

## Holiday is over ~ Time to get back to the pool...

The 2016 season is on the horizon... Our own Ron Kontura shares his thoughts with his year-end "LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN".

Hello Masters Divers!

2015 has come to a close and I wish all the best this Holiday Season to each and every one of you and your families. As we celebrate with family and friends this season may we all be thankful for all the blessings we have in our life. For me, each of you is a blessing to me and I am happy to serve you as chairman and glad to call you friends. USA Masters Diving is an amazing organization and I am looking forward to many years of fun and fellowship with all of you on the Boards!

I just returned from the USA Diving Winter Nationals in Indianapolis. Gerry Dunn and myself travelled to the competition to represent Masters Diving and to cheer on some of our own. Troy Dumais finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the 3-meter event. Though he took 4th - he had the highest 6-dive total of the meet with a score of 505. It was cumulative scoring of 3 rounds that determined the winner.

Karla Helder was at the meet coaching her diver - Qiongjie Drew, to a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish in the women's 3-meter event. Qiongjie also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the synchro event with her partner Arielle Rittenhouse missing GOLD by less than a point. Qiongjie qualified for the Olympic Trials this summer in both events and I know Karla will have her ready to compete to make the USA Olympic team. Great Job Karla!

As you know, I enjoy putting together a schedule that reaches the four corners of the USA. I had to make a change to the schedule I sent to you the last letter. I will have the meet information out to everyone by mid-January for both meets. Here is where we are currently;

### 2016

May 6-8	USA Masters Diving Spring Nationals -- Orlando, FL Meet Hotel = Courtyard by Marriott (\$89/night) Walking distance from the pool
June 18-26	USA Diving Olympic Trials – Indianapolis, IN
July 28-30	USA Masters Diving Summer Nationals Greensboro, North Carolina
August 8-21	2016 Olympic Games – Rio de Janeiro Brazil
September 18-25	USA Diving Convention – Atlanta, GA (Tentative = Mary Bennett being inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame)

## **2017**

- May 5-7  
Nationals USA Masters Diving Spring  
Wash, D.C.  
(Tentative - working on details)
- July 30 – August ? FINA World Masters Championships –  
Budapest, Hungary
- August TBD USA Masters Diving Summer Nationals – Riverside, CA
- September 10-17 USA Diving Convention – Dallas, TX

## **2018**

- May USA Masters Diving Spring Nationals  
Texas -Potentially at SMU or Houston
- June (?) UANA Pan American Masters  
Championships – TBD January 2016
- August USA Masters Diving Summer Nationals  
Indianapolis, Indiana (IUPUI)
- September 23-30 USA Diving Convention – Jacksonville, FL

Last month, we lost Masters Diver Chuck Robison to his battle with cancer. Chuck was a wonderful diver and better man. His grace around the pool deck will be missed. His wife Cris was his biggest fan! My prayers go out to her and their family this Holiday Season.

Remember, if you have thoughts or questions; please feel free to contact me.

Get ready for an Exciting 2016! Let's DIVE!

Ron Kontura