

Executive Committee

President – Jeff Moxie

Last year's convention theme was "Cultivating Opportunities and Resources for Excellence." This is exactly what USMS has been doing throughout this year. Many steps have been taken to strengthen our CORE and provide USMS with a foundation for growth in the future.

Pairing the USMS 2012 Summer Nationals with the Olympic Trials in Omaha is just one example of Cultivating Opportunities. The USMS Board of Directors conferred with the Omaha Sports Commission (the "OSC") about this concept. A coordinated effort by the Championship Committee, the Nebraska LMSC, USMS Staff and the OSC has resulted in taking this opportunity and moving it towards reality. We expect this to be the premier adult swimming event, showcasing the Excellence of U.S. Masters Swimming.

Our *Swimming Saves Lives* ("SSL") initiative is illustrative of Cultivating Resources. As a result of studying our membership and reaching out to potential donors, SSL has received funding commitments in excess of \$111,000; the expectation is that this number will grow exponentially. I am extremely proud to report that we have 100% Board of Directors participation either through personal direct contributions or a contribution made in his or her respective name. Cultivating Resources can also be seen in activities throughout our LMSCs and clubs. Grand Strand Masters Swimming in North Myrtle Beach, SC developed a prototype for one such type of event. Over five consecutive nights, 22 masters swimmers volunteered to teach three one hour lessons per night. They worked with a total of 145 individuals to help them overcome their fear of water and to learn to swim. This type of event also shows the Excellence of our volunteer network and what they are capable of doing to assist in promoting adult aquatics throughout the country. This is but a small sampling of what our volunteers do on a daily basis. As you read through the rest of the reports, you will see the breadth and depth of the activities undertaken by USMS that Cultivated Opportunities and Resources during the past year.

Vice President of Administration – Michael Heather

The report of the VP is reflected by the work of the various committees in my division: Legislation, Rules, Registration and Championship. They have all done excellent jobs of keeping USMS from being run as anarchy. I will not take credit for what they have done, but will congratulate them on their accomplishments. The two coordinator positions both have change in the future: Rule book will have contracted help to make sure that printing errors are kept to a minimum from our submission. Convention is saying goodbye to long serving and hard working Victor Buehler. Stop in at the hospitality suite and thank him for his hard work, often performed under considerable stress and time constraint.

VP of Administration is not a difficult job since the committees do most of the work, but it takes a lot of combined knowledge, dedication, and perspective of USMS to perform. It also has the responsibility to help guide the BOD in efforts to chart the course of the future of USMS. The coming two years will be my last term as VP Administration; if anyone thinks they would like to step into a leadership role in the future, please seek me out to ask questions or voice concerns.

Vice President of Local Operations – Ed Tsuzuki

I continue to be amazed by the dedication, commitment and combined strength of our volunteers throughout USMS. Combine that with an experienced and competent staff and you have an "A Team" that is poised to support our growing organization. I have also been very pleased to see such great leadership

and interdependent partnering among the committees in the Local Operations Division. I remain grateful for the never ending guidance I have received from several experienced veterans during my first term on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

The committees in the Local Operations Division have been very well organized and productive throughout 2011, as you can see in each of their annual reports. The **Records and Tabulation Committee**, chaired by Chris Stevenson, has pushed hard to see the completion of several significant enhancements to the tabulation process for meet results and event rankings, strengthening the validation of swimmers, individual, and relay results. Mary Beth Windrath and Walt Reid perform a very important service to USMS in collecting, verifying and compiling all Top 10 submissions and record applications for all three courses. The **Recognition and Awards Committee**, chaired by Sally Dillon, continues to oversee all of the USMS service awards. They offer special congratulations to this year's Ransom Arthur award winner, Rob Copeland from Georgia, and look forward to announcing the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Awards, USMS Club of the Year Awards, and June Krauser Communications Award at convention. The **History and Archives Committee**, chaired by Meegan Wilson, has posted to the USMS website all pool national championships (since 1970), and all the Top Ten tabulations since 1971. The committee continues to work hard at collecting and preserving our history to ensure that the achievements of USMS and Masters swimmers will be maintained for posterity. The **LMSC Development Committee** (in its second year), chaired by Doug Adamavich, has been working on two major efforts. The first is assessing LMSC compliance against the published minimum standards. The other, as a very important next step, is creating a development approach for the LMSCs in order to ensure a consistent, high-quality membership experience. The committee again has coordinated a slate of workshops and presenters for this year's convention in Jacksonville.

