

Keystone State Volkssport Association
26 November 2016
Hershey Public Library, Hershey PA

KSVA President Joan Lampart called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm, thanking the Susquehanna Rovers for hosting in conjunction with today's 29th annual Hershey Walkfest.

Jeanne Clancy, President of the Chester County Red Rovers was introduced. Others present were: Vice President - Marcy Lucas; Treasurer - Pat Eby; Secretary - Carol Talaga; Historian - Louise Clouser; Cumberland Valley Lead Foot Club - Lorraine Jackson; Penn Dutch Pacers & Appalachian Trail - Jane Holmes; Susquehanna Rovers - Sharon Miller; York White Rose Wanderers - Sue Peck; Atlantic Regional Director - Tom Jackson; Guests: Bill Rhoat - Susquehanna Rovers and Susan Osborn - Baltimore Walking Club.

Secretary

The minutes were e-mailed on October 18, in response to which corrections were submitted by Joan, Pat, Dave, and Pam. These corrections were reviewed orally today; Jane moved to approve, and Marcy seconded; motion carried. Carol will distribute the corrected minutes, as Joan requested.

Treasurer

September and October reports were circulated and filed for audit. The balance as of 10/31/16 is \$6428.56.

Vice-President

Now that the Year Round Events are sanctioned, please e-mail me when you request approval for your traditional events. Tuesdays and Thursdays are the best days to contact me. I will respond to emails on those days, but I will respond to text messages faster than e-mails. I plan to use the KSVA meetings as a forum for discussion among the Club Presidents and I hope to attend a general membership meeting for each Club.

President - Passing of two volkssporters

1. It is with regret that I announce the passing of *Lynne Haffner*, Past President of the Free State Happy Wanderers and volunteer at many Pennsylvania events. Her family is asking for donations to her final expense. I would like to have a motion to send \$50.00 to her family. Marcy so moved and the motion was carried.

2. *Sam Tollett* passed away this week. Sam was Atlantic Regional Director several terms ago and was indeed a very giving person. He was married to Annette. His family is asking for donations to the American Volkssport Association in his name. I would like to have a motion to send \$50.00 to the AVA in his name. Jeanne so moved and the motion was carried.

Other KSVA Business:

Financial Support for New Clubs At the KSVA meeting last year in Hershey, a motion passed to "increase start-up support for new clubs from the one time grant of \$100.00 to \$500.00 total." We also agreed to cover printing charges for *Pennsylvania Year-Round & Seasonal Events*. Joan suggested that KSVA apply the same supports given to the Penn Mary Walkers in 2015 to the Chester County Red Rovers this year. Louise moved to do so and Jane seconded; the motion carried.

Pennsylvania Year-Round & Seasonal Events 2017 is ready for distribution: 950 copies with a per page charge of \$36.71. To show how much this annual publication has changed, Pat circulated the 1997 version, which showed 13 clubs but only 23 events combined. We are at the page limit, that is, the staple cannot firmly grasp more than the current 34 pages. Pat is resigning as the editor and is willing to help someone learn this position. It is a vital piece of KSVA's success. Pat is to be commended for her expertise and many years of dedication.

By-Laws ad hoc Committee - Carol Talaga

At the last meeting Joan asked me to replace Louise C. to arrange for periodic review of this document which was last amended in 2012. I am seeking two volunteers to review the bylaws: either KSVAs regulars or any interested party.

KSVA SPONSORED EVENTS

Event / PoC	#	Comments
20/10 / Marcy	30	
State Parks & Forests– completed Tom Jackson	62 9	First time [patch features a whitetail deer Second time [patch features a ruffed grouse]
State Parks – participated	17	Ansonia – Tioga State Forest seasonal
	8	Ansonia – Tioga State Forest seasonal bike –Pay per Participant Sanctioning
	12	Troy – Mt. Pisgah State Park seasonal
	32	Michaux State Forest
	5	Biglerville – Michaux State Forest – Piney Ridge Road snowshoe Pay per Participant Sanctioning
	5	Fayetteville – Michaux State Forest – Smoke Zimmerman XC Ski Area snowshoe Pay per Participant Sanctioning
	33	Mont Alto State Park
	35	Pine Grove Furnace State Park
Shepherdstown Jane Snurr	Credit/free 85/ 3	<i>15 used New Walker coupon from Rhodes Scholar program</i>
Erie Presque Isle State Park / Pat Eby	40	Award & credit = 15; credit only = 22 and free = 3 Eric attracted walkers from OH, MD, NY, MO, WA, TX, WI, SC, and CO
Harper’s Ferry WV Jane Snurr	44	
67 Counties Sharon Miller	19 – same as last mtg	Many need only one or two counties to earn the award.
Appalachian Trail- Jane Holmes	Begins 1/1/17 to 2021	The order form for the special program booklet and the booklet itself as well as a website https://atspecialprogrampa.wordpress.com/ were distributed to KSVAs officers for review on 11/19. Tom is seeking AVA approval of the booklet. Booklets were ready for sale @\$10.00 yesterday at the Hershey Walkfest.

CLUB REPORTS

Chester County Red Rovers

The club was chartered by AVA on October 18. We have three year round events: Downingtown, Phoenixville, and Warwick State Park near Pottstown. We have walked as a group in Radnor, Lititz, and Nolde State Forest. January 10 is a membership meeting at the Library. Jeanne displayed the Club logo featuring a red fox with an outline of Chester County in the background. Jeanne asked if “AVA/IVV” should be included in the logo – we need to check AVA policy.

