The President's Corner

I would expect the majority of us are trying to let the body rest and relax before getting back to serious training. For the few who continue to walk, jog, or run in this cold rainy weather outside take care and stay as warm as possible.

For those of you who have found an indoor facility to you liking, good luck. The month of November will bring several worthwhile annual events. By the time you receive this newsletter one will have already taken place.

Turning your clocks back for daylights saving time. It really took place October 28th. However, it is an annual event even the State of Indiana will participate in the turning back process this year.

There is the National Election November 7th, Veteran's Day that will be observed on the 10th, Over the Hill Track Club Awards Program that will be held on the 19th and Thanksgiving Holiday which is the 23rd and 24th for most of us.

I hope all who are eligible will vote. For those of you who are not veterans give a thought to us who are, and those who are no longer with us. Hope you enjoy the Thanksgiving for the purpose it is celebrated.

That leaves us for the important event of the year, The Yearly Over the Hill Track Club Awards Program. I call it a Banquet since food will be served and consumed. This is one of the opportunities the members will have to meet and greet some of the participants you have read about in the monthly newsletter.

The cost per person is Twenty (20) dollars. The date is Sunday, November 19th from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The location is Wellington’s Restaurant, 783 Alpha Drive in Mayfield Heights, off Wilson Miss Road just west of I-271

We are expecting to see many veteran members, new additions, and prospective participants that can run, jump, throw, coach or officiate. We have ideas for including the youth into many of our projects.

Contact those individuals you know that fit the above criteria. If there is a member that you are aware of and are not sure he/she has been contacted, please do so. We look forward to a great turnout and fellowship with as many members as is possible.

May the sun shine on your forehead and kiss you on each cheek. May you give and receive a kind word from everyone you meet. May you discover a trunk of good fortune and the majority of it you keep. May your ventures bring you victories with minimal defeats.

Happy Holidays!!!!

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Welcome to our newest member: Brian Chulik!!
2007 USATF Cards
The National Office has voted that the fees for the 2007 membership will be $29.95. The Lake Erie Association has voted to make its membership available for $25.00. New cards will be available at the club brunch or through Jeff Gerson.

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Dayton Master Track and Field Classic Meet Records
Club members through 2005

1500 Race-walk
M50—Jeff Gerson—9:55 8—2000

Short Hurdles
M60—Grover Coats—16.1—1999
M70—Fred Hirsimaki—15.9—1998
M75—Fred Hirsimaki—16 6—2001
M80—Fred Hirsimaki—16 0—2005

100 Dash
W45—Patrice Thomas—16 5—1991
W55—Essie Kea—15 1—1993
W60—Essie Kea—16 1—2002
M70—Jack Greenwald—13.9—1999

400 Dash
M70—Jack Greenwald—1.12.8

1500 Run
M30—Vince Walls—4.27 9—1991

200 Dash
M70—Jack Greenwald—30.0—1999

4x100
Open Women—55 0—1993

4x200
Open Women—2:05.9—1991

Javelin
M70—Chuck Wiedman—93'4"—2003
M75—Fred Hirsimaki—107'10"—2001
M80—Fred Hirsimaki—89'3"—2005

High Jump
M70—Fred Hirsimaki—4' 4—1998
M75—Fred Hirsimaki—3'10"—2000
M80—Fred Hirsimaki—4‘0"—2005

Long Jump
M75—Fred Hirsimaki—12'2"—2001
M80—Fred Hirsimaki—10'5"—2005

Triple Jump
M40—Kelly Lycan—39' 8 1/2"—1999
M70—Fred Hirsimaki—27'0"—1997
M75—Fred Hirsimaki—26'8"—2000
M80—Fred Hirsimaki—23' 4 1/4"—2005

Pole Vault
M65—Fred Hirsimaki—7'6"—1994
M70—Fred Hirsimaki—7'0"—1998
M75—Fred Hirsimaki—7'0"—2000
M80—Fred Hirsimaki—5'6"—2005

RESULTS
NCCWMA Masters Championships
Guatemala City, Guatemala—August 24th-27th
Rooney Wilson—M45—100m—13.26—1st
Javelin—32.41—3rd
Dorothy Wilson—W80—Shot Put—4' 83—1st
Rex Harvey—M60—Weight Pentathlon—3625 pts—1st

Nature’s Bin 5K
Lakewood—October 7th—W55—Cathi Ger­son 27:18—1st

Joanne Siegel OTHTC W45-W49
Boston Marathon (26.2 mi) April 17, 2006
4:07.21 (Marathon #16, Boston #6)

