

Gordon Gatza

Freeland, MI



My name is Gordon Gatza and I am *not* a swimmer. I have been a runner for years completing various distances. For diversity, I figured that I'd make an attempt at a full distance triathlon in the future. To accomplish this, I joined the local YMCA and spent my lunch hours just swimming lap after lap in a 25 yard pool. Graduating from alternative strokes to rest to freestyle over longer and longer periods of time was exhilarating, so I conceded that endurance sports are my flavor of exercise.

I've completed various open water swims and venture into a lake when possible, but still remain vigilant to my YMCA pool workouts. I joined this swim for a variety of reasons, but there are two main factors: for a challenge and my love of the Saginaw Bay. Having a goal for training purposes helps keep me motivated and inspired. Outside of my lunchtime pool workouts, I'm often exercising near the 4 AM mark in order to keep up with my young family and ensure that I have time dedicated to myself. My love for the Saginaw Bay arose from my grandparents owning a cabin on the beach which was often frequented by myself and cousins. We'd spend many days swimming, fishing, boating, and getting into any other activity that befalls upon young children within that beautiful resource.

Personally, I am a lifetime resident of the Great Lakes Bay Region where I live with my family and work in Accounting.