Cumberland Valley Lead Foot:

Lorraine is working hard on a traditional event that will take place in Fayetteville on Sunday 2 April, to coincide with a chicken dinner.

Liberty Bell Wanderers -

.2016 YRE’s that will be dropped [3]:

- Allentown Parks

- Reading/Nolde Forest SP
- Wilmington DE

YRE added since last meeting - Hatboro

YRE's that will be added in 2017 [5]:

- Chestnut Hill PA
- Easton PA walk
- Easton PA bike
- Lansdale PA
- Milford PA [remote sign-in].

Biking:

- entire Schuylkill River Trail [3] - includes Collegeville, Valley Forge, and Schuylkill Banks well as the --
- entire Delaware Canal Towpath [4] includes Easton, New Hope, Titusville NJ, and Morrisville walks.

Traditional Event

- Triple Border Crossing Walk [DE-MD-PA] at Tri-Marker located in White Creek State Park, just north of Newark DE – Saturday April 22
- Possible State Parks weekend October 20 – 22 to include: [1] Nolde Forest State Park; [2] Hopewell Village National Historic Site / French Creek State Park; [3] Marsh Creek State Park; and [4] Pottstown area – Warwick County Park.

Nittany Nomads:

No report, but the Club did use the display table at the Hershey Walkfest to briefly announce an event in Huntingdon PA in May.

Penn Dutch Pacers:

December 10 - Ephrata / Akron walk, start point at Ephrata Isaac's
 February 18 – Lititz during the Fire and Ice weekend
 April 28-30 – Susquehanna River towns

Penn Mary Walkers: no report

Susquehanna Rovers :

April 28-30 – Susquehanna River towns
 We are working on ideas for other traditional events in 2017.

York White Rose Wanderers:

February 4-5 –new trail around the new West Manchester Town Center
 April 28 – 30 Susquehanna River towns
 July 29-30 Keystone Games – we were approached by the organizers to offer a walk both days
 November 10-12 Gettysburg Weekend – 4 walks and a ghost walk

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

1. There will be an AVA National Program starting in 2018 focusing on the Appalachian Trail. Participants will be expected to do a volksmarch on the AT in each of the 14 states that the trail goes through.

Pennsylvania will have three qualifying YREs:

Pine Grove Furnace State Park (sponsored by KSVA)
 Event using the eastern end of the AT in Pennsylvania (sponsored by the Liberty Bell Wanderers)
 Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania (sponsored by KSVA)

Traditional Event in Duncannon (Susquehanna Rovers) would also qualify

2. Several YREs in Pennsylvania (Milford and Appalachian Trail) and Maryland (Frostburg, Grantsville, Myersville-Appalachian Trail, and all of the C&O Canal events) will use the On Line Start Box in 2017. As information is put out in Checkpoint and the TAW about using the On Line Start Box, recommend you pay attention to it. – Marcy expressed concern about remote sign-in citing reluctance of some walkers to transact business on line, and lack of computer literacy regarding use of Pay-Pal.

3. #OptOutside - Last year REI Outdoor Store started a movement called “#OptOutside.” They closed their stores nationwide on Black Friday, paid all their employees for the day and asked everyone to spend it doing something outdoors with family and friends.

This year, the AVA Program Committee, requested that each club at least organize a group walk of a YRE on Friday, November 25, and AVA was identified as one of the partners with REI for #OptOutside.

I responded back that for Pennsylvania, this was the 29th year that we have chosen to #OptOutside and all of the clubs were encouraging their club members to participate in the Hershey Walkfest rather than doing their own group walk.

We will probably repeat #OptOutside again in 2017. Make sure you are actively encouraging your club members to go to Hershey.

4. December 3 is the Scottish Festival in Alexandria, VA with the Washington DC Area Volksmarch Club sponsoring a walk. The club will probably close in 2017 and their December 3 walk is free to everyone.

5. If you want to receive your 2017 Centurion Book by December 31, you should place your order by next week.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Brown and Joan Lampart have been invited to be Keynote Speakers about volkssporting, at the Pennsylvania County Parks Association in Hershey on Friday March 25. Anyone is welcome to join us.

NEW BUSINESS

A KSVA delegate to the biennial convention in Billings and KSVA should be designated – Joan suggests at our next meeting. Clubs are reminded that they should choose a delegate as well, typically the Club President.

Tom has decided not to run for Regional Director and has asked Joan has to lead the nominating committee find candidates to be elected at the Atlantic Regional meeting in Maryland, in late April or May. Any takers from this group? Think about it. It was one of the greatest experiences I ever had with AVA.

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Joan “passed the gavel”, surprising President – Elect Marcy Lucas with an engraved KSVA President’s gavel, hand carved by former LBW member Alan Gertsle. On behalf of KSVA, Carol presented Joan with a gift of her favorite cocktail ingredients, in recognition of Joan’s dedication and capable leadership.

Motion to Adjourn – meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The York White Rose Wanderers will host our next assembly on Saturday February 4 at the York Winter Walk Shop & Swim. Bob Wright will discuss his bid for AVA Presidency, as previously reported. Chris Mellon, NERD, is also a candidate.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Talaga, Secretary