

people who are interested in the sport, or who are sweating out becoming eligible for active membership. The dues for this are \$22xx \$10 a year. I suggest that Diana (a goddess, yet!), whose last name you didn't mention, join as an affiliate member and the moment she's been in her first race, I'll transfer her membership to active with no further financial obligation. One of the reasons I hope this can be done is that I can then send her name to all the race committees as a new member who seeks to swim in races this summer, which presumably carries somewhat more weight than if I just said "my pal Buck has a friend, etc."

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In either case, if you'll send me her photo and some background on her, I'll do a big publicity release on the return of glamour to marathon swimming and perhaps awaken some interest on the part of some publications and, particularly, the dullards at ABC's Wide World of Sports (who have written they're interested and want to know what I suggest, so I told them in a letter that rivals "Gone With the Wind" in length). Also, Sports Illustrated called me home a week ago Sunday to say they're going to do a piece on some of the races (apparently after they've covered several of them, in a feature piece), and that may help, too. Sponsorship (for races and individuals) is what we need now -- and I don't have to tell you! I said you'd see it in the paper. Also -- in connection with the Labatts business, I'm going to try and see them into placing the Labatts Trophy (for the World Championships) in the SHOF. Also, a new award is being created this year for the first time in honor of two recently deceased Federation members and marathon aficionados, Irving Davids of New Bedford, Mass. (who was a trainer in the 1927 Catalina race and later a half-assed historian of the sport), and Capt. Roger Wheeler of Providence, who created the Rhode Island Races of 1968 and 1969. It's to be a large, engraved silver tray and will go to the person who has done the most for the sport, been the most sportsmanlike, done the most for international goodwill, or God knows what other fine quality, and I've suggested to the Committee, who like the idea, that it be kept in the SHOF. I'm also working on Greta to keep her award to the most deserving new woman marathoner (which Stella won last year) in the Hall of Sound. Okay, now shall I mind my own business? My trip was fabulous, but too long for my family's liking. Six or seven weeks would have been a cut, but 10 weeks was too long. Didn't have any physical troubles until I headed home. I have the distinction of being the first person ever to cross the Atlantic in a Pan-Am women's room. I'm titling the chapter of my book about this African trip "From the Flushpots to the Flushpots." I'll be going back sometime this summer, but no word yet. Hope I'll be in Hamilton for the race and the Federation meeting. Anything else I can do, let me know. If you or Diane hasn't got \$10 at the moment, let me know and I'll list her paid and send a membership card. Best to Mary and Rosemary, and best to you from Patsy and the kids. Write soon -- while I'm still here. Sincerely, you