

USMS OFFICERS REPORTS

PRESIDENT - Nancy Ridout

This past year has been a busy and exciting one. The Executive Committee had its first ever mid-year meeting at which much was accomplished. USMS held its inaugural Training Camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, in conjunction with USA Swimming and the USOTC. Both were significant new endeavors for our organization and both were immense successes!

As our organization grows, both in scope and in numbers, the duties and responsibilities of the President and the Executive Committee also increase. Our mid-year meeting in Phoenix was invaluable in addressing these challenges and in planning for the year and convention ahead. In addition to this meeting, your Executive Committee has communicated regularly via email and phone and has participated in monthly conference calls of 2-3 hours duration.

The training camp, at the Olympic Training Center, was exceedingly successful from the perspectives of the campers and the USMS staff, along with the USA Swimming and USOTC professionals, who provided education, motivation, and inspiration. USA Swimming went out of its way to make sure everything went smoothly and that we had the best experts available to teach and enlighten our Masters. (For a full account of this experience, see the May/June issue of *SWIM Magazine*.) The staff and campers attending the convention will also provide a review of the camp experience Wednesday night at our social. Over fifty Masters have applied for our second camp to be held October 31st-November 4th.

The Executive Committee has developed and initiated the transition plan for moving the USMS registration function to the National Office. With input from Tracy Grilli, Bill and Diane Black, and Sarah Hromada, job descriptions were determined for the additional workload this task would entail. We have authorized two additional part-time employee positions to aid Tracy: 1) a database expert to coordinate the various submissions from the LMSCs into our USMS database and 2) a clerical position to aid in such tasks as copying, stuffing envelopes, preparing mailings, filling supplies orders, etc. These two positions are in place at this time and have been filled. In April, we began performing a parallel registration. The Blacks have forwarded all registrations they have received, in the forms by which they are received, to the National Office and the new database employee. For three months the National Office processed these registrations to get a handle on what they were dealing with and prepared sample reports to the various entities. In June the Executive Committee evaluated the work and requested certain modifications. The dual registration process will continue until November 1st, when the new system will take over. We expect that we can announce at the convention that the process has been tested, found to be functioning well, and that we are ready to begin the new registration year with a smoothly running process.

Draft position announcements for USMS Controller and USMS Sponsor Liaison are included in this report. These positions were determined to be above and beyond realistic expectations of volunteers and will be proposed for acceptance this year. Additionally, the responsibilities of the USMS Webmaster and the USMS *SWIM Magazine* Editor have been determined to go beyond the limits of what is expected of volunteers and the possibility of compensating these positions in the future will be discussed at the Board of Directors meeting as well as any others we may want to consider. By adding up the figures of these proposals, you will see that we came in considerably under the estimated costs of increasing our professional help.

A draft for a USMS Strategic Plan is enclosed. The purpose of this plan is to offer a focus to the organization for the next two years that will excite, inspire and energize us to make our program the best it can be. I am particularly interested in your ideas for Action Items. We have initiated many new ideas and accomplished quite a few of them. This is no time to let this enthusiasm lapse. Please look at this proposal carefully and let me know of your suggestions. I would really like your input! This plan will be discussed at

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the Board of Directors Meeting on Wednesday afternoon and is posted on the Convention section of the USMS website (www.usms.org/).

I would appreciate your help in identifying those who have passed away since our last convention. Again this year, I would like to take a moment to recognize these Masters swimmers and commemorate their significance to our program. Please e-mail, call, or write me the names of any you are aware of and I will be sure that they are noted. (mail to president@usms.org/)

Another area in which you can assist is the development of a list of priorities for our official publication. Our contract with our current publication expires at the end of 2000. The Executive Committee has come up with a number of issues that we feel are important to USMS in such a relationship. You are invited to contribute to this list which you will find in the Convention section of the USMS website.

This convention marks the end of the first term of the officers, the committee chairs, and committee members. Traditionally, committees are reassigned and Chairmen have the opportunity to try something new, take a break, or continue in their current positions. There will be an opportunity for you to express your desire to serve on a new committee so be thinking about how you might like to serve.

I am honored to have served this organization as its President and hope to continue my leadership for the next two years. It has been a consuming, rewarding, exciting and stimulating position and I thank each of you for the confidence you have placed in me to set the path for United States Masters Swimming.

USMS SPONSORS

Alamo - Rent a Car

Destinations - nations leading hotel discount program

Earthlink - pre pay phone card

Kast-A-Way Swimwear - swimwear and swimming equipment

MBNA MasterCard - USMS Preferred and Gold affinity credit card

Mindspring - dial up internet service

NIKE - active sportswear

Speedo - innovative swimming suits, apparel and accessories

The Victor - swimwear and training accessories

TYR - manufacturer of swimwear and accessories

Ultra Swim - hair and skin care products

VASA Trainer - versatile sport-specific conditioning equipment for all sports

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VICE PRESIDENT – Jack Geoghegan

As your Vice President, I have been involved with a number of activities that I hope will benefit all of Masters Swimming.

As a member of the Executive Committee, I have worked diligently on the reorganization and expansion of the National Office and the additional support services which will make us a stronger organization, therefore preparing us for the next Millennium. This and other work for USMS took place throughout the year and also through monthly conference calls between the members of the Executive Committee and a weekend meeting in January in Phoenix.

As a member of the Ad Hoc ISHOF Nomination Committee, I was proud to vote for our outstanding nominees, Kelley Lemmon and Maxine Merlino, who were installed on May 9th at the induction ceremony at the International Swimming Hall of Fame.

As the Executive Committee Liaison, I continue to assist the Fitness, Insurance and Rules Committees.

I was pleased with the input we received during last year's Convention Wrap-up and general discussion. I have incorporated a number of these ideas into this year's schedule and will continue to strive to make our convention schedule the best it can be.

SECRETARY – Betsy Durrant

This has been a busy and rewarding year for me as USMS Secretary. Busy - because the Executive Committee has done a great deal of work. Rewarding – because the Executive Committee has done a great deal of work.

One of my duties is to take notes, prepare and distribute minutes of any Executive Committee meetings. Monthly Executive Committee conference calls have each been two to three hours in length. In addition to the conference calls, the Executive Committee held the first ever mid-year meeting in January. At that time, we had two full days of meetings. This was one of the few times we have been able to fully discuss issues and make plans for the future without interruptions or distractions.

After the 1998 Convention, I went through my notes, the committee minutes, and tapes of the House of Delegates to prepare the minutes of the House of Delegates. I also contacted committee chairmen and prepared and distributed the *Working Calendar*. And, for the first time, I compiled a *Handbook for Committee Chairmen*. In the spring and summer, I worked on getting the names of all delegates for the 1999 Convention. I prepare a list with addresses for the Executive Secretary to mail pre-convention packets, an alphabetical list for check-in at the convention, and a list for roll call.

I look forward to this year's convention. This is an exciting time in Masters Swimming- we have the opportunity to make changes and plan for the future.

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TREASURER – Jeanne Ensign

Well. Finally! The duties I have as Treasurer have become more routine. Paying the bills and depositing the money, managing the reserves, and serving as a member of the Executive Committee, well, routine except for that last one.

Writing the checks and overseeing the deposit of funds we receive. Most income, with the exception of registration receipts, is now routed through the National Office. The National Registrar, the Executive Secretary, and I all direct deposit into a Smith Barney cash management account. That's pretty routine.

Each Friday I issue checks for reimbursements approved by the Controller for payment of a variety of expenses. Reimbursements for phone calls, and copies, and postage. Monthly payments for SWIM Magazine subscriptions and for liability insurance. Sending member donations to the USMS Endowment Fund and the International Swimming Hall of Fame. Reimbursing host LMSCs for Coaches Clinics. Returning championship meet deposits. Pretty routine.

Managing the investments. We budgeted both income and expenses for 1999 of close to \$700,000. While we budget most years for nearly no excess, the reality is that some committees do not spend all of the money budgeted, and our membership has been steadily increasing each year, so we continue to increase our cash a little each year. The effect is that our designated reserves (general and insurance) and other funds we have accumulated total about \$750,000. Most is invested in certificates of deposit, with the remainder in money market accounts. That's pretty routine.

The Executive Committee. We are just seven out of an organization full of people who are individual, outspoken, and passionate in their dedication to USMS. Well, we seven have lively discussions. About an array of topics. Problem solving and planning. Not at all routine.

I wouldn't trade this experience for the world - it's been stimulating and enjoyable.

PAST PRESIDENT – Mel Goldstein

As I have for the past several years, I continue to be very active in the marketing and promotions of United States Masters Swimming. The funds generated from these efforts help promote programs that benefit our membership. This year we acquired two new sponsors, VASA Trainer and The Victor. VASA Trainer, is the ultimate dryland exercise equipment manufacturer, who offers discounts to USMS teams and coaches who purchase the VASA Trainer. "The Victor", is a quality swimwear company who provided funds for the highly successful USMS/USOTC Camp in Colorado Springs. In addition to these new sponsors we continue to receive support from NIKE, Speedo, TYR, Kast-A-Way Swimwear, Mindspring, MBNA, Alamo, Earthlink Telephone Card, Ultra Swim Hair Products, and Destination.

My responsibilities were expanded when the USMS Championship Committee included in their Championship Meet Agreement a more definitive responsibility of the meet host with regard to the National Sponsors. With National Sponsors support of USMS it was necessary to take care of their interests so the relationship between National Sponsor and USMS would remain a positive one.

This year four agreements with USMS National Sponsors will expire. I have been in contact with each one of these sponsors to see how we can better serve them, and they us. I hope by convention I will be able to announce all have renewed. While much of this year was spent working on securing new sponsors and retaining old ones, I participated in the development on the new Strategic Plan for USMS. The Strategic Plan if implemented will give USMS direction into the new millennium.

