

## Letter from the Chair

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It is hard to believe that it is October already! The year is almost gone! As you have probably noticed, I have not kept up with my letters as well as I intended to, and will try to make amends on that in the upcoming months. Next year promises to be a full one, with lots of great events, including our Spring and Summer Nationals, the FINA World Championships in Italy, and the Olympic Trials and Olympic Games.

Next year's National meets have not been set yet, and we are working on finding sites for both the Spring and Summer Nationals. We used to call them Indoor/Outdoor Nationals, but we have switched the name due to availability of pools. We now refer to them as the Spring and Summer meets instead, and we hope to have some sites selected soon. Once the sites are selected, then myself, Mary, and Ron can work with the local hosts to set up all the things that we need to have available for the meet. The earlier the site is selected, the easier it is to plan appropriately. I am thankful to the group at Florida State who treated us like kings and queens last May, and to the wonderful parents at Oklahoma City, who worked so hard in such a short time to treat us like family and run a meet when everything seemed to conspire against us. Every meet offers us something different, whether it is a new facility, a new area of the country to visit, or new divers to join us in our fun. It seems that each meet takes on a personality of its own, and all are wonderful experiences.

For those of you who have missed in recent years, consider coming back. If you haven't joined us before, but have been thinking about it, this would be a great year to come and dive with Masters. Personally, I am really looking forward to the meet in Riccione, Italy, in early June. My husband and son went with me the last time we had a meet there, and it was a great experience for the whole family. This time will be extra special, since it will be the summer of my husband Paul and I celebrating 25 years of marriage. We plan on taking a vacation as a family after the meet, and enjoying seeing more of Europe than we did before. The two National meets are always something to look forward to- it often feels like a family reunion! Masters divers always have a good time together, lots of laughs both in and out of the pool, so be sure to make plans to come and join us!

Finally, Congratulations to our newest Hall of Famers, Pete Di Croce, and Grunde Vegard. These two men have definitely brought character to our sport through their enthusiasm and competitiveness.

Until next time, keep diving, keep smiling!

Jennifer Mangum