First Call for Castle Swim

By Gerry DeBenedetti

Swimmers, get in shape for Sunday, November 27, the Castle Swim. This is the traditional Sunday-after-Thanksgiving swim. We'd like lots of Juniors, Seniors and everybody in-between to meet at 8 a.m. on the Hau Terrace for registration, and again after the swim for survivors' brunch on the sand near the snack bar.

Named for Alfred Castle, whose old homesite is now the site of the Elks Club, the original Castle Swim was a forerunner of the Waikiki Swim Club and Parks and Recreation's long-distance Rough Water Swim, which is now held every Labor Day. Mr. Castle used to donate the tropies for the Castle Swim, which started near his home and ended at Waikiki near the old Outrigger Canoe Club.

Since the Outrigger is now next door

to the start point of the original Castle home, when the Castle Swim was revived in 1973, the decision was made to run the 1½-mile course in reverse and start the swim in Waikiki and end at the Outrigger.

The Castle Swim now has approximately 35 entrants and as many escorts, and is a well-organized effort complete with the incomparable OCC brunch for the swimmers and escorts.

Age groups for the event are as follows: Boys, Girls, Men and Women in ages 18-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75 plus. This is a swim for all ages.

The swim committee reminds you that in order to enter you must register at the Hau Terrace at 8 a.m. No starters will be permitted once the group is

transported to the point of entry into the water. We cannot be liable for people who do not officially enter and receive course instruction.

Sign up now at the Front Desk so we are prepared for you. There is no charge for the swim.

We encourage all swimmers to provide a personal escort. You may not receive physical assistance from your escort but if you have a friend or family member who will be on a paddleboard or in a canoe and escort you and others who are entered, we do need the help. Both swimmers and escorts receive breakfast.

It's worth entering just to hear Meet Director Frank Walton holler, "One, Two, Three, Go!" at the water's edge. Remember: Sunday, November 27, 8 a.m., Hau Terrace.