

Waikiki Rough-Water Swim

By Gerry DeBenedetti

Ian Emberson was the first local adult resident to complete the Waikiki Roughwater Swim, finishing 11th overall. Ten Santa Monica Masters Swim Club and San Francisco Olympic Club swimmers led the pack of 1,101. Ian's great finish came after he organized and swam in the Maui Channel Relay two days before, and was in attendance at the birth of his son, Timothy, on September 2.

The seas and skies all cooperated on Labor Day, September 6, for the 13th annual Waikiki Roughwater Swim. It was sunny and calm—great conditions. OCC was well-represented with 24 (and some unofficially entered) swimmers and several members escorting. Finish time of 48:18.7 was a course record. Club members brought back four

trophies and some medals for placing in the largest age groups.

Two members, Jim Anderson, programs and awards, and Richard Sylva, grounds arrangements for Fort DeRussey, put in long hours organizing the well-run, computerized event. Linc Scafe, Norm Dunmire and guest, Mark Griffen, were in an OCC escort canoe. Robin Smith and Jimmy Dean escorted on paddleboards. Grant Sener and guest Clair Folsome set up the destination aid station, where the Club provided ice chest and contents. Ian Emberson and Gerry DeBenedetti, OCC Swim Committee, were in charge of Club arrangements for the swimmers.

It was a lot of fun and everyone felt good and looked good. Great day!



Photo by Linda Taylor

Here are some of the OCC members who participated in the Roughwater Swim. From left: Darcy Ames, Bruce Ames, Leighton Taylor, Billy Al Bengston, Joe Teipel, Gerry DeBenedetti, who mostly obscures Rodney West.