

# Streamlines... from the National Office

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2004 ~ Page 1

## Greetings from the National Office...

Hi All –

Usually I close the Spring issue's Greetings... with a "good luck at SC Nationals". Guess I can now open with "Congratulations to all of you who participated" instead. Once again, Mel and his Indy Swim Fit crew put on a tremendous meet. Lots of fast and very exciting swimming! Thank you!!!

Next up is Savannah in August. Entry information is in the May/June issue of SWIM and will be available on the USMS website soon.

LC Nationals will be followed by the USAS Convention in September which will be held in Orlando, FL at the Wyndham Palace Resort and Spa. USMS will begin on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> with our BOD meeting followed by the "Block Parties". Registration/hotel information was sent out via e-mail (or snail mail) in April. If you are interested in attending and did not receive this information, please contact me at [usms@usms.org](mailto:usms@usms.org)

With LC Nationals and Convention on the horizon, We have a number of deadlines coming up. Please be sure to review closely the "Things to Do" section.

One big deadline has passed - April 30<sup>th</sup> - the due date for LMSCs to submit their 2003 LMSC Annual Meeting Minutes and Financial Reports to the National Office. I **HAVE** received reports from those LMSCs listed on page 4. If your LMSC is **NOT** listed, please get this in to me ASAP.

This is our "bonus" issue which includes the mid year reports from the members of the Board of Directors, National Office, Ad Hoc Chairs, Liaisons and Special Assignments. These people/committees have been working very hard since convention. Please take the time to read through these and pass this information on to your membership.

I hope all is well with you and your LMSC.

Tracy

## LMSC GRANTS PROGRAM

The USMS Zone Committee is pleased to announce the formation of it's LMSC Grants program. Your LMSC may be eligible for a monetary grant to be used as seed money to initiate a project in your LMSC or to fund convention expenses for a delegate to the convention in September.

Information and applications are on the USMS website at:

<http://www.usms.org/admin/lmscservices>

## THINGS TO DO...

Listed are **all deadlines** from the USMS Working Calendar. Please read this and use as a reminder. This 2004 Working Calendar is posted in its entirety on the USMS website at: [www.usms.org](http://www.usms.org) under Administration

## MAY ~ 2004

1<sup>st</sup>

- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at [Registration@usms.org](mailto:Registration@usms.org), hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)
- Delegates from 2003 receive Convention Registration packet for 2004 Convention via e-mail or snail mail from the National Office (this has already been sent. If you did not receive it, contact Tracy at [usms@usms.org](mailto:usms@usms.org))
- Cost Center Heads receive budget forms (for 2005 budget) from Finance Chair (Tom Boak - [Finance@usms.org](mailto:Finance@usms.org))

15<sup>th</sup>

- Controller's filing deadline with IRS for Form 990
- Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather - [Convention@usms.org](mailto:Convention@usms.org)) sends out final notice to Committee Chairs regarding equipment requirements for convention (this has already been sent, if you did not receive it, contact Michael).
- First Quarter Financial Reports prepared.

20<sup>th</sup>

- National Office sends reminder to LMSCs of July 10<sup>th</sup> deadline for submission of proposed code amendments

### Other deadlines this month ~

- Pre-meet site visit by Championship Committee Liaison to LC Nationals Host, Savannah, Georgia
- Notify Sponsors of LC Nationals due dates for booths, banners and ads.
- USMS Secretary (Sally Ann Dillon - [Secretary@usms.org](mailto:Secretary@usms.org)) sends reminders to LMSCs for names of delegates to 2004 Convention, San Diego, California

## JUNE ~ 2004

1<sup>st</sup>

- Committee Chairs, Ad Hoc Chairs, Liaisons & Special Assignments receive annual report forms (for 2004 convention packet) from USMS Secretary (Sally Ann Dillon - [Secretary@usms.org](mailto:Secretary@usms.org)).
- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at [Registration@usms.org](mailto:Registration@usms.org), hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office) SWIM MAGAZINE LABEL MONTH!!!

# Streamlines... from the National Office

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2004 ~ Page 2

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## JUNE ~ 2004 continued

- 8<sup>th</sup>
- Zone Reps submit list of events for SWIM calendar for the September/October issue to Zone Chair (Lynn Hazlewood). [Zones@usms.org](mailto:Zones@usms.org)

- 15<sup>th</sup>
- National Office reminds Committee Chairs, Ad Hoc Chairs, Liaisons & Special Assignments that annual reports and convention agendas are due to their EC Liaisons on July 1st.
  - Cut-off date for LMSC registration/delegate entitlements to the 2004 convention (National Office notifies Secretary of LMSC membership numbers as of June 15<sup>th</sup>. Secretary notifies LMSCs of any additional delegate entitlements).
  - Editorial material due to USMS SWIM Magazine Editor (Bill Volckening - [SWIMEditor@usms.org](mailto:SWIMEditor@usms.org)) for September/October issue.

### 30<sup>th</sup>

- LMSC SCY Top Ten reports due to Records and Tabulations Chair (Pieter Cath - [TopTen@usms.org](mailto:TopTen@usms.org)).
- Quarterly Swim Info product sales report and payment due to USMS

### Other deadlines this month ~

- **Requests for Delegate-at-Large appointments due in writing to the President (Jim Miller - [President@usms.org](mailto:President@usms.org)).**

## JULY ~ 2004

- 1<sup>st</sup>
- Committee Chairs, Ad Hoc Chairs, Liaisons & Special Assignments send their budget and annual report to their Executive Committee Liaison. Those who will be having a meeting at convention, also send their agendas.
  - USMS Coach of the Year applications due to Coaches Committee Chair (Bob Bruce - [Coaches@usms.org](mailto:Coaches@usms.org)).
  - Preliminary equipment requirements for convention due to Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather - [Convention@usms.org](mailto:Convention@usms.org)).
  - LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at [Registration@usms.org](mailto:Registration@usms.org), hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)
  - Postmark deadline for LC National Championships, Savanna, Georgia

### 8<sup>th</sup>

- LC National Championships entry receipt deadline.

## JULY ~ 2004 continued

- 10<sup>th</sup>
- Proposed Rules, Long Distance and emergency Legislative amendments due to respective committee chairs (Rules – Leo Letendre - [Rules@usms.org](mailto:Rules@usms.org), Long Distance – Peter Crumbine - [LongDistance@usms.org](mailto:LongDistance@usms.org), Legislation – Rob Copeland - [Legislation@usms.org](mailto:Legislation@usms.org))
  - SCY Preliminary Top Ten mailed for proof reading.

### 15<sup>th</sup>

- Executive Committee Liaisons send their committees budget requests to Finance Chair (Tom Boak - [Finance@usms.org](mailto:Finance@usms.org)).
- Executive Committee Liaisons send their committees annual report and agendas to the National Office for publication in the convention packet.
- Coach of the Year selected
- Deadline for submission of information to be included in the Summer issue of Streamlines... from the National Office

### 20<sup>th</sup>

- President (Jim Miller - [President@usms.org](mailto:President@usms.org)) appoints Delegates-at-Large for the 2004 convention.

### 24<sup>th</sup>

- Corrections for SCY Top Ten due to Records and Tabulations Chair (Pieter Cath - [TopTen@usms.org](mailto:TopTen@usms.org)).

### 30<sup>th</sup>

- USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award nominations due to Recognition and Awards Chair (Kathy Casey - [Awards@usms.org](mailto:Awards@usms.org)).
- Summer issue of Streamlines... sent via e-mail or snail mail

## AUGUST ~ 2004

### 1<sup>st</sup>

- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at [Registration@usms.org](mailto:Registration@usms.org), hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office) SWIM MAGAZINE LABEL MONTH!!!
- Deadline for USAS for early convention registration and inclusion in USAS Directory
- Bids for Fitness Events due to Fitness Committee Chair (Pam Himstreet - [Fitness@usms.org](mailto:Fitness@usms.org))
- Final equipment requirements from committee chairs and workshop planners due to Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather - [convention@usms.org](mailto:convention@usms.org))
- All proposed rule/code changes from Rules, Long Distance and Legislation due to National Office
- Final SCY Top Ten List sent to printer
- Second Quarter Financial Reports prepared

# Streamlines... from the National Office

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2004 ~ Page 3

## AUGUST ~ 2004 continued

8<sup>th</sup>

- Zone Reps submit events for SWIM Calendar for the November/December issue to Zone Chair (Lynn Hazlewood - [Zones@usms.org](mailto:Zones@usms.org))

11<sup>th</sup>

- Bids for 2006 Long Course, Short Course, and Long Distance National Championships due to Committee Chairs (Pool - Barry Fasbender at [Championship@usms.org](mailto:Championship@usms.org), LD - Peter Crumbine at [LongDistance@usms.org](mailto:LongDistance@usms.org))

12<sup>th</sup>

- Convention packets mailed to all certified delegates

12-15<sup>th</sup>

- USMS LC National Championships, Savannah, Georgia

15<sup>th</sup>

- Editorial material due to USMS SWIM Magazine Editor for November/December issue (Bill Volckening - [SWIMEditor@usms.org](mailto:SWIMEditor@usms.org))

29<sup>th</sup>

- Audited Financial Statement of advertising income due from SWIM Magazine

31<sup>st</sup>

- Deadline for submission of ISHOF candidates

### **Other deadlines this month ~**

- USAS sends convention registration list to National Office. Secretary notifies LMSCs who have not sent delegate certifications

## CONTACT UPDATES...

Following are updates received by the National Office after the printing/distribution of the 2004 Rule Book and USMS Directory.

- Doug Adamavich (Arizona Editor) - 4328 E Redwood La, Phoenix, AZ 85048
- Margaret Bayless (USMS Controller) - new fax # is 216-491-9024
- Ellen Campbell (Colorado Editor) - [coloradotriclub@comcast.net](mailto:coloradotriclub@comcast.net)
- Caroline Day Curtis (Maryland Webmaster) - 706 South Hanover St, Baltimore, MD 21230
- Aimee Fitzgerald (USMS PR Consultant) - is now Aimee Bennett
- Errol Graham (USMS Committee member) - 1544 N Hayworth Ave #8, Los Angeles, CA 90046, 323-851-7171
- Kathryn Gregory (Virginia Secretary) - [treehugs2@wmconnect.com](mailto:treehugs2@wmconnect.com)
- Carl House (USMS Committee member) - please use [carlhouse@att.net](mailto:carlhouse@att.net) and discontinue using [carlhouse@qkw.com](mailto:carlhouse@qkw.com)
- Tom Lyndon (USMS Committee member) - 12 Steeletree, Wayland, MA 01778, 508-358-2153

## CONTACT UPDATES continued

- Stu Marvin (USMS YMCA Liaison) - [smarvin@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:smarvin@fortlauderdale.gov), phone is 954-474-7010
- Deb Morrin (Colonies Zone Rep) - [debm@umd.edu](mailto:debm@umd.edu)
- Eric Neilsen (USMS Committee member) - [neilswim@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:neilswim@hawaii.rr.com), 808-331-1766
- Danielle Ogier (USMS Committee member) - 17237 Saturn Lane, Houston, TX 77058
- James Slaughter (NC Sanctions) - 223 Nottingham Circle, Slatesville, NC 28625-8201
- Irwin Stolz (Georgia Legal Chair) - 265 Lull Water Rd, Athens, GA 30606-4811
- Laura Wright (Ohio Registrar) - [rwrigh3@columbus.rr.com](mailto:rwrigh3@columbus.rr.com)

## NEW LMSC OFFICERS...

A full list of LMSC Officers can be found at [www.usms.org/usmsdirsearch.htm](http://www.usms.org/usmsdirsearch.htm)

### Adirondack

- Registrar - Dr Dean Fochios, 2203 Route 52, Pine Bush, NY 12566, 845-744-8254, [surfmd@aol.com](mailto:surfmd@aol.com)

### Alaska

- Chairman - Pieter deHart, 201 Iditarod Ave #2, Fairbanks, AK 99701, 907-452-3923, [pdehart@ims.uaf.edu](mailto:pdehart@ims.uaf.edu)

### New England

- Chairman - Bob Seltzer, 19 Maverick St, Marblehead, MA 01945-2219, 781-631-9265, [seltzer@metasoft.com](mailto:seltzer@metasoft.com)
- Editor (NEM) - Laurie Damianos, 98 Columbus Ave, Waltham, MA 02451, 781-893-2921, [laurie@mitre.org](mailto:laurie@mitre.org)
- Top Ten - SCY - Laszlo Eger, 177 Warren Ave, Boston, MA 02116-5928, 617-267-0883, [laszloeger@yahoo.com](mailto:laszloeger@yahoo.com)
- Top Ten - SCM - Jason Eaddy, 700 Huron Ave Apt 18B, Cambridge, MA 02138, 617-876-2101, [jason-nem@elys.com](mailto:jason-nem@elys.com)
- Top Ten - LCM - Bill Volckening
- Vice Chair - Al Prescott, 62 Valliria Dr, Groton, MA 01450, 978-448-8638, [alprescott@charter.net](mailto:alprescott@charter.net)

### Southeastern

- Coaches - Tom Healey, 512 E University Dr, Auburn, AL 36830, 877-973, SWIM, [tomhealey@mindspring.com](mailto:tomhealey@mindspring.com)
- Treasurer - Bob Crook, 3115 Panorama Dr SE, Huntsville, AL 35801, 256-533-1291
- Editor is now Communications Chair - Katherine Clark

# Streamlines... from the National Office

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2004 ~ Page 4

## Article 502.7

### Records and Record Keeping

Each LMSC shall comply with the financial record keeping and reporting requirements of USMS. **The LMSC shall forward to the USMS National Office the minutes of the annual meeting and annual financial reports within 4 months of the end of the LMSCs fiscal year** or by April 30, 2004.

### 2003 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS RECEIVED

Adirondack, Alaska, Arizona, Central, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware Valley, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Maryland, Metropolitan, Michigan, New England, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Texas, Ohio, Oregon, Pacific, Potomac Valley, San Diego-Imperial, Southern Pacific, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

### 2003 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES RECEIVED

Adirondack, Alaska, Arkansas, Central, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware Valley, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Indiana, Inland Northwest, Kentucky, Maryland, Metropolitan, Michigan, New England, New Jersey, Niagara, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pacific, Potomac Valley, South Carolina, South Texas, Southern Pacific, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

## PLACES TO SWIM

### Attention all LMSCs and Clubs!!!

Have you been to the Places to Swim page on the USMS website? If so, are all the workout groups in your area up to date?

Would you please check this information or appoint someone to work on this project?

Go to the USMS website at [www.usms.org](http://www.usms.org) and click on Places to Swim. Filter out your LMSC and all the places currently listed will appear. If there is one that is out of date, click on "edit a place to swim", make the appropriate changes and click "submit" and then the information for that program will be up to date.

## Request for Application— USMS Web Developer/Assistant to Webmaster

### Application Deadline is May 16

United States Masters Swimming (USMS) is soliciting applications for the position of Web Developer to assist the USMS Webmaster. This position will be involved in all phases of development and maintenance of the USMS web site ([www.usms.org](http://www.usms.org)). Such development includes the design and maintenance of a MySQL database, creation of custom PHP and Perl scripts to drive the web site and to provide for USMS administrative features, and web page layout and design.

Required skills include a demonstrated proficiency in developing plain HTML web sites as well as experience with at least one server-side scripting language (PHP, ASP, Perl) and experience in creating database-driven web sites. Experience in creating dynamic PHP and MySQL driven web sites is preferred. Additional experience in graphic design and client-side JavaScript will also be considered. Familiarity with the USMS organization and swimming terminology is a plus.

For more information about the job requirements, contact Jim Matysek, USMS Webmaster, [webmaster@usms.org](mailto:webmaster@usms.org). Interested parties are invited to submit their resumes and references on or before May 16, 2004 to:

Lynn Hazlewood  
USMS EC Liaison to the Webmaster  
1415 Aldenham Lane  
Reston, VA 20190-3903  
[lynhzldw@usms.org](mailto:lynhzldw@usms.org)  
(Electronic Submission Preferred)

## INTERNATIONAL MEETS

### 2004 Pan Pacific Masters Games November 6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

Over 40 Sports

For more information, contact  
Brett Robinson, Event Liaison officer at:  
[brett@goldcoastevents.com.au](mailto:brett@goldcoastevents.com.au)  
Phone: (07) 5564-8733  
Or visit their website at:  
[www.mastersgames.com.au](http://www.mastersgames.com.au)

# Streamlines... from the National Office

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2004 ~ Page 5

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## All Americas LatyCar 2005

October 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Postal Swimming,  
Water Polo, Diving & Synchronized Swimming

For mor information contact:  
Rua Ararapira at:  
[Organizadora2005@latycar.org](mailto:Organizadora2005@latycar.org)  
Phone: )11) 50714618, 55360113  
Or visit their website at:  
[www.latycar.org](http://www.latycar.org)

## FINA World Championships – 2006 Coming to Bay Area

FINA, the international governing body for aquatic sports awarded the XI FINA Masters World Championships to the United States, where it will take place at Stanford University's Avery Aquatic Center. The championships will take place in August 2006.

After United States Masters identified Stanford University as a venue that USMS would like to stage the championships, the Pacific Masters executive board has worked very long and hard to produce the bid. Pacific Masters Chairman, Michael Moore, traveled to Dubai, UAE, to make the bid presentation before the FINA Bureau on March 12th.

"The awarding of the bid to the Bay area is a result of a lot of hard work by the Pacific Masters and local swimming community" said Michael Moore. "Anne Warner Cribbs of the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC) was instrumental in getting the information and creating a coherent bid and plan for the bid. Her knowledge of Bay area sports is tremendous. "Nancy Ridout, Beth Folkreth, Barry Fastbender and Barbara Thomas worked tirelessly to bring the championships to the Stanford. We look forward with our friends of the other aquatic sports to produce the World Championships that will set the standard for the rest of the world. "

A copy of press release can be found at:

<http://www.pacificmasters.org/general/finachampionships.pdf>

The following article was sent to me by Suzanne Rague. Roy (previous USMS Controller) has given me his permission to share it with you.

## From the Oregonian

### A matter of death and life

**After a son dies, a crucial decision brings together a dying heart patient and the mother and father who were left behind**

03/14/04

**PATRICK O'NEILL**

One warm August evening in 1999, Mindy Padrick pressed her ear to Roy Abramowitz's chest and listened to her son's heart beat.

It could be called a reunion, although it was the first time that the Padricks -- Mindy and Skip -- had met Abramowitz. They exchanged hugs and tears and expressions of gratitude. And by the time the evening was over, the Padricks and Abramowitz had decided they were practically family.

The August meeting was one in a series of events that began months before with the death of the Padricks' son, Sean, 21, in a shooting accident and the transplantation of his heart into Abramowitz.

Sean had attended a friend's housewarming party in Salem late Feb. 20, 1999. The friend had just had a .22-caliber pistol repaired and was showing it to other guests. Thinking the weapon was unloaded, he pointed it at Sean. It went off and the bullet hit Sean slightly above the right eyebrow.

Mindy Padrick remembers that her son was still breathing when he arrived at Salem Hospital.

"They gave us reports, told us they didn't know how serious it was," she said. Finally, with Sean hooked up to a respirator, signs of brain activity died away.

As required by Oregon law, a nurse asked family members if they would consider donating Sean's organs. Sean's mother recalled a discussion with her son four years earlier, when he applied for a driver's license and considered whether to fill in the D for "donor" notification. "He said he definitely wanted to be an organ donor," she said. "That little conversation we had when he was 17 made it so much easier to say yes."

### Awaiting a new heart

On the day Sean died, Abramowitz, a Portland certified public accountant, was counting down the days of his own life.

He had been at Oregon Health & Science University for 4 1/2 months, waiting for a heart to replace the one that

## Streamlines... from the National Office

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2004 ~ Page 6

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was failing in his chest. He had been diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, a condition that causes the heart to weaken and eventually lose the ability to pump.

Once a competitive swimmer in masters' competition, Abramowitz, at age 44, could barely shuffle across the floor.

Early in his hospitalization, he said, "I thought this was going to be a short thing. Somebody was going to die, I was going to get the heart, and I'd be home."

But days became weeks and then months. Abramowitz became increasingly focused on his need for a heart, without thinking much about the consequences to others.

"You look for the tragedies, skiing accidents, traffic accidents," he said. "I'd hear LifeFlight helicopters and I'd be thinking, 'There's my heart. I'll get a call any minute now.' I stayed and stayed and stayed."

Abramowitz dwelled on the odds against getting a transplant.

"I'm large," he said, "and I needed someone of large size to die."

As the days dragged on, he became convinced that his hospital room would be his last home.

Then, on Feb. 21, Abramowitz was talking to his father on the telephone. "A nurse knocked on the door and said, 'Roy, you've got a very important phone call. It's from the surgeon.' "

A heart had arrived.

"The range of emotions was just all over the place," he said. "Euphoria to anxiety to exhilaration to nervousness."

Devastation was abstract idea

Eight days later, Abramowitz -- OHSU's heart transplant No. 333 -- went home to start his new life.

Although intensely grateful to the donor's family, Abramowitz had only an abstract notion of the devastation necessary for him to receive his gift.

He had been informed by the Oregon Donor Program that he could write an anonymous letter of thanks to the donor's family if he wanted.

"I expressed serious gratitude for a chance at a second life," he recalled. "I told them how incredibly thankful and grateful I was, but how I understood that somebody in their family had to die in order to save me."

He also wrote that he would like to meet the family someday.

In April, two months later, he received an eight-page letter from Mindy Padrick.

"It was the most heartfelt thing I had ever read," Abramowitz said. "She talked about Sean. . . . She told me about his life, what kind of a kid he was, his likes and dislikes."

As he read the letter, he realized the full extent of the Padricks' loss.

"Here was the person who gave me this new life," he said. "What a tremendous loss. What a tragedy that they had to suffer so much. I felt wonderful, but I felt guilty."

Abramowitz sent a letter in reply. He wrote that he "wanted more than anything to meet them." Anonymity overcome

After another exchange of letters, the transplant bank agreed to drop the veil on anonymity.

"I was at work when Mindy called," Abramowitz said. "It wasn't a long conversation. We scheduled to meet at a restaurant in Salem."

At the restaurant entrance, "the three of us hugged and cried -- it was very emotional," he said.

That meeting was the first of many. Now, the Padricks and Abramowitz get together about once a month. Abramowitz is engaged to be married. "It's a life I wouldn't have without a transplant," he said.

Mindy Padrick said she has been told that donating her son's organs and tissues helped more than 50 people.

Another was Ron Kelleher, 73, a retired electrical engineer from Portland, who received one of Sean's kidneys. He, too, wrote a thank-you letter to the Padricks. And the Kellehers and Padricks get together several times a year.

Padrick has also met a woman who lives in Las Vegas who received her son's pancreas and his other kidney.

Mindy Padrick and Abramowitz have appeared before several groups to talk about their experience and to impress others with the importance of donating organs. Padrick compares the ever-widening effects of Sean's gifts as "pebbles thrown into a pond -- all these concentric circles come out.

"These people have loved ones who would not have them had Sean not given his gift of life," she said. "It's been real hard, but the fact that Sean did help someone has been a big help for our grief."

*Patrick O'Neill; 503-221-8233;  
poneill@news.oregonian.com*

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MID YEAR REPORTS

**PRESIDENT**  
**Jim Miller, MD**

**(also includes International Liaison and USAS Representative reports)**

The time since convention has been a blur of activity. This is clearly a time of change, as the demands upon the presidency continue to accelerate. The San Diego convention was a springboard to numerous new and exciting opportunities for USMS.

So far the summary of events has included:

1. **Successful bid to host the 2006 FINA World Masters Championships.** During the course of this bid application process many representatives from all the aquatic sports came together to help plan and present the best bid possible. Michael Moore, President of the Pacific LMSC, has been instrumental in putting together a team of organizers to run a championship that will be a glowing example of what USMS has to offer the world of masters sports. Michael went to Abu Dhabi to present the bid and answer questions from FINA. Michael's efforts paid off when the championship was awarded over well-qualified bids from Great Britain and Egypt. I also wish to thank Dale Neuburger, President of USAS, for all the assistance that he provided.
2. **Strengthened relationship with ASUA.** I made a trip to Puerto Rico to meet with Orban Mendoza, President of ASUA, and Jose De Jesus, Chairman of the Masters Technical Committee. The face to face meeting was a success and from that has arisen the first Masters ASUA Technical Committee meeting, which will be conducted in Orlando the last two days of our convention. We have the opportunity to host the Masters leaders for the Americas, highlighting the great work of our committees and House of Delegates. We have such an opportunity to showcase our vision of masters with them.
3. **Board of Directors Involvement.** Many initiatives came from you to us and the work paid off. The Board of Directors went through weeks of deliberation considering the addition of staff. An assistant to the web master position passed and has been placed before the Finance Committee for consideration of funding. The web demands are coming at such a rate that a lot of catch-up is needed. This position is proposed for a 6 month period. During that time the HOD can decide how to best meet the needs of the organization from the standpoint of web communication. The second position was that of a consultant to assist in the analysis of the proposals before us for the national publication. The BOD has directed the Planning Committee to set the process of evaluation of governance in motion.
4. **National Publication Renewal.** We are currently evaluating 5 different publishing houses that have successfully submitted bids to be considered to become our national publication. These evaluations are critical to all of the core objectives. Through this publication and the web we serve and educate our members and provide a product that will promote our growth.
5. **National Board of Review.** I have appointed Carolyn Boak as the first chair of the new NBR. She has submitted a list of 14 persons, who will comprise the pool of members that are available to hear a grievance that is filed before USMS. I am excited that Carolyn accepted the position. The BOD has given her their support and approved her panel.

While I could continue on, I would like to thank the Executive Committee, including our National Office Administrator, Tracy Grilli for the time that they spend on a sport that they truly love. That is the only motive that could explain the commitment and time that they spend on your behalf.

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Scott Rabalais**

In the past several months, I have continued as the Executive Committee liaison for four committees: Championship, Coaches, Fitness and Recognition & Awards.

The idea of USMS Regional Camps and Clinics is one which was passed along to the Coaches Committee for consideration. This goal, which in its realization would create a tremendous service to our members, is expected to be presented to the House of Delegates at our next convention.

I have played a continuing role in the development of the Masters track at ASCA with the assistance of Bob Bruce, Coaches chairman, and Mel Goldstein, sponsor liaison.

The USMS publication selection process is underway, and I was asked to help generate interest among publishers for proposals. Several quality proposals were submitted and are currently being considered.

Your VP continues to participate in regular conference calls and contributes as deemed appropriate to discussion of the issues at hand. Of particular concern is that the direction of USMS continues to follow and achieve its core objectives of service, educate and build the membership.

Along with the remainder of the EC, I look forward to another exciting convention in September!

**SECRETARY**  
**Sally Ann Dillon**

Life is full of changes and I've certainly experienced my fair share over the last eight months. Although my own swimming has taken the backseat to a focus on helping my husband recover from his near-fatal accident last summer, I continue to work hard for USMS. The EC holds conference calls on a regular basis, sometimes twice a month. We held our mid-year meeting in Ft. Lauderdale in early January and it was an honor for us to be able to attend the induction ceremonies for the International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame (IMSHOF) class of 2004. I take notes and prepare minutes for all of these meetings. The minutes are distributed to the Board of Directors, vice chairs, liaisons, and special appointments and they are also posted on the USMS web site.

In the last month or so I have begun preparing for the 2004 convention in Florida. Debbie Cavanaugh, Ginger Pierson, and I have developed information detailing convention registration procedures that will be distributed to all delegates. Esther Lyman, our national registrar, has provided me with information to determine the delegate entitlements and the LMSCs should receive the 1<sup>st</sup> notice from me by the time you read this. *I would like to remind the LMSC officers that a timely selection of delegates is very important.* The National Office will distribute the convention registration and reservation information but I cannot guarantee that your delegates will receive it until their names are submitted to me. Each year there are a number of delegates who are not selected until August and they have very little time to digest the materials and be prepared for the business that takes place. President Miller and I receive dozens of requests each year from people wishing to be At-large Delegates. We have the following policy: Before we will consider someone for an At-large spot, we must have the delegate list from their LMSC and a recommendation from the LMSC chair. ***Having said all this, I strongly encourage all LMSCs to make their delegate selections no later than June 30.***

I continue with my quest to find documents that should be in the Secretary's files. Unfortunately, meeting minutes for some years are missing – particularly in the 70's and 80's. I've put together a spreadsheet for the missing documents. If you have been attending convention for a number of years AND you have kept the paperwork, I'd like to hear from you. Please drop me an email at [secretary@usms.org](mailto:secretary@usms.org) if you can help.

**TREASURER**  
**Doug Church**

"No surprises" is the best way to describe the activities of the office of treasurer since the convention last fall. We have completed the selection of a new Controller to replace Cathy Pennington and Margaret Bayless of Cleveland is now in office and fully up to speed. A special word of "thanks" to Cathy Pennington for an outstanding job during her tenure. The improvements brought to the office of Controller during Cathy's tenure will serve us well for many years to come and provide a great base upon which Margaret can build. The Pennington brand of humor will be missed! Our reserves continue to be placed in fixed income investments and the return continues to be low. Our expenses have been in line with budget and with historic trends. The quarterly reports issued by the Controller will continue to provide information to all of us on the state of our finances and cost center heads will be advised later this spring on the status of their budgets as we prepare for the new budget cycle.

As Treasurer, I serve as liaison from the Executive Committee to the Planning Committee and to the Finance Committee. Both committee's have significant responsibilities within the organization and it has been a pleasure to work with Betsy Durrant and Tom Boak as the guide the activities of their respective committees. The governance discussions going on within the Planning Committee, in particular, should provide for very interesting discussion at convention this year.



**PAST PRESIDENT**  
**Nancy Ridout**  
**(also includes the USOTC Liaison Report)**

Each year seems to get busier with USMS business and activities. This year has been no exception. The Executive Committee has been active with conference calls, projects, and committee liaison responsibilities. My liaison assignments include the Marketing, Registration, and Records and Tabulation committees as well as the National Sponsor Liaison and the USMS SWIM Magazine Editor. I am pleased to report that all are active and taking care of business for us.

The 7<sup>th</sup> USMS/USA Swimming High Altitude Training Camp was held at the OTC in Colorado Springs January 31<sup>st</sup> through February 4<sup>th</sup>. It was one of our best camps with enthusiastic responses from our athletes, the coaches, intern, and the USA Swimming personnel. One outcome of this camp is the offer by Genadijus Sokolovas to bring his land based/water based strength testing and lactate testing to our Nationals and regional meets in order to reach more of our swimmers.

Our USMS athletes and coaches have taken their responsibility to share the new knowledge they have gained with others seriously. They have conducted clinics, written articles, shared with their coaches and teammates, and set examples with their improved technique and performances. As always, we are grateful for the opportunity to partner with USA Swimming and conduct this unique camp experience for USMS athletes.

**ZONE CHAIR**  
**Lynn Hazlewood**

Life, as usual, has been very busy since I last reported. In addition to my Executive Committee work, I am Chair of the Zone Committee, liaison to Long Distance Committee, Communications Committee, and the USMS Webmaster/IT Director. You can see reports of their activities elsewhere in Streamlines.

The job that has occupied much of my time this year, is the pursuit of contracting with a web developer for services which will assist the USMS Webmaster in the performance of his duties. After much discussion among the Executive, Communications, and Finance Committees plus the Board of Directors, permission has been obtained to move forward. The advertisement was posted on the web home page and emailed to over 900 recipients in mid-April. It is also reprinted in Streamlines for any who have not yet seen it. There was an immediate and gratifying response from interested professionals. We hope to have someone in place for the last six months of 2004.

During the consultations with USMS leaders concerning web developer services, it became apparent to me that there is much misunderstanding about the mission and purpose of our web site, the creation of web tasks, and the determination of priorities. As those who participated in the discussions know, we have limited human resources for our web operations. Because of that, we have to focus on the jobs that provide the most value for the greatest number of people and serve the best interests of USMS. The choices are not always easy and, inevitably result in some worthy projects being attended to in an untimely fashion or not at all.

For the remainder of this year, the Web Site Administrators will put together information for the House of Delegates to consider concerning issues raised in the past few months. Hopefully, this will result in a new understanding and a smoother process moving forward.

**USMS LEGAL COUNSEL**  
**Patty Powis**

This report is combined with the Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee report on page 30.

**USMS NATIONAL OFFICE MID YEAR REPORTS**

**USMS NATIONAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Tracy Grilli**

It's mid year already?

Instead of going on and on, the detail of what the daily, weekly, and monthly tasks are that are performed here at the National Office (as reported in previous mid year reports that can be found in the archived "Spring" issues of Streamlines... or in the Convention Reports on the USMS website under Administration), I would like to comment on a couple of new "added" items and responsibilities this office has taken on.

In October of 2003, I hired a new office assistant – Heather Kacos. Heather is a Senior at Londonderry High School and she works between 10 and 20 hours a month. Her responsibilities included: processing the publication orders, address changes, printing of All American & National Record certificates and the completion of a number of other tasks. She has done a terrific job and I am very pleased with her work. She will be headed to Florida State in the fall to study communications and public relations.

Esther and I continue with the fine-tuning of the registration “process” between our two locations. As you will see from her report below, this year has been another “test” for all of us. A special thanks goes out to all our VERY dedicated registrars, Leo, Anna Lea and Esther for sticking with it. It will all be worth it once we get through the kinks and are able to offer on-line registration!!!

Over the past couple of years, the National Office has been very involved with the verification process of those registering for our 2 National Championship meets. At convention, I had discussion with representatives from the Championship Committee, along with our Webmaster, and past/future National meet directors. We agreed that it made sense to bring the task of meet registration “in house” and it was decided that we would use the two 2004 National Championships as “trial” meets.

For the first meet (SC Nationals in Indianapolis), Web Jim created an “add off line entries to database” page so that all hard copy entries would be inputted directly to the website. Mary Lamport (a local “swimming mom”) was hired as contracted staff and she took on the responsibilities of entering the hard copy entries and verifying all entries for our SC Nationals in Indianapolis. I communicated with the swimmers, local registrars and international NGBs when swimmers were “not found” or there were name, birthdate or club discrepancies and I also handled the financial end. The entries rolled in and we very busy for a couple of weeks. There were a few glitches here and there, but we worked through them. Overall, we feel the process went well and Mary and I are looking forward to Savannah (the first registration has already come in – yikes!!!)

See you in Savannah in August and Orlando in September!

**USMS DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Esther Lyman**

It is always instructional to read last year’s mid-year report before embarking on a new one and I was just reading my cheerful announcement that the installation of the new permanent identifier was proceeding well and fairly painlessly. That is still true, but this year is a different reality.

Assigning the ID was simple compared to ‘implementing’ it this year. Last year was a matter of adding the new ‘competitive’ digits and the authorization character to the registration number – all handled by the software. This year there is a need to not only match to each LMSC’s own prior registrations but to everybody else’s, including some 7,000 ‘legacy’ ID’s assigned to any All-American and Top Ten swimmers posted on the web page. Not so easy!

But the registrars are still taking it in stride, proving again how very professional they all are even as they work in something that is not a profession, but which requires every bit as much expertise and effort.

I can never say enough about the quality of this group of people, and this year it looks like the organization is also recognizing the importance of registration by honoring ‘one of our own’, the grand master of the input software, Leo Letendre. This is far from all Leo is being recognized for, but without his efforts in the registration area the flow of business from the field to the national office would be much harder to manage.

As of mid-April, we have booked 32,394 members with registration dates through April, or 76.4% of the 2003 total of 42,407 (net of transfers). It’s a little hard to tell because of varying transmittal times, but my guess is that so far we are running about even with this time last year.

Birthdays	Women	Men	Total
1910-1919	60	87	147
1920-1929	277	453	730
1930-1939	599	1026	1625
1940-1949	1390	2740	4130
1950-1959	3787	5338	9125
1960-1969	4381	5075	9456
1970-1979	3198	2705	5903
1980-1986	813	465	1278
<b>2004 YTD</b>	<b>14505</b>	<b>17889</b>	<b>32394</b>

Women	Men
40.8%	59.2%
37.9%	62.1%
36.9%	63.1%
33.7%	66.3%
41.5%	58.5%
46.3%	53.7%
54.2%	45.8%
63.6%	36.4%
44.8%	55.2%

<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>19499</b>	<b>22908</b>	<b>42407</b>
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<b>46.0%</b>	<b>54.0%</b>
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For those who are interested in the amount of competition within their age group, this is how the numbers break down for 2004 to date:

FINA Age	Women	Men	Total
19+	813	465	1278
25+	1541	1065	2606
30+	1657	1640	3297
35+	1956	2116	4072
40+	2426	2959	5385
45+	2149	2978	5127
50+	1639	2361	4000
55+	883	1725	2608
60+	505	1017	1522
65+	356	577	933
70+	243	449	692
75+	175	275	450
80+	102	177	279
85+	60	85	145
<b>2004 YTD</b>	<b>14505</b>	<b>17889</b>	<b>32394</b>

Women	Men
63.6%	36.4%
59.1%	40.9%
50.3%	49.7%
48.0%	52.0%
45.1%	54.9%
41.9%	58.1%
41.0%	59.0%
33.9%	66.1%
33.2%	66.8%
38.2%	61.8%
35.1%	64.9%
38.9%	61.1%
36.6%	63.4%
41.4%	58.6%
44.8%	55.2%

If you are interested in breakdowns for your LMSC (or Zone), or how your numbers play out against other LMSCs, please just request additional details from Tracy or Esther. We now have electronic archives going back 10 years and can run the numbers from almost any perspective you might want across that period.

## USMS COMMITTEE MID YEAR REPORTS

### CHAMPIONSHIP

**Barry Fasbender, Chair**  
**Jerry Clark, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Carolyn Boak, Debbie Cavanaugh, Ed Gendreau, Mark Gill, Gorden Gillin, Mel Goldstein, Errol Graham, William Grohe, Sally Maddox, Mark Moore, Michael Moore, Eric Neilsen, Barbara Protzman, Jeff Roddin, Sandi Rousseau, Paul Smith, Tom Spence, Diane Stowell, Lisa Watson, Jim Matysek: Ex-officio, Jane Moore: Ex-officio, Scott Rabalais: Exec. Liaison.

The following projects and discussions have take place since the last convention:

**2004 SCY Nationals in Indianapolis, Indiana:** Sandi Rousseau is the meet liaison for Indy. The final numbers are 1564 swimmers with 72% on-line entries. The sixth event will not be dropped. All events 200 yards or less will be pre-seeded, which will allow the heat sheets for these events to be included in the Meet Program given out at registration.

**2004 LCM Nationals in Savannah, Georgia:** Lisa Watson is serving as the liaison for Savannah. This is a four-day meet this year. The meet will be deck seed and heat sheets available for the swimmers each morning except for the distance day.

**2005 SCY Nationals in Fort Lauderdale, Florida:** Debbie Cavanaugh is the meet liaison for the Fort Lauderdale nationals.

**2005 LCM Nationals in Mission Viejo, California:** Mark Gill is the meet liaison for the Mission Viejo nationals.

**2006 National Championship Pool Venues:** At convention last year the HOD approved not to host a LC National Championship in 2006 contingent upon FINA awarding the bid to USMS for the 2006 World Championships. FINA, the international governing body for aquatic sports, awarded the XI FINA Masters World Championships to the United States, where it will take place at Stanford University's Avery Aquatic Center in August 2006. Therefore, there will be no 2006 National Long Course Championship.

Jeff Roddin has sent out a letter to major aquatic facilities encouraging them to consider bidding for the 2006 National Short Course Championship. He is in the process of sending out letters to the local LMSCs requesting that they encourage potential host to bid.

**2006 National Short Course Championships Bids:** Possible interest from Georgia Tech; Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Bakersfield California.

**Processing of National Championship Entries:** This year the USMS National Office is processing all postal entries for national championships. Postal entries for all National championships will now be sent to the National Office. A swimmer was hired as a temporary worker to enter the postal entries into the National Championship Meet Entry Administration system. The National Office is also verifying the accuracy of both postal and on-line entries. In the past, this was the responsibility of the Meet Host, who worked with the National Office to resolve the various entry problems, such as name differences, registration number not in USMS database, and different club than in USMS database.

Having the National Office process entries has several advantages: (1) The job of hosting a National Championship is now easier. (2) The processing of entries is more consistent. (3) The time save working with the Meet Host is about the same as having the National Office verify all entries. (4) The National Office is having fun; they really enjoy communicating with our members.

**Nationals Meet Information in SWIM:** The format of the National Championship Meet Information that goes into SWIM magazine has changed this year. We replaced the four-page format with a one-page promotional article and three pages of meet information. The meet information now contains only the information that a swimmer needs to enter and attend a national championship. All other information is on the USMS website or provided to the swimmer at registration.

**Medical Requirements for National Championships:** Thanks to our Vice Chair Jerry Clark, the medical section of the National Championship Contract has been clarified. We have been requiring more of the Host than necessary as a result of ambiguous wording in the contract. Jerry worked with the USMS legal counsel and the past and present National Coordinator of Medical Care for National Championships to resolve this issue.

#### ACTION ITEMS

**Contract with Hy-Tek, Ltd:** The Championship Committee, the USMS legal counsel, and Hy-Tek worked out an agreement for computer services. We now have signed a contract with Hy-Tek to provide computer services to seed and score USMS national championship swim meets beginning with calendar year 2004 and lasting for four years. The cost of these services is fixed for the duration of the contract.

**Telephones at Nationals:** Telephone companies are losing money on pay telephones due to the number of cell phones that people now use. People can no longer get telephone companies to install pay phones and in many cases are taking existing ones out. The committee voted to drop the telephone requirement from the USMS National Championships contract. The contract now only requires a phone for emergency calls.

#### TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

**National Championship Evaluation:** Review and update the evaluations forms for National Championships.

**LCM Qualifying Times:** We are exploring new ways of calculating National Qualifying Times for Long Course Nationals. The qualifying times for Long Course have always been must easier to achieve than those for Short Course. Also, the current method sometimes results in a faster qualifying time for an older age group than for the previous age group. The sub committee also needs to look at ways to limit the size of very large National Long Course Championships without making it more difficult to have a financially successful small National Long Course Championships.

**Meet Liaison Handbook:** Carolyn Boak developed a Liaison Handbook that describes everything that the meet liaison needs to do to make sure that we have high quality national championships. This handbook is now being finalized and will be available soon.

**SCM National Championships:** We are working on the idea of a "tied-together" Short Course Meters Championships. Several Short Course Meters Championships would be held in different parts of the country with the times consolidated.

**National Championship Meet Rules:** Review the USMS Rule Book for possible changes to Article 104: National Championship Meets.

**Entry Processing Workbook:** Review and updated our Entry Processing Workbook to reflect the changes now that the National Office is processing National Championship meet entries.

**2006 Bid Ambassadors:** Assign Bid Ambassadors to each potential bidder for 2006. They would help the bidders in developing the bid and presenting it at convention.

### **COACHES**

**Bob Bruce, Chair**

**Scott Williams, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: Tom Boak, Lee Carlson, Mo Chambers, Bill Cleveland, Mike Collins, Harry DeLong, Steven Fair, Paul Fortoul, Doug Garcia, Emmett Hines, Jacki Hirsty, Kris Houchins, Elizabeth Johnson, Wayne McCauley, Don Mehl, Eric Neilson, Ed Nessel, Kerry O'Brien, Janet Renner, Skip Thompson, Tom Trapp, Robert Zeitner, Scott Rabalais: Exec. Liaison

**REPORT:** This Committee does most of its work in small subcommittees or project teams. Since being named to chair this committee in November, I've had a slower start than I would like due to unforeseen professional and personal distractions. I commend the members of this Committee for staying the course with considerable skill and energy.

#### Ongoing projects:

- Clinics (Doug Garcia) – Doug continues to oversee both pool and open water mentor clinics.
- Olympic Training Center Camp (Nancy Ridout, Liaison to the Olympic Training Center) – We continue to work closely with Nancy to provide an excellent camp experience, and the 2004 Camp was a great success (see Nancy's Report).
- National Coaches Conference (Scott Rabalais & Mel Goldstein) – The presenters for Masters Track at the 2004 American Swimming Coaches Association World Clinic have been selected, USMS booth space has been reserved, and scholarships are being arranged for masters coaches.
- International (Bob Bruce) – The USMS Coaching Staff has been selected and plans are afoot for the FINA World Championships in Riccione, Italy, in June 2004. We eagerly anticipate an active role in hosting the 2006 World Championships at Stanford.
- On-Line Workout Posting (Bob Bruce) – Three coaches (Mo Chambers, Nate McBride, & Jeremy Kipp) were selected and are posting practices on the USMS website during 2004.
- On-Deck Coaching (Scott Williams) – Scott will coordinate the on-deck coaches for both National Meets and the Convention practices.
- Coach-of-the-Year (Skip Thompson) – Skip continues to oversee the selection process, most of which will occur after the July 1 application deadline.
- Video Library (Emmett Hines) – Emmett has reorganized and streamlined the process for video rental.
- Book Library (Ed Nessel) – Ed continues to operate the book rental.
- Snooper Rental (Lee Carlson) – Lee continues to supervise snooper rental and refurbishing of the equipment.

#### Major Projects:

- Coaches Manual (Robert Zeitner & Wayne McCauley) - This project has been in the works for several years, and is now closing on completion using a tight time line. Robert and Wayne have done remarkable work collating a great deal of excellent information. This manual will eventually be available primarily as an on-line resource to Masters coaches. Hopefully, the momentum from this project will lead into the reworking of the ASCA Masters Certification materials and process next year.
- Clinics and Camps – The Executive Committee has recently asked this Committee to develop a comprehensive national plan for Clinic and Camps. We have just beginning this process.
- Coaches Committee Quarterly (Mo Chambers) – This size and scope of this project demands a larger group of content providers than we have had recently, and we are working to broaden the group of active contributors to this project in order to revitalize this important publication.
- Triathlon (Cindy Hawkinson, Liaison to USA-Triathlon) – We are in the early stages of discussing avenues for cooperation between USMS and USA-Triathlon.

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
**Hugh Moore, Chair**  
**Michael Moore, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Rich Barkan, Helen Bayly, Chris Beardsley, Kathrine Casey, Daniel Cox, Kelly Crandell, George Cunningham, Ed Gendreau, Tom Hindle, Sarah Hromada, Mark Hurley, Kenn Lowy, Tom Lyndon, Jane Masters, Dennis McManus, Ray Novitske, Margot Pettijohn, Carl Saxton, Meg Smath, Bekah Wright, Tracy Grilli: Ex-officio, Jim Matysek: Ex-officio, Bill Volckening: Ex-officio, Lynn Hazlewood: Exec. Liaison

As chair of the committee I participate in the monthly "Web Administrator's" meeting with Jim Matysek and Lynn Hazlewood. During this meeting we set priorities for Web tasks and review status. We have long realized that the task list is constantly growing as various USMS committees make requests to add features to the Website. Since much of "Web Jim's" time is spent doing maintenance and administrative tasks, he only has about 30 % of his time available for development tasks. At their annual mid-year meeting the USMS Executive Committee recommended that USMS authorize \$35,000 for hiring an assistant to the Webmaster to help reduce the backlog. The Communications Committee discussed the idea and approved the proposal listed under action items. The Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Finance Committee have also passed the proposal.

One of the shortcomings of our current process of considering requests for Web presence by committees is that we have not been identifying costs, including time commitment of the USMS Webmaster, prior to starting a project. If you are planning to request a project that involves the USMS Website at this year's convention, please send me a description of the project by August 1<sup>st</sup> so that we can estimate the time commitment that would be required to complete the task.

Michael Moore led a humorous April Fool's Day thread on the USMS Discussion Forums regarding potential proliferation of FINA records that was supposedly discussed by the FINA bureau in Dubai while he submitted the successful bid for 2006 World Championships..

**ACTION ITEMS**

**MSA** :The Communications recommends to the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors that:

A: A competent full time programmer be contracted for a period of six months to help the IT Director/Webmaster cut down on the back log of development work for USMS. This would be a contract job where the total compensation would total not more than \$35,000 for the six month contract. This job would be supervised by the IT/Webmaster and a representative from the Executive Committee.

At the end of four months there would be a decision made as to whether to extend the contract.

B: This contract needs to be handled on an expedited basis and the PMG rule about the notification be made in Swim Magazine be waived. The executive committee will have notification that USMS is looking for this position sent to all LMSC Chairmen and club representatives. Notification will also be on the USMS Web site "home page" and on the Forums page.

**TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION**

The committee will be working on three significant projects prior to convention.

1. Mark Hurley is chairing a sub-committee that is developing methods for USMS, LMSCs, and workout groups to welcome new members.
2. The entire committee will be helping develop a Communications Workshop slated for convention. Topics will include intra-LMSC communications, Websites, Newsletters, and Welcoming New Swimmers.
3. The committee will be reviewing communications within USMS and making recommendations for improvements related to a long range plan.

**CONVENTION**  
**Michael Heather, Chair**  
**Debbie Cavanaugh, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: Joanne Berven, Jean Fox, Tracy Grilli, Edie Gruender, Lil Haneman, Mary Hull, Cris Meier-Windes, Meg Smath, Joanne Tingley, William Tingle, Rhea Wilkins, Jim Miller, MD: Exec. Liaison

**ACTION ITEMS**

Received meeting schedule from EC, formatted schedule and sent to USAS. Revised schedule 4 times since submission to USAS.

Arranged for Hospitality suite in Orlando.

Working with Meegan Wilson to arrange volunteers, busing and pool space for delegates.

Tracy Grilli distributed convention registration and hotel reservation forms.

**TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION**

Purchase LCD projector for use at convention; per action item in HOD last year.

Distribute Audio Visual request form to BOD and other meeting holders.

Vice Chair Cavanaugh to create certification table schedule.

Diligent and overworked member Grilli to create and distribute delegate pre convention packages

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Tom Boak, Chair**  
**Ralph Davis, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: Joanie Campbell, Trisha Commons, Betsy Durrant, Conrad Johnson, Lucy Johnson, Homer Lane, Jeff Moxie, Anna Lea Roof, Barbara Thomas, Sarah Welch, Kris Wingenroth, Margaret Bayless: Ex officio, Jeanne Ensign: Ex officio, Cathy Pennington: Ex officio, Doug Church: Exec. Liaison

Since the convention, the Finance Committee has been asked to deal with a number of over-budget requests. Two, in particular, from the Executive Committee and Communications Committee, requested funding for a National Publication Consultant and an Assistant Webmaster. In the coming months, the Committee will be looking at the requirements for funding the 2006 FINA World Championships.

**FITNESS COMMITTEE**  
**Pam Himstreet, Chair**  
**Jani Sutherland, Vice Chair**  
**Bill Volckening, Vice Chair**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Marianne Brogan, Lee Carlson, Randy Crutchfield, Harry DeLong, Art Figur, David Grilli, Margie Hutinger, Sandy Lovejoy, Tom Mester, Jane Moore, Jennifer Parks, Dick Sidner, Laura Smith, Darlene Staley, Victoria Tracy, Jody Welborn, Bekah Wright, Scott Rabalais: Exec. Liaison

**OPENING PARAGRAPH:**

The Fitness Committee has begun a very successful year as we focus our efforts on enhancing Masters Swimming for the non-competitive member or fitness swimmer. We continue to offer a variety of activities and information for all swimmers regardless of their reasons for choosing Masters Swimming as an activity. We continue to see more involvement by Committee members as each month progresses. A surprise has been the significant involvement of YMCA swimmers in our events.

## DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS:

We have a great communication tool in the Fitness section of the USMS website. Bill Volckening has been able to post our material independent of the Webmaster and thus we can make instant changes to our part of the web. The Committee seems to be envied by many other committees for our success in this area. An ongoing project is always to improve this great communication tool.

Another main project this year is to grow the three USMS Fitness Events. The Check Off Challenge has been running for two years and did double participation in the second year. This year 300 shirts were sold and a nice profit was made for the host LMSC. The 30 Minute Swim had 52 participants in its inaugural year of 2003. Our goal is to encourage teams and coaches to do this as a team event, especially in the fall to lead into the Hour Swim. Hopefully, we will be over 100 participants this year. The Virtual Swim Series had 20 hearty souls brave Americas Waterways. The male and female mileage champions each swum nearly 600 miles. Our male winner got so involved in the swims that he designed one of the new swims for 2004. He promises to encourage participation within his LMSC, of which he is the Chair. The Mavericks (2004 hosts) are really getting behind promoting the Virtual Series. They report that people in their area have joined USMS and their team just to do the Virtual Series. There are now 14 Virtual Swims on the web, ranging in length from 12 to 200 miles.

The Articles of the Month have been very successful this year. Thanks to the efforts of our new Vice Chair, Jani, more committee members are getting involved in this area. Jani has a new article in hand to post each month through September.

## ACTION ITEMS:

We will solicit nominations for the 2004 Fitness Award and gather volunteers from all the teams in USMS to host the Fitness Events for 2005. The Committee will select from the candidates at the Convention. We have an announcement in the next Swim Magazine and a bid form on the Web.

## DECISIONS THAT WERE PASSED BY YOUR COMMITTEE EITHER BY VOTE OR CONSENSUS.

Continue with the Article of the Month and continue to gather more Virtual Swims for the Series. All members are to promote the Fitness events within their LMSC's through their Fitness Chairs and coaches.

## TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION.

Solicit nominations for the 2004 Fitness Award. The three Fitness events will go to teams or LMSC's to manage for 2005 so we need to solicit prospective hosts. The 30 Minute swim is being run by Ohio Masters in 2004. The Virtual Swims by Florida Maverick Masters. We have flyers describing our events and website that will be put out at YMCA Nationals and both SCY and LCM Nationals this year. The Fitness Award recipient will be selected this summer so the award can be given at the Convention.

## LIST ANY DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT YOUR COMMITTEE WILL BE ADDRESSING.

Advertising the three Fitness Events. Look for other advertising opportunities besides the ones mentioned above. More Virtual Swims will need to be designed to keep up with the "mileage monsters". Ideas for new activities to start in 2005.

## **HISTORY & ARCHIVES**

**Barbara Dunbar, Chair**

**Meegan Wilson, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: Marcia Cleveland, Tom Hindle, Carl House, Wayne McCauley, Cris Meier-Windes, David Miller, Danielle Ogier, Gail Roper, Dennis Wilson, Mary Beth Windrath, Bill Volckening: Ex-Officio, Sally Ann Dillon: Exec. Liaison

## **COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

Ongoing History & Archives work on the Story and Oral History project includes soliciting, collecting, and editing new stories and oral histories with initial, primary emphasis on the older, more prominent USMS swimmers. Unfortunately, H & A continues to be unable to upload any stories, oral histories, and photographs acquired since the end of 2002 due to a delay in completion of the USMS Web Projects that would create a new web area for the stories, oral histories, and photos and would create tools to handle editing, addition, and deletion.

H&A work continues on the Photo Image Project to acquire photographs, to annotate them (name of subject and photographer and copyright/permission to use or display), and to secure the permission of the subject and photographer for posting and use of the photos on the USMS web site.



Archive research activities include answering archive related questions from other USMS Committees and helping to identify and verify record holders and times and All Americans. Several committee members are assisting with the slow and laborious process of carefully proofing an electronic version of the 1972 through 1992 Top Tens which was created by John Bauman.

The USMS Web Projects are being monitored, and the recent completion of the Top Ten search project signals a move down the project list to the eagerly anticipated completion of the Stories and Oral History Web area project and ultimately the Swimmer Info link page. The Web project to convert and update the All American and All Star listings which is being performed by an outside contractor was stalled by an unfortunate delay, however it is reportedly back on track for completion.

The procedures for archiving more recent USMS documents at the USMS physical archives at the Henning Library, ISHOF, are being reviewed to ensure that all relevant documents continue to be archived and that a process exists to guarantee automatic archiving of certain documents.

The original H & A Committee Mission Statement has been located. Committee members were informed of the 2004 convention schedule for the H & A and Block 5 meetings and reviewed meeting minutes.

#### ACTION ITEMS

A permanent Top Ten Publication subscription for the History and Archives Committee was initiated and Top Tens will be sent to the USMS Archives at the Henning Library, ISHOF, ensuring that the published Top Tens automatically will be archived. Arrangements were made to send missing 2003 Top Tens to the USMS Archives.

#### TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

H&A tasks for the upcoming months include the following: 1) respond to research archive requests; 2) identify USMS documents missing from the USMS Archives at the Henning Library, ISHOF, such as copies of Long Distance results and missing Top Tens, and locate and add the missing documents to the Archives; 3) follow up on methods to ensure addition of recent USMS documents to the USMS Archive repository site; 4) continue to collect and edit stories and oral histories; 5) continue to collect photographs and work on the photo image project; 6) follow up on the USMS web projects which affect History & Archives such as the Stories and Oral History web area project, the Swimmer Information project, and the projects to transfer and update the All American and All Star lists.

**INSURANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Colleen Driscoll, Chair**  
**Cheryl Gettlefinger, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Colleen Ann Driscoll, Cheryl Gettlefinger, Lee Carlson, Frank Tillotson, Mike Laux, Jack Buchanan, George Simon, Patty Powis: Exec. Liason

The Committee continues to keep apprised of the state of the insurance market.

#### ACTION ITEMS

The Committee voted on and passed our renewal insurance programs within the premium and policy limit parameters voted on at the 2003 Convention.

#### TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

The Committee will continue to review our insurance coverages and policy limits for appropriateness and adequacy and will look into a new insurance program offered by an insurer for amateur adult sports. We will continue to respond to insurance questions presented by our members.

## **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**

**Sandi Rousseau, Chair**

**Myriam Pero, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Peggy Buchanan, Hill Carrow, Irene David, Sean Fitzgerald, Mark Gill, Bill Grohe, Jacki Hirsty, June Krauser, Lilly Kron, Joe Kurtzman, Nancy Miller, Mary Pohlmann, Walt Reid, Mani Sanguilly, Susanne Simpson, Shannon Sullivan, Barbara Thomas, Anthony Thompson, Phil Whitten, Laura Winslow, Michael Moore: Ex-officio, Jim Miller: Exec. Liaison

The International Committee has been reformulated for 2004 with many members having particular interest in international relations affecting Masters swimming in the world and international competitions. The committee has a lot of energy and has defined several projects for 2004-2005.

The committee was involved in assisting with the United States Aquatic Sports' successful bid for the FINA World Masters Championships to be held at Stanford in August, 2006. Participation was primarily in communications regarding contractual issues with FINA and review of the bid packet.

There has also been a lot of communication with Masters Swimming Canada and LatyCar (Latin Caribbean countries) regarding the newly formed Masters Swimming Committee within ASUA (Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas). Myriam Pero and I met with Jim Miller, Chris Smith (MSC President), and David Morrill (LatyCar President) in Florida in January, and I participated in a March conference call with Dale Neuberger, Mel Goldstein and Jim Miller. A first official meeting of the ASUA Masters Committee will be held at the end of our convention in September, 2004, and this is a great step forward toward enhancing communication.

Other projects that are underway are: (1) Masters World Contacts: A subcommittee has undertaken the big task of updating international contacts for Masters swimming worldwide. This list will include primary country contacts and web site information. Our list is not current and we need to update it to assist with the FINA world meet at Stanford; (2) Creation of an International Section on the USMS web site to not only promote international competition but to create a home for other items of international interest, e.g. customs and phrases for the international traveler, publications, etc; (3) Creation of a quarterly newsletter for distribution to USMS members who request it; (4) Creation of a fitness oriented 'International Virtual Swim'; (5) Creation of Core Objectives for this committee; and (6) Consideration for a Power Point presentation at convention.

## **LEGISLATION**

**Rob Copeland, Chair**

**Jennifer Parks, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Bill Cleveland, Daniel Cox, Marilyn Fink, Sean Fitzgerald, Marie-Pierre Graf, Cindy Hawkinson, Mary Hull, Homer Lane, Arni Litt, Marcia Marcantonio, Steve Peterson, Leslie Smith, Richard Smith, Jon Steiner, Erin Sullivan, Leo Letendre: Ex-officio, Meg Smath: Ex-officio, Patty Powis: Exec. Liaison

2004 is an off year for Legislative amendments, but this doesn't mean the committee gets the year off. The committee currently is working on an LMSC bylaws project, assisting in the Planning Committee Governance task force, performing research on special requests, and providing legislative interpretation of our code.

The accomplishments of the Planning Committee's Governance task force will be presented in throughout this year and will most likely end up generating many proposed amendments and much work for the Legislation committee next year.

An LMSC bylaws project continues to move along slowly and steadily. The Legislation Committee is looking into how best to assist LMSC's in ensuring we all have complete, consistent and viable bylaws. The committee is looking at how our LMSC's are structured today and looking at model LMSC bylaws, based on a USA-Swimming model.

A third effort underway, is to finalize a National Board of Review Policies and Procedures handbook to support the NBR that the House of Delegates approved at the 2003 annual meeting. The committee will work with Carolyn Boak and Patty Powis to prepare a final draft in the very near future.

In addition to these initiatives, the committee has been asked to interpret many vague or confusing provisions to our code. So far, none of these interpretations have resulted in proposed emergency amendments to code, which would be presented at the annual meeting in September. As we move into the summer, we anticipate a few amendments may surface, as we approach the July 10th submission deadline.

In closing I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the Legislation Committee for volunteering their time and efforts to make United States Masters Swimming a truly great

## **LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE**

**Peter Crumbine, Chair**

**Marcia Cleveland, Vice Chair**

**Committee members:** Doug Brogan, Bob Bruce, Rob Copeland, Pam Himstreet, Bruce Hopson, Laura Kessler, Janet Renner, Randy Nutt, Danielle Ogier, Steve Schofield, Dick Sidner, Julie Stewart, Shannon Sullivan, Jim Wheeler, Jill Wright, Robert Zeitner: Ex-officio, Marcia Benjamin: Ex-officio, Graham Johnston: Ex-officio, Bill Volckening: Ex-officio, Paul Wrangell: Ex-officio, Lynn Hazlewood: Exec. Liaison

### **Introduction**

Our goal of totally converting the championship process to electronic communications has been achieved. The problems we encountered in 2002 have been corrected, and changes going forward should be in the "tweaking" category. This streamlined process consists of two mass email distributions: 1) In the spring, we send out four files to all event directors for the following year, namely the USMS contract, timeline for all events, championship guidelines, and championship forms. The latter two files are also posted on the Long Distance site on the USMS web site. 2) Then in late January or early February, we send out the bid package. This year it went out on January 30 for the 2006 LD championships. It is noteworthy that using this system last year resulted in a record number of bids for the 2005 championships. Vice Chair Marcia Cleveland, Liaison/Webmaster Lynn Hazlewood, and ex-Chair Rob Copland were particularly helpful during this streamlining process.

### **Projects since the last convention**

All events for 2003 have been finalized including All-Americans (David Vandam), All-Stars (Marcia Benjamin and Julie Stewart), Records (Jill Wright) and Awards (Robert Zeitner). The 2004 One Hour Swim has been successfully completed under the leadership of Nancy Ridout, the entry forms for all the other 2004 championships have been finalized and posted on the web, and bid forms have been sent to potential bidders for the 2006 LD Championships.

We finalized and posted the first edition of the USMS National Postal Championship Guidelines, with thanks to Kristine Lewis for a job well done.

Paul Wrangell was named the Long Distance Historian and became an ex-officio member of the committee. All hard copy files from previous years are now in his possession.

### **Action items**

The LD Committee approved a new design for our championship patch, a new design for championship medals, and the design of a new participation patch for completing all postal championships in a calendar year. Thanks to ex-officio member Bill Volckening for all three designs.

### **Future tasks**

Distribute championship "packets" to the 2005 Event Directors.

Prepare rule changes for the 2004 convention.

Order cloisonne medals based on the new design.

Finalize the new safety manual being worked on by a sub-committee under Jim Wheeler.

## **MARKETING COMMITTEE**

**Richard Burns, Chair**

**Doug Garcia, Vice Chair**

Committee Members – Joanie Campbell, Katherine Clark, Michael Collins, Randy Crutchfield, Nadine Day, Maria Doelger, Dan Kornblat, Anne LaBorwit, Tom Lyndon, Jane Masters, Ray Novitske, Nancy Rossetti, Paul Smith, Darlene Staley, Aimee Bennett: Ex officio, Barry Fasbender: Ex officio, Mel Goldstein: Ex officio, Nancy Ridout: Exec. Liaison

Marketing has focused its attention and resources on a variety of initiatives.

We began by responding to the EC's request to develop a strategic marketing plan for the organization. In light of the Planning Committee's initiative to evaluate USMS governance and what was considered to be some overlap in the assignments, we presented the EC with a framework to developing a strategic plan. To initiate marketing momentum the EC aligned marketing with the Zone Committee to create a pilot marketing program. The Utah LMSC

1. Introduced email media training on a regular, periodic basis for LMSCs, newsletter editors, marketing and executive committee members, and requesting coaches. Working with Melissa Rinker, have received excellent response and positive comments.

2. Issued 12 news releases on a national basis; additional 10 to appropriate geographic-specific local media for local news

3. Dramatically increased distribution of media materials through full use of subscription release distribution service, touching 5,000 media contacts at least once through year.

3. Published article results have been seen in hundreds of publications, including a wide range: Club Industry, Current Health 1, New York Times, Outside Magazine, Mesa Tribune, Senior Connections, Ms. Fitness, Mesa (AZ) Tribune, Orange County Register, St. Petersburg Times, Baltimore Sun, Pharmacy Times.

4. Have achieved position of regular contributor to active.com, HealthNewsDigest.com - both of which have content picked up by many other media outlets.

5. Provided research, communications guidance for triathlon committee as a result of 2003 pre-convention meeting with tri committee.

**OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**  
**David Diehl, Chair**  
**Charlie Cockrell, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Bob Bruce, Judy Gillies, Marie-Pierre Graf, F.H. Ted Haartz, Jan Kavada, Mike Lemke, Leo Letendre, Mark Moore, Eric Nordlund, Edward Saltzman, Joan Smith, Erin Sullivan, Frank Tillotson, Dennis Wilson, Frank Cheng: Ex-officio, Sally Dillon: Exec. Liaison

**DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION:**

- Mailed welcome letter to all members of the 2004 National Officials Committee.
- Completed "Application to Officiate" for both USMS SC and LC National Championships and had posted on USA-S web site.
- Collected and forwarded all SC Nationals "Applications to Officiate" to meet referee.
- Answered questions from USMS members regarding officiating as received.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- Forward all "Applications to Officiate" for LC Nationals to meet referee.
- Review USMS Officials Committee Liaison reports from SC and LC Nationals.

**TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION**

- Continue coordination with the meet manger and head referee for the officials wanting to work the LC Nationals in Savannah, GA.
- Prepare "End of Year" report for the Officials Committee and the agenda for the Officials meeting in Orlando, FL.
- Continue to respond to questions regarding official's interpretation of USMS rules.
- Continue to coordinate the implementation of the USMS Officials Certification program as necessary
- Review any rule change proposals prior to the Convention.
- Continue to solicit "officiating scenarios" to help our officials in the interpretation of the rules.

**PLANNING**  
**Betsy Durrant, Chair**

Committee members: Joan Alexander, Vicki Bucino, Rich Burns, Michael Collins, Maria Doelger, Gordon Gillin, Michael Heather, Sarah Hromada, Lucy Johnson, Homer Lane, Nancy Miller, Mark Moore, Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Jeff Moxie, Mark Murphy, Carl Saxton, Dore Schwab, Susanne Simpson, David Vandam, Jim Wheeler, Doug Church: Exec. Liaison

**PROJECTS**

1. Facilities Brochure. Information for the brochure was gathered and sent to Marketing. Doug Garcia has been working on the brochure for Marketing. A draft copy will be ready as soon as some new pictures are incorporated.
2. Disks with facilities and other promotional materials to be sent to facilities. This project is on hold. The Facilities Brochure must be completed first. Mel Goldstein is working on a promotional disk so any Planning Committee work will be coordinated with what Mel is doing. It may be that our work on this is not needed.
3. Subcommittee to study Structure and Governance.
  - a. Members: Joan Alexander, Rich Burns, Doug Church, Michael Collins, Rob Copeland, Maria Doelger, Betsy Durrant, Mike Heather, Lucy Johnson, Homer Lane, Jim Miller, Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Mark Murphy, Nancy Ricout.
  - b. The subcommittee is currently working through the VVMOST process (Values, Vision, Mission, Objectives, Strategies, Tactics). All members of the HOD as well as the committee were asked to submit a list of what they value about USMS. The input was compiled and discussed. A list of USMS Values was created and approved. Using the Values List, a Vision Statement for USMS was discussed. The Vision Statement is in the final editing stage. As soon as it is complete and approved, the Values and Vision statements will be shared with all members of the HOD. A Mission Statement and Objectives are now being discussed.
  - c. When the VVMOST process is complete, we will have a clear VVMOST picture of our organization. This will then lead to our study of Structure and Governance.

**ACTION ITEMS**

None at this time.

**TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION**

Subcommittee:

1. Complete the VVMOST process
2. Begin a detailed study of the HOD and BOD.

Entire committee:

1. Approve the facilities brochure when it is ready.
2. Discuss new projects.

**PUBLICATIONS**  
**Meg Smath, Chair**  
**Steve Peterson, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Meg Smath, Steve Peterson, Debbie Cavanaugh, Marilyn Fink, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Tracy Grilli, Lil Haneman, Mark Hurley, Anne Laborwit, Joanne Tingley, Mary Lee Watson, Sally Dillon: Exec. Liaison

Since convention, the major activity for this committee, as always, was publishing the rule book. Tracy Grilli compiled Appendix E, Cheryl Gettelfinger coordinated the ads, and all other committee members proofread different segments of the rule book. In addition, Walt Reid provided the pool records, Peter Crumbine and Jill Wright provided the long distance records, Kathy Casey proofread the rules sections, Barry Fasbender proofread the championship sections, Rob Copeland proofread the legislation sections, and Peter Crumbine proofread the long distance sections. This year the rule book was sent to the printer in PDF format in order to minimize translation problems between the printer's Mac system and my PC. I also sent these same PDF files to Jim Matysek, who posted them on the USMS website.

I also compared the rule book with the LMSC handbook for consistency between the two documents. I provided Tracy Grilli with the rule book forms for pool measurement and records so that the forms would be the same in both documents. I arranged with Bill Volckening to run a notice in the May/June issue of *SWIM* asking for submissions for the 2005 rule book cover and also soliciting bids to print the 2005 rule book.

ACTION ITEMS:  
None.

In the months leading up to convention, we will be going through the rule book looking for housekeeping changes to improve the clarity of the rules, concentrating on Parts 1 and 3. We will also correct any typographical errors brought to our attention.

### **RECOGNITION & AWARDS**

**Kathrine J. Casey, Chair**  
**Carolyn Boak, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Cindy Baxter, Carolyn Boak, Tom Boak, Hill Carrow, Kathrine Casey, Kelly Crandell, Angie Friday, Gail Dummer, Steven Fair, Jack Geoghegan, Mel Goldstein, Dan Gruender, Edie Gruender, Ted Haartz, Brad Houston, Sarah Hromada, Paul Hutinger, June Krauser, Mike Laux, Jim Miller, M.D., Jane Moore, M.D., Hugh Moore, Amy Patz, Suzanne Rague, Walt Reid, Nancy Ridout, Sandi Rousseau, Joan Smith, Richard Smith, Bill Tingley, Mary Lee Watson, Scott Rabalais: Exec. Liaison

The committee has:

1. Continued to work on brief narratives of the reasons each Ransom J. Arthur recipient won the award
2. Updated the Awards web site and the awards lists.
3. Inserted revised and new language in the nomination instructions for the Ransom Arthur Award,
4. Conducted the nomination process for the Ransom J. Arthur Award and is in the process of selecting the winner, and the nominees are:
  - Walt and Anneliese Eggert
  - Jeanne Ensign
  - Barry Fasbender
  - Leo Letendre
  - Steve Schofield
  - Frank "Skip" Thompson
5. Published articles in *SWIM* about the Ransom J. Arthur Award and the Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award

### ACTION ITEMS

1. In the process of choosing a Ransom J. Arthur Award winner.
2. Arranging the presentation ceremony at Short Course Nationals.

### TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Continue to:

1. Continue to update the web site.
2. Continue to research narratives about Ransom J. Arthur Award winners and collect pictures of each winner to be posted on the web site.
3. Research this committee's approval of the Fitness Award and include the list of winners based on that research.
4. Consider a USMS volunteer patch.
5. Solicit nominations for and select winners for the Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award and prepare the presentation for Convention.

### **RECORDS & TABULATION COMMITTEE**

**Pieter Cath, Chair**  
**Mary Beth Windrath, Vice Chair**

Committee members: John Bauman, Vicki Buccino, Barbara Dunbar, Julie Heather, Carl House, Margie Hutinger, Ginger Pierson, Walt Reid, Jeff Roddin, Nancy Rosetti, Ed Saltzman, Joan Smith, Melinda Smith, Ed Tsuzuki, Nancy Ridout:  
Exec. Liaison

### COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Top-Ten Tabulations for 2003 Long-Course Meters and 2003 Short-Course Meters were sent to the printer and published on schedule.

The 2003 All-American tabulation was prepared and sent to the National Office for verification and publishing. Information to identify All Stars was included.

NQT tabulations were sent to the Championship Committee.

The 2003 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. Ed Tsuzuki is handling the uploading of top-ten data to the USMS web site and making the necessary corrections.

I want to thank the Top-Ten Recorders for their efforts to include USMS registration numbers in their submissions. 19346 swims were submitted for the recent SCM top-ten tabulation. 80 percent of those (15454) included registration numbers. Using automatic look-up techniques and with help from Esther Lyman more than 3400 missing numbers have been added.

Unfortunately, a modest number of registration numbers had typographical errors or did not match the swimmer. Some of the errors were corrected automatically like using the letter "O" for the numeral "0", etc. Other typos like "U" for "V" and vice versa cannot be corrected automatically. Typos are unavoidable in a system where numbers are entered manually by meet directors and top-ten recorders. In the future, meet programs would need to tie in directly to the registration file for this to improve. Of course, there will always be a number of missing numbers because of on-deck USMS registration at meets and the natural time delay in the registration process.

A few of top-ten recorders are now using the top-ten windows software that was developed by Mary Beth Windrath.

#### ACTION ITEMS

The Records & Tabulation section was revised. Instructions for submitting data from non-USMS meets for top-ten purposes was added to the handbook

#### TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

We need more sophisticated procedures to check registration numbers

A way to check the accuracy of the top-ten data on the web site needs to be developed. A method to do this has been proposed to Jim Matysek.

**REGISTRATION**  
**Anna Lea Roof, Chair**  
**George Simon, Vice Chair**

Committee Members: Jack Buchanan, James Coleman, Julie Heather, Emmett Hines, Jim Lewis, Arni Litt, John Pilger, Paul Wrangell, Tracy Grilli: Ex-officio, Esther Lyman, Ex-officio

The new USMS permanent ID has been the main focus for the registrars during 2004. The permanent IDs were first assigned in 2003; in 2004, we began using them to verify each swimmer as he or she re-registered.

The verification process has had a few glitches. It involved several quick revisions to Leoware (thanks, Leo!). We have learned some valuable lessons that will benefit us as we someday move to an online registration system.

**RULES COMMITTEE**  
**Leo Letendre, Chair**  
**Katherine Casey, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Tom Boak, Peggy Buchanan, Charlie Cockrell, David Diehl, Judy Gillies, Janet Kavadas, June Krauser, Joe Kurtzman, Dennis McManus, Kerry O'Brien, Jessica Seaton, Anthony Thompson, William Tingley, Scott Williams, Kris Wingenroth, Bob Bruce: Ex-officios, Rob Copeland: Ex-officio, Meg Smath: Ex-officio, Don Hart: Ex-officio, Sally Dillon, Ex-officio

**TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION**

The rules committee has been preparing for its semi-annual "Rules Year". One proposal has already been received. Concern about issues surrounding the pool certification requirements continue to be expressed and will likely be addressed this fall.

**SAFETY EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**Julie Heather, Chair**  
**Leslie Smith, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Nadine Day, Mary Pohlmann, Eric Shanks, Shannon Sullivan, Anthony Thompson, Joanne Wainwright, Jody Welborn, Colleen Driscoll: Ex-officio, Patty Powis: Exec. Liaison

The major goal of the Safety Education Committee for this year is to produce a web page of useful information for our members. The Committee has decided to include information on disabilities on the Safety Education page, with the intent of transferring it to a different area if appropriate. Jim Matysek has provided a template for the compilation of safety information following the format used for other pages on the USMS website.

The Safety Handbook has been revised and submitted to Colleen Driscoll, Patty Powis and Sandi Blumit, and is ready for inclusion on the web page.

I have provided answers to various safety related questions as needed.

**TASKS AND ACTION ITEMS**

Leslie Smith is compiling links for the webpage relating to disabilities

Shannon Sullivan is compiling links relating to open water safety

Julie Heather is putting the webpage together using the template provided by Jim Matysek, and information provided by committee members. A draft will be submitted to the committee by late spring.

**SPORTS MEDICINE**  
**Jessica Seaton, Chair**  
**Jody Welborn, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Nadine Day, Arthur Figur, Jean Fox, Ann Gilbert, Doug Huestis, Jane Katz, Laura Kessler, Michael Laux, Wayne McCauley, Don Mehl, Jane Moore, Ed Nessel, Amy Patz, Dick Pitman, Mary Pohlman, Joel Stager, Jani Sutherland, Joanne Wainwright, Lisa Watson, Phil Whitten, Mark Wussler, Jim Miller: Exec. Liaison

**DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION:**

**1. FINA Masters Worlds 2006**

The committee agreed on a multi-day format with 2-3 speakers per day over 4 days. Furthermore, we felt that the some lectures should be directed toward laypeople and others toward professionals. Laura Kessler has offered to coordinate these efforts. Discussions with Michael Moore have begun.

**2. Web Page**

Initial efforts with an outside web coordinator have not been fruitful. We are currently exploring other options.

**3. Research**

Joel Stager has been coordinating efforts with Indiana University. Currently an on-line survey is days away from going on-line. He has arranged for testing of Masters swimmers to begin at 2004 Nationals in Indiana.



#### **4. SWIM Magazine**

The following is an update:

March/April 2004 - Good Pain/Bad Pain by an outside person, Ask the Doc  
May/June 2004 - Swimming and Medications by Jody Welborn  
July/August 2004 - Ask the Doc: Persistent Ear Infections  
September/October 2004 - Eating Disorders by Jane Moore  
November/December 2004 - Hormones by Mary Pohlman  
January/February 2005 - Rotator Cuff surgery Rehabilitation by Nadine Day  
March/April 2005 - The Athlete's Heart by Jody Welborn

#### **5. Speaker for Sports Medicine Lecture at the Convention**

Jody Welborn, M.D. will speak at the convention on the heart and Masters swimming.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. The committee decided to have a position statement opposing performance enhancing drugs and opposing testing for these drugs. Wording still needs to be refined.

#### **TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION**

1. Continue all subcommittee work
2. Discussions regarding budget items

#### **ZONE COMMITTEE Lynn Hazlewood, Chair**

Committee members: Marcia Anziano, Breadbasket; Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Colonies; Rob Copeland, Dixie; Mike Lemke, Great Lakes; Doug Garcia, Northwest; Joan Alexander, Oceana; Marcia Marcantonio, South Central; Lucy Johnson, Southwest.

The Zone Committee has been moving forward to fulfill our rule book mandates as well as implement tasks assigned by the Executive Committee. The projects, which we discuss in monthly conference calls, will occupy the full year and some will extend into next year. Those projects are as follows:

1. LMSC Grants: The Grants Program Subcommittee, chaired by Mike Lemke, has put together a process to provide financial support for worthy LMSC projects. More information and application forms can be obtained at [www.usms.org/admin/lmscservices/grants.shtml](http://www.usms.org/admin/lmscservices/grants.shtml) for those who are interested in applying for a grant. Submission deadline is June 1 with decisions made by July 1.
2. LMSC Workshops: The Communications Subcommittee, chaired by Rob Copeland, and the Zone Chair have joined forces with the LMSC Chairs Interest Group, headed by Michael Moore, to present five workshops at convention. These workshops are intended to provide information to LMSC officers to take back to their LMSCs. Workshops in development are: LMSC Chairs Networking; Communications; Club Mentoring; SWOT Training; and Management of Corporate Documents. More information on the workshops will be available as convention gets closer.
3. Communications: The Communications Subcommittee is also working on a plan to enhance communications between the national and local level. The project will involve elements such as identifying the target audience, specifying the message we need to get to the target audience, cross-LMSC communication, building a body of information from national committees to be conveyed to the LMSCs, and reviewing the methods used by USA-Swimming for communication with the local level.
4. EOG Amendments: The Election Subcommittee, Chaired by Lucy Johnson, is working on amendments to the Election Operating Guidelines in preparation for the 2005 election. Changes in the basic guidelines are basically complete with the appendices to be tackled soon.
5. Zone Rep Job Description: The Zone Rep JD Subcommittee, Chaired by Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, is working on the further development and implementation of the zone rep job description which was approved at the 2003 convention. Debbie has polled former zone reps to identify the work they did while members of the committee. Most note they feel the greatest importance is in relation to the local/LMSC level (communication, mentoring, providing tools, etc.). This is an area where the subcommittee will develop some help and guidelines for the duties listed.

6. Pilot Marketing Program: The Zone Committee has joined with the Marketing Committee to initiate a pilot marketing program in the Utah LMSC. The purpose is to test the potential of a strategic marketing approach in a narrow segment of USMS. The project is currently in the planning stages. Doug Garcia is the zone liaison to the pilot project.

7. Swim Listings

**BREADBASKET ZONE**  
**Marcia Anziano, Zone Rep**

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

During the past 6 months, 3 groups in the zone have introduced new newsletter formats. The St. Louis Area Masters have a brand new newsletter entitled the "SLAM Dunk". It includes articles on local swimmers, meet information and training related articles. Minnesota has also produced a new newsletter during this past period. They have not only changed the format of the newsletter but have made some very good changes to greatly improve their web site. It is well worth your time to take a look at it. Colorado has also revamped their newsletter. It has a new format and can be viewed online.

In order to warm themselves up in St. Louis during the winter, they held an "Open Water Swim in February" Mile Meet. If you did not get warm enough swimming the mile, there was a Hawaiian theme complete with Gatorade umbrella drinks and Hawaiian shirts.

The Breadbasket Zone Meet was held at Coe College in Cedar Rapids Iowa, hosted by the Iowa LMSC. Swimmers representing 18 teams from as far away as Florida participated. A large contingent of swimmers from the Midwestern LMSC also attended.

The Kansas City Blazers of the Missouri Valley LMSC sponsored an All-Relay Meet on February 22nd. They have found this a great way for Master's swimmers to both have fun and meet other swimmers. Minnesota added a special class of relays, those contested by various workout groups, to their State Meet, hoping to increase participation.

The Colorado LMSC has been working hard at increasing participation in Postal Events. In the past, many swimmers have stayed away from these events due to the effects of the altitude on their distance times. However, in January, 19 swimmers participated in the One Hour Postal National Championship. In February, they teamed up with a local Yoga School to host a "Yoga for Swimmers" class. It was a 2.5 hour session and was very successful, filling the yoga studio at the school.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:

I plan to see if any of our LMSC's are interested in applying for one of the grants.

**COLONIES ZONE**  
**Debbie Morrin-Nordlund – Zone Rep**

Liaison and committee set up to work with Adirondack LMSC to assist their organization.  
Review of Colonies Zone Meet guidelines underway.  
Mid-Year Meeting held.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of "trial" Colonies Zone LCM meet to be hosted by Rutgers in summer 2004.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Report from subcommittee to review Colonies Zone meet guidelines.  
Nomination and committee review for 2004 Dorothy Donnelly Award.  
Revival of Colonies Zone newsletter.  
Solicitation of SCM Zone meet bids.  
Distribution and incorporation of USMS Core Objectives in Colonies Zone and its LMSCs.

**DIXIE ZONE**  
**Rob Copeland, Zone Rep**

Since our last report the Dixie Zone has conducted 2 of our Zone championship events - our SCM championship in Marietta GA and our SCY championship in Brentwood TN. Both competitions were excellently organized, well attended, and had some phenomenal swims. Congratulations to all the participants and a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who made these events possible!

Later this year the Dixie Zone is honored by being home to 3 national championships. The YMCA Masters National Championships, April 15-18 in Ft. Lauderdale FL. The USMS 5K Open Water Championships June 12 in Amelia Island / Fernandina Beach FL. And, the USMS National LCM Championships, August 11-15 in Savannah GA. Not to mention that we are the home for the 2004 and 2005 USAS conventions in Orlando FL and Greensboro, NC.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and commitment of our club, LMSC and zone volunteers. These folks continue to amaze me by their willingness to give so much of themselves for the sport we all love. Thanks! And I would be remiss if I didn't give special recognition to Dick Brewer our Dixie Zone webmaster (and so much more) for all of his efforts with our zone website and in communications that bring our zone together. And also thanks to Ed Saltzman for his contributions in keeping our Zone Top 10 and records current and accurate.

**GREAT LAKES ZONE**  
**Mike Lemke, Zone Rep**

**ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:**

We have had two meetings with the LMSC Chairs since convention. We have approved the designation of the Indy Fall Classic as our short course meters Zone Championships and are taking steps to have 100% representation of our LMSC's in Orlando.

**DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION:**

Indiana had the most to report. Membership in Greater Indiana Masters Swimming (*GRIN*) is significantly ahead of last year's pace with 675 registered swimmers at the end of March 2004, compared to 558 at this time in 2003. We appear on track to achieve our projected 850 members before the year is finished. Club registration is also increased with 16 registered clubs.

*GRIN* held its annual state championship meet at Avon High School on March 26-27, 2004. It was a huge success and remarkable for its growth. Participants in the meet numbered 232, vs. 160 in 2003. This represented 18 teams primarily from Indiana, but with representatives from Ohio and Illinois. State records were set in eleven individual events and two relay events. The **Irv Merritt Memorial Award**, *GRIN*'s highest honor, was bestowed on three worthy recipients for their years of service to masters swimming: **Melissa Rinker, Cheryl Gettelfinger and Diane Sidner**. Two *GRIN* members, who continue to compete, will attain 80 years of age this year and thus were granted "**Lifetime Member Emeritus**" status: **Dr. Cory SerVaas** (F75-79) *GRIN Emerita*; and **Doug Strong** (M75-79), *GRIN Emeritus*.

Other recent meets in Indiana included the **Indiana University Masters (DOC)** in Bloomington on Feb 14, 2004 (78 swimmers from 4 states competed), and **Michiana Masters** (March 21, 2004) in South Bend. The 10th Annual **NASTI/GRIN Fitness Series** concluded with a Leap Day swim on Feb 29, 2004.

*GRIN* recently purchased a "SnooperCam" and provides this free-of-charge to any club or workout group within the Indiana LMSC for use in their swim clinics, team workouts and for marketing efforts. Already it has been implemented for the NASTI/GRIN Fitness Series in January; by Healthplex Masters in March and during the *GRIN* State Championships in Avon, Indiana.

The **SCY National Championship** Meet in Indianapolis is April 22-25, 2004. The **Two-Mile Cable National Championship** is also on track for June 27, 2004 at Eagle Creek Park in Indy.

**TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:**

ALL OF OUR LMSC'S EITHER HAVE OR PLAN TO HAVE ATHLETE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES IN PLACE BY CONVENTION

SEVERAL OF OUR LMSC'S WILL BE REVIEWING THE ZONE GRANT APPLICATION TO HELP WITH CONVENTION EXPENSES OR SPECIAL PROJECTS.

**NORTHWEST ZONE**  
**Doug Garcia, Zone Rep**

It's been a fairly quiet start to 2003. Postal swims have been the focus in the early months of the year, and this year has been no exception. The One Hour Postal started the year, then into February with the February Fitness Challenge hosted by the Tualatin Hills Barracudas. Pool meets started, and are now wrapping up as we prepare for open water season.

As of this writing, in early April, Alaska, Inland NW, Montana, Oregon, and PNA have all completed their short course yards champs.

Most importantly, the NW Zone Short Course Yards champs is scheduled for May 1 and 2 in Corvallis, Oregon. This meet is after nationals, which is earlier than normal this year, so those not attending nationals, can use the Zone Champs as an end of season meet, and plan for some great swims! As usual, Oregon will host a great championship, and I encourage everyone to attend.

In terms of Zone business, there are a number of issues that need to be resolved mainly the Zone Policy proposals. LMSC chairs received proposals in February for review.

Other business items before the zone include the NW Zone small LMSC travel grant program. Applications forms were sent to the LMSC chairs in February. In addition to the NW Zone grant, the Zone Committee will also be providing grant funds for small LMSCs wanting to send delegates to convention.

The NW Zone LCM meet has been scheduled. PNA will be hosting on July 24 and 25 at the South Kitsap Pool (the same pool where the SCM champs were held this past November). Entry forms will be available online at the NW Zone web site as soon as they are available.

Congratulations to Utah, who will be the test case in the USMS marketing efforts. Utah has indicated they have underutilized pools and programs. The goal of the marketing test case will be to capitalize opportunities that have been untapped.

**OCEANA ZONE**  
**Joan Alexander, Zone Rep**

Hawaii LMSC – Report from Janet Renner. As of 2/18/04 Hawaii has 309 registered swimmers, up from 293 at the same time last year. Lots of the currently registered folks are new to USMS! They have 11 clubs registered, 2 of which are new Masters clubs: Academy Swim Club coached by Mark Noetzel and Linda Finley in Waimea on the Big Island and Pearl Harbor Masters coached by Candace Mazurek in Pearl Harbor on Oahu.

The Long Course International Meet and 2K Open water Race will be held June 25-27, 2004. The International Masters Meet will be held this year on the beautiful island of Oahu. A 2K ocean swim on Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup> will start off the weekend of swimming. A 2-day long course meet in Kailua, Oahu commences Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> and finishes on Sunday, June 27. For complete details please download the attached meet notices and entry forms. <http://www.hawaiimastersswim.org> For more information contact race director, Al Minn, (808)261-5143, or e-mail [patz@hawaii.edu](mailto:patz@hawaii.edu)

Hawaii is focusing on the core objectives and our first goal is to better educate our members, particularly on Oahu, with the function of our organization and the benefits of being a part of the organization. Diane Stowell, VP Oahu, is going to the various clubs with a list of points to review with coaches to better educate them. She will begin next week, and after the first visit, we will review the feedback and her thoughts, make changes as needed and proceed to the next club. We are not doing this on Maui, as we are covered with the benefits since Malcolm Cooper, VP Maui and myself are extremely involved in the two clubs on Maui. Kauai has no activity at this time. Big Island does not have a volunteer to go personally to the clubs, so we will wait to see the feedback from Oahu, and then perhaps draft short e-mail blasts to send out to at least the coaches on the Big Island with the goal being the same as with Oahu – Educate.

We are hoping we will have 2 delegates plus Diane and myself attending the convention this year. No promises yet, but there is a possibility as interest has been expressed.

Pacific LMSC – It is with great sadness that Pacific announces the passing of Rick Meier-Windes.

#### RICK MEIER-WINDES 1955-2004

A memorial was held for Rick Windes on Monday, March 29 from 7:30-9:30 at the Gay and Lesbian Center in San Francisco. Dinner from 7:30-8:30 and everyone had the opportunity to share memories of Rick. He served Pacific LMSC for many years and held several board positions including Chairman. Rick also served as a meet Official.

The Registrar reports that Pacific has over 6,000 registered swimmers and 110 clubs as of March 31, 2004.

United States Aquatic Sports has been awarded the 2006 World Championships to be held in California at Stanford University. Michael Moore, Chairman of Pacific, traveled to Dubai to make the presentation on behalf of USMS.

Mentor Coach Program – Part of the Pacific Masters Swimming vision is to continually strengthen the programs it serves through communication, education, and shared information. The Mentor Coach Program will continue to sponsor 1-day opportunities for teams to send their coach to “shadow” a mentoring coach and gain experience and fresh perspective during scheduled workouts. Time will be set aside (2-3 hours) for discussions on topics of concern to a visiting coach and his/her team. A \$100 stipend will be provided to a team interested in sending a coach so that a “substitute coach” can be hired to cover duties. A \$100 stipend will be given to the mentor coach as an honorarium. This year’s participating coaches are Rick Powers, Head Coach of Davis Aquatic Masters; Kerry O’Brien, Head Coach Walnut Creek Masters; Thomas Huggins, Head Coach of the San Mateo Master Marlins; and Brian Stack, Head Coach of the Manatee Aquatic Masters.

Napa Clinic – The Coaches Committee hosted the Masters Coaches Track at the Annual Pacific Coaches Clinic in Napa, CA in January. This year the Coaches Committee hopes to run a separate clinic for Pacific Masters Coaches in October to eliminate the conflicts between speakers at the Pacific Coaches Clinic. PMS Coaches Committee will still support PMS Coaches attending the January clinic with the scholarship program. The proposed Masters Coaches Clinic will take place at the Olympic Club in San Francisco, the time and dates will be announced.

The PMS Coaches Committee has taken delivery of an underwater camera to be used by the coaches committee in conjunction with the Fitness Clinic Program.

#### **SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE Marcia Marcantonio, Zone Rep**

Since last report I have continued to maintain a file of pool length certification forms for the zone, as well as a calendar of competitive and fitness events on the South Central section of the USMS website calendar. I am in the process of soliciting bids for the new season's meets and championships, including a short course meters zone meet. These tasks will continue in the months leading up to convention.

Another project is an LMSC fitness event which I would like to possibly turn into a zone fitness event for the next year, if I can secure a budget.

I attended the short course zone meet and will be attending the long course zone meet to check on the conduct of the meets. Our zone continues to have an increasing number of open water events, almost the same number as the meets that are held.

As soon as the zone grant application is finalized I will send it to Oklahoma and Arkansas LMSC's in hopes they will apply and possibly attend convention in Orlando.

I am looking forward to another great convention in 2004.

#### **SOUTHWEST ZONE Lucy Johnson, Zone Rep**

Activity from the Zone during the first half of the year has been minimal. Each of the LMSC's within the Zone are active and self-sufficient, with the exception of New Mexico.

## ACTION ITEMS

Zone meets were awarded as follows:

- 2004 SCY to Arizona Masters (ARIZ)
- 2004 LCM to Mission Viejo Masters (SPMA)
- 2004 SCM to Long Beach Swim Club (SPMA)
- 2004 Open Water to San Diego Imperial

## TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Contact LMSC chairs for SDI, ARIZ, and NM to ask what needs they feel they have for which the Zone (rather than National) can be of assistance.

## **AD HOC COMMITTEE MID YEAR REPORTS**

### **AD HOC ISHOF NOMINATING Ginger Pierson, Chair**

Committee members: Carolyn Boak (Vice Chair), Peggy Buchannan, Rich Burns, Barbara Dunbar, Mel Goldstein, Dan Gruender, F H Ted Haartz, Graham Johnston, June Krauser, Stu Marvin, Jim Miller (Liaison), Ginger Pierson (Chair), Walt Reid

It is an ongoing process that this committee is dedicated to bringing, to The ISHOF, the best candidate the USMS has to offer.

## DISCUSSIONS

- 1) Liaison Call - "bringing The Induction Ceremony to the convention"
- 2) Rewriting of the Selection Criteria to include all categories
- 3) Writing of the criteria for Pioneers and Contributors

## ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Approved criteria for Pioneers and Contributors
- 2) Approved new Selection Criteria to include all categories
- 3) Approved revised Pool criteria

## TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

- 1) ISHOF – IMSHOF differences
- 2) Bringing the induction ceremony to the USAS (How can we create the same ceremonial atmosphere?)
  - Video Tape
  - Music
  - Athletes (wearing ISHOF or IMSHOF sashes) at Convention March in to the same music used at the ceremony
- 3) Updated database (2003 SCY, LCM, SCM)
- 4) Select a candidate for possible induction into The Hall of Fame.

### **AD HOC LEGAL COUNSELORS Patty Powis, Chair Bruce Hopson, Vice Chair**

Committee members: Carl Botterud, Jude Bourque, Mike Laux, Hill Carrow, Mike Lemke, Jeanne Crouse, Ralph Davis, Jon Steiner, Jack Geoghegan, Martin Zoltick

## INTRODUCTION:

Ad Hoc Legal Counselors (AHLC) is an interesting committee in that it operates more in an advisory capacity than does a standing committee with specific projects and recurring duties. The challenge for AHLC in the months leading up to convention is to determine how USMS's legal needs can be met given the time constraints facing our volunteers. To date, committee members have been able to act upon requests for assistance from USMS's volunteer Legal Counsel. This is understandable, as committee members all have busy schedules and workloads in their paying jobs. Therefore, the committee has the opportunity to determine how the legal work for this growing corporation can be accomplished in the most effective manner with minimal cost to USMS. The need for this analysis comes at an important time when a task

force led by USMS's Planning Committee is examining the organization's governance structure – which will likely include decisions about the use of paid professional services.

#### DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION:

AHLC has a number of issues that require legal guidance. The first is on-line registration. In 2003, AHLC opined on the validity of on-line signatures under the federal e-sign law and state Uniform Electronic Transactions Acts. The committee found that, as long as USMS complies with the dictates of those statutes, electronic signatures on releases for on-line meet registration and USMS registration should be enforceable. At that time, it was anticipated that USMS would come up with a standard, centralized method for meet registration that could be used by all LMSCs. Unfortunately, the demands on our database administrator/webmaster have been great and that just hasn't happened. As a result, our local clubs and LMSCs are itching to do on-line event registration and some may already be using a standard service (e.g. active.com) for event registration. AHLC needs to create concise and brief legal guidelines for on-line event registration to ensure that releases signed on-line will be valid. This will be a great service that will allow our clubs to move forward with on-line event registration while protecting USMS. Items to be covered include ensuring that a registrant cannot move forward in the registration process without clicking "I accept" on the release, a method (e.g. SSN) to ensure that the person accepting the release is who he or she purports to be, and how on-line signature records should be maintained.

With the growth of our organization, the reality that USMS members who are passionate about swimming and the organization sometimes become engaged in heated disputes, and the passage of new grievance legislation at the 2003 convention, there is a need for legal advice to the new National Board of Review as it hears its first grievances. We are still seeking a volunteer from the committee to assist in this regard.

The USMS Legal Counsel is kept busy by contract issues (e.g. sponsors, logo licensees, contractors); responding to inquiries from clubs and LMSCs about local issues such as bylaws, insurance, and liability releases; potential and actual grievances; and providing legal advice to the Executive Committee.

#### ACTION ITEMS

None

#### TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:

1. Create legal guidelines for on-line event registration.
2. Establish a process for providing advice to the National Board of Review.
3. Determine the best method for getting the legal work for USMS accomplished with either the use of volunteers or the use of paid professionals.

#### **AD HOC USMS ENDOWMENT FUND Doug Church, Chair**

Following the convention last fall, the Board of Governors of the Endowment Fund awarded two grants which have now been funded. One grant went to The Counsilman Center for the Study of Swimming to provide seed money for a project that is being headed up by Dr. Joel Stager. Initial work has been conducted and a report should be available this fall on the initial findings. The second grant went to Arizona State University and their Exercise and Sport Research Institute headed by Bryan Morrison. Initial reports are expected on that project by convention time as well. In both cases, the amount of the grant was just under \$5,000.00 and that represents total grants to date from the Endowment of nearly \$15,000.00. This has all been made possible by the generosity of Masters swimmers. The total Endowment Fund balance is now over \$150,000.00. Most encouraging of all is that fact that the percentage of USMS registered Masters who have taken advantage of the \$1 check off has increased each year since the inception of the program. Grant applications for the next funding cycle are being solicited now and if anyone is interested or has questions please contact me at [Dchurch@cchalaw.com](mailto:Dchurch@cchalaw.com) or P.O. Box 10, Noblesville, IN 46061.

## **USMS LIAISONS AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS MID YEAR REPORTS**

### **CONTROLLER**

**Cathy Pennington – Up to February 2004**

**Margaret Bayless – As of February 2004**

This is a joint report of activities in the Controller position. At the moment we are sort of a two-headed accountant. Cathy Pennington filled this position through late February and then Margaret Bayless picked up the job with occasional input from Cathy.

During Cathy's term we filed the 2002 tax return (yes, it was on extension), sent out 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter spending reports, kept checks moving (and there were a LOT after convention), continued with monthly reporting to the Executive and Finance committees and mostly got 2003 closed out.

In late February Margaret and Doug Church went to Falls Church, Virginia and spent two fun-filled days with Cathy to make the transition to Margaret as smooth as possible. Cathy's visitors got to experience the Controller's office in her basement while the renovation of the house went on above them. Both Margaret and Doug came away with an appreciation for Cathy's ability to work amidst construction dust.

Since Margaret has taken the helm, she's gotten her home office set up (hopefully in a cleaner place than Cathy's basement), sent out the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter spending reports, continued with some late 2003 adjustments, kept checks moving and typed up her notes from the transition weekend into a Controller manual.

Cathy and Margaret hope to get together once more this Spring and are confident that Controller's position will continue to produce high quality financial info.

### **FINA REPRESENTATIVE**

**June Krauser**

#### **ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:**

The information and Entry Booklet for the 10<sup>th</sup> Fina WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS to take place in Riccione, Italy and San Marino on June 3-13, 2004 is available in book form and on the web at: [www.masters2004.it](http://www.masters2004.it)

You may enter either by mail or on line. When entering on line be sure you have your passport photo on a disk or in your computer. You may pay by Mastercard or VISA.

The results of the Championships will be available before the Convention in September.

### **ISHOF LIAISON**

**June Krauser**

#### **ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:**

In January, nine aquatic Masters greats were inducted into the International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame. The 2004 inductees are swimmers Jane Asher (Great Britain), Aldo Da Rosa (USA), Paul Hutinger (USA), Yoshiko Osaki (Japan), Frank Piemme (USA) and Laura Val (USA). Also: Viola Harman Cady Krahn (diving), Mike Garibaldi (water polo) and Louise Wing (synchro).

The International Swimming Hall of Fame Board also met in January. Daytona Beach is interested in relocating ISHOF to their city. A representative from Daytona was at the meeting and pointed out the various parcels of land available.

The IMSHOF committee developed an objective method for inducting Masters swimmers. Walt Reid, FINA Masters recorder has produced statistical rankings, using a point system, which includes world records and world point categories. This type of information, as it is kept current, will be valuable to the IMSHOF Selection Committee when choosing pool-swimming inductees.



The 2005 list of nominees for IMSHOF were sent to the Selection committee. The list included 5 nominees for female swimmers, 5 nominees for male swimmers and 5 nominees including diving, synchronized swimming, water polo and contributors. The Selection committee was asked to vote for three (3) female swimmers, three (3) male swimmers and three from the five representing diving, synchronized swimming, water polo and contributor.

THE NINE (9) INDUCTEES FOR 2005: Flora Connolly (GBR) Swimmer, Betsy Jordan (USA) Swimmer, Sandy Neilson-Bell (USA) Swimmer, Burwell Jones (USA) Swimmer, Richard Reinstadler (GER) Swimmer, Richard Tod Spieker (USA) Swimming, John Deininger (USA) Diver, William McAlister (USA) Diver and Phil Witten (USA) Contributor.

The INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME 40<sup>TH</sup> ANIVERSARY & INDUCTION CEREMONY will take place on May 7-8, 2004.

**NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES LIAISON**  
**Bill Tingley**

I have sent an introduction letter to Greg Moore with the National Senior Games. I have received no reply at this time. I have emailed Josh Heynes in Allegheny to touch base concerning the 2005 Sr Games event to be held in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

**SWIM MAGAZINE EDITOR**  
**Bill Volckening**

The last six months have been very productive. Since the last convention, we have continued to serve our members by planning, generating and editing contents for our current National Publication, SWIM Magazine. In addition, we have coordinated efforts to solicit and receive bids for the next contract period for national publication.

This year, we introduced some new types of articles: most notably the "Learn from the Masters" feature. Our first feature in January/February was breaststroke technique with Caroline Krattli, and our second feature in March/April was backstroke technique with Karlyn Pipes-Neilsen. These articles have been very well received, and our future plans include featuring many more Masters swimmers of all ages demonstrating swimming technique. The idea for this feature came from the "Learn from the Olympians" feature, which originated several years ago in Swimming Technique Magazine. Although the "Learn from the Olympians" feature has been periodically reprinted in SWIM Magazine over the years since the last Olympiad, its evolution into a feature specifically geared toward Masters swimmers is noteworthy and revelatory.

This year, the National Championship entry materials have been scaled back to three pages, and we have used the fourth page to include promotional articles about the meet to generate interest among our readers. Production of the Nationals entry forms has been delegated back to the Championship Committee, and the committee has admirably and seamlessly undertaken this task without much assistance.

This year, we have also fine-tuned our editorial review process. Sports Publications has provided a new FTP service for reviewing materials, which has included PDF files of the entire magazine for our review, well in advance of print publication and distribution.

As stated in several of my previous reports, our shared goal is to educate, entertain, inform and uplift our readers. The complete list of discussions and projects that have taken place since last convention is too lengthy to report, but this list includes daily contact with USMS members, committee chairs, LMSC officers and administrative leaders.

Leading up to the next convention, we have three more issues of SWIM Magazine to produce, including the July/August, September/October, and November/December issues. As in previous years, there will be many discussions regarding the content of these issues.

Of special interest this year is the discussion about the National Publication contract. At this point, bids have been solicited and received according to procedure. The Executive Committee has discussed procedure regarding how best to review the bids, and an independent contractor may be hired to assist. We expect more discussion about this important topic leading up to the awarding of the bid, and I will participate in the discussions when called upon by the Executive Committee.

**US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE LIAISON**  
**Hill Carrow**

On February 24 and 25 I traveled to Colorado Springs, home of the US Olympic Committee. There I was able to meet with a number of executives, both with the USOC and with USA Swimming who have involvement with or who might have an

effect on the sport of swimming, including US Masters Swimming. While I will provide more specifics in my report for the Annual Meeting, I was able to have very good discussions with Chuck Wielgus, CEO, and John Walker, our USMS Camp Liaison, among others at USAS. At the USOC I met with marketing, sports resources, and Community Olympic Development officials. It was a very productive trip and I look forward to sharing more details in my next report.

**USMS LIAISON TO INTERNATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN AQUATICS (IGLA)**  
**Mark Wussler**

The 2004 IGLA Championships will be held Oct. 8-10 at the Ft. Lauderdale Swimming Hall of Fame Complex. Competition will be in swimming, diving, water polo, open water, and Synchronized swimming.

Long time USMS and IGLA activist Rick Meier-Windes past away in March.

I have contacted the IGLA Board of Directors and have asked them to identify any issues or concerns that need to be addressed at the Orlando convention.

**USMS LIAISON TO USA SWIMMING**  
**Ted Haartz**

Since the 2003 convention, reports have been submitted to you covering the USA Swimming Board of Directors meetings in November 2003 and January 2004, both held in Colorado Springs, CO. In the interim, additional items of possible interest to USMS have been forwarded to you by e-mail or standard mail for your consideration.

The USA Swimming board will again meet April 30, May 1 & 2 in Colorado Springs on which my next report to you will be based. In the meantime, items of interest to USMS will be forwarded to you as received.

**USMS LIAISON TO YMCA**  
**Stu Marvin**

The YMCA Masters program proved once again that it is alive and well and is still one of the best-kept secrets in Masters swimming. If you have ever been to a YMCA National Masters Meet you will know what I mean. They know how to swim fast and have one heck of a good time.

This year's YMCA Masters National Swimming Meet took place at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, April 15-18. This was the fifth time that the meet was held in Fort Lauderdale and it attracted 555 athletes from 61 teams. It was a strong showing for the YMCA Masters program, considering the USMS Nationals were scheduled only one week later in Indianapolis. The largest team in the meet was from Anne Arundel, MD with 84 participants. The team from Arthur Jordan in Indianapolis was the second largest team, which was a pleasant surprise since they were getting ready to welcome 1564 USMS swimmers a week later. There were 58 individual and 7 relay National YMCA records established. Only 3 USMS records were set over the four days. Complete results can be found [www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org](http://www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org)

The large team combined champion was Anne Arundel, MD, followed by West Broward, FL and Arthur Jordan, IN. The small team combined champion was Andover-North Andover, MA, followed by South Hills, PA and Orlando Aquatic Center, FL. This year's social had a beach-party theme and highlighted the "social scene". Held at the Broward County Convention Center on Saturday night, it featured plenty of dancing that included a hula-hoop contest that never seemed to end.

The YMCA Competitive Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee announced the dates and location of the 2005 YMCA National Masters Meet at their meeting in Fort Lauderdale. The dates are April 21-24, 2005 at the IU Natatorium in Indianapolis. Meet information will be available at [www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org](http://www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org)

**USMS NATIONAL SPONSOR LIAISON**  
**Mel Goldstein**

I have been very busy wearing two hats, Meet Director for the 2004 USMS SC Championships, and USMS National Sponsor Liaison. Needless to say I have been very busy promoting USMS since the convention in September.

USMS has one new national sponsor FINIS and the renewal of an old sponsor, NIKE. I am looking forward to working with these new sponsors to develop a good working relationship. However, since convention we lost a sponsor "The

Victor”, they closed their doors at the end of January and is now no longer a USMS Sponsor. The remainder of the year will be spent renewing 5 of our present National Sponsors, which have agreements expiring at the end of the year.

In addition to working with our national sponsors I have been working with Doug Garcia on developing new graphics for the USMS Tradeshow Display. The use of the USMS display continues to be a major tool used by LMSC's and Clubs to attract new membership at various marathons, triathlons, and or health fairs. The display will soon start its summer odyssey traversing throughout the country.

Another project which should bring value to our membership will be the “Featured Item” each of our sponsors will put in place on our USMS website. Sponsors will provide discounts on items for our members through a website link. This will be a win – win situation for both the sponsor and membership.

The response to our presence at the National Parks and Recreations National Aquatic Conference continues expose new facilities to masters swimming programs.

Please support our sponsors!

Ultra Swim – Kast A Way Swimwear – Arena – NIKE – FINIS – Endless Pools – Barracuda – MBNA – Adolph Kiefer – TYR – Speedo – H2O Velocity

**USMS WEBMASTER/IT DIRECTOR**  
**Jim Matysek**

In the January meeting of the Executive Committee this year, the EC evaluated the size of the web development task list and our available web development resources. The result of this evaluation was a recommendation that USMS seek and bring on board an additional web developer to help reduce the work queue and wait time for major web development projects. When the EC consulted me regarding this recommendation, I took a serious look at the development queue and the time required to service this queue and concurred with their recommendation. This proposal has now been brought to the Board of Directors by the Communications Committee and approved by the BOD along with an overbudget approval by the Finance Committee. We are working on issuing the call for applications for this position and an evaluation and selection process. The new developer should be on board in time for convention, and I'm looking forward to working with him/her to roll out new services for USMS members and administrators.

**DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION:**

- Investigated possible new hosting facilities for our web server and moved the server to Coloco in Laurel, MD in October in order to resolve poor service and anti-spam listing issues with our previous supplier that were not resolved. Service and uptime have improved significantly since the move, and we are no longer experiencing spam block problems with our assigned IP addresses.
- Created a new administrative capability to be able to modify the pool records database at the end of the year to capture the new rule book records and clear the recent records from the database.
- Created a new top ten administration area for the Records and Tabulations Committee to use in order to manage the top ten information presented on the public areas of the web site.
- Created a new public top ten display area including top ten displays for age group results by year, top ten listings by LMSC, club, or zone, and search capabilities for individual's top ten results. The new area includes support for relay listings as well as individual listings.
- Published the 2004 SCY Nationals information and created and ran the on line entry system for this meet. There were 1,030 on line entries out of 1,564 total entries (72.25% - a record high). In addition to the on line entries, a new capability for the National Office to enter all paper entry information on line was created, along with other accounting reports to be able to track all entries. The new system allowed the National Office to hand over a fully populated Meet Manager database to the meet host, saving much manual processing time that has been required in prior meets.
- Updated the annual publications on the web site: 2003 Convention results, 2004 Rule Book, 2004 LMSC Handbook.
- Published the following updates to the web site as needed: National Office Newsletter (Streamlines), News Releases, Meeting Minutes, Coaches Committee programs, new Top Ten data, meet results data.
- Monitored the USMS Discussion Forums and spam and virus-infected emails sent to usms.org addresses and took actions where necessary.
- Provided support for LMSC and Club webmasters who host their site on the USMS server as needed.

## **TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:**

- Create on line entry system for long course nationals and process entries. Process and post results from both short course and long course nationals.
- Create a new sponsor's featured item area on the right side of the USMS home page, where each sponsor can advertise a single item from their catalog (a different sponsor's featured item will appear with each page load).
- Complete new All American and All Stars public display areas and private administration area. The new area will have features similar to those of the new top ten area.
- Investigate the requirements for making the on line entry system available for LMSC and club use for local meets and modify the system and supporting administrative areas to allow for this.
- Investigate the requirements for a national on line registration system and create a working demonstration of this capability in time to be evaluated for convention discussions. The system needs to be debugged and on line in plenty of time for the beginning of 2005 registrations in November.
- Participate in the evaluation of candidates and selection of the new web developer for USMS and work with this contractor to bring him/her up to speed on the necessary projects for the USMS web site.

### **USMS LIAISON TO USA TRIATHLON Cindy Hawkinson**

## **ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:**

At the 2003 Convention, an impromptu meeting was held with a few individuals interested in the cooperation effort of USMS and USAT (Mike Collins, Bob Bruce, Aimee Fitzgerald, Ann Gilbert and me). We are working to encourage the clubs and teams in USMS, with the effort of Bob as Coaches Chair, to offer more clinics, camps and workouts specific to triathletes. Also at convention, I had four individuals from the four corners of the country volunteer to host the USMS booth at a triathlon in their area in an effort to bring attention to the benefits of masters swimming to the triathlete community. I will also be hosting the booth at the Boulder Peak Triathlon here in Colorado.

I have also met with Aimee Fitzgerald individually to assess the demographics of USMS vs. USAT. This will help in our joint mission of identifying the target market for new members.

Finally, I have met with the USA-Triathlon people and was able to obtain the demographics report for 2003.

## **TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:**

Goals for the upcoming months to convention:

- Successfully host 5 USMS booths at triathlon expos around the country. Suggestions for hosting include distributing a list of masters teams and contact names & numbers with a few coupons for free trial workouts; pass out freebies (i.e., swim caps, t-shirts, etc.).
- Determine to the best of our ability by comparing data bases with USMS and USAT, how many members are registered in both organizations.
- With the assistance of Bob Bruce and the Insurance Committee, determine the possibility of dual-sanctioning events.
- Continue to update and encourage my 'triathlon volunteers' from around the country in ways to integrate triathletes into the master swimming programs as well as masters swimmers to welcome the swimming newbies to the advantages and fun of masters swimming. Here are a few ideas you might want to utilize:
  - a. Visit and/or offer to speak at tri clubs in the area. Make the talk light and fun; encourage triathletes that swimming in a pool is not nearly as scary as the mass pack at the start of a race.
  - b. Promote and hold a triathlete specific clinic or workshop (consisting of a few practices) in the off season (January, February). Typically, it is too cold to bike outside so triathletes will need an alternative. Masters swimming is a great idea.
  - c. Have triathlete specific lanes or practices.
  - d. If your team or club host socials, promote a few to the triathletes. Encourage the swimmers to bring a triathlete friend or buddy up with them. Use ice breakers such as swimmer specific lingo or triathlete specific lingo and have them guess what it means. Such as 'on the top', 'swim circles', and 'T1 and T2'.