Greetings from the National Office…

Hi –

Spring has finally arrived here in NH! I didn’t think the snow would ever melt!!! The ice, well that’s a different story…

As you will see, this is a “huge” issue. Included are the ½ year reports from the members of our Executive Committee, USMS Committee Chairs, Liaisons and Special Assignments. Please take the time to read through these so you are aware of with what is happening in “your” organization and please be sure to pass this information on to your membership.

Attached you will find a “revised” LMSC Renewal and Growth Rates chart (original was sent out with the Winter issue of Streamlines…) It was brought to our attention that Leo’s registration program picks up everybody who is in the program with a previous registration number as a “renewal”. Some registrars, including those not using Leo’s program, may use a narrower definition of “renewal” and only consider members who were registered in the year immediately preceding as true renewals. Therefore, the numbers were revised, breaking registrations into categories of: add-ons, renewals, re-registrations, and relocations. These categories are described on the attached spreadsheet.

Is there someone you know whose service stands out in it’s scope, it’s impact on the program, and the numbers of members who have benefited from this individuals efforts on the local, regional, or national level? If so, nominate them for the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award. Find nomination information in this newsletter. Nominations are due to Mary Lee Watson, on or before August 1, 2001.

Good luck to all of you competing at SC Nationals in Santa Clara! I’ll be there (somewhere near the blue and yellow New England Masters banner). Come by and say “hi”!

Tracy

THINGS TO DO…

Listed are all deadlines from the USMS Working Calendar. Please read this and use as a reminder. This 2001 Working Calendar is posted in its entirety on the USMS website at: www.usms.org

MAY ~ 2001

1st
• LMSC Registrars send reports to National Office

15th
• Controller’s (Cathy Pennington) filing deadline with IRS for From 990
• Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather) sends out final notice to Committee Chairs regarding equipment requirements for convention
• Fitness Tips is mailed to LMSC Editors and to the Fitness Committee
• First Quarter Financial Reports prepared

17-20th
• USMS Short Course National Championship, Santa Clara, CA
• Ransom Arthur award winner announced at SC Nationals

20th
• National Office sends reminder to LMSCs of July 10th deadline for submission of proposed code amendments

31st
• Committee Chairmen send reports containing updates on activities to Executive Committee Liaisons
• End of SCY Season
• 2000 financial statements and backup due from Controller (Cathy Pennington) to Internal Auditor (June Mather)

JUNE ~ 2001

1st
• LMSC Registrars send reports to National Office (SWIM Magazine Label Month)

8th
• Zone Reps submit list of events for SWIM calendar to Zone Chair (Lynn Hazlewood)

15th
• National Office reminds committee chairs that annual reports and convention agenda are due August 1st
• Summary of liaison reports due from Executive
Committee members to President (Nancy Ridout)

- Cut-off date for LMSC registration/delegate entitlements to the 2001 convention. National Office notifies Secretary (Betsy Durrant) of LMSC membership numbers as of June 15. Secretary notifies LMSCs of any additional delegate entitlements.
- Registration Committee finalizes design of membership card, printer notified.
- Editorial material due to USMS SWIM Magazine Editor (Bill Volckening) for September/October issue.
- Budget information and forms sent to cost centers for 2001 budget.
- USMS Coach of the Year applications due to Coaches Committee Chair (Scott Rabalais).
- Deadline for Nominating Committee to finalize slate for elections.

30<sup>th</sup>
- LMSC SCY Top 10 reports due to Records and Tabulations Chair (Pieter Cath).
- National Office sends list of Board of Directors and award winners to USAS for convention booklet.

Other deadlines this month ~

- Requests for Delegate-at-Large appointments due in writing to the President (Nancy Ridout)

JULY ~ 2001

1<sup>st</sup>
- LMSC Registrars send reports to National Office.
- Preliminary equipment requirements for convention due to Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather).

8<sup>th</sup>
- Postmark deadline for LC National Championships.

10<sup>th</sup>
- Proposed Rules, Long Distance, and Legislative amendments due to respective committee chairs (Leo Letendre, Sally Dillon, Elin Zander).
- SCY Preliminary Top 10 mailed for proof-reading.
- Deadline for receipt of photos from candidates for USMS offices.

15<sup>th</sup>
- Finance Committee Chair (Doug Church) sends budget request forms and instructions to all persons with cost center authority.
- Coach of the Year selected.
- LC National Championships entry receipt deadline.

20<sup>th</sup>
- President appoints Delegates At-Large for the 2001 convention.

24<sup>th</sup>
- Corrections for SCY Top 10 due to Records and Tabulations Chair (Pieter Cath).

30<sup>th</sup>
- USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award Nominations due to Recognition and Awards Chair (Mary Lee Watson).

Other deadlines this month ~

- Summer Coaches Committee Quarterly mailed.

CONTACT UPDATES

- Helen Bayly – helenb2@mindspring.com
- Lee Carlson – 1000 Cabin Creek Lane SW D301, Issaquah, WA 98027, 425-427-8430, leedee@cable speed.com
- Suzanne Dills – jackuedills@qwest.net
- Chris Gilligan – h2ogill@home.com
- Lynn Hazelwood – correct phone 703-435-2180
- Emmett Hines – emmetthines@earthlink.net
- Dan Kornblatt – dannywims@aol.com
- June Krauser – june@krauser@medi aone.net
- Hugh & Jane Moore – new Fax # 253-276-0058
- Michael Moore – mmmoor e@best.com
- Jerry Stowe – 10 Wailea Ekolu #908, Kihei, HI 96753
- Shannon Sullivan – 54colle en@home.com
- Joe Tesmer – tesmer@attglobal.net
- Joanne Tingley – jting@bell south.net
- Lisa Watson – lwatson@gc.peachnet.edu
- Paul & Mary Beth Windrath – windrath@redwing.net

NEW LMSC OFFICERS

- Adirondack – Officials – Kim Crounse, 8 Walden Glen, Ballston Spa, NY 12019-9234, 518-899-4397, crounse-kim@hotmail.com
- Indiana – Registrar – Jim Lewis, 300 Hitzfield, Huntington, IN 46750, 219-356-1007, jlewis@osv.com or masterswim@skyenet.net
- Inland Northwest – Chairman – Sussane Simpson, 3117 S Jefferson, Spokane, WA 99203, 509-458-3982, sb fly@aol.com
- Inland Northwest – Sanctions & Safety – Eric Ridgway, 85 Bird Creek Lane, Sagle, ID 83860-8603, 208-265-5412, sage1199@yahoo.com
- New England – SCM Top Ten – Nathan McBride, 46 Cohi tuate Rd, Framingham, MA 01701, 508-879-3699, nncbride@ltktx.com
- North Carolina – Treasurer – Sue Haugh, 9105 Lansdale Dr, Raleigh, NC 27613-4779
- Ohio – Chairman – Melinda (Mel) Smith, 587 State Rt 19, Galion, OH 44833, 419-468-4771, smithm@ciitech.com
- Ohio – Vice Chairman – Nicole Leenders, 2915 Breman St, Columbus, OH 43224, 614-268-4213, leenders.1@osu.edu
- Ohio – Secretary – Scott Goertemiller, 3592 Raymar Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45208-1560, 513-321-7857, scott.goertemiller@ae.ge.com
- Ohio – Sanctions – Mag Bowen, 1343 Autumn Dr, Lancaster, OH 43135, 740-654-7598, mb Bowen@hmshallmark.com
- Ohio – Editor – Jack Kangas, 1226 Highland Dr, Springfield, OH 45504.
SWIM MEET INFORMATION

I Copa Latina y Panamericana de Natacion Masters
City of Puebla, Puebla, Mexico
September 13-16, 2001
Contact – Nelson Vargas Escalera
Corp@anv.com.mx or eventos@anv.com.mx

Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships
Hong Kong Swimming Association
October 28 – November 4, 2001
Hong Kong Swimming – manda@hkasa.org.hk

9th FINA World Masters Championships
Queen Elizabeth II Park
Christchurch, New Zealand
March 24 – April 4, 2002
Entry Deadline – February 8, 2002
Contact – Neil Blanchfield, Chairman
Phone - (64-3) 377-1700, Fax (64-3) 377-1710
New E-mail – masters.swim@greatevents.co.nz
Website – www.eventnz.co.nz
To receive regular updates just send a blank e-mail to masters-list@eventnz.co.nz

CONVENTION INFORMATION

Registration Packets
Registration packets will be sent out about the first week in May to all LMSC Chairmen, Members of the USMS Board of Directors, Member of all USMS Committees and those in attendance at last years convention in Orlando.

