

The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum's Quarterly Newsletter

Wave Lengths

Volume 1 - Issue 2

Summer 2008

WC.7 *By Athena Sasso*

The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum presented the 7th Annual Waterman's Challenge on June 14 and 15, and many of the contestants and volunteers who enjoyed the weekend had been there for all seven years. The groms have grown taller and the legends more legendary (older), but one thing that hasn't changed is, the Waterman's Challenge is still the loosest and lightest stoke on the coast.

But that doesn't mean Waterman's Challenge is the same contest it was when Sean O'Hare founded it. With an open attitude and the goal of preserving surfing history - as well as making some of our own - the WC gets better every year.

Last year we held the first Stand-Up Paddle competition on the East Coast with four contestants. This year, there were 17! Among the popular events

offered this year were a stand-up paddle race and stand-up paddle surfing.

The Real Retro debuted at the 6th WC, as did real hula dancers, who lulled us with their grace, while they educated us in the art and history of hula. Care for some awesome luau fare with your history lesson? We had that covered, too.

We honored local surfing legend Chris Harazda with the 1st Annual Paipo Expression Session. Joined by his wife, Janet, and his father, Cas, Chris's friends took to the water on Paipo boards and surf mats to remember an avid waterman, son, husband, friend, and dedicated museum volunteer.

We'll meet again next year to make some more

memories and maybe even a little more local surfing history. Until then, stay real, and try not to get any older, because you'll want to feel good on the waves - and look good in the picture.



Left: 1st Waterman's Challenge (2002) - 24th St. South
 Right: 4th Waterman's Challenge (2005) - Minuteman Causeway
 Top: 7th Waterman's Challenge 2008, Holiday Inn Oceanfront



From the Peanut Gallery

Great job with the newsletter. It feels so refreshing to get back to our roots. I'm actually reading this in North Carolina. For kicks, I'm going to print a few copies and leave them in the Avon Surf Shop.

I'll talk to you soon,
Jim (Wamsley)



THE COCOA BEACH SURF MUSEUM
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Wave Lengths

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Ride On

Congratulations, everyone! The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum is settling into its digs in the Ron Jon water sports building, directly north of the big Ron Jon store, with excellent exhibits offered by the curator, Sean O'Hare, and many dedicated volunteers. Sean and Lani headed up a soft opening a week or so back, which was loaded with good food, music, and prizes.



Mr. and Mrs. Curator, Sean and Layla O'Hare

We look forward to an official Grand Opening in the early fall, so stay tuned for developments.

Even before we got situated in our location, we were busy with lectures and events. Speaking of which, did you see the volunteer machine at work at the Waterman's Challenge in June? The best part was, not only did our faithful, long-time volunteers chip in, but we met and enjoyed working with new volunteers who graciously lent their talents to The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum. We're thrilled to welcome new talent and energy to the cause.

There are plenty of ways you can be a part of preserving surfing history. Become a member, attend an event, lecture or contest, or lend a hand doing what you're great at. Don't worry. We work a little and surf a lot.

See you in the water, *Tony*

Continued from Page 1

Waterman's Challenge Results

Men's Longboard Pro

1. Michael Wood; 2. Tommy Evans; 3. David Gotay; 4. Stephen Slater

Women's Longboard Pro

1. Super Restivo; 2. Ami Berg; 3. Melody DeCarlo; 4. Crystal Duff

Grand Master's Shortboard (50 and up)

1. Carl Beaulac; 2. Frank Evans; 3. Bob Freeman; 4. Kent Morris

Junior Men's Longboard (18 and Under)

1. Jake Roach; 2. Mike Johnson; 3. Sam Dugan; 4. Steven McLeon

Men's Master's Longboard (36-49)

1. Todd Kennedy; 2. Dave Miller; 3. Jim Wamsley; 4. Keith Sims

Men's Master's Shortboard (36-49)

