

Westerly Track & Athletic Club Archives the First 15 Years



**Part 1 of 3
1975-1980**



Westerly Track & Athletic Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 211
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

The presentations are broken into small parts to make downloading faster. There is an enormous amount of material from 1981-1985 because former president June Boyles wrote frequent articles for the Westerly Sun and kept them all in a scrapbook which she left with us before moving to Ohio in the late 1980's.

Materials in these presentations are directly related to WTC activities. Races included are either WTC productions, or events where the Club assisted or had WTC members competing as a team or representing the Club. Without these restrictions, this project could have gone on forever.

I would like to thank the following people:

Sheilia Terranova Beattie our excellent Webmaster for her technical expertise and advice

Bob Benson for lending me his personal scrapbooks and box of clippings

Nick Bottone, Jr. for bringing me ancient Track Club files, including the earliest documents from 1975

June Boyles for compiling the 1981-86 Track Club scrapbook

Wendy Carr for lending me the scrapbooks her mother kept

Ray Castagna for an interesting phone conversation from Florida concerning the origins of the Club

Carol Ann Gray for lending me June Boyles' excellent scrapbook that she had been safeguarding

Susan Hathaway for discussing her late husband Sam and his role in the Club's founding

Larry Hirsch for leading me to several sources and for his encouragement

James Hirst for lending me an amazing collection of mounted and laminated clippings from the 1970's

Clem McGrath for his interesting recollection of the origins of the beach race

Steve Sullivan for a collection of clippings

Please send comments, corrections, additions, suggestions to:

info@westerlytrackclub.org



Brief History

The Westerly Track & Athletic Club (formerly the Westerly Track Club) was founded in 1975. Prior to that, several area runners, including Sam Hathaway, Scott Hurley and a few others had been producing a series of fun runs throughout South County, including in Weekapaug. Some Westerly residents—among them Ray Castagna, Genevieve Kurdziel, Carol and Jim Angelo had children who participated in these events. They decided to start a local running club, and thus the Westerly Track Club was born.

By the summer of its 2nd year, the fun run series with weekly runs in Weekapaug was started. The Club began producing local races in October 1977 with a half marathon. This was held through 1981. In 1982 it was replaced by the Fall Foliage 10 mile race, which lasted until 1985 when it was dropped due to low attendance. The Li'l Rhody Runaround started in 1992 and has become our most successful annual event. The first Spring race was the Clamdigger which began in 1981 in Avondale and is still going strong in Misquamicut. The low-tide beach race was first held in 1987. It later became part of the Tom McCoy Summer Fun Run series.

The Club used to be mainly about competition, but in recent years the emphasis has been more on service to the community. Our annual races are primarily fund raisers to support the scholarships we award each spring to a college bound male and female. We started this in 1996. In 2007 the Club attained status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation which requires us to disburse most of our revenues. Over the past several years, in addition to the scholarships, the Club has provided major financial assistance to the Westerly High and Middle School cross country and track & field teams, contributed to a playground repair project, and groomed a cross country course in Bradford, among other endeavors.

Over the years, the Westerly Track & Athletic Club has experienced ups and downs, but I firmly believe we are as strong now as we have ever been. I hope everyone has as much fun looking at these archives as I've had putting them together. And I also hope that someone will continue this project from 1990 to the present. I have plenty of material I can lend out and have leads to much more.

Past Presidents

Dave Anderson

June Boyles

Ray Castagna

Larry Hirsch

James Hirst

Gene Hines

Genevieve Kurdziel

Joe Light

Bill Pedace

Robert Recor

Steve Schonning (current as of 2008)



1975—the earliest documents from our founding

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION WESTERLY TRACK CLUB

123 Main Street
Westerly, Rhode Island

Date of Application 9-19-75

(Please Print)

Name HIRSCH J. LARRY
(Last) (Mid Initial) (First)

Street PEEP TOAD ROAD City WESTERLY State R.I.

Date of Birth 7-1-38 Telephone 596-4981

In consideration of the acceptance of this application for registration, I, intending to be legally bound, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Westerly Track Club, its agents, representatives, successors, or assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in any athletic event in which I may participate.

Enclosed herewith is \$7.00 DOLLARS in payment of Registration Fee, and it is understood that this fee will provide for me Insurance (6 months coverage*) during club supervised training and events, A.A.U. membership, and club dues.

Signature of Applicant Larry M. Hirsch Date 9-19-75

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____ Date _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE NOTIFY:

Name HIRSCH P. KAY
(Last) (Mid Initial) (First)

Street PEEP TOAD RD. City WESTERLY State R.I.

TEL # 348-8960

REGISTRATION FEE:

For applicants 13 years of age or less - \$5.00 Annually
For applicants above age 13 - \$7.00 Annually

*Insurance may be continued if applicant so desires.

WESTERLY TRACK CLUB, INC.

1975 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

39 Junior Members @ \$5.00	\$195.00
33 Senior Members @ \$7.00	231.00
Donation - Lions Club of Westerly	100.00
Donation - Rotary Club of Westerly	100.00
Bus Driver Contributions	20.00
Shirts - 42 Sold @ \$3.00	126.00
Member Contributions	4.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$776.00

EXPENSES

Members' Insurance	\$100.00
Club Membership N.E.A.A.U.	15.00
Team Entry Fee A.A.U. Race	6.00
Individual Entry Fee A.A.U. Race	18.00
Conn. Sporting Goods - Shirts	209.00
Bus Driver	13.00
A.G.A.A. - Entry Fee Waterford Race	42.00
Telephone, Stationary, Postage	21.68
Incorporation Fee	100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$524.68
Balance in Checking Account	\$251.32

Respectfully Submitted,

Otto Makowsky

Treasurer

October 7, 1975

Reynolds Stamp & Stencil Works
1730 Post Road
Warwick, Rhode Island

Gentlemen:

Kindly ship, as soon as possible, the following pocket seal:

Westerly Track Club, Inc.

This is a Rhode Island corporation, formed in 1975.

Kindly send your bill for charges with the seal.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Larry J. Hirsch
Larry J. Hirsch

LJH:hk

FOR CLEAR COPY OF ALL PARTS TYPEWRITE OR PRINT WITH BALL POINT PEN—PRESS FIRMLY
(See Instructions on Reverse)

FORM 95-4 (3-69)
PART 1
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

1. NAME (Print name as distinguished from TRADE name)
Westerly Track Club, Inc.

2. TRADE NAME, IF ANY (Enter name under which business is operated, if different from item 1.)

3. ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS (No. and Street, City, State, Zip Code)
123 Main St. Westerly, R.I. 02891

4. COUNTY OF BUSINESS LOCATION
Washington

5. ORGANIZATION
Check Type ☐ Individual ☒ Partnership ☒ Corporation ☐ Other (specify if e.g. estate, trust, etc.)
☐ Sole Proprietorship ☐ Non-profit Organization ☐ Other (specify if e.g. estate, trust, etc.)

7. REASON FOR APPLYING (If "other," specify such as "Corporate structure change," "Acquired by gift or trust," etc.)
☐ Business ☒ Non-business ☐ Other (specify if e.g. estate, trust, etc.)

8. Date you acquired or started business (Mo., day, year)
N/A

9. First date you paid or will pay wages (Mo., day, year)
N/A

10. NATURE OF BUSINESS (See Instructions)
Amateur recreational activities (amateur)

11. NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (If "NONE," enter "0")
0

12. Have you ever applied for an identification number for this or any other business? ☒ No ☐ Yes
If "Yes," enter name and date name (If emp. Also enter the approximate date, city, and state where you first applied and previous number (if known).

DO NOT DETACH ANY PART OF THIS FORM. SEND ALL COPIES TO INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS
Westerly Track Club, Inc.
123 Main Street
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

4. COUNTY OF BUSINESS LOCATION
Washington

5. ORGANIZATION
Check Type ☐ Individual ☒ Partnership ☒ Corporation ☐ Other (specify if e.g. estate, trust, etc.)
☐ Sole Proprietorship ☐ Non-profit Organization ☐ Other (specify if e.g. estate, trust, etc.)

7. REASON FOR APPLYING (If "other," specify such as "Corporate structure change," "Acquired by gift or trust," etc.)
☐ Business ☒ Non-business ☐ Other (specify if e.g. estate, trust, etc.)

8. Date you acquired or started business (Mo., day, year)
N/A

9. First date you paid or will pay wages (Mo., day, year)
N/A

10. NATURE OF BUSINESS (See Instructions)
Amateur recreational activities (non-profit)

11. NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (If "NONE," enter "0")
0

12. Have you ever applied for an identification number for this or any other business? ☒ No ☐ Yes
If "Yes," enter name and date name (If emp. Also enter the approximate date, city, and state where you first applied and previous number (if known).

SIGNATURE Larry J. Hirsch TITLE Secretary

DATE 9-9-75



Membership List

This is undated, but is almost certainly from 1976

WESTERLY TRACK CLUB ROSTER

JUNIORS

Cherenzia, James - 4 Crescent St., Westerly
Cozzolino, Allison - Potter Hill Rd., Westerly
Demirs, John - 59 Elm St., Westerly - 596-4
Hines, Lorie - R.F.D. #1, Box 678, Westerly
Holly, Mary - 11 Lester Ave., Pawcatuck - 5
Klymenko, Valentina - Watch Hill Rd., Westerly
Lallo, Jon - Watch Hill Rd., Westerly - 596
Lupinacci, Annette - 1 South Dr., Westerly
Misto, Holly - 6 Highland Ave., Westerly -
Niedmann, Paul - 27 Cross St., Westerly - 5
Peck, Gordon - 273 High Street, Westerly -
Recor, Jonathan - 6 Crescent St., Westerly
Smith, Cheryl - Watch Hill Rd., Westerly -
Smith, Kelly - Watch Hill Rd., Westerly - 5
Smith, Kimberly - 38 George St., Westerly -
Trebisacci, Kathleen - 8 South Dr., Westerly

WESTERLY TRACK CLUB ROSTER

SENIORS

Beattie, Robert - 6 Simms St., Westerly - 322-7
Brown, Kieth - 3a Stillman Ave., Pawcatuck - 59
Castagna, Renee - 190 Winnapaug Rd., Westerly -
Castagna, Ray - 190 Winnapaug Rd., Westerly - 5
Cofone, Steve - 4 Wompag Rd., Westerly - 322-12
Cozzolino, Dino - Potter Hill Rd., Westerly - 5
Guerrette, Debbie - 77 Franklin Ave., Westerly
Hathaway, Holton - 4 Frances Av., Weekapaug - 3
Hines, Gene - R.F.D. #1, Box 678, Westerly - 32
Hurley, Jeanne - 123 Main St., Westerly - 596-5
Hurley, Scott - 123 Main St., Westerly - 596-58
Klymenko, Larissa - Watch Hill Rd., Westerly -
Kurdziel, Fred - 221 Canal St., Westerly - 596-
Lallo, Mary - Watch Hill Rd., Westerly - 596-50
Linton, John - 196 Post Rd., Westerly - 322-75
Makowsky, Lynne - 2 Wompag Rd., Westerly - 322-
Makowsky, Otto - 2 Wompag Rd., Westerly - 322-
Perez, Ken - Gravelly Hill Rd., Perryville - 78
Pesch, Gerald - 4 South River Drive, Narragansett
Pucci, Lynn - Saratoga Ave., Westerly - 596-08
Recor, Dr. Robert - 6 Crescent St., Westerly -
Recor, Robert Jr. - 6 Crescent St., Westerly -
Smith, Brenda - Post Rd., Box 609, Westerly -
Verbinnen, Matthew - 10 Beach St., Westerly - 5



June 1976

Chariho Junior Stuns Race Field

Steve Solomon, a competitive junior distance runner from Wyoming and a cross-country and track standout at Chariho High School, poured it on in the home stretch to gain championship honors yesterday in the

7th annual Area Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Three-Mile Bicentennial Road race, sponsored by the Westerly Lodge of Elks, through the downtown streets of Westerly.

Solomon, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry J. Solomon of Meadowbrook Rd., who finished fourth in the Elks Race last year as a sophomore, was a determined lad yesterday. It was his third try, and although only a junior, it was his last shot at the Elks title since he will not be here to run next year. He will be moving with his family to Virginia this summer where his father has been assigned to a new job.

Steve's victory was a surprise to some but not to his dad, Mr. Solomon, who had been keeping a close check on the Chariho youngsters as they trained for yesterday's race, was correct in predicting the first four finishers before they entered the home stretch.

Cheer Them On

Warm and sunny weather attracted a good turnout of fans, who cheered the runners on along the three-mile course that started at the Elks Home on Dixon St., proceeded through the business district, around town and back to the Elks Home.

The weather was fine for the fans but the heat hampered the runners and slowed the times down. In order to break the tape at the head of a strong field, that numbered 31, Solomon had to be in perfect condition. And he was.

Steve Crowley of Stonington, the defending champion, who won the race the past two years, gave way to Solomon in the stretch as did David Brown of Chariho and Mike Dickerman of Mystic Oral School, a two time winner in the New England Oral Cross-Country Championship Meet.

Brown of Chariho, who as a sophomore won the two-mile run eight times for Chariho High this past track season, took runnerup honors behind Solomon yesterday. He was six seconds off the 13:44 winning time of Solomon. Brown was clocked in 13:50.

Takes Third

David Allen of Westerly,

another fine distance runner with the Westerly High track team and also the Westerly Track Club, placed third in 14:25.

Crowley was well off his 13:37 winning time of last year. He finished fourth yesterday in 14:40. He had been devoting equal time to high jumping at SHS this spring where he set a new school record at 6-3.

The next three spots, fifth, sixth and seventh, all went to Chariho underclassmen, Bob Downie in 14:47, Tim Warren in 14:54, and Galen "Skip" Hoffman in 14:55.

Dickerson of Mystic Oral finished eighth in 15:00 flat. Freshman Ed Sabukewicz of Westerly was a surprise in ninth position in 15:22 and Jim Hirst of Chariho was 10th in 15:29. Bill O'Keefe, another fine distance runner at Stonington High, who suffered an ankle injury this spring, was 11th in 15:36.

Solomon was the recipient of two trophies in post race ceremonies that followed a buffet luncheon after the race at the Elks Home. He was presented with a "bicentennial trophy" by Robert Drysdale, president of the Westerly

Bicentennial Committee, and also was awarded the "director's trophy" for area champion by John Kendzia. A runnerup bicentennial trophy went to Brown.

The top five finishers along with the only two girls in the race, Lynn Makowsky (28th) and Renee Castagna (29th), both of Westerly, will later receive bronze bicentennial medals from the Westerly Bicentennial Committee.

All Area Team

Named to the All-Elks Area Team by finishing in the top 10 were Solomon, Brown, Allen, Crowley, Downie, Warren, Hoffman, Dickerson, Sabukewicz and Hirst.

The youngest finisher, who received a fine applause by the fans as he crossed the line in 30th spot, was Danny LeRoy, a 10-year-old grader from Dunn's Corners.

Area team honors went to Chariho, which copped first, second, fifth, sixth and seventh positions for a low total of 21 points. Stonington was runnerup at 50 and Westerly was third at 57. North Stonington did not compete.

George Falcone was presented with a gift for 20 years of service in road racing.

Renee Castagna is the daughter of founder & 1st WTC President, Ray Castagna. Lynn Makowski is the daughter of another founder and officer.

Dave Brown is now a chiropractor in Charlestown.

The Westerly Elks Race has a long, illustrious history. Started as a race just for high school boys, it was dominated for many years by Johnny Kelley and Amby Burfoot, who both went on to win the Boston Marathon. For many years the WTC provided assistance to the Elks Club in staging this race. Unfortunately, it ended its 50-year run in 2006. Somewhere there's a scrapbook just for this race.



Summer Fun Runs 1976

Run for Fun

Arcadia Event Draws 111 Competitors

By SAM HATHAWAY
The largest crowd in Run for Fun history turned out Monday evening in Exeter. There were 111 entrants in the two runs. The difficult course challenged the runners and slowed times. The races were run over the picturesque trails of Arcadia State Park.

The shorter run was over a hilly 1.6 mile loop that crossed Falls River. Fred Kurdziel, 23, of Westerly, held off Tim Warren, 16, of Shannock, through the stretch for the win. Kurdziel's time was 8:37 and Warren, 8:38. Jim Hirst, 17, of Ashaway, made his best Run for Fun showing by finishing third in the time of 8:52. Jim Paull, 16, of Charlestown, was fourth. Bruce Allen, 13, of Exeter, was fifth, and Alan Weintraub, 23, of North Kingstown sixth. Bob Masters, 17, of N. Kingstown, held off Terry Pedros, 12, of Mystic, by less than a second for seventh place. Run for Fun Coordinator, Sam Hathaway was ninth and George Searle, 19, of Hope Valley made the top ten for the first time.

Sue Coppa, 17, of North Kingstown, making her first appearance was the first female finisher in the time of 10:35. Lynne Makowsky, 16, of Westerly, was second, Kim Smith, 12, of Westerly, third; Terry Allen, 13, of Narragansett, fourth, and Lisa Dube, 12, of North Kingstown, was the fifth female finisher. 72 runners completed the shorter run.

The longer run of the evening, 4.8 miles, was won by Rob Huntington, 24, of Norwich, by a narrow one second margin over Mohegan Strider teammate Tim Smith, 28, also of Norwich. Huntington's time was 25:06. Bob Monahan, 25, of Newport, the winner of the first week's longer run, was third in the time of 26:05. Two Charlo runners, Steve Solomon, 17, of Wyoming, and Bob Downie, 16, of Charlestown, were fourth and fifth, respectively. Dave McCarthy, 17, of Jamestown was sixth; Dave Allen, 17, of Bradford, seventh, and Steve Anderson, 26, of Coventry eighth. Rounding out the top ten

were Terry Holbrook, 20, of Pawcatuck, and Todd Collings, 19, of Ashaway.

The run was marred by the fact that nine runners took a wrong turn and ran the entire length of the Arcadia State Forest land from Rt. 165 to Rt. 102 and back, a distance of nearly 10 miles. The first finishers of the marathon group were Bud Colegrove, 42, of Newport, and Lisa Levocowich, 20, of Westerly. John Martin, 37, of Norwich ran the farthest. He was picked up 12 miles from the starting line by concerned friends. All were good sports

about the mishap and said that they would try again next week. In all 29 runners completed the long or longest run.

Next Monday's Run for Fun site is in the Weekapaug Beach area of Westerly. The distances are 1.5 and 3.7 miles over flat paved roads. Both runs begin at 6:30 p.m. To get to the starting line, follow Rt. 1 to Dunn's Corners; follow the signs to Weekapaug, and proceed east along the ocean front to the Weekapaug Yacht Club parking area. New entrants of any age, ability, or sex are always welcome.

June 29, 1976

The WTC provided a bus to get runners to these fun runs, which were directed by Sam Hathaway, a founder of the Club

The Sun, Westerly, R.I., Thursday, July 22, 1976 17

Run for Fun

Downie and Tella Score Victories

By SAM HATHAWAY
The sixth week of Run for Fun was highlighted by victories for Bob Downie, 16, of Charlestown and Bill Tella, 18, of Warwick. Downie won the 1.6 mile run and Tella the 4.8 mile run Monday evening in Exeter.

The races were held in the Arcadia - Beach Bond State Forest and most of the runners found that their times improved over the first run in the Exeter course four weeks ago. Four runners — Bud Colegrove, 42, of Newport, Lisa Levocowich, 20, of Westerly, Dr. Joe Motherway, 46, of North Kingstown, and his son Bill, 11 — all improved their times by more than 30 minutes as they completed the course without getting lost. In all 98 entrants finished the two runs.

In the shorter run of the evening, Downie defeated Fred Kurdziel, 23, of Westerly. Downie was clocked in the time of 8:30 and Kurdziel in 8:41. Third place went to Jim Paull, 16, of Charlestown. Matt Breede, 27, of Newport returned from his

honeymoon with his wife Marilyn (who finished 51st) and was in fourth place. Fifth went to Alan Weintraub, 23, of North Kingstown and sixth was Kirk Kahla, 18, of North Kingstown. Rounding out the top 10 were Bruce Allen, 13, of Exeter; Mike Rekas, 24, of Coventry; Dean Springer, 26, of Westerly; and Terry Fedors, 12, of Mystic.

Lynne Makowsky, 16, of Westerly edged Cheryl Smith, 12, also of Westerly as the first female finisher. Makowsky was timed in 10:56 and Smith in 10:58. Third place went to Kim Smith, 12, of Westerly; fourth to Terry Allen, 13, of Narragansett; and fifth to Denise Allen, 11, of Exeter. Mara Motherway, 7, of North Kingstown was the most improved runner improving her time by 2 minutes and 14 seconds over 4 weeks ago.

In the longer run, 4.8 miles, Bill Tella won in the time of 26:04. Todd Collings, 19, of Ashaway continued improving his Run for Fun placement by finishing second in the time of 27:14.

Dave Allen, 17, of Bradford also ran another good race by finishing third with a 27:31 time. Wayne Petrone, 19, of Stonington was fourth and Rich Collard, 22, of Coventry was fifth. The other top 10 finishers were Ken Field, 17, of West Warwick; George Maine, 43, of Lisbon, Ct.; Ray Noiles, 30, of Pawcatuck; Steve Anderson, 26, of Coventry; and Matt Hird, 25, of Providence.

Lisa Levocowich, 20, of Westerly was the leading female finisher in the time of 34:40.

Trophies are awarded at the end of the Run for Fun season on August 30th. Listed below are the leaders of each age group in the trophy competition boys 10 and under, Chris Dube, N. Kingstown; boys 11-13, Terry Fedors, Mystic; boys 14-16, Bob Downie, Charlestown; boys 17-19, Todd Collings, Ashaway; men 20-29, Fred Kurdziel, Westerly; men 30-39, Ray Noiles, Pawcatuck and men 40 and over, George Maine, Lisbon.

Girls 10 and under, Anne Angelo, Westerly; girls 11-13, Terry Allen, Narragansett; girls 14-16, Lynne Makowsky; girls 17-19, Jeanne Poirier, Narragansett; women 20-29, Lisa Levocowich, Westerly, women 30-39, Marie Kojan, East Greenwich, and women 40 and over, Debbie Warren, Shannock.

Next week's Run for Fun will be in the Weekapaug section of Westerly. The starting line is near the Weekapaug Yacht Club and the distances will be 1.5 miles and 3.7 miles. Starting time is 6:30 p.m. New entrants are welcome. For information or directions call Sam Hathaway, 364-3635.

Run for Fun

With only one race remaining, it appears that the following have clinched first place in respective age groups, in the Run for Fun program:

George Maine of Lisbon in the Men's 40 and over; Ray Noiles of Pawcatuck in the Men's 30-39; Fred Kurdziel in the Men's 20-29; Marie Kojan of East Greenwich in the Women's 30-39; Lisa Levocowich of Westerly in the Women's 20-29; Jeanne Poirier of Narragansett in the Girl's 17-19; and Anne Angelo of Westerly in the Girl's 10 and under. All of the other divisions still are in doubt.

In the boys 11-13 group there is a tie between Bruce Allen of Exeter and Terry Fedors of Mystic. Bob Downie still holds only a one point lead over Jim Paull in the Boys 14-16 group. Chris Dube of North Kingstown holds a slim 2 point lead over Ed Motherway of North Kingstown in the Boys 10 and under. Also with a 2 point lead is Arlene McCoy of Pawcatuck over Debbie Warren of Shannock in the Woman 40 and over. Terry Allen, in the Girl's 11-13 group, is another 2 point leader over close competitor Lisa Dube. Todd Collings, in the boy's 17-19, and Lynne Makowsky, of Westerly in the Girl's 14-16, seem likely to win their respective groups with a good showing next week but there is still hope for second placers Dave Allen and Amy Parks.

Monday nights runs in Exeter should be quite a spectacle. First, at 6:30 p.m. the 1.6 and 4.8 mile races begin from the West Exeter Baptist Church. The races will begin promptly because immediately after the races the usual weekly time certificates will be awarded along with Run for Fun '76 T-shirts and Trophies to the individual winners. It appears now that over 80 T-Shirts and at least 14 trophies will be awarded. Spectators are welcome at the ceremonies and race site which is on Rt. 165 in the Arcadia-Beach Pond State Park.

The Westerly Track Club will once again offer bus transportation for anyone interested in attending the last Run for Fun Monday evening. The bus leaves the Junior High School parking lot in Westerly at 5:30 p.m.

Undated



George SYLVIA

TRANSPORTATION (BUS)	#	400
AWARDS (AUGUST MEET)		529
MEDICAL SUPPLIES (FIRST AID KIT)		60
PUBLICATIONS (BOOKS FOR STAFF & FILM)		100
OFFICIALS (AUGUST MEET)		150
UNIFORMS (35X #10)		350
		<u>\$ 1589</u>

EQUIPMENT		
10 #401	GILL HIGH SCHOOL THREE	# 300
	HEIGHT HURDLE 42" (#30)	
5 #417	GILL TRACKMASTER	200
	STARTING BLOCKS (#40)	
4 #432	GILL ALUMINUM RELAY BATONS (#150)	6
1 #517	FIBERGLASS CROSSBAR (13')	41
1 #702	GILL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH	85
	JUMP STANDARDS	
1 #307	GILL PRACTICE HIGH SCHOOL	15
	RUBBER DISCUS	
1 #334	12 LBS. BRASS SHOT	50
1	300' STEEL TAPE	70
2	GILL JUNIOR HIGH SHOTS 8 LBS.	20
2	GILL JUNIOR HIGH DISCUS	20
1	STOP WATCH	40
		<u>847</u>
TOTAL		\$ 2436

Changing of the Guard 1976

Budget prepared by founding member, George Sylvia, probably from 1976. Transportation was for buses to bring Club members to fun runs around South County. The track & field equipment was for youth meets. It was donated to the Westerly Sports Boosters in 1984.



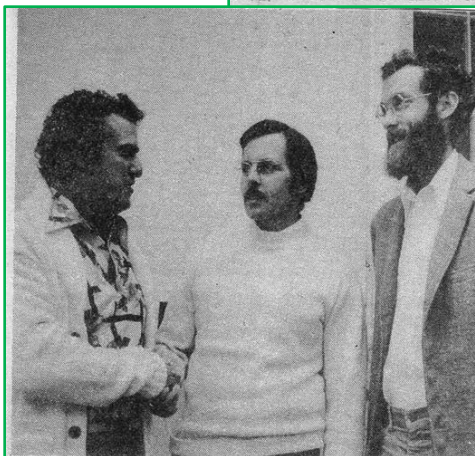
By GEORGE SYLVIA
Dr. Robert Recor was installed president of the Westerly Track Club at the annual meeting last week. He replaces Raymond Castagna.
Other officers installed were: vice president, Larry Hirsch; secretary, Joan Rushlow; treasurer, Doris Recor; statistician, Gene Hines; distance coordinator, Scott Hurley; track and field coordinator and publicity, George Sylvia.
Board members are Steve Cofone, Carol Angelo, Jeanne

Hurley, George Sylvia, Charles Vacca, Tom McCoy and Todd Collings.
Two members were cited for outstanding contributions and presented with gifts of appreciation. Sam Hathaway, who was unable to attend, was instrumental in organizing a successful Run For Fun season, which averaged nearly 100 participants each week throughout the summer. Castagna was awarded a plaque in appreciation for the many hours he donated in establishing and developing the club.

Highlighting the evening was Amby Burfoot, who addressed a large audience that filled the Junior High School cafeteria. Burfoot spoke about his racing experiences, both nationally and internationally. He concluded by answering questions from the audience.

