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VOLUME #2

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NUMBER 4

Mohegan Indian 7/14/74

HONORARY MEMBER A clear, bright Sunday morning in Uncasville was the setting for the induction of only the second honorary member to the club. Chief Harold Tantaquidgeon, direct descendent of Uncas, Chief of the powerful Mohegan Nation, joined retired sportswriter John Degange in this unique honor. A group of about thirty friends and club members witnessed the ceremony conducted by Walt Thoma, John Martin, and Bob Carbray. The Chief offered a brief, interesting look into the history of the Mohegan Indian. He wryly commented that striding or "streaking" began with the indians, and then he cited Chief Running Bear (Bare?) as the prime example. While claiming not to be a top runner the fact remains that never once was Harold apprehended in the apple orchards in his younger days. We are pleased Harold that you have become a part of us.

TRACK Some results from the Conn. AAU Track Meet held in New Britain Tuesday evening, July 9th: Ray Crothers (Mr. Ageless) finished 3rd in the 3-mile to Tom Hollander (14:00) and Jim Hall. Dave Carlson of the Sleepy Giant Mountain Track Club just nipped second place Ross Huntington in the steeplechase. Local boy John Acosta took the pole vault at 15'. The club encourages active track participation. Get a team going. Don't rely on the regular organizers to set it up all the time.

CLUB PICTURE Many did not get last year's club picture. We hope you make out better this year. All the info is here, but you must do the work. The picture is on display at Olympic Sporting Goods on Main Street in Norwich. 48 members are in the group. Merely send \$2.00 to Jack Fields, Fitchville Road, Box #1, Fitchville, Ct. 06334. He will order the picture and mail it to you.

MIDDLETOWN WOMEN'S RUN Sue Hoagland chased Kathy Lynch's 2.7-mile record of 20 minutes plus but the scorching heat made her settle for 22:09 with Pam McMerriman second in 23:22. Only three women showed for each division, the other distance being 4.25 miles. We hope that this discouraging statistic is improved next year.

STRIDER PLACES FIRST IN ALASKA Active member Jeff Johnson won the annual Fourth of July Deer Mountain Marathon in one hour and three minutes, five minutes ahead of the runner up. Jeff, now a Ketchikan resident, said it was a gruesome trek and that "I was on my hands and knees part of the way," according to a picture story and sports article from the Ketchikan Daily News.

FOURTH OF JULY RACES Canterbury: 1. Steve Gates, Manchester Ct. was the only non-strider in the top five as Suomi, Ross Huntington, Ed Reynolds, and Rob Huntington cleaned up the next four places. George Mains(13th), Ray Roberge(18th), and Chris Glenney all fared well. Colchester: 1. Vitale(28:18) 2. Crothers 3. Hollander 4. Smith 5. Clark 6. Flanagan 7. Carlson 8. Nuttall 9. Hastings 10. Young 13. Pandetti 15. Jacob 35. Carbray. Two runners taken to hospital for heat prostration.

GROTON DRAWS ANOTHER CROWD Once again the Groton bunch put together a heck of a race with over 120 competitors and over fifty prizes. Amby Burfoot refused, as last year, to be beaten on home turf and whizzed by a burned out Ray Crothers down the stretch. Steve Flanagan nailed down fourth slot and Tim Smith fifth, same as last year. Willie Eaton copped top spot in the schoolboys, while Barbara Wynne and Sue Hoagland went one - two in the women's and George Maine grabbed second in the Masters.

GALILEE 10-MILE Willie Speck clocked a quick 50:29 over this pancake course by the shore, followed by last year's winner Tom Grundy(51:21) and Tim Smith(51:32). In addition to 3rd, Larry Rice(5th) and Gene McMerriman(15th) combined to provide the lowest 3-man score, edging out a 9-12-13 finish by Johnson & Wales College. Walt Thoma, Ben Hopkins, and John Brady also finished in the top twenty-five, while John Martin just missed out.

OCEAN BEACH This was the best effort for out-of-staters in years as Morgan Pennell and Norbert Sander grabbed one-two ahead of Vitale(3rd) Crothers(5th) and Burfoot(6th). Lenny Nasser was the second high schooler to finish. Presently it appears that Pennell's time of 56:55 will be recognized as the official record if the course, mistakenly lengthened by the runners, is retained in future years.

FCS ZAPS US AGAIN The State Championship 10,000 meters (6.2-miles) held in Wavy Park, New Canaan eluded us again - this time by three points (compared to nine points last year). Bob Hensley took individual honors in record time of 32:39. Tim Smith(32:45) edged Ray Crothers(32:56) for second as all three bettered last year's record of 33:08 set by FCS John Dawson. Other Mohegan scorers included Joe Banas(15th), John Kornacki(39th), and John Brady(43rd). Tom Gionet and Steve Kornacki also finished in the top 50 in a field of 75. Rory Suomi, 9th at five miles took a wrong turn and this proved the difference for the Fairfield County Striders second victory in as many years.

