

**DAWN MUSSELMAN INSPIRATIONAL SWIMMER
2020**

The Pacific Northwest Association Local Masters Swimming Committee
proudly presents the

2020 Dawn Musselman Inspirational Swimmer Award to

Stephen Freeborn

Steve, you are an inspiration to Blue Wave Aquatics and to all of PNA. Year after year, you volunteer tirelessly, taking on responsibilities from serving as PNA President 1991-1993 to continuing these many years on BWAQ's Board and as its President since 2017. In addition, you have been willing to take on administrative duties for major meets including our 1992 and 2001 USMS Summer Nationals, 1997 and 2007 USMS Spring Nationals (as Assistant Meet Director for the latter), and as Meet Director for the 2003 U.S. Open Championships. And of course you've served as Meet Director for our PNA Masters SCY Championships since 1991, where most of our members know you as a frequent announcer for that meet.

From your teammate Kaycie Wood's nomination letter, "As you may know, Steve was not able to swim for several months from an injury suffered at a 2017 open water swim event. Despite being absent from the water he is still a presence on the team. I met Steve at the pool but have gotten to know him more when I joined the BWAQ board ... Steve volunteers numerous hours helping ensure things are well managed and deadlines met.

"Even away from the pool he continues to work tirelessly ... He is an inspiration and encourages swimmers often, whether it is a hard workout, competition, or even some of the younger ones in career hunting. Steve is a host of information. As a new member to this sport (I came from the synchronized swimming side of the pool), Steve is patient and often explained terms, rules, and other things [to help me during my term as BWAQ Secretary] ..."

"Another amazing thing about Steve is being one of the founders of Ashley House. Ashley House is a non-profit organization that provides community-based care for medically complex and fragile kids in Washington. Steve gives at the pool, works hard at the office, and gives back to the community."

Steve, for your inspiration to the entire membership of the Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers by your example of good sportsmanship, encouragement, and commitment, the PNA is proud to recognize you as our Dawn Musselman Inspirational Swimmer for 2020.

Sally Dillon, President

Steve Peterson, Selection Committee Chair