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LEGAL COUNSEL - Jeanne M. Crouse

In addition to advising the Executive Committee and members of our organization when requested, the past year has continued to bring new legal challenges in the areas of intellectual property issues and contractual matters. As Legal Counsel, I have reviewed and revised several letter agreements between our organization and other entities, addressed a variety of insurance issues and fielded a wide range of legal questions from members of the Executive Committee, Standing Committees and individual members of USMS. To assist the organization, I have continued to keep abreast of Y2K issues as well as legal developments governing non-profit organizations and tax issues.

New matters coming to the forefront include privacy issues surrounding the use and publication of information our organization collects from its members as well as legal issues that will arise from any restructuring of our organization. Recurring matters involve the legal implications of on-line registration for meets and general membership. With the Legal Counselors Committee, the Executive Committee and I intend to develop a policy for USMS that addresses members' privacy concerns.

Through 1999, we have continued the honorable tradition of keeping all our fine Officers out of jail, with only minor traffic incidents to report. Even more notably, no litigation has prevailed against our organization; in fact, none has been reported currently as pending.

Thanks for your e-mails and calls throughout the past year. Sometimes due to press of business and related travel, I can't respond as promptly as I would like. Feel free to follow up if you don't hear from me after you've written. You are a refreshingly stimulating, interesting and varied group, and collectively you present some wonderful legal challenges. I very much enjoy my clients in Masters swimming!

ZONE CHAIRMAN - Hugh Moore

Please refer to the Zone Committee in the Committee Report section of this packet for the Zone Chairman's report

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 15th

4:00 - 5:30 pm

1. Welcome And Introductions - Nancy Ridout (5 minutes)
2. Convention Updates And Procedures - Nancy Ridout, Jim Wheeler, Mike Heather (5 minutes)
3. Professional Management Report - Hugh Moore (5 minutes)
4. Discussion Of Staffing Proposals (30 minutes)
5. Discussion Of Strategic Plan (30 minutes)
6. Old Business (5 minutes)
7. New Business (5 minutes)
8. Adjournment

Please help us in identifying those who have passed away since our last convention. Please e-mail, call or write Nancy Ridout (nancyridout@mindspring.com or 415-898-3467) with the name of any you are aware of.

USMS NATIONAL OFFICE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - Tracy Grilli

As you all know, the National Office is the contact point for Masters Swimming in the United States and abroad. Requests come in at a constant rate by e-mail, phone, fax and snail mail. In preparing to write this report, I reviewed what I wrote in 1998's packet and I realized that I have done pretty much the same things over the past year, and added on a responsibility or two as you will read below.

DAILY ACTIVITIES

On an average day, I will receive approximately 5-10 phone calls (heavier at the beginning of the week), 1-2 faxes, 5-10 pieces of mail and 25-40 e-mails. The major reasons for contacting the National Office are: how to register with USMS, how to start a Masters program, order a publication, need a contact person in their area or looking for a place to swim either in their area or while traveling. Other reasons include: where and when are meets, qualifying times for Nationals, meet results, address change, lost card, insurance information, tax exempt information, how to transfer teams, and numerous other requests. I try to answer the questions as best as I can. If I don't know the answer, I refer them to someone who will. Thank you to all of you for your expertise and assistance!

PROJECTS

LMSC Handbook - The National Office is responsible for a number of projects throughout the year. It all starts right after convention with the LMSC Handbook and the update and coordination of all it's sections. Steve Peterson, members of the Legislation committee and various committee chairman went through the handbook with a fine tooth comb and we made the revisions before the 1999 printing. Each year the goal is to get this handbook to the LMSCs before the beginning of the year, which I am happy to report that WE DID!

Rule Book - work with the Rule Book Committee, the National Registrar and Gateway Printing in getting the Rule Books out to the LMSCs before their first meet of the new year.

Working Calendar - At the end of December when I received the USMS Working Calendar from our Secretary, Betsy Durrant, I update the Working Calendar page of the USMS website.

Places to Swim - A major undertaking this year was the update of our Places to Swim database and publication. Jim Matysek "happily" sent the United States PTS database to me early in the year and I am now responsible for it's upkeep on our website. I have worked diligently with the 53 LMSCs in getting the most up-to-date workout and pool information into the database. For the booklet we have added: contacts to the International Directory, an introduction, and provided a detailed section on our LMSCs, their boundaries and contacts. I am happy to say that the result of our efforts now available (finally) through the National Office for \$9.00.

Registrar Transition - Since April I have worked very closely with our National Registrar - Diane and Bill Black, Registration Chairman - Sarah Hromada and members of the Executive Committee in the process of "job shadowing" the National Registrar responsibilities and the transition of those responsibilities to the National Office as of November 1st.

Publications/Merchandise display - A "fun" project I have worked on is the creation of a USMS Publication/Merchandise display, that will "debut" at the LC National meet in Minneapolis and will also be set up at convention. The purpose is to show what publications/merchandise the National Office offers and gives prospective buyers the opportunity to "browse" through them. If people are interested in ordering, they can fill out an order form and upon my return from the event, I will fill the order and send out to them with an invoice for them to pay on.

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Organization of Meeting Minutes - As a member of the Convention Committee and a self proclaimed "organization freak" I initiated (with Michael Heather's blessing of course) the process of coordinating a more "organized" way for delegates to collect committee meeting minutes. Hopefully this process will work and everyone gets all the meeting minutes at this year's convention. Thank you Joanne Tingley and Lil Haneman in brainstorming this task with me and to all of you reading this who end up as part of the "Convention Committee Collating Crew". Thank you Paul and Mary Beth Windrath for your cooperation and allowing us a little space in the USAS copy room.

OTHER

The USMS Directory, Streamlines..., Pool and Long Distance All American & All Star, National Record Certificates, Coaches Manual, mailing labels, and this Convention Packet are all created here at the National Office, whenever they need to be created. Throughout the year, orders are filled and sent out, deposits are made at Smith Barney and transmittals are sent to our Treasurer and Controller.

I also assist many of the members of the USMS Board of Directors in a number of projects including: review of Top Ten and SWIM Magazine drafts, Top Ten, All American and All Star selections, maintenance of the LMSC Officer database, Rule Book Sponsors and various correspondence.

The National Office is a "happening place" and my position as the Executive Secretary is definitely a busy one. I love it and wouldn't trade it for any other job in the world!

NATIONAL REGISTRAR - Diane and Bill Black

The National Registrar maintains the national database of swimmers and clubs, based on monthly transmittals of information from the 53 LMSC Registrars. Updates are made to the membership database from address changes received from SWIM Magazine and individual swimmers.

As you know, we will be stepping down after 9 years in this position. We have been working with members of the Executive Committee, Registration Committee and the Executive Secretary on the transition process of the National Registrar responsibilities to the National Office for the 2000 registration year (effective November 1, 1999).

Since April, we have been involved in a "job shadowing" process where we send transmittal information on to the National Office (as received from the LMSCs, once we have inputted it into the national database). This process allows the National Office to experience first hand the registration process, the various tasks involved and offers the opportunity for us to answer questions that arise and explain why things are done the way they are.

We've learned a lot in the 9 years we have served as USMS National Registrar and appreciate all the help and support we have received.

TO: USMS Board of Directors
FROM: USMS Executive Committee
SUBJECT: Potential Y2K Issues

As the year 2000 rapidly approaches, we need your help in assessing our organization's potential vulnerability in the Y2K arena. We have been conducting this review in connection with the National Office, financial areas, registration and our web site. Please advise us no later than September 10 if you have any Y2K issues that you believe USMS should address prior to the new year. You can e-mail us at or send your comments to Tracy Grilli, who will forward them to us. As always, thanks for your help.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE - Sandi Rousseau

The Championship Committee continues to focus on activities and procedures to enhance our National Championship Meets. We have assisted Santa Clara Swim Club in Santa Clara, CA, in hosting the Short Course National Championship Meet, and Minnesota Masters at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, MN, in hosting the Long Course National Championship Meet.

Santa Clara was the first meet for which we accepted internet entries, and 20% of the entrants utilized this service for short course, and 23% utilized the internet entry form for long course. The process for catching errors made by the entrant and not accepting the entry until the error was corrected worked well and did save time for the meet host. Also the times from the internet entries can be dropped into the Hy-Tek program thus avoiding entry time typographical errors.

We continued to provide heat sheets, team rosters, team divisions, and a timeline on the internet prior to the start of the meet, and this continued to be a popular service. Meet results with splits are also available, usually on the same day of the events. The relay entry procedure was streamlined for 1999 and worked much smoother than in the past. The Nationals Discussion Forum has been very popular and utilized heavily throughout the year.

Our subcommittees continue to update the Meet Manager's Manual, Meet Liaison Guidelines, and Entry Processing Workbook on a yearly basis. The meet contract underwent a great deal of revision this year, primarily in the sponsorship area. A survey was completed to list all SCM facilities within each Zone.

We have spent much time discussing a survey about what our members and top ten competitors want in a national championship meet environment. While we had intended to complete this during 1999, discussion led to more ideas and revisions of the survey style than anticipated, thus resulting in waiting to complete this task in 2000.

Meet liaisons are currently working with Phoenix Swim Club and Maryland Masters regarding the 2000 Short and Long Course National Championships in Phoenix and Baltimore respectively. We will also be reviewing and hearing several bids from excellent facilities for the 2001 Nationals.

CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

3:30 - 6:20 pm

1. Introductions / Conduct of the Meeting
2. Discussion of Bids for 2001 Short and Long Course National Championships
3. Emergency Rules Proposals
4. Legislative Proposals
 - a. Area Change
 - b. Committee Description
5. Review of 1999 Short Course Championships - Santa Clara, CA - Carolyn Boak
6. Review of 1999 Long Course Championships - Minneapolis, MN - Sandi Rousseau
7. Update on 2000 Short Course Championships - Phoenix, AZ
 - a. Approval of Award Designs / Usage of NQTs / Computerization Plans
8. Update on 2000 Long Course Championships - Baltimore, MD
 - a. Approval of Award Designs / Usage of NQTs / Computerization Plans
9. Review of Championship Policies / Procedures / Meet Issues
 - a. Internet Entries
 - b. Distance Check-In
 - c. Relay Procedure
 - d. Warm-up Procedures / Times / Future Requirements
 - e. Officials Liaison
 - f. Coaches Hospitality

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Championship Committee Meeting Agenda continued

- g. Meet Info in SWIM
- h. Facility Standards
- i. 7 AM Start
- j. Team Divisions by Splashes
- k. Criteria for Dropping the 6th Event
- 10. Meet Contract Revisions
- 11. Short Course Meters Championship
- 12. Discussion of Recommendations of Committee to House of Delegates (Closed Meeting)

Friday, September 17th
9:00 – 10:20 am

- 1. Top Ten Survey

Friday, September 17th
12:00 – 12:45 pm

- 1. Goals for 2000 and The New Millennium
- 2. Rules Proposals for 2000

Friday, September 17th
6:30 – 8:30 pm

- 1. Championship Bid Presentations at House of Delegates

COACHES COMMITTEE – Scott Rabalais

The Coaches Committee continues its programs dealing primarily in the education, identification and recognition of coaches.

The national coaches' database attempts to identify all Masters coaches in the U.S. The Coaches Committee is working with the Registration Committee in hopes of developing a more effective system of identifying coaches through the USMS registration process.

Several clinics have been held to educate both coaches and swimmers. Foremost, the Coaches Committee played an integral role in the organization of the first USMS/USA Swimming High Altitude Training Camp in Colorado Springs, Colo., in January. The second such camp is slated for November of this year. Three coaches will attend to assist the 12 athletes selected by the Committee. Other clinics/camps continuing in 1999 were the Mentor Coach and Swimmer Clinics and the Nike Champions Clinics. Two USMS Open Water Clinics were held in '99, one on each coast.

Information continues to pour from the Committee on coaching and swimming. The USMS Coaches Manual continues to sell at a brisk pace from the National Office. A regular article in SWIM, *Ask the Coach*, addresses commonly-asked questions from swimmers. The Coaches Committee Quarterly dispenses pages of information from questions being posed to Masters coaches around the country. And, the video and book libraries provide educational items for USMS members.

A unique program to aid in the education of swimmers is the Snooper Loan Program. Two black-and-white Snoopers, underwater video cameras, are available from the Committee. They are on loan practically every day of the year.

The On-deck Coaching Program has been a hit at national championship meets, the convention and on a regional basis. The program was featured in a recent article in SWIM.

The Committee continues to work closely with the Masters Aquatic Coaches Association (MACA) to serve Masters coaches in education, leadership and professionalism.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Coaches Committee Report continued

At this year's convention, the Coach of the Year Award will be presented for the first time at the USAS Awards Banquet. This will bring added exposure not only to the winner, but also to the field of Masters coaching.

A major proposal under review by the Committee is the creation of a paid position of coaching leadership within USMS called the National Coaching Director. Within the next year, the Committee plans to review the specifics of this proposal and welcomes feedback from all delegates and interested parties on such a position.

COACHES COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

3:30 – 4:50 pm

1. Welcome
2. Registration/Identification of Coaches
3. Clinics and Camps
4. Education and Information
5. Coaching Programs
6. Recognition
7. Other Business
8. Budget
9. National Coaching Director Proposal
10. New Business
11. Adjourn

COMPUTER ON LINE COMMITTEE – Jim Matysek

1999 started out on a difficult note for the Computer On Line committee with our web site off line for the first three days of the year. The administration of our complimentary web hosting account slipped through the cracks with our hosting provider and the result was an unfortunate outage during a holiday weekend. We have taken steps with our provider since then to avoid such outages in the future, with Mel Goldstein volunteering to act as our primary interface to Mindspring.

Our ongoing efforts throughout the year have resulted in many timely updates to many areas of the USMS web site. Major updates to content have been made throughout the year on the top 10, records, calendar of events, nationals information, long distance, rule book, and coaching sections of the USMS web site. In addition, many minor to intermediate content changes are constantly taking place throughout the site.

In addition to the regular updates to the USMS web site, several new features have been deployed this year or are still under development. The on line entry system for our national championships was available for both championship meets this year, and was a huge success. Approximately 20% of the short course entries and 25% of the long course entries came through this system this year. We have also fully integrated the USMS places to swim booklet with the web database. Tracy Grilli now maintains the database for us and publishes it to our web site in addition to printing the annual publication from the same database. New features that are still under development include a 'Join USMS' section that will include important registration information and links to LMSC registration forms for all LMSC's, complete integration of the LMSC officer database between the national office and the web site, and a resource area for LMSC's and clubs that are developing their own web sites. As always, the maintenance and new development efforts for the web site are extremely time consuming and it is sometimes difficult to keep up. We are always in need of new volunteers with programming or web development experience who can spend some time actively contributing to our efforts. Anyone who can help should be sure to indicate your experience level when requesting committee assignments this year.

COMPUTER ON LINE COMMITTEE AGENDA

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thursday, September 16th
5:00 – 6:20 pm

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Old Business
3. Ongoing Projects
 - a. usms.org aliases
 - b. Nationals entries
 - c. Y2K status
 - d. Discussion forum administration
 - e. Meet results database
 - f. Committee Liaisons & Projects
4. New Business
 - a. Direction and key initiatives for 2000
 - b. Nationals entries updates
 - c. Registration – how can we help?
5. Adjournment

CONVENTION COMMITTEE – Michael Heather

The meeting schedule has been allocated rooms at the property, audio/visual requests have been pooled from the committee chairs, and a new system for distributing reports will be implemented this year, with the help and cooperation of all reporting entities expected and needed.

A workout schedule will be provided with transportation to and from the USD pool nearby, and the possibility of a La Jolla cove swim on Saturday morning is being discussed.

The San Diego-Imperial LMSC, led by David Lamott, has been invaluable in providing countless hours of volunteer effort, even before the convention starts, and has committed to hosting an offsite social on Friday night.

A hospitality suite has been reserved in one of the Lanai suites, and will be most comfortable and convenient, with direct access to an open air patio, and all swimming pools, where, in a break from tradition, will be open and heated during the convention.

The hotel has put few restrictions on our activities, but has demanded that there be absolutely NO condom races, Australian Rules Football contests, Irish Singing, Co-ed Intramural Relays (clothed or otherwise), or scurrying about like conventioners. It frightens the paying guests.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Doug Church

The majority of the work of the Finance Committee is done during the convention when we address issues of FOG and the Budget. During the course of this past year, we have addressed four (4) over-budget requests that fall within our jurisdiction pursuant to FOG and we have also addressed a specific policy issue regarding reimbursements for attendance at international meets approved by FINA. In cooperation with the Controller and the Treasurer of USMS, we also monitor the overall financial picture to see how our budget assumptions are matching up to actual revenues and expenses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

1:00 – 1:50 pm

Friday, September 17th

9:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m

1. Consider and Approve Minutes from 1998
2. Treasurer's Report- Jeanne Ensign
3. Controller's Report- Suzanne Rague
4. Internal Audit Report
5. Old Business
 - a. Report on over budget items from 1999
 - b. Approval of any pending over budget items
 - c. Other old business
6. New Business
 - a. Proposed changes to Financial Operating Guidelines, if any
 - b. 2000 Budget
 - Income
 - Expenses
 - Inventory
 - c. Other new business
7. Adjourn

FITNESS COMMITTEE – David Grilli

Upon the resignation of Mo Chambers as committee chair, David Grilli has taken over the position. Current projects are being assessed and committee members currently without assignments are being pressed into service. It is one goal of the new committee chair to tap all human resources available.

Current projects include; The Check Off Challenge, Focus On Fitness section of SWIM Magazine, The Fitness Committee Quarterly, The Annual Fitness Award, and the Fitness 500 event. All projects will be reported upon at convention as part of the committee's convention report.

A data base of committee members has been created and e-mail is being utilized to enhance communications.

The Fitness Articles Packet is currently available to anyone through the National Office and soon will be available through the USMS web site.

The Fitness Committee currently has 19 members whom are being poled to determine their interest in staying on the committee. Once the poll is complete, we will proceed in recruiting new members at convention. Perhaps tapping the new unassigned delegates.

FITNESS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17th

9:00 – 10:20 am

1. Introductions
 - a. Committee Members
 - b. Other Attendees
 - c. Circulate attendance sheet and appoint a secretary
2. Fitness Events Past And Current
 - a. Postal Pentathlon
 - b. Check Off Challenge

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fitness Committee Meeting Agenda continued

3. New Or Proposed Fitness Events
 - a. USMS 500 Swim
 - b. 2000 Fitness Event
4. Information Services
 - a. Swim Magazines Focus On Fitness
 - b. Fitness Committee Quarterly
 - c. Fitness Articles Package
 - d. Web Site Fitness Information
5. Fitness Award
6. Budget Items
7. New Business

INSURANCE COMMITTEE - Colleen Driscoll

Our loss experience continues to be very good which has enabled us to secure competitive renewal pricing and board coverage's. We have worked with our insurance broker to secure guaranteed multiyear premiums in the event insurance premiums increase. It continues to be an extremely competitive insurance market and we want to keep our premiums in line with the marketplace while maintaining our extensive coverage's.

Over the past year we have made changes in our insurance program which enables us to accommodate our increasing membership and our increasing insurance exposure.

We continue to respond to many questions from our members and meet directors.