Hurley issued the Fall cross country schedule to all those present. Eleven races are on the agenda, ranging in distances from 1.5 miles to the 26 mile Ocean State Marathon which will be held in Newport.

Hurley suggested that all members should participate in these events whenever possible. For further information call Hurley at 348-8790 or Sylvia at 322-7086.



NEW PRESIDENT — Dr. Robert Recor, center, succeeds Ray Castagna left, as president of the Westerly Track Club. Recor was installed at recent ceremonies. At right is Amby Burfoot of Groton, former BAA marathon champ, who was guest speaker at the annual meeting.

(Sun Photo by Charles Thibault)



1977 Summer Fun Runs

these were still being held all over southern RI.

The Sun, Westerly, R.I., Thursday, June 23, 1977 19

Family Groups Join In Run for Fun Activity

Eighteen-year-old Jim Hirst of Ashaway finished first in the cross-country mile in 4:45 minutes and Roland Davide, 24, of Coventry won the three miler in 13:26 in the weekly Run for Fun '77 event at North Kingstown. Ken Field, 18, of West Warwick trailed Davide, by nearly a full minute.

Aside from the serious runners, many families and youngsters enjoyed the competition within their own age groups. Weekly, points are accumulated by runners depending on their placement against other runners of their own group. On August 29th, the Last Run for Fun of the season, trophies and awards will be distributed to the top runners in each of the 14 age groups.

Seventy-seven runners finished the one-mile run. Second behind Hirst was Fred Kurdziel, 24, of Westerly in 4:50. Jim Paull, 17, of Charlestown was third and Eric Lutes, 14, of Charlestown, led his age group finishing fourth overall with an excellent 5:09 time.

Jennifer Wright, 15, of Hope Valley continued to lead the way in the female divisions with a 6:06 time for the mile and 16th place overall. Terry Allen, 14, of Narragansett was second and Lisa Dube, 13, of North Kingstown third. Carol Traxler, 14, of Wakefield was the fourth female finisher. Nine female finishers were clocked in under seven minutes for the mile distance.

In the three-mile run, the heat, unfamiliarity of the course, and the rough terrain did not stop many runners from clocking excellent times. Behind Davide and Field came Roger Hall, 15, of Charlestown. Richard Collard, 23, of Coventry and David Allen, 18, of Bradford.

The first female finisher in the three miler was 14-year-old Donna Hawkes of Cranston with a time of 18:59. Jean Martinelli, 14, of Cranston was second; Elaine McGeough, 35, of Saunderstown third, Nancy Courter, 34, of Middletown fourth, and Jean Hammond, 34, of Saunderstown fifth. The first four female finishers all ran under 20 minutes for the three miles.

Next Monday evening, Run for Fun moves on to Chariho High School, for runs of 1½ miles and 5 miles. The check-in time begins at 6 p.m. with the runs scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. New runners are welcome. Contact Sam Hathaway, Run for Fun Coordinator, 364-3635, for more information or directions.



By GEORGE SYLVIA

Janet Pelligrino joined her husband, marathoner Joe Pelligrino, and other Westerly Track Club family groups for the weekly run and wound up winning the half-mile event in 4:59 minutes.

John Clapham repeated in the boys 9 and under class with 4:05 for the 800 and Noelle Clapham, not to be outdone in her family, led the girls in 4.22.

Other winners included:

Nick Bottone, the men's 1¼ miles in 7:29; Peter Angelo, boys 10-13 class in 9:08; Julie Johnson, girls at 10:41; Jenny Wright, 14-29 group, and Doris Recor, women's division, 11:12.

Jim Hirst of Chariho continues to dominate the long race. He covered the route in 18:55 last

week and established a new 3.7 mile record. Larry Hirsch was first in 19:47 in the 30-39 year old group; John Leslie in 21:47 in the Masters and Jeff Hall in 27:55 in the 10-14 year old division.

Hats off to Pauline Noiles. She may not be breaking any Fun Run records but did become the most improved runner. She beat her best time in the 1¼ mile race by one minute and 38 seconds.

This photo is undated, but I'm guessing 1977. Several runners are wearing WTC singlets, which first came out in either 1976 or 1977.



FAMILY AFFAIR — Weekly runs staged by the Westerly Track Club have developed into family affairs. Fathers, mothers and youngsters join the ranks each Tuesday night to go varied distances in age groups. Here's the picture as

they started off last week, with the young boys and girls stepping out in front of their elders. Weekly club affairs are open to all interested in running.

(Sun Photo by Charles Thibault)



Publicity letter dated 10/14/1977

WESTERLY TRACK CLUB PUBLICITY

WESTERLY, RHODE ISLAND

The Westerly Track Club is completing its second year in existence. Its membership, of more than 100, consists of men, women, boys and girls of all ages and abilities, both in track and field and distance running.

The main objective is to encourage running whether it be on the road or track. To instill an interest the club organized and will continue to organize Fun Runs during the summer months, at two different locations. We will also be sponsoring, annually in the fall, a 13.1 Mile Mini-Marathon. This run begins in downtown Westerly and continues on through the scenic beach resort areas finishing in Weekapaug. It definitely has to be one of the most beautiful runs in New England.

The Track and Field portion of the club also had a very busy schedule, competing with some of the finest clubs throughout New England. We have some great young athletes who have left their mark. We intend to host a series of meets in the future, with the assistance of various area school coaches.

Recently ten club members participated in a 24 hour relay, with each member running one mile, completing the cycle. This procedure continued for 24 hours. The Westerly Club recorded a total of 249 miles, finishing second to a strong Mohegan Striders Club out of Connecticut, led by one of this country's best, Amby Burfoot.

We have also sponsored public clinics with guest speakers and movies and have sponsored runners to the Junior Olympics and Olympic Trials.

Anyone interest in joining and participating in the club's programs may contact:

Genevieve S. Kurdziel
221 Canal Street
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

or

Larry J. Hirsch
31 Broad Street
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Newport Run Qualifies Nine Locals for Boston Marathon

The Westerly Track Club came up with a remarkable performance in the 26 mile 385 yard Ocean State Marathon in Newport Sunday, with nine runners qualifying for the Boston Marathon in 1978, and the club finishing in the upper 13 percent.

A total of 1371 runners kicked off at the starting line and 939 finished.

James Hirst of Ashaway, a member of the Westerly Track Club, was one of the premier runners in the race and his 57th place finish in the time of 2:46:58 seconds, was outstanding.

Westerly, Hope Valley, Pawcatuck and the surrounding area was well represented in the

race, with the majority of the runners finished the grueling grind. Among the finishers was the only girl runner from Westerly, Lisa Levcowich, who came in 861 in the time of 4:14:46.

The other local runners who crossed the finish line were, Larry Hirsch, Westerly Track Club, 80, 2:50:00; Tom Sheehan, Chariho teacher, 108, 2:53:24; George Gardiner, Hope Valley, 110, 2:53:30; William Haberek, Hope Valley, 128, 2:54:37; Joe Pellegrino, Westerly T.C., 186, 2:58:48; Pat Ryan, Westerly, 243, 3:04:15; Bob Recor, Westerly T.C., 345, 3:13:25; George Silva, Westerly T.C. 577, 3:31:35.

Also, Charles Ross, Westerly YMCA Striders, 729, 3:48:11; James Knapp, Westerly, 741, 3:49:47; Fred Kurdzell, Westerly, 749, 3:50:30; Robert Gamble, physical education director, Hopkinton School Department, 812, 4:02:09.

Also, Richard Webb, Westerly YMCA, 850, 4:09:43; John Coduri, Westerly YMCA, 895, 4:26:49 and Lou Toscano, Westerly YMCA, 926, 4:41:50.

Three runners from Pawcatuck who came in with the leaders, but whose positions were not available were, Alan Winslow, 2:54:21; Raymond Noiles, 2:58:45 and Tom McCoy, 2:58:20. They are all members of the Westerly Track Club.

10/14/1977



Westerly Half Marathon October 16, 1977


This is the first race produced by the Club. It started at the high school and finished at the Weekapaug Breachway. Runners were bussed back to the start. A few year later the course was changed to Watch Hill and back. Then it became a 10-mile race

13.1 ROAD RACE OCTOBER 16, SUNDAY, 1977
11 AM SHARP

- ok 1. Route - High school - Weekapaug Dunnes - Paint arrows
- ok 2. Clearance with Chief -- will provide lead car
- ok 3. Ambulance
- ok 4. Rent lockers, showers, gym
- 5. Our people man intersections
- 6. Entry table - Ray (Rose)
- ok 7. Rent 2 busses for shuttle service from beach
- 8. Water stops - Lombardo's and Pelligrino's (2) drink at finish RAYKI
- 9. Timers
- ok 10. Awards
- ok 11. Entry form - Yankee Runner Ad - Post entries
- 12. Publicity - Sun photos and WERI (possible live coverage)
- 13. Numbers - Pins - 577484
- 14. Race Director (non runner) Power horn to call runners
- ok 15. Notify town council of intentions
- 16. Results - time sheet
- 17. Perchments to all finishers

Race planning document

These results are from **Yankee Runner Magazine** which ran from 1972-1979.



Westerly Track Club

By GEORGE SYLVIA
The first running of the Westerly One-Half Marathon drew 71 runners here Sunday with Hollie Walton of Providence leading the pack in 1:09:32 over the 13.1 mile course.

Henry O'Connell of New Britain and Ben Peterson of Old Lyme finished second and third and Alan Winslow, representing the Westerly Track Club, wound up 5th with a fine time of 1:14:35.

Rusty LaMade of the US Navy, out of Norfolk, Va., won the Masters in 1:13:55, followed by Eugene McMerriman of Norwich and George Maine of Lisbon.

Leading the way for the women was Nancy Courter of Middletown in 1:41:45 and Carolyn Cullinane, making her debut in the racing world, took second and was the first of the local competitors to cross the line. Her time was 1:45:36. Lisa Levcowich of Westerly was third.

Other local runners and order of finish follow:

Larry Hirsch 10, Joe Light, 15, George Gardiner 19, Todd Collins 21, Jim Hirst, 22, Dave Allen 25, Joe Pellegrino 28, Tom McCoy 30, Ray Noles 41, Bob Recor 45, Andrew Clapham 56, John Coduri 57, Dick Webb 61, Charlie Ross 62, Charlie Haines 66, Guido Ottoviani 67 and Lou Toscano 69.

Many of the local runners are in training for the Ocean State Marathon to be held Oct. 30 at Newport. Sunday's race was used as part of the rigorous training marathons follow for such a race.

The race went off without a hitch. Visiting runners praised the local club for such an organized event. The club appreciates the help of so many volunteers. A special thanks to the Blue Berets, a group CB'ers, who covered intersections and report locations of runners.

The day was letter perfect--it rained after the race.

Roland Davide out-duled Walton until Davide's legs tightened and he had to slow it down. Several runners had the same problem, Rusty Lamade journeyed down to Westerly to win the Masters, and almost won it all.


Host Larry Hirsch did well his first time out as director. He did well as a runner too. He'll be a Master soon.

--George Maine

Westerly, RI 10/16
20-kilometers
HALF MARATHON

1. Hollie Walton	69:32
2. Henry O'Connell	70:16
3. Ben Peterson	71:29
4. Rusty Lamade	73:55
5. Alan Winslow	75:06
6. Tom Gagnon	76:13
7. Bill Markley	76:57
8. Gene McMerriman	77:30
9. Charlie Ewers	77:42
10. Larry Hirsch	77:55
11. Bill Cooper	78:15
12. Rich Collard	78:55
13. Roland Davide	78:20
14. Leigh Crabtree	78:25
15. Joe Light	79:24
16. George Maine	80:15
17. David Dorn	80:47
18. Dana Summer	80:54
19. George Gardini	81:21

20. Mike Cooley	81:28
21. Todd Collings	81:28
22. Jimmy Hirst	81:28
23. Ken Field	81:30
24. Lou Andramo	82:22
25. David Allen	82:22
26. John McGowan	82:36
27. Ray Moore	82:51
30. Tom McCoy	84:09
37. Gerald Beagan	85:14
39. Carl Hammen	86:00
41. Ray Noles	87:40
43. John Leslie	89:50
45. Bob Recor	90:20
48. Jeff Morin	93:20
52. Kevin Crowley	94:45
58. Nancy Courter	101:45
59. Bob Gasse	102:54
66. Charlie Haines	113:05
70. Mary McCauley	127:33





The Town of Westerly generously supported the Club for many years because of our service to youth.

November 14, 1977

Town of Westerly
Finance Office
Town Hall
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

ATTN: Rosemary Christina

Re: Westerly Recreation Committee's
\$1600.00 Allocation to Westerly
Track Club

Dear Mrs. Christina:

In reference to the above-captioned matter, it would be appreciated if you would forward a check in the amount of \$1600.00 to the undersigned as President of Westerly Track Club.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the same, feel free to contact me.

Thanking you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter, I am

Very truly yours,

Larry J. Hirsch

LJH/dro

Westerly Track Club

Annual Meeting

Monday November 7, 1977 7 P.M.

YMCA Terrace Room

Special Program Film: "The Marathon"



Winter 1978 Newsletter by Genevieve Kurdziel

(note the membership fee—it hasn't changed in 30 years—and Logging Jenny is still on the Board of Directors!)

RUNNING BRIEFS

from

THE WESTERLY TRACK CLUB

"Oh, the weather outside is frightful..." but that isn't stopping the Westerly Track Club in any way whatsoever. Under the very able direction of distance co-ordinator Joey Pellegrino, a group of hardy members continue to meet every Sunday morning at 8 A.M., at the New Direction on Beach Street, for a regular mile, or two, or whatever distance, run. All members are welcome to join in this weekly event. It combines good health, good friends, and good fun. For more information contact Joey at 596-5569 or 596-3626.

And great plans are under way by the Track Club. Coming up in the Spring will be a Women's 3-5 Mile Race. The men have volunteered to conduct and manage this event, so girls, on with your running shoes, start training and let's give them a good race to be remembered. More on this later.