1. James Norfolk; 2. Jeff King; 3. Keith Simms; 4. Mike Hofstetter

Junior Men's Shortboard

1. Sam Dugan; 2. Cody Evans; 3. Lee Roth; 4. Nicholas Hoff

Junior Women's Longboard

1. Michelle Au; 2. Katie Radcliff; 3. Savannah Freels

Women's Masters Longboard

1. Debbie Walker; 2. Jane Moody; 3. Linda Grover; 4. Mari Radcliff

Men's Shortboard

1. GP Floyd; 2. Coco Fieldhelm; 3. Jared Herndon; 4. Steven Bradley

Women's Shortboard

1. Ami Berg; 2. Carole Berthine

Junior Women's Shortboard

1. Hannah Clavach; 2. Savannah Freels; 3. Sarah Howard; 4. Leah Taylor

Women's Masters Shortboard

1. Sharon Wolfe-Cranston; 2. Melody DeCarlo; 3. Debbie Walker

Men's Grand Masters Longboard

1. Kent Morris; 2. Bob Freeman; 3. Dan Mahoney; 4. Skip Savage

Menehunes

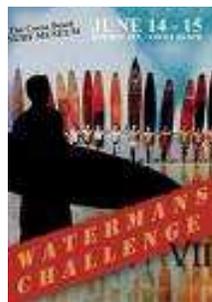
1. Blake Knapp; 2. Darren Durkin; 3. Pierson Prince; 4. Devin Durkin

Retro

1. Miles Jacovictz; 2. Paul Lahee; 3. Nicholas Hoff; 4. Jake Roach

Stand-up Paddle

1. Raul Gonzalez; 2. Jonny B Good; 3. Chris Cook; 4. PITO; 5. Dan Dixon; 6. Wyatt Werneth



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Waterman's
Challenge!*

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SKIMWEAR
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Join the Cocoa Beach Surf Museum

and help preserve surfing history. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and special invitations to museum events. New memberships include a museum T-shirt.

(Check One)

STUDENT	25.00	_____
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STOKED	50.00	_____
OHANA (FAMILY)	60.00	_____
KAHUNA	100.00	_____
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Photo – Debbie Tweedie

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T-Shirt size (Circle One): S M L XL XXL

Please mail your membership form and check to:
The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum
P.O. BOX 321453
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 Members can
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Check One:
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What Surfrider Chapter are you interested in?
 (see <http://www.surfrider.org/chapters1.asp> for a
 list of chapters)

The Surf Report

by Roy Harrell

Old surfers never die, they just ride away

When I was a boy growing up in eastern North Carolina, sometimes my dad would take us up to Norfolk, Virginia. As an ex Army sergeant, he loved to visit the General McArthur Museum there. McArthur, of course, was the legendary World War II general. Even though it was dark and musty smelling with all the old uniforms and photos, I always thought it was cool. But there was a phrase that was spoken by General McArthur during a speech later in his life that I never quite understood. It was, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away."

Lately, I've given that statement some thought as I considered what exactly goes into becoming a legend. In the surf culture from time to time we hear about some guy that has achieved legendary status. Occasionally we run into a few that are legends only in their own minds. But true legends possess something that transcends the ordinary. Their accomplishments set a high water mark that continues to be a standard that the generations that follow can aspire to. They were the pioneers, the guys that showed us how it could be done and how it should be done.

Last weekend, I had the opportunity to sit down with just such a legend and talk story. The surfer was Skip Savage, in town for a few days to visit family and the honoree at a 12-hour party the night before that will doubtless become legendary in its own right in years to come. Hosted by local surfer Jeffrey Ammon and his wife, Pat, at their beach cottage sheltered under a leafy canopy on the backside of Assawoman Bay, it became the place to be as local surfers from all over. Delmarva dropped in to share a drink, good food and stories with Skip and the rest of the crew that together set the benchmark for surfing in this area.

I had heard of Skip a couple of years before I actually moved to the beach. As one of the first people to be inducted into the newly formed East Coast Hall of Fame in 1996, his name was one you heard often, and spoken of with a certain amount of pride. After all, he was one of the first from our region to achieve national recognition for his surfing. The eastern shore we call Delmarva has typically always been just below the radar of the national surf media. But Skip was one of the first to break loose and receive the accolades that so many from our area deserve. In many ways, he paved the way for future surfers, and in the process helped put places like Indian River Inlet on the map.

But initially, I just knew Skip from his ultra smooth surfing. He has a graceful style that makes it all look so easy. That effortless glide into a wave, the ultra cool fade, cross stepping to the nose and the drop knee turn back to the whitewater, he blended it all together in a ballet-like dance that belies the skill it takes to pull it off seamlessly. Today, that timeless traditional longboard style has come back into vogue, with fresh faced college kids wearing newly made beavertails and riding volan glassed 30-pound logs. But Savage was one of the pioneers of that style and continues to surf today as good if not better than ever.