Cleveland Olympic Distance Triathlon
July 23, 2006—2:55.14—1st in Division
9m Lake Erie Swim (28:08) 1st Place
24m. Bike (1:29 11) 1st Place
6.2 m. Run (2:01 54) 2nd Place

Greater Cleveland Half—Iron Triathlon
August 13, 2006—6:28.47—1st in Division
1.2 m. Lake Erie Swim (40:17) 1st
56 m. Bike (3:36.53) 2nd
13 1 m. Run (2:01.54) 2nd

River Run Half-Marathon (13 1 miles)
September 10, 2006—1:45.01—2nd in Divi­sion out of 36

Columbus Marathon (26.2 miles)
October 15, 2006—3:53.20—17th/154 Divi­sion Place (marathon #17, re-qualified for Boston, 7th time)
Schedule Additions

Nov. 19—Club Banquet—Wellington (Details next month)

Nov. 29-Dec. 3—USATF National Convention
Indianapolis, IN

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2006-2007 Indoor Schedule—Open Meets

December 10—Golden Flashes Gala
   5:30 PM—KSU—Kent, Ohio
December 11—Golden Flashes Gala
   9:00 AM—KSU—Kent, Ohio
December 30—Holiday Invitational
   9:00 AM—Hagerstown, ME.
January 06—Aura Flyers Invitational
   8:30 AM—Aura, IL.
January 12—Back Squirrel Classic
   5:30 PM—Kent, Ohio
January 13—Black Squirrel Classic
   8:30 AM—Kent, Ohio
January 21—Slippery Rock
February 02—Akron Open
   5:00 PM—Akron, Ohio
February 03—Akron Open
   9:00 AM—Akron, Ohio
February 04—Slippery Rock
February 04—Doug Raymond Inv
   9:00 AM—Kent, Ohio
February 17—Tune Up Meet
   9:00 AM—Kent, Ohio
February 23-25—USATF Indoor National Championships—Boston M.A.
March 25—Raleigh Relays
   Raleigh, N C
April 13-16—Sea Ray Relays
   Knoxville, Tenn.
April 19—Kansas Relays
April 26-29—Penn, Relays
April 27-28—B.W Invitational
   Berea, Ohio
May 04-05—Campbell/Wright Open
   Akron, Ohio
June 20-24—USATF Jr and Open
   National Track & Field Championships

* * * *

Send Newsletter info to:
Jeff Gerson
5091 Hickory Drive
Lyndhurst, OH 44124

Officers

President  Paul Williams
VP Publicity  Cathi Gerson
VP Programs (Banquet)  Bernice Holland
VP Website  Erik Thiem
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Men 70+  Everett Poe  216.991.8524
Weight Events  John Sloan  330.877.9197
Multi Events  Rex Harvey  440.954.8122
Out-of-State  Lawrence Finley  859.236.2042
   Rodney Wilson  517.646.8742(h)
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   Race Walking  Joyce Prohaska  216.521.7966
   Road Racing  Joanne Siegel  216.397.0260
   T/F Consultant  Paul Williams  440.605.1811
   Norman Thomas  330.425.8219
VP Newsletter  TBA
Secretary  Rex Harvey
Treasurer  Jeff Gerson
Historian and Records  Lawrence Finley

Women (all)  Bernice Holland  216-383-0429

Coordinators

Men (open)  TBA
Men 30-39  Spencer Johnson  216-382-8250
Men 40-49  Vince Walls  216-233-8771
Men 50-59  Jeff Gerson  440.473.0636
Men 60-69  Grover Coats  216.464.3865
Men 70+  Everett Poe  213.991.8524
Weight Events  John Sloan  330.877.9197
Multi Events  Rex Harvey  440.954.8122
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Joyce Prohaska  2006
Participated in many events in 2006, but only listed ones which included walking or Racewalking division

February
All Tel Classic  3000m USATF National Indoor Meet
7th overall
18:22.06

May
5/06
Cleveland Marathon
Walking Division 1st female

June
Goat Island
6/06
National 10k Racewalk
1:04.16  2nd Age division

October
October 7, 2006  Kingsport Tn.
American Way USATF 5K Racewalk
2nd Age division
30:50 (5K PR)

Columbus ½ marathon
Walking division
2:23.29
2nd female overall

6/06 Northeast Running Club Flag Day – 2 mile walk
19:09 1st Female

6/17/06
Lake Erie Association
3000m Racewalk
18:15

July
State Games-Sr Olympics
7/22/06 1500m  8:57.75 Gold
7/22/06 5K  31:36  Gold

September
9/06 Celebrate Westlake 3.4 mile walk
2nd Female overall

9/11/06 River Run ½ marathon
Walker: 2:24.0

9/06 New Albany 10k Walking Classic
10K
3rd Overall Female
1:04:24
I was requested by Jeff Gerson to be the starter for the Over The Hill Cross Country meet at University high school. Jeff is the founding father of the OTHTC and he is also father to Droopy a male beagle and Sophie a mixed boxer but they are adopted not biological. I made the mistake of showing up early and was given the job of signing up the contestants who were not able to preregister, putting them in the proper age groups and most important collecting their entry fees.

