

Southern Maine Volkssport Association Newsletter

DECEMBER 2001

A Note from Your President

It is with a tinge of sadness and yet a sense of joy that I write this last column. It has been a true privilege to serve as your President for the past two years. I was a real 'greenhorn' when I first took over this position. I had been in the club for a little over a year and was approached by the nominating committee for the position. If I had known the responsibilities of the position, I probably would have run in the other direction, but since I was innocent and new I said yes. It took a lot of 'learnin' on my part, but in the process I have come to know many wonderful people in the sister clubs which surround us and the strengths of so many of our own members. A special thanks to Carroll Tiernan for all her help and support in these two years. New relationships were formed that I will forever treasure. I have seen the results of teamwork and of hard work. I am enthused about the future of Volkssporting. And I truly believe that we have a club of which we can be proud. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you.

We will now be moving through a transition mode for the next couple of months. Wendy Hunter will take over the helm. Wendy comes with experience and enthusiasm. I look forward to her leadership and drive as I continue to sit on the board. She has a great support staff. There are some relatively new faces to grace some of her cabinet positions and that too is a reflection of willingness of walkers who want to make a difference. We have come a ways, and some great things have happened, and we all look with joy to the possibilities that lie ahead. - Blessings! Dan Carr



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Minutes of The November Meeting of The Southern Maine Volkssport Association November 14, 2001

The November meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Dan Carr, President. There were 26 members present.

The Secretary's report was accepted as printed in the October Newsletter, with one minor error being corrected.

Treasurer's report was accepted as reported by David Cole, Treasurer.

Under new business it was agreed to combine the Jan/Feb newsletter and also the same for March/April. With not much going on during these months, it will help to defray the cost of mailing the newsletter.

It was agreed that every member would bring a toy unwrapped to the December meeting. The toys will be

turned over to Toys for Tots.

Under old business we were reminded of the group walk for New Year's Day starting at 10:00 AM. We will meet at the DoubleTree Hotel on Congress Street.

The nominating Committee announced the new slate of officers for the up coming year. Wendy Hunter, President, Ann Stevens, Vice President, Cheri Watson, Secretary, Janet Schaefer, Treasurer. The board members are as follows Dan Carr, Barbara Weymouth, Thelma Gagne, Martha Chellis and Ed Witherall. Election will be at the December meeting.

Newsletter - Any information for the newsletter should be sent to Dan Carr as soon as possible.

Publicity - Ken suggested adding a human-interest story to each newsletter. This could be about anyone who does our walks.

The Portland YRE had 18 walkers for the month of Oct., Bar Harbor SEA a total of 142 for the year, Brunswick SEA 25 for October, Falmouth SEA a total of 69 for the year, Kennebunk 196 for the year, Westbrook 51 for the year. There was no report on the Lighthouse walk and Casco Bay SEA.

Membership - To date there has been 51 renewals and 2 new members. Please get your renewals in with your birth date. You will get a free credit walk on your birthday.

Ken reported on the Norlands Events held on Sept 29 & 30. There were a total of 57 walkers, 7 Bikers and 8 Swimmers.

News from away - The McKay's and Johnson's walked in Loundenville, and Stowe VT. Allen Robitaille, Wendy Hunter and Ed Witherall walked in Montreal, Canada. The Jackson's walked 6 Capitols - SC, NC, GA, VA, DE, & MD. They also did another 4 city walks while they were gone for the month of October.

Proposed walks for 2002 - The Maine Mall walks are Jan 13/27, Feb. 2/10/24 and March 10. The Sunset/Sunrise is now in the works for August 17 and 18.

We need someone to oversee the Tri-State walk. Please contact Dan Carr for details.

The 50 - 50 was won by Happy Jackson (\$12.50) Door prizes were won by Allen Robitaille, Connie Boyer, Penny Cole, Shirley Milliken, Laurel Mackie, Sandy and Wally Johnson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

The December Meeting of the SMVA will be on December 12 at 7:00 PM at the Walker Library in Westbrook (NOTE THIS IS THE 2ND WEDNESDAY NOT THE 3RD)

GOODIES FOR THE EVENING

Everyone is invited to bring something to share. It's party time!!!!

***Meeting dates for 2002- January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19
July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16, November 13, December 11***

Here's an IMPORTANT note from our Membership Chairperson - Wendy Hunter

OK, I know that I'm being a pain about the new membership forms being filled out totally but there is a method to my madness. I need everyone's birth date because we have a surprise for everyone relating to a free walk credit for your birthday. We are also trying to get a list together of all the people willing to work a walk. That way, when we have a walk, we can just use the list to call people to see if they are available. Working a walk is a great way to get an event credit without actually walking it and it's also lots of fun. We would love to see more people involved with working a walk, it's only a few hours one day out of a year. So it would be greatly appreciated if everyone could fully fill out the form, if not you'll miss out. Thanks!

2002 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION APPLICATION

If a new member, each person listed on the application will receive a membership patch, but only one issue of the monthly newsletter will be mailed to a household. For additional newsletters, the person(s) to whom issues are to be sent must apply separately as an individual member, due to newsletter costs.

