FACT NEWSLETTER, APRIL 2008
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My communications upgrade from a couple of months ago of a pdf file available on the floridalmsc.org and dixiezone.org websites was interrupted by a cessation of website updates early this year. Meegan Wilson has taken on the chore and I am sure will capably handle the files, as she has always done. If you click on FACT you will get up-to-date information on our Combined Team after the first week of each month. As I have said, we've made an attempt to explain the purpose for existing and explained the procedure regarding joining, swimming outside our Florida LMSC and entering local meets and swimming relays. As time goes on, we are developing a better understanding. There seemed to be some confusion this year with the YMCA Nationals in Fort Lauderdale and many of us swimming for YMCA teams that are different than your USMS teams. These meets are USMS recognized and times count for Top Ten; however, if your relays do not have four members registered for the same USMS team, i.e., FACT, they will not count for Top Ten USMS, but will of course count for YMCA records, etc.

The One Hour Swim saw 26 participants this year – still far from our potential, but did place us 15th in the Medium Teams Division with a total of 86,250 yards. Not too shabby for the number of swimmers! Betty Lorenzi made All American in the 80-84 age group – her first try at the Hour Swim. She joined in a women's 75+ Relay with Nancy Durstein and Joan Campbell for a New Long Distance Hour Swim Record of 9,230 yards. Joan and Nancy placed 3rd and 4th in their 75-79 age group. The men saw top ten placements by Don Puchalski, 4th in the 65-69 age group, 6th by Bob Sigersmith in the 80-84 AG, and 3rd by Lester Bell in the 85-89 group. Remember, if you do not place high in these events, there is a LOT of competition. It is good to compare your yardage each year and see how you improve and the relays are matched up with two women or two men or two mixed men and mixed women of the same team – even if they are from another Chapter of FACT. The women's 45+ relay took an 11th – a good showing! The men 45+ placed 14th and the men 55+ placed 11th. Our mixed 65+ relay of Don Puchalski, Robert Sigersmith, Joan Campbell and Betty Lorenzi placed 2nd.

The SUN Masters Valentine Meet at Clearwater in February was a Chapter Meet. Betty Lorenzi of the SUNF chapter of FACT set two National Records in the 100 and 200 yd backstroke. The St Petersburg Masters Meet was also a Chapter meet with 24 FACT relays competing as FACT – points were not counted for team winners but we had some great relays that I'm sure will make USMS Top Ten and were crowd pleasers and fun for the smaller teams to combine. That's what it's all about! Betty again broke her own National Record in the 100 Back. All results are available on midnightsports.com and the Dixie Zone website.

The short course meter results for 2007 showed ALL AMERICAN for Deb Walker in the 200 Breaststroke and Rogers (Tiger) Holmes in the 200 Back; other Top Ten outstanding swimmers included: Marly Wilson, Linda Visser, Pat Sargeant, Deb Walker, Meegan Wilson, Joan Campbell, Nancy Durstein, Mark Calvert, Glenn Woodsum, Bill Kelley, David Oakes John Corse and Rogers Holmes. Of the 8 relays in the Top Ten, the 240+

Relay of David Oakes, Bill Kelley, Meegan Wilson and Pat Sargeant was ALL AMERICAN.

Eight of our team will be traveling to Austin for USMS Nationals next month – the crack team of Mark Calvert, Tim Carroll, Carl Hawkins and Glenn Woodsum should do well. We wish them luck.

Also, four FACT relays will be competing in Perth, Australia in less than two weeks. We wish them all SUPER SWIMS and a GREAT TRIP.

On a sad note, please see an accompanying article in the newsletter with a memoriam for our fellow teammate Beverley Tucker who passed away April 4th. She peacefully swam away leaving us all with fond memories. She will be missed by the many friends she had in Masters Swimming throughout our LMSC.