Skip pioneered in a lot of ways, one of which was one of the first complete surf shops to open in this area, the Surf Shop East in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Opening in late 1966, Skip featured Pat O'Hare Surfboards and Greg Noll Surfboards exclusively. The shop also sponsored one of the area's first and finest surf teams, featuring local rippers like Gary Revel and Neil Stevenson. Skip continued to be an innovator, riding and designing his own personal model surfboards for Greg Noll, Walden Surfboards and Robert Strickland. Eventually though, Savage found that he couldn't sell surfboards from the water, and given a choice to work the shop or surf, Skip chose to surf. In 1971, he closed up shop.



"Knee board I built in 1969. Thing's in really good shape and is in a local surf museum in Delaware." Skip Savage

The seventies were a time of transition. Boards got shorter and hair got longer. Skip changed with the times as well, surfing short boards and shaping under his own brand Awareness. Through it all though, Skip remained stoked on surfing, when so many others drifted away. When the longboard revival started in the late 80s, Skip was there to cross step right back out to the nose - fit, tanned and better than ever, albeit with a bit less hair.

I could have sat there all day, listening to the stories as he wound back the years - tales of Greg Noll, Miki Dora, Yancy Spencer and a host of other luminaries that I have read so much about. But one thing Skip said seemed to reverberate the most, and seemed to present a picture of a man that stayed humble and true to his roots, despite the accolades and the fame. At one point, he looked at me and said that one thing he wanted people to know - that this area produced a lot of quality surfers.

Continued (The Surf Report - Skip Savage)

FLORIDA STATE PADDLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIP – 10TH EDITION

By John Hughes

The Florida State Paddleboard Championship, hosted by The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum, marked its 10th year with a great turnout and fine paddling conditions. The event was held, as always, in conjunction with the Easter Surf Festival (“ESF”) in Cocoa Beach, FL. The ESF is the second longest running contest on the East Coast and always draws large crowds.

Paddlers arrived Saturday morning to find smooth surface conditions with a light sideshore wind and a one- to three-foot swell, with air temperature in the mid-seventies. The contestants took advantage of the conditions with a fast water start down the beach. The pace was set by JP Atherholt of Clearwater, FL, and Michael O’Shaughnessy (MO) from Winter Park, FL, who quickly separated themselves from the pack in the U/L class. Other battles formed in the stock class across different age groups, and the Stand-Up Paddle contestants proved they could keep pace with the best of them. This was the first year for SUP racing at the FSPBC—a sign of things to come.

Seven miles later JP and MO fought for the race to the finish, with MO yielding to JP Atherholt, the eventual winner, only in the last quarter mile.

Gary Wise of Fort Walton Beach, FL, won the Stand-Up Paddle handily, with a time that left many paddleboarders behind. The stock class was a tight race, with the exception of Chris Lang of Seminole, FL, who finished close behind the top U/L paddlers. The lone female paddler, Cynthia Aguilar Miami, FL, gave a strong performance with a Top 10 finish on her stock paddleboard

After a brief rest, seven paddlers competed in the King/Queen of the beach event, a swim/run/paddle sprint event. Chris Lang left everyone behind with a blistering 10:45 time for the win. However, it was JP Atherholt who was declared the overall winner with the best combined times from both events.

Everyone left tired and happy with trophies, goodies and prizes won in the raffle held afterwards.

We would like to thank our corporate sponsor, Morgan Stanley/Morse Group, as well as the Easter

Surf Festival and Ron Jon Surf Shop for making this contest possible.

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Images of Easter Morning and the FSPBC by Shoretip



EVENTS

First Tuesday of every month, 7 pm – Volunteer Meeting, Cocoa Beach Public Library. Next meeting Aug. 5 @ 7:00 pm.

Dates TBA – CBSM Potluck Picnics – Watch your email for dates

Date TBA – 2nd Annual 22-Mile Paddle Challenge, Lee Wenner Park, Historic Cocoa Village

The Surf Report – Skip Savage - *Continued*

The crew he surfed with here in Delmarva were of equal stature to the best surfers in the world at that time. To me, he was tipping his hat to the other guys from this region. He might have been the one to receive the glory, but he wanted to give them the credit they were due as well. In my opinion, that kind of attitude is really at the foundation of what it takes to achieve legendary status. A humility, and the ability to recognize and appreciate others while not seeking to establish your own legacy. Those true legends like Skip Savage will never die, they will just ride a wave into the sunset, gradually fading away for years to come, remembered by the future generations as they continue to try to reach that standard they set.