PDA’s
Convention Committee Chair, Michael Heather, has been asked to coordinate PDA’s (palmtop, laptops, etc.) for delegates. He would like to get a feeling of how many will be at the convention so to best serve your needs. Please contact Michael at Convention@usms.org

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE USMS RULE BOOK IS JULY 10th 2001

Guidelines can be found in the Convention section of the LMSC Handbook
Submit amendment proposals to the code (Preamble, Goals and Objectives, Parts 2, 4, 5 and 6, the Glossary, and Appendix D) to:

Elin Zander – USMS Legislation Chair Legislation@usms.org
Submit emergency proposed changes to Part 1 (Swimming Rules) to:

Leo Letendre – USMS Rules Chair Rules@usms.org
Submit emergency proposed changes to Part 3 (Long Distance Swimming Rules) to:

Sally Dillon – Long Distance Chair LongDistance@usms.org

TOP TEN PATCHES

Top Ten patches are sold by the Lake Erie LMSC and NEW contact person is:
Streamlines… from the National Office

Thomas Gorman
3369 Desota Ave
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
trgorman@att.net

USMS ARCHIVES

The USMS History and Archives Committee has created guidelines to assist in creating stories & history for their LMSC & its people. This can be viewed at:
http://www.swimgold.org/committee/yourstory.htm

We want your stories!!!

LMSC BY LAWS

Does the National Office have the most up to date By Laws from your LMSC?


Key:
U = on file but no date, check your records and Send the date to the National Office ASAP
None on File = Send the most recent copy to the National Office ASAP

USMS DOROTHY DONNELLY SERVICE AWARDS

As a volunteer-driven organization, USMS is forever grateful to the hundreds of talented volunteers, giving of their time and expertise to help our exciting program continue this growth. Among these volunteers, there are some whose service stands out in its scope, its impact on the program, and the numbers of members who have benefited from this individual’s efforts on the local, regional, or national level. This award is given in honor or Dorothy Donnelly who herself was the epitome of volunteer service.

The awards are in the form of a 3-color enamel pin. The USMS President and 2 members of the Recognition and Awards Committee will select the honorees, limited to 15 Awards Pins in a given year. Pins and a recognition letter will be sent to each honoree. Their names and accomplishments will be formally recognized at the Friday evening House of Delegates Meeting at the annual convention in Dearborn, Michigan in September.

USMS wants you to tell us who and what is deserving of the special recognition of the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award. Write and tell us of a person who has executed a single service project – or has given sustained service over a long period of time – or whose efforts in some way extend above and beyond the usual fine work of your volunteers.

Be sure to include the following information:
- Name, address, phone number and e-mail of the nominee
- Clearly indicate whether the service was performed at the local, zone or national level
- Describe the impact of the candidate’s service – new programs, or improvements or enhancement of on-going USMS programs
- Outline the scope of the service and the number of members who have benefited
- You may include a letter of support for your nomination
- Please include your own name and contact information

Nominations may be forwarded at any time. For recognition at the 2001 Convention, please submit on or before August 1, 2001. Nominations should be sent to:

Mary Lee Watson
Chairman, Recognition & Awards
109 Cottonwood Drive
Franklin, TN 37069
615-595-6973
Awards@usms.org

YOU MIGHT BE A SWIMMER...

Received via e-mail from Jill Gellatly, Gulf LMSC

- If whenever you hear an electronic beep, you instinctively jump, you might be a swimmer.
- If you have rings around your eyes unrelated to
Streamlines… from the National Office

the amount of sleep you got, you might be a swimmer.
- If you have been wearing the same pair of Lycra underwear for the past two weeks, you might be a swimmer.
- If waking up before dawn to exercise seems normal, you might be a swimmer. (you might be crazy)
- If jamming a piece of Styrofoam between your legs is not a kinky sexual activity, you might be a swimmer.
- If bugs die of chlorine poisoning when they land on your skin, you might be a swimmer.
- If you sport long, curling hair with split ends on your legs, you might be a swimmer.
- If the phrase “This set with fins” is better than hearing “You just won $1,000”, you might be a swimmer.
- If you answer, “I don’t need to” when someone asks when you showered last, you might be a swimmer.
- If you love a good lightening storm when you have outdoor practice, you might be a swimmer.
- When you learn how to squirt water 15 different ways, you might be a swimmer.
- When your long-term goal is to slap your biceps on your lats, you might be a swimmer.
- When you wake up before 6 am for the free doughnuts, you might be a swimmer.
- When you go through so much latex in one season you could wallpaper your room, you might be a swimmer.
- If a friend asks how a certain guy dresses and you reply, “I only see him without his clothes on”, you might be a swimmer.
- If your friends have stopped asking you about your plans for the evenings, you might be a swimmer.
- If you go from store to store desperately trying to find your favorite sports drink, you might be a swimmer.
- If the first place you go when you’re stressed out is a swimming pool, you might be a swimmer.
- If among your heroes are Janet, Jenny or Amanda, or you know who I’m talking about, you might be a swimmer.
- If your daily apparel is held together by knots or is torn and see through, you might be a swimmer.
- If you have an inhaler in every color of the rainbow, you might be a swimmer.
- If the phrase, “50 double armed backstroke with a breaststroke kick makes you happier than anything, you might be a swimmer.
- If being fish-like is a compliment, you might be a swimmer.
- If your friends don’t even call you anymore because they know that you have no time to do anything, you might be a swimmer.
- If your nightmares consist of a series of numbers ending in 0 or 5, you might be a swimmer.
- If you have hickeys on your neck, you might be a swimmer or you might be lucky!
- If you sweat chlorine even after showering, you might be a swimmer.
- If you just don’t understand the charm of the swim suit edition, you might be a swimmer.
- If getting smacked on the butt doesn’t bother you at all, you might be a swimmer.
- If someone asks if you have any siblings and you start listing teammates, you might be a swimmer.
- If you cut yourself every time you shave, because you only do it 3 or 4 times a year and are out of practice, you might be a swimmer.
- If you are determined, strong, smart and tough, you might be a swimmer.

HAPPY SPRING!
Greetings All! - from your President,

USMS has addressed a myriad of issues since the convention. Through conference calls and our mid-year meeting in The Woodlands, TX, the Executive Committee has planned the schedule for the 2001 convention, reviewed the evaluations and Sunday morning suggestions from last year, and planned time for election process requirements. This year's annual convention will feature the election of new officers. You can follow the progress of the nomination procedure and the election process on the USMS web site at www.usms.org/. A new President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected and join with the present Zone Chair, Legal Counsel, and immediate Past President to form the Executive Committee that will lead USMS for the next four years. Minutes of Executive Committee meetings will now be posted on the USMS website in response to a request by one of the candidates for office. You are welcome to view them at your convenience.

A Needs-Assessment, which we hope will give us updated demographics and feedback on our members' expectations, was proposed by the Sponsor Liaison, discussed, and approved. This survey has been commissioned and will take place this summer; the results will be available in time for the convention. Contracts and sponsorships have been discussed and evaluated. Current sponsors (or licensees) include Arena, Competitive Aquatic Supply, Circle City Swimwear, JD Pence, Kast-A-Way Swimwear, Adolph Kiefer, Speedo, TYR, Ultra Swim, and The Victor. All contracts now run on a calendar year.

Proposed new partnerships, USOC membership, the ISHOF as it concerns USMS, a USMS privacy statement, contact with committees, on-line registration and a new registration program, and the Strategic Plan have also been topics of discussion. The 4th USMS/USA Swimming High Altitude Training Camp was held in February and was a great success. This cooperative effort between USA Swimming and USMS has provided the opportunity to work closely together and allowed us to develop relationships and new avenues of partnership.

