



**We look forward to seeing many of you in Dallas** for the USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, August 12-15.

On the education front, USA Gymnastics plans to unveil a new online course at Congress. The course, "Fundamentals of Gymnastics Instruction," will provide basic education opportunities to all class instructors and competitive coaches within the gymnastics industry. This course has been designed to provide a baseline of gymnastics education for coaches and instructors at all levels. The "Fundamentals of Gymnastics Instruction" course covers a broad range of information, from coaching philosophy and principles to basic gymnastics movements and skill technique for beginning level skills. USA Gymnastics is excited to offer this new online course to assist our club owners with their coaching development.

USA Gymnastics is hosting the annual Business Conference on August 12, and this year we are proud to feature the Disney Institute as our keynote presentation. This year's two topics for the Business Conference are "Disney's Approach to Leadership Excellence" and "Disney's Approach to Quality Service." I have been fortunate to participate in a few Disney Institute presentations and have found their perspective valuable. For more information on how to register, go to page 20 in this issue of *Technique*. Participation in the Business Conference is on a first-come, first serve basis, while space is available.

Both Visa Championships and Congress guests will be housed at the Sheraton. Men's and women's gymnastics will take place at the American Airlines Center, while rhythmic gymnastics, trampoline and tumbling and acrobatic gymnastics will be held at the Dallas Convention Center. If you prefer not to rent a car, you may purchase passes for the local transportation system called DART (Dallas Area Rapid Transit), which is economical and easily accessible to both venues.

The U.S. Gymnastics Suppliers Association will again hold its annual Mega Raffle in the exhibit hall at Congress, and no prize is valued under \$2,000 - so you won't want to miss this!

Also scheduled is the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Luncheon on Friday, August 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dallas Sheraton Hotel. The Hall of Fame Class of 2009 includes: Carly Patterson, Mary Sanders, John Macready, Stephen McCain, James S. Yongue, Shenea Booth and Arthur Davis, Fred Turoff, 1999 Gold Medal U.S. World Championships Men's Double Mini-trampoline Team, and Lifetime Award Recipient Patricia Wilson Henderson. If you have not yet purchased tickets and would like to attend the event, stop by the Registration Desk at Congress.

Dallas will truly include something for everyone in our sport this August. NBC and Universal Sports will be on hand to provide coverage for those of you who are unable to attend. If you're not able to make it to Dallas, tune into NBC Sports on Saturday, Aug. 14 from 8-10 p.m. for live coverage of the women's competition and on Aug. 22 from 1:30-3 p.m. for men's competition coverage. The Universal Sports schedule will be announced closer to the event.

Have a great summer!

See you in the gym,

Steve Penny  
President/CEO