As chair of the **End-to-End Event Management (E2EEM) Task Force**, I am very pleased to see great progress in both the "front-end" (calendar/sanctions) as well as the "back-end" (meet results) processing, in no small part due to the addition of a new IT resource (Luke Shaheen) to the National Office staff. USMS and its LMSCs run many "events" (meets and open water), each of which follows a specific event lifecycle. This cycle begins with the event sanction and listing on a calendar and ends with the event results, which can be tabulated. The tabulated results create event rankings, records and other recognition opportunities (e.g., Top 10, All-American, etc.). Ideally, the data from each process step from end-to-end should be used in each successive step to ensure accuracy, timeliness and inclusion. The goal is to provide benefits to 100% of our event-participating membership as well as LMSC sanction chairs, event directors and top ten recorders – not just the elite competitor. By the time we are at convention, an enhanced calendar of events and a new event sanction process will be launched which will allow full "end-to-end" tracking of all USMS events. The key to allowing our membership to take full advantage of the benefits of this process will be to ensure that all USMS events are entered.

I'd also like to thank our 8 **Zone Chairs** (Breadbasket – Marcia Anziano, Colonies – Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Dixie – Debbie Cavanaugh, Great Lakes – Daniel Cox, Northwest – Wes Edwards, Oceana – Joan Alexander, South Central – Jill Gellatly, Southwest – Mary Hull), for providing leadership, recognition and support at a more "local" level, despite (as you can read in their reports) many of the zones covering such incredibly broad geographic areas.

As you can see, it has been an exciting and productive year for the Operations Division and I'd like to thank all of our many tremendously committed volunteers who do so much to keep the USMS community so vibrant and "fit"!

Vice President of Programs – David Diehl

Introduction

The mission of United States Masters Swimming is to promote fitness and health in adults by offering and supporting Masters swimming programs. The Vice President for Programs has liaison and oversight responsibility of the National Officials Committee, the National Long Distance Committee and the

National Open Water Committee as an ex-officio member of each and shall provide coordination with the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and the USMS National Office.

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE:

The Officials Committee is "...responsible for the conduct, training, education and certification programs...." The Committee continued to work on projects to train and educate USMS officials and to strengthen our support for USMS National Championship meets. During the past year, the Officials Committee updated material for the USMS Guide to Operations; updated pre-meet briefing notes for officials; provided guidance on implementing rule changes regarding administrative officials; and discussed meet situations and resolutions. In addition, the Committee developed tests for stroke and turn judges and starters to be used by LMSCs seeking to implement certification programs. The Officials Committee plans to offer two workshops on "Officiating Masters Swimming" at the USMS Convention for LMSC Officials Chairs, Referees, USA-Swimming Officials, and other interested officials.

The Officials Committee also continued to work with meet hosts and the Championship Committee to recruit and select lead officials for USMS National Championship meets. Applications to Officiate were distributed for SCY Nationals in Mesa and LCM Nationals in Auburn, and the Officials Committee coordinated with Meet Referees for both meets to establish requirements, provide information, and assist with recruiting. Meet Referees and Administrative Referees have been assigned for 2012 National Championship meets in Greensboro and Omaha.

The Committee met on a quarterly basis to conduct its business.

OPEN WATER COMMITTEE:

The purpose of the Open Water committee is to "...promote the development of and participation in open water swimming..." The Open Water Committee has worked very closely with and in conjunction with the Long Distance Committee and in the past year the Committee has been laying the groundwork for the future growth of open water swimming by working to develop the following:

- Open Water Guide to Operations
- Open Water Sanction Guidelines
- Legislation to separate the open water One-Event Registration
- Establish Open Water Event Results Database
- Develop National Open Water Swimmer Ranking System
- Safety Education Task Force

The Committee met every four to six weeks and established a number of sub-committees to complete their assigned work.

LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE:

The Long Distance Committee oversees "... the rules and administration of open water and long distance events." The Committee has worked very closely with the open water committee in fulfilling the responsibilities of both committees. The Long Distance Committee will submit the Long Distance and Open Water Committee's rule changes for consideration at this year's convention. The Committee, working closely with the Open Water committee, created several new legislation proposals designed to expand open water to include additional events that may never have sanctioned with USMS otherwise.

