

MID-FLORIDA MILERS WALKING CLUB ANNUAL MEETING AND 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

August 16, 2014

WELCOME

Prior to the meeting call to order, MFM President Rosemary Barna welcomed our AVA Southeast Regional Director, David Bonewitz and his wife Mindy, and their friends Ron and Rita Cox, as well as several original members of the MFM Walking Club who had joined us for our celebration. Rosemary also introduced the current members of the Board of Directors.

AWARDS

David Bonewitz presented an AVA 25 Year Club Ribbon and a letter from AVA, to Rosemary Barna recognizing the Mid-Florida Milers 25th Anniversary and congratulating the club for their 25 years of continuously providing fun, fitness and friendship through volkssporting.

David Bonewitz also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the manager of Boca di Peppo restaurant.

CALL TO ORDER

The annual membership meeting was officially called to order by President Rosemary Barna at Buca di Peppo restaurant at 1:15pm following a traditional walk through areas of Maitland and Winter Park and the MFM 25th anniversary luncheon. Forty two members and guests were in attendance.

MFM HISTORY

Rosemary introduced Gloria and Mark Merwarth the founding members of the Mid-Florida Milers. Gloria gave a brief recap explaining how she and Mark became involved in volkssporting.

- In the early 1970's Gloria and Mark did their first Volkssport walk in Helen GA. They continued walking with some of the clubs in Central Florida area from Melbourne and Tampa.
- In 1989 a group met on the shores of Lake Eola for the first walk in Orlando. Their first meeting was held at Winter Park Hospital auditorium and resulted in the name Mid-Florida Milers and Gloria as the first president.
- The first walk for the Mid-Florida Milers was in Wekiva Springs, a 10K and 20K laid out by Ernie Eifert. Over 300 walkers showed up and the Wekiva Springs became a regular event.
- At the club's first anniversary in 1990 it was decided to have an ongoing club newsletter. All past MFM newsletters can be found on the MFM web site under History.

MINUTES

Minutes from the August 17, 2013 General Meeting were distributed at the luncheon for members' review and were approved and accepted as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sharon Predham presented the annual financial report.

The assets balance as of June 30, 2014 was \$10,185.62, with a net income for the year of \$297.17. The Treasurer's Report was approved and accepted.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Letty Zook presented an update on our membership. MFM currently has 60 memberships (family, individual), with a total individual membership of 89 members. This is down from 2013 when we had a total individual membership of 130 members.

Letty publishes our biweekly ENews which is emailed to all our walkers and provides updates on upcoming walks for the Mid-Florida Milers as well as events sponsored by our sister clubs around Florida. Letty clarified that the Enews should not be confused with the MFM Newsletter which is published bimonthly and posted on the MFM web site.

A random drawing was held for two \$25 Darden gift cards. All members who renewed their membership prior to July 1st were eligible to be included in the drawing. Winners were Nancy Barnett and Richard Tonkin.

REMOTE REGISTRATION WALKS UPDATE

Rosemary Barna introduced Gail Brooks who is responsible for our Year Round remote walks in South Florida. Gail reported each walk averaged 50 to 70 walkers, mostly due to the Mid-Florida Milers group trip to South Florida this past April.

Rosemary thanked Gail for all the work involved with maintaining the remote YREs and also recognized her for her work as our club's representative to the FVA, and our POC for the Winter Park YRE.

TRAILMASTER'S REPORT

Rosemary introduced Trailmaster, Mike Lanpher who has been mapping trails for MFM for 20 years, with assistance and support from his wife Joan. Prior to reviewing upcoming events, Mike gave recognition to the 12 MFM individuals who have completed walks in all 50 states.

- Mike reviewed the upcoming walks for the first and third Saturdays in September and October.
- Walk Around Florida 24 will be held 10-31 through 11-2 in Cocoa Beach. A flyer was provided identifying times of the walking events and meals to be offered. Mid-Florida Milers will sponsor the luncheon held on Sunday, 11/2, after the morning walk.
- On November 15th the MFM traditional event will be held at Hontoon Island in Deland. Participants will be encouraged to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy following the walk.
- On December 4th a night 5K group walk will be held in Winter Park in conjunction with the Morse Museum display of Tiffany windows and holiday music celebration in the Park.
- A special AVA recommended event is being held to recognize the calendar date and time sequence of 10-11-12-13-14. MFM will hold a group 5K and a group 10K walk starting from Mead Gardens at 10:11 on Saturday 12/13. Tee shirts and patches commemorating this unique event will be available. A flyer with further details will be on the MFM website.
- January 1, 2015: The New Years Day walk and luncheon will be at Sea Dog Brewery in Buena Vista.

Mike recognized and thanked two new YRE route monitors: Betty Brown volunteered to be POC for Lake Buena Vista YRE and Bill Paugh has volunteered as POC for Celebration YRE. Special thanks also to Bill Paugh and Laurie McKee who manage and edit the MFM Newsletter.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice-President Pete Fournier presided over this year's Board of Director elections. The two positions up for re-election this year were President and Treasurer. For the office of president, a nomination from the floor for current president Rosemary Barna was seconded, and unanimously favored. For the office of treasurer, a nomination from the floor for current treasurer Sharon Predham was seconded and unanimously favored.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Rosemary Barna thanked members for all they do and contribute to keep our club going strong. She asked members to be aware when we have new walkers join us at an event, to ensure a

member(s) walk with them to assist with reading the walk instructions, and to share information about MFM, promoting the club for new memberships. Rosemary also asked all members to provide ideas for walks in 2015. Is there a particular neighborhood, park, or area where you would like to have a traditional walk? She explained that we currently sponsor a Year Round Event on the first Saturday of the month and a Traditional Event on the third Saturday of the month. Recently we have been offering "Fun Walks" on the second Saturday of the month. These are not sponsored (no credit, no fees, no stamping). We just meet up for a one hour guided walk and then go out to breakfast. Upcoming, Laurie McKee is mapping a fun walk in Altamonte for September; Sharon Axelrod is looking at a neighborhood in Dr. Phillips area to walk in October, and Mike Lanpher will provide a guided walk in November.

Rosemary reminded everyone that there is a MFM face book page providing pictures, upcoming events and MFM news.

A MFM club tee-shirt was discussed. A proposal for a screen print vs. digital print identifying pros and cons was discussed, as well as colors. Everyone liked the idea of a standardized club tee-shirt. The BOD will do further research.

Rosemary concluded the meeting with a raffle of several AVA tee-shirts, a pair of walking sticks and several koozies from the 2013 convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm.

Sharon Axelrod
MFM Secretary