

## **President – John Zimmerman**

After my second year serving as President, and prior stints as Vice-President and Treasurer, I decided during this year that it was time to walk-away. I did this with a heavy heart as I knew that I was going to miss being a part of the board, which ultimately was more rewarding than it was painful (but can't lie, at times it was painful with the fallout from closing the pool due to COVID-19 being a low-point). At the end of the day, I knew it was better to leave when I wasn't running screaming for the exit so that I left with positive memories. I likely would not have left if I felt like I was putting the pool in danger, but thankfully we were able to replace all of the departing board members, and I am sure that Rob Prunty, with the assistance of the rest of the executive board members, will do a great job of continuing our momentum from the past few years.

During my time on the board, I am most proud of

- 1) Helping to make the board a fun place to be, at the end of the day, board members who enjoy their time on the board will both stay longer on the board and help to recruit new board members; I personally think a slightly longer board meeting is worth it if people walk out with smiles on their faces, versus bored out of their mind; I recommend that everyone consider how to ensure the board is a social entity, and not purely an administrative one
- 2) Figuring out a solution that will eventually result in the full payment of the CIF bond list with the resulting ability for the pool to use new permanent membership money to actually benefit the pool; As an offshoot benefit of this task, the pool bylaws were fully updated in 2021. As a reminder, I have offered to help manage the CIF List (as my "volunteer incentive") for the foreseeable future; I will likely need some admin access (as I have now) to MemberSplash to do so
- 3) Getting the high dive fixed and up and running (although kudos definitely should also go to others on the board, especially Amit Bery who pushed us over the line when we were stuck)
- 4) Seeing MemberSplash, the Google Suite, and QuickBooks online implemented – all of these changes will improve the effectiveness of the board, but in my opinion more importantly, reduce some of the burden on the board members.

Things I would recommend / lessons learned from my time on the board:

- 1) Board members should not do more than they are capable of doing; This is a volunteer position, it is significantly better to have a board member who does their job well for many years, versus one who comes in and tries to give too much of their time to the board for a short time period, and then burns out, and leaves quickly
- 2) Keep in mind that everyone has ups and downs; remind everyone to let the rest of the board know when they are feeling overwhelmed so that others can backfill for a while when necessary (See #1 above)
- 3) Let the swim-lanes (i.e., Concessions, Membership, Tennis, Maintenance, etc.) own the decisions in their areas, feel free to give advice / your opinion, but do not insist upon something unless it is REALLY important

Finally, items I would recommend the board concentrate on:

1) Develop and maintain a list of long-term maintenance needs; use this to plan the future

2) Complete a full pricing analysis; last year we didn't have the growth in memberships we expected, the board needs to figure out why and implement corrective actions; The board should consider not raising pricing this year, but I would strongly recommend not reducing pricing

I have made offers to both Rob and Brian to reach out if they ever want advice and also offered to Brain to do financial analysis as I actually find that part of the job a little fun (nerd alert). I am perfectly fine to talk to any board member who wants my opinion, I can be reached at Jzimme4494@gmail.com or at text / call at 703 403-6740.

Good luck to the full Orange Hunt Swim Club Board as they drive the club forward. Thank you for all you do. Go Sharks!

Sincerely,

John Zimmerman

**Vice President – Rob Prutny**

For those who don't know me, my name is Rob Prutny and I serve as Vice President with a fantastic group of these people who generously serve on the Board of Directors. For the past year, my primary areas of focus as Vice President have been on (1) procurement, negotiations and execution of a new pool operations and management company contract for the 2023 swim season; (2) execution of new insurance policies for the year for the pool facilities and our summer staff; (3) evaluation of bids / execution of a contract for replacement & rehabilitation of our pool white coat (or plaster surface) and lane marking tiles, and negotiations for the executed contract to have the white coat replaced this fall. I have also worked with our Board of Directors to examine ways to improve our Board's functions and streamline our operations.

This past year I worked in partnership with the Board and with a group of pool member volunteers who served on the Pool Management Contract Advisory Committee to interview and solicit competitive bids from a number of area pool management companies last fall, for securing a contract for the 2023 swim season - or potentially a multi-year contract if the terms and price are favorable for the pool. Special thanks to Allison Hetzel, Ryan Barber, Brian Busch, John Zimmerman, and Lauren Barber for assisting with this effort. We negotiated a single-season contract for NV Pools to provide pool operations and maintenance, as well as to provide lifeguard staffing, for the 2023 swim season. The contract allows for an option to renew for two more years on an annual basis at fixed contract prices. I then served as the Board's representative liaison to NV Pools to manage the contract and to direct our guard staff's management as needed. Our contract for the 2023-2024 season with Crystal Aquatics will end in Spring 2024. If you have comments or constructive feedback on how the pool was managed this past summer, or on the staffing provided by the lifeguards - feedback that would be helpful for informing next year's contract and operations - please share with the Board by emailing me at vicepresident@orangehunswimclub.org

