



November 2012

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Scenes from the Annual CCSF Awards Banquet

Photo Gallery of the 2012 Annual Awards Banquet

Ceremony Recognized Two New Records and Five Solo Swims of Yesteryear

On this past Saturday, the Catalina Channel Swimming Federation hosted the Awards Banquet for all the relay and solo swimmers of 2012.

- Photos by **Paula Selby** from the Banquet are now [posted](#).
- The day was captured by Lexie Kelly and Steven Munatones at the [Daily News of Open Water Swimming](#).

Five athletes were formally recognized for swims that have only recently been uncovered, documented, and ratified by the CCSF.

Crossings by **Leo Vigil**, **Stewart Evans**, **Isaac Papke**, **Greta Andersen**, and **Daisy Murchie** are now listed among the [successful solo crossings](#).

To our great delight, the family of **Daisy Murchie** was in attendance to share her photo album and receive her medallions, which were earned in 1955 and 1956. Pictured in the center is Daisy's son, **Darrell Boucher** and (below) in 1956 congratulating his mother on becoming the first woman to cross the Catalina Channel when starting at the mainland.



Channel Webcam
from Point Fermin



SoCal Marine
Forecast



San Pedro Buoy
46222



Also on hand was **Tom Clardy**, who 30 years ago became the first amputee to cross the Catalina Channel. Tom, who gave the audience an inspiring account of his drive for adventure, hinted that he might have another Channel crossing within him.



Record-Setting Crossings are Honored by Federation
Fastest Crossing-- Starting at Catalina-- by Grace Van Der Byl in 7 hrs 27 mins
Grace Van Der Byl received a standing ovation for her remarkably fast crossing of 7-hours and 27-minutes. She surpassed **Karen Burton** and now holds the fastest time for starting at Catalina Island.



Gracie was joined by three other swimmers who crossed the Channel in under 8 hours. They are **John York**, Gracie, **Penny Lee Dean**, and **Pete**

Huisveld. Karen, who swam in 7h 43min (1994), was not in attendance.



Also claiming a new record were the **Wild Old Women** relay who are all over the age of 70. These ladies have been crossing the Channel as a relay team for decades, establishing records at each age group. We're eager to observe their next swim, in 10 years time, when they establish the over-80 age record.



High school senior **Monica Bender** single-handedly lowered the average age of the banquet audience. At 17 years old, she is a mere 60 years younger than the oldest woman on the Wild Old Women relay team. Monica is pictured with **Lynn Kubasek** (who still feels like a kid on the inside). Congratulations, Monica, we look forward to your next swimming

adventure...





FOUNDATION OF THE FEDERATION: Once again, the CCSF Board of Directors thanks the volunteer observers and paddlers for making the 2012 season successful and safe. **Above**, the paddlers are posing with new safety vests with the CCSF logo. **Below**, the official observers-- with first-time observers receiving CCSF logo bags. Thanks for your dedication and passion to channel swimming.