There was a huge turnout for this meet - Eleven contestants and three dogs plus three officials but one of the officials conveniently disappeared. I didn't have to sign up too many but one group jumped out of their car at 10:55 and signed up with the meet starting at 11:00. The group included a man, his wife their son and six year old daughter and their dog. He didn't pay for his daughter or the dog.

We headed for the starting line and Jeff gave everyone the description of the course and answered questions about the course. He explained that Droopy was the starting gun and when Droopy barked everyone would start the race. The command was "Droopy are you ready." When Droopy heard the word "ready" he would bark. I made the mistake of saying "runners are you ready" and Droopy barked at the word "ready" and everyone took off. I had to call them back to the starting line because we were not ready with our watches and Droopy had caught us off guard.

At the command "Droopy are you ready" Droopy barked and the runners were off. I think that everyone here was "off."

The age old rule about aiding the runner didn't comply in this meet as three dogs pulled their "masters" around the course. The six year old girl started the run with everyone else but at about the 800m mark she jumped into a big stroller which her father proceeded to push around the course. When they were about 50m from the finish line she jumped out of the stroller and sprinted to the finish line coming in sixth place beating her father who finished in seventh place while pushing an empty stroller.

Droopy who is fourteen (98 in doggy years) was pulling Jeff around the course in maybe his last dog race. Jeff was having difficulty staying with Droopy's short stride after his fourteenth operation but Jeff is a real die hard who enjoys the competition even though it is killing his body. I thought that I was "nuts" but I am a distant second to Jeff.

I gave the times as the runners finished and handed out the finish cards at the same time which wasn't too hard because there was a big gap between the runners. There was a space of 24:27 to 41:09 between the first and the last runner.

After seeing these times I didn't feel that bad about the time that I ran in the National Cross Country Championships as a member of the Over The Hill team. They were desperate for a fifth man so that they could have a team in the Nationals and I was it. Eighty pounds overweight and normally wearing nine bandages to hold my body together I trained for two days with one mile jogs each day (slow) two weeks before the meet. My training was cut short by an automobile accident where I had the steering wheel rearrange my nose and cracked my patella on the dash but after a week of rest I was ready for my first ever 5k run. You could consider me as the anchor man on the team because I was going to be last. The
gun went off and the race was on. I was running next to a guy who was in his seventies and we stayed together for the first mile but he quickly left me after that. After the race was over he came up to me and said thanks for pacing me for the first mile and I replied "I wasn't pacing you I was in a full sprint to keep up." It all worked out in the end though because the team finished in second place in the Nationals because we had some good runners on the team but it was the hardest medal that I ever had to work for. At times during the run I was hoping that little red riding hood had left some crumbs on the trail so that I could find the finish line.

When all the runners were finished it was time for awards and refreshments?? Each runner was given water and a pound cake and then each runner was presented with a trophy.

The dogs were not left out of the awards. Droopy was the runner-up for the male "doggy" award and received a piece of celery which he accepted. The winning male dog refused the celery because he wasn't a vegetarian. Sophie was the winning female dog and she accepted the celery as her prize.

This was the most bizarre meet that I have ever been associated with in 45 years of being around Cross Country. The only other thing that would come close is we had a blind female runner with the club some years ago. We presented Tee shirts to all the runners at the meet. Our blind runner was built like an ironing board but she said that a medium tee shirt wouldn't fit her and that she needed a large shirt. She kept calling the house and hounding my wife so much to get this shirt which we were out of in the large size. My wife finally cut out the medium label in the shirt and sewed in a large label. She presented the tee shirt to "Joan" who tried it on and said "there I told you that I needed a large!"

DIICK MANN

Over the Hill Track Club Banquet

• Sunday, November 19th—10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

• Wellington's Restaurant at 783 Alpha Drive off Wilson Mills Road
  Exit 36 on I-271 (Alpha Drive is just west of freeway exit)

• Cost is $20.00 per person—Make checks payable to: Over the Hill TC
  Send to: Jeff Gerson
  5091 Hickory Drive
  Lyndhurst, OH 44124

• Questions? - call: Norman Thomas—330-425-8219
  Bernice Holland—216-383-0429
  Jeff Gerson—440-473-0636

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Over the Hill Track Club Banquet

Name: _____________________ Phone #: _____________________

Number of People Attending: ________