



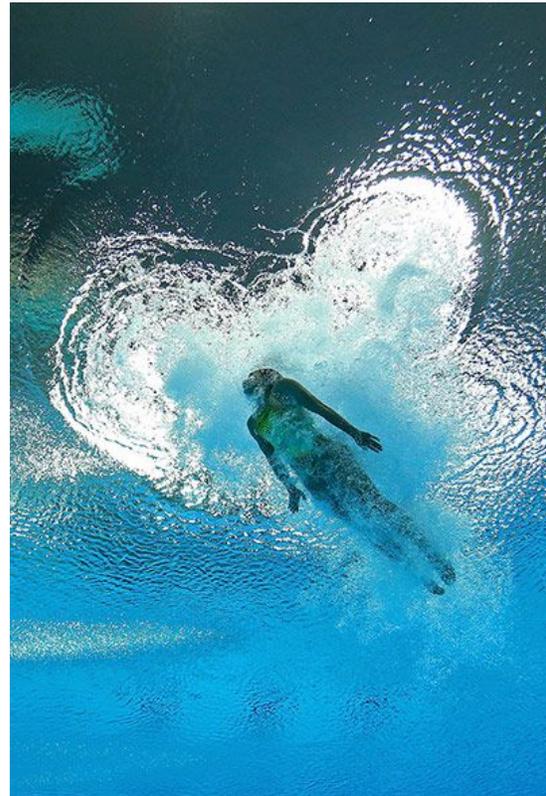
JAMM February 2017 NewSplash

In the shortest month, the very dead of winter we are swimming! (of all things). We, the odd few who set the alarm for 5 a.m., who ignore the cold peppering rain or howling wind, are in love with the complexities of water, its dynamic forces, and - humbling every swimmer - its persistent demand that muscles always be strong, minds tough, and movements precise.

None of our bitter complaints really last long. We do our work voluntarily, willing laborers in lycra, each of us in our own little universe of water, blurred lights, and a very large clock. Jumping in with both feet is not just a figure of speech; we literally immerse ourselves in our sport, subject to the demands of fluid dynamics and a wild madman shouting commands in the darkness.

Why?

It was love at first sight. Remember?



[RainedOut.com](https://www.rainedout.net) is up and working really well. When we need to notify you of workout cancellations or changes of venue or any other sudden news, you can receive instantaneous text and/or email notification. Signing up is very simple and easy. Please use this link and get connected:

https://www.rainedout.net/team_page.php?a=317458558c57d8f6ceeb

OR

Text JELLIES to 88483 to receive alerts from JAMM when needed.

Larry (Sugar) Fry, Jen (Smiley) Dodge and Eric (Doc) Allen were officially notified of their results in the Kick Challenge postal event. Larry placed first in the Men's 55-59 age group. Jen also took top spot in the Ladies 35-39 division and Eric held onto the fifth spot in the 50-54 age bracket. Proud coach Mark prepped the whole team carefully, and the good preparation really paid off. All three swimmers set JAMM team records.

NEW TEAM RECORD KEEPER - Our special team guy Sugar (see story above) has been tapped to be the keeper of all JAMM data, large and small. As a few of our members have competed in various events over the past five years, records have been set, but no official book has been compiled and maintained until now. When or if you compete or establish some kind of benchmark from now on, we will enter your name in the Hallowed Halls of Jellydom where you may be ensconced and honored until someone else knocks you off your perch eventually. All hail the Kings and Queens of the Smack!

HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR FREE JAMM CAP? Please see Christine (The Queen) OR Coach Mark and yank on his or her sleeve until you are given one. You are entitled to a great-looking JAMM team cap once you have paid your team annual dues of \$20. Don't be shy about asking. The Queen's memory is somewhat sieve-like these days; recalling to whom she has given a cap is a dodgy thing, unfortunately.

SAD NEWS: Some current members have fond memories of a former teammate Melanie Joy. Mel was going to school in Monterey at the DLI while posted here from Australia. We have just received word by way of John Nelson that poor Mel has just lost her mother very suddenly. Mel's loss is acute, tragic and very painful as her mother died of a sudden brain aneurysm. Please join her family and friends in an offer of support and sympathy by sending an email. Mel is in Australia and can be reached at: happyhappyjoyjoy15@hotmail.com

The best part about thrashing each other into oblivion, doing battle set after set throughout the week is that on Saturday morning, after the final workout of the week, we oftentimes slither over to a nearby coffee den to rail and squawk about the diabolical nature of Mark's workouts, the heroics of our own swims and the idiocy of politicians and other ne'er-do-wells.

The location is never certain until the day arrives, and some Saturdays just don't work out for anyone, but most of the time Joe Rombi's La Piccola Casa on 17th St. in Pacific Grove fills our coffee cups nicely. Other locales like Crema (also in PG), Patisserie Bechler (PG again), Wharf Marketplace in Monterey or East Village in Monterey are also favorites. Be sure to join in.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A HOST for the next potluck dinner social event for JAMM at the end of this month or beginning of March. If you'd like to raise a tentacle and volunteer your home, there's no reward in it except our undying love and gratitude. Please contact Christine at swimjamlady@gmail.com and we'll get the ball rolling. You set your own limits for kids, pets, flame, or fireworks, and it is certain any and all JAMM members will be happy to offer a hand with cleanup if needed.

For anyone interested in learning lifeguarding skills or obtaining a CPR certification, MBSC is hosting a weekend session in March, taught by Gary Anderson, a Canadian Olympic team member who swam for Mark back in the day. If you would like further information, please contact Coach Mark or email Gary Anderson at westcoastlifeguard@gmail.com .

Please see Christine at the pool for new JAMM team swim caps (\$4). Plain royal blue latex caps are also available for \$3. Text 238-4506 or email swimjamlady@gmail.com.

Thanks!