

My Last List

As 1986 draws to a close, I want to take the opportunity to share some thoughts with you on my year as President of the Maine Track Club.

When I stepped up to the podium at last year's banquet and addressed the Club in my (cough) "shy, demure" manner (that didn't last long, did it?), I gave you my first "List" - goals for the Club in 1986:

- o continue to strengthen the membership
- o provide opportunities for members to improve their level of fitness
- o offer the running community a quality race schedule; and
- o put on a first class RRCA Convention.

Well, we did all of it. The membership has not only grown to over 400 members but we have seen an increase in participation that shows just how strong we are.

The monthly programs this year covered all aspects of running and fitness, from your head ("The Psychology of Running" with Dr. Bill Gayton) to your toes (injuries to your feet with Dr. Dan DeSena). We were involved with 13 races this past year, from the 5K to the half-marathon, with our biggest and most successful events being the 5K and 10K during the RRCA Convention.

And speaking of the RRCA Convention, you really pulled through for that one! The Maine Track Club conducted itself with class and showed the RRCA that we are one of the strongest Clubs in the nation. They have fond memories of the Spring of '86, and we have a wonderful feeling of accomplishment.

One other item that wasn't on my list but should have been was the Newsletter. Our Newsletter has been instrumental in increasing the awareness of the Maine Track Club and has been an excellent source of information for interested runners throughout the state and beyond. As you can see from this issue, the 1987 Newsletter Editor and his committee will retain this quality status and continue to publish a newsletter of which we will be proud.

Looking back, I realize I couldn't have picked a more exciting year to be President of the Maine Track Club. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my whole life. Some of my fondest memories are of our membership meetings and all the fun and laughter we had. It was great seeing so many smiling (and awake!) faces out there. I always felt proud going to our races and knowing I was part of such a large, vibrant and talented group of runners. And I can't forget to mention the officers and chairmen who faithfully attended our Board Meetings, advised me on the heavy stuff and gently "guided" me in the right direction. You guys made me look pretty good, didn't you?

Would I have changed anything? Done it differently? My only wish is that I had more hours in the day - more time to have followed through with all the ideas and suggestions you gave me. That's all - just a little more time.

So, thank you all for having faith in me as your leader. Thank you for your support, encouragement and most importantly, your enthusiasm. And, yes, I would do it over again.

Jane