Since our first min-marathon was so well received, it has been decided to continue this as an annual event. So, this shall be held sometime in early fall.

And let's not forget our summer fun-runs! Tom McCoy performed such a grand job last year, that he is once again in charge of this program. And he has promised us a longer and better season! This is super for family fun.

And for you Junior Track Club members we have a wonderful track and field program lined up for you, under the very capable direction of Coach Don Geehan and George Sylvia. There will be a track and field meet righthere in Westerly, long about August 12th, plus out of town meets. So tell all your friends, and join NOW.

Oh, yes, our official Club colors are yellow and green, and thanks to Gene Hines, our symbol is definitely a seagull and not a buzzard! Both Arres and Burdick's carry this emblem, and can supply your running needs.

SO, if you are interested in any or all of these events, why not renew your membership today? Enclosed is an application form, and dues are still only \$5.00 for the entire year. Mail your application and dues to our treasurer, Doris Recor, at 6 Crescent Street, and be a member in good running.

Any additional information regarding Westerly Track Club activities can be obtained from our marathon runner President Larry J. Hirsch, at 348-8960, or 596-4981.

JOGGING JENNY

They'll Join The 5,000

Ten Westerly Runners Accept Boston Marathon Challenge

By BILL CAWLEY
Sports Editor

Horatio "Chief" Stanton started it all.

A road racing buff concerned with local results in the Boston Marathon just had to ask, "how did the chief make out?"

The 26 mile, 385 yard grind will be staged for the 82nd time tomorrow with a field that promises to exceed 5,000, qualified and unauthorized men and women.

When the Chief was doing his thing nearly half a century ago, the all-male cast numbered a few over 100. The durable Indian didn't threaten the winners at any time, but he gave Westerly representation.

When the mass of humanity moves off the starting line at Hopkinton at noon tomorrow we'll have at least 10 from the Westerly Track Club. Another 15 or so from Mystic, Groton, New London and neighboring towns will help swell the list.

Olympic marathon champion Frank Shorter, Bill Rogers, who won in 1975, and the defender, Jerome

Drayton of Canada, aren't too concerned about our local hopes. We know and they're not kidding themselves either the first place finisher won't come out of Westerly as in 1936 and 1938 when Ellison "Tarzan" Brown dominated the event.

Getting Primed

What Westerly will have is a dedicated group of road runners. Each has covered 500 to 600 miles in the last eight weeks preparing specifically for a chance to compete and to finish the grind.

For Tom McCoy of Pawcatuck it will be the 4th BAA. He went the route each time before. "We had a meeting yesterday," Tom tells us, "the local runners who'll be going to Boston. We talked over last minute strategy. We all welcome the challenge."

For the last three days they've been loading up on carbohydrates, mainly spaghetti, noodles and rice. Tomorrow morning's menu will likely feature pancakes or french toast.

Dr. Robert Recor and Larry Hirsch have spent

considerable training time with McCoy. All three will be in the Masters Division, for runners over 40 years of age.

In the field as well from the Westerly club will be Joe Light, Bob Atkins, Joe Pellegrino, Jim Hirst, Allen Winslow, Ray Nilles and Tod Collings. They all qualified by covering the full distance in less than three hours at the Ocean State Classic in Newport last fall.

Beat the Crowd

"How do you get away from that mob at the starting line?" we wondered aloud.

McCoy admitted, "you lose three or four minutes at the start breaking out. Tomorrow, for instance, there are 4,700 qualified to start but there could be another crowd who aren't authorized and they'll slip in. The officials try to police it, to keep them out, but it can't be done. It's quite a scene at the start."

For those who have survived the rigors of the BAA route the test comes at Heartbreak Hill, a series of steep, punishing inclines with about eight miles to go.

"You really have to push

then," McCoy confides, "that's what tells what you can do. You just run as hard as you can from that point on."

Amy Burfoot and John "The Younger" Kelley are the front men in the delegation from neighboring Connecticut towns.

Burfoot is a New Londoner who outraced them all in 1968 and has been trying for a repeat since. Groton's Kelley was a 1957 winner and will be going to the line for the 26th time in Hopkinton tomorrow.

Amy's Strategy

Burfoot is banking on a new training technique. He predicts "there'll be a dozen guys finishing under 2:30 this year. I have fantasies of finishing in the mid-2:20's myself if it's a cool day."

Amy has been following a light schedule in recent weeks, averaging only about 55 miles of road work per week.

Just how fast must a fellow move tomorrow to win? Burfoot predicts the time will be around 2:10.

Anyone who can run away from 5,000 rivals in that time deserves the laurel wreath.

April 1978

Boston Marathon

R.I. AREA FINISHERS

12. Bobby Doyle.....	2:15.35
46. Tom Grundy.....	2:24.34
132. Bob Ratcliffe.....	2:28.53
253. Richard Collard.....	2:33.45
265. Ray Nelson.....	2:34.15
286. James Hirst.....	2:34.45
391. Thomas Gagnon.....	2:37.45
400. William Thornhill.....	2:38.15
420. William Wardysa.....	2:38.45
500. Bill McNulty.....	2:40.30
598. Gary Galvski.....	2:42
662. Jonathan Barnes.....	2:43.30
718. George Gardiner.....	2:44.15
646. Robert Becker.....	2:43.27
657. Larry Hirsch.....	2:43.36
799. James Coggeshall.....	2:45.30
935. Thomas Egan.....	2:47.28
1010. Paul Tetraault.....	2:48.39
1178. Edward Warnock.....	2:50.51
1327. Steven Banks.....	2:52.27
1359. Joseph Clifford.....	2:52.49
1437. Jonathan House.....	2:53.45
1476. Lawrence Moulton.....	2:54.04
1550. Rafael Luna.....	2:54.55
1587. Edward McEnlee.....	2:55.23
1890. Todd Collings.....	2:57.19
2146. David Tidwell.....	3:02.36
2148. Gerald Smith.....	3:02.39
2506. Kevin Daley.....	3:09.26
2552. Dana Sumner.....	3:10.17
2696. Paul Riker.....	3:12.38
2829. James Baker.....	3:15.25
2838. Edward Dyer.....	3:15.42
2853. Robert Recor.....	3:15.59
2894. Richard Aisfeld.....	3:17.11
2899. Antonio Masirostefano.....	3:17.20
2909. Alvin Stallman.....	3:17.29
3012. James McNamara.....	3:20.09

Boston marathon

Here are more R.I. area finishers in Monday's Boston marathon:

967. George Lima.....	2:48.01
4066. Joseph Lighi.....	2:49.36
1220. Jack Thornhill.....	2:51.24
1385. Louis Andreano.....	2:53.06
2179. Joseph Pellegrino.....	3:03.15
3521. Robert Cooney.....	3:32.38



1978 Summer Fun Runs

The Sun, Westerly, R.I., Sunday, July 2, 1978 19

Westerly Track Club's First Fun Run Has 90 Participants

WEEKAPAUG — The Westerly Track Club Fun Run took on a new look as 90 runners competed in the first road races of the 1978 season. The family runner has become more familiar on the racing scene than ever before.

The club's first races were held at the Weekapaug Yacht Club on Tuesday evening.

Kimberly Armstrong was first to cross the finish in the half mile run in the nine and under age group with a time of 3:31. Leading the way for the boys was Steve Johnson at 3:48.

Jim Hirst, in with a 7:05, established a new record in the 1.5 mile run. Other winners for that distance were: George Sylvia, 10-13 years, 8:24; Bob Benson, 30-39, 10:13; and Eugene LeRoy, 40-49, 10:16.

Julie Johnson won the 1.5 mile

in the 10-13 year group with a 10:02. Ginny Cuvilje, first to cross line for the girls easily won the 1.5 mile race in the 14-17 age group with a time of 8:24. Other winners: Marjorie Tarbox, 18-29, 11:16; Carolyn LeRoy, 30-39, 11:46; and Ann Marie Jakob, 40-49, 13:47.

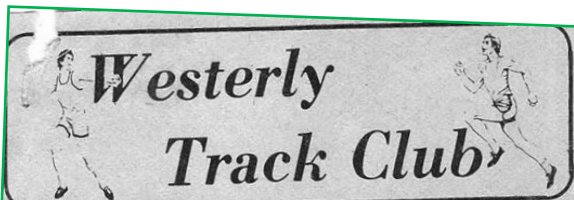
Jim Crowley, first to cross the finish line in the 3.7 mile run with a time of 18:50 was the winner of the 18-29 years olds. Other winners for the men were: Joe Light, 30-34, 19:44; Ken Rawn, 35-39, 23:10; Larry Hirsch, 40-49, 19:10; Gaspar Lombardo, 50-60, 29:58; Jon Recor, 10-13, 30:50; and Bob Recor Jr., 14-17, 20:15.

Jenny Wright captured the 14-17 age group with a 25:54 in leading all women in the 3.7 mile race. Other winners: Julie Armstrong, 30-34, 30:35; Agnes Hall, 35-39, 28:56; and Arlene McCoy, 40-49, 32:33.

The next fun run will be held

on Tuesday at the Stonington High Athletic Field at 6 p.m.

For further information call Tom McCoy at 599-1219.



By **GEORGE SYLVIA**

The second Fun Run attracted 60 runners despite bad weather.

Alan Winslow established a new three-mile record of 15:35 minutes while finishing first and other three-mile victors were Jon Record, 10-13 age group, 23:21; Eric Henzy, 14-17, 17:11; Joe Light, 30-34, in 16:36; Ken Banks, 35-39 in 19-18 and Larry Hirsch, 40-49, in 16:26.

Jennie Wright led the way for the women, winning the 14-17 age group with a time of 21:31. Other winners were:

Marsha Roberts, 18-29, 26:04; Dawn Tanner, 30-39, 22:30 and Arlene McCoy, 40 and over, 27:16.

Jim Hirst led all runners with a time of 8:32 to once again capture the 1½ mile run. George Sylvia was first in the 10-30 age group in 10:28; Ken Close, 30-39,

12:09 and Eugene LeRoy, 40-49, 12:24.

Julie Johnson led all women with a time of 12:21 in the 10-13 age group and other winners were: Susan Tanner, 14-17, 12:50; Marjorie Tarbox, 18-29, 12:57; Carolyn LeRoy, 30-39, 13:07 and Jennie Kurdziel, 50 and up, 14:45.

Winners in the one-half mile run were Steve Johnson, 2:57; Jennifer Tanner, 3:03 and Ann Angelo, 2:50.

The Track Club's one and only Genevieve "Jogging Jennie" Kurdziel competed for the first time in the Senior Olympics at Brown University recently. She came home a double winner and took gold medals in the 440 yard dash and the 880.

The next Fun Run will be Tuesday night at 6 o'clock at the Weekapaug Yacht Club.

The Sun, Westerly, R.I., Monday, July 17, 1978 9



By **GEORGE SYLVIA**

Jim Hirst established a new record in the third of the 1978 Fun Runs, finishing the 1½ mile event in 7:04 minutes. It was one second better than his previous time.

Nick Bottone, running for the first time this season, took second in 7:19 and he was followed by Joe Light 7:25; Dave Allen 7:34; Rick Beddome 7:46; Mark LaBrosse 7:47; and George Sylvia, Jr., 7:59.

Julie Johnson led all girls in 9:50 and was followed by Suzanne Tanner 10:12; Amanda Corroon 10:26; Janice Logan 10:30 and Sheila Chipperfield 10:35.

Nick Manuzzi, a newcomer to the local area, set a new record in the 3.7 mile run in 18:10. Other finishers included Jim Crowley 18:47; Todd Collings 18:56; Mike Law 18:59; Larry Hirsch 19:07;

Alan Winslow 20:22 and Ray Noiles 20:44.

Karen Choquette captured first for the women in 26:38 and behind her were Dawn Tanner 26:46; Jenny Wright 17:29; Pat Grande 27:48; Julie Armstrong 30:07; Marsha Roberts 32:18; Doris Recor 33:03 and Arlene McCoy 33:04.

Kimberly Armstrong was the winner in the one-half miler in 3:31. That was eight seconds better than Ann Angelo and other finishers were Jennifer Tanner 3:40; Noelle Clapham 3:59 and Laura Chipperfield 3:59.

Steve Johnson was first in the boys event at 3:44 followed by John Gardiner 3:50 and Andrew Goldstone 4:32.

A total of 85 runners competed. The next Fun Run will be Tuesday night at 6 o'clock at the Stonington Athletic Field.



By **TOM MCCOY**

The Run for Fun Night sponsored Tuesday by the Westerly Track Club attracted 92 runners in various age groups.

In the ½ mile girls division, Sue Letterle won in 3:19 followed by Kimberly Armstrong in a close finish. Also in the top seven were Ann Angelo, Jennifer Tanner, Noelle Clapham, Lauri Chipperfield and Dawn Gulluscio.

In the boys division, Steve Johnson won in 3:44. Also in the top 10 were John Gardiner, Andrew Goldstone and Bob Collins. In the 1½ mile young men's division, Jim Hirst won in 6:48 which is a new record. In the boys division, George Sylvia won in 8:15 followed in by Tom Allen, Bill Collins, Dave Jakob and John Clapham, who all ran well.

In the girls division Julie Johnson won in time of 9:50 and also in the top 10 were Gina Finizio, Sue Tanner, Sue Chapman, Maureen McCoy, Liz Noiles and Sheila Chipperfield, Marjorie Tarbox, Debbie

Chapman and Pauline Noiles. Improving greatly in the 1½ mile run were Angelique Banks taking 2 minutes off her time also Leslie Armstrong, Julie DeSimone, Shelly Armstrong and Lorie Jakob.

In the 3.7 mile race there was a tie between Todd Collings and Jim Crowley in a time of 18:27. Rounding out the top 10 were Al Winslow, Joe Light, Larry Hirsch, Steve Crowley, Bob Atkins, Fred Kurdziel, Larry Purtill and Don Alberts. First in the Women's Division was Karen Choquette in a time of 25:44, following in the top 10 were Vickie Finizio, Pat Grande, Agnes Hall, Chant Clapham, Joyce Richmond, Nina Rudemann and Julie Armstrong.