Skip at IR Inlet, Delaware, back when photography wasn't too advanced – but Skip was! (www.SkipSavage.com)

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SATELLITE BEACH SURF TEAM IN RED BULL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP!

The Satellite Beach HS Surf Team made it all the way to the Red Bull Challenge national championship at Trestles. This year, Carlsbad High won the day, but there's always next year. We're betting this area will be sending another team west for a field trip.

Team Member
Tommy Orsini
Photo: Craig Bailey
FL Today



SURF 'TIL YOU'RE, YOU KNOW, AT LEAST 90

"I always wanted to challenge death. I loved to get just as close to death as I possibly could and then dodge it. That was my thrill in life." – Woody Brown

Well, that quote explains why Woody Brown dared surf Makaha, but it doesn't account for his surviving - for 96 long and fruitful years. Besides surfing for longer than most people live, he designed the first modern catamaran based on the ancient Polynesian double-hulled sailing canoes and, in the 1920s, set a record for the longest flight in a glider plane, which stood for over 20 years.



This photo by Thomas Tsuzuki shows Woody Brown, left, along with George Downing and Buzzy Trent, on a Makaha 20-footer. It ran on the front page of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin on Nov. 27, 1953, and in papers nationwide.

Woody Brown was featured in "Surfing for Life," a documentary film by David L. Brown and an old friend of ours, Roy Earnest (aka Radar), of Pacifica, CA, who organized a Love, Understanding and Appreciation Festival in Woody's memory on a June Sunday, in Pacifica. Seems like a good name for a memorial to a man who, Earnest knows from personal experience, "lived Aloha."



L- Kris Maki caught up with Woody Brown on a recent on trip to Hawaii.

Salam or Shalom (on a slab of glass and foam)

By Tom Fucigna
Hobe Sound, FL
June 2008

On a Saturday night, at about 11 pm, my wife reminded me that I had volunteered to teach a Sunday School class the next morning. And, oh by the way, I'd need to bring an example of a modern day "Peacemaker." I thought I was sunk, until I realized that I had recently, in my slovenly heathenism, read an article about the perfect guy. The story even had a local connection – Cocoa Beach's Kelly Salter.

86-year-old Dorian "Doc" Paskowitz, a surf legend in his own right, had recruited Kelly to come to Israel as part of Doc's "Surfing for Peace" event, intended to bring Israeli and Palestinian kids together to surf the Mediterranean in Tel Aviv and Gaza. Kelly arrived with board and guitar in hand, ready to build a bridge of surf and music.

Doc's basic premise is, "If we can surf together, we can live together." It's a lesson that can work for us anywhere, and it's a valuable example to set for "youngsters" of all ages.

I ended up with a class of 10 children, and was informed afterwards that the school room walls were apparently not quite thick enough to avoid disturbing the rest of the congregation. "Now, children – Who are the peacemakers?" "**Doc and Kelly!**" Some of those kids headed to the beach after church, and all of them went out into our world.

Water water everywhere
Let's make some time to think
about the stuff that we're all really made of

Three quarters of our beings
are elementally the same
and I think our minds can always rise above

Remember Mr. Marley told us
what his business should've been
and what lies behind and beyond us
don't compare to what's within

Even if we just sit astride
we can made a stand
Because outside or in we know
a man is just a man

Brothers, sisters
family, home
at the core we're all the same

And if there's only one God
and Salam is Shalom
then we can stand together
and a name is just a name

Remember Mr. Marley told us
about the One Heart that we share
Let it help us keep our cool
when push comes to shove

Hawaiian Hi to victory
ain't too far from a fist
So we gotta get a grip
around the One Love

We can take it to a new place
we can get there side by side
We can see it in a new way
if we can just share the ride

We may not bend every mind
or win over every heart
But if we can simply stand together
it's a start.