Send to: SMVA MEMBERSHIP
c/o Wendy Hunter, 8 Lessard Ave
Biddeford, ME 04005

#1 Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Zip _____
 #2 Name _____
 #3 Name _____
 E-mail _____
 Signature: _____
 Telephone: _____
 New _____ Renewal _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Individual Membership: \$10 (1 Person) Double Membership: \$12 (2 people)
Family Membership \$15 (3 or more)

IF NEW, WHO REFERRED YOU? _____

Would you be willing to volunteer to work a walk?

Birthday: (month/day only) _____

Questions? Call Wendy at (207) 284-9697

From the last CHECKPOINT - a few highlight on things that directly affect the clubs and volkssporters -

We continue to have a backlog of six weeks in the processing of IVV Achievement Award books. Since we traditionally receive a large number of books for processing in the Fall months, I do not see this backlog declining during the next couple of months. We really appreciate your patience during this high volume time.

The marketing packet containing the new promotional video and associated marketing materials is nearing completion. We hope to have that in your hands before Thanksgiving provided no unforeseen disasters get in our way. We hope this packet will help you promote walking and volkssporting in your communities.

The first quarter financial report is included with this issue of CHECKPOINT. There is some good news and some bad news in that report. The good news is that overall we are doing better than we projected in our budget. The bad news is that our income is almost 12% below what we budgeted. This is an area that should be of concern to all of us. It is going to take a major team effort to get more people involved in our sport.

Only with increased involvement will our income improve.

The next Executive Council meeting will be held in Mesa, Arizona, on January 19. The Council will meet at the Best Western at 250 W Main Street in Mesa and the meeting will begin 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 19. The Best Western is also the start point for one of the Mesa YRE's. Everyone is welcome to join the Executive Council for this meeting. An agenda will be provided to the clubs in mid-December.

Thank you for helping us renew The Spirit of Walking across the United States.

We will start the New Year with a group walk of the Portland Year Round.

Leaving the DoubleTree Hotel at 10:00 AM on January 1, 2002

**PORTLAND, MAINE - 11K Walk, January 1 - June 30, 2002; July 1 - December 31, 2002
YR0029/2002**

Trail Description: On this 11K walk you will go through historic Portland, Deering Oaks and the Eastern Promenade overlooking Casco Bay. There are some hills, but it is suitable for wheelchairs and strollers. Rating is 1+. Start Point: DoubleTree Hotel, 1230 Congress Street. Conveniently located just west of the intersection of I-295 and Congress Street.

All you skiers or those who want to learn.... don't forget this Volksski event.

JACKSON – 11 Km SKI Starts January 15. YR1043/2002

Cross the border and enter a picturesque New England town in a region known for covered bridges and winter scenes with beautiful snow. That is what this Seasonal is all about: SNOW. Come and do some cross country skiing in a beautiful setting. Point of Contact: John Schaefer, 207 935 4117. RR 1 Box 456, Brownfield, ME 04010 email:

Trail Info: The 11 km trail is rated "green" or "easy" in X-C terms. There are also Blue and Black Trails. This trail is rated "best Green" trail every year by JSTF members. The trail follows the Ellis River for most of it, however you cross the golf course, go through a covered bridge and tunnel to Ellis River. Then the trail is undulating with small hills.



Don Meltzer of the Walk 'n Mass Club once shared this information with the Walklist on how to have more time to do more walks.

- **Retire, so that work does not interfere with volkssporting.**
- **Acquire a car that has dependably traveled 165,000 miles in less than 6 years.**
- **Reorder your priorities, so that activities such as mowing the lawn, visiting relatives, and attending church do not take precedence over walking.**
- **Keep a log of your walks, so that you can constantly impress yourself with your accomplishments. Walking Calendars, Logs and Trackers**
- **Seek support from other volkssporters who are as unbalanced in their leisure time activities as you.**
- **Realize that the fun, fitness and fellowship gained from Volkssporting are what fuels your engine.**

Southern Maine Volkssport Association issues SMVA Newsletter monthly for its members. Membership is open to any person regardless of residence, upon application. News Articles for inclusion in this newsletter are welcome and may be submitted at any time, and will be published, as space is available. All dated material must be submitted no later than the 20th of the preceding month for inclusion in the next issue. Please send directly to: Dan Carr, P. O. Box 128, Hollis, ME 04042.

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Westbrook, Maine 04092-0722

SOUTHERN MAINE VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION

Dan Carr - President -

If you have info for the newsletter send by email or to Dan at: P. O. Box 128, Hollis, ME 04042

Penny Cole - Vice President: davpencole@webtv.net

Happy Jackson - Secretary:

David Cole - Treasurer:

Ken Jackson - Publicity

Don Bolin - SMVA Website:

Board Members: Wendy Hunter, Barbara Weymouth, Thelma Gagne, Ann Stevens and Carroll Tiernan

Send mail to dbolin@juno.com with questions or comments about this web site.

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