Our club insurance policies were renewed and updated this past spring to be in effect thru the end of May 2024, at which point we will renew for the 2024 swim year. I have coordinated with

Amit Khosla, John Zimmerman and the high dive committee regarding the high dive replacement that John mentioned in his President's Report - specifically as it relates to insurance coverage and staying within the grandfathered policy clause we have in effect for having a high dive at Orange Hunt. For reference, most pools in Northern Virginia have lost or given up their high dive boards due to unfavorable or restrictive insurance policy terms, and/or the consequences of scarcely any companies who can perform this type of replacement work. We are all grateful to Amit's heroic efforts that allowed us to rehab and reinstate our high dive, to the extent we were also able within Fairfax County code requirements.

Regarding the pool white coat and tile rehabilitation work, the pool was due for a white coat replacement this year, after deferring for two years to ensure we had adequate budget reserves to have the work done. The project was completed in October of this past year. Now that the work has been completed, hopefully everyone immediately noticed bottom surface and the walls are smoother and rehabbed to now last for a number of years, especially now that we have a pool cover that protects the pool from natural debris-related chemical deterioration in the fall and winter months. Also, as mentioned before, the floor tiles along the lane lines and the wall tiles on the lane crosshairs at each end of every lane were replaced and made smoother with the surface of the pool floor and walls. What does this mean for you??? No more "pool toe" or scrapped fingers! We look forward to the benefits of this needed maintenance work, to ensure that the pool is enjoyable by our membership and guests for many years to come. As our Treasurer Brian Busch will discuss, this is our club's most significant maintenance expense and requires saving up for several years. We were able to secure a contract with significantly cheaper costs than the other four contract prices we receive from other bidders. We are fortunate to have the funds to cover the required work, and we are pleased to share that we were able to negotiate a \$5,000 discount off of the final price, in spite of rapidly rising material and labor costs.

Our Secretary Lauren Barber will share more about this in her report, but one additional change our board has benefitted from is bolstering our team of Board volunteers to help run and maintain the facility. Specifically, added a few officers who did amazing work to assist and support our current Board of directors - including our Treasurer and our Maintenance Director. Recognizing the significant work and notable time required by these two members of the Board, we felt it was appropriate and necessary to adopt a similar model used by several of the other area pools to more effectively and efficiently run the operations of the pool, and assure ongoing maintenance in a sustainable manner. We are grateful and excited that several members have responded to the Board's call for volunteers, and stepped up and offered to partner with our Board members to lead and assist in these areas. For maintenance, we divided the areas of responsibility into three groups - capital projects led by Chris Bing, pool facilities led by Amit Khosla, and facility area grounds led by Ryan Yanchuleff. This group has done some amazing things for the pool, as they will discuss in their reports, so I won't steal their thunder. For our financial side of the house, we are grateful for the efforts of Nick Popp, who joined as Financial Officer to support our treasurer, Brian Busch.

In looking at the upcoming years and 2024 Season, I am running for President for the upcoming two-year term to work in partnership with this fantastic board in 2024 and 2025. My hope and vision for the club is the continued long-term financial health and sustainability of the pool and tennis facilities at Orange Hunt. I also hope to continue for us to recruit and build committees around each director on our Board to support the hard work each director does, and to improve our special community resource that is Orange Hunt Swim and Tennis Club for years to come. I

want to close out by thanking our entire board of dedicated volunteers and offer special thanks to our members rotating off – President John Zimmerman (after serving many years in various roles), Secretary Lauren Barer, Swim Team Rep Allison Hetzel, and Maintenance Director Chris Bing. We owe you all a debt of gratitude. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and work with our wonderful Board and look forward to partnering with these fine servant leaders on the 2023-2024 Board in the coming year.

### **Secretary – Lauren Barber**

As secretary, I have enjoyed my time on the Board and will miss this great group of people. When I joined the board 4 years ago, the Board and pool were in a very different place all around. I'm so pleased that now we have a well running group of 15 Directors on our board! I have overseen numerous projects in my time, but this year I assisted with various organizational tasks such as meeting notes, volunteer sign ups, and tracking the many tasks the directors accomplish all year long. I edit, proofread, and share many documents. Moving our email to Gmail and Google drive was very helpful for my position on the board, as well. Thank you to our members for your continued support of our beloved pool and your Board of Directors. It has been my pleasure to serve my community in this capacity. And now, please vote for incoming secretary, Kimberly Berona!

