

Keystone State Volkssport Association  
25 November 2017  
Hershey Public Library

KSVA President Marcy Lucas called the meeting to order at 2 p.m., thanking the Susquehanna Rovers for hosting us during this 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hershey Walkfest. Other officers present were: Vice President – Jane Holmes; Treasurer - Pat Eby; Secretary - Carol Talaga.

Club representatives & members: Chester County Red Rovers – Jeanne Clancy; Cumberland Valley Lead Foot Club – Lorraine Jackson; Liberty Bell Wanderers – Betty Green; Susquehanna Rovers - Sharon Miller, Bill Rhoat; York White Rose Wanderers – Pam Copenhaver ; Atlantic Region Director – Mike Green; State Parks Point-of-Contact - Tom Jackson.

Guests: Susan Osborn - Baltimore Walking Club.

### **Secretary**

The July minutes were emailed for review and comment. Correct under Club Reports - Susquehanna Rovers: the location of the [cancelled] traditional event to accompany an Oktoberfest was Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, not Havre de Grace, Maryland.

### **Treasurer**

July through October reports were circulated and filed for audit. The balance as of October 31 is \$5973.81. The \$700.00 income in October reflects the Penn Mary Walkers' return of the \$500.00 KSVA grant. The *Annual Financial Report and Worksheet for IRS Section 501[3]c Organizations* was sent to AVA; net profit for the fiscal year ending June 30 is \$242.07.

### **Vice-President**

Comments: Jane asked Mike if the traditional paper registration / ink stamp could be offered for the Appalachian Trail, as an option to encourage participation. Mike said that a dual registration system would be permitted, if the request is made in writing. Care should be taken that an Online Start Box registrant does not also use the rubber stamp from a traditional start box.

### **President -**

It is time for 2018 traditional events, please email me after you enter, so I can sanction. Send brochure for approval and complete the information on the AVA web site. Use the new logos provided on the AVA.org web site under Administrative, AVA Graphics/Logos. After brochure is approved, I will send back to submitter, club president and MVA web site. ...I have developed a calendar which identifies traditional events scheduled by member clubs, to facilitate timely sanctioning and brochure publication.... This winter when I am hibernating, I will try to find time to update and improve KSVA.net web page, working with Mike on putting the walk calendar on it for planning purposes.

### **ATLANTIC REGION DIRECTOR REPORT by Mike Green, at\_rd@ava.org**

1. NEC approved the "401k for your Health" a way for walkers to track the distance they have walked online with the goal of completing 401 km in a year.
  - a. The online support for 401k will be handled on a separate website from the ava.org. There will be a link on the AVA website to the 401k site.
  - b. Although this is an AVA national program, anyone can log their kilometers without having walked an AVA sanctioned walk. Of course, the 401k site will have the AVA logo on it with a link back to the AVA site to allow walkers to find an AVA walk.
  - c. The program manager for 401k has had some luck getting corporate sponsors from the financial community. Sponsors get their logo on the 401k site and on the T-shirt awarded to those who complete the 401k program within the calendar year.
  - d. 401k program participants must create an online account and pay a fee, probably \$10. The number of participants may be limited if not enough corporate sponsors are found to cover costs.