Most improved this week in the boys and mens division were Jon Recor taking 3½ minutes off his previous time. Running well in the mens' division were Tom Tangari, Tom DeSimone, Ron Hall, Charles Ross, Bud Ottaviani and Gaspar Lombardo.

The next Fun Run will be at the Stonington Athletic Field on Tuesday night at 6 o'clock.



1978 Summer Fun Runs, cont.

Track Club Fun Runs

Heat Slows Runners' Times

On a hot humid Tuesday night a total of 85 die-hard runners turned out to race in the Westerly Track Club Fun Run. The times were a little slower because of the heat, but in all they ran well.

In the 1/2 mile race Sue Letterle won in the time of 3:21 but she had to battle Kimberly Armstrong who ran well in the time of 3:23. Those two girls also won their age divisions. Steve Johnson won the race in the Boys Division in the time of 3:41. In the 1 1/2 mile race Jim Hirst won the race in 7:02 also his age group of 18-19 he was followed in by Nick Bottone 7:23 and Rick Beddome 7:27.

In the Boys Division George Sylvia won in 7:48 which is his best time so far. Mens 30-39 Ken Close won in 8:42 taking a full minute off his time from a couple of weeks ago. Mens 40-49 division Eugene LeRoy in 9:23.

In the Girls and Women Division Julie Johnson won the

Girls up to 9 Shiela Chipperfield 1st in 10:23 in 10-11 group Liz Noiles in 10:41 in the 14-17 Susane Tanner in 10:11 in 18-29 Margie Tarbox in 10:45 30-39 Pauline Noiles in 11:36 in 40-49 Ann Marie Jakob in 12:37 and the 50-59 Jenny Kurdziel in 14:08. In the 3.7 mile race Jim Crowley won in the time of 18:41, he was followed in by Al Winslow and Joe Light. In the Boy and Men Division 10-13 Adrian Pelchat 3rd in 26:15 — 14-17 Eric Henzy in 21:20 — 30-34 Joe Light in 19:21 — 35-39 Andy Clapham in 24:12 — 40-49 Larry Hirsch in

19:27 and 50-59 Gaspar Lombardo in 29:29. Most improved runners were Steve Crowley and Bob Chipperfield taking a full minute off their previous times.

In the Girls' and Women's Division Carolyn Culinane won the race in 25:38. In other age groups 14-17 Karen Choquette in 25:41 — 30-39 Dawn Tanner in 26:24 — 40-49 Nina Ruedeman in 30:09. Next week race will be at Weekapaug Yacht Club at 6 p.m. on Tuesday night Aug. 15. Awards and trophies will be awarded after the race.

July 20, 1978

Mr. Loren J. Reynolds
Director of Personnel
Harris Corporation
Mechanic Street
Pawcatuck, Connecticut 02891

Re: Community Fun -Run Program

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

In reference to the above-captioned matter, Mr. Tom McCoy, Fun -Run Coordinator for the Westerly Track Club, has requested that I correspond with you concerning Harris Corporation sponsoring T-shirts for the approximately one hundred people involved in said program. Some of the Harris Corporation employees are in this program, including Arthur Armstrong and his family. The Westerly Track Club is a nonprofit corporation, open to all, to promote good health and fitness by participation in the area of track and field and long-distance running.

It would be appreciated if you would contact Mr. McCoy or the undersigned with your comments on the above.

Thanking you for your kind consideration and awaiting your reply, I am

Very truly yours,

Larry J. Hirsch
President, Westerly Track Club

Summer 1978
fundraiser
grossed \$486

Harris Corp. came through with a \$100 donation, which was *not* chump change back then.

BENEFIT RAFFLE

FOR WESTERLY TRACK CLUB
TO BE GIVEN AWAY

- 1ST PRIZE 200 GALS HEATING OIL—BUTLER BROS
 - 2ND PRIZE \$50.00 SAVINGS BOND—WESTERLY TRACK CLUB
 - 3RD PRIZE MOTOR CLUB OF AMERICA SERVICE CONTRACT—LOUIS PANCIERA INSURANCE \$30
 - 4TH PRIZE \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE—BURDICKS
 - 5TH PRIZE \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE—WESTERLY JEWELRY
 - 6TH PRIZE \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE—HANLEY AND WILLIAMS
 - 7TH PRIZE \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE—COLOSI JEWELERS
 - 8TH PRIZE \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE—THE NEW DIRECTION, INC.
 - 9TH PRIZE \$25 SAVINGS BOND—CASTAGNA & VACCA REAL ESTATE
 - 10TH PRIZE DINNER FOR TWO "16.00 VALUE" CHINA VILLAGE
 - 11TH PRIZE WARM-UP SUIT—ARRES SPORTING GOODS
 - 12TH PRIZE \$10 HAIRSTYLE—RAY'S BARBERSHOP
 - 13TH PRIZE \$10 GIFT CERTIFICATE—SHOE BOX
 - 14TH PRIZE \$10 GIFT CERTIFICATE—LOONEY TUNES INC.
 - 15TH PRIZE \$10 GIFT CERTIFICATE—SCARPA
- DRAWING: TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1978
DONATION \$1 EACH—6 FOR \$5
TICKETS COMPLIMENTS OF
STILLMAN-MCANDREW & THE COPY SHOP

No 0193

August 1978

No results for this women's only race found. It was held for another 2 years.

FIRST ANNUAL WESTERLY TRACK CLUB WOMEN'S 3 & 5 MILE ROAD RACES N.E.A.A.U. SANCTIONED

Date: August 13, 1978.
Place: Avondale Grange, on Scenic 1A in Westerly, R.I.
Time: 11:00 A.M. Sharp!
Course: Both the 3 & 5 mile races are run on flat, well-marked shoreline roads. (1 and 2 mile loops)
Eligibility: Open to all women of any age who are registered with the New England Association of the Amateur Athletic Union, in order to be eligible for prizes.
Awards: Trophies to the top three finishers in each division. Participation certificates to all finishers.
Divisions: Under 12 Years
13-19 Years
20-29 Years
30-39 Years
40 and over.
Entry: Entry fee of \$1.00, due by the 11th of August. \$2.00 late entry fee.
All entries are to be mailed to:
Westerly Track Club
c/o Joe Pellegrino
18 Clark Ave.
Misquamicut, R.I. 02891

Handwritten notes:
Evening Sun at 8
Mr. B. B. B. B. B.
49 Bunc
6-5589
Memberships
Dime's race
348
2 L...
Westerly Track Club
c/o Joe Pellegrino
18 Clark Ave.
Misquamicut, R.I. 02891



2nd Annual Half Marathon October 15, 1978



MINI MARATHONERS — Here are the leaders heading down Main St. in the 2nd annual Half-Marathon sponsored Sunday by the Westerly Track Club. Joe Kolb of Framington Mass. and the Greater Boston Track Club covered the 13.1 mile course in record time of one hour, 7.29 minutes to take first place. He was followed by Bob Clifford of Brookline, Mass., 1:08.05; Joe Medeiros 1:09.10; Alan Winslow of the Westerly Track Club, 1:09.45; Jim Hirst of the Westerly Track Club, 1:09.57; Joe Portelance, Todd Collings, Jim Crowley, Gerard Smith and

Louis Andreano. Top finishers in the women's division were Christine Bravakis of Windsor Locks and the Hartford Track Club in 1:17.04; Elaine McGeough of Saundertown, 1:26.18; Palma Durgan, Carrie Landon and Linda Vinoy. In the Master's Division the winner was Johnny McGowan in 1:15.09 followed by Ryan Field in 1:20.16 and Mike Hutchinson. Ron Hall and John Fitzgerald. The event drew 134 entries and was staged in ideal weather. (Sun Photo by William Burrows)

Westerly 13.1

Westerly is a southern Rhode Island town that rests in a corner abutting Connecticut on one side and the Atlantic Ocean on another. In bygone days granite quarries kept its streets busy and wealthy summer visitors kept the attractive coastline beaches bustling.

For two years the Westerly Track Club has hosted a 13.1 mile road race that takes runners on a tour of the town from Main Street to the beaches with delightful sights of past and present along the way.

This year, on Oct. 15, Joe Kolb, 22, of Framingham, Ma. and the Greater Boston Track Club, led about 170 tourist/runners over a course that plummets downhill onto High St. winds out of the business district on Main St. and then gently rolls past marinas, coves and jetties toward the beaches.

At the start a handful of WTC members held the lead but Kolb and Bob Clifford, 24, of Brookline, Ma., took over at about a mile and had the race pretty much to themselves.

As the course took a loop around Watch Hill, the south-western most tip of the state and playground of an earlier era's wealthy, Kolb had built a commanding lead and was in complete control.

Old hotels, mansions, impressive newer homes and the glittering blue of the Atlantic make the running easy on the eyes, at least.

The course is challenging and a few long stretches of open road make it seem long for slower runners. But the considerable improvement of times over last year indicates that it's a quick course and an ideal tune-up race for late Oct. marathoners.

Carolyn Bravakis, 34, of Windsor Locks, Ct. and the Hartford Track Club, established a personal best of 1:17.04 for the distance in winning the women's division.

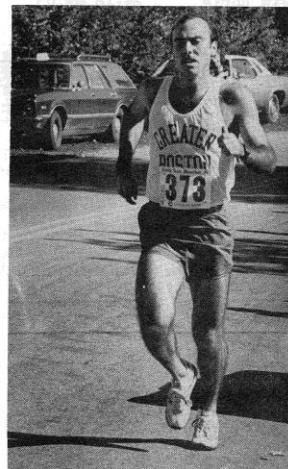
"I'm very pleased," she said, "I'm convinced that less is better. I've been putting in about 50 miles a week and have steadily improved my times."

"Of course I don't have much time for more," said Bravakis a mother and teacher, "so what I do is high quality miles with a long run of 18 once a week."

John McGowan, 45, of Warwick, R.I. and the Providence College Athletic Association, was the first master finisher as he came in at 1:15:09.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------|---------|------|
| 1. Joe Kolb | GBTC | 1:07:29 | @5.1 |
| 2. Bob Clifford | | 1:08:05 | |
| 3. Joe Medeiros | | 1:09:10 | |
| 4. Alan Winslow | WTC | 1:09:45 | |
| 5. Jim Hirst | WTC | 1:09:57 | |

Only results made available.



Joe Kolb, of GBTC, won the Westerly 13.1 and finished 6th at Newport

photo by Betsy Rounsaville

This article appeared in the December 1978 issue of **Frontrunner** magazine, a monthly that ran from August 1978-August 1981. Published by Gerry Beagan in North Kingstown, it covered the New England running scene.



One Man's New York

by Joe Light

What can one write about 10,000 people running an absurdly circuitous 26.2 mile route from Staten Island to Central Park about six miles away? For one thing, it gave this native New Yorker an opportunity to see many miles of unexplored territory in the world's greatest city. For another, it showed hundreds of first time visitors the incredible mosaic of ethnic diversity that makes the city so great-blacks, Puerto Ricans, Italians, Hassidic (ultra-orthodox) Jews, orientals and countless others. And lastly, it was one of the best produced marathons imaginable, not to mention the biggest.

Buses from Manhattan began converging on Fort Hamilton near the starting line about four hours before the 10:30 a.m. howitzer firing that would signal the start. The scene was somewhat reminiscent of the anti-war marches on Washington, D.C. in the sixties, except that the army this time was far more cordial—they even provided a band for entertainment!

A little after 10 a.m. we were led to the 100 yard wide toll plaza of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, (remember the great scene about it in "Saturday Night Fever")? Although the start seemed a bit chaotic, I lost much less time than at Boston—maybe 30 seconds as opposed to over two minutes—but time was irrelevant for the two mile stretch over the bridge is truly spectacular, with the Statue of Liberty and lower tip of Manhattan on the left and the sparkling waters of the lower bay on the right.

The 12 mile stretch through Brooklyn and Queens featured numerous and much needed water stations as the temperature pushed 70 degrees and non-stop single lines of spectators were encountered. Then came the mile long carpet over the harsh metal grating of the Queensboro Bridge into Manhattan. Crowd density and din was at its highest in a 15 block area up 1st Avenue. As we continued up the avenue approaching the 20 mile mark, most runners who had trained in subnormal early autumn weather were hurting from the warm temperature.

For me the discomfort began almost imperceptibly at about eight miles and its cumulative effect made it the most difficult of my four marathons.

After a brief loop through the south Bronx (not far from the most desolate area of the city) we came back into Manhattan, through Harlem and finally into Central Park for the three mile homestretch. The gentle rolling road seemed endless, despite the big crowd and non-stop cheering. Leaving the park briefly and heading toward Columbus Circle I got a real lift from my wife, parents and in-laws rooting less than a mile from the finish. I arrived at the Tavern-on-the-Green finish line just 35 minutes behind Bill Rodgers', of Melrose, Mass., winning time of 2:12:11 and was once again overwhelmed by the inimitable New York style: genuinely friendly congratulations from volunteers lining the finish chute, a beautiful medal, an aluminum cape for heat retention, bottles of mineral water, hassle free bag pick-up, an electric hot water foot massage and an excellent cafeteria style luncheon with plenty of meatless items, for a change.

All this in addition to the registration freebies: a serving tray with a map of the city course, a beautiful t-shirt, a cap and refreshments at the very efficient registration headquarters at Columbus Circle. The two national running magazines and various stores and bars throughout the city had open houses with incredible spreads of free food and drink, clinics demonstrations, videotapes, films etc., etc.... It is all too easy to be glutted in New York—and I did!

At the awards ceremony in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center on Sunday evening, computer print-outs were posted around the lobby for all 8500 finishers (over three quarters of the starters, an excellent percentage considering the weather and inexperience of most of the field).

A well-deserved, standing ovation was given to the police chief. Crowd control was definitely better than at Boston. At no point did I feel hemmed in or have trouble passing or being passed without danger.

