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COMSA Newsletter - February 2018

Mastersplash



Yes, it's that time again... COMSA elections! I know how excited you must be. Okay, so maybe you aren't that excited, but shouldn't you be? I mean, it is the elected officers and the chairs they appoint that run all things for masters swimming in Colorado and Wyoming. COMSA elections for officers are held every two years. The elections are currently held at our general membership meeting which takes place on the Saturday morning the weekend of our short course state meet. This time and location was chosen because it is the largest assembly of COMSA swimmers.

For further information please see "Article IV - Directors and Officers" in the COMSA by-laws, link provided here: <http://comsa.org/leadership/bylaws.html>
This section of the COMSA by-laws outlines the roles of the officers and their qualifications. It also describes the nomination process in case I have piqued your interest.

This could be your opportunity to assist in providing direction and services for Colorado masters swimming. If you find yourself a bit curious please [reach out to me](#). I am always happy to discuss volunteer opportunities within COMSA.

[Brian Hoyt](#)
COMSA Chair

2018 COMSA Short Course Championships - April 13-15, 2018

April 13-15, 2016
2016 COMSA Masters Short Course Championships
VMAC (Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center)
Thornton, CO

- If you are interested in volunteering/assisting with this meet, please contact [Debra Butler](#)
- [Details and Registration](#)

ANNUAL COMSA MEETING - April 14, 2018

The annual COMSA general business meeting will be held at the COMSA Short Course Championships meet. All COMSA members are invited to attend.

Meeting will be held on April 14, 2018 at 8:30 am, VMAC

Agenda:

- Officer Elections: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar
- [Jack Buchanan service award](#)
- [Coaches award](#)
- 2019 State Meet Location Announcement

* Please note, the deadline for officer elections and [award submissions](#) is March 16, 2018. Submissions can be sent to [Brian Hoyt](#).

COMSA Club Highlight: Team Colorado

COMSA has seen recent growth of a few new Clubs, and several members of one of COMSA's newest Clubs, Team Colorado, have started off the year with a bang. They've got some big goals in 2018.

Team Colorado was formed in late 2017, and currently consists of two workout groups: Team Sopris Masters, and Greenwood Athletic and Tennis Club Masters, with members representing the western slope and the front range.

A dozen of Team Colorado's 30 and growing members, along with several other volunteers from Boulder, CAC, Highlands Ranch, and additional COMSA workout groups, have formed a steering committee and are pulling together a massive effort to bring the charity event Swim Across America to the Denver area for the first time ever. It's truly awesome to see so many COMSA members pull together for this effort!

Why Swim Across America Exists: Every 15 minutes, 50 Americans are diagnosed with cancer. This is a sobering reality. But, the good news is that every year millions of Americans are beating cancer through advancements in treatments. Swim Across America, the official charity for swimmers, exists to raise money for our network of doctors and researchers who are the pioneers developing new cures and treatments to this dreaded disease. Michael Phelps, Missy Franklin, and over 100 Olympians support SAA.

Children's Hospital Colorado is the sole beneficiary of funds raised by SAA Denver participants. The SAA Denver steering committee's efforts are well underway and they promise to make this event spectacular for all who contribute and participate. Several Olympians have already committed to donate their time to the Denver event and participants will have opportunities to take photographs and get signatures. The event is intended to be a fun, family-friendly series of swims, and is open to all USMS and USA Swimming members, as well as anyone who has never swum before.

SAA Denver will conduct open water swim clinics in addition to a pool clinic leading up to the event, a VIP dinner for major sponsors, and a slew of festivities on the day of the event. Team fund-raiser competitions are encouraged - so get your workout group together and see how much you can raise! Challenge other workout groups to meet or beat your efforts!

If you are interested in finding out more information about the swim, please visit the [SAA Denver website](#). If you are interested in volunteering to help on the event day, please contact [Heather Franklin](#). To obtain information on being a corporate sponsor, please contact [Bill Vanderpoel](#) and [Dick Franklin](#).



Date: August 26, 2018

Location: Chatfield Reservoir Swim Beach

Distances: 5K, 1 mile, ½ mile, and a short family fun swim called the Balloon Splash

Is your Club or Workout group doing something amazing that you'd like to share with COMSA? Please submit your article to Newsletter Coordinator ([Kelly Davis](#)) for consideration in the next newsletter!

Kevin Polansky - 1950 to 2018



Kevin Polansky Master Swimmer, Coach, and Announcer passed away on January 6th, 2018 doing what he loved, swimming! He was a member of the Loveland Masters Swim Team which he founded in 1978. He competed for both Rocky Mountain Masters and Colorado Masters Swimming at USMS Nationals from 1980 to 2008. He volunteered for COMSA and served as Vice Chair from 1994 to 1996. Kevin was an inspiration, and always remembered to wish all his friends "Happy Birthday". Kevin was honored by the City of Loveland with the renaming of Lake Loveland as Kevin Polansky Lake on January 20th. The Loveland Masters Swim Team honored him by hosting a paddle-out ceremony in honor of Kevin on January 20th.

