



California Surf Lifesaving Association

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Southwest Region - United States Lifesaving Association

PO Box 366 - Huntington Beach, California 92648

World Wide Web: www.cslsa.org

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OCTOBER 16, 2008

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Welcome to La Jolla and the Fall 2008 CSLSA Board of Directors Meeting, and thank you to Mike Silvestri and the California State Lifeguard Association for hosting this event.

The last six months have been particularly busy and eventful for me. Since we last met in Long Beach, I attended the USLA Board of Directors meeting in Kauai, which was a very productive and enjoyable conference. We were especially fortunate to be able to meet with the designer of our new membership database program in order to learn its features and discuss our concerns. We heard from several fascinating speakers during the educational conference and I attended numerous committee meetings on behalf of the CSLSA.

The 2008 USLA National Lifeguard Championships were hosted in August by the LA County Lifeguards, and I had the distinct honor of being the Co-Chair of this enormous event. After Kauai, May and June flew by in a flash as the Nationals approached and summer came roaring in. The Junior Guard Regional Championships were well-attended and extremely well-run. And on July 26th, over 200 lifeguards attended the CSLSA Regional Lifeguard Championships! So many competitors showed up to race that we ran out of registration forms! Thank you to the Seal Beach lifeguards for hosting both of these events; we look forward to returning next summer. Special thanks to Gordon Gray and Mike Silvestri for their help with the registration of all the competitors, to the members of the Executive Committee who helped run the event, and to Donna Richardson, Rob Torres, Jay Butki, and Scott Hubbell for their efforts to make our Regional Championships a success.

After Regionals, it was just 11 days until the Nationals began and they went by in a blur. Manhattan Beach welcomed almost 1000 Junior and adult competitors to her sunny shore. We were blessed with perfect weather, ideal surf conditions and warm water which no amount of planning could have brought. With this setting, together with the enormous amount of preparations and work by my fellow Co-Chair Jay Butki, the tireless efforts of all the USLA Officials and our fantastic volunteers, and the wonderful sportsmanship displayed by all the competitors, we had one of the best National Championship events in memory. Thank you so much if you participated or sent competitors. Thanks to the LA County Fire Dept. Lifeguards and the Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association for all their support. And special thanks to Scott Hubbell and SHP, Inc. for his tremendous efforts this past summer in securing sponsorship and providing equipment and expertise for the 2008 Nationals, and for his continued support of the CSLSA throughout the year.

Finally, the area I have spent the most time working on over the past six months is our CSLSA membership. I will discuss the status of the 2008 membership separately in my committee report. Thanks for your continued efforts to get your lifeguards signed up in our Association.

I look forward to a productive meeting here in La Jolla, and I congratulate everyone on the successful year we have had thus far. May we continue to move forward and always strive to be the most outstanding organization we can be.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Graham