

11th Annual Waterman's Challenge Weekend

The Cocoa Beach Surf Museum enjoyed another successful Waterman's Challenge and Luau in June. While the waves were on the small side, the conditions were clean and glassy with an offshore wind. The weather was perfect for the contest and the luau. Our contest director, Mary Radcliffe, made sure the beach activities ran smoothly, while the luau volunteers worked to bring the competitors and the museum's members and friends a great party - delicious food and plenty of it, Honey Miller, Jessica Williams, and Amber's authentic traditional hula. See our sponsors in this newsletter and make sure you let them know how much you appreciate their support.



Women's shortboard

18-under: 1-Kayoli Archer
19-35: 1-Ami Berg, 2-Crystal Cooper, 3-Mila Wyman
36-49: 1-Debbie Walker, 2-Tracy Johnson, 3-Yumi Ishizuk
50-plus: 1-Melody DeCarlo, 2-Jocelyn Lowther, 3-Susie Panzarino

Women's longboard

18-under: 1-Katie Radcliff, 2-Kaydi Archer, 3-Ariana Dumas
19-35: 1-Ami Berg, 2-Jessi Restivo, 3-Crystal Cooper
36-49: 1-Debbie Walker, 2-Tracy Johnson, 3-Julie Joyner
50-plus: 1-Melody DeCarlo, 2-Nancy Peters, 3-Jocelyn Lowther

Women's SUP

Open: 1-Melody DeCarlo, 2-Lindy Carter

Men's shortboard

18-under: 1-Sam Duggan
19-35: 1-Brent Newell, 2-Chad Carr, 3-Carlos Naruoez
36-49: 1-Wyatt Werneth, 2-Sammy Norfolk, 3-Brett Henderson
50-plus: 1-Tom Moore, 2-Carl Hatch, 3-Kent Morris

Men's longboard

18-under: Michael Johnson, 2-Justin Johnson, 3-Sam Duggan
19-35: 1-Brent Newell, 2-Willey Cole, 3-Randy Carter
36-49: 1-Joey Stevens, 2-Raul Gonzalez, 3-Rick Carrol
50-plus: 1-Hunter Joslin, 2-Dave Miller, 3-Bob Freeman

Men's SUP

Long: 1-Raul Gonzalez, 2-Girard Middleton, 3-Dave Siljestrom
Short: 1-Girard Middleton, 2-Wyatt Werneth, 3-Nick Bjozic
50-plus: 1-Hunter Joslin, 2-Dave Siljestrom, 3-Dan Mahoney

Body Board Open: 1-Noah Dovin, 2-Willy Cole, 3-Saylor Werneth

Retro 60s: 1-Raul Gonzalez, 2-Willy Cole, 3-Tori Moore

Retro 70s: 1-Sam Duggan, 2-Brooke Davis

Menehunes: 1-Noah Dovin, 2-Brooke Davis, 3-William Hedleston,
4-Naiah Hernandez, 5-Saylor Werneth, 6-Zion Hernandez,
Alexie Kellum, Patrick Carrol, Kai Cheatham



WC Photos by Dan Mahoney



The programs of the Cocoa Beach Surf Museum are supported in part through a grant sponsored by the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners and managed by the Brevard Cultural Alliance.



Desiree and Mike - Photo by Dan Mahoney

THE COCOA BEACH SURF MUSEUM
www.cocoa beachesurfmuseum.org



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Wave Lengths

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Where possible, the editor has given credit for photographs
 Please advise when additions or corrections are in order.

Enjoy the Ride

The last time I saw Rich Salick was at a minor league baseball game. He was there for NKF, you might have guessed, cracking wise as usual, smiling and asking how Athena and I were doing. I wish I had known it was the last time I would see him. Maybe I would have told him how much he had meant to the Cocoa Beach Surf Museum, how much we appreciate the way he always supported its programs and events. I could have told him that whenever he and Phil came into a room or onto the beach, they partied up the mood. It would have been important to get across what a difference he had made to me and to so many others. Of course, it would have been futile trying shine the light on him, the way he always reflected it back.

