



FEBRUARY 2025 FACT NEWS

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Back to the drawing board for News, which is welcome and needed in our LMSC. At this writing, the Long Center pool in Clearwater will be closed for renovations from February 18, 2025 through February 2026. I dragged out some information for many of our new members just to reintroduce them and will tack on some current so we have a starting point.

Our club is: Florida Aquatic Combine Team (FACT). Our LOCAL MASTER SWIMMING COMMITTEE is Florida: floridalmcsc.org. We have a Workout Group: Clearwater Long Center Fact. In addition many swim as just FACT. Our Zone is Southeast Zone: southeastzone.org. Our National Organization is United States Masters Swimming: usms.org,

If you become familiar with these websites you will be familiar with USMS. The wealth of information is amazing and hopefully you will become more involved and will make yourself heard on issues. Like any organization, the active members are so many times carrying the burden for years and welcome others to “learn the ropes”. We are crying for qualified officials - we can’t run a competition without them. I myself have been involved in USMS at the local and National level for over 25 years – we’d like some fresh blood.

On the Zone website you’ll see the many competitions that are available to us in our Florida LMSC. Because of COVID we were limited for several years. Because of the current hurricanes we were forced to cancel and postpone many of the local events. We are back to many of our Meets – check them out!!

2025’s calendar now shows the USMS Nationals is San Antonio April 24th - 27th in San Antonio, TX (fabulous spot for Nationals several prior times), the Senior Games Nationals are in Des Moines Iowa this year from July 25th through 28th. You must have qualified at a State Games during 2024. The Long Course Nationals are to be held in Federal Way Washington August 6th through 10th. I’ve attended a couple of those and they have been great fun. Washington is a great host. The AQUA (formerly FINA) World Championships are in Singapore the 7th through 14th of August. (I’m looking for a partner if any of you are interested). And here we are back again at Rowdy’s October 18 - 21 – hopefully better than last year!!!

You will note on the Zone calendar lots of meets added this year. Hopefully you all have had the opportunity for pool time with the frigid air we are experiencing. Not so in this case, and also not so with my teammates. I’m hoping for some warmer weather and pool availability starting next month for many of us. I’ll use that excuse for the time being for the lack of participants at the meets this far. Perhaps that will make us willing and eager!! Along with that I’ve got to put up with some of that skin cancer (not the bad kind) because I was a sailor for the past 80 years at least. It was fun!!