

1976 Annual Swimming Report

by Gerry Senner, Swimming Chairperson

1976 was an eventful swimming year for the brand new swim program headed by Gerry Senner, assisted by Jim Caldwell and Lon Priest. Many people contributed ideas and helped with planning, so all of our OCC swimmers were the real swim committee.

Participation and enthusiasm ran high for our five events:

1) **August Swim Clinics.** On the five Sundays in August, 25 people participated in swimming to an anchored boat to improve their distance and open ocean swimming ability. Clinics were planned as training for the Roughwater Swim.

2) **September Waikiki Roughwater Swim.** For the first time OCC swimmers met at the start and finish under the Club flag for a show of strength in this two-mile open ocean event. Twelve Club members entered and finished and brought home two second place trophies as well as the special trophy for oldest woman swimmer entered. This annual Labor Day Swim is a City Parks and Recreation event and our Club is one of its many sponsors.

3) **The Maui Channel Swim** in September gave OCC a close second place award in this nine-mile Lanai to Maui relay. We were captained by Jim Caldwell, who will be overall chairperson of the 1977 Maui Channel Swim which is fast becoming an international event. OCC needs to continue to enter our strongest swimmers in this challenging swim.

4) **November Castle Swim.** This long-distance swim is traditionally held the Sunday after Thanksgiving and open to OCC members only. Twenty-three entries finished strongly. Distance was one to one and a half miles, depending on who you talk to, or how you swim. The Club mustered large escort and ground support, showing real enthusiasm for a strong swim program.

5) **Swim/Fit Charts** were begun in August, and approximately 40 people in the men's, women's and junior girls' divisions are making their quarter-miles on charts in the locker rooms. Mileages range from $\frac{1}{4}$ to over 140 miles in the first five months of this new program. Red Cross certificates are issued for those swimming 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 miles, and our Club certifies these miles to the American Red Cross. Since it takes considerable time to swim many miles daily, these awards may not be easily won and the recipients will have put forth a great deal.