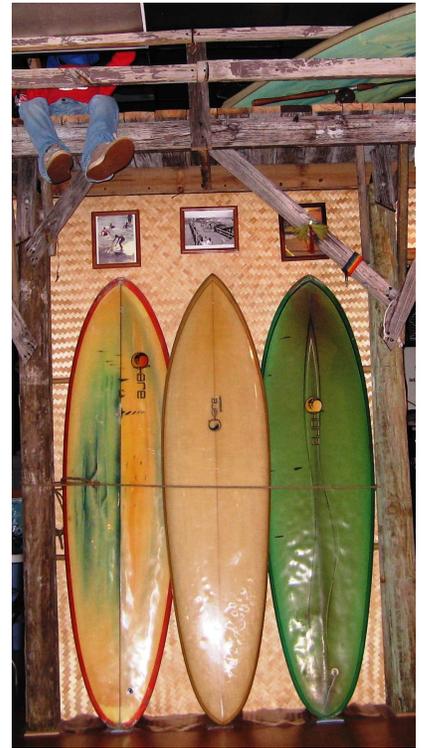
Photo: timelineskateboards.com

Just Don't Look Down -

Cocoa Beach's own Adam Taylor (left) is riding a wave of success in the extreme sports world, with his recent 5th Place finish at X-Games. From a driveway ramp to a ramp most of us would need a parachute for (see proof left), and from Cyprus Drive to California, Haiti, China, and Denmark, Adam is the latest phenom to come out of Cocoa Beach. Can going off the lip of this ramp be less scary than dropping in on a ginormous wave?



Lake Cumberland Marine donated a brand new jetski to the Museum, and the Krecickis of Charlotte, NC, turned it into cash for us by buying it for full price. That means we can bring you even cooler exhibits and programs in the future. Thanks, Lake Cumberland Marine and the Krecicki family!



Lani & Dick - old friends and new





Photo: Debbie Tweedie

COCOA BEACH SURF MUSEUM



Photo: Debbie Tweedie



Photo: Debbie Tweedie



Photo: Dan Mahoney



Photo: Debbie Tweedie



Photo: Debbie Tweedie



Photo: Dan Mahoney



Photo: Dan Mahoney



Photo: Dan Mahoney

BIG BOARD CLINIC

By John Hughes

The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum hosted Quiksilver Edition's Big Boards Clinic on April 10th at the Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach. Barrett Tester, QSE's marketing director, brought to Florida some of its star team members, including six-time Molokai Crossing paddleboard champ and rising big wave hell man, Jamie Mitchell, as well as professional standup paddle surfer Kyle Mochizuki and world-traveling surfer and TV producer Shayne McIntyre. They came to share their expertise about paddleboarding and stand up surfing in a program covering equipment, training, nutrition and mental conditioning. The entire day was free of charge and that included lunch!

The QSE team arrived on Wednesday afternoon before the clinic, looking for a good place to go for a paddle since the ocean was (as usual) blown out and choppy. I sent them to Kiwanis Island on Sykes Creek since it



is protected from most winds. They were impressed with the paddling potential of our local waterways, and even more awed with the killer Manatee that allegedly attacked them. Fortunately, they escaped without injuries.

Thursday morning arrived and so did nearly 50 people for the clinic, which was held on the beach in front of the Holiday Inn. The participants included everyone from experienced watermen wanting to fine-tune their skills, to beginners eager to learn about these exciting water sports. Every age was represented, from 12 years old to 70 years young. And to top it off, the weather was sunny and warm with a windy, waist high swell hitting the beach.

Jamie and Kyle gave an informative presentation and answered any and every question

their audience could come up with. They told entertaining personal stories about what it is like and what it takes to be world class athletes. It was obvious everyone was getting into it because they were able to ignore the very surfable waves breaking right in front of them.

Holiday Inn put out a delicious spread of chicken and ribs under the palms. People took the opportunity to discuss what they had learned and talk story in between mouthfuls of grinds.

After lunch and another hour of discussion, we all moved to Kiwanis Island for the equipment training, due to even choppiest afternoon conditions. This proved to be a wise move since the protected area provided the perfect place for everyone to get some hands-on instruction in the water. The group was divided into paddleboarders in the water with Jamie and the stand up paddlers with Kyle on the shore for some instruction on proper technique before moving into the water. During the afternoon session, people were encouraged to try all the different equipment available, including Davo's very cool double-hulled canoe, and everyone did just that. Although the clinic was only supposed to last until 3 pm, it was nearly 6 o'clock before the last person got out of the water.

So the Big Boards Clinic was a Big Success, with everyone getting more than they expected. So a big Mahalo to QSE and Ron Jon Surf Shop for bringing this awesome event to Florida! More mahalos to Surftech Rep Eric Williams, Oceansportsworld's Roy Scafidi, Dave (Davo) Dedrich, and Pat Madden for providing equipment for clinic participants to use. Thanks also to Holiday Inn for a first class venue for this event. And as always, thanks to our hardworking museum volunteers who make events like this possible.



Jamie Mitchell shares his knowledge at the Big Board Clinic