A priority this year is achieving the goals of the USMS Strategic Plan. All of us can participate in this effort. The goal of the plan is to expand USMS to an organization of at least 50,000 members by the end of the year 2005. The strategies to achieve this goal include:

1. Increasing our outreach to potential new members
2. Increasing the retention of current members
3. Increasing USMS exposure through the media and sponsorships
4. Implementing adequate staffing at the national level to accommodate our growth
5. Optimizing the use of currently available facilities and seeking to discover and support the utilization of new facilities
6. Increasing the number of USMS coaches and providing education and training for them
7. Promoting giving to the USMS Endowment Fund with the goal of reaching $250,000 by the end of the year 2005.

Please review the Plan yourself. We need your creative ideas! Your committee and your LMSC are vital in achieving our goals.

USMS has resumed a relationship with MBNA to offer our members a USMS affinity credit card. USMS has negotiated into the contract no phone or email solicitations in response to the request of the House of Delegates in Orlando. You will not receive solicitation telephone calls at any time from this partnership. You will receive a letter outlining the plan and requesting your support - but, no phone calls! In return, we ask for your support of this affinity card plan by urging your teammates and fellow swimmers to respond to the offer which can be found in the May/June issue of SWIM Magazine. This card can benefit you and USMS. Just by using it, USMS will receive a percentage of each sale. Just for signing up and using the card for 90 days, members and friends who sign up can receive a USMS embroidered logo fleece vest.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Santa Clara at the Short Course Nationals. Please say "Hi!" and let me know how you're doing. I thank you for your willingness to volunteer your talents, time, and energies to USMS. As I have often said, we would not be the extraordinary organization we are today without your leadership and commitment.

VICE PRESIDENT – Jack Geoghegan

As Vice-President, I have recently been involved with reading voluminous emails with the rest of you. As liaison, I have spoken with the Chairs of Insurance and Fitness. Since it is not a Rules year, I have not heard from Leo. The ISHOF selection review process continues to create differences with our fellow aquatic disciplines and I have attended the two board meetings- one by telephone- as that issue comes to a head. As the rhetoric and divisiveness of what should be constructive evaluations of the best practices of our organization has overtaken the discussions, I am pleased to have
an outside life, a new granddaughter, and fun in swimming Masters. I wish you all the same! When it’s no longer fun, find something else.

SECRETARY - Betsy Durrant

The months immediately following the convention are the busiest for the Secretary. The first push is to get the minutes published. I checked with the Rules, Legislation, and Rule Book Committees to be sure that new rules and legislation are worded correctly. I also check with the Finance Committee to get a clean copy of FOG and the budget. All of the above are mailed to all delegates.

My second project is the Working Calendar. Thanks to email, this gets easier each year. Committee Chairs are good about sending me important dates and deadlines. The Working Calendar is mailed to all LMSC Chairs and to the Board of Directors.

The final year end project is the Committee Chairman Handbook. This handbook gives committee chairs the information they need in one booklet. Information about being a chair, the budget, FOG, a reimbursement form, and the Working Calendar are included. This is mailed to all members of the Board of Directors.

In addition, I take notes and write up minutes for all Executive Committee meetings and phone calls. This year the Executive Committee is publishing the minutes of their meetings on the USMS website. We have had several phone calls and a two day meeting in January at The Woodlands, TX.

February and March are catch-up time before starting preparations for the next convention.

TREASURER – Jeanne Ensign

Yet one more time, I am happy to report that the financial affairs of USMS are in good order.

I continue to work with the controller who approves the payments I make for reimbursements and other ongoing expenses of the corporation. Registration is being very ably done in the National Office, including the depositing of registration checks. Early in the year, when more members register and the corresponding expenses are higher than other times of the year, I spend extra time managing cash flow and investments for the optimum benefit to us (our conservative investment policy has served us well these past few months). We have gone online with payroll. I continue to field a variety of questions from LMSC treasurers and others.

Executive Committee activities, including our mid-year meeting in The Woodlands, have, as usual, been alternately demanding, humorous, difficult, time-consuming, and fun, but never dull.

PAST PRESIDENT – Mel Goldstein

I am enjoying my last few months as a member of the USMS Executive Committee. My efforts since convention have been directed toward the National Sponsor Liaison responsibilities and my report follows later in these pages.

LEGAL COUNSEL – Jeanne Crouse

In addition to the usual array of tasks -- responding to various members, dealing with insurance questions and issues, and drafting and reviewing contracts, some more unusual questions have surfaced in the past few months concerning the legality of USMS's corporate structure. Specifically, allegations were made that our corporate system of governance does not comply with applicable law. With the approval of the Executive Committee, I retained Cincinnati attorney Ross Wales to provide our organization with a legal opinion as to whether existing law requires changes to our corporate structure. Ross' bonafides are considerable: he is well versed in the USMS corporate structure, having incorporated our organization and obtained our federal non-profit status. He also has served as the President of then-US Swimming, the President of U.S. Aquatic Sports, and the Honorable Secretary of FINA. After thoroughly reviewing all of our corporate documents, the 2001 Rule Book, and applicable law, Ross concluded that our system of governance is legal and proper.

That said, our organization continues to grow, and we might wish to review certain issues of corporate governance at this time and consider codifying policies that until now have been unwritten (such as our policy favoring open meetings) or consider changing previously longstanding practices. For example, we probably should formally incorporate Roberts'
Rules (or some form thereof) into our Rule Book. Because we have grown, external audits probably should be performed periodically. And, notably, this might be an ideal time to begin to consider the various roles that our Board of Directors, House of Delegates, and Executive Committee play and to debate possible changes to or clearer definitions of those roles.

These are serious questions that will have a dramatic impact on the way we conduct our business and, therefore, are worthy of thoughtful and careful deliberation. Our Legislation Committee will review any legislative proposals that are made regarding these matters. I want to alert you, our delegates, to the fact that these proposals are coming so that when you receive your legislative materials this summer you too can start to identify those changes or codifications that you believe we should explore this legislative year and those issues that you believe we should save for later action or more in-depth study. In your legislative packet this summer, I will include the full text of Ross’ letter so that you are fully informed.

If you should have any questions or if you’d like to see a copy of Ross’ letter in advance, please feel free to call or email me at legalcounsel@usms.org.

ZONE COMMITTEE CHAIR – Lynn Hazlewood

The Zone Committee’s half year can be described as a work in progress. This year we are running the USMS National elections and that is taking up most of our time. The first job completed was the posting of an election website at www.usms.org/admin/election01, where you can keep track of the election progress. We have finished with the nomination process and the candidates have filed all their documents. By the time you read this, we should be near the end of the process of collecting evaluations and letters of reference. The slate will be named by June 15.

The only other task the committee is involved in is providing event listings for the back pages of Swim magazine. In the next few months, the committee will be planning the Mentor program for new convention delegates, organizing the election process at convention, and compiling a set of Election Operating Guidelines for the House of Delegates to consider.

USMS OFFICER REPORTS

CHAMPIONSHIP - Sandi Rousseau

Update on 2001 Nationals: Entry deadline for SC Nationals in Santa Clara has just passed, and we are expecting near the usual participation for a Pacific LMSC based Nationals. We had 837 online entries which should be a strong percentage of overall entries for the online entry system. Preparations for LC Nationals in Federal Way are progressing smoothly with the pre-meet visit planned for May 5th. Both meet information and online entry will be available by the time you receive this.

Meet Director’s Guide: This manual has been completely revised by Paul Windrath with assistance from Lisa Watson and has been sent to all future national meet directors.

Solicitation of Bids for 2003: Mailings have been made to all known USA facilities capable of hosting a USMS Nationals and to LMSC Chairs regarding the opportunity for bidding to host this meet and the possible financial rewards. Bid packets have been sent to facilities and/or groups that have requested bid information, and interest has been higher than in past years.

NQT / 18 Year Old USMS Members: There has been quite lively committee discussion still in process regarding possible changes to the NQT formula and the impact that allowing 18 years to register with USMS may have.

COACHES – Scott Rabalais

The Coaches Committee continues to offer its programs and services to improve the level of coaching and swimmer education throughout USMS.