Over the past few years we have distributed "Commonly Asked Insurance Questions" and their answers, plus the "Three Minute Insurance Quiz". This year at Convention we will make available the "I Just Have One or Two More Questions" handout. Those interested, can jot down a question or two that they would like answered but perhaps never got around to contacting the committee. Here is your opportunity. If time permits, we will answer as many as we can after our committee meeting. Otherwise, please see me during the convention with your questions.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGEDA

Friday, September 17th

10:30 - 11:50 am

1. Introduction of Insurance Committee members
2. Appoint recorder
3. Roll call
4. Review of current policies and premiums
5. Vote on 2000 programs
6. Projected 2000 programs and beyond
7. Review of loss history and current reserves
8. Old business
9. New business
10. Adjournment

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE- June Krauser

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The year has been quiet. "Committee Description Review" was received in January from Jack Buchanan, Legislation Committee. I polled the committee members in February. I received only two answers by the deadline and three more after the deadline. The consensus was:

1. Is this committee necessary? YES
2. Are you happy with the number of committee members? YES
3. How are your committee members delegated? This year they were selected with at least one from each zone.
4. Should there be a required number of representation? YES and the representation should be at least one from each zone AND have had experience in foreign competition.
5. Do you anticipate a need for more members? NO
6. Does your committee description indicate what is actually happening and/or should it be re-written? Suggestions. The International Committee shall consist of twelve members from the House of Delegates having foreign competition experience, with at least one member from each zone. The committee shall encourage, promote and assist with the dissemination of information on International meets and bring to the attention of USMS any bids for International Championship meets.
7. Should all committees have the same representation and numbers? NO

The ongoing project of updating a list of countries along with contacts – names and addresses – by Ginger Pierson and Bill Tingley is almost completed. I was sent a list to look over and after any corrections or additions the list will be sent to Bill who is to put it on a disk. Since all this was done, I received an updated list from the LEN committee which I forwarded to Ginger. At that time I suggested that this list should be kept on a disk and updated as needed. Then anyone who wished a copy could be sent a copy of the current disk. If the list is kept in something like WORD, then it could be sent by E-mail. The LATYCAR 99 meet that will be held at the ISHOF in September should provide an updated list of representatives from South America, etc.

After returning from our FINA Masters Committee meeting in June, I had Dick Brewer put the order of events for Munich and the time standards on web sites. Check the web site at: <http://home.att.net/~dixiezone/> Click on News and you find the events and dates. Click on Meet page and you get the Qualifying Standards.

A goal for 1999: A sub-committee was formed to compile guidelines that offers assistance and education to an organizing committee preparing to host an international meet (specifically World Championships) to assure a quality event. Sub committee members: Dorothy Donnelly, Dan Gruender, Walt Reid, Janet Renner, Manny Sanguilly, Phil Whitten – chairman.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17, 1999

10:30 - 11:50 AM

1. Introduction of members.
2. Review of year.
3. Old Business:
 - a. Contact list - Ginger Pierson & Bill Tingley
 - b. Report of Sub-committee - Phil Whitten
4. New Business
5. Adjourn

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE- Elin Zander

COMMITTEE REPORTS

You will find the bulk of our report in the 1999 amendment proposals to code. Thanks to all who submitted amendment proposals. Any mistakes in typing or transcribing the proposals are mine (sorry!).

We still have not received input from some standing committee chairs on their respective committee description rewrites, therefore additional changes may be proposed before convention. Standing committee chairs who have comments or concerns about their committee descriptions should contact Jack Buchanan ASAP.

Please review the amendment proposals carefully. The meeting times scheduled for Legislation Committee at convention are very brief, therefore discussion may be limited. Be prepared to keep your comments succinct!

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

1:00 – 1:50 pm – Housekeeping

Thursday, September 16th

2:00 – 3:20 pm - Open Meeting

Friday, September 17th

10:30 – 12:45 pm

1. Role Call
2. Discussion of and Action on Legislation Amendment Proposals
3. Action on New Amendment Proposals
4. Projects for the next year

LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE - Sally Dillon

The Long Distance Committee has conducted its usual business throughout the past year. The All American and All Star teams were selected, the bid form for the 2001 National Championship events was distributed in January, the LD calendar and National Championship event information was distributed in April, and the LD calendar and website were updated on an ongoing basis. The Open Water Manual was revised last fall and is available by mail from the USMS National Office (\$7) or on the website at usms.org/longdist/

The 1999 National Championship Event hosts received a packet of organizational materials from the LD chairman, signed contracts, developed entry forms and organized their events. The One Hour Postal swim set another record this year with 1838 individual swims and an increase in participation is expected for the 5K & 10K and 3000 & 6000 yard Postal Championships. In July, 155 swimmers swam in the Championship 2 Mile Cable Swim in Charlottesville, VA and 174 swam, in the 1 Mile Open Water event in Seal Beach, CA. On August 1, Cleveland, OH hosted 122 swimmers in their 2 Mile Open Water event and the two open water events slated for Catalina Island the week after convention should draw good crowds.

Committee communication was at an all time "high" this year with all but one member able to keep in touch with e-mail. Items discussed include a relay record submission, the One Hour Postal Swim deadlines and registration problems, the All Star Team requirements and a "millennium" swim for the 2000 One Hour Postal event. "Snail mail" correspondence covered issues such as club scoring, championship T-shirt design, and wet suit competitors. I appreciate the participation from all members of the committee and especially the following "leaders" of special projects: Peter Crumbine, Lynn Hazlewood, Maureen Koss, Robert Zeitner and Marcia Benjamin.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long Distance Committee Report continued

"Timely" bids for the 2001 National Championship events were due to the chairman by August 15th. "Untimely" bids will be accepted prior to the committee's meeting Thursday afternoon and will be considered if no appropriate "timely" bid has been received. Bid selections will take place at Friday's meeting.

Finally, the Long Distance Committee thanks NIKE for sponsoring the LD All Star Team again this year.

LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

2001 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BIDS WERE DUE AUGUST 15TH.

"UNTIMELY" BIDS FOR POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION ARE DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE THURS. MEETING

Thursday, September 16th

3:30 – 4:50 pm

1. Introduction of committee members
2. Chairman's report
 - a. 1999 Long Distance National Championship event update
 - b. 2000 Long Distance National Championship events – assignment of evaluators
 - c. Open Water Manual review
 - d. Summary of committee decisions during previous year
 - One Hour Postal Swim – deadline discussion and New Year's Eve swim
 - Club Scoring – advisory now, rule for 2000 to be discussed at noon meeting
 - T-shirt design – advisory now, need language for contract
 - Wet suit competitors – separate start of finish
 - Postal event disqualification's
 - All Star Team and All American decisions
3. Subcommittee reports
 - a. All American – Peter Crumbine
 - b. Long Distance Calendar and Bids – Lynn Hazlewood
 - c. Awards – Robert Zeitner
 - Selection of 2 year bid for medals
 - d. Records – Maureen Koss
4. Discussion of USMS Championship events – non compliance of contract

Friday, September 17th

9:00 – 10:20 am

5. Financial report/budget review
6. Discussion of priorities/criteria for selection of National Postal Swim bids
7. 2001 Long Distance National Championship Bid selection
8. New Business

Friday, September 17th

12:00 – 12:45 pm

9. Discussion of 301.2.3 regarding USA Swimming and USMS swimmers competing together in open water swims
10. Discussion of club scoring and rule proposal for 2000.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MARKETING/PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE- Hill Carrow

In order to facilitate more involvement and grass roots work by Marketing Committee members, it was approved at our session at the 1998 Annual Meeting to break committee tasks into smaller subcommittees each with a specific focus.

Those six subcommittees are: Development (new sources of revenues), Brand Marketing (branding USMS on a national basis), Membership Marketing (increasing USMS membership/participation), USS Initiatives (developing/expanding USS relationship), Sponsorships (attracting additional sponsor support), Research and Planning (compiling/conducting sufficient research to support marketing committee efforts) Subcommittee chairs are Lil Haneman, Rich Burns, Clay Evans, Mary Lee Watson, Mel Goldstein, and Deb Morrin respectively.

Our Membership Marketing group worked the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) show in Mesa, AZ in March. Gene and Lola Donner managed the USMS booth assisted by subcommittee chair Clay Evans. There were 400 conference attendees and many inquiries regarding USMS were fielded at the booth. At the upcoming American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) Convention in San Diego, USMS will again have a booth with Clay Evans managing our display location. Jim Wheeler also completed the video PSAs on Masters Swimming and began distribution to interested LMSCs. Three were in the initial distribution.

The USS Initiatives subcommittee has assisted in several meetings with USS (now USA Swimming) including a major session at the 1998 Convention. Follow up meetings with Chuck Wielgus, Executive Director, and Skip Gilbert, Marketing Director, respectively of USA Swimming have been held primarily by Hill Carrow and Nancy Ridout. These meetings have been very positive in analyzing current USA Swimming - USMS relationships and potential future cooperative arrangements.

One of the most successful joint ventures to come out of increased USAS-USMS cooperation has been the Masters Swim clinic program coordinated by Leslie Cooper at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. This program has received much positive publicity and more applicants than can be accommodated at each session.

The Sponsorship Subcommittee has been successful by again (during '98-'99) increasing the size and financial commitments of the USMS family of sponsors. Sponsors include: Kast-A-Way Swimwear, Speedo, TYR, MBNA, Alamo, Earthlink Telephone Card, NIKE, The Victor, VASA Trainer, Mindspring, Destinations, and Ultra Swim. Mel Goldstein, chairman of the Sponsorship Committee, includes his update in these materials at the "Past President's Report."

At last year's convention the Committee also presented a fairly detailed Marketing Plan for USMS from 1999 through 2001. The plan included a mission statement, major goals, strategies, tactics and even specific goals for USMS for the next two years (including membership increases, growth in clubs, and enhanced sponsorships). The overarching theme was improvement of USMS marketing and even USMS itself.