The Committee solicited bids for the long distance 2012 postal swims and evaluated the performance of the 2011 events. Various sub-committees conducted the on-going work of the Committee working in conjunction with the Open Water Committee through phone meetings every four to six weeks. Participated in and provided input for the Open Water Safety Conference and supported the Open Water committee to develop new educational materials and update existing manuals.

Vice President of Community Services – Nadine Day

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Vice President of Community Service for the past two years. This past year it has been a very productive year with Sports Medicine and Science, Fitness Education, and Coaches Committee. I feel privileged to work with these committees. As volunteers to the organization, they have been providing our members education to be healthier, motivation to swim, and training tools. They have collaborated with the National Office to ensure quality programs and communication to our leadership and members.

Sports Medicine and Science committee has provided educational lectures at the Spring Nationals, Summer Nationals and the USMS Convention. They continue to be a medical resource for our organization. Future possibilities for the committee are educational displays and educational materials that would be interactive for our members.

Fitness Education committee has done an excellent job with establishing an email communication with the LMSC Fitness Chairs. The monthly emails provide information on various fitness events and activities. The Go the Distance Fitness Event was found to be an excellent retention tool. Since Nike became a sponsor of the event, it has grown to one of the largest national event with over 2400 participants.

The coaches committee had new leadership with a new chair, Craig Keller, and new co-vice chairs, Scott Bay and Stu Kahn. Together they have energized the coaches committee and formed various subcommittees to address the needs from national events such as clinics and coaches education, to communication with LMSCs, and online workouts for all members.

I would also like to thank LMSCs that have taken the opportunity to invest in their coaches. The impact of coach's education extends to our members. There by having an exponential effect on promoting United States Masters Swimming.

In addition to being the liaison for these committees, I have participated in other organizational opportunities such as the workout group "chapter" task force, strategic planning task force, policy task force and the Compensation and Benefits committee.

Thank you again for the opportunity for serving as Vice President of Community Service. I look forward to continuing my involvement United States Masters Swimming throughout my lifetime.

Treasurer – Ralph Davis

United States Masters Swimming continues to be on very solid financial ground. As of July 31, 2011 we had in excess of \$2.2 million in cash and investments. Our investment returns in 2010 continue to show an overall decline from prior years due to an overall decline in interest rates and the inability to diversify the portfolio due to an extremely restrictive and conservative investment policy. During 2010 rates were below 1%. The new Investment Policy implemented in 2011 will give USMS the opportunity to generate a reasonable return for the organization over the long term. USMS selected Northern Trust as USMS' Investment Advisor.

The 2010 Financial Statements are complete and the certified audited financial report will be available on our website by the end of August. Our audit firm is Kerkerling, Barberios & Co. of Sarasota, Florida. The USMS tax return for 2010 is completed and approved by the Board and was filed with the IRS on August 15th.

Secretary – CJ Rushman

Most of what I did this year was much the same as previous predecessors did; ordinary secretary stuff. I wrote and distributed minutes for the Executive Committee, Board of Directors during the past year. I wrote, distributed and posted minutes from all EC and BOD and other committee meetings held during the year, including the meetings in San Francisco and Sarasota. As this 2011 convention has approached, I have been compiling the official list of delegates, and preparing other convention-related materials.

Legal Counsel –Doug Church

USMS's legal needs since last year's convention have been relatively straightforward, focusing on the business functions that continue to develop as USMS builds infrastructure to serve its members and grow. Routine questions calling for a legal interpretation of our rules and/or other policy matters occur frequently from members and officers of USMS.

We had the usual matters that call for legal input, including agreements with Corporate Partners, requests to interpret existing agreements such as that with our publishing services provider, questions from LMSCs regarding a variety of topics, provision of legal counsel to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and random issues that arise from time to time. Assistance has been provided to the National Board of Review and there have been routine consultations with our insurance agent.

We have had the benefit of a number of attorneys with special knowledge who have provided able assistance to me and our staff during the course of the year. My thanks to all of those who have provided competent counsel and guidance over the last 12 months. It has been a pleasure working with Rob Butcher and the professional staff who have always been prompt and thorough in their efforts to assist me when called upon. Finally, thanks, to the executive committee and President Jeff Moxie for their confidence!