We're opening a new exhibit this month to show our appreciation of Rich's life, though there's no one way to encompass the impact Rich had on all his communities – his family, the NKF community, the surf community, the martial arts community and so many, many friends.

If Rich kept a bucket list, I doubt *Leave a Legacy* would have been on it, but for the sake of acknowledgement, consider that one checked off anyway.



Photo-Spacecoastmedicine.com

See you in the water, *Tony*

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)

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SURFER	30.00	_____
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OHANA (FAMILY)	60.00	_____
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T-Shirt size (Circle One): S M L XL XXL (new memberships only)

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SHEA WEBER AND THE PERFORMER: STAYING CLOSE TO THE SOUL

by Tom Fucigna Jr.©
Hobe Sound, FL

"The Performer was, and will always be, the very best traditional single fin longboard on the market. Period!" That conviction and pride is part of what motivates Shea Weber to go to work each day, where he is carrying on a legacy bestowed by his dad, surf legend Dewey Weber.

Shea and his siblings, who were born in the late 60s and early 70s, "didn't really know how big a deal our dad was in the 50s and 60s. We just knew our mom and dad owned a surf shop and that they made surfboards." He describes his dad as being "like a kid trapped in a grown-up's body. He got you excited about whatever he wanted to teach you. Our family had so many great adventures, including trips to Mexico, Catalina and Hawaii, but even a day at the beach was an adventure. When everyone from our neighborhood would go to the beach, my dad was the one that went body surfing with the kids, and then we'd all get out, lie down on the beach, and listen to him tell us the most amazing stories."



Growing up, Shea recalls "we spent a lot of time at the shop. My brother and I terrorized that place. The factory was attached to the retail store, so we grew up seeing the whole thing. The employees were like our big brothers. We had some great times going to contests and watching the team."

Dewey is most often associated with longboards, but Shea reminds us "my dad was one of the first big manufacturers to push shortboards. He was blown away by what he saw the Australians doing" and "was insightful enough to put Nat Young and Mike Tabeling on the team. The team we grew up with in the 70s and 80s was a shortboard team."



Although surfing was the family business, Dewey let Shea forge his own path. "The coolest gift my dad gave us was that he never pushed us into surfing. He just let it happen organically, but he was hell-bent on teaching us his love for the ocean. He taught us to body surf and boogie board, and how to read the waves, currents and tides. My dad loved surfing, started a surf business, and helped to create an industry, but when things changed in the early 70s, I think he realized that there was more to life than 'just surfing.' Maybe it was having kids. It wasn't like our whole lives were consumed by surf. He wanted us to enjoy the ocean and surfing, but he also wanted us to learn about and appreciate so much more. My dad encouraged us to play any and all individual and team sports. He thought there were great lessons in each. I am very much the same way with my kids today."

The family also fished often, and Dewey "loved fishing so much that he eventually became a commercial swordfisherman." Shea "got to go on a couple of five day trips with him through the Channel Islands" and "will never forget those trips. They were absolutely magical."

Shea helped out in the surf shop when he was young, but didn't continue straight into the family business. In 1989, when Shea was 18, "my dad had closed his shop, gone fishing and licensed someone to build the boards. I was surfing a ton and riding a longboard pretty much all the time. I was asked about Dewey Weber tees pretty often, but you couldn't get them anywhere. I called up my dad and asked him, but he said he didn't know of anywhere, so I asked him what he thought about me getting some printed and trying to sell them. I think he must have dropped the phone or fallen out of his chair, but when he finally spoke, he was so friggin' excited that I wanted to do that. He gave me the name of the last screen printer he had used, and I ordered six dozen shirts. I had about two dozen pre-sold. I threw the rest in my car, drove from Carlsbad to Solana Beach hitting all the surf shops, and the rest of the shirts were gone! It seemed pretty easy. By the end of the summer, I had a steady little business going. I had a booth at the Oceanside Longboard Contest and my dad came down. He was so jazzed that he went home and opened a new store in Hermosa, named 'Surfboards by Dewey Weber & Sons.' Shortly after, I went to college in San Luis Obispo. He ran the store and I hustled up new wholesale business."

