

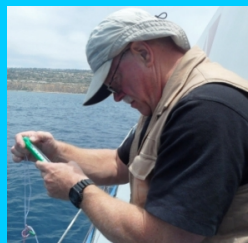
## Favorites



**Swim Catalina**  
Serving Since 1981



CCSF Gifts and Swag



Surface Water Temps



Catalina Weather



SoCal Marine Forecast

## October 2021

### AWARDS BANQUET: November 6

The CCSF will celebrate the 2021 season at the San Pedro Elks Club. Tickets for the [annual awards banquet](#) are now available at the CCSF portal. Or find the link at the [official CCSF website](#) under the FORMS field.

A Catalina crossing is a grand achievement worth commemorating. A couple highlights from this summer include two, age records by 14-year-olds and first-time crossings by swimmers from Costa Rica, Peru and Puerto Rico.

Please join us on November 6 to honor all the observers, kayakers and remarkable Catalina Channel solo and relay swimmers, who will receive their hard-earned medallion, certificate and official observers' log.

### RECORD-SETTING: Youngest Females

Just two weeks apart, two young ladies set new records for the youngest female to swim the Catalina Channel. In August, **Margaret Rivard** broke the [standard set by a 14-year-old Stacey Fresonke](#) in 1971. Then on Labor Day, **Maya Merhige**, who is a couple of months younger than Margaret Rivard, swam Catalina just 44 days after her 14th birthday.

The CCSF will update our records and [success lists](#) once the swim season concludes and in coordination with the annual awards banquet.

### PASSING: Chad Hundebly (1971-2021)

This summer the Catalina Channel swimming community unexpectedly lost a dear friend who was "humble in nature, but fierce when swimming." **Chad Hundebly** was named the USA Open Water Swimmer of the Year for his feats in the year of 1993, which include setting the men's Catalina Channel record, which stood for more than 15 years.

The next year, CCSF co-founder **Penny Lee Dean** coached Chad to set the English Channel record that held for more than two decades. The [International Swimming Hall of Fame honored Chad](#) for his accomplishments, including 10 race wins.

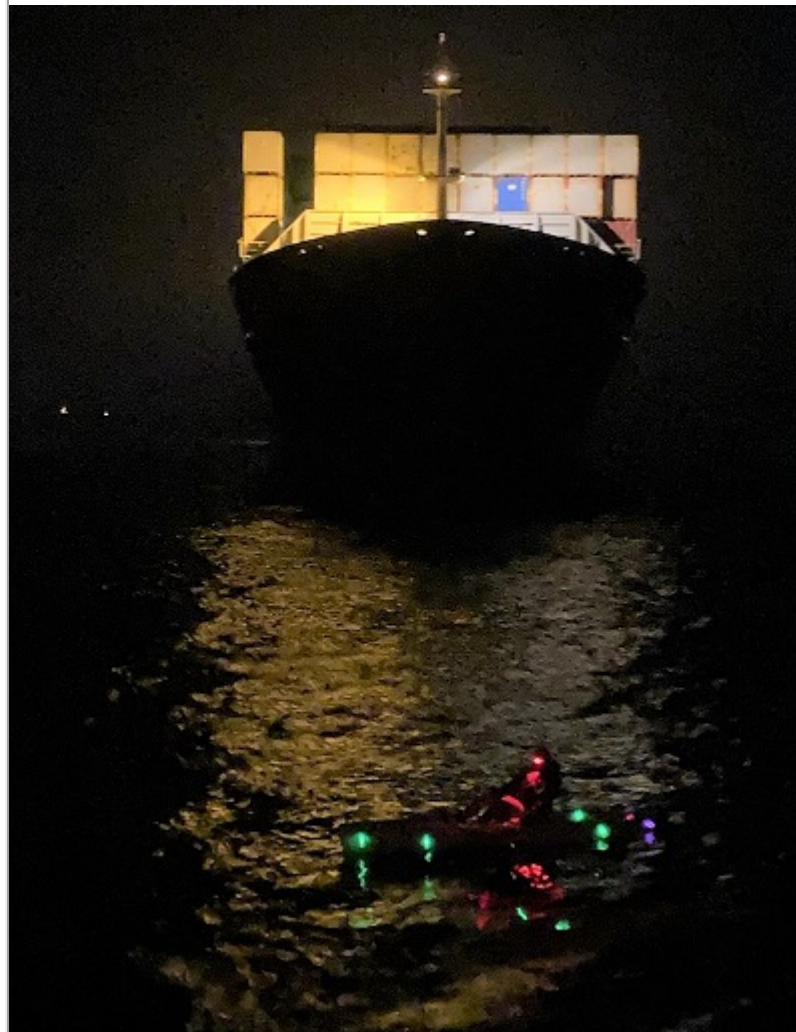


San Pedro Buoy 46222

## TRAFFIC JAM: Cargo Ships Wait In Line

The Catalina Channel is congested with a cargo ships. Nearly 150 vessels are waiting to dock at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. More than half are anchored or [drifting in the Catalina Channel](#) while they wait their turn to enter port.

It's been a bit of an obstacle course on recent Channel attempts. One swimmer crossed within 100-meters of a drifting container ship while Bottom Scratcher communicated with the wheelhouse of the 260-meter boat.



**Swimmer and kayak at night crossing the bow of 853-foot container ship**