A major project of the committee in the next three months is to contact the LMSC Coaching Reps to discuss coaching activity in their respective areas. Each committee member will be assigned two to three LMSC Reps to contact and report back to the chairman.
Another successful camp was held at the Olympic Training Center with the help of some fine coaching. Head Coach Bill Volckening along with Assistant Coach Janet Renner and intern Don Mehl worked with the athletes over five days. Renner will serve as head coach at the next Colorado camp.

Several Mentor Coach and Swimmer Clinics along with USMS Open Water Clinics are on the schedule for 2001. These clinics continue to be an important education vehicle for both coaches and swimmers.

Mo Chambers has taken over the job as editor of the Coaches Committee Quarterly. In the upcoming Spring 2001 issue, the results of the Coaches Compensation Survey will be reported. Unfortunately, the average pay of a Masters coach has not quite hit the $1 million per year mark, but we are moving in that direction. Kiefer, Inc., is now serving as a sponsor for the CCQ.

On-deck Coaching is set for Santa Clara with Marty Hamburger enlisting a healthy number of coaches to oversee the sprint lanes. Kiefer is also the sponsor of the On-deck Program.

The Committee is still awaiting the posting of updates on the USMS web site in the Coaching section. Updates were presented over two months ago, but have yet to make it on the web site. We are also awaiting instructions on how we can develop a Coaching Links page for links to educational topics for Masters coaches.

We are also reviewing the International Coaching Program, which had its debut in Munich. We would like to continue the same program in New Zealand in 2002 with some improvements and modifications.

Coach of the Year nominations will be accepted through July 15, 2001. A brief notice will run in SWIM in regards to the award, encouraging swimmers to nominate any deserving coach for the honor.

COMMUNICATIONS – Hugh Moore

This is a year of transition for the committee. The name of the committee was changed at last year’s convention from “Computer Online” to “Communications”. The committee’s emphasis was also changed, from overseeing the USMS website, to providing guidance for communication. The website will continue to be a major part of the USMS communication infrastructure. However, there are many other areas that we are also considering.

During December and January, Jim Matysek was exceptionally busy moving the USMS website to a new server. As normally occurs during such a move, numerous unanticipated problems popped up. However, due to Jim’s experience and effort, he was able to quickly resolve the problems. I suspect that most website users were not aware that the change of servers occurred.

As committee chair, I have worked with Jim to help prioritize the lengthy list of requests for projects that he has received. Jim has made excellent progress on these tasks. If anyone has additional requests for projects to be added to the website or if you’d like to know an estimated completion date for previous requests, please make the request directly to me.

There are many forms of communication within USMS. Tracy and Esther have done an exceptional job of maintaining address lists and email distribution lists so that the Executive Committee or the National Office can quickly contact members of the Board of Directors or convention delegates. We are working on methods to create and efficiently maintain other similar lists (e.g. LMSC officers, LMSC newsletter editors, LMSC registrars).

In short, the committee would like to provide tools to aid in the various communication areas within USMS. If you have any ideas to help improve communications within USMS, please contact me.

CONVENTION – Michael Heather

We are currently letting the long awaited convention meeting schedule languish upon our desk, waiting for us to make the appropriate adjustments before sending them off to USAS.

COMMUNICATIONS – Hugh Moore

FINANCE – Doug Church
Finance Committee: The Finance Committee has dealt with two overbudget requests since convention. One was a follow on to the House of Delegates action regarding stipends for our Webmaster and our Editor. The second was dealing with convention expense reimbursement for the USOC liaision. In both cases, the requests were approved by the Finance Committee. As we approach preparations for Convention, once again the budgeting process will be driven from the grass roots up. It will continue to be essential to the success of this process that budget requests are made in a timely fashion with justification and support so that the Finance Committee will have the best possible opportunity to study and prepare for the meetings at convention. Cordially submitted, Doug Church, Chair, Finance Committee.

FITNESS - David Grilli

The Fitness committee has concluded the 2001 Check Off Challenge thanks largely in part to the efforts of Tracy Grilli. Approximately 100 swimmers have undertaken the challenge to swim all 18 events in our short course format.

The Y2K triathlon was launched and we will anticipate a full report from Rick Harris at convention.

Rob Whitters remains active promoting the Toys For Tots campaign and it is the sense of the committee that we promote this worthwhile campaign in any way possible. Every member of USMS is encouraged to contact Rob with their support or ideas.

An issue of Fitness Tips, the official publication of the USMS Fitness Committee will be going to newsletter editors some time in May.

The swim around Reville has been dropped due to lack of interest of the organizing body. I will contact the Ketchikan Masters to see if they want to revive the idea for 2001/2002.

INSURANCE – Colleen Driscoll

We have been answering a lot of questions by our members. It seems that the more information we disseminate, the more questions arise. I guess it's a good thing, since it means that people are taking an interest in our insurance coverage.

We renewed our Crime coverage and locked in a very favorable rate for three years. When we increased our limits, our premium increased as well. However, our insurance broker shopped our insurance coverage and we were able to secure the same coverage with an 'A' rated carrier, and we were able to reap substantial savings.

We are continuing to review our coverages and are listening to our members as to what additional coverages would be beneficial.

INTERNATIONAL – June Krauser

David Morrill tried to find a pool on the East Coast that would host the 2001 Latycar (Latin America and the Caribbean) meet that was scheduled for Cuba. Rutgers was interested but the committee chose Costa Rica. The Swimming Hall of Fame Aquatic Complex hosted the Latycar meet in 1999. It is held every two years.

A few foreigners have inquired about places to swim in the US. There has been no interest in hosting an International Meet to my knowledge. I received a notice that Hong Kong was going to host the 2001 Pan Pacs but nothing after that notice. The 2002 World Championships are going to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand. At the present time the two training days are March 22 and 23 with competition starting on March 24th and ending with the 3K on March 31. March 23rd is the FINA Masters Congress.

I attended the FINA Masters Committee meeting on March 9 and 10 held in Lisbon, Portugal. Anything decided at that meeting has to be ratified by the FINA Bureau at their meeting in Barcelona, Spain, on March 25-27. We had three new members on the committee and they are a nice addition.

There is one problem for the World Championships dealing with Water Polo. Andy Burke will be submitting a rule change for the FINA Congress for Masters Water Polo. All rule changes are due by July 27, 2001. The 5th Masters Officials list is due by July 15th. USMS may nominate 4 Referees and 4 starters for swimming.

LEGISLATION – Elin Zander
The Legislation Committee has been working on a number of projects this winter. Members of the committee have been involved in reviews of Part IV and Article 202, and will likely be submitting amendment proposals on one or more of these sections of the code. We are in the process of developing a Legislation Committee Operating Policies and Procedures Manual to help guide future committee chairs and members and to maintain consistency in how the committee operates from year to year. We have also been researching the question of changing our age of membership eligibility to 18 years, specifically how it would affect USMS and its LMSC’s and how best to implement it if it is passed by the HOD this year. Finally, we have been involved in the discussion of potential amendment proposals that address some of the fundamentals of our organizational bylaws and structure. We will be working with the USMS Webmaster to post all of the legislation amendment proposals on the web site so that the entire membership may review and discuss them before convention. We anticipate an unusual volume and complexity of amendment proposals this year, so dust off those rule books and be prepared for a lively time. A final note to LMSC and USMS committee chairs: all legislation amendment proposals are due by July 15 – don’t be late!

LONG DISTANCE – Sally Dillon

Marcia Cleveland compiled the Long Distance All American list for 2000 and I was involved in a fair amount of proofing (partly due to the arrival of her newest child). The list has been posted on the web site and will be published in SWIM Magazine in May/June. Marcia Benjamin has again compiled the Long Distance All Star Team and it will also be in the May/June issue. NIKE is recognized as the sponsor for 2000 but, to my knowledge, the prizes have not been awarded. Mel Goldstein is pursuing the situation.

The 25th Annual One Hour Postal Swim saw a record 1928 swimmers participate this year and a number of individual and team records were set. Much to my delight, I was able to secure space in SWIM Magazine this year for the other postal events and I hope to see increased participation from the added publicity. The 5/10 K event will appear in the May/June issue and the 3000/6000 yard event should appear in the following issue. Working with the hosts of these postal events, I developed a standard format that will be used this year and in the future. The five National Championship open water swims have submitted their entry forms for approval and the final drafts were distributed to representatives in LMSC’s in March. The first championship will take place later this month in Hollywood, FL. Each of the championship events has been assigned a LD committee liaison who will make contact with the director a month or more before the date of competition. They have a list of items to discuss with the director to ensure that the event is conducted according to USMS rules. The liaison will also attend the event and do the evaluation.

