



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018 NEWS

After many of us gathered in Jacksonville for an exhausting 5 days at the USMS National Convention, we bravely went on to the Rowdy Gaines Meet in Orlando. It was still very warm, as it still is here in November, and again the facilities including the pool were not conducive to fast long distance swimming. We had entered a total of 16 relays but the hurricane and injuries were to limit us to 11 – still good enough to earn us enough points to place 3rd as a Regional Team in this highly competitive meet. Betty Lorenzi’s daughter Betsy had a tree go through her roof in Tallahassee – Florence hit hard!! This was Betty’s transportation – and she was coming from Raleigh, which was equally storming from Florence’s water. Gail Grossman had a dog bite her big toe on her hand and called from the emergency room; Pat Tullman had a door opened on her big toe – owwwww!, our “boys” – Ed Graves and John Corse – managed to reopen wounds on the lane lines!! AND the meet lasted so long I said “Go home” for late relays – for which I received hugs and thanks.

We had one National USMS Record broken by John Cornell, John Corse, Ed Graves and William Zani – they managed to beat our 2014 20m free relay and Congratulations!!! It was a great race by all and William’s first National award. Earlier they missed the 200m medley relay record by 3 seconds and they were disgusted with themselves – made the 200m record even sweeter.

By November we were off to the Shark Tank in Sarasota with only three of us. It was a small meet with mostly Sarasota participants but it’s always fun. Standing on the blocks with a 13 knot wind can get rather intimidating but we survived and Martha Henderson and Barbara McNulty had some good times and I survived the 1500m and improved my times in other events.

Next in line is the State Senior Games December 1-2 at the Long Center in Clearwater for those of us 50 and over. This will be the qualifying meet for

Senior Nationals in Albuquerque in June. Many of us will compete but as their location not as FACT. Our times will count for Top Ten USMS however

Be sure you register for 2019 – our Club and workout groups that now exist are ready and willing. If you have no workout group, simply register for FACT. Our fee for \$7. For the year should cover all the relays this year as both Nationals are out West and normally don't have a big group.

Just FYI we are planning a trip to Medellin, Columbia in August 2020. Keep it in mind. One of our team is from Guatemala and is planning on going, swimming and being our interpreter. We have several interested already and I hear that it's very inexpensive!

Joannie Campbell

