

## Success is measured one mile at a time.

This was the 2nd year that USMS offered the Virtual Swim Series. A record number of swimmers, 24, accepted the virtual challenge of virtually swimming rivers (skirting beaver dams), lakes (checking out Cajun country), oceans (surviving cold waters), reservoirs (avoiding boaters and jet skiers), canals (travel mode years before cars) and the gulf (avoiding sharks and hurricanes) across the United States and swam an incredible $5,098.09$ miles.

Logging lap after lap in pools or open water is the mark of a dedicated fitness swimmer. Two swimmers achieved their ultimate goal and broke a National record.

Women - Sandra LCarosi - GSM - 664.49 miles
Men - Steven M Newman - BDGR - 625.41 miles
Across the United States, ten different clubs and twelve LMSC's were represented.

## Miles

1,234.45-9 - Florida Maverick Masters, FMM 758.99-2 - Garden State Masters, NJ, GSM 625.41-1 - Badger Masters, NY, BDGR
514.47-2 - Oregon Masters, OREG
383.67 -2 - Pacific Northwest Aquatics, WA, PNA
376.65-1 - Chicago Smelts, IL, CHSM
278.20-2 - Virginia Masters Swim Team, VMST
265.22-1 - Florida Aquatic Combined Team, FACT
129.31-1 - Team Greenville Masters, SC, TGM
75.00-2 - New England Masters, NEM
444.56-3 - Unattached, UNA

Six new Virtual Swims were added in 2004.
California: Alcatraz Ultimate Survival Swim
California: Los Angeles Pier to Pier
California: Catalina Island
New York: Manhattan Island
Oregon: Willamette River
Indiana: Four Reservoirs
Logs also represented all previous ten virtual swims.
..........THE JOURNEY
As we frequently hear about formidable challenges and overcoming adversities, "it's not about the destination, it's about the journey." For most of these swimmers, the important aspect of the Virtual Swims, wasn't about mega mileage, but a tenacious spirit and a love of swimming. For some, like Martha Jacobs, FMM, perseverance and rehab from surgeries. Last year, Sharon Vargas, FMM, first joined Masters. "I would stop at the wall to get my breath. This year, I only stopped to decide what I wanted to swim, next." She increased her mileage from 69 miles to 274.62 . To many swimmers, Karen Swanigan's, FMM, mileage wasn't impressive, 4.33 , but for her, a milestone. "I'm happy that I've overcome my fear of water and found a way to squeeze in a few laps after all these years of no swims." These three swimmers have set high goals for swimming the one hour postal, in January. Three cheers for our octogenarian role models and oldest swimmers. Brud Cleaveland, swam 30 miles and Gertrud Zint, 56 miles. Both are 87 and swim for FMM. Rhonda Johnson, UNA, 46 miles, recently came back to swimming for fitness reasons. "I have lost 42 pounds in the last 18 months."

COST: \$5
TIME: Whatever you have available SATISFACTION: Priceless


## 2nd Virtual Swim Series - 2004

## United States Masters Swimming

Sponsored by FLORIDA MAVERICK MASTERS
Sanctioned by Florida LMSC for United States Masters Swimming, Inc. \#144-008P

|  |  | 25-29 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Kristie K Chenoweth 26 |  | 23.35 | UNA |
|  | 30-34 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Elizabeth A Kooy | 33 | 376.65 | CHSM |
|  | 35-39 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Sandra L Carosi | 38 | 664.49 | GSM |
|  | 40-44 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Debbie K Jaeger | 42 | 278.20 | VMST |
| 2 | Sharon Vargas | 42 | 274.62 | FMM |
| 3 | Julie Canfield | 43 | 94.50 | GSM |
| 4 | Rhonda Y Johnson | 41 | 46.00 | UNA |
|  | 45-49 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Karen Swanigan | 49 | 4.33 | FMM |
|  | 50-54 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Diane F Cardwell | 52 | 316.91 | OREG |
| 2 | Jane A Moore | 54 | 287.00 | PNA |
| 3 | Pam Landry | 52 | 75.00 | NEM |
| 4 | Martha Jacobs | 52 | 38.00 | FMM |
|  | 60-64 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Pam J Himstreet | 61 | 197.56 | OREG |
| 2 | Jean M Allen | 64 | 173.00 | FMM |
| 3 | Margie Hutinger | 64 | 106.00 | FMM |
|  | 65-59 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Doris Prokopi | 69 | 466.00 | FMM |
|  | 75-79 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Maryan N Burke | 79 | 96.67 | PNA |
|  | 85-89 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Gertrud Zint | 87 | 56.00 | FMM |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { * M E N } \\ 40-44 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| 1 | Steven M Newman | 42 | 625.41 | BDGR |
|  |  | 45-49 |  |  |
| 1 | Bill Miller | 47 | 375.21 | UNA |
| 2 | Paul E Cleary | 48 | 129.31 | TGM |
|  | 50-54 |  |  |  |
| 1 | Victor Buehler | 50 | 265.22 | FACT |
|  |  | 65-69 |  |  |
| 1 | Richard H Criche | 65 | 86.50 | FMM |
|  |  | 85-89 |  |  |
| 1 | Brud Cleaveland | 87 | 30.00 | FM |

We're going International in 2005. Join us and swim the waterways of the world, create a new virtual swim or suggest a new idea for a swim. Encourage a friend or your teammates to join you, or simply stroke out on your own as you conquer yet another virtual swim.
Any questions on these results? Margie Hutinger--Meet Director; 727-521-1172 or phut@usms.org results at: http://www.usms.org/fitness/content/fitnessevents

