

## 2006 USAD Masters National Invitational Championships

Forty-Five Divers enjoyed wild weather, great diving and fun times at the Spring Meet in Dallas TX the weekend of April 29<sup>th</sup>. Friday was dark, cold & raining with thunderstorms and lightning. Saturday was warmer, but gray with some rain. And, Sunday and Monday were perfectly sunny and 90 degrees. We successfully used DiveMeets.Com for the first time.

American Records were set by Mary Bennett (324.10 on 1M) and Jennifer Mangum (241.60 on Platform). Bob Sherman won three Golds for the first time, beating John Conner by only .10 points on 1M and 4.5 points on 3M. Chris Lightsey, a new Masters Diver, did amazing dives off 10M with a mini trap like an interrupted back double. Tom Hairabedian brought two of his divers, both new to Masters: Boon Smith (21) & Virgil Taylor (23). They were both great. Virgil did a 5136D (triple twister) off both 1M and 7.5M. Unfortunately, Dave Card and Susan Boroughs both dislocated shoulders doing 403's on 3M during practices, Friday and Saturday, respectively. Debbie Albert synchronized with Ida Wilson, her to-be mother-in-law June 25<sup>th</sup>. The Curley Tops, Bonnie Wallace & John Mc Ghee beat The Soul Mates, Debbie Albert & Kevin Wilson by only .85 points in Synchro. Brett & Marnie were awesome doing their clown dives as usual. John Conner did a Houdini in a bag.

Jay Littman, also a new Masters Diver, had a grand time and will now be diving with us at the FINA World's in August. He told me that Jim Stillson said: "You have a Speedo, it still fits, you're diving in the meet... I AM SO GLAD I DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT, IT WAS FUN TRYING TO RE LIVE MY YOUTH, ALTHOUGH JIM SAYS I'M OLD..... THE DIVING WAS GREAT AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE, I CANNOT SAY ENOUGH ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO MEET, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THEM AGAIN." His enthusiasm is over the top - Go Jay !

The banquet was very nice with good food and entertainment. Tom Hairabedian sang "Ripatore", the Masters' Dive Song, played his harmonica, and gave a Tommy Award to David Cotton. Joan Chalkley, our Meet Director, is also a Toast Master and compared our diving from when we were kids, over forty years ago, to now. Too bad we don't have it on video... Thirty of us got together at Dave & Buster's for an excellent dinner Sunday night. Fourteen of us dined at Truluck's on Monday night, which was five-star.

Many thanks to Joan Chalkley, Jim Stillson, and the MITS members for a GREAT meet at SMU (Southern Methodist University), Dallas TX. Of course we always want to thank our significant others, spouses, families and friends for their support, encouragement, companionship and camaraderie.

Hope to see you and two hundred other Masters Divers at The Rose Bowl Aquatics Center for the USAD National Summer Meet and at Stanford University for the XI FINA World Masters Championships this August.

Please check out the results, photos and so much more on the Masters' web site @ [www.n2.net/diving](http://www.n2.net/diving)

Let's Dive !

Catherine Capelle  
National Masters Chairman  
USA Diving

P.S. FINA on-line registration is up and ready. Don't forget to order a Masters USAD Outfit for the Summer Meet and the FINA Worlds postmarked by **June 16<sup>th</sup>**. The Order Form is on the Masters' web site or contact Catherine @ 859-689-5738.