Dewey passed away in 1993. The brand and shops have undergone several transformations since he opened the original in 1960, but the Performer longboard, designed and initially produced by Dewey and Harold "Iggy" Ige, has transcended the years. Shea describes Harold, who died in January 2012, as "an awesome human being and arguably the greatest shaper ever. He was my dad's best friend, partner and accomplice." Shea is keeping their creation in production, and provides these insights.

The Performer "was the first surfboard given a model name, and it is the most popular single surfboard model in history." Shea believes the reason "the Performer is so popular is this: my dad and Harold had a goal, to design one board that would work for a variety of people in a variety of conditions, and they nailed it! If someone walks in looking for a good board to learn on, the Performer is perfect, because it's wide, stable, forgiving, easily catches waves and is easy to turn. But it is not a beginner board. If an experienced surfer is looking for a good traditional single fin, the Performer is perfect. The Performer is my board of choice, and I've been riding waves for over 30 years."

"People think the Performer was designed as a noserider, but that's not true! It's a great noserider, but my dad was a hot-dogger, a high performance turn style surfer. There is no way that he would have designed a surfboard that didn't turn on a dime." Several design innovations, including an asymmetrical rail cross section, contributed to maneuverability. "The pinched 60/40 rail was pretty progressive. Prior to the Performer, every manufacturer was making their version of the Velzy pig shape, with wide hips getting narrower at the nose, really thick 50/50 rails, and a big 'D' fin slammed right on the tail. The Weber Hatchet Fin was designed by my dad, specifically to go with the Performer. Again, most assume it's a noseriding fin and difficult to turn, but it was originally called the 'Turn Fin.' Function came first, but the outline had 'Dewey the promoter' written all over it. He wanted people to immediately think of the Weber Performer when they saw it, even if it was on top of a car."

Shea doesn't know how many variations Dewey tried before arriving at the final design, but says "he wasn't afraid to keep trying if they didn't get it right. The Performer as we know it launched in 1966, and the response was staggering." Dewey's marketing and sales programs for The Performer changed the way companies approached selling surfboards.

Shea estimates that over 10,000 Performers were produced from 1966-68, and he has built over 5,000 more since 1994. He's seen many vintage Performers priced from \$1,000 to \$10,000 but they hold a different value for him, "because of what that board means to the history of our company and the history of surfboard design. The fact that I get to run a company that has over 50 years of storied



