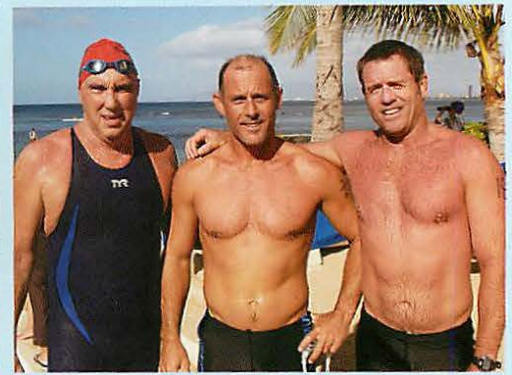


New Winners for Castle Swim

By Stefan Reinke
Photos by Marilyn Kali



LEFT: Swimmers and their escorts gathered on the OCC beach prior to the start of the Castle Swim.

ABOVE: The top three finishers in the Castle Swim were Bruce Sloan, Dolan Eversole and Chris Miller.

The 2011 edition of the Club's annual Castle Swim featured a wide open field. A decidedly experienced group all hoped for a chance to cross the line first. On the men's side, past race champions were absent leaving the door wide open. The top three women from last year's race Laurie Foster, Sue Steinemann, and Diane Corn all returned to challenge one another for the honor of being first across the line.

Though the race is always the same distance, 1.2 miles of open ocean, the prevailing conditions hugely affect the swim. Open ocean events require not only strong swimming skills and a good sense of direction, but also a little bit of luck. Though the morning skies were reasonably clear and waters seemingly calm, the pre-race discussion was all about the potential impact of the cool weather and blustery winds.

After a short bus ride to Waikiki, the 27 competitors lined up in front of the Outrigger Hotel, the site of the Old Club. After a brief agreement regarding the navigation of the first buoy (the race director being overruled by the competitors) the swimmers were off on the race to the new Club.

The race began to shape up almost immediately when two swimmers Dolan Eversole and Chris Miller, opened a small gap on the rest of the field. The pair was followed closely by Bruce Sloan, Dave Stackhouse and Ward Saunders. The balance of the field began to spread out past the first buoy.

Though navigation was tough due to wind chop, the strong Diamond Head currents assisted the swimmers towards the final turn buoy 500 meters in front of the Club. Unfortunately for the swimmers, the same helpful current turned out to be the enemy for the swim in to the finish line.

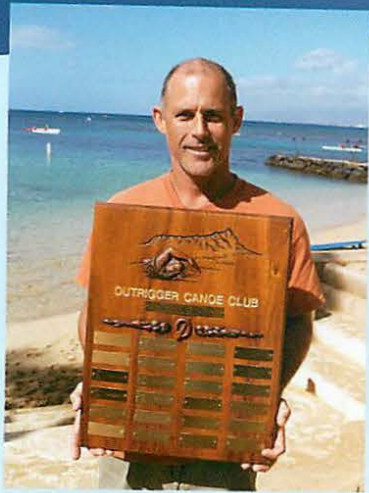
The tide was running against the swimmers coming into the channel and the current was pushing them towards the reef. It was clear to all of those on the beach that the swimmers were struggling to find the fastest line to the finish. Ultimately, Dolan found the right line and managed to swim away to convincingly claim the Castle Swim crown. The channel proved good to Bruce Sloan who pulled in second just ahead of Chris Miller.

On the women's side, the swim into the channel turned out to be the deciding factor. From the start, Diane Corn and Laurie Foster led the women's field. At different times during the first three-quarters of the swim, each led and each drafted off the other. Drafting is an important tactic in ocean racing. It allows a swimmer to conserve energy and let the other swimmer do the course sighting (it also requires faith in the lead swimmer's navigation skills!).

As the pair rounded the final turn buoy, Diane swam one line and Laurie another. Though both are well matched, strong and competitive swimmers, the different courses resulted in Diane opening up a 50 second gap at the finish line. The pair was followed by last year's runner up, Sue Steinemann.

Following the event, the racers, escorts and volunteers enjoyed a buffet on the beach prepared by the Club's Food and Beverage department. As always, the Club's staff helped to make this a first class experience.

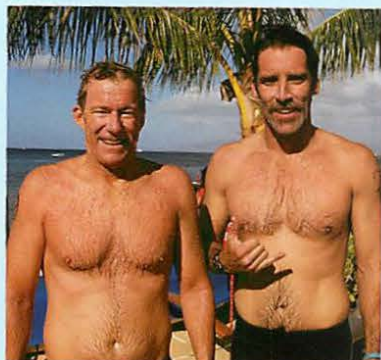
The annual Castle Swim is held on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. It is open to Club members only. The swim is put on by your Swim Committee. Special thanks to co-race director Todd Iacovelli for pre-race organizing and swimmer registration, Joanne Klinke, Diane Stowell and Jennifer Buffing (the assistant swim coach at UHM) for helping with the event timing and Arnold Lum and Blake Johnson who helped with numbering the athletes.



Dolan Eversole won the 1.2 mile swim in a time of 33 minutes and three seconds.



Chris Worrall was escorted by daughter Sarah.



Ward Saunders and David Stackhouse.



Ron Haworth won the Men's 80+ Division. His prize: an OCC towel from Swim Committee Chair Stefan Reinke.

Diane Corn, Jim Merchant and Laurie Foster.



Uli Klink and Sue Steinemann.



Todd Iacovelli and Ernie Leskovitz.

Castle Swim Results November 27, 2011 1.2 miles

Overall	Name	Time	Place/Division
1.	Dolan Eversole	:33:03	1st, M40-44
2.	Bruce Sloan	:34:08	1st, M60-64
3.	Chris Miller	:34:20	1st, M45-49
4.	David Stackhouse	:35:18	2nd, M40-44
5.	Ward Saunders	:35:19	1st, M55-59
6.	Diane Corn	:36:49	1st, W50-54
7.	Jim Merchant	:37:02	1st, M65-69
8.	Laurie Foster	:37:40	1st, W55-59
9.	Uli Klink	:38:09	2nd, M65-69
10.	Sue Steinemann	:38:50	1st, W45-49
11.	Ernie Leskovitz	:40:40	1st, M70-74
12.	Todd Iacovelli	:40:50	1st, M25-29
13.	Hugh Damon	:42:42	1st, M50-59
14.	Jim Farrell	:42:51	2nd, M55-59
15.	Valisa Saunders	:43:05	2nd, W55-59
16.	Kisi Haine	:44:33	2nd, W50-54
17.	Peter Biggs	:44:39	2nd, M60-64
18.	Chris Worrall	:45:34	2nd, M50-54
19.	Laurie Sloan	:52:00	1st, W60-64
20.	Arnold Lum	:53:36	3rd, M60-64
21.	Ron Haworth	1:16:16	1st, M80+
DNF	Blake Johnson		
DNF	Barry Lefkovitz		
DNF	Jim Zachary		

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