

Keystone State Volkssport Association
4 February 2017
HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital, York PA

KSVA President Marcy Lucas called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm, thanking the York White Rose Wanderers for hosting at today's York Winter Walk, Shop & Swim. Marcy welcomed Alma Mathis, the new Nittany Nomads President. Other officers present were: Vice President – Jane Holmes; Treasurer - Pat Eby; Secretary - Carol Talaga.

Club representatives & members attending: Chester County Red Rovers – Jeanne Clancy; Cumberland Valley Lead Foot Club – Lorraine Jackson; Liberty Bell Wanderers – Dave Brown, Pat Graeber; Nittany Nomads – Alma Mathis, Ann & Bob Shepherd; Penn Dutch Pacers – Maria Roshon; Susquehanna Rovers – Sharon & Lester Miller, Bill Rhoat; York White Rose Wanderers – Pam Copenhaver ; Atlantic Regional Director - Tom Jackson

Guests: Susan Osborn - Baltimore Walking Club; [Bob Wright, candidate for AVA President was unable to attend].

OFFICER & KSVA ACTIVITY REPORTS

Secretary The November minutes were approved [Pat E / Pam C seconded] and archived on KSVA.net.

Treasurer November through January reports were circulated and filed for audit. All clubs have paid their page charges for the *PA Year-Round & Seasonal Events* booklet. The balance as of 1/31/17 is \$5546.17. Pat also distributed two reference tools compiled annually: *PA Clubs and Points of Contact* and *PA Year Round and Seasonal [AVA sanction] Numbers*.

Vice-President - no report yet.

President I will not be giving a formal report. As we work down through the agenda [3 pages], I will have input at the beginning of each topic and I have added topics to the open discussion.

KSVA SPONSORED EVENTS

Event / PoC	# walkers	Comments
20/10 / Marcy	46 in 2016	Discontinuing in 2017 – declining interest and barely breaks even and would need to recruit another PoC.
State Parks & Forests– completed –T Jackson	68 14	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
	36	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
		Snowshoe rental 1-4 day, available at Kings Gap Environmental Education Center for those lacking equipment.
	38	Mont Alto State Park
	43	Pine Grove Furnace State Park
Shepherdstown Jane Snurr	91	88 of the 91 walked for IVV credit. 41 of the credit walkers used coupons from New Walker packets
Erie Presque Isle State Park / Pat Eby	40	Same as last meeting as this is seasonal walk ending 31 October. Pat will ready the box at end of March in time for April 1 resume date.

Harper's Ferry -Jane Snurr	48	45 IVV credit
67 Counties - Sharon Miller	19	Same count as last meeting.
Appalachian Trail- Jane Holmes	Started Jan 1 – no data yet	13 books sold and are available today. Website and On-line Start Box are operational

ATLANTIC REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT

1. The On-Line Start Box works! I was able to register for an event, pay for it, print off the walk directions, indicate when I did the walk, and print off an insert card a sample of which is circulated today. This is your only option for the Appalachian Trail, Milford, and Rickett's Glen State Park in Pennsylvania. In Maryland, OLSB is used for the C&O Canal events, Meyersdale, Frostburg, and Grantsville. *Dave Brown noted that Mike Green [LBW] is the East Coast representative; he can be contacted with questions about this type of registration at mikeginf@gmail.com*

2. The IVV stamps are being replaced! Look for the new stamps at the AVA Convention. They will start being issued in July for traditional events and will be used for the 2018 YREs. The new stamps are cheaper for AVA to mail. Clubs do not have to return anything to AVA. The stamps will identify the name of the event.

3. AVA 20th Biennial Convention is next June in Billings, MT.

- a. You can now register for the convention.
- b. Who is going to be the "Delegate" that represents your club? First choice is you as Club President. Second choice is another member of your club as an "Alternate Delegate". Third choice is to allow someone else to vote for your club as "Proxy".
- c. Necrology Report. This is a reading of the names of all AVA members who died since the last convention. Input is due in March.
- d. Publicity Contest – Submit photos, club newsletters, brochures, and club web sites. Rules are in the current TAW.