### **Treasurer – Brian Busch**

Good afternoon, my name is Brian Busch. I'm the treasurer here at Orange Hunt. This is my second full season as treasurer. I'm going to give a brief overview of the pool finances as of this week. First, let me say that having Nick Popp on board as the finance officer and my right-hand man has been a HUGE help. I know we haven't been perfect, but hopefully overall you've seen an improvement in our responsiveness in cashing and returning money.

As I said in the spring, we had approximately \$38k in the bank before the season started. As of today, we have approximately \$65k in the bank with at least another \$10k of expenses to go before the season ends. I anticipate we will make somewhere between \$10-15k this year.

For reference from the last two seasons, we made \$40k each year. The majority of the shortfall this season is that we were lower than anticipated in revenue from memberships, especially in associate memberships. We have also continued to prioritize maintenance projects, meaning we spent more than in past years making sure the pool infrastructure is viable for years to come. I'll leave the specifics to our fantastic maintenance team, but we took care of some big ticket items this year, like new roofs for each of the pavilions, the water bottle station, and the high dive.

Thankfully, our budget plan continues to pay dividends - underestimating revenue and overestimating expenses. I plan to continue that for next season's budget as well. We will continue to prioritize maintenance projects and improving the overall pool infrastructure.

From a finance perspective, we took your feedback in the off-season survey seriously. We hear you on what we need to improve over the next few years: things like a new shark shack, a renovated guard shack and bathrooms, re-paving the parking lot, and renewing the tennis courts. Rest assured that we are planning for these items. We also have other projects that we know we will need to accomplish in the long term, like replacement of our storage sheds,

possible expansion of the large pavilion with an uncovered deck, and other projects and improvements.

Now, having said all of that, I need your help. With the improvements I've listed here, we're talking about bills in the hundreds of thousands of dollars to make all of these improvements happen. We need your ideas, we need your volunteer time, and we need your help bringing former members back and bringing new members in. We can't do these projects without significantly more revenue. Not only do we need more members, but we will need your help with capital funding drives and finding major investors and donors. We will need help in potentially forming and running a booster club which will allow major donors to donate tax-free (typically a necessity to getting big donors like Dick's Sporting Goods, Coca-Cola/Pepsi, the Mars Company, etc). We will need help from anyone who is familiar with grant-finding and writing. As permanent members of this great pool, we're all invested in making sure this pool stays around for a long time, but we will definitely need your help to make sure we have the capital to make all these things happen. I'll stick around after if anyone has any thoughts or questions. Also, you can send any ideas you have to [treasurer@orangehuntingswimclub.org](mailto:treasurer@orangehuntingswimclub.org) and Nick and I will both get it.

The other job I've take on part-time (when I'm not doing the books) is that of technology advisor. It's not a formal board position but it's something I've been doing for the last year or two to try and upgrade the technology infrastructure.

In the off-season, we added Square to the shark shack, which I think has been a major draw for the concessions team. I apologize now for your bank accounts, but I know it's been a big upgrade for the shark shack.

In the vein of payments, we've made wider use of the capabilities of MemberSplash, and we appreciate all of you that have used it - it makes my job quite a bit easier. We will keep working to simplify everything for you and make everything as easy to use as possible.

We upgraded the network and audio infrastructure in the guard shack this off-season, and I think the new amplifier has already paid off. We added a tablet to play music in the late afternoons/evenings and when its quiet. We added a television in the large pavilion for our social team to use for big events - college football opening weekend on Saturday seemed like a hit! Next summer will be the Olympics, and I know Shelley will be looking for volunteers to plan events in late July and August. Lastly, we added digital signage in the guard shack - hopefully it has helped make everyone aware of upcoming events and other pool news.

I plan to continue upgrading the infrastructure this coming year. We band-aided the internet last summer. Next year I want to solidify it with a single mesh network that will work seamlessly regardless of where you're sitting. I do plan to segregate network traffic so that our operations traffic (check-in and shark shack ops) has dedicated availability. I want to upgrade our speakers to allow us to take advantage of the area volume settings our new amplifier has built-in. That will let us play music for the area near the pool, but not necessarily near the seating areas.

Hopefully you've enjoyed the upgrades this year, and if you have any suggestions, please feel free to find me after this or email me (just use the treasurer email address) if you have ideas after today.

Thanks for a great season and we're looking forward to next year!

