees CarolSing@SBCglobal.net

Her mailing address is 11487 Oralane Drive, El Cajon CA 92020

The Catalina Channel Swimming Federation Fax line is 866.910.3285

If you’d like to be taken off this email distribution list: News@SwimCatalina.org