The annual Long Distance Calendar was prepared and mailed with the championship entry forms in March. This year, the bid form for the 2002 championship events was included. Hopefully it won’t be misplaced before the deadline to submit bids as it often has in the past. Unfortunately, the calendar listing was a bit slim this year so we will probably go back to contacting the event hosts in January next year.

At convention, the committee discussed promoting cable swimming and, to that end, an article will appear in SWIM Magazine next month. In the article, I featured James Allen from Texas who is a “first time director” of two cable events coming up in May. The article also includes some details about the remaining championship events. Dan Gray has also written an article about safety in open water swimming and after contributions from some committee members, it has been accepted for publication as well.

An E-mail discussion has taken place this winter about allowing wet suits to be “official” at our national championships. This topic was initiated at convention last fall. In my last mailing to the committee, I included a ballot to determine our final decision and it is due back to me in a few days. Jim Wheeler is set to lead a couple of discussions (about safety requirements and sportsmanship) via E-mail and I expect him to get started shortly. It seems that he has been tied up with some other projects.

Finally, I have been working with Carl House, Barbara Dunbar and Ginger Pierson in my “never ending” search for identifying Long Distance Championship “history”.

MARKETING/PUBLICAITONS – Debbie Morrin
Current projects underway within the 2000-2001 marketing committee:

Task force (Rich Burns, Tom Lyndon, Melissa Rinker) currently working on development of request for proposals for public relations development

USMS traveling exhibit policy has been developed for usage at and shipping to local, regional, and national events for exposure of USMS and its benefits

Working on producing new USMS poster. Design has been awarded to Tom Lyndon who is currently working on revising

Session at the National Recreation and Park Association's National Aquatic Conference, entitled “Discover the benefits of United States Masters Swimming,” presented by Jim Wheeler and Mel Goldstein

Development of media contact list and strategies for national and local publicity (Linda McCowan and CJ Hall working with Betsy Durrant on media contacts and press releases)

OFFICIALS – David Diehl

Adrienne Pipes, a member of the USMS National Officials Committee attended the USA Swimming officials workshop in San Diego, CA representing USMS.

Mailed the 2001 USMS technical rule changes to all LMSC Chairs, LMSC Officials Chairs and LMSC Newsletter Editors for dissemination.

Attended the USA Swimming Officials Committee meeting as the USMS representative on the Committee. Presented the “Proposal for Agreement Between USA Swimming and USMS Swimming” for certification of USMS members as certified officials. Issues and concerns were brought forward and discussed. A sub-committee was established to work through the concerns and develop a revised proposal for presentation at this year’s USA Officials meeting at the Convention. I re-wrote the proposal for circulation to the sub-committee for review.

The Officials page on the USMS web site is scheduled for development in March and a new Officials & Officiating discussion forum is being proposed as a top level topic

PLANNING – Nancy Miller

As far as Planning goes, we are following up on our recommendations from last year’s convention concerning the Marketing Committee's pledge to provide the broadest possible exposure for our USMS booth as well as our request that they establish a special event - probably a postal - whose proceeds would directly benefit the USMS Endowment Fund. Mel will go to the National Senior Games in Baton Rouge this summer, booth in tow, to represent our organization at that event. Scott Rabalais, our liaison to the Senior Games, will function as meet director for the swimming portion. I have had the opportunity to look over the newly published rulebook for this event, and the swimming rules basically follow those of USMS, which should help ensure the quality of the experience at least at the national level.

We are also continuing to explore ways in which we can help promote LMSC development - especially in less-active areas - by direct interaction between these LMSC’s and the USMS HOD. Coaches can be of enormous assistance in accomplishing this. Each LMSC is also encouraged to create a "PR" position within its own structure to help promote our organization.

Doug Church reports that the Endowment Fund is alive and growing. I was pleased to see a much more visible notation on our registration form this year suggesting a donation to the Fund. USMS is matching all donations at a 1:1 ratio this year to help us reach our first goal of $100,000.00 in a timely fashion. Various committees are working to develop grant applications for submittal once that initial goal has been reached.
The call for nominations for the 2001 Ransom Arthur recipient went out in SWIM Magazine, Streamlines… and mailings to LMSC Chairs. The deadline was April 15th and the nominations are being sent to the committee for their votes. The trophy has been ordered and is awaiting the voting results to be engraved.

The recipient of this most prestigious award will be announced at Short Course Nationals in May at Santa Clara. The time of the presentation will be in the meet program. Be sure not to miss this exciting event.

The nominations for the 2001 Dorothy Donnelly Service Awards will be due in August so be selecting the person in your LMSC who deserves to be honored.

**RECORDS & TABULATION – Pieter Cath**

Top-Ten Tabulations for Long-Course Meters and Short-Course Meters were sent to the printer and published on schedule.

The 2000 All-American tabulation was prepared and sent to the National Office for verification and publishing.

New software was written to generate National Qualifying times for SCY and LCM National meets, incorporating the new rules that were adopted at Convention 2000. NQT tabulations were sent to the Championship Committee. The new NQT rules have the effect of generating NQ Times for swimmers 80 years and older.

The 2000 Relay All-American tabulation was prepared and sent to all Committee Members, Top-Ten Recorders and to all the Clubs that were listed on the tabulation.

Walt Reid continues to process all record applications and supplies the record information that is included in the Top-Ten Publications. The Top-Ten subscription list is now maintained by the National Office.

**RULE BOOK – Meg Smath**

As usual, the Rule Book Committee was very busy from after convention until the rule book went to the printer, and ever since then we’ve been laying low. The 2001 rule book was produced using PageMaker, the third software in three years for the rule book. We hope to stick with this one for awhile!

A PDF version of the 2001 rule book was provided to the USMS webmaster, and it has been posted online (look under "rule book" on the home page).

During the coming months we hope to review ways we can contribute to USMS’s long-term goals. We will propose any housekeeping changes we feel are necessary to make the rule book read better and more clearly, and as always will be looking for ways to make the rule book more user friendly.

We will be putting forth a call for cover designs for our annual contest in the July/August edition of SWIM. We will not have to solicit bids to print the 2002 rule book, because the winning bidder for the 2001 rule book offered us a no-cost extension for the 2002 rule book.

**SAFETY EDUCATION – Julie Paque Heather**

The Safety Education Committee is revising the USMS Safety Handbook for Swimmers (formerly the Club Safety Handbook). Several sections have been referred to Legal and Insurance for revision. An article on water quality issues in open water swimming will be published in the May/June issue of SWIM magazine. Another article (Top Ten Reasons NOT to Dive into the Pool) will be published later this year.

**SPORTS MEDICINE – Dr. Jim Miller**
Officer & Committee Activity Since Convention

The first half of the year has been mostly spent in reviewing and publication of articles, many of which have been very well received with positive comments surrounding hard work of our multiple authors, most of which are members of the Sports Medicine Committee.

The second half of the year will be spent addressing and wrapping up the issues surrounding the research potential for the Colorado Springs Altitude Training Camp, as well as survey forms, which we feel, will help better direct research for which grant proposals can be considered.

At this moment, we are tabulating results from those surveys for presentations at the convention. At that point larger numbers of the committee members will actually be involved in the consideration of the variables within our sport, not only as what it does for us, but what in some cases it may be doing to us, positively and negatively.

It is an exciting time to feel that within the next year to two years, the foundation will advance this committee to a position of independent funding.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

AD HOC HISTORY & ARCHIVES – Carl House

Tasks and action items from Convention and the status of each

TASKS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Prepare and send a request to each LMSC for assistance. The request will take several forms including a letter to each chairperson, a notice in swim magazine, a letter for Sarah to send to each Registrar, and a web page. This is expected to result in a substantial increase in the amount of material in our archives.

Status:
A mailer has been created by Meegan Wilson. Comments have been solicited from many people. Final revision of the mailer is now being made and we should be able to use it by April 1.