- e. This program is expected to start Jan 2018.
- 2. NEC approved “AVA-C” events of 3 varieties
  - a. The term ACE (AVA Community Event) will used to refer to an event of this type.
  - b. An ACE is only sanctioned as an AVA event but not as a IVV event. This means an ACE has no minimum distance requirement and there is no stamp provided by the AVA. All participants must sign the usual wavier log sheet.
  - c. ACE-Traditional – Is like the current Traditional Event but with no minimum distance. Standard sanctioning and participation fees apply.
  - d. ACE-Weekday Guided – Is sanctioned for a single quarter for \$30. The club may hold up to 13 guided events in a quarter; but all events must be on a weekday. There is no participation fee, but participant reports must be entered for each walk.
  - e. ACE-Youth – Is a private event for youth where the event location and other event details are not made public. Standard event sanctioning and participation fees apply.
- 3. We will continue to use the current ESR system for sanctioning events. The new ESR system (discussed at the 2017 convention) will only be put in place after it has been thoroughly tested and documented. The AVA IT Committee expects to bring the new ESR system online no sooner than Feb 2018.
- 4. The Atlantic Region webpage hosted by mdvolks.org and found at <http://www.mdvolks.org/Atlantic/default.htm> has been updated and now contains a dedicated Google calendar of all Traditional Events in the Atlantic Region.
  - a. This calendar is updated every time I approve a TE in the Atlantic Region.
  - b. If you are Google calendar user, you can choose to make the events in this calendar (with the calendar ID, atrd4u@gmail) appear in your personal calendar.
  - c. If/when I receive a brochure for an event; I attach it to the corresponding calendar entry.
- 5. I am a member of AVA IT committee. I have been actively fixing bugs and enhancing AVA HQ SW apps to support new features like Per Participant Sanctioning Fees (PPSF).
- 6. #OptOutside - As most of you know, the AVA continues to operate at a net loss for the year. Besides working to increase the number of Volkssporters, it has been suggested that AVA obtain corporate sponsors to address this issue. Towards the goal of obtaining corporate sponsorship, your club can help to demonstrate to REI (and other prospective sponsors) that the AVA is able to nationally support the REI #OptOutside program by having a large number of guided walk events throughout the US on Black Friday.
  - a. This is expected to be an annual event.
  - b. Next year, every Atlantic region club should plan to have an #OptOutside event (guided group walk of a YRE/SE or TE) on Friday November 24, 2018.
- 7. 2018 Stamp proofs have been sent out. Clubs should soon be getting your YRE/SE 2018 stamps in the mail (one-piece rubber stamp, double sided tape, and stamp handle for each sanctioned event) which you will need to assemble.
  - a. For 2019, the plan is to support clubs entering their own special text for the stamp as part of the event sanctioning process. In particular, a club will be able enter the special text for the event stamp then submit it to the ESR system which would generate and display a stamp proof online. A club could further iterate the text (using abbreviations for example) and font-size selection based on displayed stamp proof to have the content they want within the constraints of the space available within the stamp.
  - b. For Atlantic regions clubs with multiple events in the same city in 2018, I have arranged for custom stamps to be created based on emails of suggested event names supplied by the clubs sponsoring these events.
- 8. Atlantic Region Conference is March 16-18, 2018 in Dulles, VA
  - a. The link to make reservations at the conference hotel, Embassy Suites is on the Atlantic Region website as well as a link to a save-the-date flyer PDF.
  - b. Room rate \$99/night. This is an excellent rate for Embassy Suites that includes an excellent breakfast (omelet bar) and evening reception.
  - c. Conference includes Bike, Swim and 3 walk events that have already been sanctioned
    - i. The 3 walks are near the hotel: Broadlands community, Leesburg historic district, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens (many other YREs are nearby)

- ii. A bike event on the nearby W&OD Rail-Trail
- iii. A swim event in the hotel pool

**KSVA SPONSORED EVENTS**

Event / PoC	#	Comments
20/10 / Marcy		Chart distributed today detailing participation and fees collected in 2016 through 2/28/17
State Parks & Forests / Tom J.	21	Michaux State Forest
	16	Pine Grove Furnace State Park
	13	Waterville Tiadaghton State Forest seasonal walk ended Sep 30
	6	Waterville Tiadaghton State Forest seasonal bike ended Sep 30
Shepherdstown Jane Snurr	42	37 paid, 5 free
Harpers Ferry / Jane Snurr	147	135 paid, 12 free
Erie Presque Isle State Park / Pat Eby	17	11 paid, 3 award, 3 free
AT thru PA - Jane Holmes	74	\$222 collected
Walk the 67 counties / Sharon Miller	22	We recently sold two more books.

**CLUB REPORTS**

Chester County Red Rovers -- Next year we are retaining our three YRE's and adding Hibernia County Park. Third quarter YRE walker counts are: Downingtown 13; Phoenixville 23 and Warwick 8. The State Parks II Weekend attracted 76 to Hopewell Furnace and 63 to Warwick County Park.

Cumberland Valley – we are keeping our three YRE's but are not certain about repeating the Fayetteville traditional event in 2018

Liberty Bell Wanderers - We broke even financially at State Parks II Weekend, but attendance was lower than State Parks I Weekend, perhaps because the walks were more difficult. Dropped walks in 2018 are Bryn Mawr and Radnor. We are adding a YRE in Skippack and a winter seasonal at the King of Prussia mall. Club bylaws were revised and posted on our website. Flyers were on display at the Walkfest for our chartered bus trip to the Atlantic Region Conference

Mon Valley Trailblazers – Marcy reported for Lori Lamberski. A flyer for their first traditional event, Twin Lakes at Latrobe Pennsylvania, was on display at the Walkfest. Marcy, Tom, and Dave Brown plan to support this event on December 9.

Nittany Nomads – voted to disband effective December 1, at a meeting of club leaders; the decision was supported by the club membership. No one is willing to continue or assume leadership roles. AVA was formally notified. Monies and supplies will be donated to other Pennsylvania clubs.

Penn Dutch Pacers – Jane reported. Our next event is Christmas in Elizabethtown on December 16. Traditional events next year include: Fire & Ice Festival at Lititz in February, Susquehanna Rivertowns, and possibly Middle Creek and a December walk. Elections will be held at the membership meeting on February 10; there are vacancies for president and vice-president. Susquehanna State Park will be dropped in 2018.

Penn Mary Walkers -- Marcy was notified in writing that after a PMW business meeting attended by six members, the Club voted to disband effective November 30. The President Sarah Garcia has returned the \$500.00 KSVA grant.

Steel Turtles – Marcy reported that the club is working on their first traditional event and they have been sanctioned for several YRE's

Susquehanna Rovers – Burnham, Camp Hill, Lewistown, Newport, and Tunkhannock are discontinued in 2018. Walks in planning are Duncannon and Oktoberfest at Carlisle Barracks.

