

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.

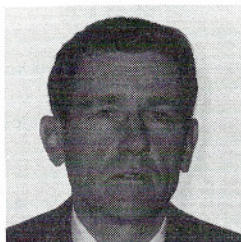
My fondest memories were of the monthly meetings. We started out the year with a little bit of humor, and it got better as we went along. Our membership was approaching 400, and all attendance records were broken at the March meeting when 123 people showed up! I never could figure out whether you came 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.



PHILIP S. PIERCE, Ph. D.

DIPLOMATE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

AMERICAN BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

January 20, 1990

Memo to: Maine Track Club Members who traditionally run the Boston Marathon

Subject: On the Occasion of the 10th Anniversary Banquet of the Maine Track Club

I am very sorry not to be present at the 10th Anniversary Banquet of the Maine Track Club. I imagine that Bob Payne will be particularly disappointed not to "drop the other shoe" on me. Actually, I am not present because I simply could not face receiving another "lead-foot" award from Bob, i.e. the plaster-filled size 13 training shoe he awarded to me last year!

For those of you who are unaware of the history of this keen and intense competition, let me explain. On April 1st each year since 1986; that is, April Fool's Day, Bob Payne and others who shall remain anonymous have received a well-worn winter runner's glove with the following caveat: "Good luck at Boston! I'll be waiting for you at the finish line!!"

Each year Bob Payne and others have responded to this laying down of the gauntlet. All others responding to this challenge have appropriately gone down to defeat; only Bob Payne has sallied forth from Hopkinton consistently catching me from behind each year, between miles 8 and 24. Twice I have watched him cross the finish line ahead of me, mere seconds away. Always he has politely waited at the finish line, smiling his eternal victory smile. Last year he had to pass me three times before pulling away for an 88 second victory. [hardly a minute]

In 1990, it is going to be different. There is an upset in the making. Right now, while Bob and the rest of the Club are partying, I am training in earnest at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Be forewarned! A slightly sub-3 hour marathon may not do it this year! Why, it is even possible that I will watch Jim Toulouse and Frank Ferland cross the finish line while waiting patiently for Bob Payne! Who knows?

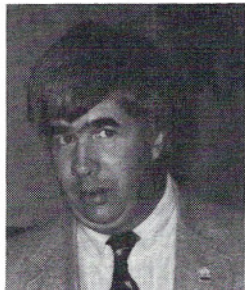
Finally, as an added note of intrigue, on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Maine Track Club, I might explain the secret of how to arrange a good start at the Boston Marathon, without cheating of course!

Good luck to all runners as we enter another decade. Try and make it to Boston if you can.

Sincerely,

Phil

Boston Philly



Maine Track Club

P.O. Box 8008, Portland, Maine 04104

...Run with a friend...

Maine Track Club
P.O. Box 8008
Portland, ME. 04104

January 2, 1990

Dear Track Club:

Congratulations on your "Tenth Year Track Club Anniversary".

Lets hope the following decade is as, if not more, prosperous and fulfilling. Good Luck!

Sincerely,

Charlie Scribner

Charlie Scribner,
Past Pres. '88
Race Committee Chairman



Maine Track Club is a non-profit organization.





Dear Friends,

Looking back over ten years in the Maine Track Club, I have to reflect on some of the people who have touched my life and enriched it. Larry Greer, outstanding runner, coach, and prime mover in raising funds for CE track, took me to my first MTC meeting in the spring of '79 at the Max on York St.

Roger Dutton got me psyched for the '79 Montreal Marathon. He told me to write a letter about my experience which I still treasure ten years later. Other fellow travelers were Doug Moreshead, Tom Downing and Steve Rainsford. Dave Silverbrand helped me to run slow enough the first five miles so I didn't get into trouble later.

I appreciate the efforts of Ziggy Gillespie and Dave Paul for the intervals at the Expo and those long runs from Phidippides in '79 and '80. Later the long runs were continued from the Coughlins'; I sure appreciated them opening their home to us after those sub-zero long runs getting ready for Boston. It didn't make any difference how cold it was, Bob always came back and made sure I was okay.

One of my fondest recollections of Kim Moody was after completing the '79 Great Pumpkin 10K for first over 50 and third over 40 with a 38:30. Kim came over and congratulated me with a hug and a kiss for running Casco Bay in 3:11:38 just one week before. Kim helped me to run a 3:07 in '80 at Maine Coast and inspired me to do my best in many races in the early '80's.

Dick McFaul was my inspiration to start training for the first Casco Bay Marathon in '78 and has continued to be one of my mentors over the years. I owe Russ Connors more than I can ever repay for keeping me honest the last ten years. Russ has been my favorite running partner, biggest booster, best friend and soul mate.

Others that have touched and enriched my life have been Vern Putney, former editor of Running in Maine in the Maine Sunday Telegram, Bob Booker, former editor of Maine Running & Outing, Joel Croteau who paced me to a 2:56 Casco Bay Marathon in '82 and the Rowdy Ultra a couple of weeks later, Mike Reali for organizing annual expeditions to Mt. Katahdin and a trip to Bigelow, Bob Jolicoeur for organizing the Montreal Marathon '86 group buffet and hospitality, Bill Green who taped me for Channel 6 in '82 as a promo for Maine Coast after a disastrous finish in '81, Dave Trussell for organizing the Runners vs. the Rower from Cape Cod with proceeds to go to Big Brothers/Big Sisters, one of the finest times we have had, the Cronins from Hopkinton for opening their home and their hearts to us, the late Bruce Ellis who ran the Olympic trials but still took time to inspire runners at all levels and send T-shirts to Zimbabwe, Jon Shill who opened his house to me after our first run.

Other folks I want to mention...Jerry Roberts, Mike Worden, Frank Morong, Alan Leathers, Tony Owen, Ray Shevenell, Orlando DeLogue, Greg Dugas, Virginia Connors Holmes, Arnie Clark, Dave Freeman, Dave Houser, John Conley, John Gale, Ron Cedrone, Al Butler, Margie Adams, Dick Manthorne, Russ Bradley, Jane Dolley, Dick Lajoie, Barry Fifield, Barry Howgate, John Keller, Bob Payne, Larry Pierce, Loren Lathrop, Bill Leschey, Al Mack, Harry Nelson, Kurt Nielsen, Ros Randall, Harvey Rohde, Dave Smith, Rick Strout, Mike Towle, Sandy Utterstrom, Jean Thomas, Walter Webber, Ted Hollidge, Bill Davenny, Erin MacLean, Maggie Soule, Jenny Baker, Carlton Mendell. And a big, big thank you to my executive committee for making this past year one of joy in being president of MTC. And for Sue Davenny, a secretary par excellence!

Happy Running

Herb Strout