I'm writing most of this account after viewing the Ocean State Marathon as a water station volunteer. I wonder which race to run in 1979. New York was certainly a great experience, but I love my adopted home state of R.I., so I look forward to running again at Newport. But for anyone who loves New York and loves to be part of something Really Big, by all means try the New York City Marathon.

For George Gardiner, of Hope Valley, R.I., there was no dilemma about which race to run. He ran a 2:45 at New York and a week later ran 2:44 at Newport finishing 296th and 49th respectively.

October 22,
1978

Another article from
December 1978
issue of **Frontrunner**.



Westerly Track Club, Inc.

Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

ANNUAL MEETING

AND

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PLACE: Y.M.C.A. TERRACE ROOM, 95 HIGH ST., WESTERLY, R.I.

TIME: NOVEMBER 14, 1978 at 7:30 P.M.

Slate of officers as presented by Nominating Committee as follows:

President	Gene Hines
Vice President	Genevieve Kurdziel
Secretary	Kay Hirsch
Treasurer	Doris Recor
Directors	Clyde Beverly Todd Collings James Crowley Larry Hirsch Fred Kurdziel Jr. Joseph Light Tom McCoy Joe Pellegrino Dr. Robert Recor George Sylvia Alan Winslow

Nominations are open, and additional names will be accepted from the floor of the meeting.

Special Guest Speaker will be Gerry Beagan, Editor/Publisher of the "FRONTRUNNER", who is also a runner in his own right. His topic will be coverage of road races and his observations on how they are conducted and organized, growth in participation, where they are being held, etc.

Refreshments will be served at the close of the business meeting.



November 1978

Hope Valley's George Gardiner was one of the most remarkable area runners ever. He specialized in ultras, including 100-mile races, 3-day track events, etc.

And Jim Hirst was no slouch either. He had a stellar career at Chariho HS and was a standout at all distances for many years after. Both runners have achieved times under 2:35 at the Boston Marathon.

Benefit covers 200 miles

NOV 23, 1978

Marathoners complete 5-day run around state

By NORMAN J. WARNER
Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

WESTERLY — Snow-covered and leg-weary, two marathoners early last night completed a benefit five-day run around the state's perimeter.

The beneficiaries of the run will be the family of Fred DeSarro of Hope Valley, a national championship stock-car driver who died Nov. 1 of injuries suffered in an Oct. 8 accident at the Thompson, Conn., Speedway.

Joseph Pellegrino of Westerly, treasurer of the benefit fund, said that up to last night \$211 had been raised as the result of the run.

For George Gardiner, 36, of Hope Valley and Jim Hirst, 20, of Ashaway, yesterday was not the worst of the five days.

The hardest running, Gardiner said, was last Friday, when they had to run directly into the wind-driven rain north through Aquidneck Island and south on the other side of the Sakonnet River to Little Compton.

They estimated their total distance covered at 200 miles.

GARDINER, who has been running for about seven years, has participated in 10

marathons, including the BAA Marathon in Boston, where his time this year was 2 hours 44 minutes. He is a supervisor at Posi Seal, North Stonington, and took a day off yesterday to complete the run.

Hirst, a Rhode Island Junior College student, ran the BAA Marathon in 2 hours 34 minutes.

Running with them for two days was 21-year-old Richard Beddone of Westerly, also a RIJC student, who, they said, gave them "moral support."

Setting out on Thanksgiving day from the Pawcatuck bridge on the state line, which was also last night's finish line, their first day led them east over Route 1, mostly, to the Jamestown Bridge. The second day they ran, accompanied by a state Department of Transportation car, over the two bridges into Newport, along Aquidneck Island, then to Little Compton and north to the Mount Hope Bridge.

They headed north on the third day to Woonsocket, the fourth day west and then south to Route 6 in Foster. Yesterday's southbound leg, along secondary and rural roads near the Connecticut line, was the toughest, they said.

"The worst hills were right here in my backyard," remarked Gardiner.



2-B

The Standard-Times, Thursday, November 30, 1978



HOME AT LAST: Jim Hirst, left, and George Gardiner rest their feet after completing a five-day run around Rhode Island.

Fund Reaches \$450

The benefit running fund for the family of the late Fred DeSarro of Hope Valley has reached \$450.

Jim Hirst of Ashaway and George Gardiner of Hope Valley ran more than 200 miles in five days over the Thanksgiving weekend in a benefit event around the perimeter of the state of Rhode Island.

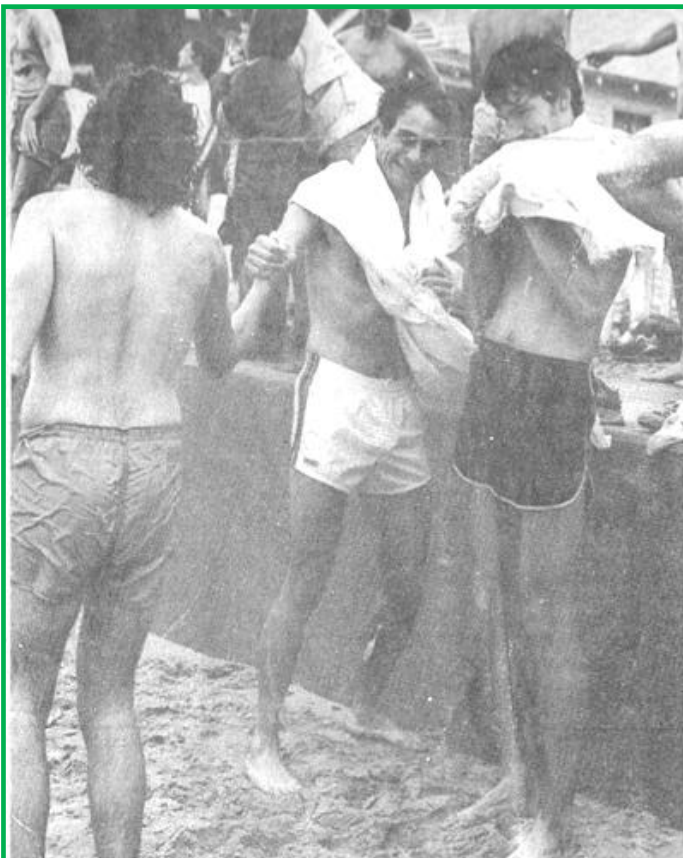
The project was a benefit memorial for Mr. DeSarro, the Hope Valley stock car driver who was fatally injured in an October track accident at the Thompson Speedway.

Joseph Pellegrino, treasurer of the fund, said the drive will end Friday and he will turn over a check to the Industrial National Bank that day to be given to the DeSarro family.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution, Pellegrino said, can send it to him as fund treasurer at 49 Beach St., Westerly.



January 1, 1979



TRADITIONAL NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION — About 40 runners and joggers from the Groton-Westerly area emerge from the ocean (top picture) halfway through the annual New Year's Day run-and-swim in Mystic and Groton Long Point yesterday hosted by Boston Marathon winner Johnny Kelly. According to Westerly runner Larry Hirsch (center of left picture), the tradition dates back several years. The event includes a five-mile run from Kelly's home in Mystic to Groton Long Point, a "double" dip in the ocean

waters and a return run to the Kelly home. While last year's run was in colder temperatures, Hirsch said rain hampered the runners this year. With help from the Groton Town Police, Hirsch added, most of the runners made it back for hot stew and a hearty lunch at the Kelly home. Runners making the return trip included Hirsch, and local runners Jim Hirst and Ray Noyles and Hirsch's "running partner" Mike Law of New London, decked out in an appropriate greeting (right photo). (Sun Photo by William Burrows)

March 1979

Westerly ³⁻¹⁵⁻⁷⁹ Track Club

By JOE LIGHT

The Westerly Track Club has been given an unexpected honor bestowed upon it and the town by a new running book.

"The Runner's Guide to the USA" by Martins D'Alton (Simon & Schuster, 1978) gives a state-by-state description of the country's top long-distance road races. Under Rhode Island, just one race is listed: the annual Westerly half-Marathon.

Runners all over the country can read a three-page description of the scenic course and follow a map of the route. Several places to stay and things to do in the area are also included. Race organizers from the Track Club can only guess what this listing may do to swell the field in next October's 13rd annual race.

Entries already doled out to almost 200 in 1978. The book which has several other features of interest to the travelling runner is available at the Westerly Library.



1979 Boston Marathon



MARATHONERS ALL — This Westerly Track Club delegation lined up before leaving for Boston and the BAA marathon to be staged tomorrow. Ready for the 26 mile, 385 yard test are, front row left to right — Joe Light, Joe Pellegrino, Rudy Ruedemann, Bob Atkins and Alan Winslow; second row —

Ron Hall, Larry Hirsch, Todd Collings, Tom McCoy, Bob Recor, Clyde Beverly, Mike Law and Marty Pace. Another club member who will run, Jim Crowley, was not present for photo. (Sun Photo by William Burrows)

No Victory Illusions Here

Track Club Runners Swell Boston

By BILL CAWLEY
Sports Editor

The name of the game from Little League through the majors these days seems to be win-win-win.

That's what makes it so refreshing to see more than a dozen men head off for Boston to compete in one of the world's most celebrated sports events with the avowed intention to run-and-have-fun.

Not one of the 14-man delegation from the Westerly Track Club has any illusions about winning or even finishing in the first 100 in the 83rd Boston Marathon tomorrow. The competition is the thing, that and the satisfaction of going every inch of the 26 mile, 385 yard grind from Hopkinton to the Hub.

For Jim Crowley, Rudy Ruedemann, Ron Hall and

Clyde Beverly it will be a new experience. They've been over the roads in five and ten-milers but will be making their debut in the big one Monday.

Tom McCoy is an old hand at the BAA event, this will be the 6th, and the experience won't be new either for Larry Hirsch, Bob Recor, Joe Light, Joe Pellegrino, Bob Atkins, Alan Winslow, Todd Collings, Mike Law or Marty Pace.

They all have felt the thrill of running and finishing at Boston.

Joe Light was talking about the time and effort put into race preparations.

Getting Ready

"This group has covered a total of about 10,000 miles since the first of the year."

"We generally get in at least one run of 20 miles or more in the course of a week. Most of the club runners get

in 60 miles a week compared to the 130-150 miles by the championship marathoners."

For Light and George Gardiner of Hope Valley, a seasoned distance runner who will be at the starting line again tomorrow, the BAA race is merely a tuneup.

"We both have entered a May run around Lake Waramaug in western Connecticut," Light explains, "and the distance there is about 50 miles."

Five of the Track Club group will be entered in the Masters Division (40 years of age or older) at Boston, Hirsch, McCoy, Recor, Ruedemann and Ron Hall.

The runners have been on a diet since Friday that would make a Weight Watcher shudder — carbohydrates and more carbohydrates.

"We've been loading up on spaghetti and bread and beer," one of the clubmen confided, "eating just about as much pasta as we can handle. We'll run it all off."

No Women

Several of the Track Club's female members competed in the Ocean State Marathon at Newport last fall but none qualified for the BAA grind.

Women and Masters must finish the 26 miles, 385 yards in 3½ hours or less and the others under three hours in order to meet the Boston

Marathon standards.

Race Director Will Cloney knows, however, that not only those who made the qualifying grade will be at the starting line. The official field will be around 8,000 but another 2,500 will mingle with the mob and who's to stop them?

There's more than a race involved for the Track Club crew. They drove into Boston today, have a suite booked for the night at the Sheraton and intend to make it a two-day holiday.

Let the others worry about winning. Our trackmen are out for a good time.



1979 Boston Marathon Results

Track Clubbers Make the Grade

BOSTON — The steady rain and cold temperatures didn't make running too pleasant, but the Westerly Track Club delegation celebrated at the Sheraton last night after all 12 entrants finished the 26 mile, 385 yard grind.

For four of the local runners it was a first BAA marathon experience and seven of them bettered their personal marathon marks.

Here's how they finished and the approximate times:

Joe Light, 2:45; Todd Collings, 2:46; Larry Hirsch, 2:51; Jim Crowley, 2:52; Tom McCoy, 2:56; Alan Winslow, 2:57; Joe Pellegrino, 3:05.

Clyde Beverly, 3:07; Bob Atkins, 3:09; Ron Hall, 3:17; Bob Recor, 3:20; and Rudy Ruedemann, 3:32.

George Gardiner of Hope Valley, although not a Track

Club member, spent the pre-race time with the local group and joined in the post-race activities. He went the distance in 2:49.

Johnny Kelley of Mystic, the only former BAA champion in the region, was with a big eastern Connecticut group competing.

Kelley, who crossed the line first in 1957, didn't decide to run until the last hour. A leg injury has limited his training considerably. He ran with the pain and finished in 1,557th place in 2:49:40.

Jim Uhrig of Mystic posted the best time for the eastern Connecticut delegation. His 2:31:19 was good for 336th place.

Another Mystic entrant, 20-year-old Richard Fargo, was a highly commendable 418th in 2:33:51.

June 1979



Westerly Track Club



Amby Burfoot's domination of the annual 5.2 mile road race in New London continues.

He founded and directed the race and remains the only winner, finishing first for the seventh year in a row Sunday. The 1967 Boston Marathon champion beat a field of 300 runners over a hilly course on a hot day with a time of 25:55 — or 4:59 minutes per mile.

Will Amby ever give someone else a chance?

Westerly Track Club finishers were Jim Crowley 9th place, 27:18; Todd Collings 27th, 28:59; Al Winslow 31st, 29:14; Larry Hirsch, 2nd in master's division, 29:22; Joe Pellegrino 69th, 31:20; Bob Atkins 82nd, 32:14; Rich Beddome 88th, 32:40; Adrian Pelchat Jr. 96th, 32:53; Adrian Pelchat III 98th, 33:05; and Ron Hall 125th, 34:21.

