



Southern Maine Volkssport Association Newsletter

January/February 2002

The President's Corner:

As I read the last newsletter and realized that I would be writing this column for the next issue I said to myself, "Wendy, what were you thinking?" After the initial shock wore off I was still saying that, but I wasn't yelling anymore. Actually, I'm looking forward to taking over the helm as Dan put it. I like that analogy, the club being a ship. A few years back Dan took over a ship in desperate need of repair and over the past two years he's done a great job of rebuilding masts and mending sails. Now it's time to set sail, to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations, to boldly go.... no... wait a minute.... that's the USS Enterprise.... but you get the idea. Now that we have a good, solid ship we can look into doing different and innovative things, and I'm going to have a great crew that I think will work well together. During the January meeting I'll be laying out my vision for the next year and what I hope we will achieve. I'll also write it out so that it will be included in the next newsletter so everyone will see it. I am always open to ideas and I encourage anyone who has thoughts on what the club should be doing to remain active and vital to contact me with those thoughts. This is your club and it takes all the members to keep it going.

Wendy



[SMVA Homepage](#)

January and February birthdays:

Joan Melcher 1/4
Judith Nilsen 1/6
William Bailey 1/12
Nancy Poore 1/18
Geraldine Edgar 1/24
Albert Carville, Jr. 1/26
Susan Withrow 1/26
Edwin Witherell 1/29
Elizabeth Nielson 2/8
Betty Weymouth 2/15
Roland Melcher 2/28

Happy Birthday to all!

If anyone has any other dates that you would like to have in the newsletter, please let us know.

Such as anniversaries, graduations etc just let us know.



Cheering you on as you begin your MALL WALKS, our first walks of the New Year.

Here's what happened at the first Mall Walk on **January 13th**. This was our New Year's Resolution walk and 19 people *submitted their number 1 resolution*. They are: Lose weight - 5 Do more walks - 4 Exercise more - 2 Make no resolutions - 2 Get organized - 1 Be more Positive - 1 Eat regular meals - 1 Sleep late - 1 Travel more - 1 Get my wife to mind - 1 During the mall walks to come we will be asking people if they have kept their resolutions and will be reporting the percentages. Looking at theist I know 2 people who will keep their resolutions as they resolved not to make any and 1 who is probably sleeping on the couch now! **January 27th** is our Super Bowl walk. Try to remember to wear something with your favorite NFL team on it. There will be a contest that all walkers can enter. Just pick the winning team and how many points they will win by and the closest will win a really neat prize. The prize will be on display at the walk but there is a catch, you must be at the following walk to claim it.



Membership Notice - Those who do not renew their membership by the end of

March 2002 will no longer receive a newsletter. The new membership chairperson is Cheri Watson who is also our new secretary. A MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM IS ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER.



HELP WANTED! A NOTE FROM WENDY

Participation - One of my goals this year is to get more members participating in events, in volunteering and, in contributing to the newsletter. Year after year it is the same people who do all of the work for the club but that needs to change. If this club is to survive we need an active membership and, if we don't have different people volunteering to do things, some things just won't happen. I would hate to see that happen but the handful of people that do work for this club are getting tired and it's time they had a break. Watch in future newsletters for ways you can help. Some things can be a bit of a commitment while some will be a one-time deal.

Tri-state 2002 - We hope it will happen!

Two suggested themes this year are Brew Pubs and the Route of the Downeaster.

Maybe we could combine the two.

**After walking to the brewpubs,
we can take the Downeaster
home.**

WALK AND EAT SCHEDULE 2002

HERE IT IS THROUGH JUNE!

You are invited to join the "Walk and Eat Gang" in weekly Thursday walks beginning in April. They gather by 9:15 a.m. at the start point, and walk promptly at 9:30 a.m. You are invited to come to walk and talk, and then eat after the walk.

Apr. 4	Portland, ME
Apr. 11	Danvers, MA
Apr. 18	Portsmouth, NH
Apr. 25	Kennebunk, ME
May 2	Salem, MA
May 9	Concord, NH
May 16	So. Portland, ME (Year Round)
May 23	Newburyport, MA
May 30	Manchester, NH
June 6	Brunswick, ME
June 13	Boston, MA
(Choice)	
June 20	Hampton, NH
June 27	So. Portland, ME (Lighthouse) PICNIC

Wandering Maine-iac walks for 2002
The Casco Bay Bridge Walk (Jan 1 - Dec 31)

Lighthouse Trail Walk (April 1 - Nov. 30)

(Both walks - Hannaford's South Portland)

Bath (NEW) walk (April 1 - Nov. 30)

(Holiday Inn - 139 Richardson St.)