### **Communications – Margo Steahly**

The newsletter is sent weekly during the summer season (Memorial Day to Labor Day). It is sent monthly in the off-season. Special announcements are sent as needed. If you are not receiving the newsletter, email [communications@orangehuntingswimclub.org](mailto:communications@orangehuntingswimclub.org).

The OHSTC Facebook Page has announcements and general pool information. The member group is a forum to connect with other pool members. We have an Instagram page as well. The member group and/or page are updated if the pool is closed for weather or other unexpected events. When in doubt, call the guard shack.

General information including hours and upcoming events are posted on the website.

Thank you to our sponsors! Everyone is encouraged to reach out to our sponsors if they provide a service that you need. Support our supporters!

### **Capital Improvements – Chris Bing**

The 2023 seasons greatest achievement for the OHS&T club was the expansion of the maintenance team from one to three director positions (Capital Improvements, Facilities, and Grounds.) This expansion required the transition of knowledge and responsibilities from the outgoing Maintenance Director to the new Facilities Maintenance and Grounds Maintenance Directors. This transition went smoothly due to the exceptional attitude and abilities of the new incoming directors.

The club is now in a position to not just maintain the grounds and facilities that are so vital to the enjoyment of our members but make significant improvements. The bellow list of actions and activities that were organized and/or executed by the team are a small step in that direction, and what I believe will only be the beginning to the improvements our membership will see in the coming years.

Tasks completed by Maintenance Team:

Fall pool season closure/clean-up

Whitecoat

lighting inspection/troubleshooting

High dive refurbish to reestablish serviceability and safety concerns

Tree removal

    Dead-fall risks

    Fallen tree removal post winter/spring storms

Rebuild of the tennis court spectator pavilion by pool alumni

New roof installation for the pool pavillions

Spring Clean-up

Bathroom fixtures maintenance

Hazardous material locker door

Tennis court surface cleaning

Shade sail installation in tennis facility

Installation of water bottle filling station

New entry sign installation by local Boy Scout troop 1518

I would like to thank the historic and current board members, for their selfless service to our club and being exceptional teammates, especially the two new maintenance members whom I am confident will exceed all expectations. I would also like to thank all those members who volunteered their time, energy, and expertise when called upon for the betterment of our club. Some did what was necessary, and some went above and beyond for our community. I'd like to thank the membership for entrusting me the last three years with this position. I am confident that I am leaving the facility better than I found it, and more importantly I leave it in the hands of a board that will far exceed those in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Chris Bing

### **Membership – Maureen Reed**

- Thank you for another great season
- 20 new bonded/permanent memberships this season
- CIF Bond list will be updated in November/December 2023 timeframe with updates being sent out in January/February 2024
- Working cleaning up Member Splash, deleting former memberships and those members who requested a membership but never paid
- Pool signs: we had 6 signs stolen this summer off the lawns of members, most on Huntsman Blvd or Sydenstricker. If anyone finds a sign, please return it to the pool no questions asked
- Marketing Pool: Looking for marketing ideas, please share ideas with membership, promise that we will not ask those who come up with ideas to implement them unless they want to help out with marketing.

### **Social – Shelley Rakip**

This was a successful year for a busy social calendar. We held several social events:

Teen Parties (2) which were very well attended, Adult Parties (2) which were lots of fun and well attended.

We also held a Chili Cook-off, Pie Tasting Contest, Barbie Party, PoOlympics, Elementary School Party, Floats Nights in August, and an Aloha Party at the beginning of the summer and the end of the summer.

There is additional income for the Social Department through the pavilion rentals for parties. Renting a pavilion at the pool is a fun and enjoyable place for your summer events. We want the pavilion rentals to continue to be a place to attract events at an affordable rate.

This summer was an active and fun time for many families, including families that volunteered their time to be part of planning and running some of these social activities.

We look forward to this volunteerism continuing into the future, so the pool can offer a variety of social activities for kids, teens, families and adults.

### **Dive-Katherine McClure**

The Orange Hunt Dive Team competed in Division 7 during the 2023 season. 32 Divers were part of the team and we finished the season with a 2-3 record. Divers competed in each of the regional meets - Greater Springfield Invitational, Wally Martin (1 meter synchro and 3 meter), Cracker Jack, Divisionals and All-Stars. The Sharks had 3 divers qualify and one alternate for All-Stars. Our team hosted divers from 3 neighboring pools that do not have dive teams (Fox Hunt, Newington Forest and South Run). Our head coach and practice coach (Sophia Bailey and Ainsley Taylor) returned for a second season with our team. Both coaches are certified lifeguards, and Ainsley is also a pool operator. Both coaches have indicated that they would like to return for the 2024 season. This season we also had one paid and one volunteer Assistant Coach - Grant McClure and Danie Wolfe.

