



The 2011 Autumn SCM Meet

Charlotte, North Carolina

This was the Dixie Zone Short Course Meters Championship

By Jerry Clark, Meet Director

One hundred thirty eight Masters swimmers entered the Dixie Zone short course meters championship in Charlotte October 29 & 30, 2011. Contestants came from New England (Boston), Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Texas (Austin) and California (San Bruno). The largest single team was the *Grand Strand Masters Swimming* club from North Myrtle Beach SC with 15 swimmers led by their Coach, Diane Bartlett. Their enthusiasm was contagious and their performances, even with DQ's of two relays on Sunday, were outstanding. Their Club collected more points than any other club or chapter in the meet. I was reminded of the enthusiasm of the Twin Rivers YMCA Masters (TRYM) in New Bern NC. I hope these two groups attend the Sunbelt Masters meet in Charlotte January 28-29, 2012, for they both reflect the camaraderie and enthusiasm that are so much a part of Masters Swimming.



The lanes were carefully overlooked by vultures perched on the starting blocks at the turn end of the pool (see photo). They helped set the Halloween theme for this year's meet. They sure didn't cause much anxiety to the swimmers though, for some outstanding swims occurred both days of the meet. Eleven USMS national records were broken, which of course means they will also be new Dixie Zone records and for those who live in NC, they are new state records as well.



Two of our friends from Virginia



Three women on MAC Masters (orange logo caps) who have been training hard for the upcoming Olympic Trials and another very good swimmer to their left. Left to right, beginning with Sheri Hart from Georgia in Lane 3, Lane 4 is Micah Lawrence, Lane 5 is Kate Mills and Lane 6 is Andrea Georoff. The event was 100m IM

The officials did a very good job of running the meet. The distance events got underway at 9:00am on Saturday and the Saturday afternoon session got going at 1:00pm. It ended at 4:00pm, allowing people to get to their TVs and watch college football and have an early evening meal. Sunday's session got going at 9:00 and finished at five minutes past noon; plenty of time for most to get home before dark.

All in all, this was a successful meet, but a few things popped up that when taken care of, will enhance future meets at this venue. Thanks to everyone who entered.