

January 2019

## Favorites



**Swim Catalina**  
Serving Since 1981



CCSF Gifts and Swag



Surface Water Temp



Catalina Weather

## Happy New Year!

# SWIM APPLICATIONS

The 2019 applications for solo and relay attempts will be released in a few weeks. We will announce via this newsletter the moment applications go live at the [CCSF official website](#).

In the meantime, please review the steps toward [applying](#) and [preparing](#) for a Catalina Channel swim. We look forward to the 2019 season, whether you are a swimmer, observer, kayaker or cheerleader.

# BANQUET PHOTOS

The 2018 ratified swims are listed at the [successful solo list](#). Also, CCSF board member **Paula Selby** posted at Facebook [photos from our awards banquet](#).

We regularly announce successful crossings at the [CCSF Facebook page](#) as well as CCSF events such as observer training sessions.

Throughout the year, swimmers used the hashtags [#CatalinaChannel](#) and [#CatalinaChannelSwim](#) on social media.





SoCal Marine Forecast



San Pedro Buoy 4622

## POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

Just before noon on New Year's Day, the [Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears](#) will crown the 2019 king and queen, who will lead the [67th annual Polar Bear Plunge](#).

In the 50s, **John Olguin** co-founded the Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears, which meets daily at noon for an ocean swim. Olguin supported several Catalina swimmers dating back to 1946 when the blind musician **King Bennie Nawahi** [crossed in 22 hours](#). The longer time reflects the 25-miles he swam between Avalon and Cabrillo Beach in San Pedro.

You can read more about [Catalina Channel swimming history](#). The CCSF is indebted to **Penny Lee Dean**, who for three decades has written an account of each swim starting with **George Young** [in 1927 at the Wrigley Ocean Marathon](#).

## LONG BEACH HONORS HANK WISE

Congratulations to **Hank Wise**, who will be honored this month in Long Beach as the "2018 Athlete of the Year" at the [Aquatic Capital of America's Awards Banquet!](#)

Hank broke two CCSF records in October. His crossing in 7 hours and 55 minutes is the fastest by a man starting on the island. This was Hank's 7th Catalina solo swim, which is the most among solo swimmers.



## THREE RECORD-HOLDERS



**Penny Lee Dean** (fastest crossing: 7:15 in 1976),

**Hank Wise** (7:55)

**John York** (16:42 two-way crossing in 1978)

*Photo by Paula Selby*

*2018 CCSF Annual Awards Banquet*

2019 **CCSF Awards Banquet** will be held the first Saturday in November.