Several track club members have achieved individual distinction in recent road races. Jim Crowley won a five-miler in Plainfield. Todd Collings placed 2nd in a 5.5 mile race in Lynn, Mass. and Joe Light placed first in a 15.5 mile Foxboro race.



Westerly 6-26-79 Track Club

Eighty runners came to the Weekapaug Yacht Club for the first of this season's weekly Fun Runs. Ages ranged from 6 to 52 in the three races ably directed by Tom McCoy with assistance from several other Track Club members and the Westerly police dept. Partial results are:

1/2 Mile — Boys, John Dugan, 3:32, Steve Johnson 3:36, Tim Tangari 3:41, Jeff Choquette, Max Peterson, Bolly Collins and Alex Weaver; Girls, Margitta DiFillipo 3:40, Jill Choquette 3:53, Pam Choquette 4:25, and Marianne Hall 4:23.

1 1/2 Miles — Men, Nick Bottone 7:17, Dave Allen 7:23, John Laviano 7:32, Mike Hutchinson 7:51, George Sylvia, John Linton, Dan Spinner, Tom Allen, Jon Recor and David Jakob; Women, Julie Johnson 9:46, Kim Armstrong 9:48, Susan Chapman 10:26, Ann Ruedemann, Ann Krueger, Lori Jakob, Liz Boiles, Debbie Chapman, Lisa Ruedemann, April Noiles and Agnes Lamb.

3 1/2 Miles — Men, Al Winslow 18:35, Jim Hirst 18:47, Joe Light 19:08, Larry Hirsch 19:34, Joe Pellegrino 19:56, Ed Sabukewicz 20:29, Bob Atkins 20:44, Ron Collins 21:03, Bobby Recor 21:30 and Jeff Morin 21:41. Charlie McNeill, first over 50 finisher, 30:29; Women, Nancy Conz 20:43, Pat Swim 22:49, Karen Choquette 27:35, Nina

Ruedemann 27:39, Julie Armstrong 27:40, Joann Hutchinson 28:13, Joyce Richmond 28:26, Marge Tarbox 28:50, Abby Gibney 28:58 and Maureen McCoy 28:59.

The next fun run will be July 10 at Stonington High School at 6:00.

1979 Fun Runs

7-17 By TOM MCCOY

The weekly Fun Run sponsored by the Westerly Track Club attracted 102 runners Tuesday night.

Top finishers in the various categories were:

Half mile for boys — David McCall in 3:18; Tim Tangari, 3:25. Jeff Choquette and Bobby Collins, only seven years old, ran this event well.

Half mile for girls — Shiela Chipperfield in 3:32; Lori Chipperfield, 3:40; Ann Morosini, 3:17. Sally Richmond also ran well.

One and a half mile for boys — Fred Kurdziel, 7:05; Nick Bottone, in second place one second behind Kurdziel, and John Lavigne, 7:16. John Linton

cut 15 seconds off his time of two weeks ago.

One and a half mile for girls — Julie Johnson in 9:38, followed by Sue Letterie and Kim Armstrong. Good showings were made by Lori Jakob and Liz Noiles in their age groups.

3.7 mile race for men — Allen Winslow won for third week in a row in 18:05, followed by Joe Light 19:08, Larry Hirsch 19:26 and Bob Recor, who took 25 seconds off his time of two weeks ago. Bob Benson was second Masters finisher.

3.7 mile for girls — Pat Swim in 22:09 with Joyce Richmond second and Mary Ann Arico third. Maureen McCoy, who is 13, ran well, taking 39 seconds off her time of two weeks ago. Nina Ruedemann was first Master finisher in 27:46.

By TOM MCCOY

Cooler temperatures helped produce lower times in the weekly fun run of the Westerly Track Club at the Stonington High Athletic Field.

Jim Hirst tied the course record for three miles in 15:15. He was followed across the line by Al Winslow, 15:35; Joe Light, 15:47; Larry Hirsch, the first Master, 16:25, and Jim MacGlaflin, first Grand Master, 21:16.

In the three-mile run for girls Pat Swim won in 15:24, followed by Joyce Richmond, 21:12 and Nina Ruedemann, 22:07. Noelle Clapham, who is nine years old, has been running the three-mile each week and is steadily improving.

Nick Bottone was first in the 1.7 mile event in 8:45, and next in line were John Laviano and Mike Hutchinson. Todd Swim came first in his age group in 13:01 and his brother Peter Swim was second.

In the girls 1.7 mile the winner was Julie Johnson in 11:51, followed by Kim Armstrong, 12:35, and Karen Jones, 13:13. Arlene McCoy was the first Master finisher. In the one-half mile Jay Morosini won in 2:45, followed by Tim Tangari, 2:51, and Joe Alden, 2:52. In the half-mile for girls it was Sheila Chipperfield, 2:56; Lauri Chipperfield, 3:12 and Ann Morosini, 3:13.

Some of the most improved runners were Joyce Richmond, Sharon Ferguson, Lee Stephaniashen and Pat Grande in the female division and Larry Williams, Ken Banks, Tom Tangari, Charlie Sabukewicz, Bruce Richmond and Al Puhlick in the men's divisions.

The next Fun Run will be August 14 at Weekapaug at 6 p.m.



Twenty Local Runners Finish Grind

WESTERLY — There were 20 local runners who completed the 13.1 mile mini-marathon held here Sunday.

Finishing behind winner Jim Crowley of the Westerly Track Club whose time was 1:08:52 were Todd Collings (8) in 1:14:06; Alan Winslow (9), 1:14:23; Joe Light (10), 1:14:20; Larry Hirsch, winner of the master's division (13), 1:15:38; Fred Kurdziel (21), 1:18:05; and Lawrence Williams (39) in 1:21:40.

Other finishers in the 124-runner field were Richard

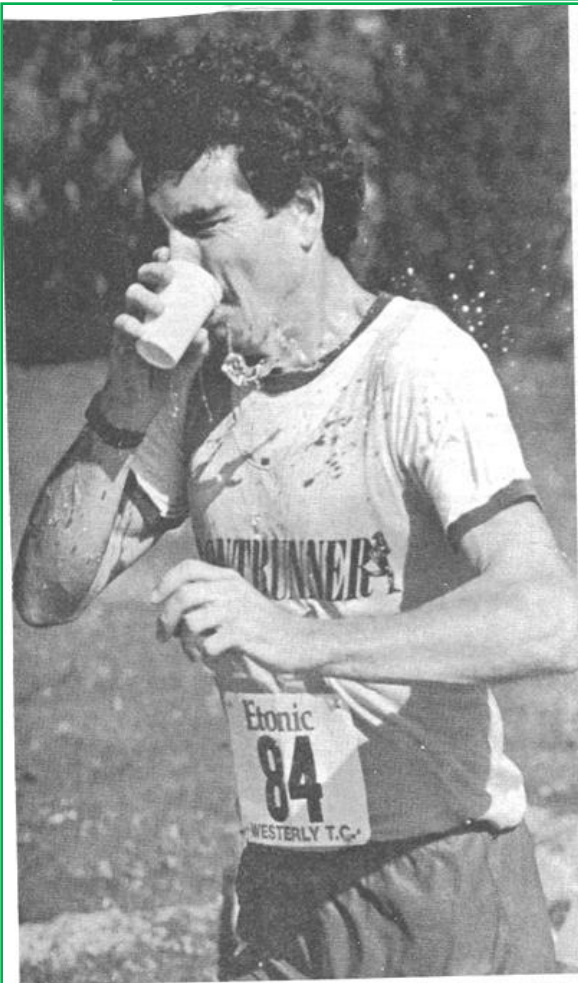
Beddome (45), 1:22:47; Steve Crowley (57), 1:25:41; Bob Benson (66), 1:26:53; Patricia Swim, second in the women's division, (68), 1:27:04; J.E. Vancans (73), 1:29:05; and Donald Jones Jr. (77), 1:30:41.

Also completing the course were Charles Ross (94) in 1:37:37; Andrew Clapham (96), 1:39:27; Bruce Richmond (100), 1:42:20; Carolyn Cullinane (103), 1:42:51; Lou Toscano (112), 1:53:28; Joyce Richmond (113), 1:53:31; and June Boyles (114), in 1:53:35.

Besides Crowley and Hirsch, the winners of the other divisions

were Lawrence Hazard, senior division, who finished 92nd with a time of 1:36:23. Bob Riel took the junior men's honors finishing 20th with a time of 1:17:38. Mary Riess won the women's division with a time of 1:23:35, good enough for 50th place overall. Karen Davis took the junior women's top spot with a time of 1:36:45, and 93rd overall.

The Westerly Track Club won the team championship of the event it sponsors annually. This year, Etonic Shoes and Feet First of Wakefield co-sponsored the run.



Crowley Wins WTC Road Race

WESTERLY — Jim Crowley of the Westerly Track Club won Sunday's 13.1 mile mini-marathon in a time of 1:08:52.

The first master, runner over 35 years of age, to finish was Larry Hirsch. Hirsch ran the course in 1:15:38, the 13th fastest time.

Mary Riess, the 50th person to cross the finish line, was the first woman. Her time was 1:23:35.

The third annual running of the event sponsored by the Westerly Track Club started at the Westerly High School and finished at the Weekapaug Breachway.

The top 10 finishers are listed below.

1. Jim Crowley, WTC, 1:08:52; 2. Ray Nelson, Johnson & Wales AC, 1:09:38; 3. Bill Rogers, TRRC, 1:10:14; 4. Duncan Warden, Fairbairn, 1:11:17; 5. Scott Mason, Front Runners, 1:13; 6. Rich Collard, Front Runners, 1:13; 7. Dave Hoti, Johnson & Wales AC, 1:13:36; 8. Todd Collings, WTC, 1:14:06; 9. Alan Winslow, WTC, 1:14:22; 10. Joe Light, WTC, 1:14:20.

SOME FOR THE MOUTH — This unidentified participant in Sunday's Westerly Track Club mini-marathon gets some water as he passes through Avondale enroute to the Weekapaug Breachway finish line. He got some in his mouth and the rest on his shirt. (Sun Photo by William Burrows)

More than a dozen of our marathoners from Westerly and vicinity finished the 26.2 mile grind around Newport Sunday — the 4th annual Ocean State Classic.

Just to finish should be a worthy achievement but most of our entries were not too pleased at the end.

"We can't blame the weather or the course," one of them told us, "conditions were excellent, but most of us weren't satisfied with our times. We feel we should have done better."

George Gardiner of Hope Valley toured the course in 2:43:59. He was the first local runner across the line and 67 of the 1,550 who finished were ahead of him.

Joe Light bettered his previous marathon time by one minute. He was in 72nd place in 2:44:33 and led the list of Westerly Track Club hopefuls.

It was a day to remember for two other clubmen, Lawrence Williams (3:02:05) and Robert Benson (3:11). For both it was the first marathon and in commendable efforts. Williams took the 300th place and Benson 440th.

Patricia Swim, who tuned up by taking the Waterford five-miler a week ago, posted 3:21:05 in 657th place and Carolyn Cullinane was 1343rd in 4:07:04.

Other Westerly Track Club finishers, places and times include:

Larry J. Hirsch, 113th, in 2:48:21; Ronald A. Hall, 301st in 3:02:12; Todd Collings, 344th in 3:05:17; Alan Winslow, 442nd in 3:11:02; Clyde A. Beverly, 449th in 3:11:15; Janis Vancans, 556th in 3:16:13; and Samuel J. Fusaro, 746th in 3:25:57.

Jim Crowley had an outstanding running career at Stonington HS. He was the Club's top runner for many years.

**Ocean State
Marathon
11/4/1979**





February 1980

Westerly Track Club

Runners who are enthusiastic, regardless of ability, have been invited to participate in the Sunday morning group runs sponsored by the Westerly Track Club.

The starting point is the New Direction store on Beach St. at 8 a.m. and those interested have been advised to set their own distances and their own pace.

One club official noted, "chances are good that you'll find someone with the same goal to keep you company."

Here are the highlights from a sparse winter schedule: On Feb. 10 club member Bob Benson ran the Garden City Marathon in Newton, Mass. in attempt to meet the master's (40 years and up) qualifying time of 3 hours 10 minutes for the Boston Marathon. His time of 3:10:48 on a hilly course, which included the infamous Heartbreak Hill from the Boston Marathon course, should qualify him for Boston. He is waiting and hoping.

On Feb. 17 Larry Hirsch, top R.I. master runner, journeyed to Key West, Fla. for what must be the smallest marathon in the country. Larry took 6th place in a total field of 36 with a time of 2:58 for the 26.2 mile distance. This is far off his best of 2:42, but excellent for the warm, humid conditions.

April 13 1980

Warwick 10k

Westerly Track Club was
3rd place team

1.	Tom Grundy	JWAC	31:13
2.	Sean McCracken	MDAC	31:38
3.	Mark Skinkle	JWAC	32:43
4.	Bill Richer		32:52
5.	Vincent Hey		33:47
6.	William Reiff	JWAC	33:48
7.	Tom Medeiros	FAC	33:55
8.	Scott Mason	FAC	34:03
9.	Larry Hirsch	WTC	34:41
10.	Steve Ingham	SCS	34:52
11.	Joe Light	WTC	35:14
12.	Richard Malachowski		35:18
13.	Tom Dundin	SCS	35:22
14.	Albert Allen	NRITC	35:27
15.	Jack Ryan	PTC	35:53
16.	Richard Collard	FAC	35:59
17.	Jim Crowley	WTC	36:36
18.	Steve Parker		36:36
19.	Wayne Swanson	FAC	36:45
20.	Jim Havens		36:55
29.	Gwen Rossman		41:42
29.	Maureen Doyle	JWAC	41:58



Larry Hirsch: A Master's Master

by Joe Light

It's two weeks before the 1978 Boston Marathon. Five or six runners are setting out on a typically hilly 22 mile training run from Westerly, R.I. to Groton, Ct. and back. "Let's take it easy. Don't burn out today. Save it for Boston," we agree as we stride at a sensible pace to the turnaround point. But it's a beautiful early spring day and marathon fever has us in its grip. So, with the worst of the hills behind, Larry Hirsch and a very foolish companion push one another the last eight miles home at a furious six minutes per mile pace. Two weeks later that foolish runner runs his first Boston two weeks past his peak. Hirsch, meanwhile runs a 2:43 just three months before his 40th birthday.