While this plan has not been acted on substantially yet, it remains a credible means of advancing the ball for USMS. Though your committee chair will be retiring as head of the Marketing Committee at the conclusion of this year's Convention meeting, it is hoped that the next generation of USMS Marketing Committee leadership will embrace and expand upon this plan. The Committee feels that in doing so the resulting benefits for USMS will be significant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MARKETING/PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

3:30 – 4:50 pm

1. Minutes of the 1998 Marketing Committee Meeting, Cincinnati
2. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Development - Haneman
 - b. Brand Marketing - Burns
 - c. Membership Marketing - Evans
 - d. USS Initiatives - Watson
 - e. Sponsorships - Goldstein (Past President's report)
 - f. Research and Planning - Morrin
3. Marketing USMS for the new Millennium
 - a. USMS 1999-2001 Marketing Plan
 - b. Direction for the next USMS marketing generation
4. 1999 Marketing Committee Report to the House of Delegates
5. Other Business
 - a. Championship meets
 - b. Web site
6. Next Steps

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE – David Diehl

Upon the resignation of Bill Tingley as committee chair, David Diehl has been appointed to the position. Following are the projects that the Officials Committee has been working on since last convention: Annual review of certifying organizations, Review of rule differences between the YMCA and National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) and USMS for Rule Book, Status of Officials Newsletter, Effectiveness of Officials Committee liaison at SC and LC National Championships, Discussion of Position Description for Officials Committee Liaison for national championship meets.

This year, the Officials Committee will discuss the following items:

- Interpretation of backstroke turn rules for masters;
- FINA rule changes;
- Assignment of liaisons for the 2000 SC and LC National Championships.

The Officials Committee encourages all delegates that officiate at USMS meets to attend our meeting and share experiences and provide discussion on the above agenda items.

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

3:30 – 4:50 pm

1. Introductions
2. Annual review of certifying organizations
3. Review of rule differences between the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) and USMS and between YMCA and USMS. Insertion of differences in USMS Rule Book
4. Officials Newsletter
5. Interpretation of Backstroke Turn Rules for Masters
6. Discussion of FINA rule changes on USMS (e.g. No False Start Recall)
7. Review any proposed Rules changes for 2000
8. Position Description for Officials Committee liaison for national championship meets
9. Appointment of Officials Committee Liaison for 2000 SC and LC Nationals

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE– Nancy Miller

The Planning Committee has been able to accomplish most of its goals as they were delineated at our last convention. We as a committee had directed the Sports Medicine Committee to establish a so-called "Sports Drug Policy" to avoid the potential for performance-enhancing drug abuse in Masters swimming. In response to our request, USMS adopted a strong policy of opposition to any drug testing of Masters athletes. The Sports Medicine Committee firmly believes that it could be detrimental to the health of many Masters athletes if testing were permitted because so many of this population are on, for health reasons, various medications which may be banned for use in the conventional competitive arena. These drugs, while not ingested for the purpose of improving performance, are necessary to the well-being of the athlete, and the athlete should not have to even consider making a choice between taking a necessary medication or stopping that medication for purposes of competition.

Planning directed the Computer On-Line Committee to study the issue of changing technology and how it will affect USMS business, particularly in the area of member privacy. Jim Matysek has been very diligent in researching these issues, particularly member privacy in dealing with the Web. This is an ongoing concern and one which Jim and his committee continue to address. Jim also assured us that Scott Rabalais (Coaches Committee) has been very conscientious about providing him with accurate and updated information for the USMS website so that those swimmers, coaches, and facility directors across the country who do not receive an actual visit from a mentor coach can still be up to speed with regard to available information. MACA has recently put its newsletter on line – thanks to Bill Volckening – so that data is also now more widely available.

Tracy Grilli, in response to our request, printed an item in the Spring, 1999, Streamlines announcing that the National Office is now a central repository for information relating to the construction of new aquatic facilities. It became apparent at last year's convention that many people in many parts of the country were researching this topic and, in some cases, actually undertaking construction, but there was no clearinghouse for pooling collective information. Thanks, Tracy! Hopefully, this will prevent the re-invention of the wheel every time pool renovation or construction is undertaken.

As a Committee, we continue to take an interest in both the USMS/USA Swimming/USOTC Altitude Training Camps and in the USMS Endowment Fund. The second camp will take place from October 31st through November 3rd, 1999, and will without a doubt be as successful as the last one. The Endowment Fund has shown steady growth. It has benefited from the check-off system on our registration forms – though not as much as we would like! – and has also received some large donations from individuals. We would like to encourage the Fund to be proactive in determining how monies will be utilized once enough income has been realized.

Planning has also been involved in working on a policy with regard to the role of USMS with regard to Senior Games. We would like to see our body take a greater interest, both at the local and national levels. We should have a greater presence at these competitions, both from a marketing and from an officiating standpoint. By taking more of an active and positive stance, we stand to gain a tremendous number of athletes over the age of 50 who are already out there training for competition.

The Committee is concerned about the comparative dearth of younger swimmers within our USMS ranks. We see a need to increase our appeal to these athletes, as they are our future. We would like to see the USMS "word" spread more widely to youth swim teams – be they USA Swimming, YMCA/YWCA, high school or collegiate – as well as to campus recreation programs. These young people cannot join Masters if they are unaware of us! According to the Marketing Committee survey compiled a couple of years ago, a stunningly low 9% of 1033 respondents found out about USMS through a youth swim team! Kudos to the Sports Medicine Committee, who has finally penetrated that market with their first article to be published by ASCA. Why not try for some visibility in Swimming World, etc., also?

Finally, all committees will be dealing with the Executive Committee's proposed Strategic Action Plan for the coming years. Bring your concerns and ideas to our meeting, and be part of your future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

5:00 – 6:20 pm

1. Introduction of Committee Members
2. Old Business
 - a. Aquatic facilities construction information repository
 - b. Computer On-Line Committee updated (cf. Planning committee concerns)
 - c. Status of Executive Director position
 - d. Status of USMS/USA Swimming/USOTC Altitude Training Camps
 - e. Status of USMS Endowment Fund
3. New Business
 - a. Changes in Planning Committee description
 - b. USMS role with regard to Senior Games
 - c. USMS membership growth and retention
 - d. The relationship of USMS with USA Swimming
 - e. USMS "official publication" issue
 - f. USMS Strategic Action Plan

RECORDS AND TABULATION COMMITTEE – Pieter Cath

TOP TEN

Top-Ten Tabulations for 1998 Long-Course Meters, 1998 Short-Course Meters, and 1998/99 Short-Course Yards, were sent to the printers and distributed. The World-Record listings in these publications were supplied by Walter Reid.

The Top-Ten information is also available on the Web. Carl House continues to improve these presentations.

ALL AMERICANS

Individual and Relay All American tabulations were completed. The Individual list will appear in Swim Magazine and the Relay list was sent to all members of this Committee and to representatives of the listed Clubs. The Relay list is also available on the USMS web site.

QUALIFYING TIMES

Tabulations of qualifying times for National Championships were compiled for SCY and LCM.

RECORDS

The number of records that were processed during the last year for LCM is 149 (Women 37, Men 85, Relays 27), for SCM it is 193 (Women 74, Men 92, Relay 27). This does not include those that were broken more than once during the year.

For SCY 223 (Women 103, Men 89, Relay 31) were processed and eligible for a TYR certificate. All record applications were processed by Walt Reid.

PROBLEM AREAS

We continue to have problems with meets that are not reported, especially recognized meets. Participants in recognized events do not know they themselves are responsible for reporting their results to their Top-Ten Recorder.

Unfortunately some swimmers with one-event registrations show up on the All-American and Top-Ten tabulations. Maybe improved communication between the meet directors and the LMSC involved could alleviate this.

RECORDS AND TABULATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Friday, September 17th
10:30 – 11:50 am

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. TYR Certificates
3. Software for Top-Ten Recorders
 - a. Report Formats
 - b. Programs
 - Hy-Tek
 - Walt Reid
 - Excel
 - Others
 - c. Tracking Record Swims
 - d. Review of LMSC Handbook Instructions
4. Other Business
5. Adjourn

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE – Sarah Hromada

The Registration Committee is preparing for the transition from National Registrar contract employees to a USMS employee. A new system is being put in place and tested at the National Office. Committee members and registrars gave input on the requirements of the National Registrars position.

The Registration Committee reformatted the 1999 Registration LMSC Handbook. Future editions can be easily updated.

A discussion of Permanent ID numbers is still open. The local registrars are satisfied with the current numbering system. The LMSCs are not in a position to implement permanent ID's.

The Registration committee was called upon to answer various questions about the registration process throughout the year.

The Registration Committee would like to thank Bill and Diane Black for their years of outstanding service as USMS Registrar. The Blacks have been great partners with the local registrars who will miss their humor and help. The Blacks took a handwritten system and converted it to a smoother method of e-mail transmittals. They have walked many of us through the registration software and the trouble shooting of computers. The Blacks educated LMSCs on the value and methods of swimmer retention and membership growth. Thank you Bill and Diane for all your hard work and for taking those phone calls in the middle of the night.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17th
9:00 – 10:20 am

1. Introduction of committee and registrars
2. Old Business
 - a. Registration software
 - b. Membership cards
 - c. Permanent ID Numbers
 - d. Registration forms – paper and on-line
 - e. LMSC Handbook
3. New Business
 - a. National Office – Registration Procedures for 2000
 - b. Membership Growth

RULE BOOK COMMITTEE – Meg Smath

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Two big changes for the 1999 rule book: first, a new spiral binding; second a companion "mini" rule book to accompany the standard "full" rule book. We printed 600 mini-rule books for 1999, and sold out. How many should we print for 2000?

Jim Matysek updated the online rule book, and added a sponsors' page in 1999.