York – Pam is pleased with the outcome of the Haunted Gettysburg Weekend. Tom noted however that the walks completed count of 596 was 20% below this event in 2015. Pat commented that Gettysburg and Hershey were only two weeks apart. Upcoming traditional events include the York Winter Walk, February 3-4, Susquehanna Rivertowns in April, and the memorial walk for John McCoy in August. Reservations are being accepted for a Thousand Islands – Alexandria Bay New York bus trip, June 8-10.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bylaws revision – To review, revisions up to Article VI – Officers were approved at the 2nd quarter meeting in Bedford. This table of the remaining revisions, Articles VI through XIV was distributed on September and again this week

Location	Current	Proposed	Rationale
VI Officers Sec 3 duties of Treasurer		Add #6 Maintains PayPal account for use by online start boxes for KSVAsponsored events.	<i>Input from Treasurer</i>
same		Add #7 Schedules an annual audit of financial records.	<i>Input from Treasurer.</i>
VII Meetings frequency Sec. 1	The regular membership annual meeting of the KSVAshall be held every year in the month at a date agreed upon by the members and announced in a KSVAINformation mailing or electronically. Notification shall be made at least 30 days in advance.	Regular membership meetings shall be held quarterly or at least three times a year, at a date agreed upon by the members. Notification shall be made at least 30 days in advance. The purpose of regular membership meetings is to receive reports of officers committees, and clubs, and for such other business as may arise.	<i>AVA has an annual mug, not KSVAs.</i>
VII Meetings – purpose Sec. 2	The regular membership annual meeting of the KSVAshall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for such other business as may arise.	<i>Delete current text on the let; add:</i> . Elections shall take place at the third quarter meeting in even-numbered years	<i>Last quarter election is too late for the annual year-round publication.</i>
VII Meetings – Sec 6 scheduling	A meeting of the regular members of the KSVAmay be scheduled by the regular members of the KSVAA at a meeting of the regular members of the KSVAA		<i>President schedules regular meetings although clubs can suggest a date.</i>
VIII Executive Committee Sec 1	The elected officers of the KSVAshall constitute the Executive Committee	<i>...and the immediate past-president shall constitute the Executive Committee</i>	<i>A fifth officer can break a tie if needed .</i>
XIV Implementing Clauses	Terms of the KSVAs officers ...shall end December 31 2004, a term of 30 months		<i>No longer needed because we are in a 24 month odd to even year cycle</i>
	The first officers elected under these By-laws shall serve from January 1, 2005 until December 31, 2006, a term of 24 months.		<i>same</i>

Regarding the addition of the Past-President to the Executive Committee, there was discussion today about the likelihood of all five officers being present at a meeting. It was decided that an “executive session” could take place by e-mail or conference call. ...Pat Eby moved to accept the proposed revisions and Jeanne Clancy seconded; motion carried. The by-laws ad hoc also circulated a revision for Policy 1: Participation Fee Requirements. The Treasurer recommends that the ten cents fee levied by KSVAs for each paying walker be waived for clubs during their first year of operation. The current policy, 3/23/96 waives payment only for the first two IVV/AVA sanctioned events. Jeanne Clancy moved to accept the change and Pat Eby seconded; motion carried.

Atlantic Region Conference 2018, March 16-18, in northern Virginia. Marcy and Bob Wright [Maryland] and the Virginia state association are in discussion with the Embassy Suites about the meet & greet and banquet. Any suggestions for workshops or type of speaker?

**NEW BUSINESS** Our annual publication: *KSVAYear-Round and Seasonal Events* is in preparation, according to Lorraine and Marcy. Plans are to distribute it at the traditional event in Elizabethtown on December 16.

2. Fall Foliage Weekend in State College – will continue despite the disbanding of the Nittany Nomads, thanks to KSVAmember clubs. Tom is planning four walks and will order award pins and prepare an event brochure which Dave Brown can print. Pam and the York Club will manage the meet & greet. Date proposed is October 19-21, however it was mentioned that this date conflicts with the U.S. FreedomWalk Festival in Arlington and Washington DC. Tom will check with the Super 8 for

availability in September. In addition to home football games, the Motel is booked for other Penn State events such as parent weekend, and band competitions.

3. Atlantic Region Conference – Mike noted that it is our turn in 2020 to sponsor this biannual event. Goal at the next meeting is to select a weekend and publicize with “Save the Date” flyers.

4. A variety of clothing and merchandise that can be customized with a club logo is available online from Land’s End Business Outfitters; Betty Green has made arrangements with them for the Liberty Bell Wanderers. KSVa could use this Land’s End “storefront” for a version of the “I’m walking Pennsylvania shirt with KSVa logo which Marcy is wearing today.

Our next meeting will be held on February 3 during the York Winter Walk. Pam noted that the Health South Rehabilitation Hospital conference room has again been reserved. The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Talaga, Secretary