



Newsletter of the **Catalina Channel Swimming Federation** August 2009

Here's a quick wrap of the past month in the Channel. The Catalina Channel Swimming Federation observed four successful solo crossings. Plus a wrap of the quick week we've seen on the water. Just today, **Jen Schumacher** from Irvine California blazed a path in 9



hours and 2 minutes, which is the fastest time so far in 2009. **Craig Lenning** of Colorado reached the mainland on Monday in only 9 hours and 9 minutes. To celebrate, during the trip back to the docks, Craig ate a can of smoked oysters. UK swimmers **Nick Adams** and **Sakura Hingley** swam on back-to-back mornings in July. Sakura finished in 10 hours and 58 minutes, while Nick got across in 10 hours and 48 minutes. They celebrated with drive-thru burgers from In-N-Out.

**pictured: Nick Adams, Jen Schumacher and Sakura Hingley*

Only 13 days earlier, Nick Adams swam the English Channel solo (for the 6th time in his career). **Two Channels in two weeks**. It matches the shortest recuperation time between the Channel swims. The record was established last year by La Jolla Cove member Rendy Lynn Opdycke. We believe only one swimmer has done the reverse order in the same season. Certainly the quickest turn-around is Andy Hewitt, also of La Jolla Cove. He swam Catalina exactly 30 days before the English Channel.

Special thanks go to the crew of Anne Cleveland, Davina Walker, Lynn Kubasek, Ahelee Sue Osborne, Bob Brantley and Ralph Lufkin. On very short notice, they volunteered to support a re-scheduled swim. And thus, support the CCSF efforts. We have at least **ten solo attempts** remaining in 2009, including 3 Australian swimmers, plus a swim which may re-write the CCSF record book. Stay tuned. Keep your eyes peeled on the Channel.

Finally, a sad note. 80-year-old Raymond Carmassi (*SF Chronicle file photo*) passed away earlier this summer. Carmassi was the **seventh person** to swim the Catalina Channel. In



his early 20s, he spent two years at Camp Pendleton as a United States Marines instructor in "survival swimming". Following his discharge in 1952, Carmassi trained for 7 solid months, including an attempt on the Farallon Islands, before his Catalina crossing. At the time, the Catalina Channel had been dormant to successful swims since 1936 and throughout World War Two. Penny Lee Dean wrote in the history (SwimCatalina.org/History.htm) of the Catalina Channel "[Carmassi] landed at Whites Point, where hundreds of

people greeted him. His time was nowhere near the record, at **18 hours and 20 minutes**. When asked if he would try again, he abruptly answered, 'No that's enough!'"

IMPORTANT CCSF CONTACTS: Swimmers apply by writing Info@SwimCatalina.org

Treasurer Carol Sing collects membership fees CarolSing@SBCglobal.net

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