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HEALTHY AMERICA
THROUGH RUNNING
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1990 RRCA CONVENTION MIAMI FLORIDA MARCH 8-11

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## ROAD RUNNERS CLUB OF AMERICA

December, 1989

Dear Maine Track Club:

Congratulations upon your club's tenth year anniversary!

From my perspective, first as the Road Runners Club of America's Eastern Director for four years and for the past four as RRCA president, I have both seen the Maine Track club join the RRCA, and then witnessed its growth and impact upon the running scene, both locally and nationally.

In 1984, when the Maine Track Club joined the RRCA, my recollection of that revolves mainly around my dealings with your then-president, Bob Jolicoeur. He was very interested in the benefits of membership in the Road Runners Club of America for your club and I was impressed that he took so much effort to find out all that the MTC could derive out of being an RRCA chapter.

Barely a year later it was obvious that the Maine Track Club was going to be an active participant in the RRCA because Bob Jolicoeur came to the RRCA convention in Atlanta with a bid from the MTC for the 1986 convention. As VP/East, I had the distressing task to tell Bob that the Maine Track Club's bid had been turned down by the RRCA board (he was v-e-r-y upset!), but the good news was that the RRCA board thought the Maine Track Club bid had tremendous potential for '86, and we were willing to delay our final decision if Bob could assure us of a few key points by our July board meeting. He did and successfully, and the 1986 RRCA convention was awarded to the Maine Track Club.

That convention stands out in my mind for three reasons: it was the convention at which I was elected president, and it was the convention made remarkable by its friendliness, superb organization, and unique activities. No-one will ever forget the beautiful lobster roast on the shore -- and the wind and rain were a part of its charm! Who could ever forget the Jolicoeurs' generous hospitality in their lovely home near the lighthouse! It was also the convention where I observed Jane Dolley in action, and made up my mind that this lively MTC woman would be a part of my board someday.

It has been a pleasure for me to observe the growth and changes apparent in the Maine Track Club since you joined the RRCA in late 1984. Your club has obviously "given back" hundred-fold in your running community and you deserve much praise. I am proud that the Maine Track club is a vital part of the Road Runners Club of America, and your club epitomizes the very spirit of grassroots running in America that is the byword of the RRCA.

May the Maine Track Club go forth for another good ten years!

Warm regards, Hully Likkle Henley Gibble