Mobilize and train volunteers to work with our archives at ISHOF to hasten progress while reducing our dependence on professional (ISHOF staff) effort. This is important for controlling our costs.

Status:
We've had conversation and interest, but nothing substantial as we don't yet have a contractual relationship with ISHOF.

Increase the rate at which we are putting important historical documents into digital form.

Status:
We are experimenting with different ways of scanning text material to find the best ways for transferring paper archives to digital format. We continue to receive Swim Magazine photos for every issue and are now nearly complete for all issues since 1995. A few stragglers remain, but we are in good contact with Swim Magazine's photo lab.

Organize our digital archives for easy access at ISHOF and elsewhere, including databases and html pages and including availability on a CD for serious research and for use in the ISHOF Museum.

Status:
A CD with all source data and all webpages from the digital version of USMS archives (swimgold.org) has been produced and sent to a small group of people for evaluation and for security (e.g. Mary Beth Windrath and Steve Peterson). There has been some discussion of the CD, but no clear feedback or reported progress.

ACTION ITEMS

Our only action item is the approval of our relationship and budget for The Henning Library at the International Swimming Hall of Fame for the storage of our archives and for serving as a window to the world for USMS.

Status:
We understand that this is waiting for a contract from USMS Legal Counsel.

NEW TASKS
Conversion of the Swimmer ID to a format that does not reveal birthday. The algorithm for this has been written and approved by our Legal Counsel. It will be implemented after SCM Top Ten comes out when we have a period of time when we won't be receiving new data.

New databases important to archives. A database has been created by Ginger Pierson of all individual records ever set. That database is not yet included in our archives because we have not received it yet. A database is being created by John Bauman of all relay records ever set. That work is not completed yet. We are in touch with John and have offered to help if needed.

AD HOC ISHOF NOMINATING – Ginger Pierson

The records database is current. By convention, the 2001 SCY and LCM records will be included to give us the most up-to-the-moment totals for selecting the USMS candidates for consideration into the ISHOF.

Another database has been created to give totals of Pool All American, Pool All Star, Long Distance All American, and Long Distance All Star status. This will be finished when needed for convention.

A project that will take some time to complete is one that is being headed by Carolyn Boak and Betsy Jordan. Specific years of when there was a name change will eventually be incorporated into the records database.

USMS ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD OF GOVERNORS – Doug Church

USMS Endowment Fund: The Endowment Fund continues to grow through appreciation, check-off contributions, matching funds and memorials. Several specific memorial contributions were made in memory of Dorothy "Dot" Donnelly as well as other USMS members who passed away during the year. By convention, the Fund should be approaching the $50,000.00 mark. In the meantime, we are anxiously awaiting draft proposals for grants from Sports Medicine and others. It is the hope of the Board of Governors that by identifying the uses of grant money that members will be further encouraged to make contributions. As always, the Legacy Fund, our host for the Endowment Fund, has professionals available to assist in gift and estate planning for those members interested in such matters. Legacy Fund, once again, maintained our accounts, handled investments, etc., (with a net positive return on investments in 2000!) with NO administrative charge! Questions on any matters pertaining to the Endowment Fund can be directed to Doug Church, Chair of the Board of Governors. DChurch@cchalaw.com or P.O. Box 10, Noblesville, IN 46061. Respectfully submitted, Doug Church, Chair, Board of Governors, USMS Endowment Fund.

USMS LIAISONS & SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

FINA REPRESENTATIVE – June Krauser

The first meeting of the FINA Masters Committee 2000-2005 was held 9th-10th March 2001 in Lisbon (POR) Portugal. Members attending included Victor Nogueira (POR) Chairman, Zvi Ruttert (ISR) Israel Vice Chairman, Frantisek Stochl (CZE) Czech Republic Secretary, Rose Cody (PUR) Puerto Rico, June Krauser (USA), Lyall Mortimer (NZL) New Zealand, Ivan Wingate (AUS) Australia, Daniel Garcia (URU) Uruguay, Virenda Nananati (IND) India, Redouane Mohamed Salah (ALG) Algeria and Edward Evelly (CAN) Canada. Absent was Tarja Lijestrom (FIN) Finland. Others present included Bureau Liaison Bill Matson (NZL), Cornel Marculescu, FINA Executive Director, Walt Reid, FINA Masters World Record Coordinator. A Strategy Plan for the next term of the committee discussed: Development of Masters worldwide; World Championship; Safety; Medical certification; and Doping. An evaluation of FINA Masters World Championships in Munich was presented. The German Organizing Committee did not fulfill all aspects requested by the Masters committee. A great deal of time was spent on discussing the IX FINA World Masters Championships to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand from March 22 through April 4, 2002. The Entry Book has been approved by the FINA Bureau and should be ready by the end of April. You may use the following E-mail address to request a copy of the Entry Book by sending your physical address: renata@greatevents.co.nz The 3rd FINA Masters Technical Congress will take place on March 23rd in Christchurch. All proposals for amendments to the FINA Masters Rules must be submitted to the FINA Office by July 23, 2001. NOTE: The next items were taken from the minutes of the II Meeting of the 18th FINA Bureau held on 26-28 March 2001 in Barcelona, Spain. The FINA Masters Committee will consider the rules’ proposals received from the Federations at its meeting to take place in Christchurch (NZL), in the beginning of November 2001. Walt Reid reported working on the World Top Ten tabulation for 2000 and it should be ready soon. The FINA office has forwarded the request to all National Federations for names to establish the FINA Masters Officials List No. 5, effective
Officer & Committee Activity Since Convention

from 1st July 2001 until 31st December 2004. The FINA office has forwarded information to the National Federations for the nomination of Masters Officials for the 9th FINA World Masters Championships – Christchurch 2002. The Bureau did not accept the recommendation of the committee to conduct doping control tests at FINA World Masters Championships. The Bureau did not approve the recommendation that a medical certificate shall be added to entry forms. The Championships’ entry forms include a clause on the “release from liability”, with which the participants are responsible for their health conditions, and they carry all the liabilities themselves. The President of FINA recommended the creation of a professional group within FINA for control and conduct of the FINA Masters World Championships, including the financial aspects related to this event. The Executive and Masters Commission will present a proposal on this matter to the Bureau at its meeting in Fukuoka, Japan.

INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME LIAISON – June Krauser

World Open Water Swimming Championships Oct. 29 – Nov. 4, 2000 / Honolulu, Hawaii
Top open water swimmers from around the world convened in idyllic Honolulu, Hawaii to vie for the coveted title of world champion in the 5K, 10K and 25K events of the 1st FINA World Open Water Swimming Championships. Swimmers from 34 countries competed in the world event, which was held in conjunction with the Hawaiian International Open Water Championships consisting of 1K, 3K and 5K age-division events. The weeklong event was awarded by FINA to the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and USA Swimming, the host delegation, contributed greatly to the success of the championships.

ISHOF Board Meeting in January 2001
Besides the ordinary business of a Board Meeting, Sam Freas had an interesting announcement: A developer would like to swap ISHOF land for a city parking lot. He would be willing to duplicate all the pools and buildings on the proposed parking lot in exchange for our existing facilities. This would be a very involved process. Sam has been working on this deal since January and it isn’t over yet.

2001 Honoree Induction Dates Set For May 10-11-12, 2001
The Honoree Class of 2001 will be inducted Friday and Saturday, May 11-12. Special awards will be presented on Thursday, May 10th. All three evenings will take place at ISHOF. This year’s honorees include Michelle Calkins (CAN), Krisztina Egerszegi (HUN), Janet Evans (USA) Carlos Giron (MEX), Robert Hoffman (USA), Tom Jager (USA), Alexander Kabanov (RUS), Koji Kato (JPN), Patty Robinson Fulton (USA) Jeff Rouse (USA), Nick Thierry (CAN) and Wendy Wyland (USA).

Meets Awarded
ISHOF and the Hall of Fame Aquatic Center were awarded the US National Outdoor Diving Championships to be held in August 2001. Along with this also came a verbal commitment to host the YMCA Masters Nationals in 2002. Sam representing Hawaii won the 2002 USMS Short Course National bid for Hawaii. ISHOF may be the co-host and the ISHOF staff will again end up in Hawaii helping host a great event while creating goodwill amongst our aquatic friends!