February Meeting will be at the Walker Library in

Westbrook on 20th at 7:00 PM.

March Meeting at Maine Audubon on March 20 with a potluck dinner beginning at 5:30 PM. Bring a dish to share.

For further information contact-

Chuck and Fran Hutchins 603-483-0598 bfinch38@msn.com

Don and Polly Meltzer 978-443-8513 Meltzwalk@aol.com

Al and Bonnie Moulton 603-778-0267 bonnieal@mediaone.net

Dick and Joan Rossi 978-887-5901 JODIROSSI@aol.com

Herm and Valerie Day 603-755-2856 valherm@worldpath.net

Minutes of The December 12, 2001 Meeting of The Southern Maine Volkssport Association

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. **Place:** Walker Memorial Library **Attendees:** 25 **Introductions:** There were no new individuals **Secretary's Report:** Accepted as read. **Treasurer's Report:** Accepted as read **Reports:**

Membership (Wendy): As of Sunday we have a total of 70 members for 2002 - Contest winners 1st place Johnson's/ 2nd place Dan / 3rd place (you know who you were, I don't. Sorry). Membership has been given graciously to Cheri Watson. Carroll Tiernan would like to have someone take over doing the agenda's for the meetings. Our newsletter will be mailed at the end of January (to include January & February) and at the end of March (to include March & April), this is to conserve expenses. The newsletter will print every month for the rest of the year. Roland stated that we would be missing letting others know what was going on and able to plan around it. New officers were elected by acclamation. No nominations were made from the floor: **Officers for 2002:** Wendy Hunter, President, Ann Stevens, Vice President, Cheri Watson, Secretary, Janet Schaefer, Treasurer. The board members as follows: Dan Carr, Barbara Weymouth, Thelma Gagne, Martha Chellis and Ed Witherall. New matters brought before the membership: Roland brought up the fact that the club as a whole needs to vote on financial and major issues. Agreed to donate \$100 to the Walker Memorial Library for allowing us to use their facilities. Agreed to pay \$60 a year for new Web Site. Agreed to renew our membership with the Portland Trails roughly \$25-\$35. Roland mentioned that a constitution and bylaws should be given to every new member (family's would get only one). Many of the members stated that they did not have a copy and would like one. It was agreed that Carol would e-mail Cheri the constitution and bylaws to be copied and handed out to the members who request one. New members would get a copy automatically. Volunteer of the year award was presented to Alan Robitaille. Alan, Wendy and John put on a SMVA USO show for Dan to show appreciation for his two years as our president. Alan and John did their rendition of In The Jailhouse Now song. Then Wendy (belly dancer) bestowed a dance on Dan. At the end of the show a plaque was presented to Dan. Unwrapped toys were donated to Toys for Tots. Happy & Ken Jackson will take them to WGAM. Happy gave Penny a gift as a remembrance of their trip to Taro. It was a wooden outhouse. **Door Prizes:** 12/12/01 (50-50 raffle) totaled \$30 and Ann won the pot for \$15 giving the club another \$15. The year-end 50-50 raffle totaled \$116.50 and Joanne won the pot (Roland was only too happy to pick it up for her). Shirley won \$25 savings bond. Other prizes were won by: Alan Robitaille, Cheri Watson, Ann Stevens, Penny Cole, Barbara Weymouth, David Cole, Janet Shaffer, Ken Jackson, Jim Stevens, Connie Boyer, John Shaffer, Sandy Johnson, Laurel Mackee. Then refreshments were served (everyone brought something for the celebration)

- Cheri Watson,

Secretary

Minutes of The January 16, 2002 Meeting of The Southern Maine Volkssport Association