The July/August issue of *SWIM* magazine published a notice of the contest to design the cover of the 2000 rule book. This year's notice stated that all submissions become the property of USMS; in addition, Legal Counsel Jeanne Crouse is drafting a release for all submitters to sign. This is so USMS will have the option of using the cover designs for purposes other than the rule book cover. Last year's cover was also used for note cards. Three other designs that were *not* chosen for the rule book cover were turned into T shirts, offered for sale by Kast-A-Way Swimwear. So far we have had one design submitted, and one inquiry made via e-mail.

Mary Beth Windrath submitted two corrections, for dates of past national championships, which have already been made in the computer file. It's not too late for committee members to submit more housekeeping changes!

Finally, the 2000 rule book will be put together in Microsoft Publisher, instead of Microsoft Word, as has been done for past rule books. This will give us more layout flexibility.

RULE BOOK COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**Thursday, September 16th
1:00 – 1:50 pm**

1. Appoint recorder, take roll.
2. Choose cover design.
3. Discuss release.
4. Discuss whether to include ads in mini rule book as well as in the full rule book.
5. Decide how many mini and full rule books to print.
6. Do we like the formatting of the mini rule book, and do we want to apply it to the full rule book as well?
7. Housekeeping proposals.
8. Make assignments for 2000 rule book.

RULES COMMITTEE – Leo Letendre

The proposed "emergency" changes to the rules of competition which have been received in a timely manner are included in this convention packet.

RULES COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**Thursday, September 16th
5:00 – 6:20 pm
Friday, September 17th
12:00 – 12:45 pm**

1. Introductions
2. Discussion of the emergency legislation requirements
3. Consideration of proposed amendments
4. Projects for 2000

SAFETY EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Julie Paque

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Safety Education Committee would like to provide the tools necessary for our members to enjoy their workouts and events in the safest manner possible. To accomplish this we have had one article published in SWIM Magazine (March/April issue on Pool Safety, by Leslie Smith) and have an article on water quality ready for publication at the beginning of the 2000 open water season (by Dan Gray).

We have outlines for a club safety booklet and a safety section for the LMSC Handbook. We hope that the club booklet will be made available to all USMS clubs and will assist them in safety planning. The information in the safety section of the LMSC handbook will be a resource to LMSCs and will include topics relating to meets and open water swims. We will try to have a working meeting at this convention to write sections of these publications.

SAFETY EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17th

9:00 – 10:20 am

1. Introductions and attendance
2. Completed projects
 - a. SWIM Magazine articles
3. Current projects
 - a. LMSC safety chair job description
 - b. Safety section for LMSC handbook
 - c. Club Safety booklet
4. Proposed changes to rule book relating to safety
5. New business
6. Review/assign tasks for upcoming year
7. Adjourn

SPORTS MEDICINE COMMITTEE – Dr. Jim Miller

This past year has seen the completion of all of the goals stated last year by our committee. Although the publishing of articles in SWIM has been disappointing, the Sports Medicine committee continues to produce original works as well as literature survey articles. Other organizations – in particular, ASCA – have sought our work. As a result, four articles have been sent to them. Such interaction with other aquatic disciplines will help local programs grow and will also help make Masters a natural part of any complete aquatic program. The marketing of our unique and exciting sport must be a part of the role of all USMS committees.

A survey was created by our committee and distributed to the attendees and staff during the February USMS/USA Swimming Altitude Training Camp. There was a small return but enough to continue developing the survey for future use. Its role is to gather data on our athletes and the impact swimming has on their physical and psychological health. Research has been done for years on the impact of the aquatic environment and its chemicals on – typically – college athletes. We, however, want answers to these questions based on a broader spectrum of decades rather than the span of just a few years.

The agenda is posted, and open discussion is welcome. This is your sport. What does it do for you, and what does it do to you? After all, YOU are the Masters who are swimming for life.

SPORTS MEDICINE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17th

10:30 – 11:50 am

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Welcome to all visitors – all input is good input!

1. Introduction of committee members
2. Old business
 - a. the survey
 - review and alterations
 - compilation of data
 - completion of the physical data-gathering aspect
 - b. Articles produced and published in SWIM
 - c. Articles and produced and NOT published in SWIM
 - d. Articles sent to ASCA
3. New business
 - a. New publications
 - b. Support of new cooperative agreements for publication

ZONE COMMITTEE – Hugh Moore

In preparation for election of officers at this year's convention, the Zone Committee established procedures at last year's convention. Current officers were automatically nominated. Requests for nominations were listed in the January/February issue of SWIM magazine, with a deadline for nominations of February 28th. Since no further nominations were received, we will not host a candidate's forum at convention. Nominations from the floor will still be accepted at the Thursday, September 16th meeting of the House of Delegates.

The committee has submitted a proposal for a revised committee description for the rule book. Each of the zone reps has been compiling lists of events within their zone for SWIM magazine. Each zone rep has periodically reviewed the national address database to verify that LMSC officers and addresses are correct. At convention we will discuss plans for the nomination and election process to be used next year for the Zone Committee Chairman. Additionally, each zone representative is responsible for activities within their zone.

ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17th

9:00 – 10:20 am

1. Small LMSC convention support (financial and encouragement)
2. Election process for Zone Chairman in 2000
3. SWIM Magazine event listings
4. Zone Committee tasks
5. Zone Committee description proposal
6. Zone reports
7. Old business
8. New business
9. Adjourn

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ZONE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

BREADBASKET ZONE– Anna Lea Roof

Iowa Masters in Cedar Rapids hosted The Breadbasket Zone in April. It was a great meet. Each of our LMSCs also hosted many quality events. With nearly 2000 swimmers spread out among our nine LMSCs and vast geographic distances, the zone is very thankful for the Internet. Communication within the Zone has been greatly enhanced by the use of e-mail and the Internet. The Zone Meet entry form, for example, was posted on the web

COLONIES ZONE– Lynn Hazlewood

Colonies Zone members have been busy this year working on three Zone projects which were identified at last year's convention: 1) Zone Web Site; 2) Open Water Zone Championships; and 3) Zone Operating Guidelines and Archives. In addition to these projects, we will have two zone championships this year and numerous zone members have had notable achievements.

The most exciting new development is our Zone Open Water Championship series which will begin next summer. The Zone will be divided into three geographical areas. Each area will hold an open water championship which shall be a minimum of one mile in length. At the end of the series, zone champions for each age group will be named. Placing will be determined by accumulated points earned in individual championships with participation in a minimum of two zone championships.

Harry DeLong of Virginia Masters is currently developing the Zone Web Site which is housed on the Virginia Masters web site at www.vaswim.org/ColoniesZone.htm. Ed Tsuzuki, New Jersey Masters, has also contributed to the site by organizing and uploading the Zone Meet Records. The site is under construction and further development will be a major topic of discussion at our convention meeting.

I have been working on the operating guidelines and collecting archives of zone information. The guidelines are intended to record decisions made at zone meetings. Many people have contributed to the archives. Most notably, I have collected old zone newsletters, minutes from meetings, and a complete set of official results from SCY and SCM Zone Championships.

Our SCY Zone Championship, held March 30-April 2 attracted over 500 swimmers. It was held in the new natatorium at the University of Maryland in College Park. Many records were set in this fast pool. The SCM Zone Championship will take place after convention at Rutgers University on November 6-7.

Achievements of Colonies members this year are many. Jim Miller, Virginia Masters, is the 1999 recipient of the Ransom Arthur award. Kelley Lemon, DC Masters and Potomac Valley, was inducted into the Swimming Hall of Fame in ceremonies on May 7-8. Marcia Cleveland, Connecticut Masters, published "Dover Solo", a book about her 1994 English Channel swim. The ranks of Colonies Zone national committee chairs increased by two when David Diehl, Potomac Valley, and David Grilli, New England, were named as chairmen of the Officials and Fitness Committees respectively. Potomac Valley LMSC presented a \$1,000 check to the USMS Endowment Fund during the SCY Zone Championships.

In addition, several teams did well in championship meets this year. In the 1 Hour Postal Championship in January, New England Masters took second place and Empire State Masters third place for extra large clubs while Connecticut Masters took third in medium clubs competition. In the Women's Divisions at USMS SC Nationals, New England Masters was second in medium clubs and DC Masters took second for small clubs. Finally, the D.C. Aquatics Club from Potomac Valley won an unprecedented fourth World Championship at the 10th International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Championships held in Atlanta in June. In doing so, they outdistanced the host club, Atlanta, by 1510 points.

DIXIE ZONE – June Krauser

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The minutes of the Dixie Zone meeting held at the Convention on September 18th will be found in the October-December Dixie Zone Newsletter. The Newsletter is sent out every three months to the Dixie Zone Clubs, Convention Delegates, Dixie Zone LMSC Chairmen and Newsletter editors, the USMS National Office, USMS President, Zone Chairmen and Zone Reps. Dixie Zone Top Ten Times have not been sent out this year due to the retirement of the Top Ten Times and Records chairman. It has been difficult finding a replacement volunteer and getting started over on the process. There have been three Dixie Zone Championship meets this past year. SCM was held in Orlando with 180 swimmers. The SCY meet was held in Raleigh, NC with 197 swimmers. The LCM meet was held in Baton Rouge, LA. Trying to keep an updated list of LMSC officers and committee members within the Zone proves to be a difficult task. Every time I think I've got it right, something changes - a person, an address, a zip code, an area code, a phone or fax number, not to mention an e-mail address. Many good meets were conducted around the Zone. The 1999 National Senior Games will be held in October in Orlando. Dick Brewer has designed a Dixie Zone web site. He is trying to get all the meet dates and information on the web site at: <http://home.att.net/~dixiezone>. Please contact Dick at: dickbrewer@worldnet.att.net

GREAT LAKES ZONE - Skip Thompson

In the last year, the Great Lakes Zone had one Zone Championship, the Short Course Meters Championship, which was held in Indianapolis at the IUPUI Natatorium. The 1999 SCM Championship will be held on October 30 -31 at IUPUI also. In place of the other Zone Meet Championships was an Inter State Showdown Championship, held in November, 1998 at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. About 150 swimmers attended the meet of which 85% were from the state of Ohio. The Zone will have its first National Open Water Championship since 1995, which will be the 2 Mile to be sponsored by the Lake Erie LMSC to benefit the Arthritis Foundation. In the year 2000, the Zone will sponsor two USMS Open Water National Championships. This past 1998/99 Short Course season 7 out of 8 LMSC's held successful State Championships with two LMSC's in Ohio having a combined meet. The 1999 YMCA National Swim meet was held at the Schroeder Aquatic Center in Brown Deer, Wisconsin. 482 swimmers attended a well run meet. This was the fourth year in a row that a USMS or a YMCA National swim meet has been held in the Zone. Six of 8 LMSC's have Web Pages up and running and all LMSC's in the Zone have Club Web sites up and running. A total 35 Clubs have sites representing all 8 LMSC's. At the Zone meeting this year we will be discussing what type of Zone activities do the LMSC's want. Possible examples would be State competitions, LMSC competitions, and Postal Championships.

