

# 2005 Joseph G. Rogers Award

For dedication, accomplishment, and excellence in  
YMCA Competitive Swimming and Diving

## **Claudia G. Multer**

Claudia Multer started at her local YMCA as a parent volunteer in swimming lessons. She decided to get certified as an instructor. Teaching lead to coaching and eventually she took on the role of aquatics director which she had for 18 years. During her 20 years of coaching, she attended YMCA nationals four times. Her first trip was with her daughter. More impressive is the number of her swimmers who are still involved with swimming as coaches, teachers, YMCA professionals, and masters swimmers. Her influence taught them that swimming can be part of your life, but doesn't have to be your entire life.

Her involvement in competitive swimming began as the Southwest Ohio YMCA league formed in 1970. She was voted secretary of the new league. Since she is the backbone of the league, each new president has requested she remain as secretary. The league has grown from 8 teams to 29 teams with more than 3000 swimmers. Her shoes as secretary are too big for any one person to fill. She has served on the YMCA Zone (Regional) committee for 20



years and at YMCA Nationals for more than 20 years.

Besides being secretary of the Southwest Ohio YMCA swim league for 35 years, she also coordinated the league owned timing system for 30 years. The traveling timing system services YMCA, high school, USA Swimming, and community events. The timing system helped to link her interest in computers with swimming. She became an expert on behind-the scene meet management. Her experience and expertise has taken her to top meets across the country for NCAA, YMCA, and USA swimming. Claudia is currently the meet director for YMCA Masters Nationals. Most of her vacations are spent poolside, but rarely is it restful or relaxing. She has been a mother hen to the coaches, a supportive peer to the parents and officials, and a familiar face for swimmers traveling to regional and national competitions.

In her local community she is considered the swimming guru. Though retired from the YMCA as aquatics director, Claudia continues to serve on the Red Cross Water Safety Board, teach Emergency Response courses at Miami University in Ohio, and score swim meets nearly every weekend. She works with all local swimming organizations - summer clubs, high school, colleges, and USA Swimming. In Southwest Ohio, anyone with questions about swimming is sent to Claudia for the answer.

Outside of swimming Claudia and her husband Charles (Chuck) raised a family of three girls (Deon Ducey, Yvonne (Vonnice) Douglass, and Christine Griffiths). Their daughters participated as swimmers, swimming instructors, an official, and a coach at the YMCA. Claudia and Chuck are also the proud grandparents of three grandchildren and hoping for more. CLAUDIA G. MULTER – Rogers Award