USMS PUBLIC RELATIONS/NATIONAL SPONSOR LIAISON

Over the past several years the emphasis on the part of the USMS National Sponsor Liaison has been revenue driven. While there continues to be revenue generated from this position more emphasis has been placed on marketing USMS and establishing member value through marketing. One of the first projects I embarked on after convention was the USMS Planner. I wanted each of our USMS National Sponsors to offer something of value to each of our members. If you will look in your USMS Planner you will see discounts offered by all of the major swimwear manufacturers and our USMS logo licensees. I know our members buy swimsuits and therefore this is a value they receive from USMS for being a member. Support our Sponsors!

I believe everyone at the last convention saw the new USMS tradeshow display. It has been widely used over the past 6 months. I attended the National Parks and Recreation National Aquatic Conference in Orlando, which was the largest show this conference has had to date. All of the delegates attending the conference who registered at our booth were sent a USMS packet of information from our National Office. This conference provided USMS with the opportunity to acquaint individuals who operate pools, parks, and programs for their various communities about our organization. Plans are to attend the Senior Games in Baton Rouge in July and the ASCA convention in September. In addition to scheduled attendance by the USMS National Sponsor Liaison, the display booth was used by the Gulf Coast Swim Committee for a health & fitness exposition in Houston, approximately 38,000 in attendance, and Southern California Aquatics has used the display unit on two different occasions, the Los Angles Marathon and Los Angles Health Exposition which had a foot
traffic of 60,000. I believe these types of exposures throughout the US will eventually provide for greater awareness of USMS and its programs.

On the revenue side, we have three new National sponsors, TYR, Adolph Kiefer, and Arena. In addition to these National sponsors, USMS now has four USMS Logo Licensees, J.D. Pence, Circle City Swimwear, Kast A Way Swimwear, and Competitive Aquatics Swimwear. Each of these licensees can use the USMS Logo on swim related merchandise. All sponsors have signed agreements and are on board for 2 years.

One of the other projects I have been working on is the USMS survey. This survey will help us improve our organization in order to meet member needs and expectations. A random survey of our members will be conducted by The DGS Group a major creative marketing firm. This project will be completed by convention.

SENIOR GAMES LIAISON – Scott Rabalis

Enthusiasm is building for July’s National Senior Games in Baton Rouge, La., which is expected to draw a large lot of 50-and-over swimmers to the Deep South. I am serving as Meet Director, and Mel Goldstein will be in attendance during the Games to promote USMS. It is likely that an ad for USMS will be run in the Games heat sheet at no charge.

In the meantime, questions have flocked my way in regards to registration procedures and general meet policies. I answer them when I can, but often refer folks to the NSG office. I have worked closely here in Baton Rouge with the NSG to ensure that the Games competition will be first-rate, and their organizing crew is second to none.

SWIM MAGAZINE EDITOR – Bill Volckening

The position of USMS Editor fully increases exposure of the USMS program and improves the organizational infrastructure in preparation for increased membership. If that statement sounds familiar, it’s because it is the statement of purpose for the USMS Strategic Plan. Because we all came away from the last convention with the primary objective of finding new ways for our activities to fulfill the USMS Strategic Plan, I thought I would make it the framework for this report.

During the last six months, I have worked diligently as a liaison between the publishers and editors of SWIM Magazine and the leaders of USMS. Our primary objective is to completely fulfill the USMS Strategic plan. In pursuing this goal, we educate, entertain, inform and uplift our readers.

We have increased our outreach to potential new members with regular columns such as the workout card, "Ask the Coach," "Health Waves," "Making Masters Fun" and "Focus on Fitness." We have also featured stories to encourage new members to get involved, such as Barbara Appleton's excellent story "My First Swim Meet" (Jan./Feb, 2001). We reached out to the disabled swimming community with Julie Noskowiak's outstanding cover story about the Paralympics ("Feel Inspired" Jan./Feb. 2001) -- and it marked the first time a disabled athlete was featured on the cover of SWIM Magazine.

We are reaching out to the Long Distance community by focusing on long distance and open water in our May/June edition. We continually reach out to the competitive and non-competitive swimmers with a balance of articles and information. Among other items, we are planning to reach a new part of the swimming community with an upcoming feature on underwater hockey, which should appear in the July/August edition.

We have promoted efforts to increase the retention of current members by printing advance notice about membership renewal in the USMS News (Nov./Dec, 2000). We have also worked toward reaching all types of swimmers with our features and columns. The members of USMS can always feel there is something for them in SWIM Magazine.

We have increased the exposure of USMS through worldwide print media distribution and through the internet. In addition to the magazine, the SwimInfo website keeps visitors up to date with the latest news about the swimming community worldwide. This information is very inclusive of news for and about Masters swimmers. We have also offered exposure for our sponsors by making sure to mention them in the news, announcements, USMS Awards and All-Star Lists.

We have implemented adequate staffing at the national level to accommodate our growth by having the position of USMS Editor working as a liaison between the leadership of USMS and the Magazine publishers. This year, the relationship has been particularly important because we now have full editorial control over the magazine. Of course, we are always working cooperatively together, but in the past our information was limited to 13 pages, whereas now I may produce as many as 30 pages of material for the magazine.
We have promoted ways to optimize the use of currently available facilities by promoting events such as the USMS National Championships and the Postal Long Distance swims with entry materials published in SWIM. "Making Masters Fun" has also offered some ways for groups to utilize the facilities in fun new ways. We have sought to discover the support and utilization of new facilities by making a generous number of overrun copies of the magazine available for distribution to new facilities, and to facilities without organized Masters programs. By continually promoting the many positive aspects of organized swimming, we hope to help USMS expand its programs to new areas and new facilities.

We have increased the number of USMS coaches and offered them a method of education and training by promoting the activities of the Masters Aquatic Coaches Association in the USMS News section. We have also provided a method for coaches to share information with readers. We have helped readers develop an awareness of Masters coaches by printing articles written by coaches and featuring regular columns done by coaches ("Ask the Coach" and workout cards).

Finally, we have promoted giving to the USMS Endowment fund by printing an announcement in the March/April edition of SWIM.

To summarize, the position of USMS Editor is one of the very few positions fulfilling each and every objective of the USMS Strategic Plan. We are always looking for new ways to positively, proactively promote USMS, and we always welcome constructive feedback and ideas. Many thanks to all of the individuals who have worked in supporting roles.

US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE LIAISON – Hill Carrow

Another Masters swim camp was successfully held in Colorado Springs at the Olympic Training Center in February. Though I am no longer working on site in the Springs, we were able to coordinate our efforts such that my former assistant Lori Hamacher, who is now in sports medicine at the USOC, assisted directly in securing customized Training Center shirts for each swimmer and coach, plus a number of special gift items that enhanced the Olympic experience for all camp participants.

USMS LIAISON TO USA SWIMMING – Ted Haartz

USA Swimming held no fall meeting of their Board of Directors because of the lateness of the annual Aquatics Convention in Orlando, FL. in October, 2000. The latest meeting of the Board was January 26-28, 2001 in Colorado Springs at the USA Swimming Headquarters located on the USOC Campus.

Of interest to USMS is a proposal to come before the May 4-6 meeting to restrict the teaching of racing dives to new swimmers of all ages to pool areas that have no less than five (5) feet of water into which the swimmers will be diving. The obvious rationale here is to minimize (prevent) the chances of the swimmers hitting the bottom of the pool as they are learning to do shallow racing dives.

USA Swimming is also revamping its SPLASH Magazine to a more "lifestyle" oriented publication with the goal of enhancing the public profile of competitive swimming, highlighting USA Swimming’s role as the organization responsible for promoting swimming in America, to generate new subscriptions for SPLASH and new members for USA-Swimming.

USMS LIAISON TO YMCA - Stu Marvin

The 2001 version of the YMCA National Masters Swim Meet is all set to go in Sarasota, FL. The host team Sarasota YMCA Sharks has done a great job in preparing for the event and they are excited about showcasing their new facility. The brand–new 70 meter pool sports two bulkheads in order to provide a variety of course configurations. The meet will be contested 16 lanes with an average water depth of 9 feet. There is covered grandstand seating for 450 spectators and ample space around the facility for additional shade. Colorado Time Systems has provided their mobile Myriad Scoreboard to provide 16 lanes of data.