4. The 2018 Atlantic Region Conference will be held March 16-18 in Sterling, VA. The host hotel will be the Embassy Suites – Dulles North. The current plan is to have three walks, a swim, and a bike event. The room rate of \$99 includes breakfast and a happy hour. That is a great value for the area! As was done for the last Conference in Hagerstown, no club should schedule a traditional event, group walk of a YRE, or bus trip over this weekend.

5. There will be an Atlantic Region Meeting at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 18, in Greenbelt, MD. The primary purpose of the meeting is to elect a RD and Deputy RD for the term of office from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019. Make sure your club is represented! WE NEED CANDIDATES!!!! The Great Greenbelt Volksmarch club has sanctioned a traditional event on that day. You will have plenty of time to do the walk, eat lunch, and then attend the meeting. Across the parking lot from where the meeting will be, there is the Greenbelt Aquatics Center which is the start point for the two Greenbelt YREs and Year Round Swim.

6. Go to the AVA Events Web site for Maryland and make sure all of your events (YRE and Traditional) appear. For various reasons, we discovered four events that were approved but do not appear. Two of them are my Haunted Gettysburg events. Two events from College Park, MD were missing. We also found one event that identified the town and POC from the Liberty Bell Wanderers but everything else about the walk is from Indiana. If an event is missing, send me an email and I will take care of it.

7. Look at your YREs on the AVA Events Web site and make sure what is there matches reality. Submit any changes to Starting Point.

CLUB REPORTS

Chester County Red Rovers. The last group walk of 2016 was the Nolde State Forest walk [LBW]. On December 4. The 29 walkers attending the membership meeting on February 1 heard Bradley Zerr, Paoli Hospital Community Health Services, speak about walking for fitness. The January 22 group walk group walk in Phoenixville was followed by a guided tour of the Colonial Theatre. On January 28th LBW joined us in Downingtown. A Fit Fair held at the Library and hosted by Jeanne promoted the Club. We are invited to participate in a new County initiative ChescoWalkWorks. A summer traditional event at Hibernia County Park near Coatesville is being planned.

Cumberland Valley Lead Foot Club. Lorraine briefly discussed the April 2 route for Fayetteville starting at Norlo Park; the event brochure is upcoming. She proposes an anthracite coal heritage weekend for 2018 or 2019 to showcase towns near I-81 such as Ashland [Pioneer Coal Mine] Coaldale / Lansford [#9 Coal Mine & Museum], Centralia, Pottsville, Epicenter Frackville. In cooperation with other clubs including LBW, SR, YWRW, 10k walks will be designed.

Liberty Bell Wanderers - Brochure on display today for April 22 Triple Border Crossing Walk (DE-MD-PA) at Tri-State Marker located in White Creek State Park, just north of Newark, DE. Last week of April a record three bus tour groups: Tater Tours, Wandering Wheels (OH / IN), Seneca Valley Sugarloafers (MD) will be doing six of our walks in nine days. Our Three Capitals Bus trip takes place on Columbus Day weekend, Oct 7-10, sign-up begins Feb 15. Stops include Harrisburg, Flight 93 Memorial, John Glenn house, Columbus OH, Charlestown WV, Harpers Ferry WV.... State Parks Weekend II, October 20-22 in cooperation with Chester Country Red Rovers offers: Nolde Forest State Park; Hopewell Furnace - French Creek State Park; Marsh Creek State Park; Warwick County Park

Nittany Nomads: Alma Mathis succeeded Bob Shepherd in January. Brochure for the Huntingdon May 20-21 traditional event is on display today at the start/finish table.

Penn Dutch Pacers. Start point for the February 18 Lititz Fire & Ice walk is St. James Catholic Church, 505 Woodcrest Avenue. Begin 8 am to 1 pm and finish by 4 pm. Start point for the Susquehanna Rivertowns Weekend, April 28-30 is the Columbia Crossing River Trails [visitor] Center, 41 Walnut Street, Columbia PA. There is no designated hotel but the Sleep Inn, Comfort Inn and Mainstay are nearby. A traditional event is in early planning for August / September and there will again be a holiday walk in December. Visit our new, more user-friendly web site.

