

WMAC SNOSHU-NEWS

Our annual snowshoe meeting at Northfield Mountain was held on June 10th. Our purpose is to begin work on the next season's schedule, verify who is still agreeable to direct events, as well as always being on the lookout for new ideas. Attending, in addition to myself, were:

CT	Carol Kane	Kenny Clark
MA	Rich Busa Sheila Osgood	Dave Dunham Walt Kolodzinski
NH	Richard Bolt	
NY	Laura Clark	Jeff Clark
VT	Bob Dion John Pelton	Denise Dion Fred Ross

I was happy to acknowledge that there were five Gold Medal winners from the 2007 USSSA Championship present in this group, as well as a National Team Member.

Jeff and Laura Clark are looking at a busy winter, as they hope to provide no less than four Saratoga Area races in 2007. First up, the success of May's Mudslinger 5-mile trail race has encouraged the Clark's to hold a winter version on the same route, aptly named the Slush-Slinger. This will be a Sunday in January, most likely the 21st.

The weekend of February 3rd and 4th will be the Great Northeast Two Day Snowshoe Championship, combining times from Northfield Mountain and Saratoga Spa Winterfest. On Saturday, Northfield will be at the 10km distance (same basic route as the June 10th trail race including the viewing platform), and Saratoga Spa Winterfest will be the insanely fast 5km on Sunday. Additionally, Winterfest will hold a relay race for interested individuals and teams.

The following weekend will be the New Hampshire Two Day Snowshoe Championship, with Saturday being the 4.5-mile Sidehiller and Sunday being the 5km Frosty's Dash.

Additionally, mention of a half-marathon snowshoe race came up and Jeff Clark mentioned to look for one on the Camp Saratoga Course sometime in March, weather permitting. Bob Dion mentioned the old Moby Dick Marathon route, which could be anything from half to full marathon. We hope to be able to come up with something this winter.

As far as USSSA Regional Qualifiers go, Jeff and Laura have expressed interest for Camp Saratoga to serve in that capacity. Dave Dunham has been approached for Northfield to again serve as a qualifier, with Dave still unsure. It was pointed out that if Northfield withdrew from being a qualifier, it could be difficult for those in much of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and Connecticut to perhaps get to a qualifier with only potentially Camp Saratoga as a candidate. Rich Bolt added that the qualifier status at Northfield really increased the level of

competition through the years, and that it has a tradition of being a USSSA qualifier. We will hold on to see what decision Dave comes up with. Zeke Zucker also plans on trying to gain Qualifier status for his Northern Vermont Challenge in Jefferson, Vermont. Zeke sent us an email informing that he would really try to make his event extra special for those traveling to it this coming season!

Josh Merlis of the Albany Running Exchange emailed about Brave the Blizzard, thinking they would possibly wait for a predicted snowstorm before announcing the race. The one date that may be open for them is February 11th (same as Frosty's). While we certainly have tried to discourage same day events, the distance between these two might have to allow us to try it in 2007.

Bob and Denise Dion agreed to provide our series and races with loaner snowshoes again for 2007. This is, once again, fantastic news. Bob mentioned that he may be limited to 20 or 30 pair at each event, so as we get close to snowshoe season get in touch with the Dion's if you believe your race may have a need for additional shoes.

Bob Dion stated that he thought the National Championship at Bolton Valley was exceptional in all aspects, including the relay race the second day. Bob had nice things to say about the venue, the course and the organization. Ed Alibozek seconded that he had a really great time attending also.

Ed Alibozek reported that he, Ed Jr and Paul Hartwig have plans to hold events at Hallockville Pond, the Thunderbolt (like Curly's fill in last year), as well as Florida Mountain. They have no dates for these as Ed plans on working with the state of Massachusetts DCF to get an open permit allowing us to use these locations as fill-ins or last minute replacements due to poor conditions elsewhere. Florida Mountain would not need permits as it is private property, but some work needs to be finished on a trail system there.

Walt Kolodzinski mentioned having a mid-week continuing 5km snowshoe race in the evenings at the Holyoke reservoir. Ed thought it a fantastic idea and this looks like a go providing the weather cooperates. Jeff and Laura Clark are lucky in that Camp Saratoga already has a mid-week "fun run" going on.

We were all treated to a look at Dave Dunham's newly published book about the History of Mt Washington Road Race, congratulations Dave!

We also were able to say goodbye to Rich Bolt, who has been snowshoeing with us for a long while (see SnoNews 4.7). Rich will be keeping the spirit of our snowshoeing alive in the Northwest, and has already met up with Robert Yerex also of Oregon (who attended the 2007 Bolton Valley Championship). It looks like we are infiltrating nicely throughout the country as we sent Kelly Herrington to Washington state last year! Rich said he would be back to do a couple races in our series next season regardless. It will be nice to continue seeing him.

