

Everyone,

Jeff Lounds has conquered the Mackinac Straits! Friday Sept 15, 2006 while we were all in bed or at our desks working diligently, Jeff and two cohorts (Bob Belonga from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary in a power boat and Wayne Blomberg from Ryde Marine in a kayak) launched from Mackinaw City at 7:10 am and completed the 4.1 miles in just under 2 hours 20 minutes. Seeing the bridge under his left arm and the sunrise under his right as he swam the distance was one of the most amazing things Jeff's ever seen.

It has taken Jeff two years to organize the crew and get the right weather to complete this swim, quite a milestone for a 53 year old (especially when you consider that he has done two triathlons and ridden the DALMAC this summer, another triathlon yet to go in 2006).

Sincere thanks and gratitude to Bob Belonga of St Ignace, Wayne Blomberg of Harbor Springs, and the entire Ponshevaing crew that supported his efforts for the past two years in reaching this goal.

Connie Osters