### **Swim – Allison Hetzel**

The season went well. We swam in NVSL Division 3, and ended the season with a 1-4 record. All our losses were close, so even though it doesn't look like a "winning season," our Sharks did great. We also won the Sportsmanship award - unanimously voted on by Division 3 reps, coaches, and 13+ swimmers. We had just over 218 Sharks from 111 families swim on the team and participate in Mini Sharks this season. Our Masters Swim was also successful with 21 participating. We also have 51 Sharks in the water for Winter Swim. There was so much interest, we switched locations to Burke Racquet to allow for 5 lanes vs. the limit of 4 the county could provide. Financially, we did well - registrations + fundraising cover our fees and allow us to make a bit to carry over into an equipment fund. As a team, we are still waiting on some outstanding reports to finalize our budget for the season, but we will be in the black.



### **Tennis – John Zimmer**

It was great to have the kids on the courts this summer. About 50 families (65 kids) participated in tennis lessons at some point during the season. We continued our contract with Unbeatable Tennis, under the direction of Jeff Jones, to provide tennis lessons for children and youth. Participants could sign up for weekly lessons offered mid-June through August four mornings a week (MTWTh). The morning tennis camp was from 8am-12pm. The cost was \$195/week (or \$225/week if no swim/dive practice). In addition, we offered a spring and fall program with lessons on Friday afternoons for different age groups: 8 & under, 9-12 years old, 13 & older. Cost was \$75 for 6 weeks. And when not occupied by tennis programs, the tennis courts were available for member personal use.

In the 2023 season, pickleball socials were held periodically through the summer and will continue this fall on Sunday and weekday evenings, roughly once a week. No cost to members and their guests – tennis rep provided basic instruction, equipment, pickleball nets, marked courts, and time to practice. Approximately 40 adults and 6 children participated.

### **Concessions – Tania Schulke**

We ended last season hopeful for the addition of a sink, so that we could possibly expand our menu offerings...within minutes of the end of that meeting, Chris Bing and I learned the crushing news that the Shark Shack “plumbing” dumps into the woods, not into the pools sewer system that we were hoping for. SO, we kept our philosophy that if we have to touch it, we’re not going to serve it because we STILL don’t have a sink and we can’t meet the minimum food service safety standards. We did manage to have 7 teens trained to be certified food handlers, and they helped to keep us safe for our swim and dive meets and other events with food that needed to be handled correctly – yay for progress!

The most significant addition for 2023 was my assistant – Megan Beckett. Megan worked tirelessly, and sometimes fearlessly, to get our staff members and volunteers trained at the beginning of the season when I was tending to family business in Savannah, Georgia, and she was the primary person on our ice cream orders and helped with the nightly count and clean! I hope you will please give her a round of applause for her efforts and for keeping me sane – it was a big job!

We also added electronic payments to our Shark Shack offerings while continuing to accept cash. I understand that scared a few volunteers away from working in the Shack, but I promise – it is so easy. We’ll certainly be keeping that option for 2024, and with \$6977.22 in income through that method, we hope you’ll agree that it was worth all of the headaches that Brian went through to get (and keep) us online!

And lastly – thank you to everyone who volunteered in the Shack this summer...especially those of you who worked more than one shift and those who did Sam’s runs for us to keep us stocked. It really does take a small group of heroes to keep the Shack running, and I thank each of you who helped us this summer.

### **Finance – Nicholas Popp**

In my role as the OHSC Finance Officer I am responsible for accounting for all OHSC revenue, transferring revenue to our bank, cashing checks, coordinating all volunteer refunds throughout the year, and attending all OHSC Executive Board Meetings. During this past swim year, I have gone to the Bank 14 times and have deposited \$73,593.28. I am one of the 4 members of the "Shark Shack Cash Crew", where I've contributed multiple nights to counting Shark Shack revenue. I've written and mailed 180 checks over the past year for the Fall 2022-Summer 2023 pool volunteer refunds. I look forward to continuing my service to the OHSC and helping draft the 2024 OHSC budget.

**Facilities – Amit Khosla/Grounds – Ryan Yanchuleff**

The 2023 pool season was a success. Key internal maintenance efforts included high dive repair and paint, new pavilion roofs, Spring/Fall clean up coordination, and ad hoc site repairs. Grounds maintenance included spring leaf clean up, perimeter vegetation trims, lawn service coordination, and furniture procurement and cleaning. Planning tasks are ongoing for Fall Clean up and off season inside maintenance and planning including forecasting for grounds (soil/grass) improvement, parking lot repairs, and main building enhancements.