

**2024 Florida LMSC Awards Social
Recognizing our 2023 Award Recipients
February 10, 2024**



*SWAG members attending, **L - R, Front Row:** Cynthia Lasher, Sharon Byun, Carol Ward, Jen Figueroa, Kara Dawson. **Back Row:** Wanda Eugene, Jeremy McIntyre, Karyn Austin, Jill Cunningham, Martha Campbell-Thompson, and Dave Goldsberry.*

The first annual Florida LMSC Awards Social was held in Clearwater following the Valentine's meet in 2002. Due to the COVID virus the award social wasn't held in 2020 or 2021, but the awards recipients for 2019, 2020 and 2021 were recognized in 2022 thanks to Florida LMSC Award's Chair, Cheryl Kupan. The tradition of holding the awards social continues at the Valentines meet thanks to the Clearwater Masters Swim team.

The Florida LMSC 2024 Awards Social was held at the Clearwater Valentines meet on February 10th following the days competitions at the Long Center. About 25 swimmers were present. Awards Chair, Cheryl Kupan hosted the event by serving Panera Bread sandwiches, salads and sweets, complimentary of the Florida LSMC.

Florida LMSC Coach of the Year Award for 2023

Jill Cunningham presented the *Florida LMSC Coach of the Year Award* to **Karyn Austin**, coach of Swamp Water Aquatics Gainesville (SWAG).

Coach Karyn started the Swamp Water Aquatics Gainesville club in 2019 and grew it from 26 members to 86 in 2023. This has been a difficult time for swimmers and clubs due to the COVID epidemic.

Karyn coaches both pool swimmers and triathletes. She is a Level 3 USMS Certified Coach and a USMS Adult Learn to Swim Instructor. She has several Top Ten swimming achievements and is an All American swimmer.

In 2023 she hosted three swim meets in Gainesville which provides access for near-by swimmers to compete locally.

A specialized T-shirt is included with the entry fees. At each meet she crowns the King and Queen of the meet – the oldest male and female swimmer. She presents awards and has raffles during the meet, making it fun. Congratulations to Karyn Austin!



SWAG congratulated and celebrated Karyn Austin's 2023 Florida LMSC Coach of the Year Award after a practice.



The Florida LMSC Sue Moucha Overcoming Adversity Award

Sue Moucha presented the *Florida LMSC Sue Moucha Overcoming Adversity Award* to **David Goldsberry**, Swamp Water Aquatics (SWAG) member. Congratulations to Dave Goldsberry!

The Florida LMSC Club Service Award

Rachel Lilienthal presented the *Florida LMSC Club Service Award* to **Brodie Hynes**, Legends Masters Swim Club (LMSC) member, for all he has done for the Legends Masters Swim Club. Congratulations to Brodie Hynes!



Florida LMSC Leather Lung Award



Five swimmers received the *Florida LMSC Leather Lung Award* for 2023. A swimmer must swim all events in at least one course SCY, LCM, SCM, or Postals in a given season. It can take several sanctioned swim meet competitions to complete all events. Congratulations to the following swimmers who received the 2023 award!

Dawn Clark, St Pete Masters – Postals

Cheryl Kupan, St Pete Masters – SCY, LCM, SCM

Celeste Patton, St Pete Masters – SCY

Christopher Stickle, St Pete Masters – SCY, LCM, SCM, Postals

Sarah Swoch, St Pete Masters – SCY, LCM, SCM,

Wow, Christopher Stickle achieved all four courses, and Cheryl Kupan and Sarah Swoch completed three.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE!