

Streamlines... from the National Office

Greetings from the National Office...

Hi All –

You have all received your first issue of SWIMMER (Mar/Apr). I just received my advanced copies of May/Jun. Wow! It is just as good if not better than the first. Congratulations to Editor Bill Volckening the Editorial Board, all at Douglas Murphy Publishing and our cover girl and boy Debbie and Cav Cavanaugh!

For all of you headed to Ft Lauderdale for Short Course Nationals, GOOD LUCK and I'll see you there! Those thinking about Long Course Nationals in Mission Viejo in August, entry information and forms are in the May/June issue of SWIMMER. Please be sure to note the deadline. I received MANY calls and e-mails from people who missed for Ft Lauderdale. The deadline - July 9th - IS the deadline.

LC Nationals will be followed by the USAS Convention in September which will be held at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina. USMS will begin on Wednesday the 14th with our BOD meeting. Registration/hotel information was sent out via e-mail the last week in April. If you are interested in attending and did not receive this information, please contact me at usms@usms.org or 800-550-7946

One BIG deadline is upon us - April 30th - the due date for LMSCs to submit their 2004 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

Ooops!

There is an error in the records in the rule book. The SCM Relay World Records were repeated instead of putting in the LCM relay world records! Please check out the USMS web site for the correct records.

THINGS TO DO...

Listed are **all deadlines** from the USMS Working Calendar. Please read this and use as a reminder. This 2005 Working Calendar is posted in its entirety on the USMS website at: www.usms.org under Administration

MAY ~ 2005

1st

- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at Registration@usms.org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)
- Delegates from 2004 receive Convention Registration packet for 2005 Convention via e-mail or snail mail from the National Office
- Cost Center Heads receive budget forms (for 2006 budget) from Finance Chair (Tom Boak - Finance@usms.org)

15th

- Controller's filing deadline with IRS for Form 990
- Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather - Convention@usms.org) sends out final notice to Committee Chairs regarding equipment requirements for convention.
- First Quarter Financial Reports prepared.
- USMS Secretary (Sally Ann Dillon - Secretary@usms.org) sends reminders to LMSCs for names of delegates to 2005 Convention, Greensboro, North Carolina

19-22nd

- USMS SC National Championships, Ft Lauderdale Aquatics Center, Ft Lauderdale, Florida

20th

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

21st

- Ransom Arthur award winner announced at SC Nationals.

Other deadlines this month ~

- Pre-meet site visit by Championship Committee Liaison to LC Nationals Host, Marguerite Aquatics Center, Mission Viejo, California
- Notify Sponsors of LC Nationals due dates for booths, banners and ads.

JUNE ~ 2005

1st

- Committee Chairs, Ad Hoc Chairs, Liaisons & Special Assignments receive annual report forms (for 2005 convention packet) from USMS Secretary (Sally Ann Dillon - Secretary@usms.org).
- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at

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Registration@usms.org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)

8th

- Zone Reps submit list of events for USMS Swimmer calendar for the September/October issue to Zone Chair (Lynn Hazlewood Zones@usms.org)

15th

- 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 2005 convention (National Office notifies Secretary of LMSC membership numbers as of June 15th. Secretary notifies LMSCs of any additional delegate entitlements). Final reminder.
- Editorial materials due to USMS Editor for September/October issue of USMS Swimmer (Bill Volckening - Editor@usms.org)

30th

- LMSC SCY Top Ten reports due to Records and Tabulations Chair (Pieter Cath - TopTen@usms.org).
- Earliest date to notify MBNA of non-renewal

Other deadlines this month ~

- **Last call for requests for Delegate-at-Large appointments due in writing to the President (Jim Miller - President@usms.org) and Secretary Sally Dillon (secretary@usms.org)**

JULY ~ 2005

1st

- 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).
- Preliminary equipment requirements for convention due to Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather - Convention@usms.org).
- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at Registration@usms.org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)

2nd

- Postmark deadline for LC National Championships, Mission Viejo, California

9th

- Received entry deadline for LC National Championships, Mission Viejo, California

10th

- Proposed Rules, Long Distance and Legislative amendments due to respective committee chairs (Rules – Leo Letendre - Rules@usms.org, Long

Distance – Peter Crumbine - LongDistance@usms.org, Legislation – Rob Copeland - Legislation@usms.org)

- SCY Preliminary Top Ten mailed for proof reading.

15th

- Executive Committee Liaisons send their committees budget requests to Finance Chair (Tom Boak - Finance@usms.org).
- Executive Committee Liaisons send their committees annual report and agendas to the National Office for publication in the convention packet.
- Final cut-off date for requesting a Delegate-at-large spot for convention.
- Coach of the Year selected

20th

- President (Jim Miller - President@usms.org) appoints Delegates-at-Large for the 2005 convention.

24th

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

25th

- Deadline for submission of information to be included in the Summer issue of Streamlines... from the National Office

30th

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

AUGUST ~ 2005

1st

- LMSC Registrars send registration reports to National Office (Electronic Files sent to Esther at Registration@usms.org, hard copies and checks sent to Tracy at the National Office)
 - 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)
 - **FINAL** equipment requirements from committee chairs and workshop planners due to Convention Committee Chair (Michael Heather - 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
- 8th
- Zone Reps submit list of events for USMS Swimmer calendar for the November/December issue to Zone Chair (Lynn Hazlewood - Zones@usms.org)

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10-14th

- USMS LC National Championships, Marguerite Aquatics Center, Mission Viejo, California

11th

- Bids for 2007 Long Course, Short Course, and Long Distance National Championships due to Committee Chairs

15th

- Editorial materials due to USMS Editor for November/December issue of USMS Swimmer (Bill Volckening - Editor@usms.org)
- Decide on MBNA contract renewal

31st

- 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
- Convention packets mailed to all certified delegates

CONTACT UPDATES...

Following are updates received by the National Office after the printing/distribution of the 2005 Rule Book and LMSC Handbook.

- Charlie Cockrell (Virginia – Chairman) – new e-mail is cockrellsva@cox.net
- Yvonne Gutierrez (New England – Sanctions) – new e-mail is msguts@verizon.net
- Carolyn Haefner (Arkansas - Coaches) – new e-mail is jaycar@cox.net
- Cindy Hawkinson (USA Triathlon Liaison) new address is 6725 Meadowbrook Ln, Sedalia, CO 80135
- Eric Jernberge (Wisconsin – Long Distance & Sanctions) new e-mail is jernberge@yahoo.com
- Conrad Johnson (Metropolitan Treasurer) 468 Riverside Dr # 54, New York, NY 10027, phone 917-446-0595, e-mail cjswim007@earthlink.net
- Randy Nutt (Florida Gold Coast Long Distance) 2615 NW 99th Ave, Coral Springs, FL 33065, 954-821-3294
- Howard Rutenberg (Arkansas Chairman, Editor & Secretary) – new e-mail is crtriage@aol.com
- Sarah Welch (Pacific Northwest Treasurer) – preferred e-mail is sarah.welch@comcast.net
- Rhea Wilkins (North Carolina LMSC) – New address is 6656 Springfield Ln, Clemmons, NC 27012, phone 336-778-0988, e-mail chasrhea@bellsouth.net

NEW LMSC OFFICERS...

A full list of LMSC Officers can be found at www.usms.org/usmsdirsearch.htm

Alaska

- Chairperson – Joanne Wainwright
- Vice Chair & Secretary – Jackie Forster, PO Box 211173, Auke Bay, AK 99821, 907-789-0633, missingjake@yahoo.com
- Treasurer – Steve Taylor
- Sanctions – Susan Ellis, PO box 806, Soldotna, AK 99669, 907-262-5797, agsi99@gci.net

Central

- Chairman – CJ Rushman
- Vice Chairman – Scott Boyer, skjdboyer@myfam.com
- Treasurer – Scott Goertemiller
- Secretary – Lisa Rushman

Indiana

- Chairman – Cheryl Gettelfinger
- Vice Chairman – Dick Sidner

Montana

- Registrar – Ellen Parchen – ellen.parchen@mso.umt.edu

North Texas

- Treasurer – Kim Shaw

Bid Forms 2007 Long Distance Championships

Bid forms for the 2007 USMS Long Distance Championships have been emailed and must be returned to Peter Crumbine (longdistance@usms.org <<mailto:longdistance@usms.org>>) no later than Friday, August 12, 2005.

Additional forms are available by emailing him or by going to <http://www.usms.org/longdist/>. Site/host selection for the 2007 events will occur at the 2005 USMS Convention September 14-18 in Greensboro, NC, but committee review will take place prior to convention.

The Long Distance Committee encourages all interested organizations to bid, particularly those that have not previously hosted a national championship.

Out-of-area bids for open water events will be considered only if there are no qualified, in-area bids, but this is often the case. The last page of the bid form contains the area system for 2007. Postal events are not subject to these area restrictions.

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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, 2005.

2004 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS RECEIVED

Alaska, Allegheny Mountain, Arizona, Border, Central, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Gulf, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Texas, Ohio, Pacific, Potomac Valley, Snake River, Southern Pacific, Virginia, Wisconsin

2004 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES RECEIVED

Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Florida Gold Coast, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Metropolitan, Missouri Valley, Montana, New Jersey, Niagara, Ohio, Oregon, Pacific, Pacific Northwest, Potomac Valley, Southern Pacific, Virginia, Wisconsin

INTERNATIONAL MEETS WORLD MASTERS GAMES

The World Masters Games is coming to Edmonton, Canada July 21 - 28, 2005. This exciting event is an opportunity to compete against the world in an environment of fun, friendship and fitness. Any Masters swimmer over the age of 25 is eligible to compete. This competition is sanctioned by Swim Alberta the sanctioning authority for masters competitions in the province of Alberta as the FINA affiliated member.

Currently there 1050 registered swimmers in the pool event with a cap of 1500 and 274 swimmers for the open water event out of 300 places.

The latest issue of In The Games, our Athletes' Newsletter is now available. You'll find it on our website under News, and Newsletters, or you can click this direct link:

<http://www.2005worldmasters.com/athletesnews8>.

Check it out get registered and be a part of this great event.

XI FINA WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The dates of the XI FINA World Masters Championships have been established. Competition will be between 4 August 2006 through 17 August 2006.

The official web site <http://www.2006finamasters.org> is now up. Information on the web site includes:

- Dates and Schedule of the XI FINA World Masters Championships
- The meet qualification times
- Hotel availability and on-line booking Visa information

Additional information about the XI FINA World Masters Championships will be posted on the web site as it becomes available. You are encouraged to visit the web site to for all the current information.

HOTELS

The XI FINA World Masters Championships Organizing Committee has made arrangements for special pricing for hotels around the venue. You are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible, there are only a limited amount of hotel space near the hotel. You can make your reservations on line <http://www.2006finamasters.org/index.php?topic=hotels> or you can call 1- 800-826-4630 toll free (US) 01-310-590-4721 international 01- 310-649-3554 fax (24 hours) between 5 am and 6 pm Pacific time (1200hrs - 100hrs GMT/UTC)

To sign up for the FINA e-mail list, go to <http://seven.pairlist.net/mailman/listinfo/finamasters>

Many thanks. We look forward to seeing you in 2006

Michael Moore, Chairman
2006 FINA Masters World Championships
michael@2006FINAMasters.org

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 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.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MID YEAR REPORTS

PRESIDENT

Jim Miller, MD

(also includes International Liaison and USAS Representative reports)

The first half of this year has been an exciting time for USMS. Many aspects of our organization are under evaluation. The Core Objectives of service, education, and growth have allowed us to focus our efforts to benefit the members more effectively. This becomes clearly evident in the organization and content of our new national publication, USMS SWIMMER. The process is also under way in the new governance proposals. Change is difficult and exciting at the same time.

In the governance process, I congratulate the members of the Board of Directors for having the courage to focus on the health of the organization and not get caught up in protecting their turf simply 'because it has always been that way.' Once again, change is often difficult. The movement to a more nimble organization will further all three aspects of the Core Objectives.

Our international activity is picking up with the 11th FINA Masters World Championships just 15 months way. Michael Moore and Anne Cribbs have made an excellent team, and from all reports FINA is very pleased with the progress. I realize that the objections were great when I started the push following the 9th FINA World Championships in New Zealand to have USMS step up to the challenge of showcasing our wonderful organization. I also foresaw an opportunity to give something back to our athletes. Participation in a World Championship is a highlight for all athletes. The first ASUA/UANA Championships will soon be upon us allowing all Masters athletes from North and South America to come together in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in late June.

Thanks again for all your dedication and leadership.

VICE PRESIDENT

Scott Rabalais

The Vice President continues to work with the Executive Committee on the matters at hand as well as with the committees for which he is assigned as liaison. The Championship, Coaches, Fitness, and Recognition & Awards Committees are all moving forward in their quest to fulfill the objectives of USMS.

We do wish to congratulate Jim Miller and Patty Powis on their upcoming marriage (May 28) and many happy years to come. However, it is quite upsetting they did not choose the Fort Lauderdale Nationals as their wedding site.

SECRETARY

Sally Ann Dillon

As my final year on the Executive Committee is winding down, I look at "unfinished business" as a priority. Foremost on MY list is my search to find documents that should be in the Secretary's files. As I have reported in the past, meeting minutes for some years are missing – particularly those from the 70's and 80's. A number of people have said they "might have" the missing documents tucked away in "the garage" but it doesn't appear to me that anyone is looking. IF YOU HAVE SAVED CONVENTION MATERIALS from the "olden days", I hope you will contact me. I will provide you with a spreadsheet that indicates the missing information. Please let me know ASAP if you think you can help (secretary@usms.org).

The usual Secretary's business continues at a steady pace. Frequent EC meetings require the preparation of minutes that are approved by the EC (often a painstakingly slow process), distributed to the HOD (thanks Tracy), and posted on the USMS web site. I tabulate votes taken by the BOD and maintain records of them as well. The BOD approved the Election Operating Guidelines in November and is currently voting on an over-budget item relating to the Webmaster's salary.

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Before we know it, we'll be convening in Greensboro, NC for another annual meeting of USMS. Convention work has been going on for the EC for the last few months as the schedule was developed and approved. We were unable to find time for Block Meetings this year but we have arranged the meeting schedule again so that the committees within a block do not conflict with each other. A fair amount of time has been set aside to allow you to get to know the candidates who are running for the various offices.

A notice went out to the LMSC representatives a number of weeks ago reminding them to put the election of their delegates on their meeting schedule. The 1st notice to LMSCs with delegate information should be in the hands of the representatives before this *Streamlines* is distributed. If your LMSC officers did not receive that information, please have them contact me immediately. Please note that the President will NOT consider requests for At Large Delegate positions until the complete LMSC delegate list has been submitted to me. He will need a recommendation from the LMSC chair or compelling rationale as to why that is not possible.

This convention will be packed with important business. We will be electing not only a new Executive Committee, but also eight Directors who will complete the newly designed USMS Board of Directors. Important legislation will also be considered this year that will reflect many governance changes. I can't emphasize enough how important it is for YOUR delegates to be well informed BEFORE they arrive in Greensboro! It will take time for all of us to absorb the information that will be voted on and waiting until the plane ride (or later) is not recommended. The sooner you submit your delegate lists; the sooner information will get to your delegates. *Please make every effort to have your delegate lists to me no later than June 30.*

TREASURER

Doug Church

"No surprises" is the best way to describe the activities of the office of treasurer since the convention last fall. Our reserves continue to be placed in fixed income investments and the return is finally starting to creep up. 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. The FINA Worlds agreements are now in place and the establishment of a merchants account has now at last been put in place.

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 they guide the activities of their respective committees. The governance discussions going on within the Planning Committee, in particular, have been extraordinary and the foundations are being laid for an extremely important transformation in our governance which will help insure the future success of USMS. The Finance Committee continues to work toward a better and more manageable and responsible financial structure for USMS.

PAST PRESIDENT

Nancy Ridout

(also includes the USOTC Liaison Report)

The Executive Committee has been working diligently to keep USMS operating at a high level through our mid-year meeting in Dallas, conference calls, and emails. Anyone interested in learning about all that the Executive Committee does between conventions can read the minutes from our meetings and calls on-line at the USMS.org web site.

Part of my responsibilities as part of the Executive Committee is to serve as its liaison with the Marketing, Records and Tabulation, and Registration committees. I am happy to report that each of these committees is active and working hard on our behalf. We have held two conference calls to share input into current USMS projects and activities as well as to provide a forum for concerns and suggestions. I also serve as the liaison with our Sponsor Liaison, Mel Goldstein, who continues to form new partnerships and strengthen our relationships with companies whose products enhance the lives of our members.

I have also been part of the Governance Task Force which has been very exciting and rewarding. Many creative and forward-thinking ideas have come out of this group that will improve our organization and its operations.

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USMS/USA Swimming High Altitude Training Camp

Our 8th camp was held February 12-16, 2005, at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. The camp was increased from 12 to 18 athletes this year and it worked out very well. Our nine women and nine men athletes came from CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, NC, NY, OH, TX, and WA and range from 35 to 68 years of age. The staff included coaches Bob Bruce (OMS), Mark Moore (MVN), and Rick Powers (DAM), Flexibility/ROM/Strength & Conditioning Steve Thompson MPT, CSCS, and Sports Psychology Consultant Scott Boyle, M.A. (in cooperation with USA Swimming). The USA Swimming staff was outstanding and John Walker provided excellent leadership. Without the generous support of The Olympic Club, the camp would not have been possible. Our other sponsor, H2O Velocity, did not fulfill its obligations.

Part of the responsibility undertaken by each athlete that is selected is to share the knowledge that they gained with others. This is a high priority for all of us as space is limited in the camp. Our athletes and coaches have taken this seriously and already have written articles, run stroke clinics, and given talks. Many of our applicants have heard about this opportunity from those who have experienced it. The OTC is a special place, the USA Swimming staff is at the cutting edge, and our Masters coaches are chosen for their excellence in stroke analysis and technique and their communication skills. It is a once in a lifetime experience that is a valuable asset to our USMS program.

ZONE CHAIR Lynn Hazlewood

Most of my jobs involve being liaison to various USMS committees and special assignment personnel. Please view information on those activities by reading the specific reports for USMS Editor, USMS Webmaster/IT Director, Communications Committee, Publications Committee, and Zone Committee. My Executive Committee activities involve attending EC meetings and participating in decision making.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the hard work and professionalism of all the people I work with

USMS LEGAL COUNSEL Patty Powis

This report is combined with the Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee report on page 36.

USMS NATIONAL OFFICE MID YEAR REPORTS

USMS NATIONAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Tracy Grilli

Since convention I have maintained the responsibilities associated with running the USMS National Office. I feel the most important aspect of my job is being the main contact person for those who have questions. If I am not able to answer I forward them to someone in the organization who can.

I now supervise 3 people, 2 employees and 1 contract staff. I work hand and hand (figure of speech, we never see each other) with Esther Lyman, our Database Administrator (and the 53 local registrars) with the registration of our members and member clubs. We really have fine-tuned this process and look forward to working with other key members of USMS in creating an on-line registration program. Kristin Marchioni is my office assistant and she is responsible for a number of clerical tasks, including: inputting & preparing publication orders for mailing, printing All American, National Record and Club Certificates and inputting Address Changes. Mary Lamport is "contract staff" and she inputs the hard copy entries received for our National Championships.

Throughout the year, I think I am in contact some way/some form with all the members of our Board of Directors, Ad Hoc Chairs, Liaisons and Special Assignments along with at least one officer from each LMSC. Each day I start with "a plan". Once the computer is on and/or the phone starts ringing, more often or not, my plans are history and I go with the flow.

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USMS DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

Esther Lyman

Our registrars and top ten recorders continue to get more comfortable with the permanent identifier implemented over the past three seasons for the main purpose of tagging each swimmer so they can be correctly matched up with their swimming accomplishments over time. Given the geographically distributed nature of our 'business' and the long time span – for many of us going on 25-30 years, this is no easy task.

Nor is it easy to determine a swimmer's ID at the time of renewal, if they do not have a prior ID or chose to share it with us, particularly when we have 53 'intake points' for registrations. Since registrations take place on a continuum, but are only uploaded to the national office on a monthly basis, there are obvious difficulties in letting any one LMSC know what the others are doing.

Somehow this has been managed, mainly through a look-up database furnished to the registrars at the beginning of the new season and scheduled to be 'refreshed' after the main crush of registrations dies down. With over 75% of the business being booked in the first 5 months of each 14-month registration year, there is hardly time to come up for air.

So, we are dealing with a fair amount of 'bad matches' needing to be corrected, but as always the registrars keep their composure and just do their thing. Some of them even manage to have another life as well and go to swim meets, take vacations, travel, get sick, do grandmother or nursing duties, or go on safaris. Some even have time for a day-job.

As of mid-April, we have booked 31,733 members with registration dates through April, or 75.5% of the 2004 year-end total of 42,044 (net of transfers). As always, it is hard to tell because of varying transmittal times, but it seems like we are running a little ahead of this time last year. With the help of some wishful thinking, we could begin to imagine reaching 43,000 this year.

Birthdays	Women	Men	2005 YTD
1900-1919	45	61	106
1920-1929	236	384	620
1930-1939	541	939	1480
1940-1949	1308	2573	3881
1950-1959	3582	5036	8618
1960-1969	4269	5099	9368
1970-1979	3232	2722	5954
1980-1986	1078	628	1706
2005 YTD	14291	17442	31733

Women	Men
42.5%	57.5%
38.1%	61.9%
36.6%	63.4%
33.7%	66.3%
41.6%	58.4%
45.6%	54.4%
54.3%	45.7%
63.2%	36.8%
45.0%	55.0%

2004 Total	19405	22639	42044
2003 Total	19499	22908	42407

46.1%	53.9%
46.0%	54.0%

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

For those who are interested in the amount of competition within their age group, this is how the numbers break down for 2005 to date: (Age calculated as of 12/31/2005)

Year-end Age	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men
85+	50	81	131	38.2%	61.8%
80+	102	168	270	37.8%	62.2%
75+	168	274	442	38.0%	62.0%
70+	235	409	644	36.5%	63.5%
65+	340	588	928	36.6%	63.4%
60+	529	1064	1593	33.2%	66.8%
55+	920	1754	2674	34.4%	65.6%
50+	1688	2357	4045	41.7%	58.3%
45+	2145	2921	5066	42.3%	57.7%
40+	2349	2760	5109	46.0%	54.0%
35+	1826	2121	3947	46.3%	53.7%
30+	1592	1462	3054	52.1%	47.9%
25+	1531	1026	2557	59.9%	40.1%
18+	816	457	1273	64.1%	35.9%
2005 YTD	14291	17442	31733	45.0%	55.0%

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. This might be particularly useful for those seeking, or processing, LMSC grant applications for membership building.

EMAIL REVIEW

The national office was asked a few weeks ago how many members were reachable by email as compared to prior years. It was fairly easy to come up with the following stats based on email addresses submitted with the registrations and kept current in our database – when we ourselves are kept updated. Email addresses are notoriously volatile, however, and in education may change with each semester. Many people also have only ‘free’ accounts and/or use ‘throwaway’ addresses, in addition to those who access email at work and can only make limited use of it.

We did a similar study in May 2003 and at that time the number of members with email was 76.1%. This compares with 81.3% currently (45.3% women, 54.7% men).

EMAIL	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	2005 YTD
YES	33	318	1024	3103	7197	7802	4924	1394	25795
None	72	303	459	788	1424	1565	1023	314	5948
2005 YTD	105	621	1483	3891	8621	9367	5947	1708	31743

YES	31.4 %	51.2%	69.0 %	79.7 %	83.5 %	83.3%	82.8 %	81.6 %	81.3%
none	68.6 %	48.8%	31.0 %	20.3 %	16.5 %	16.7%	17.2 %	18.4 %	18.7%

Minor variations in numbers with the ones shown elsewhere are from transfers, error corrections and unresolved issues.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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USMS COMMITTEE MID YEAR REPORTS

CHAMPIONSHIP

Barry Fasbender, Chair

Jerry Clark, Vice Chair

Committee members: Carolyn Boak, Debbie Cavanaugh, Mark Gill, Mel Goldstein, Errol Graham, Heather Hagadorn, Elizabeth Johnson, Kristy King, Mark Moore, Michael Moore, Steve Newman, Barbara Protzman, Jeff Roddin, Sandi Rousseau, Tom Spence, Diane Stowell, Lisa Watson, Laura Winslow, Jim Matysek: Ex-officio, Jane Moore, Ex-officio, Scott Rabalais: Exec Liaison.

DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKE PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION

2005 SCY Nationals in Fort Lauderdale, Florida: Debbie Cavanaugh is the meet liaison for the Fort Lauderdale nationals. Debbie is working closely with the meet Host and everything is going well.

2005 LCM Nationals in Mission Viejo, California: Mark Gill is the meet liaison for the Mission Viejo nationals. This is a five-day meet this year and we expect an above average participation. The Meet Information document has been submitted to USMS Swimmer for publication in the May-June issue.

2006 SCY Nationals in Coral Springs, Florida: Mark Gill is the meet liaison for the Coral Springs nationals.

2007 National Championship Pool Venues: Jeff Roddin will be sending out a letter to major aquatic facilities encouraging them to consider bidding for the 2007 National Short Course Championship. A short time later, he will send out letters to the local LMSCs requesting that they encourage potential host to bid.

2007 National Short Course Championships Bids: Possible interest from Auburn University, Bakersfield California (LCN), Las Vegas, Nevada (SCN), Maui Hawaii (LCN), Orlando, Florida (LCN), Pacific Northwest (SCN), and Woodlands, Texas (LCN).

Processing of National Championship Entries: The USMS National Office will continue to process all postal entries for national championships. We are working on including the cost to the Host of processing entries and merchant account charges in the contract for the 2007 National Championships.

ACTION ITEMS

Warm-Up Policy for National Championships: The Championship Committee approved the following warm-up policy for National Championships:

On the pre-meet day, warm up shall be available in the competition pool from 3 pm to 7 pm (was 12 noon to 8 pm).

When distance day is the first competition day, warm up in the competition pool on distance day will be available until at least 7:00 pm. If the last heat of the last event finishes after 6:30 pm, the competition pool will be open for an additional 30 minutes. (Was 30 minutes after the last event of the day for every day.)

Note that this warm -up policy will be in effect for the 2006 and following National Championships.

2006 National Championship Contract: The following updates were made to the contract: (1) Clarification of how entry fees are handle by the USMS National Office. (2) Updated warm-up hours as a result of our new warm-up policy. (3) Specified that the Report of Occurrence for all medical occurrences is provided to the USMS insurance broker and that a Medical Log Sheet is provided to the USMS Medical Coordinator. (4) Replace the reference to SWIM magazine.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

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

2007 Bid Ambassadors: Assign Bid Ambassadors to each potential bidder for 2007. They would help the bidders in developing the bid and presenting it at convention.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

NQT Policy: Approve a conversion method for time from other courses, e.g., SCY to LCM.

COACHES

Bob Bruce, Chair
Scott Williams, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Marcia Anziano, Tom Bliss, Chuck Burr, Lee Carlson, Mo Chambers, Bill Cleveland, Mike Collins, Steven Fair, Doug Garcia, Kelly Harkins, Cindy Hawkinson, Emmett Hines, Jacki Hirsty, Kris Houchins, Wayne McCauley, Eric Neilson, Ed Nessel, Kerry O'Brien, Sara Quan, Janet Renner, Eric Shanks, Joel Stager, Skip Thompson, Robert Zeitner, Scott Rabalais (E.C. Liaison)

REPORT: This Committee does most of its work in small subcommittees or project teams. We are reorganizing many these subcommittees and project teams—particularly for our major projects—and moving forward in most areas.

Ongoing projects:

- Clinics (Doug Garcia) – Doug continues to oversee both pool and open water mentor clinics. With the assistance of the Zone Committee, we have amended the program to offer eight mentor clinics this year, one per zone. We are also discussing the process of expanding the list of eligible clinicians.
- 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. The 2005 Camp was expanded from 12 to 18 swimmers, and was another big success (see Nancy's Report).
- National Coaches Conference (Scott Rabalais & Mel Goldstein) – The Masters Track at the 2005 American Swimming Coaches Association World Clinic has been expanded to six presentations, one masters coaching school, and one discussion panel. The presenters, instructor, and panelists have been selected. USMS promotional booth space has been reserved. Scholarships are being arranged for masters coaches and the form has been distributed through LMSCs, the Coaches Committee, and registered coaches.
- International (Bob Bruce) – We are anticipating an active role in the 2006 World Championships at Stanford, and discussing the form that this role will take.
- On-Line Workout Posting (Bob Bruce) – Three coaches (Mo Chambers, Mel Goldstein/Kris Houchins, & Robert Strauss) were selected and are posting practices on the USMS website during 2005.
- On-Deck Coaching (not filled) – We are searching for a coordinator for this project.
- Coach-of-the-Year (Skip Thompson) – Skip will continue to oversee the selection process in 2005, most of which will occur after the July 1 application deadline.
- Video Library (Emmett Hines) – Emmett continues to run the USMS video rental.
- Book Library (Ed Nessel) – Ed continues to operate the USMS book rental.
- Snooper Rental (Lee Carlson) – Lee continues to supervise snooper rental and refurbishing of the equipment.

Major Projects:

- Coaches Manual – This project has been in the works for several years, and is now closing on completion with a push to getting the large amount of material on-line. This manual will eventually be available primarily as an on-line resource to masters coaches and as the primary text for the ASCA Masters School.
- Clinics and Camps – We are forming a subcommittee to discuss a comprehensive national plan for Clinic and Camps.
- *USMS Swimmer* – The Coaches Committee suspended the Coaches Committee Quarterly at the 2004 Convention, and is directing the resources towards our new magazine. We are working to broaden the group of active contributors and to develop content for this publication.
- Triathlon (Cindy Hawkinson, Liaison to USA-Triathlon) – We are exploring avenues for cooperation between USMS and USA-Triathlon.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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

Committee members: Rich Barkan, Connie Barrett, Helen Bayly, Chris Beardsley, Kathrine Casey, Daniel Cox, Kelly Crandell, Mel Dyck, Susan Ehringer, Sarah Hromada, Mark Hurley, Anna LaBorwit, Raena Latina, Kenn Lowy, Tom Lyndon, Jane Masters, Dennis McManuis, Ray Novitske, Margot Pettijohn, Carl Saxton, Donna Schubkegel, Ann Svenson, Bekah Wright, Tracy Grilli, Jim Matysek, Bill Volckening, and Lynn Hazelwood (EC Liaison).

Last October, at the request of the Executive Committee, the committee reviewed the job descriptions of the old USMS Magazine Editor position and the new USMS National Publication Coordinator position. The committee determined that the positions were similar and that the PMG did not require a new bid process.

The following six sub-committees are active:

Meet Results Data Base: Mel Dyck is chair of this sub-committee. For the past few years Mel Dyck has been encouraging meet directors to submit times for inclusion in the meet results data base. This is currently an unofficial data base of meet times. Mel has added some members and a significant number of meets to the data base in the past couple of months.

Discussion Forum Monitors: Michael Moore is coordinating an effort to better monitor posts on the Discussion Forums. As the number of posts continues to grow, we need more people to review posts regularly, correct misinformation, direct posts to people who can answer questions, and notify web administrators of offensive posts.

Content Proofing: Meg Smath is organizing this group that will review content of USMS publications.

Communication Planning. Tom Lyndon is chairing this sub-committee that is working on recommendations for improving communications within USMS.

Calendar of Events: Mark Hurley is chairing this sub-committee. At last year's convention the following policy was adopted: "Each zone or LMSC shall be responsible for determining which non-USMS events in its geographical area shall be posted on the USMS website." The sub-committee is developing a plan to implement the policy change

Technology Applications: This sub-committee is reviewing technology and will recommend uses within USMS..Kenn Lowy and Margot Pettijohn produced a report on electronic voting for the EC January meeting.

There are two other groups composed mostly of members of the Communications Committee that meet regularly:

Editorial Board. The transition team completed it's work and helped create an exceptional first issue. The team was dissolved and an Editorial Board has been created to set policy, monitor, and integrate all USMS publishing activities. Members of the Editorial Board include Lynn Hazlewood, Jim Matysek, Bill Volckening, Meg Smath, Doug Garcia, and Hugh Moore.

Web Administrators: This group includes Jim Matysek, Lynn, Marian Briones, and Hugh Moore. The group meets weekly to discuss web site and IT status and issues.

ACTION ITEMS

MSA: The Communication Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that Bill Volckening's contract be extended without opening the position for bids.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

In addition to the work being performed by the sub-committees listed above, the committee will be reviewing its current description and proposing changes.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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CONVENTION

Michael Heather, Chair
Debbie Cavanaugh, Vice Chair

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

ACTION ITEMS

Rhea Wilkins attended USAS Site Review in Feb. to scout for hospitality suite.
Received meeting schedule from EC, formatted schedule and sent to USAS.
Working with Jerry Clark 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

Arrange for Hospitality suite in Greensboro.
Arrange for Treasurer to open master billing account at Hotel
Distribute Audio Visual request form to BOD and other meeting holders.
Vice Chair Cavanaugh to create certification table schedule.
Diligent, cheerful and overworked member Grilli to create and distribute delegate pre convention packages

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tom Boak, Chair
Ralph Davis, Vice Chair

Committee Members – Joannie Campbell, Trisha Commons, Betsy Durrant, Brad Houston, Conrad Johnson, Lucy Johnson, Jeff Moxie, Anna Lea Roof, Barbara Thomas, Beth Waters, Sarah Welch, Kris Wingenroth
Ex Officio – Margaret Bayless, Doug Church, Jeanne Ensign

The Finance Committee continues to monitor the financial results of the organization on a monthly basis. In addition, it has considered an over-budget request from the Executive Committee for an increase in the salary of the Webmaster. Members of the Finance Committee are active on the task force which is looking at levels of compensation for employees and contractors, and we continue to be involved in the preparations from a financial perspective for the 2006 Worlds Championships.

FITNESS COMMITTEE

Pam Himstreet, Chair
Jani Sutherland, Vice Chair
Bill Volckening, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Bobbie Braden, Marianne Brogan, Chuck Burr, Lee Carlson, Laura Collette, Randy Crutchfield, David Grilli, Robbie Holman, Margie Hutinger, Janet Latham, Raena Latina, Tom Mester, Jane Moore, Jennifer Parks, Sara Quan, Scott Rabalais (Exec. Comm Liaison), Lisa Rushman, Mary Sweat, Ann Swenson, Jody Welborn, Karol Welling, Bekah Wright

OPENING PARAGRAPH

The Fitness Committee continues to 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. Our major means of communication with USMS members has been our Fitness section of the USMS website. New this year is our relationship with USMS Swimmer magazine as they work to feature more average and fitness swimmers.

DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS

We have a great communication tool in the Fitness section of the USMS website. The Committee was envied by many other committees for our success in this area. However, since January we have been unable to post on the web. We have been waiting to update our section for 2005.

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Always a main project is to grow the three USMS Fitness Events. The Check Off Challenge has been running for three years and did double participation in the second year. 300 shirts were sold and a nice profit was made for the host LMSC. The hosts for 2004-2005 (PNA) have changed the event to allow it to run the entire year (2005) and have added an open water component. The 30 Minute Swim had 52 participants in its inaugural year of 2003. Last year it grew to 104 and we are extremely pleased with the progress. We met our goal of over 100 participants. The Virtual Swim Series had 20 hearty souls brave Americas Waterways in 2003. The Mavericks (2004 hosts) got behind promoting the Virtual Series. In 2004 the final number participating only rose slightly. Mary Sweat has created computer logs for participants to record their practice yardage into the swims in 2005. These easy, interesting, user-friendly logs should help grow the event. We are still worried because we have been unable to post the entry form, information, and new swims. This may take a massive publicity campaign to recover and we are starting a Committee Discussion Forum to formulate ideas to help.

The Articles of the Month continue to be very successful. More committee members have become involved in this area. We have articles to post and are now able to do this. The new USMS Swimmer magazine featured one of our fitness articles on Vitamin Supplements in their last issue. The magazine's writers use our committee members as contacts. Our Fitness events appear on the calendar page of the magazine. Articles like the one on open turns appeal to the average and fitness swimmer. We plan to use fitness articles that the magazine cannot use for Fitness articles of the month if they are appropriate

ACTION ITEMS

We will solicit nominations for the 2005 Fitness Award and gather volunteers from all the teams in USMS to host the Fitness Events for 2006. We will have an announcement in the May-June issue of USMS Swimmer about both. We will start using the Committee discussion forum to try to increase member participation.

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 2005 Fitness Award and solicit prospective hosts for the 2005 Fitness Events. We will have flyers describing our events and website that will be put out at 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". Continue to serve as a resource for USMS Masters Swimmer.

HISTORY & ARCHIVES

Barbara Dunbar, Chair
Meegan Wilson, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Marcia Cleveland, Robbie Holman, Carl House, Danielle Ogier, Gail Roper, Dennis Wilson, Ex-Officio: Bill Volckening, Executive Liaison: Sally Ann Dillon

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The History & Archives Committee continues to work on a number of ongoing projects including collecting stories, oral histories, and visual images, annotating photos, and obtaining permission to archive and display photos. We are assembling the history of USMS and locating all of the Top Ten Errata/Corrections from 1972-1992 for conversion to electronic files. Documentation of Olympians in USMS and documentation of the Rule Book cover designs, artists, dedication honorees and statements, and related information progresses. Archive research activities include the USMS history project, locating data and answers to inquiries from other USMS Committees, and working to increase the electronically archived data.

The H&A Web Projects which will eventually enable the committee to add and update stories, histories, images, and other historical data and which will link swimmer information remain uncompleted and are a source of

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frustration for committee members and USMS masters swimmers alike who have seen no updates since 12/31/2002. We have been assured that work by the web masters continues on existing H&A projects and that some tools will be available soon. The conversion and updating of former H&A areas such as All American and All Star lists is nearly complete and will be overseen by the Records and Tabulations committee. All of these projects have required more time than previously anticipated or indicated, have been sidetracked by projects deemed more urgent or more important, and are overdue for completion. Committee members expressed concern about the slow progress on the web projects, prioritization issues, and quality control.

The newly redesigned USMS site is being reviewed with particular emphasis on the History and Archives sections. Suggestions for better navigational aids, links, corrections, and other improvements are being documented and forwarded to the web master or proper representative.

ACTION ITEMS

The History and Archives Committee voted to not to allow automatic redirection of visitors from the SwimGold H&A pages to the USMS H&A site since the SwimGold pages clearly direct visitors to the usms.org for more recent information site (link provided), since H&A committee members continue to use the SwimGold pages extensively for research purposes, and since the content and links found on SwimGold are not identical to those found on the "work in progress" H&A site at usms.org. The question of automatic redirection arose because a few swimmers did not heed the "for more recent information, please visit usms.org" notation and continued to look for updated top ten times on the old SwimGold location instead of on the updated Top Ten site at usms.org.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

H&A tasks for the upcoming months include the following: 1) monitor the H&A web projects, web project prioritization, and the conversion and migration of remaining H&A pages to the USMS web site; 2) learn to use the administrative tools for updating and editing the existing H&A pages found at usms.org once the tools are made available to the H&A Committee; 3) begin to add and edit stories and oral histories on the H&A pages at the USMS web location; 4) inventory the USMS physical archives at the Henning Library, ISHOF, to identify USMS documents which are missing from the archives; 5) review procedures for automatic archiving of USMS documents; 6) respond to research archive requests; 7) locate and collect the errata and correction documents for the top tens from 1972 through 1992; 8) work on the H&A USMS History project; 9) continue to collect and edit stories and oral histories; 10) continue to collect photographs and work on the photo image project; 11) continue to update Olympians in USMS; 12) follow up on John Bauman's conversion of 1972-1992 Top Tens to electronic files; and 13) continue work on remaining ongoing projects and any new ones.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Colleen Driscoll, Chair
Cheryl Gettlefinger, Vice Chair

Committee members: Jack Buchanan, Lee Carlson, Michael Laux, Donna Schubkegel, George Simon, Frank Tillotson, EC Liaison – Patty Powis, Ex-officio members – Peter Crumbine, Shannon Sullivan

ACTION ITEMS

The Committee reviewed and voted on our insurance program quotations which were received after Convention. The insurance quotations received were in line with the premiums, limits and coverages discussed and approved at Convention.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Sandi Rousseau, Chair
Myriam Pero, Vice Chair

Committee members: Bobbie Braden, Peggy Buchanan, Kim Crouch, Sean Fitzgerald, Mark Gill, Bill Grohe, Jacki Hirsty, June Krauser, Lilly Kron, Michael Moore, Mark Murphy, Nancy Miller, Mary Pohlmann, Walt Reid, Mani Sanguilly, Shannon Sullivan, Barbara Thomas, Anthony Thompson, Karol Welling, Phil Whitten, Laura Winslow, Jim Miller (EC Liaison)

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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The International Committee has been primarily focused on assisting the Stanford Local Organizing Committee in any way possible in preparation for the FINA World Masters Championships in August 2006. Myriam Pero attempted to get representatives from all sports to be contested at Stanford to a meeting with Michael Moore and Anne Warner Cribbs when they visited the State Department in Washington DC.

The committee was involved in assisting the Local Organizing Committee with entering information pertaining to visa applications for 213 countries from the United States State Department web site into an Excel spreadsheet. The purpose of this was to have visa information in an easily accessible format for anyone possibly interested in attending the event. This spreadsheet is to be used by the State Department as well.

We have provided the LOC with a list of International Committee members who are attending a variety of championship meets and willing to staff a booth and/or provide information at these various meets to promote the Stanford World meet. These meets include the USMS Short and Long Course nationals, the ASUA (Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas) in the Dominican Republic, the World Masters Games in Edmonton, Canada, and the LatyCar Championships in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Several members of the committee have volunteered to be 'ambassadors' for the World meet by responding to incoming questions from potential attendees and responding to some in his/her native language.

Another project that is partially underway but awaiting more data from the world meet in Riccione, Italy is 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 on the usms.org web site.

We have submitted proposal information to the committee overseeing web tasks and are awaiting more information for adding items to the international section of the usms.org site. One topic that is being finalized is a listing of differences between USMS and FINA meets.

LEGISLATION

Rob Copeland, Chair
Jennifer Parks, Vice Chair

Committee members: Dan Cox, Marilyn Fink, Sean Fitzgerald, Marie-Pierre Graf, Cindy Hawkinson, Mary Hull, Arni Litt, Marcia Marcantonio, Chris McGiffin, Steve Peterson, Leslie Smith, Richard Smith, Jon Steiner, Erin Sullivan, Meegan Wilson, Executive Committee Liaison - Patty Powis, ex-officio members - Leo Letendre, Meg Smath

2005 is an ON year for Legislative amendments and with all of the anticipated changes coming from the Planning Committee's governance task force this looks to be a very active summer and fall. So far this year the committee has looked at the few recommendations which have come from the task force. As the July 10th submission deadline approaches we expect to see much more from the governance task force as well as other proposed changes.

Anticipated changes include significant revisions to the roles and responsibilities of our officers and board of directors. In addition we anticipate changes to how our committees are organized and in some cases the composition and responsibilities of these committees.

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 more amendments will surface, as we approach the July 10th submission deadline. Then the real work for the committee begins.

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

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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LONG DISTANCE COMMITTEE

Peter Crumbine, Chair
Marcia Cleveland, Vice Chair

Other committee members: Bob Bruce, Laura Colette, Rob Copeland, Pam Himstreet, Bruce Hopson, Laura Kessler, Randy Nutt, Danielle Ogier, Janet Renner, Steve Schofield, Dick Sidner, Shannon Sullivan, Ann Svenson, Jill Wright, Robert Zeitner. **Ex-officio:** Marcia Benjamin, Sally Dillon, Lynn Hazlewood, Judy Michel, Bill Volckening, Paul Wrangell.

INTRODUCTION

The Long Distance Committee continued its busy ways with emails flowing back and forth. Virtually all our business is now conducted electronically with two mass email distributions. In the spring, we send to next year's event directors the following four files: USMS contract, timeline for all events, championship guidelines, and championship forms. The latter two files are also posted on the USMS web site. Then in late January or early February, we send out the bid package. This year it went out on February 14 for the 2007 LD championships.

PROJECTS SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION

All championship events for 2004 have been finalized including All-Americans (Laura Kessler), All-Stars (Marcia Benjamin and Pam Himstreet), Records (Jill Wright) and Awards (Robert Zeitner). In addition, participation patches were sent to the 20 women and 13 men who finished all 5 postal championships. Thanks goes to Tracy Grilli for help in getting out the All-American, All-Star and participation awards. The 2005 One Hour Swim has been successfully completed under the able leadership of Mel Goldstein, the entry forms for all the other 2005 championships have been finalized and posted on the web, and as stated above, forms have been sent to potential bidders for the 2007 LD Championships.

A sub-committee headed by Robert Zeitner finalized on and ordered new championship medals. These will be lighter, die-struck medals made by AB Emblem and based on a new design by Bill Volckening. Bill also designed our new championship and postal participation patches. In addition to coordinating this effort, Robert Zeitner produced an excellent Medal and Patches Manual to guide those that may have responsibility for awards in the future.

The Long Distance Committee has nominated Suzanne Heim-Bowen of Walnut Creek, California, to be our ISHOF candidate for 2006. A sub-committee headed by Danielle Ogier did yeoman's work in preparing our submission to the USMS Ad Hoc ISHOF Nominating Committee. As an outgrowth of this work, Danielle and Marcia Cleveland are putting together the progression of records for the One Hour Postal.

FUTURE TASKS

Distribute championship "packets" to the 2006 Event Directors
Finalize LD Operating Guidelines drafted by Rob Copeland
Develop LD safety paper being worked on by Ann Svenson
Work with O*H*I*O to achieve on-line registration for the 2006 One Hour Postal

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Doug Garcia, Chair
Connie Barrett, Vice Chair

Committee members: Rich Burns, Joannie Campbell, Bill Cleveland, Randy Crutchfield, Nadine Day, Maria Doelger, Susan Ehringer, Barry Fasbender, Mel Goldstein, Tom Hindle, Kenton Jones, Tom Lyndon, Ray Novitske, Dave Oplinger, Myriam Pero, Nancy Ridout, Nancy Rossetti, Dore Schwab

We had a very busy start after convention with a small group discussing the Marketing Plan. After a number of emails we finally had a draft marketing plan which made it to the Executive Committee for the mid year meeting. Upon review by the EC, it was suggested a fifth goal be added with a focus of raising revenue for the organization.

At present we as a group have agreed that continuing the sponsorship program was critical to raising funds for the organization. We are also investigating a series of clinics with the Coaches Committee that would be held at

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

select cities. This system would be instrumental in not only raising funds, but also recruiting new members. We are still in the considering other fund raising opportunities, and action items to support and implement this cause.

A draft copy of the marketing plan is included with this document.

ACTION ITEMS (from the Marketing Plan)

Action item 1.4, in collaboration with the Planning Committee, we are close to finalizing a facilities brochure that will be used to promote USMS to facilities not familiar with our program.

Action item 3.4, in conjunction with the Magazine Editorial Board and the Publications Committee, we have developed a USMS Style guide for use in all editorial materials produced by the organization. The guide is now in place and being used by the magazine team.

Action item 3.1 in conjunction with the Magazine Editorial Board, and the Communications Committee we have put into place a system for developing press releases from within the organization and getting them posted on the USMS Web site. In addition we are also playing a key role in the determining editorial content of the magazine and the Web site.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Finalize the Marketing Plan priorities and develop creative ways to market our organization to the general public and work with other committees in their efforts to market USMS.

Assign tasks for specific marketing action items.

Finish the Facilities Brochure

Finalize action item 2.8, which is publicizing and rewarding LMSCs that increase their membership by the greatest percentage on an annual basis.

United States Masters Swimming Marketing Plan

Marketing Goals:

1. Increase awareness of USMS to potential member and influencer audiences.
2. Increase USMS membership by 5 percent annually.
3. Improve internal communications and provide services to USMS members.
4. Communicate the message of swimming for life consistently to all USMS audiences both internal and external.
5. Create revenue producing opportunities and attract financial support.

Marketing Goal 1 Increase Awareness of USMS to potential members, influencer and member audiences.

Action Item 1.1

Define all potential members audiences.

Responsible: Marketing Committee

Deadline: September

Action Item: 1.2

Create awareness of USMS among aquatic directors at all colleges and universities with available pool facilities.

Responsible: Nadine Day, Marketing and Communications Committees

Deadline: May 1

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

Action Item: 1.3

Educate swim coaches at USA Swimming Clubs on the financial benefits of including a masters swimming program as part of their existing program.

Responsible: Marketing and Coaches Committees, USA Liaison

Deadline:

Action Item 1.4

Educate and create awareness of masters swimming to facility directors that do not have masters programs.

Responsible: Marketing and Publications Committees

Deadline:

Action Item 1.5

Educate the leadership and/or members of other swimming organizations about the benefits of USMS, including: USA Triathlon, YMCA, American Red Cross, National Senior Games, International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics, National Recreation and Parks Association Aquatic Branch, USA Water Polo, USA Swimming, USA Synchronized Swimming, USA Diving

Responsible: Organization Liaisons, USMS Executive Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 1.5

Develop a graphic identity system and branding elements and tagline for a consistent approach to all USMS communications. (see item 3.2)

Responsible: Marketing and Communications Committees, Legal Counselors.

Deadline:

Action Item 1.6

Survey and collect data from USMS members on their perceptions of the organization.

Responsible: Marketing and Registration Committees

Marketing Goal 2 Increase USMS membership by 5 percent annually

Action Item 2.1

Provide a variety of tools for USMS Clubs and LMSCs to grow their membership. Such tools would include assistance with starting new clubs, development of recruiting plans, and producing marketing and recruiting materials.

Responsible: Ray Novitske, Marketing, Publications and Communications Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 2.2

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

Educate coaches, clubs and teams on the need to grow their programs. Provide the tools needed to help groups manage their programs and workouts to increase capacity. Help teams without coaching to develop on deck coaches.

Responsible: Coaches Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 2.3

Provide programs of value and interest to help retain general membership at the local level.

Responsible: Fitness and Coaches Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 2.4

Target the 18-24 age group swimmers, particularly USA Swimming participants that switching to USMS after turning 18 is the next progression in swimming.

Responsible:

Deadline:

Action Item 2.5

Publicize and reward LMSCs that increase their membership by the greatest percentage on an annual basis.

Responsible: Maria Dolger, Registration and Marketing Committees

Deadline: May 15

Action Item 2.8

Develop a list of benefits and messages to be used reasonably consistently in all USMS Marketing materials across all mediums.

Responsible: Marketing, Publications, s

Deadline:

Action Item 2.9

Establish a membership drive month(s) for both recruiting and renewing membership.

Responsible: Marketing, Communication and Registration Committees

Deadline:

Action Item 2.10

Utilize our USMS display at major aquatic conference events.

Responsible: Mel Goldstein, Marketing Committee

Deadline:

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

Action Item 3.1

Provide consistent and reliable information about swimming technique and fitness issues through USMS owned and controlled media such as the USMS Web site, and USMS Swimmer magazine.

Responsible: Publications, Communications, Fitness, Coaches, Safety and Sports Medicine Committees

Deadline:

Action Item 3.2

Develop a graphic identity system and educate LMSCs, clubs and teams on the benefit of consistent use of the USMS logo.

Responsible: Marketing Committee and Communications Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 3.3

Provide organizational training and support to LMSC's and Clubs through the use of the LMSC Handbook, USMS Rule book, and the USMS Web site.

Responsible: Coaches, Publications, Communications and Safety Committees

Deadline:

Action Item 3.4

Develop a consistent editorial and graphic style—across a variety of mediums— for communicating to internal and external audiences. The style should be marketing focused, rather than a internal rule book type focus.

Responsible: Publications, Marketing and Communications Committee.

Deadline:

Marketing Goal 4 Communicate the message of swimming for life consistently to all USMS audiences both internal and external.

Action Item 4.1

Educate members on the value of maintaining a healthy lifestyle through swimming.

Responsible: Bill Volckening, USMS Swimmer Magazine Editor; Jim Matysek USMS Webmaster

Deadline:

Action Item 4.2

Develop and implement and promote a fitness event every month. Recognize fitness swimmers on the USMS Web site and in USMS Swimmer magazine.

Responsible: Fitness and Communications Committees

Deadline:

Action 4.3

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

USMS National Office, P.O. Box 185, Londonderry, NH 03053-0185, Ph: 800-550-SWIM SPRING 2005 ~ Page 22

Promote the Coached written workouts on the USMS Web site, and make it available for members only—another benefit of membership.

Responsible: Coaches and Communications Committees

Deadline: January 1, 2007

Marketing Goal 5 Create revenue producing opportunities and attract financial support

Action Item 5.1

Work with the USMS Sponsor Liason to develop additional sponsorship opportunities.

Responsible: USMS Sponsor Liason, Marketing Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 5.2

Work with LMSC newsletter editors to promote USMS Sponsors within LMSC newsletters.

Responsible: USMS Sponsor Liason, Marketing Committee, Publications Committee

Deadline:

Action Item 5.3

Develop a series of three annual USMS Clinics to be held at locations throughout the country. Clinics to be run by the coaches committee and will pull coaches from all over the country. Videotaping of all participants to be provided. Participants will be and allowed to utilize one event registration.

Responsible: Coaches Committee, Marketing Committee

Deadline: First clinic to be held in Fall of 2005

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

David Diehl, Chair

Charlie Cockrell, Vice Chair

Committee members: Bob Bruce, Judy Gillies, Marie-Pierre Graf, F.H. Ted Haartz, Jan Kavadas, Mike Lemke, Leo Letendre, Mark Moore, Eric Nordlund, Edward Saltzman, Joan Smith, Erin Sullivan, Frank Tillotson, Dennis Wilson, Steve Schofield, Sally Dillon (Ex-Officio), USA-S Officials Chair (Ex-Officio)

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

- Mailed welcome letter to all members of the 2005 National Officials Committee.
- Completed "Application to Officiate" for both 2005 USMS SC and LC National Championships and had posted on USA-S web site.
- Collected and forwarded all 2005 SC Nationals "Applications to Officiate" to meet referee.
- Drafted Officials Newsletter for review by Vice Chair of the Officials Committee
- Answered questions from USMS members regarding officiating as received.

ACTION ITEMS

- Forward all additional "Applications to Officiate" received for 2005 SC Nationals to meet referee and meet manager and answer any questions that come up regarding the official's assignments
- Forward all "Applications to Officiate" for 2005 LC Nationals to meet referee and meet manager. and answer any questions that come up regarding the official's assignments
- Review USMS Officials Committee Liaison reports from SC and LC Nationals.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

- Send out the Officials Committee Newsletter to all LMSC Chairs and LMSC Officials Chairs as well as the USMS Officials Committee members

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.
- Work on another edition of the Officials Newsletter
- Prepare "End of Year" report for the Officials Committee and the agenda for the Officials meeting in Greensboro, NC
- 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

Jim Wheeler, Vice Chair

Planning Committee members: Joan Alexander, Vicki Buccino, Maria Doelger, Laszlo Eger, Gordon Gillin, Kelley Harkins, Michael Heather, Brad Houston, Sarah Hromada, Lucy Johnson, Nancy Miller, Mark Moore, Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Jeff Moxie, Mark Murphy, Carl Saxton, Erin Sullivan, Jim Wheeler

Governance Subcommittee members: Joan Alexander, Doug Church, Rob Copeland, Ralph Davis, Maria Doelger, Mike Heather, Lucy Johnson, Jim Miller, Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Mark Murphy, Nancy Ridout

SINCE THE CONVENTION

Planning: The facilities brochure draft was completed by Jim Wheeler, working with Marketing Chair Doug Garcia. The draft was circulated to the committee for revisions and corrections. Doug wants to take another picture for the cover, and then it should go to the printer.

Governance: Lengthy discussions were held to clarify the role of the HOD, BOD, and EC. This document and the applicable legislation was posted on the USMS website and a discussion forum was opened for comments and suggestions. The Executive Committee submitted recommendations to Governance to streamline the committee structure. Governance debated the recommendations and is now finalizing proposals and legislation. These proposals will be posted on the website and another discussion forum will be opened.

ACTION ITEMS

Planning: The brochure was accepted.

Governance: Legislation for the HOD, BOD, and EC was approved.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Governance: Finalize proposals and legislation for Articles 504-507. Post proposals and legislation for discussion. Send legislation to the full Planning Committee for submission to the Legislation Committee.

Planning: Discuss distribution of the facilities brochure when Marketing has finalized it and had it printed. Discuss legislation proposals from Governance and submit them to Legislation for action.

PUBLICATIONS

Meg Smath, Chair

Steve Peterson, Vice Chair

Committee Members: Meg Smath, Steve Peterson, Debbie Cavanaugh, Marilyn Fink, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Tracy Grilli, Dan Gruender, Lil Haneman, Mark Hurley, Anne Laborwit, Dave Oplinger, C.J. Rushman, Jani Sutherland, Joanne Tingley, Mary Lee Watson.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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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 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. I sent PDF version of the separate parts of the rule book to Jim Matysek, who posted them on the USMS website. I also provided Word versions of the parts of the rule book to several committee chairs to use in their work throughout the year. I will be glad to provide these files to anyone else who needs them (for example, for proposing amendments to the code at this September's convention).

A notice will be run in the May/June issue of *USMS SWIMMER* asking for submissions for the 2005 rule book cover.

Until we begin preparing the 2006 edition of the rule book, there is not much work for the committee as a whole. As chair, I have been kept busy with a steady stream of small tasks:

- I proofread sections of the LMSC handbook that had been substantially revised since last year.
- I copyedited the text of a new brochure being put out by the Planning Committee on how having a Masters program can benefit an aquatic facility. With graphic design by Marketing Chair Doug Garcia, this beautiful brochure should help aquatics managers realize how much USMS has to offer.
- I participated in the National Publication Content Proofing Team, which helped set policy and review content for the first issue of *USMS SWIMMER*. After publication of this first issue, the team was disbanded.
- I was appointed to the new USMS Editorial Board, along with the chairs of the Communications and Marketing Committees, our magazine editor, our webmaster, Zone Committee Chair Lynn Hazlewood, and Virginia Sowers of Douglas Murphy Communications. In a series of conference phone calls and email discussions, we have been providing guidance for our national publication and our website.

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 2, 4, 5, and 6. We will also correct any typographical errors brought to our attention. We will choose a cover for the 2006 rule book, and decide on a dedication as well. Anyone reading this report who has a concept for a cover design should send it to publications@usms.org. We will also be grateful for any suggestions on a recipient for our dedication.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

Kathrine J. Casey, Chair

Carolyn Boak, Vice Chair

Committee members: Andrew Bate; Cindy Baxter; Carolyn Boak; Tom Boak; Hill Carrow; Kathy Casey; Kelly Crandell; Gail Dummer; Steven Fair; Jack Geoghegan; Mel Goldstein; Dan Gruender; Edie Gruender; Ted Haartz; Sarah Hromada; Paul Hutinger; June Krauser; Mike Laux; Leo Letendre; Jim Miller, M.D.; Jane Moore, M.D.; Hugh Moore; 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. Updated the Awards web site, updated the historical lists of award winners, and will continue to update the awards site.
2. Discussed the use of the term "Masters swimming" in the title of awards that do not also include the name of a sponsoring organization for awards given by organizations other than USMS. The issue was referred to the Executive Committee and the USMS Legal Counsel. A subcommittee will also work with an organization outside of USMS in an effort to resolve this issue.
3. Continued to work on brief narratives of the reasons each Ransom J. Arthur recipient won the award.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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4. Appointed a subcommittee to develop procedures and guidelines for submitting proposals to USMS for new awards.
5. Conducted the nomination process for the Ransom J. Arthur Award and is in the process of selecting the winner, and the nominees are:
Sally Dillon
Betsy Durrant
Barry Fasbender
Scott Rabalais
6. Published articles in the national publication about the Ransom J. Arthur Award and the Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Review nominations for and select the 2005 Ransom J. Arthur Award winner.
2. Arrange for a ceremony to announce this year's Ransom J. Arthur Award winner at Short Course Nationals.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

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. Develop procedures and guidelines for submitting proposals to USMS for new awards.
4. Work toward resolution of titles of awards given by organizations outside USMS that use the term "Masters swimming".
5. Solicit nominations for and select winners for the Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award and prepare the presentation for Convention.
6. Finalize the criteria for the proposed "Club of the Year" Award.

RECORDS & TABULATION COMMITTEE

Pieter Cath, Chair

Mary Beth Windrath, Vice Chair

Committee members: John Bauman, Vicki Buccino, Barbara Dunbar, Laszlo Eger, Milton French, Julie Heather, Carl House, Margie Hutinger, Kenton Jones, Ginger Pierson, Walt Reid, Nancy Rosetti, Ed Saltzman, Joan Smith, Melinda Smith, Ed Tsuzuki, Nancy Ridout (Exec. Liaison)

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Top-Ten Tabulations for 2004 Long-Course Meters and 2004 Short-Course Meters were sent to the printer and published on schedule.

The 2004 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 2004 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.

Major progress was made to improve the accuracy of the top-ten listings. For starters missing registration numbers are now looked up in the USMS registration data base and all submitted registration numbers are verified and corrected if necessary. In addition, the swimmers gender and age are verified. All these checks are needed because registration numbers that have been submitted by meet directors contain unavoidable typos.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

Checks have been developed for relays like age group, and gender. Are all four swimmers registered as members of the same club? If they are, does that club correspond to the club name that has been submitted? This takes care of the use of local workout groups as a club name.

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

A discussion was started to determine if hard copies of preliminary top-ten tabulations and the final top-ten publication need to be sent to all top-ten recorders. A significant majority deemed this to be necessary. The top-ten booklets can be considered to be a reward for the work that is done by the recorders. We have started to also send an electronic copy of the preliminary listing to all top-ten recorders.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Continue our discussion regarding the mailing of hard copies.

Discuss how we can fulfill our obligation to publish the All-American listing now that that listing is no longer published in the USMS Swimmer magazine.

REGISTRATION Anna Lea Roof, Chair George Simon, Vice Chair

We are still working out some of the bugs associated with the new USMS Permanent Swimmer ID. The USMS registration software ("Leoware") contains an encrypted database of all swimmers who have ever been assigned a Permanent ID. Leoware was updated to a new version (with an updated database) at the beginning of the registration year. Because the registrars are all working on stand-alone computer systems, it is important that the registrars install the new version of Leoware as soon as it is available.

We had some glitches at the beginning of the 2005 registration year (in November, 2004). The 2005 software update was issued to the registrars later than usual. We didn't do a good job of communicating the importance of installing the update before beginning the 2005 registrations. Many of the resulting glitches were due to registrars sending in their first transmittals using the older version of Leoware. We need to do a better job in the future of managing this issue.

I must thank Esther Lyman for the data provided below. For those LMSCs trying to build their membership, remember that the national office has detailed statistics available on your LMSC. For example, we can pinpoint by town within a 3-digit zip code from where you draw your members. Details are available ongoing over the past three years, but can easily be extended to cover five or even ten years of comparison of your membership by location or makeup.

The following table shows the shifts in membership between the eight zones between the past two full years:

Members (net)	Y2004		Y2003	
	Members	%USMS	Members	%USMS
Breadbasket	3660	8.7%	3313	7.8%
Colonies	8906	21.2%	8926	21.0%
Dixie	5032	12.0%	4838	11.4%
Great Lakes	4804	11.4%	4714	11.1%
Northwest	2600	6.2%	2657	6.3%
Oceana	9964	23.7%	10314	24.3%
South Central	2300	5.5%	3046	7.2%
Southwest	4777	11.4%	4599	10.8%
All-USMS	42043	100%	42407	100.0%

Again courtesy of Esther, here are some more fun facts. The overall USMS male/female ratio continues to shift ever so slightly towards the women each year, starting with 40.4% female in 1994, the first year for which we have electronic records.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

Members (net)	Y2004	Y2004	Y2004	Y2004	Y2003	Y2003	Y2003	Y2003
	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>%Wom</i>	<i>%Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>%Wom</i>	<i>%Men</i>
Breadbasket	1950	1710	53.3%	46.7%	1730	1583	52.2%	47.8%
Colonies	3952	4954	44.4%	55.6%	3922	5004	43.9%	56.1%
Dixie	2181	2851	43.3%	56.7%	2131	2707	44.0%	56.0%
Great Lakes	2013	2791	41.9%	58.1%	1976	2738	41.9%	58.1%
Northwest	1314	1286	50.5%	49.5%	1324	1333	49.8%	50.2%
Oceania	4850	5114	48.7%	51.3%	5019	5295	48.7%	51.3%
South								
Central	1146	1154	49.8%	50.2%	1555	1491	51.1%	48.9%
Southwest	1995	2782	41.8%	58.2%	1841	2758	40.0%	60.0%
All-USMS	19401	22642	46.1%	53.9%	19498	22909	46.0%	54.0%

RULES COMMITTEE
Leo Letendre, Chair
Katherine Casey, Vice Chair

Committee members: Tom Boak, Peggy Buchannan, Charlie Cockrell, Leianne Crittenden, David Diehl, Judy Gilles, Jan Kavadas, June Krauser, Joe Kurtzman, Leo Letendre, Dennis McMannus, Kerry O'Brien, Jessica Seaton, Anthony Thompson, Bill Tingley, Kris Wingenroth, Bob Bruce (Ex-Officio), Rob Copeland (Ex-Officio), Jim Lewis (Ex-Officio), Meg Smath (Ex-Officio), Bruce Stratton (Ex-Officio), Sally Ann Dillon (EC Liaison)

ACTION ITEMS

Of primary concern to the Rules Committee during the first half of the year has been the interpretation of several rules. We have received several requests concerning the inclusion of transsexuals in USMS competitions. The committee has followed the precedent set by the International Olympic Committee last summer and has indicated that transsexuals should compete as the gender that they are living as. The committee is currently dealing with an interpretation of the Championship rules (see below). In addition to these issues, several routine queries have been received and acted upon.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Consider changes to the code governing the National Championship identified as being ambiguous or in conflict with other portions of the rules during deliberations related to the request by the 2005 SCY Championship meet host.

Prepare proposed changes to the code submitted by LMSCs and standing committees for presentation at the 2005 convention

Prepare recommendations to the HOD with respect to proposed changes to the code.

USMS RULE INTERPRETATION AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

April 10, 2005

The USMS Championship Committee at the request of the 2005 Short Course National Championship hosted asked the USMS Rules Committee for an interpretation of the rules governing the conduct of the championship meet with respect to the number of timers required. Specifically the host would like to conduct the freestyle events 500 yards and longer in three courses using a total of 26 lanes. The host is concerned about its ability to obtain enough volunteers to time given the requirement in article 104.5.10C. During this discussion, some have also suggested that the parenthetical phrase after the heading of Article 104 meant that the entire section was optional for the national championship meet. The rules committee has discussed the issues presented and, while the committee was not in total agreement, the following interpretations are given.

The purpose of the parenthetical phrase "Recommended for all championship meets when possible" is meant to indicate that championship meets *other* than the national championship meets should consider following the rules set forth in this Article. If the rules were optional for the national championship meet then they could be made

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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policy of the championship committee and would not need to be included in the code that is subject to the approval of the House of Delegates.

The National Championship meet fulfills a number of functions for the organization. It obviously provides a gathering spot for the competitive members of the organization twice a year. Another function that it fulfills is one that provides a demonstration of the proper way to conduct a meet under USMS sanction. Because it sets an example for the proper conduct of a meet, the organization has a vested interest in making sure that it is conducted properly. Thus, there are more stringent rules in our code for its conduct. However, there are aspects of conducting a proper meet other than simply following the rules and one of them is maintaining a reasonable timeline. While the Rules Committee applauds the exploration of ways to improve the national championship, the request before the committee seems to place these two needs in opposition.

The requirements set forth in 104.5.10C are there to protect the swimmer by ensuring that an accurate time is obtained for each swimmer in each race. Article 104.5.10C attempts to minimize this by eliminating a single point of failure in the backup system. Specifically, two people provide backup times. Several places in the code point to the fact that a swimmer should never have to repeat a swim because of errors on the part of officials including timers.

After considerable discussion, the rules committee provides the following guidance as to ways the host can meet the spirit, if not the requirements, set forth in Article 104.5.10C.

- 1) The host should make every attempt to fulfill the stated requirements of 104.5.10C.
- 2) If 1) cannot be met, then the host should conduct these events using one person in each lane who will be responsible for both a semi-automatic backup button and a watch and a second person who is responsible for a semi-automatic backup button. This second person can be assigned to activate the backup button in two adjacent lanes. If this option is used, it is recommended that the timers assigned to cover two lanes be selected from the most competent timers and they be instructed to cover for each other should a close finish be likely in the two lanes assigned to a single timer.

The second option would reduce the number of timers from 52 to 39 not counting backup timers. This is a slight increase from the 32 required to run the remainder of the meet. If the host is unable to obtain 39 timers it would be possible for the host to use the turn judges as semi-automatic button based timers for the outside two lanes. While this would reduce the number of timers by another 6 (assuming that there are two judges watching turns at the starting end), the committee was very reluctant to suggest this since the officials need to attend to their normal duties and the above proposal places only a small incremental burden on the host by requiring only 7 more timers than needed for the remainder of the meet.

During the discussions, the members of the committee felt that there needs to be several modifications to the rules. These include clarification of the parenthetical portion of the Article 104 title as well as rewriting article 104.5.10C to require a minimum of two timers operating the primary backup system and one operating the tertiary backup system. The Rules Committee anticipates working with the Championship Committee to address these issues in the code.

SPORTS MEDICINE
Jessica Seaton, Chair
Jody Welborn, Vice Chair

Committee members: Tom Bliss, Ralph Bovard, Nadine Day, Jean Fox, Doug Huestis, Jane Katz, Laura Kessler, Kristy King, Michael Laux, Wayne McCauley, Don Mehl, Jane Moore, Ed Nessel, Mary Pohlman, Fred Shinn, Joel Stager, Joanne Wainwright, Lisa Watson, Phillip Whitten, Mark Wussler.

USMS SWIMMER (Publication):

Jody Welborn has been chosen as the Sports Medicine and Health editor for the publication. Many SM committee members having been submitting research blurbs to Bill Volckening and Jody Welborn for consideration in the publication. Jody wrote a feature article on the Athlete's Heart for the premier issue.

USMS Web Site:

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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The Sports Medicine Committee has been working on establishing a section on the USMS web site. The new searchable database of articles allows articles that were written for the fitness and coaches sections to be cross-referenced under sports medicine. These articles have not been reviewed under the sports medicine guidelines. A Review Subcommittee will be reviewing the articles for consistency with the established guidelines. The review should be completed by April 3rd. Any necessary changes will then be submitted to the USMS web master. (Web Site Subcommittee chair: Jane Moore).

USMS Research Project:

Joel Stager reports:

Progress is being made on the research pertaining to the energy cost of swimming. We have tested nearly 60 swimmers. All are being asked to swim a series of 400 yard swims. We are collecting data on the aerobic cost of swimming, the acceleration of the limbs and trunk, and stroke characteristics. This is being done as a means of providing a method (and algorithm) for estimating energy expenditure in a manner more accurate than is otherwise available today. In essence we hope to provide an instrument and equation that will be analogous and easy to use as a "pedometer".

On another front, we have compiled the data and have been accepted to present several papers at the *2005 Convention of the American College of Sports Medicine*. These will focus primarily on the data collected at the short course nationals in Indianapolis. Complete reports will be available in June.

Finally, we have received the funding for the newest study funded by USMS within the last month. The materials and supplies to initiate the study have been ordered and are beginning to arrive daily. This study hopes to extend the data collected at Nationals in 2004 by providing more complete information on the muscle mass of Masters swimmers. Preliminary data was released last fall and many media outlets have already featured these early findings. It turns out that this has been a great marketing tool for USMS in that it exposes the beneficial side effects of USMS participation.

FINA World Masters 2006 Sports Medicine Conference

Laura Kessler has been in contact with Anne Cribbe regarding venues and format for the convention. Five speakers have already been confirmed.

ACTION ITEMS

1. USMS SWIMMER: The Sports Medicine Committee will continue to review all health/nutrition related articles appearing in the USMS Publication for accuracy. The Committee will also continue to funnel health-related research to Bill Volckening and Jody Welborn.
2. Sports Medicine Review Committee will be reviewing all health-related articles currently posted on the USMS web site. The committee will also review future articles. This project is coordinated by Jane Moore.
3. The research being conducted by Joel Stager is ongoing. Papers will be presented at the 2005 Convention of the American College of Sports Medicine.
4. More opportunities for testing Masters swimmers and funding to do the research is being explored.
5. Laura Kessler will send an e-mail to the Sports Medicine committee members soliciting potential speakers for the FINA World Masters 2006 Sports Medicine Conference. Other potential speakers will also be contacted. Arrangements will continue to be made with Anne Cribbe and Stanford.

ZONE COMMITTEE **Lynn Hazlewood, Chair**

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

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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Since convention, the zone committee has revised the election operating guidelines (with BOD approval), initiated the first step in the election process (nominations), and begun work on various zone project grants.

Election Report: By the time you read this report, we will be at or near the end of the January 1 through April 30 nomination period. Nominations have been very light to this point and I expect we will get many in during the last week of April. The zone committee will qualify candidates at the May 8 meeting and produce a slate of officer candidates and a list of qualified director nominees. The results of the deliberation will be posted on the web site. The remainder of work for this year will be occupied by running the publicity part of the election and preparing for activities during convention.

Zone Project Grants: This year the zone committee is granting funds for LMSCs in need for convention expenses and club mentoring. To date, we have six requests for convention funding. These grants will be evaluated at the May 8 meeting. The zone committee, in cooperation with the coaches committee, is also funding two coach/mentor clinics. This means that there will be eight clinics available this year instead of six. We are determined that every zone have a clinic opportunity and, to that end, the zone representatives are actively seeking LMSCs to apply for grants. We are

BREADBASKET ZONE

Marcia Anziano, Zone Rep

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

Minnesota: The goal for the web site is to get as many names and accomplishments of our LMSC members as possible. They have participated in the Virtual Caribbean Swim Series and recognized the members that participated. They also sponsor various Super Swim Challenges on a two week basis, again with the intent of getting members more involved.

Ozark: St. Louis Area Masters hosted the annual Winter Masters Meet at parkway South High School in February. They will also be the host for the Breadbasket Zone meet in April.

Colorado: Colorado received the bid for the 2006 10K Open Water National Championship at the 2004 Convention. This is the first National Championship to come to Colorado. Colorado sponsored two swimmer clinics during the past few months, a Swimmer Clinic given by Bob Bruce which covered the fundamentals of every stroke and a Freestyle Clinic given by Cathy Drozda, the 2004 Colorado Coach of the Year. They also continued to offer Yoga Clinics through a local Yoga School, which offers discounts on these clinics to members of USMS. Two new meets were added to the winter schedule this year, one in Montrose on the Western Slope, and one in the mountain community of Estes Park. They are also trying to increase communication with the local workout groups by having their new Coaches Chairperson send monthly communications emphasizing the programs available both locally and Nationally.

Wyoming: This LMSC weathered a crisis where their Chairperson/Registrar resigned and there was concern that there would be no one to replace her. Last report was that someone had volunteered and I am waiting to get the new contact information.

Missouri Valley: At Fall convention 2004, MOVY won the bid for it's first national event - the 2006 5K/10K National Postal Event to be hosted by the Lawrence Masters Swim Club. MOVY will try to encourage participation from around the Breadbasket Zone. Anna Lea Roof, who is currently chair of USMS Registration Committee, was honored with a Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award at the 2004 Convention.

Missouri Valley (MOVY) has had a busy Fall and Winter 2004-5. In the Nov 2004, MOVY hosted the Park Hill Masters SCM Swim Meet with a record attendance of 50 swimmers (which is impressive with only 230 registered MOVY swimmers across 2 states). Turnout was partly due to switching the event from its historic early Sunday morning format to a Saturday evening schedule. At the meet, numerous MOVY records and 27 USMS Top Ten SCM swim were recorded including two #1 top swims and four #2 swims by individuals at the meet.

Two different workout MOVY groups (Lawrence Sharks & Kansas City North) had their annual 100 x 100s on 100 seconds, which is a fund raiser for local groups.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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In January 2005, MOVY opened the SCY season with a meet hosted by the Lawrence Masters Swim Club again with a record attendance of 37, which was good for a cold snowy Saturday evening in eastern Kansas. In February 2005, the Kansas City Blazers hosted an All-Relay meet including relays in SCY, SCM and LCM. We are not certain, but believe this is one of the only meets within USMS to have all three course in one meet. Again, a record turn-out of 50 swimmers. The 2005 results showed 36 new MOVY records, and the All-Relay Meet in 2004 create 15 Top Ten rankings through the calendar year.

Missouri Valley continues to cultivate relationships with high schools and age-group swim groups to co-sanction or provide fund-raising meets through masters swim events. In June 2005, MOVY has sanctioned a SCM outdoor meet that benefits a local summer swim club at Old Pike Country Club. The meet at Park Hill in November benefits the high school programs. We have in the past co-sanctioned meet with USA Swimming and shared the pool, providing an opportunity to reinforce that swimming is a life-long sport to the amazement of the some of the age-group swimmers and their families.

MOVY also supports participation in the Kansas City Corporate Challenge, the Sunflower (Kansas) and Show-Me (Missouri) State Games, as well as the Senior Games in both states. We encourage swimmers to attend the other meets around the zone, and look forward the Zone Championship in April in the St Louis area.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:

1. Continue to contact the LMSC's to encourage members to consider being candidates for the various Board positions.
2. Zone meet to be held on April 9, 10 in St. Louis

COLONIES ZONE

Debbie Morrin-Nordlund – Zone Rep

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

SCM Zone Championships held.
Zone Championship bid form revised.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:

Meeting to be held April 23, 2005.
Determination of remaining 2005 zone meets.
Nominations for Dorothy Donnelly Colonies Zone Award

DIXIE ZONE

Rob Copeland, Zone Rep

Since our last report the Dixie Zone completed our Dixie Zone SCY championship events in Ft. Lauderdale with over 180 swimmers. This is a prelude for USMS SCY nationals that will be contested in Ft. Lauderdale this May. Over 1,600 swimmers are anticipated to be treated to southern hospitality in one of best facilities and the greatest settings available. Congratulations to all the participants who competed at the Zone meet and good luck to all of you who are swimming at nationals. And a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who made these events possible!

And this southern hospitality extends well beyond running some of the best meets in the country. This year we are also blessed to be the home for the 2005 USAS conventions in Greensboro, NC. We look forward to hosting what from all indications will be a very interesting and active annual meeting of our House of Delegates.

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 records current and accurate.

GREAT LAKES ZONE

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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Mike Lemke, Zone Rep

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

Per action taken at the last convention, the Great Lakes Zone has developed a zone records database. Thanks to John Bauman this project is off to a great start. We also are pleased to have renewed activity in the Allegheny Mountain LMSC.

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

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie LMSC had 320 members at the end of February. This is an increase of 13% over last year at this same time. This is attributed in large part to the invoices/registration reminders sent to current and prior year members by our Registrar Margaret Bayless. Margaret is also USMS Controller.

There was a Workout Group Challenge Meet that produced a lot of excitement. It was attended by 140 swimmers which is a substantial number for a masters meet in Northeast Ohio. The next meet is the Ohio State Masters Championship Meet at Wooster, OH April 2nd and 3rd.

We just wrapped up the results of 2004 30-Minute Fitness Swim Challenge. 108 swimmers participated nationally. We are hosting that event again in 2005.

INDIANA

Greater Indiana Masters Swimming (**GRIN**) has had a great year so far! Following on the heels of the Orlando Convention, the **GRIN** Fall Classic (SCM) had record attendance with several individual and relay records set. The **NASTI/GRIN Fitness Series** followed soon with our best participation ever. **Ball State Masters** held their inaugural meet in January, followed by another successful **IU Masters** meet in Bloomington. **John Ford** held his 27th annual **Michiana Masters Meet** in South Bend, and **GRIN** provided a snooper video clinic before the meet to promote **GRIN** and USMS at this YMCA facility. The snooper clinic was enhanced by the implementation of the digital video recorder (DVR) to replace the VCR methods of old. The DVR was obtained using funds supplied by USMS for zone grants. **GRIN** is grateful to USMS and the Great Lakes Zone for acting favorably on our request for this upgrade. We believe that these clinics get us to the grass roots level adding value to USMS membership for competitive and non-competitive swimmers alike. The **State Meet** was a huge success, being held for its 6th straight year in the fantastic facility at Avon High School. At state, the annual GRIN business meeting was held. **Cheryl Gettelfinger** was elected to Chair, **Randy Crutchfield** was re-elected to Treasurer, and **Dick Sidner** stepped back to assume Vice Chair duties. Appointees to other positions remain the same with **Barbara Larsen**, registrar; **Nan Stager**, Sanctions; **Joel Stager**, Coaches Liaison, **Raena Alexis Latina** and **Dave Oplinger** remain as Newsletter Editor and Web Master, respectively. The Registrar's report was presented indicating that we are on track for increased enrollment. Our treasurer assured us that we are in good financial shape. **Doug Church** promoted the USMS endowment fund and recognized the return of the 1940 US Olympic Team swimmer **Patty Reels** (age 78). GRIN's highest honor, the **Irv Merritt Award**, was presented to **Jim Lewis** (Huntington; Team NASTI) and **Joel and Nan Stager** (Bloomington; Team DOC). Upcoming meets include **Cole Family YMCA** meet in Kendallville and **Y nationals at IUPUI**. This summer will feature the **Mile swim at Eagle Creek** in June and the **Firecracker Meet** in July.

CENTRAL

The Central LMSC has approximately 1300 members as of the end of March. This is a little over 100 short of last year at this time when we had high interest in Illinois to attend USMS short course Nationals in Indianapolis.

We will elect officers for 2005-2007 at our April 16th meeting. Nominees are Mary Pohlmann, chair; Nadine Day, vice-chair; Barbara Delanois, treasurer; and Craig Johnson, secretary.

The 2005 CMSA State Championships will be held April 14-17 at the University of Illinois - Chicago. We expect approximately 400 participants.

Mark Urban of Mt. Greenwood Masters is currently writing a column titled SWIM BLOCK for Chicago Athlete Magazine. Chicago Athlete is a free monthly magazine that covers adult-amateur sports around the Chicago-land area. Mark hopes that by writing about Masters swimming and adult aquatics, more people will join Masters swimming programs.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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We have several members recently inducted to Hall of Fames or who received other prestigious athletic honors outside of USMS: Marcia Cleveland was inducted into the Greenwich Aquatic Hall of Fame, Pam Smith was inducted into the Springfield Sports Hall of Fame, Kielo Sauvala and Brent Newcomb have been named CLIF BAR 2004 Athletes of the Year.

KENTUCKY

Joanne Tingley, who has been the registrar in Kentucky as long as there have been Masters Swimmers in Kentucky, has retired from that position. The LMSC held its bi-annual meeting after the short course state meet in Lexington and the following were elected as officers:

Chair – Bill Tingley
Vice Chair – Mike Lemke
Secretary – Meg Smath
Registrar – Susan Ehringer
Treasurer – Melinda Schmitt

OHIO

The Ohio LMSC had elections at the Milford Meet on March 13. The new board is as follows:

Chair – C.J. Rushman
Vice-Chair - Scott Boyer
Treasurer – Scott Goertmiller
Secretary – Lisa Rushman

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin has passed the "400" mark in registrations for the first time in history...and that in spite of a loss of ~100 non-renewals from 2004. Despite having to cancel one of our March meets, changing the date of our State Meet to the second weekend in April, our meet attendance seems to be up.

This year will be our first to host a Mentor Coach Clinic - coming up next weekend (March 18-20). Michael Collins is putting on a Coach/Swim/Tri Clinic. So far I have 20 participants, 5 coaches, and two observers. This event is sanctioned so swim attendees have to be registered (OE or Full). Already a number of OE registrants have converted to Full...without having their arm twisted. This is exciting! People in Wisconsin are excited this year. Must be the water.

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN

Has a new LMSC Chair, Joseph Skoski. Joe has brought some energy to the LMSC and plans to attend the Convention this fall.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:

We have accomplished much of what we set out to do last year. We need to streamline the process for updating and verifying Zone records and we are working on having 100% participation from our LMSCs at the Convention. We are hoping to remove from the table any discussion of reducing the number of LMSCs.

NORTHWEST ZONE

Doug Garcia, Zone Rep

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

We have had one championship/meeting since our last convention, which was held in Portland last November. That championship was the SCM champs, and we had at least one world record broken at that meet—men's 45-49 400 SCM IM by Lincoln Djang of Mission Viejo Natadores.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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As I write this report, we are about to have our SCY Championships at the King County Aquatic Center, with 375 participants registered to swim. I expect this to be an outstanding championship with many records broken in that fabulous world-class facility.

We will be meeting at King County to discuss the up coming election, as we plan to have our nomination for zone director and zone rep taken care of before we arrive in North Carolina. We will also be discussing the zone open water champs coming up in Oregon this summer, as well as finalizing sections of our policies.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION:

Elections

Selection of the Small LMSC Delegates to receive Zone funding to attend convention

Zone Policies

Selecting a location for the Zone SCM meet to be held in Oregon in the fall.

OCEANA ZONE

Joan Alexander, Zone Rep

Hawaii LMSC – Report from Janet Renner. As of March 9th we had 321 registered swimmers very slightly down from last year). We have a new club (so 12 in all for our state) and they are on the Big Island called Warrior Aquatic Club (they also have an age group program.

We tried sending out bills for renewal of registration, and it worked great for those who received them, but nearly 50% had an error, and our registrar is working with Leo Letendre to get the kinks worked out. We hope next year to have a better success rate.

Next scheduled masters meet is the Hawaii International Masters Meet June 25th & 26th at Univ. of Hawaii on Oahu (same place as Nationals in 2002). This is a long course meet, and we anticipate a group of Japanese Masters coming over for the meet.

We have a current calendar of open water events and our single masters meet on our website at www.hawaiimastersswim.org

We are trying to switch our web server host to USMS, and hope to get that completed before too long. We are working with someone to finally fix our records page on our website - we've been trying for over 2 years to get it fixed so it's more user friendly and easier to understand - now we have a swimmer from the mainland helping us with it (a contact of Karlyn Pipes-Nielsen).

We are planning to bid for 2007 LC Nationals at Kihei Aquatic Center on Maui. The event will be co-sponsored by County of Maui, Maui Age Group Swimming Association and Hawaii Masters Swimming Association, with strong support by the Maui Visitors Bureau, and Maui Hotel Association.

We are working on creating "Logo Wear" for our LMSC to sell off our website - t-shirts, caps that type of thing as a source of additional revenue for our LMSC, as well as hosting semi-annually an international meet - such as the one in June.

Pacific LMSC

The Registrar reports that Pacific has over 6,068 registered swimmers and 99 clubs as of 4/9/05. We are in the process of sending out renewals – the old fashioned way. The list of those who have not renewed as of 4/9 has been sent to Beyond Words and it is anticipated the renewal forms will be in the mail within the next 10 days.

Pacific voted on a change to section in the Meet Operations Handbook that all entries must include an entry time. No Time (NT) entries will be assigned an estimated time.

2006 World Championships – Michael reports that the open water swim will be at Crown each in Alameda, CA. He gave the report on the trip to China for the FINA Bureau meeting. The FINA Bureau approved the schedule, both the dates and the events. It also approved the mascot. Thermal caps have been approved, and will be worn under the bright caps we will have to provide for the open water swim. The qualifying times were approved. The

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

FINA Masters Congress will be meeting in San Francisco several days before the start of the championships. The Opening Ceremonies protocol includes a welcome by the President of FINA, or his representative, the FINA flag is raised, and other dignitaries may speak. The FINA Bureau will be elected in Montreal and they will select the Masters Technical Committee that will meet, probably here, in September/October 2005. The trip to Washington, D.C., Anne Cribbs and Michael met with the USOC Government's Relations Liaison, Steve Bull. They also met with Ron Acker of the State Department, who was very helpful and has experience with athletes coming to the U.S. Michael had prepared a document explaining the event and the countries involved. Our event doesn't include many non-visa-waiver countries. Within the next 6 months, Ron will write letters to the U.S. Ambassadors explaining this event. He will also cable the U.S. Embassies so they know about the event and will abide swimmers wanting to attend. Anne indicated that American Airlines would like to be an official airline for the FINA World Championships. Nancy reported that she and Rich Burns sent out an RFP to seven awards companies requesting replies indicating interest by 3/18.

SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE

Marcia Marcantonio, Zone Rep

Since the convention the delegates have been meeting via email. Some items worked on have been the updating of our Zone Championship Meet Guide and the Zone Manual.

As Zone Rep I have maintained our section of the USMS website calendar of events using our new policy of which events will be listed. One LMSC in our zone will be applying for a Mentor Coach and Swimmer Clinic. I have solicited for LMSCs to apply for zone convention grants, and also called for nominations from our zone for the new position on the BOD of Directors. We have one person getting a nomination ready. I am also continuing to add to my file of pool length certificates.

One concern our delegates have is the date of the 2005 zone meetings at convention. We feel it is way too early. The delegates will need to take an extra day off work in order to arrive that early. Also we generally use the meeting to discuss items that have come out of the convention meetings. As the BOD Director candidates will most likely already have their nominations in to USMS, we don't really need to meet for that reason alone.

AD HOC COMMITTEE MID YEAR REPORTS

AD HOC ISHOF NOMINATING

Ginger Pierson, Chair

Committee members: Carolyn Boak (Vice Chair), Peggy Buchannan, Marcia Cleveland, Barbara Dunbar, Mel Goldstein, F H Ted Haartz, June Krauser, 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 – confirmed change in procedure for candidate selection
2. Committee discussion regarding selection of nominees for consideration

ACTION ITEMS

1. Continuously encouraged the Coaches Committee to submit requirements for possible selection into The ISHOF
2. Received DRAFT of requirements for Coaches Category
3. The USMS Ad Hoc ISHOF Committee has decided to consider two ISHOF-worthy nominees, (one from long distance and one from pool swimming) rather than scrutinize all possibilities. The two individuals far surpassed all others in their perspective category that it was deemed unnecessary to evaluate anyone else.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

4. All materials available on each of the two individuals will be distributed May 1, with a vote for the 2007 USMS candidate selection to follow. After the vote, a complete dossier will be sent to The ISHOF for consideration of induction into The Hall of Fame.
5. Red and Blue sashes have been made for those individuals who are currently in THE ISHOF or IMSHOF, who attend the USAS Convention, and who participate in the "walk of inductees."
6. A notice was sent to all committee members seeking information as to who the Ad Hoc ISHOF Chair and Committee members were prior to 1999 (prior to Pierson as Chair).

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

1. Update database
2. Select a candidate for possible induction into The Hall of Fame
3. Coordinate with athletes already inducted as to what their informal role will be at Convention
4. Coordinate with Bill T, Mike H, Rob C, or Leo L, as to who will be playing the music for the "athlete walk". Need a special jack.

LIST ANY DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT YOUR COMMITTEE WILL BE ADDRESSING

1. Selection of future USMS candidates – quality

AD HOC LEGAL COUNSELORS

Patty Powis, Chair

Bruce Hopson, Vice Chair

Committee members: Carl Botterud, Jude Bourque, Hill Carrow, Leianne Crittenden, Ralph Davis, Jack Geoghegan, John Hughes, Mike Laux, Mike Lemke, Nan Stager, Jon Steiner

While tasks for Legal Counsel, such as renewing and creating sponsor and licensee contracts, answering questions from members and event organizers, advising the Executive Committee, answering questions from the 2006 FINA World Championship Organizing Committee, and addressing issues related to our national publication are ongoing, the Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee is just getting underway with a couple of tasks that require assistance and input from committee members.

USMS needs to update the registration of its trademarks this year. We have received a generous offer of pro bono representation from John Crittenden, husband of committee member Leianne Crittenden. Someone from the committee will work with John to provide the necessary information from USMS to support our registration renewal.

While federal and state laws affirming the validity of electronic signatures have been on the books for several years now, the use of those laws to ensure the validity of electronically "signed" event waivers has not been tested in the courts yet. Nevertheless, many sports organizations use electronically signed waivers for both events and membership registration. In fact, some of our clubs have already begun to do so for events. Therefore, the committee needs to provide guidelines for electronic waiver signatures to increase the chances of such agreements being found valid and binding. I have asked for volunteers from the committee to work on this project.

The status of the committee as an ad hoc committee is being examined by USMS's Governance Task Force, which will likely result in legislative proposals to create another form for this group or its successor, such as an advisory board.

AD HOC USMS ENDOWMENT FUND

Doug Church, Chair

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The total Endowment Fund balance is now over \$170,000.00. 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 or P.O. Box 10, Noblesville, IN 46061.

USMS LIAISONS AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS MID YEAR REPORTS

CONTROLLER
Margaret Bayless

On-going routine activities, to include weekly check runs, monthly payroll review, monthly bank reconciliations, monthly financial statement preparations, various analysis, and quarterly budget spending report distributions continue without exception.

The 2005 budget has been finalized and uploaded into QuickBooks. It is also on the USMS website.

The 2004 1099's were prepared and mailed prior to the 1/31/05 IRS deadline.

The 2004 first draft financial statements with commentary were submitted to the EC and Finance Committee on 2/4/05. The 2004 final financial statements were completed on 3/18/05, after receipt of the final open transactions, being the Legacy Fund activity and the SWIM Magazine royalties. The financials and supporting detail have been submitted to Clifton & Gunderson for the audit. Much correspondence has already taken place with the auditors, however the bulk of the audit will take place in June. The goal is to have the final audited financial statements and tax return completed prior to Convention.

A new process has been put into place whereby all requests for payments to individuals for services rendered, such as coaching stipends, will be paid by Paychex, our outside payroll processor. The normal approved reimbursement request, accompanied by a W-9 form, should be submitted to the Controller. The Controller will then send this information to the Treasurer, who will correspond with Paychex, who will in turn make the payment as part of their normal monthly processing activity for USMS.

FINA REPRESENTATIVE
June Krauser

At our 2004 FINA Masters Committee Meeting in Riccione in June, the chairman declared that there would be no meeting of the committee in 2005. The sub-committee preparing the text for a FINA Masters Rule Book had not finished the work and I have heard nothing since Riccione.

We have had one E-mail vote on accepting Walt's Time Standards for Stanford. Have not received the results of that vote.

Had a request from the Press Commission for some World Record information. Prepared the Recognized World Masters Records for the six months of May through October 2004, and those were printed in the December issue of FINA Aquatics World. Prepared the Masters World Records for LCM, those were printed in the January issue, and then the SCM Masters World Records, that were printed in the February issue.

ISHOF LIAISON
June Krauser

The International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held on January 5, 2005 in the International Swimming Hall of Fame. The inductees were:

Flora Connolly (GBR) Honor Swimmer
John Deininger (USA) Honor Diver
Burwell Jones (USA) Honor Swimmer

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

Betsey Jordan (USA) Honor Swimmer
William McAlister (USA) Honor Diver
Sandy Neilson-Bell (USA) Honor Swimmer
Tod Spieker (USA) Honor Swimmer
Richard Reinstaedtler (GER) Honor Swimmer
Phil Whitten (USA) Honor Contributor

The evening and dinner was a huge success. Each Honoree had a video clip presentation, a neck sash placed on them by an IMSHOF honoree, and a medal hung around their neck. Their Thank-You words were most inspiring.

Before the dinner and ceremonies the first 12 Masters Swimming Pioneers were announced and presented with a plaque. **THE MASTERS SWIMMING PIONEER PROGRAM** was established in November, 2005 by the United States Water Fitness Association. Everyone attending the ceremonies received a nice IMSHOF Program and in that program were two sheets of paper. The white sheet contained all the information on the Pioneer Program, who they were, selection of the winners and how people were nominated and selected. The other sheet named the 12 awards and the names of the 2005 award winners.

The CEO of ISHOF, Sam Freas, has resigned. The Board has a Selection Committee headed by Eldon Godfrey of Canada. I believe their list of applications has been cut to two. No word as to the outcome as yet.

USMS EDITOR
Bill Volckening

This year has been very busy, and we have made considerable progress with the new magazine. Here's a brief report on what's going on with the project.

- 1) **TRANSITION TEAM:** The Transition Team did an excellent job working on the first issue. After the first issue was completed, the Transition team was dissolved, and the Editorial Board was formed.
- 2) **EDITORIAL REVIEW:** The Transition team established a content proofing team. The content proofing group saw all manuscripts for the first issue, and feedback was gathered and communicated to the publishers. Following the completion of the first issue, the Transition team, with the concurrence of the executive committee, dissolved itself and created the editorial board. The editorial board realized we didn't need a content proofing team, and dissolved the content proofing team and employ outside reviewers on an as needed basis.
- 3) **FEATURES:** Our features include a general balance of health, personality, general interest and technique pictorials. Our personality features have more focus on lifestyle, and our technique pictorials feature Masters swimmers demonstrating varied skill levels. The features cover a variety of topics, and are planned to have broad appeal.
- 4) **DEPARTMENTS:** Departments consist of short-read material, and include: The Healthy Swimmer, Food and Nutrition, Training and Technique, Swimming Life (Member News), USMS News, and "Splashback!" (swimming history).
- 5) **INTERACTIVE:** The magazine is designed to incorporate a higher level of reader interaction than we've had in the past. Readers are invited to submit questions for the experts about health, nutrition, training, and technique. Readers are also invited to send their news, favorite recipes and favorite swim sets. We are hopeful that readers will notice right away that they have more to say about what goes into the magazine.
- 6) **WEB EXCHANGE:** The integration between the web site and the magazine is one of the most important goals. We are developing more content that is intended to bring members to the USMS web site. The workout card, for example, is now an online resource with a teaser blurb in the Training/Technique department. As mentioned above, short blurbs usually have a link at the end, directing readers to where they can get more in-depth information online.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

- 7) **WRITERS:** Many different writers have approached us. Some of them are new to the USMS magazine, and others are experienced writers who have not contributed to our magazine in a long time. We assigned new writers for all features in the first issue, except the Sports Medicine article by Jody Welborn. We now have a surplus of talented writers, which should allow us to select writers whose individual strengths will lend themselves to the assignments.
- 8) **CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:** We have started to appoint contributing editors for the magazine. Currently, we have two contributing editors, who work on a volunteer basis: Jody Welborn, who has been tremendously helpful creating the Healthy Swimmer and Food and Nutrition departments, and Rich Abrahams, who has contributed many ideas about cross-training and dryland for the Training and Technique department. We have discussed editorial contributors with a few other people, and will probably add other contributing editors as we need them.
- 9) **SUBSCRIPTIONS:** The usmsswimmer.com web site is up, and people are beginning to subscribe. We have received our first request from outside the US, so we will be internationally distributed right off the bat.
- 10) **MAY / JUNE ISSUE:** All but one feature is complete, and department development is well underway. Other contents, such as the USMS Nationals entry, have been coordinated with the committees.
- 11) **LAYOUT PROOFS:** We saw PDF layout proofs of the whole magazine before it went in for printing. It allowed us to check the magazine thoroughly. We agreed on very limited distribution of these proofs to just a few individuals.
- 12) **BUSINESS CARDS:** DMC is printing business cards for the USMS Editor, and the cards will be available for distribution at the Short Course Nationals in Ft. Lauderdale. It is the first time the USMS Editor will have business cards, and it is expected that they will facilitate networking.
- 13) **ISHOF RESEARCH:** ISHOF Librarian Preston Levi has invited the USMS Editor to do research in the Henning Library during the Short Course Nationals in Ft. Lauderdale. This research is planned to facilitate photo editing for the departments – particularly “Splashback!”
- 14) **DMC STAFF:** The staff of Douglas Murphy Communications has done an extraordinary job during the transition period from the convention up to date. DMC has truly exceeded all expectations. The staff is very eager to learn about swimming, they are intelligent, thoughtful, creative, professional, detail-oriented, responsive to our needs, and they are excellent communicators.
 - a) Managing Editor Virginia Sowers is an excellent writer, editor, and communicator. She has a high level of communication with the USMS Editor.
 - b) Art Director David Balch appears to be doing a wonderful job with the design. He has a knack for packaging short-read departmental materials in a dynamic, reader-friendly design. He is a good communicator, and is very responsive.
 - c) Ad Sales Director Betty Jo Bass did an amazing job selling advertising for the first issue. In fact, she did her job so well USMS had to approve a recommendation to go to 52 pages rather than 48 for the first issue.

USMS has successfully launched its new magazine. Although it was a daunting task given the short time frame, the first issue gives a strong indication of where USMS is going with its national publication. Everyone who is involved looks forward to making SWIMMER a publication all swimmers will enjoy.

US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE LIAISON
Hill Carrow

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT:

Last year as USOC Liaison, I made a several-day trip to Colorado Springs to meet with top USOC Executives re Masters Swimming. I was able to get the latest news on USOC and Olympic sport activities, as well as

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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sponsorship, marketing, and governance pointers. This was a very productive way of getting the Masters' message out as well.

There is room in the USOC Liaison budget for this year to take a similar trip, and this will likely take place in April or May (the schedule to best maximize the number and quality of meetings is still being worked out.)

The USOC Liaison year-end report will contain an appropriate summary of the key meetings and take-aways from that trip.

USMS LIAISON TO INTERNATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN AQUATICS (IGLA)

Mark Wussler

The IGLA Championships are being held in Atlanta July 21-24, 2005 (SCM) and the Gay Games VII are in Chicago July 2006. Everyone is welcome! More info go to IGLA.org.

USMS LIAISON TO USA SWIMMING

Ted Haartz

ACTIVITY SINCE LAST REPORT

Since Convention, I attended USA Swimming Board of Directors meetings November 14-16, NYC and January 21-23 in Colorado Springs, reports of which were tendered to President Jim Miller. Information in the form of printed documents and e-mails which were or might be of interest during this interim were also sent to the president.

DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION

(1) USA Swimming has formed a tax-exempt 501 (c)3 USA Swimming Foundation for the purpose of raising funds to provide the means for funding programs that might otherwise be excluded because of the spending limitations within USA Swimming. The Foundation was launched last November in NYC at a \$1000 plate dinner, at which the 2004 Olympic swimming team was present. The Foundation event- the Golden Goggles Award - is to take place annually alternating between NYC and Los Angeles.

(2) Ron Van Pool, president of USA Swimming, has formed a number of task forces, among which is a governance task force to continue to review and to suggest ongoing modifications and solutions of the governance overhaul of two years ago. Another task force has been formed to address zone structure.

(3) The next USA Swimming Board of Directors meeting will be held April 23-24 in Colorado Springs, a report of which will be forthcoming and any pertinent information included in the USMS annual report.

TASKS FOR THE MONTHS LEADING UP TO CONVENTION

Attend USA Board of Directors meetings in April and September.

USMS NATIONAL SPONSOR LIAISON

Mel Goldstein

The USMS National Sponsor Liaison has been very busy during the first 6 months of the year. All of our USMS National Sponsors with exception of one (H2O Velocity) renewed their agreements with USMS. Our USMS National Sponsors should generate \$55,000 in monetary contributions to USMS plus product and services to USMS National Championship Meet Hosts.

MBNA the largest USMS National Sponsor who generates \$12,000 a year through USMS Affinity Card program will announce in the July/August issue of "USMS Swimmer" magazine a program that will benefit USMS and the membership through their award program, look for this announcement.

We are working on two additional USMS National Sponsors, a sports replenishment drink company, and a pharmaceutical company, hopefully within the next two months we should be able to make announcement to that effect.

Streamlines... *from the National Office*

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While much time was spent working on USMS National Sponsor renewal agreements, I also attended the National Parks and Recreation Associations National Aquatic Conference in Las Vegas. I held a workshop for the conference "How to Build A Masters Program", over 100 attended the 1-hour workshop, and the response was over whelming. In addition to the NRPA show, I attended the YMCA Expo, which was attended by many YMCA Program Directors and Aquatic Directors. I believe these organizations are looking for structured adult programs for their facilities. We should continue to pursue them.

Plans have been made to attend the American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) Clinic in Ft Lauderdale. USMS Masters Coaches will have a speakers track at the clinic in addition to a Masters Coaches School. The USMS National Sponsor Liaison will have a role and presence at this clinic.

USMS WEBMASTER/IT DIRECTOR

Jim Matysek

We began working on an aggressive development schedule for the USMS web site immediately after convention this year. Much time was spent re-evaluating the content and layout of the entire site and coming up with a series of alternatives for a new web design and content categorization scheme for usms.org. This effort led to a totally new web site that was launched in early February. In addition to the user-visible changes to the site, there were many, many improvements made to the way that we run our web operations included with this redesign effort. Weekly status meetings have been held throughout the year for the web development team consisting of Lynn Hazlewood (EC Liaison), Hugh Moore (Communications Committee chair), Marian Briones (web contractor), and myself. These weekly updates have helped to keep our development efforts focused and on track.

In addition to the core team, Mel Dyck has taken over the task of keeping our meet results database up-to-date with the highest number of meet results entered ever this year, Bill Volckening has continued to manage the fitness area of the web site and submit articles of the month, Ed Tsuzuki has been managing the top ten data on the web site, Walt Reid continues to manage the USMS records data on the web site, and Jill Wright continues to manage the Long Distance records data on the web site, and Tracy Grilli manages the Places to Swim requests and nationals off-line entries. We are currently working to provide tools for History & Archives committee representatives to manage some of the data in that section and new All American and All-Star list maintenance tools. The goal of making web site data management a collaborative effort from many representatives in USMS is becoming a reality, and is essential in the ever-expanding world of our web offerings.

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

- Completed and launched a new design for the USMS web site. The new design features a more intuitive page layout, a flexible database-driven navigation scheme and some content management features that allow for easier maintenance of the site.
- Created new usmsswimmer.com web site for our new national publication and published excerpts from each issue. Participated on magazine transition team and editorial board.
- Created a new administrative area where LMSC Registrars can look up clubs and individuals in the national database to help resolve problems with registrations.
- Moved the swimming technique articles from static web pages to the database and added the ability to create new article categories (sports medicine category added).
- Added new web site areas for All American and All-Star listings.
- Added new web site areas for the Stories About Swimmers and Oral History portions of the History & Archives offerings.
- Added a general swimmer info page that references all publicly-available information found in our on line database about any given swimmer (meet results, top ten, AA, AS, email aliases, national and LMSC offices held, national awards, SWIMMER magazine contributions).
- Transitioned meet results link listing and club web site listing to database-driven applications with administrative support features.
- Created a new method of maintaining LMSC officer listings and email aliases, which will enable us to keep these listings up-to-date on line.

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- Assisted with creation of the USMS merchant and Internet Gateway accounts to enable continued on-time posting of on line entry system for nationals without forcing the meet host to create their own accounts.
- Published the 2005 SCY Nationals information and created and ran the on line entry system for this meet. There were 1,278 on line entries out of 1,619 total entries (79% - a record high).
- Updated the annual publications on the web site: 2004 Convention results, 2005 Rule Book, 2005 LMSC Handbook.
- Published the following updates to the web site as needed: National Office Newsletter (Streamlines), News Releases, Meeting Minutes, Coaches Committee programs, 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.
- Installed software updates to our server as necessary for operating system updates and tool updates such as our database server, web server, and scripting language support. Installed a new anti-virus package to reduce the spread of viruses through the use of usms.org email aliases.

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.
- Publish all pre-convention materials on the web site.
- Write specification for on line registration system and create a working prototype.
- Write specification for 2006 World Championship on line entry system for all aquatic sports and implement to specifications. The beta testing of this system is scheduled to begin October 1, shortly after convention.
- Support further development of web projects as time allows after meeting on line registration and Worlds registration project goals. Projects that may be addressed include completion of the History & Archives conversion (photo gallery, Olympians, etc.), more tools for LMSC Officers (meet sanctions & calendar of events, meet results database, LMSC Officer listing tools, etc.), moving meeting minutes to a database-driven area, and expanding content management features to allow non-administrators to contribute content directly to limited areas of the web site.

USMS LIAISON TO USA TRIATHLON

Cindy Hawkinson

Have met with the USAT contact a couple of times and have learned they now have a new executive director. Will work toward a meeting with him in the next quarter to maintain our relationship. Have continued to encourage coaches and teams to work together with the triathlete community. Am working with Bob Bruce and the Coaches Committee on a few projects.

XI FINA WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS MEET DIRECTOR

Michael Moore

The Organizing Committee has been working very hard on putting together the meet. We have been working with the other NGBs: water polo, synchronized swimming and diving to create the meet entry book.

We have been working on the boring work of meet management, working on funding from USMS, getting insurance, working on liability insurance as well as securing hotel rooms, and trying to build excitement for the world championships coming to the best aquatic facility in the United States.

We have been working with the FINA office to ensure that all of their requirements are met.

I was asked to go to Shanghai, China to give a report to the FINA Bureau. I gave my report and met with members of the Bureau about the championships. The FINA Bureau members were very helpful in working with the organizing committee to get the items approved that we needed approved. Everyone want to see the Masters Championships a success and everyone wants it to help promote Masters swimming.