Penn Mary Walkers: On January 25 Sarah Garcia electronically circulated the event brochure for their May 6 walk in Bedford. Volunteers are needed to staff the start/finish table. The three seasonal walks are now year-round.

Susquehanna Rovers : Brochures at display table today for April 28-30 – Susquehanna Rivertowns Weekend. Later this year we have scheduled: August 26 Mifflintown; September 16-17 Rovers' 30th Anniversary Walk in Harrisburg; October 7-8 Carlisle Barracks Octoberfest; and November 24-25 the 30th annual Hershey Walkfest.

York White Rose Wanderers: April 28 – 30 Susquehanna Rivertowns Weekend; July 29-30 Keystone Games; November 10-12 Gettysburg Weekend – 4 walks and a ghost walk - brochure on display

OPEN ISSUES

1. Memorial Donation – At the last meeting we authorized \$50.00 checks each for two passing Volksmarchers. We now have contribution details for John L. McCoy, who was active with the York White Rose Wanders: running bus trips, attending meetings, and volunteering at traditional walks. A motion was approved [Pat E/Maria R seconded] to send \$50.00 to the Disabled American Veterans, the family's designated charity.

2. PA Year-Round & Seasonal Events – We are fortunate that both Lorraine Jackson and Sheri Little have volunteered to be trained as successors to Pat Eby for the 2018 edition.

3. By-Laws ad hoc Committee - No report yet. Joan Lampart, Bill Rhoat and myself [Carol T] have not yet been able to meet. Will deliver a progress report at next meeting, as Marcy requested.

4. AVA 20th Biennial Convention –Marcy is the KSVa delegate [Tom J / Pam C seconded]. She will not accept our customary stipend for the registration fee, due to a conflict of interest as a State employee. KSVa will donate \$100.00 to the Silent Auction, as we did two years ago [Carol T / Jane H seconded]. Tom recommended adding delegate responsibilities for both regional and national conventions, to the President’s job description in our bylaws. At the next quarterly we will review expectations for KSVa and Club delegates regarding AVA election of officers and proposed bylaws changes.

5. Special Programs checklist has been updated by March for 2017 and Marcy will forward it to the Clubs; the 20/10 challenge program must be removed from KSVa.net

6. Atlantic Regional Director – Joan Lampart continues to seek candidates for Atlantic Regional Director. Election is at the Atlantic Regional meeting, Greenbelt Maryland on March 18. Tom noted that nominations are also being taken for a Deputy Regional Director whose charge is to assist the RD and succeed in the event of a death or resignation. Tom stressed that there are no particular requirements for this office, other than a willingness to serve; education and experience have varied considerably.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Email correspondence – Secretary’s list has 20 names: 4 officers, 8 club presidents, poc for KSVa events, auditor, webmaster, 2 past-presidents, regional directors PA, MD and VA. Anyone else?

2. Business cards for officers Jane offered to develop a design that could possibly be used by all 4 officers. There is a template on AVA.org to produce them.

3. KSVa web site – we are seeking your suggestions to update and improve KSVa.net

4. New education portion. Marcy would like to elicit discussion on topics such as: Club best practices, required forms, succession training. Your thoughts are welcome.

5. Atlantic Region Conference 2018. We agreed by consensus to help with assignments such as evening activities, meet & greet, meals, speakers, as requested by the Conference organizers.

6. KSVa Group Walk – To foster interactions among the Clubs, let’s host a group walk at a KSVa-sponsored seasonal or year round event. There are no traditional events scheduled in March. We agreed by consensus to the following place and date: Sunday March 19 at Pine Grove Furnace State Park, at 1:30 pm. Clubs are asked to publicize the outing.

7. Tom presented Pat Eby with a certificate *“For meritorious service to the KSVa and the Volkssport Clubs of Pennsylvania as KSVa Treasurer and Editor of the Pennsylvania Year Round and Seasonal Events booklet. She contributed greatly to the success of Volkssporting in Pennsylvania.”*

NEXT MEETING

The next quarterly meeting will be held at the Penn Mary Walker’s traditional event in Bedford on Saturday May 6. Today’s session adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Talaga, Secretary