SOUTHEASTERN SWIMMING

**Bob King Service Award**

**Nominations**

Nominee: **Kathie Battista – Barracuda Swim Club of Northeast Tennessee**

Kathie became affiliated with our club in 2003 when her son first joined. As a novice swim parent, she readily volunteered as a timer at meets and did other things we regularly ask of parents in our sport. She became our Board secretary in 2008, then transitioned to team Treasurer in 2009. Once her son graduated out of the program, she continued to volunteer as treasurer/office manager until we began to pay her as a part-time staff member in 2012. (Very meager pay for the amount she does).

To say that Kathie has been invaluable to our club during her many years of service would be an understatement. When she took over as treasurer, our books were in disarray. She presided over that situation and got the books back in order. When an assistant coach took half our team and formed a new club, she stuck by us and helped us weather the administrative and financial implications of that fiasco. She has been our front-line registration person through the various procedural iterations from USA Swimming. She helped us transition to the Team Unify She is a wealth of knowledge about what needs to be done and when. She then either reminds coaches and the Board of those deadlines, or just takes care of it herself.

For all she has done and continues to do behind the scenes to keep our club running smoothly, for her years of dedication and service, for her loyalty and for her tireless support, I nominate Kathie Battista for the Bob King Service Award.

Steve Karman

Steve has officiated with Baylor swim club for roughly 15 years. He is a meet referee and not only serves at Baylor Swim Club meets but is often found working meets in Knoxville, Nashville, Alabama and Georgia.

Steve is a notionally certified official and has worked numerous Southeastern Championships, Junior nationals as well as southeastern Conference Championships.

In 2015, St eve' s daughter graduated from high school and his job called him to Texas. Instead of joining the Texas LSC Steve chose to remain and serve in the Southeastern LSC. He plans his trips home around swim meets that need his help.

Steve is always willing to go the extra mile. There have been several occasions when he has assumed the meet ref position at the last-minute due to life calling away the scheduled meet ref.

Steve is a joy to work with and is a true servant to our LSC. I cannot think of a more suited person for this a war d.