

# A Summery Summer Swimming Summary

by Gerry Senner



Roughwater swimmers, (l/r): Bruce Ames, Fred Hemmings, Jr., Jake Updegrove, Lon Priest, Aileen Soule, Kim Brooks, Gerry Senner. Photo Scoop.

## Dozen OCC Swimmers Enter 1976 Roughwater Swim

By far the largest contingent ever of OCC swimmers entered this year's Labor Day Waikiki Roughwater Swim on September 6, 1976.

The day's events began when a group went out in the Boston Whaler with Wayne Faulkner to survey the course. Finding several flags drifting and out of position, Fred Trask, chairman of the Roughwater Swim, and his staff, relocated and retied the flags with Outrigger assistance.

A dozen OCC members met at the OCC flag at the Kaimana Surf starting point. Participants were: Lon Priest, Jake Updegrove, Jon Haig, Aileen Soule, Kim Brooks, Fred Hemmings, Ian Emberson, Bruce Ames, Jim Caldwell, Harry Huffaker, Jim Foytich, and Gerry Senner.

A total of 292 swimmers entered the water at two separate starting times: 12:30 for Masters and 1:00 for age groups and Senior Division. AAU regulations prevented combination of the two classifications in one swim. Best overall time was 46:23, recorded by a Santa Monica, California competitor.

Confusion was rampant at the finish because finish times were handed to bleary-eyed, salt water-logged

swimmers and then immediately taken away to be stapled to the identification number each swimmer had worn on his or her suit. The posting of times was slow and in some cases inaccurate so a complete tally of members' times will not be available until the next Outrigger appears.

We do have three trophies for our efforts, however. Harry Huffaker placed 2nd in the men's 35 to 44 age group with an official time of 58:04:09. Aileen Soule placed second in the women's 55 and over category with an unofficial time of approximately 93 minutes. She also received the trophy for oldest female entry. Aileen was lauded by race officials for her former Olympic participation and fine physical condition. This was her first Roughwater Swim and she would not have entered if it had not been for the 1975 OCC Castle Swim and the 1976 OCC August Swim Clinic and the encouragement of the Swimming Committee.

This swim, which is truly open ocean, is more than two miles and is fraught with changing currents, wind and waves, other people kicking you, drifting flags, and sun glare. It is a real survival challenge. Speed

## First Call for the Castle Swim

Sunday, November 28th at 9:00 A.M. is the date of this year's Castle Swim. Eighteen swimmers entered last year with Jimmy Dean the winner in 37:05 minutes.

This year, OCC van transportation will be provided from the Club to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel start for the famous "wrong way" one-mile event. Begin or continue your training program now by logging your miles on the Swim Fit Chart in the locker rooms and saving the Sunday after Thanksgiving for the Castle Swim.

Tentative plans are to meet at the beach at 9:00 A.M. for Inspirational Devotions, then travel to the start at Waikiki Beach, swim to the finish at OCC, and gather round for refreshment and congratulations on the Hau Terrace.

Sign up at the front desk as swimmer or helper. HELPERS ARE NEEDED AND WELCOMED.

## Log Your Swimming Miles

As a result of the favorable swim clinic response, swim charts are located in both the men's and women's locker rooms. Anyone may sign up to count their quarter miles on a responsible basis. It is not necessary to have been a participant in the August Swim Clinic. Swimmers of any ability may record their mileage by swimming a measured distance at Outrigger or a pool or any other area of their choice.

See Swimming Chairperson Gerry Senner if you need an individual mileage record or if you have any questions.

is important to win, but mere completion of the course is important to each individual participant, and for that time doesn't matter; finishing is the win. Outrigger had 12 winners on Labor Day. Congratulations to all.

Bruce Soule provided paddle board escort. Other OCC members were in the Boston Whaler and in an Outrigger canoe for a portion of the escort provided by the Club. Thank you to everyone.