## 2014 Joseph G. Rogers Award

For Long and Exceptional Leadership and Accomplishments in YMCA Competitive Swimming Benefiting all Swimmers, Coaches, Parents and Volunteers

## **Tom Warrick**



Like most parents, Tom Warrick become involved in YMCA swimming when his two children became swimmers on the Upper Main line YMCA Swim team. Amanda started first in 1990. And Brian followed in 1994. Through the years, Tom along with his wife became fixtures at the Upper Main Line YMCA. Tom worked most of the home meets managing the scoreboard and console, and bringing in a new audio system and streamlining the technology setup. He continued by establishing the first UMLY swim team web site in 1995. He later served as president of the UMLY Swim Team Parents Association for 6 years. In 2002 he was honored by UMLY as the recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award

During the latter part of the involvement in UMLY swimming, Tom started to get involved in YMCA Regional swimming. As UMLY was the host team for YMCA Eastern Pennsylvania District, Tom became a certified Level II Official, Officials Trainer, and managed the operations of this championship for several years including becoming the Meet Director. Working closely with the Glenda Pae who was the National Leader of the YMCA Group Representatives, Tom also became the YMCA Swimming Coordinator for Pennsylvania

After his children entered college, Tom continued his regional involvement in swimming by joining the PennDel Swim League as a Board Member and eventually becoming President until 2012. Tom remains a Board member to this day and also currently serves as a member of The Pennsylvania YMCA Swimming Committee.

Tom attended his first YMCA National Championship in 2000 and had the "opportunity" to begin his involvement at the National level by hand-entering all 5000 meet entries into the swimming software system. Working both the Long Course and Short Course Championships in meet operations since 2001 until today, Tom created an online meet entry system that continues to save volunteers and coaches countless hours and catches a multitude mistakes that were inherent in the former entry processes. He also created a National Officials web site where officials can easily complete their certification requirements by taking their certification tests online.

In 2006 he became a member of the National YMCA Swimming and Diving Advisory Board and remains active at the National level today

Working with the YMCA of USA Tom began collecting information at the National level on coaches, swimmers, and teams by establishing an online registration system that delivered the first comprehensive collection of local YMCA swimming contact information and statistics.

In 2009, based on an idea from Jim Everett, Tom ran the first YMCA National Virtual Meet. By creating a facility to consolidate local meet results into one National Virtual competition with team rankings and swimmer age group rankings, Tom was able to process over 220 teams with 12,000 swimmers as they came together over a two weekend period to participate in the first YMCA Virtual meet.

Over the years, Tom has led the use of technology within the YMCA Community. Information is now more readily available, manual activities have been automated, processes have been simplified. His technical skills and dedication have touched Coaches, Officials, Parents, Group Representative, Volunteers, and Swimmers.