



Ralph Davis – Great Lakes Candidate At-Large

The Election Committee has deemed that *Ralph Davis* is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated he is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Phil Dodson* and received letters of recommendation from *Phil Dodson* and *Tom Boak*, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

1999 September 15-19 San Diego, CA
2000 October 11-15 Kissimmee, FL
2001 November 15-18 Louisville, KY
2002 September 11-15 Dallas/Fort Worth
2003 September 10-14 San Diego, CA
2004 September 15-19 Orlando, FL
2006 September 13-17 Dearborn, MI
2007 September 26-30 Anaheim, CA
2008 September 24-28 Atlanta, GA
2009 September 16-20 Chicago, IL
2010 September 15-19 Dallas, TX
2011 September 14-18 Jacksonville, FL
2012 September 12-16 Greensboro, NC
2013 September 11-15 Anaheim, CA

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am interested in *Great Lakes Zone Director position* because of my love for Masters swimming and my desire to serve USMS in a capacity that I am professionally qualified.

I am a senior finance executive with over 35 years of experience in accounting, financial management. My scope of career experience ranges from working for a large multi-national corporation to company start-ups and business consulting. I have managed domestic and international financial operations coupled with developing local and worldwide strategies for their performance. I have served on Boards of Directors of various corporations, both domestic and international, combining diverse cultural and differing traditions to achieve corporate objectives. I believe that I can continue to provide a fresh and unique perspective to the *Great Lakes Zone Director* position. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the position's requirements. **I'm confident I can continue to add value** to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve *Great Lakes Zone Director*.

I have served on the Finance Committee for 15 years, and two years as the Chairman. I have been USMS Treasurer for 4 years, consequently, I am well versed with the financial and operations of USMS. I am currently Chair of the Investment Committee and member of the Audit Committee.

My current career status enables great flexibility to serve USMS. I have a passion to volunteer my time at this stage of my life to give something back for all that I have obtained. I feel fortunate to have received a gift of life when I acquired my transplanted heart in February 2006.

Education qualifications:

Master of Business Administration, Western Michigan University, 1970
Bachelor of Business Administration, Western Michigan University, 1969

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

1. Engage new volunteers and develop new leaders for USMS. We must determine how we are going to get new volunteers involved in the organization and develop them to become the future leadership. We need to develop a program specific to local LMSCs that encourages new members to attend the national convention and become more willingly involved in our organization. We may need to assist certain LMSCs with funding, but we need to have a precise USMS program that supports getting new faces to our convention. If we avoid setting a proactive agenda to this issue, I believe it may become increasingly difficult to acquire adequate leadership for the future success of USMS.

2. Organization structure for the guidance of USMS. We embarked on a new era for USMS in 2009 hiring a new Executive Director, established its National Office in Sarasota, Florida and implemented a new 5 Year plan for the organization. We are in an excellent financial position as an organization after our first Five Year Plan. We grew membership from 48,310 to 59,063.

The Board has the Challenge of a new five year plan (2015-2019) for the organization. USMS has developed a great strategic plan for USMS, but now Corporate Office with the support of the Board, need to develop the operation tactics to lay the foundation to achieve our strategic plan that supports a goal of growing to 100,000 members. I look forward to the opportunity of helping support the Strategic Plan and the mission of USMS.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

I have served on the Finance Committee since 2000. My Committee chairs have been Doug Church, Jeff Moxie, Tom Boak, and currently Chair Jeanne Ensign. I was Vice-Chair under Tom Boak. I was the Chairman of the Finance Committee 2007 to 2009.

I have been a member of the Audit Committee since its formation in 2009. The first Chair was Jill Gellatly and second and current Chair is Elyce Dilworth.

I have been a member of the Investment Committee since its formation in 2009. Dave Burgio was the Chair from 2009 to September of 2013. I am the current Investment Committee Chair.

I served on the Executive Committee from 2009 to 2013. The Chairs of the committee were Jeff Moxie and Nadine Day.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

I have enjoyed two careers; my first as finance executive of Federal-Mogul (23 years) with direct responsibility for all financial activities of diverse manufacturing businesses in the United States and 12 foreign countries generating \$600 million in sales. I possess extensive experience in managing global financial staffs, analyzing and monitoring individual unit performance, developing local and worldwide strategies, organizing joint venture/licensing agreements, managing foreign exchange exposure, directing treasury function at international locations and counseling the Group President as well as the location General Managers. I recruited and trained highly successful Directors of Finance for eight foreign subsidiaries.

My second career involves administering and operating a management and financial consulting company of which I have co-ownership. My financial consulting company serves industry on domestic and international projects led and managed a number of successful business turnarounds and started up a high-tech pharmaceutical venture. Thru My consulting Company for the last 7 years, I have managed and directed the operations of a software company with operations in India and the United States.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Age 67, excellent health, new heart, married 48 years, three daughters and five grandchildren.
Hobbies: competitive swimming, golf, and financial advising.
Treasurer, Michigan LMSC, 1997 to 2007
Vice-Chair, Michigan LMSC, 2007 to 2009
Chair, Michigan LMSC, 2009 to 2011
Chair, Michigan Masters Swimming Endowment Committee 2008 to Present

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am a senior finance executive with over 35 years of experience in accounting and financial management. My scope of career experience ranges from working for a large multinational corporation to start-ups and business consulting. I have managed both domestic and international financial operations. I have served on Boards of Directors of various corporations, both domestic and international, bringing diverse cultural and differing traditions together to achieve corporate goals.

I believe that I can continue to bring a fresh and unique perspective to USMS as Great Lakes Zone Director. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the Great Lakes Zone Director position's requirements. I firmly believe I can continue to add value to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve as Great Lakes Zone Director.

Phil Dodson
USMS Treasurer

MYFAVCPA@aol.com

April 29, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger

Chair of the Election Committee Elections@usms.org

Dear Cheryl,

I am writing to nominate and highly recommend Ralph Davis for Great Lakes Zone Director of United States Masters Swimming, a seat on the Board of Directors of United States Masters Swimming. Ralph is uniquely qualified for this position because of his 35 years professional experience in accounting and financial management coupled with 14 years of volunteer experience with USMS in the Finance, Audit and Investment Committees, including Chairmanships and 4 years as USMS Treasurer. He has been very active locally, as a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Michigan LMSC. His continued involvement in USMS is an asset to the corporation. He brings valuable business insight and perspectives with an understanding of how things get done in a volunteer board. Ralph will do an excellent job as a member of our Board of Directors.

Ralph has served me personally as a mentor for USMS, first as Chair of the Finance Committee and then as Treasurer of USMS. He assisted me and prepared my way from Finance Committee member, to member of the Board and finally as Treasurer of USMS. It is a pleasure for me to heartily recommend, without reservation, his nomination for Great Lakes Zone Director of United States Masters Swimming.

His honesty, loyalty, creativity, and experience will serve our organization well. I look forward to having him once again as a fellow Board of USMS.

Yours Truly,

Phil Dodson
USMS Treasurer

The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

April 19, 2014

To: Ms. Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair of the Election Committee
Elections@usms.org

Dear Cheryl:

I am writing to recommend Ralph Davis for Great Lakes Zone Director. Ralph has had varied experience in the corporate world, primarily in the area of Finance and has held numerous seats on Boards of Directors. He has also served United States Masters Swimming in a number of different positions, including member, Vice Chair and Chair of the Finance Committee and USMS Treasurer. He has been very active locally, as a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Michigan LMSC. His continued involvement in USMS is an asset to the corporation and he would do an excellent job as a member of the Board of Directors.

Yours truly,
Tom Boak

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