

DAWN MUSSELMAN INSPIRATIONAL SWIMMER 2004

The Pacific Northwest Association Local Masters Swimming Committee proudly presents
the 2004 Dawn Musselman Inspirational Swimmer Award to **Kathy Casey**.

Kathy, the PNA old-timers have long been aware of your dedication to your sport and your commitment to building a strong local organization. Indeed, at the national level you have earned well-deserved recognition for your contributions to Masters Swimming. This day, the PNA is pleased to acknowledge the inspiration you bring to all members of our Pacific Northwest Association.

Linda Hamilton, one of your students and mother of one of your swimmers, observes that you are a "...coach with such a love for the sport and for the swimmers. Kathy is always giving. She gives of her time and her money.

"She will coach for nothing – except the love of the sport – or some chocolate chip cookies! She has been a standby coach for the Washington Aquatic Killer Orcas for the past five years – and coaches the Masters program without compensation. She substitutes for free. Her reward is another's success in swimming. She even sponsors an athlete on the team who cannot afford to pay the monthly dues.

"Kathy also coaches the Steilacoom High Girls Swim and Dive team, and teaches diving in the local community. She participates in Masters and USA Swimming events. She swims on the relays with the kids when needed. She has a wonderful rapport with all of the coaches. She is always there assisting with the coaching and cheering the kids on."

Kathy, you have worked in the water with injured adults to get them back in shape. You've encouraged those afraid of the water and taught them to swim. For Linda, in just two years you have taken her from learning to swim to being your assistant high school coach.

Bellingham Masters coach Barb Gundred adds, "Kathy's always been an inspiration to me from my Masters beginnings way back in 1979 – she was awesome then as she is now!"

Linda concludes, "Kathy loves working with all swimmers, from our youngest at 8 to the Masters ... She is admired for the shape she keeps herself in (recently amazing her doctors at reaching level 6 on a stress test) and her ability to compete with the kids. She is a role model to look up to. Kathy is very deserving of this award."

Kathy, for your inspiration to the Fort Steilacoom Masters team, Washington Aquatic Killer Orcas youth swimming, and by your example of good sportsmanship, encouragement and commitment, the PNA is proud to recognize you as the Dawn Musselman Inspirational Swimmer for 2004.

For the PNA Board:

Jeanne Ensign, President

For the Nominating Committee:

Steve Peterson

