



FACT NEWS FOR MARCH-APRIL 2016 – Joannie Campbell
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Just returned from the YMCA Nationals in Sarasota – always such a fun meet. Four days of good competition and reacquainted with friends from all over the country with time to get together with them. Have had the good fortune for many years of competing in this as well as National Senior Games, National USMS and FINA World Championships – it's so interesting that often each of the competitions bring a different group. Just love it! This year a friend's husband, 90 years old, shared with me that he engineered the FINA pools all over the world – what a great discovery when the firm he worked for had just built a world-class pool in my brother's hometown of Midland TX! The results of the Nationals are on the dixiezone.org website – you'll be able to spot many of our FACT members swimming for various Y's.

The St Petersburg Meet (to be known in the future as the Bob Beach SCY Meet) was plagued by horrendous weather Saturday – the locker rooms are pleasanter to spend your time in these days. The day's events were shortened and of course relays were eliminated, and postponed to Sunday, where we experienced a cold front and wind. Some of our pictures look like we were swimming in the Klondike!! In spite of all the weather FACT placed third. The Awards picnic was set up nicely Saturday inside and Betty Lorenzi received the Overcoming Adversity Award from Sue Mocha – latest was suffering from a broken neck a year ago December and back swimming her backstroke times of old!! I managed to get through all events in the SCY for the Leather Lung Award.

The one day Ocala meet last week end had several FACT members – all did well. It was a small meet but locale seems to favor several mid-State residents. Results are on dixiezone.org.

The Good Life Games were poorly attended this year but those participants didn't lack for good competition. New members of FACT had fun in "first ever" races and relays. Be sure you don't miss this next year – one of the only long course meter meets at this time of year!

The USMS Spring Nationals are the end of the month in Greensboro. The attendance is down by 800 from the Nationals there in 2012 – sign of the times or sign of the facility?! We have three participants: Karen Panker, Michelle Crook and Isaac Silver. Wish them

all good swim times!! Not quite enough for a relay – Sorry?! Summer Nationals will be in Gresham OR in August – I plan on the trip with my daughter. Great part of the country.

Betty Lorenzi and I had an opportunity to do some visiting with Sylvia Eisele in Ft Myers after the Good Life Games. She is doing very well and was back in the water after a year of heart problems. Hope she will be able to compete soon.

The Long Center will be closed for renovation June 13th through approximately October 31st so don't count on our usual Dog Days Meet. We'll be extra special for the Valentine's Meet in 2017. The next Postal event will be the 5,000 – 10,000 meter swim. This runs between May 15th and September 15th and must be done in a Long Course facility. Keep this in mind if you are planning on the Long Center!

The summer season starts with the Bumpy Jones Meet Long Course June 11-12. Let's see a good turnout – this meet is fun with a great Social in the park after Saturday's events and lots of door prizes. Keep an eye on your calendar.