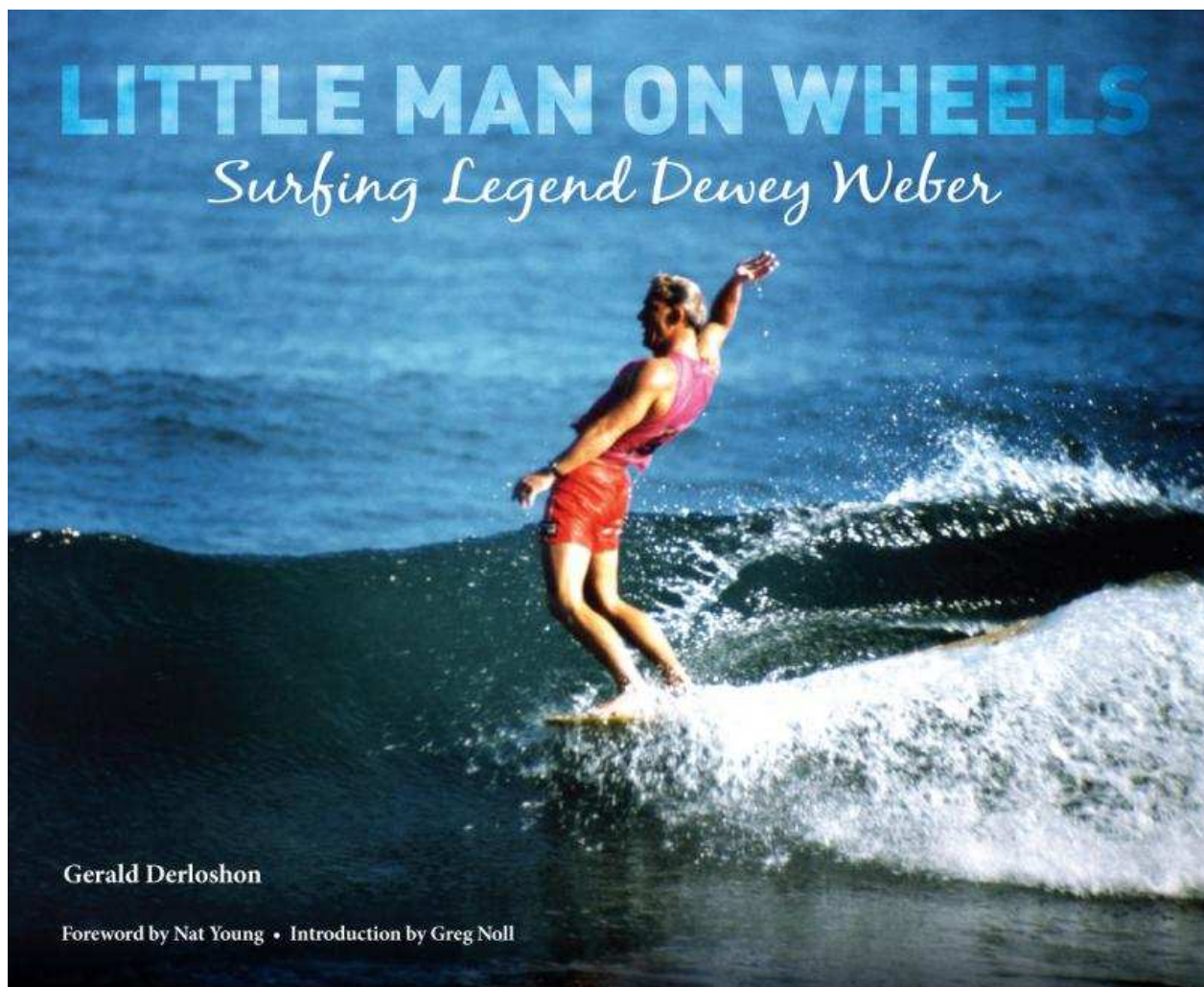
tradition is pretty special. My dad would be so stoked that the brand is still around, still family owned, and that the Performer is still our best selling board."

Dewey Weber Surfboards
San Clemente California
www.deweyweber.com

A footnote from Shea Weber:

A book about Dewey, titled *Little Man On Wheels*, will be out in August and it is incredible. My dad was an amazing person in and out of the world of surfing, but he did so much for the industry. His hot-dogging style, marketing and promotion approach, surf team, board design and manufacturing process, and 1981-87 Longboard Contests changed surfing. I honestly feel that he doesn't get the credit that he deserves because he died so young. Too many people focus on how he died, but our family chooses to focus on how he lived: balls to the wall, full of life, energy, ideas, and the ability to tackle the unknown with a childlike fearlessness. The book is great because it captures his essence, but also paints a pretty rad picture of a really magical time in surfing's history.

To order the book: <http://www.littlemanonwheels.com/>.



CBSM Sponsors

Waterman's Challenge, Film Series, Florida State Paddleboard Championships, C2C, Florida Women of the Waves
We want to recognize all the sponsors who support the programs of the Cocoa Beach Surf Museum. If your name belongs here and we have missed you inadvertently, please let us know so we can make sure to let everyone know about your valuable contribution. Please support our sponsors!