TENTATIVE WMAC SCHEDULE 2007 "Not Yet Carved in Stone"

Sunday, December 17, 2006 6th I LOVE WOODFORD	Woodford, VT 3.5 Miles
Saturday, December 23, 2006 MYSTERY RACE I	Western MA ~3.5 Miles
Saturday, December 30, 2006 MYSTERY RACE II	Western MA ~3.5 Miles
Saturday, January 6, 2007 3rd MERRIMACK RIVER TRAIL	Andover, MA 5 KM
Sunday, January 7, 2007 3rd BRAVE THE BLIZZARD	Guilderland, NY 5 KM
Saturday, January 13 2007 10th NORTH-SOUTH POND	Sav/ Florida, MA 3, 4 or 5 Miles
Saturday, January 20, 2007 8th GREYLOCK GLEN	Adams, MA 3.5 Mile
Sunday, January 21, 2007 1st SLUSH-SLINGER	Saratoga, NY 5 Miles
Sunday, January 28, 2007 5th CURLY's RECORD RUN	Pittsfield, MA 4 Miles
Saturday,, February 3, 2007 5th NORTHFIELD MTN	Northfield, MA 10KM
Sunday, February 4, 2007 8th SARATOGA WINTERFEST	Saratoga, NY 5 KM
Saturday, February 10, 2007 2nd SIDE-HILLER	C. Sandwich, NH 4 Mile
Sunday, February 11, 2007 2nd FROSTY'S DASH	Auburn, NH 5 KM
Saturday, February 17, 2007 4th CAMP SARATOGA	Wilton, NY 8.25 KM
Sunday, February 18, 2007 2nd HALLOCKVILLE POND	West Hawley, MA 8 KM
Saturday, February 24, 2007 4th COVERED BRIDGE	Adams, MA 8.0 Miles
Saturday, February 24, 2007 5th HOXIE THUNDERBOLT	Adams, MA 3.5 Miles
Saturday, March 3, 2007 10th HAWLEY KILN KLASSIC	Hawley, MA 4.0 & 7.0 Miles
Sunday, March 4, 2007 T-BOLT / BELLOWS PIPE	Adams, MA 3.5 Miles

2007 U.S.S.A. NORTHEAST REGION QUALIFIERS

Saturday, January 20, 2007 MENDON PONDS WINTERFEST	Mendon, NY 5 KM & 10 KM
Saturday,, February 3, 2007 NORTHFIELD MTN	Northfield, MA 10KM
Sunday, February 11, 2007 NORTHERN VERMONT CHALL.	Jeffersonville, VT 8KM & 4KM
Saturday, February 17, 2007 NESCOPECK STATE PARK	Drums PA 5 KM & 10 KM
Saturday, February 17, 2007 CAMP SARATOGA	Wilton, NY 8.25 KM

WMAC SNOWSHOE SERIES SCORING 2007

The 2007 WMAC Snowshoe Series will utilize the same system of scoring as last season. The scoring will be decided by points as follows:

Points will be awarded to all finishers, based on number of participants in each individual race, with 1st place always receiving 100 points, regardless of number of finishers. Each subsequent position will be awarded points on a sliding scale from 100.

Example; if 40 people complete Woodford, the overall winner will receive 100 points. The person in second will receive 97.5 points, third will get 95 points, on and on until the last finisher gets awarded the factor point. This will weight the scoring by number of participants.

If at the next event, Merrimack, there are 20 finishers, first place again gets 100 points, second 95, third 90 etc.

If there isn't snow at an event, a foot race may be held instead. The points awarded for a "non-snowshoe" race will be halved. So, if there is no snow at Race X, and 50 people participate, first place gets 50 points, second receives 49 points, etc. This way, the event (and the directors efforts) can be salvaged towards being part of the series, with lesser weight than a traditional snowshoe race.

The overall male / female WMAC Snowshoe Champions will be decided by total number of points for their best six out of ??? possible scores at the WMAC events.

Also, the top point producers in five year age categories, both men and women, will be declared age group champions. You must complete at least four of the events to be eligible for an age group title, with your best six scores counting.

2007 USSSA NAT. CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, March 10, 2007 USSSA NATIONALS	Minneapolis, MN 5 KM & 10 KM
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ALL TIME WMAC SNOWSHOE POINTS LEADERS - 1998 – 2006