ONE SUNDAY MORNING - Walt Thoma The time was 8:50 as I glanced at my watch. I was on my way to John Martin's house in Uncasville for a clubrun. Peering out the window I met a sullen, angry sky. Will the rain hold off, I wondered to myself? As I pulled into John's driveway I was met by a couple of runners. Having exchanged our customary hellos, aches, and what have you, our group consisting of John Martin, John Barry, Jamie Barry, John Leslie, George Rice, and myself got started. It had just started raining so we could expect a wet run. We all enjoy running in the rain and really did not think anything of it. There was not the slightest hint of what was to come. It was a good feeling, running through the back roads of Montville, in the rain, and in good company. The rain was coming down a lot harder as we approached the 5-mile mark. John Martin has two routes mapped out, one an 8-mile and the other an 11-mile. We opted for the longer figuring we couldn't get any wetter and besides, we were enjoying ourselves. No sooner had we took the turn for the 11-mile route and gone a ways along it when the weather took a dramatic and drastic turn for the worst. The claps of thunder were so loud it sounded as though cannons were all around us. The lightning danced playfully in the sky as the trees bowed before the wind. It was raining so hard that we could barely see ten feet in front of us. Suddenly I felt a couple sharp stings. At the same time I heard a couple "ouches" from the group. John Martin was protecting his head with both hands as marble-sized hail stones were pelting us from the rainy sky. The water in the streets was ankle deep as we treaded our way past Robertson Paper Box Company. By the time we reached the Montville fire house the storm had let up some. When we passed by Beit Brothers in Montville we met knee deep water. The roads resembled mini-brooks. Everywhere people stared, probably asking themselves what manner of beings are these? We all made it back to John's house in fine time. John Martin recorded his best time for the course. What an experience - undergoing nature's harsh treatment. Its power and majesty was awesome. Being part of it we all felt a oneness with nature and each other. While we cannot promise you a memorable Sunday like we experienced, we can promise you the warmth and friendship of other club members. Come join us.

1974 Directory Additions

Dan Brown
R. F. D. #3
Norwich, Ct.
889-8258

Chris Portelance
12 Cedar Lane
R. F. D. #2
Norwich, Ct.
889-6941

Bob Esquire
36 Glenwood Avenue
New London, Ct.
447-0880

Sean Spillane
24 Podurgiel Road
Uncasville, Ct.
848-9730

Judy and Kathy Glenney
16 Huntington Lane
Norwich, Ct.

Harold Tantaquidgeon
1819 Norwich-New London Tpk.
Uncasville, Ct.
848-9145

Mark Krodel
Box 22
Fitchville, Ct.
887-6935

Barbara and Donna Wynne
4 Allyn Street
Mystic, Ct.
536-7953

Harvey Alpert
73 Boretz Road
Colchester, Ct.
537-1200

NEW ADDRESS: Al Fecteau
101 Scotland Rd.
Norwich, Ct.

Doctor Chris Glenney
16 Huntington Lane
Norwich, Ct.

Dave Porter
174 Ann Street
Mystic, Ct.
536-2405

Gene McGrath
18 Wall Street
Colchester, Ct.
537-1209

Ray Roberge
R. R. #3, Town House Road
Lisbon, Ct.
376-2686

Roger Palmer
Box 106, 39 Halls Hill
Colchester, Ct.

Dave Stygar
367 Boswell Avenue
Norwich, Ct.
889-9785

Don Pirie
8 Jacop Drive
Uncasville, Ct.
848-0964

TIM'S GRINS To our girls: "I'm tired of everlasting being unnatural and never doing anything I want to do. I'm tired of acting like I don't eat more than a bird, and walking when I want to run." Scarlet O'Hara of Gone With The Wind

MAJOR RACES Sept. 15th - Middletown 10-mi. Masters only
Oct. 6th - Bristol 8-mi. Mumathon
Oct. 20th - Simsbury 5 1/2 K. C. Masters only
Thanksgiving - Manchester 5-mi.
Dec. 15th - Hartford Holiday 6.6-mi.

SHORTS President Walt Thoma and Sandy Bessette will be wed in May - O. K. Walt and Sandy. The Norwich and Groton Rec Runs have provided super competition this year and have filled the summer void for our school athletes. Best of luck to all in their high-school and collegiate seasons. Hope to have everyone back next summer. For consideration---How about a family membership? For a dollar or two above individual membership dues let's allow the whole family to join---Something to think about for next meeting. Shirts and shorts have been ordered and will be handled by John Martin. Club membership now totalling 94, 40 less than last year.