

Florida Maverick Masters

October, 2007



We offer swimmers the opportunity to participate in a lifelong fitness and/or competitive swimming program. We provide a positive atmosphere for individual levels of achievement and the freedom to express ideas.

OBJECTIVES

In November, 1996, seven swimmers met with the idea of forming a Masters team that would provide a positive atmosphere for individual levels of achievement and the freedom to express ideas. We offer swimmers the opportunity to participate in a lifelong fitness and/or competitive swimming program. The **fitness swimmers** are encouraged to participate in motivational events, such as the Virtual Swims, 30-Minute Swim and the Check Off Challenge. The **over-50 crowd** has many Senior Games competitions throughout Florida and Nationals. Swimmers so desiring, also **compete in USMS meets** at the local, National and World level. **Triathletes** are welcome, and compete at the local and National level. Yearly plans include **fellowship events, recognition** (achievement, participation, service, overcoming adversity), **team records, newsletters, workouts** for those interested, **open water swims** for a long distance challenges, and **Postal Swims**. This past year, the *Mavericks* contributions to the Masters program included: having one LMSC delegate to the National Convention, who serves on two USMS committees; writing articles for the LMSC newsletter, including "Ask the Swim Doctor"; providing the LMSC with the Frank H Tillotson service award; sending our newsletter to non-members in other states, plus England, Japan, Australia and Canada. Paul's articles frequently appear in these newsletters. As our coach, he writes training workouts for any Masters swimmer requesting them. He is a Level IV ASCA coach and has been a speaker at the World ASCA clinic.

When we formed this new team, we didn't realize the many serendipities and support that would be generated, in eleven years. Swimmers that didn't think that they were good enough to be on a Masters team, let alone compete, have developed confidence in themselves. We have swimmers recovering from strokes, illnesses, accidents and surgeries who are excited and motivated about discovering new and different ways to train and compete. Our members include novice, average, and fitness swimmers, triathletes, USMS Top Ten swimmers, National and World record holders. It doesn't matter what your age or ability level, we are all in the same fraternity--we love swimming! Good physical and mental health, fitness through swimming, having fun with friends that are open-minded and nonjudgmental, are worthwhile objectives. This is what Masters swimming is all about.

ORIGIN OF MAVERICK

The very first "maverick" was a 19th century Texas cattleman named Samuel Maverick who became famous for not branding his cattle. His cattle, left unidentified and free to roam, were often "adopted" by other ranchers who termed them "mavericks." By the end of the century a "maverick" became known as an unbranded calf. Webster defines maverick as "Being independent in thought and action or exhibiting such independence." The Mavericks were born.

Other **Mavericks** include the Western TV series and movie, "**Maverick**;" Olympic supplier of **Maverick** beef; the most notorious big-wave break in the world, **Mavericks**, offshore, near San Francisco; and our first Christmas card from a Maverick, "We dance to the beat of a different drummer."

WORKOUTS

Although we are based at the North Shore Pool in St. Petersburg, we do not have a coach on deck. Our swimmers workout at whatever pool is available to them. Some have a coach, but most are independent and do their own workouts. Whatever works best for you. If you would you like suggestions on workouts, training for meets, tapering, open water swimming or stroke improvement, contact Coach Paul Hutinger, by e-mail: phut@usms.org or phone: 727-521-1172. Tell him how many yards you swim, how often, your 50 and 100 yd. times, and what you are interested in working on. There is no charge for his services.

MEMBERSHIP

Our 67 members range in age from 27 to 96. Our web site: <http://www.maverickswim.org>

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS SWIMMING HALL OF FAME

Coach Paul Hutinger was inducted into the International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame, in 2004, in Ft Lauderdale, FL. He was chosen for this prestigious honor by the International Selection Committee. He is recognized for his 26 world and 150 national records, 10 world championships, 56 first-third place world rankings in LCM, 66 in SCM. Some of his records have lasted up to nine years. He is also acknowledged for his multitudinous contributions to Masters swimming, spanning his 36 year career.

TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

LCM NATIONALS, MEN--CHAMPS in Small Team, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2003 & 2004; Medium Team 1999--3rd in Small Team, 2001; 9th overall, 2006.

LCM NATIONALS, WOMEN--CHAMPS in Small Team, 2002; 8th overall, 2006.

LCM NATIONALS, COMBINED--CHAMPS in Small Team, 1999; 2nd in Small Team, 1997 & 2001; 3rd in Small Team, 2003 & 2004; 9th overall, 2006.

3000 Yards Postal National Championship--2nd, Combined 1999 & 2000; 3rd, Women, 2002

3000/6000 Yards National Championships--Hosted in 1999

One Hour Postal National Championship--Hosted in 2002 & 2007.

USMS newsletter contest--*Maverick Lane Lines*--among top 10 in the country in 1998-1999, 2001-2003 and 2006.

40 USMS Top Ten swimmers, including 20 All Americans--2006

Special awards given at our spring banquet for 2006 --Outstanding Female--June Reynolds; Outstanding Male--Robert Blake; Most Improved--James Brown; Dave Malborough Long Distance--Doris Prokopi; Elmer Luke Overcoming Adversity Award--Richard Criche; Dakota Eliason Fitness Award--Karen Swanigan; Bill Volckenning Webmaster Award--James Christie and Most Top Ten Places, Doris Prokopi, with 49.

ONE HOUR POSTAL

For the second time, the *Mavericks* successfully hosted (100% rating) this USMS National event, which required a tremendous amount of organization and effort from many volunteers. It's not only about making money, but more importantly, the contribution our team is making for Masters swimming. There are very few teams that are capable of organizing and fulfilling the responsibilities of this overwhelming National event. We had 2069 entries, with 29 from our club.

USMS FITNESS EVENTS

Three *Mavericks* participated in the Virtual Swim Series and eight in the Relay to the Worlds.

CLEARWATER MEET - MARCH

For the third year, the *Mavericks* prevailed as meet champions. The nearest competitor was the Sarasota YMCA Sharks, 150 points behind, and 655 points behind, was our traditional foe, St Pete.

At the FL LMSC Awards Dinner, sixteen different *Mavericks* received special awards. The Most Valuable Pool Swimmers were Jean Troy and Frank Tillotson. In the Pool category, six swimmers placed in the Top 10; and in the Long Distance category, six swimmers placed in the Top 10. Prokopi and Thompson received the Leather Lungs Award and Gertrud Zint won the Sue Moucha Award, for overcoming adversity.

SCY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - FEDERAL WAY, WA - MAY

Patricia Tullman was our lone representative at this meet.

BUMPY JONES CLASSIC, SARASOTA - JUNE

The *Maverick* contingency of twelve, found a shady, and somewhat cool spot, away from the sweltering heat of a summer day in Florida. Besides the heat of the day, three *Mavericks* were especially churning up the water at the Selby Aquatic Center in Sarasota, Florida. Jean Troy set three World Records; Brud Cleveland, two National Records and Gertrud Zint, one National Record.

CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ST PETE - APRIL & JULY

The eleven *Mavericks* placed third in the visiting team competition, April, while eight competed with the Sarasota Y for YMCA Nationals, the same weekend.

Thirteen competed in the July meet. Troy set two more World Records.

ORLANDO MEET - AUGUST

Cleveland set one more National Record.

LCM NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - THE WOODLANDS, TX - JULY

Patricia Tullman and Charles Weatherbee were our dynamic duo, placing 49th out of 132 teams.

JOINING

If you have questions about our team or are interested in joining, contact:

Coach Paul Hutinger or Margie -- 727-521-1172 or e-mail: phut@usms.org

Charles Schlegel -- Head Maverick--386-756-3891 - Doris Prokopi -- Assistant Maverick -- 813-996-4184

Application on web site: <http://www.maverickswim.org> (membership link)

Hutingers--Bimonthly Newsletter (will add to non-member mailing list for \$10.)