PL	NAME	# RACES	TOTAL PTS
01	Bob Dion	61	4964.09
02	Ken Clark	39	3506.61
03	Edward Alibozek	42	3364.79
04	Leigh Schmitt	33	3242.14
05	Ed Alibozek Jr	52	3000.66
06	Dave Dunham	31	2827.43
07	Bob Worsham	38	2475.69
08	Richard Bolt	26	2454.67
09	John Pelton	29	2169.11
10	David Boles	34	2142.11
11	Kelly Herrington	26	2071.45
12	Laura Clark	51	1971.80
13	Ben Nephew	21	1968.86
14	Shaun Sutcliffe	23	1899.58
15	Carol Kane	35	1890.53
16	Paul Low	19	1883.78
17	Scott Bradley	31	1879.42
18	Dave Hannon	22	1858.32
19	Jay Kolodzinski	25	1835.91
20	Peter Lipka	34	1822.23
21	Paul Hartwig	37	1786.43
22	Lawrence Dragon	32	1725.32
23	Richard Busa	58	1690.92
24	Wayne Stocker	23	1613.23
25	Jack Casey	20	1535.40
26	Mike Lahey	24	1491.58
27	William Morse	27	1460.92
28	Darlene McCarthy	28	1454.50
29	Ed Saharczewski	26	1364.02
30	Kelli Lusk	16	1354.12
31	Jim Preite	17	1290.06
32	Laurel Shortell	52	1287.60
33	Bob Massaro	39	1271.91
34	Jim Schultz	14	1244.41
35	Deborah Livingston	17	1233.32
36	Patrick Riley	17	1133.72
37	Bruce Marvonek	17	1112.33
38	James Pawlicki	13	1106.88
39	Christophe Lanaud	13	1105.85
40	Elijah Barrett	12	1079.51
41	Nick Jubok	15	1033.09
42	Ed Buckley	16	1031.84
43	Jack Quinn	17	1014.53
44	Jacque Schiffer	15	985.67
45	Karl Molitoris	16	983.63
46	Jim Carlson	29	964.42
47	Jan Rancatti	13	958.61
48	Rob Smith	13	926.81
49	Dan Verrington	11	915.44
50	Marc Lombard	15	907.22
51	Seth Roberts	12	860.01
52	Dave Wallace	10	857.90
53	John Onderdonk	10	839.73
54	Annie Schultz	13	822.63
55	Larina Riley	16	813.87
56	Konrad Karolczuk	60	812.60
57	Bill Ross	14	800.91
58	Gregory Hammett	9	795.37

PL	NAME	# RACES	TOTAL PTS
59	Jessica Hageman	16	782.49
60	Maureen Roberts	17	781.72
61	Martin Glendon	26	773.93
62	Britt Brewer	10	769.12
63	John Noonan	8	764.24
64	Bryan Dragon	9	758.59
65	Stephanie Nephew	12	746.99
66	Michele Tetreault	10	736.55
67	Mark Syrett	26	735.33
68	Mark Guillaume	8	715.94
69	Will Danecki	15	685.23
70	Beth Herder	9	683.13
71	Walter Kolodzinski	26	681.27
72	Matt Cartier	7	655.64
73	Sheryl Wheeler	8	651.69
74	Tracey Delaney	8	643.58
75	Lisa Schmitt	14	634.93
76	Vincent Kirby	11	630.97
77	Denise Dion	28	629.85
78	Stephen Peterson	8	624.51
79	Kennith Deary	15	623.90
80	James Ruddock	9	607.04
81	Rob Higley	7	606.58
82	Tom Mack	12	605.14
83	Michael Robertson	7	588.27
84	Paul Bazanchuck	8	582.00
85	Norm Hecker	7	576.61
86	Mike Cohen	6	574.55
87	Keith Schmitt	6	564.96
88	Ed Myers	7	554.43
89	Bob Irving	8	546.85
90	Nico Scibelli	7	544.73
91	Barbara Sorrell	14	523.67
92	Steve Mitchell	12	523.08
93	Scott Livingston	6	522.27
94	Jonathan Howes	16	515.63
95	Brian McCarthy	17	498.66
96	Tracy Van Dyke	6	493.91
97	Marcia Whitney	8	490.52
98	Thomas Skrocki	6	488.45
99	Ken Fairman	11	481.61
100	Sally Goade	17	478.41
101	Thomas Denny	6	477.09
102	Eva Van Stratum	9	475.15
103	Gregory Rems	6	467.72
104	Steve Banatoski	9	465.01
105	Jason Kaffenberger	8	464.06
106	Jason Clark	5	461.84
107	Jacqueline Lemieux	13	458.96
108	Kelly Short	10	457.63
109	Lisa Mentzer	11	452.60
110	Claudine Preite	17	446.53
111	Gareth Buckley	12	444.54
112	John Carey	6	438.06
113	Norm Sheppard	9	437.25
114	Richard Clark	7	436.56
115	Nikki Kimball	5	434.93
116	Tom Parent	6	432.94

W.M.A.C. SNOWSHOE PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW



Sisters, Ellen Mach and Ann Dobrowolski, always are present and helpful regardless of the season.



Laura Clark, director of the Saratoga Snowshoe events. Has participated at close to every event since 1999.



Johnny Scalise, co-director of too many to count North-South Ponds.



Jeff Clark, co-director of all those wonderful Saratoga Events.

All Photos by Brad and Beth Herder, Directors of Curly's Record Run.