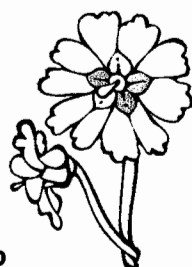




Southern Maine Volkssport Association

May 2003



**"Only" web
address:**

www.smva.8m.com

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SMVA meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month except for November and December when the meetings are held on the second Wednesday at the Walker Memorial Library, Westbrook.

President's Corner:

Okay, I've taken enough heat about last month's ramblings about Spring is here tra la tra la! As newsletters were showing up in mailboxes, it was snowing like crazy at most homes. I still did have a small patch of snow in the yard that the Easter bunny had to hop over. But the calendar really did say Spring.....

Not a whole lot to report at the moment. Everything is in motion and seeming to go smoothly. The Balloon Festival on August 16th in L/A., Gardiner on September 27th, Bar Harbor October 11th, Cadillac Mountain/Acadia on October 12th and Camden on October 12th & 13th have all been sanctioned. We will get sign up sheets for volunteers out before these dates. We couldn't pull these off without help from all. If you are thinking about having a year round or seasonal walk next year, we have to get the sanctions in by July 1st now. Think about where you live or areas which are special to you and plan a route out. I hop in the car and do a few dry runs roughing out distance etc. and then get the wheel. Fellow club members are always willing to help.

From AVA, the notice was sent that Jackie Wilson is the new AVA Executive Director, effective April 14th. Jackie has been with AVA for fourteen years and worked every aspect of the operations side of the organization. Congratulations!

Ann



**** NOTICE ****

The Maine Games are opening the games with a "volkswalk" on June 21st around Back Cove in Portland. The SMVA is not affiliated with the Maine Games, does not recognize this walk, and it is not a sanctioned walk by AVA. We hope this notice will clear any confusion that may result from publicity of the Maine Games.

Minutes of the April 16, 2003 SMVA meeting

Ann Stevens, SMVA President, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM at the Walker Memorial Library in Westbrook. Eighteen members were present.

The Secretary's report for the March 19, 2003 meeting as reported in the April 2003 Newsletter was accepted as reported.

The Treasurer's report as read by Treasurer, Penny Cole, was accepted as read. SMVA has \$1,120.43 in checking and \$4,499.77 in CDs.

Cheri Watson reported that there are 125 members.

John Tibbetts said that he has plenty of Starting Point books available at \$14.00 each.

Publicity: The American Wanderer had a nice article about the January Winterfest Walk.

SMVA Events: All the Seasonal walks are now open: Augusta, Bath, Brunswick, Kennebunk, and South Portland. Alan Robitaille said that he will be wheeling the August 16th Balloon Fest Walk in Auburn this weekend. He will have the brochure ready for the next meeting. The Gardiner walk for September 27 and the Bar Harbor walks for October 10, 11, and 12 are also progressing.

New Business and Unfinished Business: Ann Stevens learned that there will be something called "The Maine Games" in Portland this June. She said that she found out there will be a "Volks Walk" around Baxter Boulevard that will open the games. She contacted the person running this "Volks Walk" who told her that it has nothing to do with Volkssporting and is not a sanctioned event. It was decided that SMVA will not have any walks in conjunction with the Maine Games as the "Volks Walk" would only confuse Volkssporters.

Carroll Tiernan will have a schedule soon for group walks for this summer. It was discussed to have some group walks Sunday afternoon as some volksmarchers cannot make the weekday walks.

John and Janet Schaeffer recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Ed Witherell, SMVA Secretary

Next meeting is May 21st.
Refreshments are being provided by Penny Cole and Ann Stevens
The door monitor is Shirley Milliken

SMVA is sharing booth space with other New England walking clubs at the AVA National Convention in Colorado Springs in June. We are pleased to announce that our own Janet and John Schaeffer have agreed to be our delegates.

John Tibbetts has a limited supply of STARTING POINTS for sale at \$14.00 each. To obtain your copy, please contact John at 854-5344 evenings or email john.I.tibbetts@verizon.net



WALK'N'EAT SCHEDULE 9:15AM SIGN UP, 9:30 START BE PROMPT!

May 8 Bath	June 5 Portsmouth
May 15 Dover	June 12 Ipswich
May 22 Lexington (Concord Battle Road loop)	June 19 Newton
May 29 Kennebunk	July 10 Wolfeboro (picnic @ Days)
July 24 Jeness Buck Memory walk & picnic Lighthouse So. Portland	

A Walk Down Memory Lane

By Kay Buck

My husband Jenness and I started Volkswalking in 1989 at Old Orchard Beach, Maine. Happy and Ken Jackson introduced us to Volkssporting and we didn't realize how much it would change our lives. After the first two walks we were hooked and became known as the "Wandering Bucks". We planned our weekends and vacations around events, and joined several clubs. Volkswalking introduced us to a new form of education, from history lessons to travel, and the opportunity to meet people from all over the world.

During the Maine Sunrise/Sunset walk we met Nittany Nomads Pat and Fred Welch from State College, Pennsylvania. When they found out we were moving near State College we were welcomed into their Volkswalk club, home and hearts. Their friendship made relocating much easier.

On July 28, 2002 my husband died of Leukemia while in a Chicago hospital. The Illinois Volkssport club has two Chicago YREs and while I was caring for my husband I was able to keep walking. Once again, Volkssporting became more than just a sport. It helped me keep on "keeping on".

While in Chicago we reminisced over special walks, trips, trails we marked, and most of all the friends we made all over North America and the world. When we began walking my husband and I never realized how much love and support Volkswalking would bring us during our trials. I cannot thank everyone enough for being there for us with prayers, cards, phone calls, love, encouragement and support during this difficult time in our lives.

Volkssporting is for health. But it also brings friendships, extended family, education and comfort in good and hard times; a benefit physically, spiritually and emotionally. Thank you AVA and all the volunteers and club members for your hard work in making Volkssporting a possibility for everyone.

This is how it appeared in TAW.

Welcome New Members:

Pauline Larone
Sally Bean
Marianne Ryder

June Birthdays:

Ray Lovely
Roseann Lovely
Leo Cauchon
Janet Schaefer
Carroll Tiernan



Upcoming events:

May

13th Needham, MA W'N'M
14th Schenectady, NY ESCV
21st Saratoga Springs, NY ESCV
28th Mattapoisett, MA W'N'M
28th Loudenville, NY ESCV

June

4th Ballston Spa ESCV
6th Topsfield, MA W'N'M
7th Topsfield, MA W'N'M
14th Madbury, NH Seacoast Striders

Congratulations to:
Event Awards:
10 Rachel Hartford
50 Nancy Poore
425 Patty Proulx
575 Fran Hutchins
600 Chuck Hutchins
850 Joan Rossi
900 Dick Rossi
1250 Rose Ann Lovely
1250 Raymond Lovely

Distance Awards:
500 km Nancy Poore
4,500 Chris Mellen
6,000 Fran Hutchins
6,500 Chuck Hutchins
7,000 Amelia Wise
7,000 Dick Wise
14,000 RoseAnn Lovely
14,000 Raymond Lovely
15,000 Pat Welch
15,000 Fred Welch
16,000 Polly Meltzer
16,000 Don Meltzer

Answers: Arboretum, Bowdoin, Fore, Capitol, Deering Oaks, Historical, Monastery
Message: See ya on the trail!

The SMVA Newsletter is issued 12 times a year. Please send materials for publication consideration to Patty Collins: pac567000@yahoo.com



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