

MEMBER PROFILE

Jane Dolley put on her first pair of jogging shoes in April, 1978. The K-Mart Specials (Trax) came with blisters every time she ran. Unwittingly, she thought she finally knew why runners never smiled. Only months later, she

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learned that Adidas and Nike offered shoes without these discomforts.

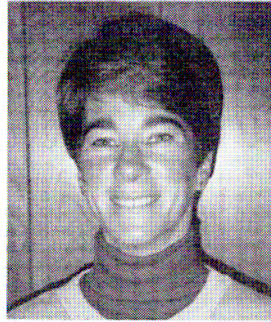
Running was not the first of Jane's athletic endeavors. At Deering High School she competed in basketball, tennis, and (of course) cheerleading. She returned to the Portland area after two years at the University of New Hampshire and joined the staff at Union Mutual Insurance.

She revived her tennis interests courting Ken Dolley, a former low hurdle state champion. She claimed his jumping over the net always looked more polished than his backhand.

Jane's taste of competition began also in 1978 with a two-mile race in Gray - time: 15:47. She volunteered only once to hand out water during the Casco Bay Marathon, deciding that running the event would be more fun. She holds on to this belief as she prepares for the 1984 Casco Bay jaunt. She enjoys most the Bowdoin 10-miler. Running has become a habit; 5 to 10 early morning miles along the roads of Yarmouth.

Her leadership qualities shined during the planning of the Cape Challenge Half-Marathon.

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To: The Maine Track Club Membership
From: Jane W. Dolley
President - 1986

First of all, I want to thank Susan Davenny and Ambrose and Sandy Berry for their effort in pulling together our history and creating this Tenth Anniversary booklet. It is a remarkable tribute to the Maine Track Club and its membership.

As I look back over my involvement with the club, I can remember distinctly just how it started. I had been a member since 1979. However, in 1984, at a Newsletter Committee meeting, as we discussed possible future officers, Bob Jolicoeur made the remark that "even Jane could be vice-president!". Innocent as that off-handed remark sounded, it was the one that sealed my fate.

1986 was a busy and exciting year - and a learning one for me. Do you remember my confession, while chairing my first meeting in January, that whenever Russ Connors had referred to "Robert's Rules", I always thought he was talking about Bob Coughlin? Everyone knew that Bob was an outstanding president, but I thought it truly remarkable that he had made up his own rule book to conduct the meetings! I never did take the time to read Robert's Rules, so I had to rely on Vice President Phil Pierce throughout the year to keep me in line and the meetings in order.

My fondest memories were of the monthly meetings. We started out the year with a little bit of humor, and it got better as we went along. Our membership was approaching 400, and all attendance records were broken at the March meeting when 123 people showed up! I never could figure out whether you came to see the first Maine Track Club president to wear a skirt; to hear the great speakers that Phil presented each month; or to partake of the homemade refreshments that the members baked at Joan Lavin's coaxing.

Speaking of eating, we can't forget the now-traditional Potluck Suppers started that year; or the decadent Progressive Dinners organized by Sandy Wyman Berry, when we ate our way from Portland to Yarmouth and back again. It was the social events like those that attracted a lot of new members to the club, including the elusive Dennis Morrill who finally gave up and graduated from being a Maine Track Club "groupie" to joining as an official member.

I am proudest, though, of being a part of the event that will go down in Maine Track Club history: hosting the 1986 RRCA Annual Convention. As you know, our initial bid was rejected. Bob Jolicoeur was persistent, but it was with great reluctance that Portland was selected as the convention site. Yet, undaunted, the entire membership worked for months, devoting hundreds of hours of personal time to planning the events. Even though you were exhausted by the time May 14th arrived, you gathered all your strength and proceeded to host the most memorable Convention that the RRCA has ever experienced! To this day, no matter where I go, RRCA club members always take the time to say how they thoroughly enjoyed themselves; yet it's difficult for them to decide which was the most fun: the potluck dinner at Bob and Pris's, dancing to the jazz band at the lobster bake, or the late-night bus trip to LL Bean's. It was a phenomenal week, and we certainly put Maine on the map!

Yes, my year as President was one of my most rewarding experiences. It opened up opportunities that I never dreamed existed and which will forever influence my life. All of this is due to the support and encouragement which you gave to me and the pride and enthusiasm which you displayed as members of the Maine Track Club.

Thank you for the memories. I will always cherish your friendship.

MTC History