NORTHWEST ZONE - Dave Radcliff

It was a good year in the Northwest. Our two MACA Co-Reps, Bill Volckening and Doug Garcia did a super job in bringing clinics to our Zone. In December Bill hosted a Nike Champion Clinic in Beaverton, Oregon featuring Olympian Anita Nall. With heavy emphasis on Breaststroke, this clinic was especially great for the IM and stroke swimmers. Anita was outstanding. In May Doug and Elin Zander hosted a Mentor Clinic in Spokane, Washington. Kerry O'Brien (Walnut Creek) worked with the coaches in the morning and then did a fantastic freestyle clinic for swimmers in the afternoon.

PNA took charge of the Zone Meets this year, beginning with the SCM Zone Meet in Oak Harbor in December. Then they followed with the SCY Zone Meet and the LCM Zone Meet which were both held at the World Class King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way, Washington. All three meets featured many records ranging from LMSC Records, Zone Records, USMS National Records to World Records. The Zone is very grateful for the cooperation and leadership of PNA in hosting all three of the Zone Meets this year. We also wish Dan "Frosty" Frost good luck in his new naval assignment in Monterey, California. Dan was the Meet Director for the last two SCM Zone Meets. He was also the Editor of the PNA newsletter, The Wet Set. He will be greatly missed in the Northwest.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Northwest Zone Report continued

To improve communication The Northwest Chatter (the Zone Newsletter) is now published 6 times a year. The use of email is also increasing. All current LMSC Chairs have email and almost instant communication and feedback is now available. The Zone continues to help fund and support the smaller LMSCs. The Zone will be assisting the Montana delegate and the Snake River (Idaho) delegate to attend the National Convention. Money was also made available to help coaches attend the Mentor Clinic in Spokane.

We are happy to live in the beautiful Northwest and we love to swim.

OCEANA ZONE - Richard Smith

Oceana is increasing in membership by approximately 5% and it is a good bet in the early Millenium that Oceana will be breaking the 10,000 barrier. Hawaii and Pacific are both enjoying this growing pace and swimmers from these LSMC's continue to break National and World records. This year's the USMS Short Course Nationals was hosted by the Santa Clara Swim Club, in the beautiful Santa Clara International Swim Center and the 2059 entrants thoroughly enjoyed themselves while setting many national records. Our thanks go to Alma Guimarin & John Bitter the co-meet directors and the fine team of workers that provided us all with an outstanding meet. For Pacific this was the HIGH POINT of another outstanding year under the leadership of Julie Paque. Pacific will be represented by 24 delegates at this year's convention and all are looking forward in a positive way toward making this convention the best yet. Hawaii has been enjoying a very good year with Janet Renner at the helm. Hawaii has held any number of sanctioned pool meets where LSMC, National and International records have been set. Hawaii has "Caught the Bug" and will be sending three delegates to convention. Janet had encouraged more volunteers to come out of the surf and lend a hand in building Hawaii's part of the USMS program. Oceana is proud of Hawaii's LMSC and what they have accomplished this past year. Oceana looks forward to even a bigger and better year come the Millenium.

SOUTH CENTRAL - Kris Wingenroth

The South Central Zone is comprised of nearly 2000 swimmers in six LMSCs (Border, Gulf, South Texas, North Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas). During the past year, the zone has maintained an active meet schedule with each LMSC hosting their usual competitions. The short course zone meet was held in Austin at the University of Texas again this year. There was no bid for a long course zone meet this year. Most LMSCs have increased both registrations and attendance at meets this year. We exchange newsletters among the LMSCs to encourage communication. Gulf LMSC added a website this year. Both Gulf LMSC and North Texas LMSC maintain websites which list all of the events held within the zone. We are using the web to publish meet entries. The Gulf uses an e-mail list (with voluntary participation) to notify members of LMSC meetings, events, meet schedule, and minutes of the meetings.

SOUTHWEST ZONE - Bonnie Adair

It has been "business as usual" for SW Zone LMSC's, with membership slightly below last year's numbers. Notwithstanding the SCY Nationals a mere hour (by air) away at Santa Clara, meet participation has been down in SPMA LMSC and SDI, while Arizona and New Mexico are staying constant. Open Water remains popular in SPMA and SDI with over 10 sanctioned races scheduled throughout the summer, including 3 National Championship races.

This is an election year for Arizona.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Southwest Zone Report continued

The four LMSC's that comprise the SW Zone are still kicking around a way to have a Zone Championship. One suggestion is to elevate the SCM Regional Championships in SPMA and Arizona to a Zone Championship alternating odd years to SPMA and even years to Arizona. SDI swimmers use SPMA's Regional Championship meets as their Championships and New Mexico swimmers often go to Arizona. Lucy Johnson who is the meet director for this year's SPMA SCM Championships at Belmont Plaza in Long Beach is willing to take on the inaugural "Zone" champs if the other LMSC's agree. We will decide this at Convention.

A Southwest Zone Newsletter is in production focusing on issues that will be discussed at convention.

ZONE MEETINGS AGENDA

Saturday, September 18th

9:30 – 11:50 am

1. Zone specific tasks (zone meets, newsletters, policies, budget/finance, LMSC highlights, etc.)
2. Zone activities for upcoming year
3. Coaches Mentor Program
4. Coaches On-deck Program
5. Verify LMSC election process database
6. Verify LMSC address database
7. Future direction of zones
8. Discussion of "hot" convention topics
9. New business
10. Adjourn

AD HOC INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME NOMINATING

COMMITTEE – Tom Boak

The committee nominated Kelley Lemmon and Maxine Merlino for induction to the International Swimming Hall of Fame. Both Kelley and Maxine were accepted and were installed during the induction ceremony at the ISHOF on May 9th. Congratulations to both.

The committee has put together a list of potential candidates for the 1999 selection process and will be discussion the nominations for 2000 and 2001.

AD HOC INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME NOMINATING

COMMITTEE AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

1:00 – 1:50 pm

1. Review of committee structure
2. Review of class of 1999 selection process and candidates
3. Discussion about nominations for the classes of 2000 and 2001

AD HOC LEGAL COUNSELORS COMMITTEE – Jeanne M. Crouse

This time last year, the Legal Counselors Committee started to create an informal legal directory of USMS members in order to build a network of in-house legal resources. We distributed the survey in the Spring issue of Streamlines and, although we were not flooded with responses, the survey did enable us to identify USMS member-attorneys who possess valuable expertise in areas such as intellectual property and copyright law.

The past year has seen an increase in questions from the grassroots about legal issues that are not governed by national policy or rules. To assist our members in these areas, this year we will ask each

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LMSC to identify within their group a swimmer-lawyer who can serve as a point of contact for such inquiries.. This network also will assist the National Office when we confront issues governed by local law.

Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee Report continued

The Legal Counselors Committee will discuss and establish the logistical procedure for these requests in San Diego.

Other topics we will address in San Diego include the recurring issues posed by on-line registration, legal implications of Y2K, and publication/dissemination of private information that our organization receives about its members. The Committee has been asked to formulate the first draft of a privacy policy for USMS. This process will begin in San Diego.

If any member of the House has a legal question or concern that you believe our Committee should address, please let me know as soon as possible so we can allocate time effectively during our committee meeting (scheduled for Thursday this year).

AD HOC LEGAL COUNSELORS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

3:30 – 4:50 pm

1. Welcome, Introduction of New Committee Members
2. Old Business
 - a. Discussion of survey results, identification of LMSC Legal Representatives
3. New Business
 - a. Y2K issues
 - b. On-Line Registration
 - c. Privacy Issues/Policies for USMS
 - d. Revision of Bylaws/Incorporation discussion in LMSC Handbook
 - e. Discussion/identification of possible projects for Legal Counselors' Committee in upcoming year
 - f. Other new business

AD HOC PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Hugh Moore

At last year's convention the USMS House of Delegates authorized the USMS Executive Committee to expand the current USMS national staff. The Executive Committee has devoted significant effort discussing and debating the issues related to Professional Management. The Executive Committee's proposal is included in the President's report. The Professional Management Committee, which is comprised primarily of the Board of Directors, will be invited to debate the proposal via the Internet prior to convention.

AD HOC RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE – Mary Lee Watson

The call for nominations for the 1999 Ransom Arthur recipient were sent out in February. From a field of highly qualified nominees, the Ransom Arthur Award was presented to Jim Miller at Short Course Nationals in Santa Clara. We look forward to the official presentation at the convention banquet.

The call for nominations for the 1999 Service Award was published in SWIM Magazine and various mailings. The deadline for these nominations is August 1, 1999. The awards will be presented in the house of delegates.

In response to a request that a Championship Ring be made available to USMS members earning world or national records, the subject has been researched and will be on this year's agenda.

We have worked with Susan Ludwig on articles to appear in SWIM magazine recognizing some of our deserving "behind the scenes volunteers".

