

Ralph Davis - Candidate for Treasurer



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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate is running for reelection and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or letters of recommendation.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years: Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No N/A

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
2014 September 17-21 Jacksonville FL
2015 September 30 to Oct.4 Kansas City, MO
2016 September 21-25 Atlanta, GA
2015 September 30 to Oct.4 Kansas City, MO
2016 September 21-25 Atlanta, GA

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 the ***Treasurer's*** 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 and 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 Treasurer's 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 as Treasurer for an additional two years.

I have served on the Finance Committee for 18 years and two years as the Chairman. I have been USMS Treasurer for 6 years, consequently, I am well versed with the financial and operations of USMS. I am currently a member of the Investment Committee and 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 and 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 precise USMS programs that support 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, establishing its National Office in Sarasota, Florida and implementing 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 (2017-2022) for the organization. USMS has developed a great strategic plan in 2016. Now the Corporate Office with the support of the Board, needs 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 was Investment Committee Chair from September 2013 to September 2015. The Current Chair is Phil Dodson.

I served on the Executive Committee from 2009 to 2013 and from 2015 to 2017. The Chairs of the committee were Jeff Moxie, Nadine Day and Patty Miller.

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 served industry on domestic and international projects led and managed a number of successful business turnarounds and started up a high-tech pharmaceutical venture. Via my consulting company, I have managed and directed the operations of a software company with operations in India and the United States for 8 years from 2007 to 2015.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Age 70, excellent health, new heart, married 51 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 ***Treasurer***. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the ***Treasurer's*** position's requirements. I firmly believe I can continue to add value to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve as Treasurer for another term of 2 years.