Some words from Chuck Wolff, Rocky Mountain Masters and Colorado Masters Swimmer:
"I first met Kevin at a local Masters Swim meet in 1979 where he blew everyone out of the water swimming a 1650 which he won by 6 lengths of the pool. In 1980 we traveled to Ft Lauderdale together for the national championships where he found a home to rent that had seen one too many spring breaks but it was cheap! He brought 2 cases of Coors Light with him because you couldn't get it in Florida at that time yet. He won everything he swam that year. In all the facebook posts I have seen everyone talks about what a motivator and great coach he was but he was the most intense competitor I have ever known. He won 10 World and 20 National titles. He trained like an animal and he didn't like the short races, his favorites were long distance freestyle and the hardest race in swimming the 400 Individual Medley. Then like the competitor he was he took on the Maui Channel where the current kept him stuck in virtually the same place for 4 hours and he did not quit! Unbelievable all he achieved."

More words from Jeff Ball, Masters Swimmer:

"About that Polman...

Kevin Polansky. Yes, the one and only Kevin Polansky; we were introduced by Rich (RC) Davis after we all three swam what was my first 10k Postal Swim Meet at the long course Centennial pool in Greeley in 1993 or so. Those two were already showered and dressed for the day by the time I finished my swim! From that day forward, I 'enjoyed' Kevin's moniker for me: "The Old Man of the Sea."

Upon learning that I lived in Loveland (commuted daily to Greeley for work), he said he was impressed enough that I persevered the rigors of 200 lengths of the 50 meter pool, Kevin invited me to swim with his Loveland High School girls swim team which was to begin their fall season in a couple of weeks. He started me in 'Paradise Cove' outside lane and taught me, along with newbies to the sport of swimming, drills and sets to improve skills for competition. ... As a coach, Kevin expected dedication and perseverance from his swimmers and had little tolerance for 'quitters.' I expect that his childhood, his extreme effort to become successful as an accomplished swimming athlete shaped his expectations of others, especially for the young lives in his charge. I was also blessed by Pol with the announcement to the girls team one year that: "I want you all to know that this Old Man of the Sea is truly a great Athletic Supporter." Godspeed, Polman."

In closing, as Kevin would say "Live Life! Love Life"

Here are links to a couple of published articles about Kevin:

- <https://www.swimmingworldmagazine.com/news/passages-kevin-polansky-67/>
- http://www.reporterherald.com/news/loveland-local-news/ci_31598798/loveland-council-votes-rename-lake-loveland-honor-swim
- <https://swimswam.com/swimming-loses-golden-voice-kevin-polansky/>
- <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/reporterherald/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=187838513>

USMS One Hour National ePostal

Congratulations on Going Postal John Batchelder and Tom Toomey at Northridge Rec Center on January 14th!! Both Swimmers Rocked the USMS One Hour National ePostal swim and represent

all Master Swimmers in Colorado "Swimmingly"!

It's not too late for the rest of us to challenge ourselves by participating in the USMA One Hour National ePostal Championships. We have until February 15th!!

As we look forward to Spring, we can look forward to the 5k & 10k USMS National ePostal Championships!! Both must be completed between May 15th & September 15th! Dates will be set soon to complete both swims outside at Lowry Pool this Spring/Summer so stay tuned!
Thank you COMSA for your continued support of the USMS Postal Series and providing us all with the opportunities!

Please check the COMSA website and newsletters for Updated Postal Information!
We need YOU to go Postal in 2018!!

Nicole Vanderpoel
Long Distance Pool Chair

Quick Links

[Register Now](#)

[Clubs and Workout Groups](#)

[More About Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Upcoming Events

February 15-28, 2018

2018 SmartyPants Vitamins USMS Winter Fitness Challenge

[Details](#)

March 3, 2018

1st Annual "Nash State and National's Warm-up"

VMAC - Thornton, CO

[Details and Registration](#)

March 18, 2018

7th Annual Rock Classic

Castle Rock, CO

[Details & Registration](#)

April 13-15, 2018

COMSA Masters Short Course Championships

VMAC - Thornton, CO

[Details & Registration](#)

See [COMSA website](#) for more upcoming events

CMS Apparel

Colorado Masters apparel is now available through the Swim Team Store website. Long and short sleeve tee shirts and hoodies are available in black or white. Shorts and swim suits are in black only. Colors are all shown in black, the white choice is available once item is clicked on. All items have the Colorado Masters Swimming logo from this year as seen above. Purchase your apparel now and have items shipped directly to you.



<http://www.thelifeguardstore.com/lgstteams/productcart/pc/viewCategories.asp?idCategory=2980&idAffiliate=677A>

username: colorado

password: masters

Local and National Swimming Links

[USMS Open Water Swimming Connection](#)

Breadbasket Zone

[Iowa Masters Swimming](#)

[Minnesota Masters Swimming](#)

[Missouri Valley Masters Swimming](#)

[Nebraska Masters Swimming](#)

[Ozark Masters Swimming](#)

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