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ad Hoc Recognition and Awards Committee Report continued

A legislation amendment proposal has been submitted from Pacific LMSC to make our committee a standing committee. The committee feels the time has come for the Ad Hoc Recognition and Awards committee to be elevated to its deserved stature of a standing committee. It's responsibilities are on-going throughout the years and are constantly expanding.

AD HOC RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

5:00 – 6:20 pm

1. Introductions and attendance
2. Old Business
 - a. Ransom Arthur Award
 - b. USMS Service Award
 - c. Status as Ad Hoc committee
3. New Business
 - a. Championship ring
 - b. Other awards
4. Outlook for the year 2000
 - a. Goals if/when we become a standing committee
 - b. Awards/recognition within LMSCs, Zones and/or team
5. Adjourn

AD HOC USMS ENDOWED FUND BOARD OF GOVERNORS – Doug Church

The Board of Governors does not plan on meeting between conventions in the absence of a crisis. I am pleased to report that there have been no crises!

AD HOC USMS ENDOWED FUND BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 17th

12:00 – 12:45 pm

1. Review and Approve Minutes of 1998 Meeting.
2. Financial Report from Legacy Fund.
3. Discussion of promotion of Endowment Fund.
4. Discussion of status re: Grant requests.
5. Other Old business.
6. New Business.
7. Adjournment.

USMS LIAISON REPORTS

CONTROLLER - Suzanne Rague

Since the 1998 Convention, the Controller completed the 1997 financial statements and tax return and the preliminary 1998 financial statements (preliminary subject to audit). Recently, each cost center head was sent a report of their 1999 year-to-date revenues and expenses for review and to assist with preparation of year 2000 budgets. All recordkeeping responsibilities are current. Requests for expense reimbursements and invoice payments are approved and submitted to the Treasurer for payment weekly, so delays should be minimal.

FINA REPRESENTATIVE - June Krauser

Following our FINA Masters Committee meeting in Morocco and the FINA Congress where new rules were passed, I worked out a code for the reporting of disqualification's. This code was based on the code used in the Netherlands after getting it translated into English. This code was passed by our FINA Masters Committee meeting in June of this year. Swimmers who had to be disqualified must be listed with time and coded reason for disqualification in the results list.

Qualifying Standards for Munich 2000 were deemed necessary by FINA and the Organizing Committee. Throughout the year different methods of reaching these standards were considered by the committee. The Qualifying Standards were approved at the meeting in June and will appear in the booklet and entry forms. This booklet should be out in August.

The FINA Guide for conducting Masters Swimming Events was revised during the year - updating the one produced in 1994. This guide will be forwarded to the Bureau for final approval. After approval, it will be sent to each Federation.

In Munich 2000 on July 28th there will be a Swimmers Forum like in Sheffield. Two representatives from each Federation will be allowed to speak. All swimmers are invited to attend. There will be an agenda prepared by the Masters Commission.

The FINA Bureau approved of raising the age of FINA Masters Officials to 70 and have established a new FINA MASTERS OFFICIALS LIST NO. 4. All application forms had to be submitted by September 1, 1999. The applicant must not be older than 70 years as of December 31, 1999.

HISTORIAN - Edie Grunder

The Historian compiled the photo albums for this year from pictures she took at various meets, convention and from photos and articles sent to her from around the country.

History that is being developed and recorded over the internet is bringing up to date the All Americans and articles and pictures about them. Carl House has been doing this with the help of people from all over the country who have been involved in USMS in many ways for many years. He is calling this the Archives.

HISTORIAN MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th

1:00 - 1:50 pm

1. Introductions
2. The role of this committee
3. Develop goals for the coming year
4. Identify formats and create subcommittees to perform the ongoing work of the committee
5. Consider how we might work with other committees in accomplishing our goals

INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME LIAISON - June Krauser

USMS LIAISON REPORTS

ISHOF begins its 35th year. It was in 1965 that Johnny Weissmuller became the first honoree inducted into ISHOF. Now in its 35th year and 523 honorees later, ISHOF is recognized throughout the world as the international showcase for the aquatic sport disciplines. FINA recognizes ISHOF as the official host for international recognition and houses its archives in ISHOF's Henning Library. The library continues to be the single largest resource of aquatic history and oversees the archives of various organizations. The museum's displays and collections are one-of-a-kind and exhibit the world's largest collection of Olympic medals dating back to 1896.

So, what's in store for its 35th year? Within the next 18 months construction will take place which will transfer the exhibits and displays from the front building to the original Hall of Fame building. The original building has much-needed character, better air conditioning for museum purposes, and combines the exhibits with The Henning Library under one roof. The front building will consume the offices and administrative areas of ISHOF. A City of Fort Lauderdale Bond Issue will provide much of the capital funds to perform the structural changes.

This year's Honors Recognition took place on May 7th and 8th at ISHOF. Kelley Lemmon and Maxine Merlino were the Honor Masters Swimmers. Both at age 85, gave heart-warming acceptance speeches. They are true heroes of Masters Swimming! The International Congress meeting also took place this weekend.

Other highlights during the year included a field of 651 swimmers from Germany to Hawaii competing in the 29th Annual Rustic Inn/Swimming Hall of Fame Ocean Mile Swim in December. The oldest swimmer was Gary Weisenthal, 85 and the youngest was Richard Cesar-Meyers, 8. Mark Leonard, a NCAA champion and World University Games Qualifier from Eastern Michigan University came in first.

Broward County's Swim Central to impact drowning rate in South Florida—every child to become a swimmer by grade one. This program will be administered through the Broward County School Board with County Commission and private funding. Upon entering first grade at any public school in Broward County, Florida, each child must pass the following swimming test: 1) The child must jump into the water and return to the pool's edge. 2) the child must tread water for 15 seconds. 3) The child must swim 15 yards. If the child fails to pass these requirements, Swim Central will provide the family a list of where the child must take swimming classes in his or her neighborhood.

The ISHOF began a new fundraising campaign with a 50/50 raffle. Half of the pot went to the winner and the other half to the ISHOF. The drawing was held on July 6th with Thelma Archer being the winner.

SWIM MAGAZINE EDITOR - Susan Ludwig

It has been another busy year at SWIM Magazine. I have just completed my second year as USMS Editor, and it has been my pleasure to work closely with members of many USMS committees. I thank everyone who has been involved this year with SWIM for your help.

Committees or individuals who would like to submit articles or ideas for consideration for further issues of SWIM should not hesitate to contact me at: sludwig459@aol.com (please keep in mind that issues are prepared approximately 4 months in advance).

UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS REPRESENTATIVE - Nancy Ridout

USMS LIAISON REPORTS

USAS has been active this year. There is a new President, Tom Gompf, and several issues on the table. First came the bidding for the 2002 World Championships, which was not awarded to our choice of Long Beach. Pan American Games issues and protocol were also debated. For Masters swimming, the most important issue was that of the banquet - the length and quality to be specific! You will be happy to know that no one has said Masters cannot continue their contribution of levity and color to the occasion and we actually are being given the opportunity to give two awards. Therefore, our 1999 Coach of the Year will be presented at the banquet, along with the Ransom J. Arthur Award.

USA SWIMMING LIAISON - Ted Haartz

Following the attendance at all the 1998 USA Swimming Board of Directors meetings at the September 29th thru October 4th annual aquatics convention in Cincinnati, OH, I attended the USA board meetings November 20th thru 22nd, 1998, January 22nd thru 24th, 1999 and April 30th thru May 2nd, 1999 all of which were held at USA Swimming headquarters in Colorado Springs, CO.

Between and during these meetings, much paperwork is generated for the board to consider. In those cases where the subject matter is of interest to USMS and its operations, I forward copies to President Nancy Ridout for her consideration and distribution as she deems appropriate.

The next scheduled meeting of the USA Swimming board will be at 10:30 am, Tuesday, September 14th, 1999 at the USAS Convention in San Diego, CA.

YMCA LIAISON - Stu Marvin

This was a "growing year" for the YMCA of the USA and their approach towards Masters swimming. In an effort to move away from their very successful centralized approach of running the National Championships, this year's meet was awarded to an outside competitive bidder. In adopting an approach similar to USMS, the YMCA of the USA sought to alleviate the strain placed upon a core group of dedicated individuals who ran the National YMCA Swimming & Diving Championships and the National YMCA Masters Championships on consecutive weekends. It was also hoped that such an approach would encourage local YMCAs and their Masters teams to take a more active role in supporting the YMCA Masters program.

Overall the 1999 meet was successful, saw good attendance (485 swimmers from 81 teams) and experienced the usual assault on the record books. The folks at the Schroeder YMCA in Brown Deer, Wisconsin, should be commended for taking on the responsibility. However, as with anything new, there were problems associated with the conduct of the meet. The Schroeder YMCA Organizing Committee was friendly and accommodating but did not have a good working knowledge in the conduct of national level Masters meets. Consequently, situations arose that would have been normally averted under the leadership and experience of the "centralized approach" or a more experienced bidder.

After discussions with representatives from USMS and other interested parties, the YMCA of the USA is working towards correcting the problems associated with the 1999 championships. Before the USAS Convention convenes in September, I will have traveled with representatives of YMCA of the USA to the site of the 2000 championships in Athens, Georgia. There we plan to visit the facility, meet with the organizing committee and develop a working plan to monitor the preparations for the meet next April. Using timelines and checklists implemented by the USMS Championships Committee, the YMCA of the USA and I plan to take a more proactive role in assisting the Athens Organizing Committee. Details of the meet are unavailable at this time and will be made available soon.

With this communication between USMS and YMCA leadership, along with input from other individuals possessing national championship meet director experience, the change from "centralized conduct" to "private bidder conduct" of the YMCA Nationals will be better served. As always, I am open for suggestions that I will send on to the YMCA of the USA.