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. **Place:** Walker Memorial Library. **Attendees:** _____. **Introductions:** Peggy & Rich Schwedt from Tallahassee Florida/ here visiting for a month. **Secretary's Report:** Accepted as read **Treasurer's Report:** accepted as read **Reports:** **President (Wendy)** We have 200+ members and on an average walk there are 30-50 (that's 1/4 member involvement). We need to activate members. We have members who have volunteered from the member renewal form (Ann suggested putting it on the membership renewal form) that we have never seen. Could it be that they have never

been asked? We need to update the newsletter to possibly include (Welcome New Members/Birthday Notices/Milestone Notices/New Balance Shoe Winners/Volunteer Recognition/Member input). Any other suggestions? We need a committee (1 board member and a couple of members) to decide how we can recognize our volunteers (Ann will head it up and possibly call on some of the volunteers from the membership renewal forms. Should you wish to serve, please contact Ann. To decide if the club should join the East Coast Greenway, cost is \$50? Increase revenue Get a benefit committee together /Give members benefits (possibly get sports related stores to give our club a discount - this will help the blow should we need to increase membership fees) Have yard sale/etc. (1 board member and a couple of members) EMS has club day twice a year - did you know this? Are you willing to help with this effort? New Balance - we are not using them to promote our club enough, need to have brochures in their locations, possibly sponsor a walk. Portland Trails wants to include us in their Walk/Run this year. All the work is done for us, is there enough interest to warrant paying the sanction fee? We do have an instructional booklet on putting a walk together and volunteer opportunities within the club. We will look for it and make it available to members who are interested. Name Badges-It was suggested that we have name badges for our meetings. This will help not only the new members but the regular members too. It is most embarrassing to forget someone's name at a crucial moment. It was suggested that the badges be left at the meeting site, in case someone should forget theirs. Cheri will look into cost. L L Bean - Possible seasonal walk in 2003, put brochures in their stores. Ken will report on this at next meeting. Speakers - Possibly inviting speakers for meetings. Portland Trails would like to come and speak at one of our meetings. Agenda (Sandy) Brochures - Add, "where members are going" to the Agenda with News from away. This will help to get our brochures out. Maine Mall Walk notes: Maine Mall (The walks start at 8:00 a.m.) 1/13 (Alan/Wendy) 37 walkers (32 credit/5 free) The theme was New Year's Resolutions 1/27 Theme will be Super Bowl (wear something that ties in) 2/10 theme will be Valentine Day (wear something appropriate. Sunset Sunrise 8/17 & 8/18 to coincide with the balloon festival in Auburn the morning walk will be in Poland Springs, there are numerous inns giving really great rates. Ask Wendy for brochure if interested. The Sunset walk will be in Auburn. McAuley -(Alan R.) 9/21 will be on Ocean Avenue in Portland and will include 5k/10k/20k.

In Tri-State - (Alan) still needs volunteers, Alan to check into status and theme (Brewery tour/Downeaster Train) and give more information next meeting. Charlie Conway and Charlie Smith of Walk 'n Mass? are helping with this. Jackson NH (Ski 1/14/02)-We are getting a lot of coverage on this /linked to our website. Weekends \$6/\$11. John Crooks loves VM and is happy to have us participate. Unfinished Business: Bylaws are copied and will be available at the next meeting. **New Business:** Blue Cross/Blue Shield is pushing its members for Maine Mall walks. We should tap into them. Door Monitor needs to be at meeting site a little before 6 p.m. Attendance sheet to include column for e-mail. March Meeting to be held at 5:30 at the Audubon Center (it will be a potluck - bring something) Ποσσιβλε Aroostook Walk, Wendy will check on regulations regarding this. Wendy will be in Florida for the next meeting; Ann will be taking over meeting. Door Prizes:(50-50 raffle) totaled \$24 and Happy won the pot for \$12 giving the club another \$12. Door Prizes were won by: Snowflake - Martha: Bear Hibernating - Sandy: #1 Resolution - Shirley. -Cheri Watson, Secretary

2002 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION APPLICATION

Send to:
SMVA MEMBERSHIP
c/o Cheri Watson
RR1 Box 34
Cornish, Maine 04020

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. Name _____

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip _____ #2name _____

#3Name _____

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 Cheri Watson at (207) 625-8740

SMVA Newsletter is issued monthly (bi-monthly January–April) by Southern Maine Volkssport Association 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. **SMVA OFFICERS: Wendy Hunter, President, Ann Stevens, Vice President, Cheri Watson, Secretary, Janet Schaefer, Treasurer. Board members: Dan Carr, Barbara Weymouth, Thelma Gagne, Martha Chellis and Ed Witherall.**

Southern Maine Volkssport Association
P. O. Box 722
Westbrook, Maine 04098

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

Copyright © 2002 Southern Maine Volkssport Association (AVA #193)

Last modified: 12/8/2004 10:45 PM