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THE AQUANUTS	HONEY MILLER
SUN BUM	GOOMBAYS
BARKNUCKLE	PUBLIX
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RICK PIPER	EPIC SURF
PADDLE STYLE WHAT'S YOURS	DR. ROB BASHORE
WABOBA	BEATNIK
WRINKLED	GREEN GLOVES GARDEN CENTER
SURF TRAILER	321 SURFBOARDS/OVER THE FALLS DING
BARRY BAGS	REPAIR
COCOA BEACH SURF & SKATE	CURVES
	WAKULLA SUITES

EVENTS

For further details: Facebook and www.cocoabeachsurfmuseum.org

First Wednesdays, 7 pm

COCOA BEACH SURF MUSEUM VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

Join us at to see how you can be involved in exhibits, archiving, special projects and events. Lots of opportunities for fun this year!



Third Tuesdays, 6 pm

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION MEETINGS

Meetings at Café Surfinista.



August 27, 2012

A LIFE LIVED – RICHARD KEITH SALICK

Take time to enjoy the new exhibit and, perhaps, see something you hadn't seen or learn something you hadn't known about Rich Salick's remarkable life.

August 30, 2012

27th ANNUAL NKF RICH SALICK PRO-AM SURF FESTIVAL

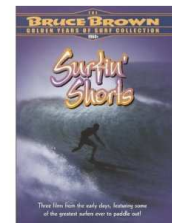
The biggest surfing charity competition in the world, featuring Professional & Amateur Surfing Competitions, Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) & Tandem Competitions, Skateboard, Karate, Entertainment, Family Fun & Volunteering. ALL proceeds go to the NKF of Florida.



September 15, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

SURFIN' SHORTS

A collection of 1960's short films, TV programs and commercials. The super surfer skateboard team shows off the miracle of clay wheels; P Cats surfing Dana Point, before the harbor; first ever surfing to Japan; unseen Endless Summer segment; and interviews with the Phil Edwards and the young Corky Carroll.



September 28-30, 2012

3rd ANNUAL FLORIDA WOMEN OF THE WAVES WEEKEND

A weekend full of activities on land and sea especially for Florida's surfing sisters and their families and friends. Movie (see below), Surfing Social, Sat., 9 am at Lori Wilson Park, Harvest Moon Potluck Barbecue, Sat., 5 pm at the Pool Pavilion - \$5.00! Find 3rd Annual Florida Women of the Waves on Facebook.



September 28, 2012

TEN: 10 YEARS OF WOMEN'S LONGBOARDING

Kick off to the Women of the Waves Weekend, this epic adventure features over 20 of the world's top female longboarders with incredible footage from California, Costa Rica, Australia and Hawaii.

October 27, 2012

C2C 11/22 MILE PADDLE CHALLENGE

Lee Wenner Park to the Pineda and, if you're up for it, back again. More details coming on Facebook at C2C 11/22 Mile Paddle Challenge.



IT WAS A DARK AND MOONLIT NIGHT

by Dan Mahoney

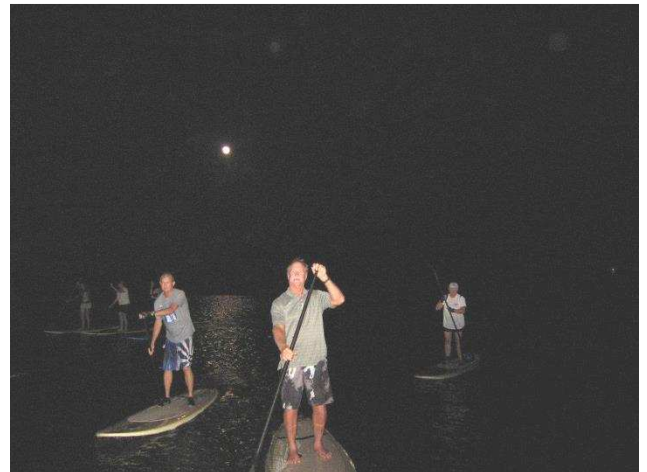
In the dark of the night with only the shimmering reflection of a full moon on the water, we left Cocoa Isles and ventured forth into The Thousand Islands.