The entries are now closed and 618 swimmers are expected to descend on Sarasota, April 26-29. There will be team awards in both large and small categories for women, men and combined titles. The largest team is Indy Swim Fit Masters with 89 entries, followed closely by the group from Ann Arundel, MD.

Next year’s event is scheduled to return to the Swimming Hall of Fame, April 18-21, 2002.

USMS WEBMASTER – Jim Matysek
The Webmaster position has increased in complexity and time required this year. Much of my time has been spent working behind the scenes on the new USMS dedicated web server. The server was commissioned on November 30, and a very busy month of December was required in order to configure the server and associated tools to serve our needs. The first “live” site on our new server was the Southern Pacific LMSC site in December, and the usms.org web site went “live” on the new server in early January. There are currently accounts set up on the server for 3 zones and 5 LMSC’s, with some documentation available for experienced webmasters and a process in place for moving LMSC or zone web sites to our dedicated server. In addition to supporting the sites hosted on our server, I also monitor the resource usage on our server on a daily basis and schedule and execute server maintenance on a regular basis. The server maintenance required involves periodic reboots to ensure optimal performance and use of resources, locating and installing operating system and tool updates as they become available, and investigating all new security loopholes reported for our type of server, checking for vulnerability, and installing updates to patch the vulnerabilities reported.

On the USMS web site, a major focus is on modifying tools and processes to effectively use the capabilities of the new server to improve our services. Much of this improvement will come from using the database capabilities on our server along with scripting languages for accessing the database. We currently have most of our information on the web site captured in static web pages that each need to be hand-edited in order to change them. We also maintain about a dozen flat text-file databases that can be searched on the web site, but can not be updated directly from the web site. Most are copies of data that exists in another format elsewhere, and keeping them synchronized with the source of the information has been troublesome over historical records database created by the ISHOF nominating committee and the current records databases maintained by the the past few years. My goal is to complete a re-vamping of all of this data (excluding the master USMS registration database) this year to web-enable all of this data and to avoid the redundant data sources and processes that exist at every level. At this point, the LMSC Info and Places to Swim data has been translated to the new web database, with the LMSC Info running live on the web site and the finishing touches being put on the Places to Swim administration capabilities. The next key project will be to integrate the email aliases data with Tracy’s master LMSC officer data and provide a method of keeping this data up-to-date at both the National Office and the web site. After that, the records databases will be updated to integrate the records & tabulations and long distance committees and provide database maintenance tools for the appropriate committee members.

On top of the server tasks and long term tool and process updates, I have also tried to keep up with the normal updates required on our web site. Major updates have been made to the following areas since the first of the year:
- Pool and long distance records updated with 2001 rule book data.
- Convention minutes published.
- Executive committee minutes published.
- Short course nationals info and on line entry system published. 837 on line entries received and processed for SC nationals.
- Long course nationals info published.
- Sponsors web page published.
- Relay All Americans list published for the year 2000.
- …and many more small updates to various sections of the site.

Any LMSC or zone that is interested in learning what server capabilities we have to offer or in hosting their web site for free on the USMS server should contact me so that accounts can be set up.

**ZONE REPRESENTATIVES**

**BREADBASKET ZONE – Rob Whitters**

This has been an exciting year to date with many new swimmers coming into the zone, judging from the number of e-mails I have received requesting places to swim. In addition, I am looking forward to the elections the year at convention.

**DIXIE ZONE – June Krauser**
Officer & Committee Activity Since Convention

Two newsletters have been sent to all Dixie Zone clubs, convention delegates and Dixie Zone LMSC chairmen and newsletter editors. Other copies have been sent to the National Office, the USMS President, Zone Chairman and Zone Representatives.

I have received all of the E-mails concerning the 2001 USMS elections from Zone Chairman, Lynn Hazelwood, and answered them as requested.

Our Dixie Zone Records have been updated by our very able Records/Top Ten Chairmen – Dick Brewer and Ed Saltzman. Also, our Dixie Zone Top Ten has been updated and along with the records is on our Dixie Zone web-site.

Our Dixie Zone SCM Championships were held on Nov. 45, 2000, at the Sheppard Swim Center in Anderson, SC. 177 swimmers from 16 teams swam in the meet. Many State records, Dixie Zone Top Ten Times and National Top Ten Times were established.

Our Dixie Zone SCY Championships were held on February 18-19, 2001 at the 4th annual Auburn Masters SCY Invitational. Many fine swims were made.

Dixie Zone web-site: http://home.att.net/~dixiezone

GREAT LAKES ZONE – Melissa Rinker

Following a great meeting in Orlando, the Great Lakes Zone has been working on a Zone website to bring current information together. This will include current officers, upcoming meets in the Great Lakes Zone, and perhaps a monthly article that might be of interest to others. Also in the works are 2 national open water championships being held in Indianapolis. The National Open Water 2 Mile Cable Championship will be held Saturday, June 23rd at Eagle Creek Park. The 6 Mile Open Water Swim will be held at the same location on Saturday, August 25th.

NORTHWEST ZONE – David Radcliff

The Northwest Zone has been experiencing the quiet before the storm. With the SCM Zone meet being held before convention and the SCY Zone meet scheduled for the end of April there have been no meets to report on during this period of time. Now the excitement begins to build. We start with the SCY Zone meet in the Portland, Oregon area at the end of April. Next the zone is hoping for a great representation at the SCY nationals in Santa Clara. Being on the West Coast makes the SCY Nationals like a local meet for the Northwest. Then we head for the mountains where Central Oregon is hosting the National 3000 Open Water Championship in early August. Two weeks later PNA is the host for the LCM Nationals at Federal Way, Washington. All of this will keep the Northwest active and in shape. We hope to see all of you out here for all the aquatic action.

OCEANA ZONE – Richard Smith

Oceana continues to grow in numbers with Pacific looking forward to reaching the ten thousand mark and Hawaii raising its memberships by several percentage points. Hawaii, under the leadership of Janet Renner, now has a website www.hawaiimastersswimming.org that swimmers who are planning to visit the Islands can use to locate a representative on each of the Islands in that beautiful state. Pacific’s new Chair is Doug Huestis, a long time master swimmer and coach, who will lead our LMSC to much success during the next few years. We in Pacific are looking forward to welcoming the many swimmers who will be attending the USMS National Short Course Championships to be hosted by the Santa Clara Swim Club in Santa Clara, California May 17-20, 2001.

SOUTHWEST ZONE – Judy Gillies

As usual in the southwest we are slow to move toward anything, unless we are driving on the southern California freeways! Our SW Zone’s goal this year was to host one zone meet for each of the pool distances.

December 810th of 2000, Lucy Johnson with SPMA, started by turning her SC Meters Long Beach Meet into the SW Zone SC Meters Meet. Then, Arizona hosted our zones first SC Yards meet which was April 6-8 at the Mona Plummer Pool at ASU in Tempe. The San Diego Imperial LMSC is hosting its LCM Meet at Coronado July 21-22. They are warming up for hosting the first SW Zone LCM Meet summer of 2002.
The Southern California LMSC’s are busy scheduling their open water season, which we can all find on the Long Distance Calendar. Each LMSC is also busy receiving the 2001 registration, and trying to decide if our registrations will increase from last year or stay about the same. Arizona appears to be going through quite a growth spurt, with registrations coming at a higher number than last year at this time. Each of zones LMSC is busy deciding on how many delegates we will send and who will be the lucky travelers to the Midwest this next September.

Along with Arizona’s growth the Mesa area (just east of Phoenix) is building a large indoor pool facility. In the plans are two 50-meter pools. This pool complex is planned to open summer of 2003. We are all hoping this will be an opportunity for Arizona to once again bid for a National Meet.
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**Definitions & Caveats**

- Swimmers new to USMS after 1994
- Swimmers renewing from year immediately preceding current year
- Swimmers who were last registered with same LMSC

**Move In**

- Swimmers registering in from another LMSC