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VOLUME #2

MAR 1, 1977

NUMBER 19

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

34 interested individuals braved the harsh winter elements to consider a lengthy agenda. New President-Elect Jack Curran will be bolstered by V.P. John Leslie, Secretary Bob Carbray, and Treasurer Tim Smith, all re-elected by the membership. The group gratefully applauded retiring President Walt Thoma for his efforts during his three terms of office. Dues remain at \$2.00 per membership with a reduced fee of \$1.00 assessed upon those who sign up on Sept. 1st or thereafter for the balance of the '77 year. Any additional FAMILY members residing under the same roof as the initial member will pay .50 each. All memberships expire December 31st. Dues are payable to Secretary Bob Carbray, 8 Sunset Avenue, Ledyard, Ct. 06339. Please include name, address, and telephone number.

The Club's relationship with the Conn. A.A.U. was openly discussed with the general concensus leaning towards a continued affiliation with that body. It was pointed out that the Club's leaving the A.A.U. would not improve the current lack of responsiveness to the runners which now exists. The \$35.00 annual registration fee allows the Club inclusion on the State roster and insures Club recognition in team races. It was voted that the Club draft a letter to the Conn. A.A.U. encouraging a revolving meeting site in lieu of the standard south-western Conn. region. That letter has been sent and answered by Conn. A.A.U. Pres. Rick Speckland. Rick indicated that an invitation by any club to meet in its area would be heartily welcomed by the Conn. A.A.U. body. The Club is now actively seeking the use of some local institution, hopefully the Coast Guard Academy, to host one of Conn. A.A.U.'s regular meetings. Should this become a reality you are encouraged to come see where your yearly A.A.U. dues are going.

Unanimous agreement was voiced in the suggestion that all Club members take a strong position in assuring that only those members in good standing compete under the Strider name. This article is the very foundation of the Club's enduring cohesiveness.

A hopefully active race committee, chaired by Rob Huntington, was formed. Other members include Jack Curran, Gerry Chester, Elise Friedman, Hal Bennett, and George Maine. The race committee will investigate the possibility of having a 24-hour relay.

Hasty consideration of moving the annual meeting to April because of January's wintry conditions was scrapped due to an article in the Constitution which states that the annual meeting will be held in January. After a fair time of circular reasoning it was felt that, in fact, the Club was making a mountain out of a mole hill, as Clem McGrath put it. Clem, and six others from the Colchester area managed successfully to battle the elements as did four others from Danielson. January's meeting provides that needed get-together of members between that long stretch from fall to spring. Many might also agree that a cold winter's night is more conducive to a Club meeting than a spring night when training is usually headed into high gear.

Don Pirie was voted a complimentary year's membership in appreciation for his services on the newsletter circulation.

All in all, a most fruitful evening with many ideas and opinions. The meeting adjourned to Lenny's Restaurant at about 9:15 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JACK

As the third president of the Mohegan Striders I hope to continue to move the Club forward. Tim, as the first president, was able to take a small group of runners with an idea and form the nucleus around which the Club has grown. Walt followed by enlarging our base to include all S.E. Conn and got the Club on sound financial footing. I would now like to see us become more active as a group and more community oriented.

Our first move in this direction is the 24-hr. relay. The groundwork is presently being laid and, with the support of all members, could be a huge success. An idea can be nursed by a few in its infancy but it will take everyone's effort to bring it to maturity.

I have been mandated by the general membership to speak out against the practice of allowing non-members to register as a Strider for the purpose of garnering a team trophy. This "one-race" membership cannot be condoned by any Strider. The Club encourages all enthusiasts to join fully with us. To look ahead: '77 is ours; let's seize it.

JERSEY SHORE MARATHON, JANUARY 16, 1977

Some guys just can't wait to break in the New Year. Four of Mohegan's own challenged the 26-mile distance under the harshest of elements, running through swirling snow that blinded them at times. Top Mohegan among the 600 runners was new-comer Rich Fargo with a 2:46 for 11th spot. Frost-bitten Joe Banas finished 62nd in 3:06. Joe Portelance ground out a weary 3:23 for 123rd as he found the footing rough. Ron Howard, who along with Ports took a spill, hit the wall at the 24-mile mark. Pete Squires, former Connecticut boy, and a 2:27 winner, felt he could've gone 2:16 on a good day.

CLUB RELAY: DEVELOPMENTS

The key to the success of the Club's initial sponsored event is Sacrifice. The first sacrifice to be asked of Club members is to reserve the weekend of August 20th - 21st. The relay will kick off that Saturday morning approximately 10 a.m. and finish the following morning. The site is presently being secured and a local worthy organization is being approached to receive the pledges and donations resulting from the relay. Hopefully pledge sheets will be ready to distribute before July 1st. All members wishing to run may do so. It is hoped to have at least two teams of ten runners each; there may well be more. There will be one team of less than ten members if everyone is to run. This team's goal will be the same as full ten member teams: to log in as many miles as possible to raise funds. Individually, each runner will be looking to complete that next mile in order to increase the pledge commitments. More specifics to come in May's newsletter.

ROSE ARTS RACE

The Rose Arts Race Committee seeks help in the form <sup>of</sup> race-day manpower, a color commentator, and general policing of the merchandising table on race day. The Club's race committee has agreed to support those needs. Help will be requested from Club members.

SHORTS

This is the <sup>last</sup> newsletter to expired memberships . . . the Club code for Mohegan to be entered on the AAU application is 051 . . . present membership is soaring for this early in the year to nearly 90 members.

TO THE RACES

March 6th, Middletown, Conn. AAU Marathon Champs., Wesleyan Univ. 1p.m.  
 March 19th, Holyoke, 7.7-mi., Knights of Columbus Hall, 12 noon.  
 March 31st, Waltham, Ma., 13.1-mi., Patty's Donut Shoppe, High St., 1p.m.  
 April 18th, Boston, BAA Marathon: The Big "M".

AS IN ALL ADVENTURE, DISTANCE RUNNING CONTAINS ELEMENTS OF DANGER AND RISK: THERE IS THE SENSE OF DANGER IN CONTINUING ON WHEN EVERY SENSITIVE PART OF THE BODY WARNS AGAINST DOING TOO MUCH. J. Kenneth Dougherty