A couple of our fearless guides talked briefly before leaving, deciding on the route and path we should take as the winds seemed to be blowing much stronger from the south than we had anticipated. The final conclusion: worst case, if the gators didn't get us, we'd be blown to the 520 Causeway, close to a hospital and civilization.

We paddled south along the waterway next to lighted houses. We were sure parties were going on, earlier Kentucky Derby mint juleps now followed by free flowing Cinco de Mayo libations.

Both the wind and paddle were much easier and more manageable than we expected. Our experienced guides finally found the cut through the islands they had sought out. Eight of us were on SUPs and one in a kayak. We paddled on, leaving the sight of civilization, lights disappearing into the darkness behind us. Now we found islands on both sides, with calm waters and the wind now to our backs. Sweet. Light laughter and quiet chatter.

We were paddling along when it happened. The quiet of a still night was quickly broken with what sounded like a waterfall, a tsunami, a whitewater explosion, an attack of volcanic turbulence in the water and, out of nowhere, a *wave*.



Foreground - Jim, Dave, Marie

The first two SUPs, one of which was Melody DeCarlo, seemed to be surrounded by a whitewater explosion. Everyone was startled, taken completely by surprise and dropped to their knees in anticipation of the attack to come. That's what Melody said she saw as she turned around. Nothing but the sound of thrashing water!

What did I see? The whitewater disturbance and then a wave, an actual wave, of whitewater headed toward me. In an instant, I felt something *slam* into the side of my board and I was knocked off into the darkness of the water. We all knew it was only a few feet deep, but it seemed much deeper with the black muck. This wasn't going to turn out too good.

Immediately I scrambled back to my board, which was just barely out of reach but only by a foot or two, climbed on board and checked the others to see who else might be in harm's way. Most had only experienced the startled reaction of something unknown and some rough waters, but Jim Dale and I had both been knocked off our boards. Melody was still standing, others still on their knees, watching and searching for that unknown predator that no one wanted to mention.

As quickly as it happened, it was just as quiet once again. Then the talk began. We evidently had startled a group of manatees. The first report was four or five, then a couple of the SUPers further back, John and Marie Hughes, said somewhere between ten and fifteen manatees. Hard to believe unless you were there.

Continuing on our paddle - much more uneventful though just as exciting - we anticipated, expected something more. Only after everyone knew all were safe did the normal jokes, talk and laughter flow.

As I paddled into the final canal, I had the strange feeling I was paddling more in one direction than the other. It was the wind, of course, blowing me to the side. We finally returned to our starting point. Everyone seemed fine. I carried my SUP up and while rinsing it off, Melody noticed a mark that wouldn't wash off. Further inspection revealed a large ding, six or seven inches, and a crushed-in side rail along with a broken FCS side-bite fin - snapped off at the tabs. That was what had caused me to paddle off course. When we loaded it up, we found another fairly severe fracture on the opposite side. We can only assume that when my board was upended sideways, it also shoved in into the two-foot bottom and cause the ding on the opposite side, as some muddy evidence might suggest. What broke the side-bite - the bottom or a manatee? I may never know, but I do know I couldn't make this stuff up. What a night. What an experience. What a Cinco de Mayo SUP moonlight paddle.

Disclaimer – No alcoholic beverages were imbibed by the writer during or prior to the paddle.



Melody, Dan, Cindy, Dave, Kathy, Lucy, Jim, Marie, Craig



MORE FUN FROM THE WC WEEKEND

Photos by Dan Mahoney

