

Surprise Donation Enhances Club's Rich Historical Collection

Walt Schneebeli, Dolphin Life member and the undisputed authority on the Club's history has assembled a remarkable collection of historical documents and photographs many of which he has shared over the years with *Dolphin Log* readers.

Luckily, Walt was at the Club one day recently when Don Koch, now a resident of the Philippines dropped in to present to the Club the trophy his father had won at the first Dolphin Golden Gate Swim held September 9, 1917.

Before the end of that year Don's father Henry Koch was in the

thick of World War I in France, where he was severely burned by mustard gas. Mr. Koch recovered sufficiently to return to the Club and finish in the 1919 Golden Gate Swim.

Dolphin Don Reid also happened to be at the Club that day. He rushed to his nearby Russian Hill home to get his camera and captured the moment on film. His photograph is shown below.

The cup may be viewed on the bottom shelf of our trophy case in the Staib Room.

(See the Spring 1989 Dolphin Log for details of the first Golden Gate Swim.)



Henry W. Koch in California, mid 1920's.

Dolphin Soldiers Meet During WW II

Two current Dolphins, each with over 50 years membership just happened to run into each other during World War II "somewhere in Italy" and sometime after the Salerno invasion of September 1943.

One was Mike Desmond, Agent



Land-bound Dolphins Mike Desmond (l) and Fred Herms met unexpectedly in Italy during World War II.

Criminal Investigation Division, War Department, and the other was Captain Fred Herms of the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Both of these old timers competed in Dolphin Golden Gate swims held before and after World War II.



At the impromptu presentation were (l to r) Lou Marcelli, Joe Bruno, Don Koch and Walt Schneebeli.

Dolphin Club Milestones 1991

Life Membership (25 years)
Hall Templeton - Joined March 1966

Golden Dolphin Membership (50 years)
Frank Mennucci - Joined March 1941

• Deaths •

Tom Martz	Joined July 1986	Died 6/8/1991
Herb Jackson	Joined April 1960	Died 8/28/1991
Dick Harms	Joined July 1920	Died 9/11/1991
Carl Ludemann	Joined January 1920	Died 9/11/1991
Leonard P. Gelardi	Joined May 1947	Died 11/28/1991
Joe Peradotta	Joined June 1985	Died 12/6/1991