Since that birthday Hirsch has become one of the top master runners in New England. He confirmed that status with a master's victory and personal record of 2:42:42 last December at the Cape Cod Marathon, finishing ahead of premier masters Art Doyle, of North Medford Club, and Bob Reagan, of Cambridge Sports Union.

Although he ran some cross country at Westerly High School and at Syracuse University and has been running recreationally since 1970, Hirsch's best times have come over the past few years. His bests of: 27:20 for five miles, 34:10 for 10km and 56:30 for ten miles are all recent achievements which not only earn him top master awards but also place him well against all competition.

Hirsch, of the Westerly Track Club, is not just a goal-oriented, competitive runner; he enjoys nearly all his workouts, whether alone or with friends, winding through the roads and surrounding countryside of Westerly or in Florida, Greece Hawaii (where he took first place overall in a 10km race of about 300 participants), and other locales

of his frequent travels. As already illustrated, a training run with Hirsch can be a memorable experience. He knows well how exhilarating it can be to push oneself hard when conditions are right and the exhilaration is usually shared by those who are willing to push with him. Conversation on the run, when it can be managed, is generally lively and multi-dimensional. One learns that Hirsch is a great lover of wildlife and is an active or contributing member of virtually every conservation and animal protection group in existence. It's not uncommon to see him reach down in mid-stride to pick up a dead animal and lay it gently by the side of the road. In his part time law practice he does volunteer legal work for several local animal and wildlife groups.

cont'd

Hirsch cont'd

The major part of Hirsch's working life is devoted to the Westerly Jewelry Company, which has been in his family for generations and has its origins in Poland. Along with the jewelry business, law practice, civic work and what must be a minimal home life he manages to run at least an hour each day. By no means an early morning person, he somehow finds time to run during the day or evening, depending on his work schedule. Running for a set time rather than distance frees him from pre-measured courses. His average is from 70 to 80 mile weeks with a bit more for marathon training. He has been fairly free of injury and illness, with one very notable exception.

Last winter after returning from Hawaii, Hirsch was stricken with an infection which was first diagnosed as hepatitis. He spent several weeks in the hospital where his skin turned a ghastly yellow. He lost a month of running and was told to quit entirely for up to a year. In the spirit of all true runners Hirsch refused to succumb to such a cruel, unsympathetic edict. So he sought the opinion of a well-known Boston doctor-runner who rejected the hepatitis diagnosis and advised Hirsch to resume very slow and easy training. Although severely weakened, he gradually regained his strength and color. Within five months he was back in competition, setting personal records and dominating the masters' scene. Such a recovery, at 40, should serve as an inspiration to runners of all ages who must cope with debilitating injuries or illnesses.

For the future Hirsch has set some enviable short and long term goals. For his 13th marathon he will attempt to break 2:40 at Boston. Given a good starting position, based on his previous best, the goal is well within reach. Looking farther ahead, he would like to travel throughout the country and the world, running the most scenic marathons.

Perhaps, if his wife, Kay, is busy and he needs a traveling companion and I've got a few days free.....

10



Larry Hirsch and Charles Raffi battle in the Masters Division of Bellevue Ave. (1978)



April 21, 1980 Boston Marathon

Track Club Enters Five in BAA Grind

Three Westerly Track Club members will make repeat appearances tomorrow in the 84th annual Boston Marathon and two others will compete for the first time.

The route and the grind are familiar to Ron Hall and Larry Hirsch, who will be entered in the Masters Division, and to Joe Light.

It will be a new experience for Pat Swim, one of the area's outstanding female runners, and Bob Benson, who is a Master's entry.

Several other members of the local club qualified but have been kept out of the BAA action because of injuries.

The world's most

famous distance race is expected to draw about 5,000 runners from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

The start will be at noon in Hopkinton and proceed eastward for 26.2 miles to Boston's Prudential Center. Bill Rodgers is a three-time winner and a solid choice to make it number four.

Qualifications have tightened for 1980 entry. Men under 40 must complete a full marathon in 2:50 hours or better and over 40 in 3:10 or better to make the Master's list. Women must run the distance in 3:20 in order to qualify under the new regulations.

Hirsch Leads Local List

BOSTON — Larry Hirsch, competing in the Masters Division for runners over 40 years of age, was the first Westerly Track Club finisher in yesterday's BAA race. Hirsch was timed in 2:52 hours as the heat hampered all competitors.

Bob Benson finished in 3:15; Ron Hall in 3:35 and Patricia Swim in 3:45.

Another Westerly Club entry, Joe Light, was forced out of a race for the first time by conditions after covering 22 miles.

The times for all local runners were well above their normal marathon standards.



Westerly Track Club



Road racing action has been fast and furious over the past few weekends in the Rhode Island-Connecticut area.

Track Club members have been racing frequently and performing superbly. Among the achievements are the

Gardiner's Best at Marathon Distance

George Gardiner seems to improve as a long-distance runner as the years and miles pile up.

The 38-year older compiled his best marathon time yet — 2:42.03 — to take 8th place Sunday in the Maine Coast Marathon at Kennebunk.

Robert Scholl, a home town man, was the winner in 2:29.10 over a field of 550 runners.

following involving local runners:

Springtime Festival, five miles, at Danielson, 200 starters — Jim Crowley 4th in 25:30; Bob Benson 76th in 31:16; Bob Recor 133rd in 34 flat and Pat Swim 2nd place in the women's division in 32:05.

Coventry 10-miler, 160 starters, — Larry Hirsch, first Master and 8th overall, 56:37; Joe Light 12th in 57:35; Jon Sawyer 30th in 62:34; Ron Hall 40th in 62:54; Forrester Safford 44th in 63:22.

South County Hospital Run, 4.8 miles, 45 starters — Joe Light first in 26:48.

Wickford Memorial Day 5000 meters (3.1 miles), 350 starters — Hirsch first Master and 9th overall, 16:28; Light 11th, 16:33; Sawyer 41st, 17:28; Ed St. Clair 47th, 17:37; George Sylvia 48th, 17:38; Ron Hall 59th, 18; Forrester Safford 65th, 18:18; George Cobleigh 81st, 18:46; Ken Kozlin 93rd, Dave Fallon 103rd, Brad Forrester 110th, Agnes Hall 256th

Members of the Westerly Track Club continue to make impressive showings in Rhode Island and Connecticut road races.

Five members participated June 9 in the annual Gaspe Days 10 kilometer (12.4 mile) race in Pawtuxet. Finishers were Joe Light, 10th in 70:01; Jeff Morin 39th; John Sawyer 40th; Forrester Safford 50th and George Sylvia, Jr., 82nd.

Bob Benson was forced to drop out due to a foot injury. Special commendation went to George Sylvia, a junior at Westerly High, who had never run more than nine miles before this race yet maintained an excellent 6:43 per mile pace over the distance.

The Groton 5.2 mile road race last Sunday might well be called the Amby Burfoot Frolic. In the 8th annual running Burfoot gained his 8th victory. The former Boston Marathon winner finished just 14 seconds ahead of Jim Crowley, Jr. of the Westerly Track Club who had a time of 26:05 on a very challenging course.

Other Westerly Club finishers follow: Ray Beaulieu, 29:03; Joe Light, 29:13; Larry Williams, 30:46; Adrian Pelchat, 111, 31:24; Tom McCoy, 31:32; Jeff Morin, 31:32; Adrian Pelchat, Jr., 31:39; Ron Hall, 31:50; Joe Pellegrino, 32:23; Bob Benson, 33:10; Pat

Swim, first woman in 33:20; Ken Kozlin, 34:29; Bob Recor, 36:43, and Agnes Hall, 42:35.

The 4th annual Fun Run series will begin next Tuesdays and further details will be announced.

The Westerly Track Club dominated the 1st annual July 4th road races in Canterbury, Conn. Club members made up 16 percent of the total field of 120 runners.

Club competitors finished as follows:

2.2 mile race — Way Hedding first, 12:21; Dave Fallon, 4th, 13:45; Nora Safford, 3rd woman, 17:33; and Ron Kozlin, 23rd, 17:49.

6.2 mile race — Larry Hirsch, second place just eight seconds behind winner in 34:16; Tod Collings 5th, 35:15; Joe Light, 9th, 35:49; Larry Williams, 13th, 36:30; Tom McCoy, 17th, 37:14; Ron Hall, 18th, 37:15; Adrian Pelchat, Jr., 22nd, 37:32; Adrian Pelchat, III, 23rd, 37:35; Forrester Safford, 24th, 37:36; Bob Benson, 34th, 39:17; Brad Safford, 35th, 40:40; Ken Kozlin, 38th, 40:27; Pete Cardinal, 44th, 41:22; Bob Recor, 44th, 43:48 and Melinda Lapage, 56th overall and first woman, 46:12.

May-July 1980



June 1, 1980



THE START — Field of runners, ranging in age from eight to 60, takes off yesterday afternoon in front of Westerly Elks Lodge on Dixon St. At the end of the five-

mile route the winner was Jim Crowley of Westerly and 115 of the 120 entrants finished the distance.

(Sun Photo by William Burrows)

Elks Road Race

Jim Crowley Outclasses Field of 120

Jim Crowley came up the home stretch all alone yesterday afternoon to win the 23rd annual Westerly Elks Lodge road race.

Crowley, a former Stonington High school distance runner, finished the five-mile route in 25:30 minutes, well ahead of runnerup Will Rogers who was timed in 26:18. Third place in the open division went to Rich Longo, 27:17; fourth to Joe Light, 27:38 and fifth, Nick Manuzzi, 27:13.

The Elks dedicated yesterday's event to Larry Hirsch of Westerly and, fittingly enough, Hirsch took first place with ease in the

Masters Division, for runners 40 years of age and over. He was also 4th overall in 27:28.

Crossing the line in the Masters behind Hirsch were Eugene McMerriman, George Maine, Bob Kolodziej and Tom McCoy in that order.

Pat Swim outclassed her rivals in the women's open division in 31:54 and other lead positions went to Mary Ann Arico, 38:40; Gale Turner, 42:08; June Boyles, 40:18 and Karen Jones 42:14.

Finishing in order in the Masters division for women 35 years of age and over, were: Joyce Richmond, 38:36; Caroline Cullinane, 38:48; Sharon Ferguson, 41:35; Pat Baker 41 flat, and Agnes Hall, 41:47.

Top finishers in other categories included: Sub-juniors - Susan Letterle, 12 years old, 37:22, and Betty Kettner, Junior, under 18 - Lisa Stern 41:44, Sharon

Quantana and Grace Zerchen tied for second; High School Division - Adrian Pelchat of Westerly High, 30:25, George D. Sylvia, John Sawyer, Dave Lomardo and Brandon Graber.

Youngest boy to finish - David T. Lane of Norwich, eight years old, 38:41 and 76th overall; youngest girl - Tara L. Kelly of Groton, 9, 46:51, 105th overall; oldest women to finish - Agnes Hall of Westerly and Jean Ann Scaduto of Oakdale, Conn., both 39; oldest man to finish - Sumner Long of Ledyard, 60 years of age.

Rico Federico and Maurice Orlando, who have been instrumental in promotion of the Elks races since they were first established, again were in general command of race preparations. They reported that a field of 120 started and 115 finished in (SUN) sunny weather.





Summer 1980 Fun Run--Weekapaug



August 1980

This was the 3rd,
and last women's
only race.

22 The Sun, Westerly, R. I., Wednesday, August 13, 1980

Westerly Track Club

By JOE LIGHT

A small field of 23 competed Sunday in the 3rd annual Westerly Track Club 5 mile women's race. The 18 finishers were led by 13 year old Kelly Anne Pinckney of the Montville Track Assn., with a fine time of 31 minutes 42 seconds.

Other finishers were Sue Letterle of the Westerly Track Club 33:06; Karen Davis, 34:59; Kate O'Neil 35:21; Kristine Whalen 35:49; Wendy Iannuzzi 36:13; Linda Mitchell 36:29; Jane McQuade 36:33; Agnes Hall, WTC, 36:43; Gail Turner 37:07; Jennifer Tracy 37:30; Debra Todd 37:39; Virginia Coy, WTC, 38:04; Nora Stafford, WTC, 38:43; Karen Jones, WTC, 38:53; Julie Ratliff 41:03; Noelle Clapham, WTC, 45:14, and Terry Mengle 51:56.

The one mile fun run was won by Terry Jones of the Westerly Track Club. Despite the flat, scenic course and good weather, the race had to compete with an unusually large number of other running events in the Rhode Island-Southeastern Connecticut area over the weekend.

One of these events was a superbly organized 7 mile race in Newport which drew over 400 runners on Saturday night. Seven Track Club members enjoyed the water-

front views and fine hospitality provided by the R.I. Lung Assn. and Dept. of Environmental Management at Fort Adams State Park. Larry Hirsch was the first master's (over 40), finisher and was 10th place overall with a time of 38:26. Other finishers were Joe Light, 17th, 39:24; Lance Johnson, 47th, 42:21; Forrester Safford, 51, 52:47; Brad Safford, 61, 43:31; Clyde Beverly, 83, 44:41, and Ron Hall, 91, 45:03.

In the past few weeks many members competed in the two biggest mid-summer races in the area — the Narragansett Lions Blessing of the Fleet 10 mile race and the John Kelley 11 mile race in New London. Kelley, a Boston Marathon winner, Olympic marathoner, and native of Groton was honored at a testimonial dinner two days before the race named after him. Many of his Olympic teammates were in attendance.

Finally, in the Cape Cod 1/4 Marathon (13.1 miles) which drew over 1300 runners and numerous national running stars, Hirsch placed 2nd among all masters and 38th place overall with a time of 1:18:51.

Ron Hall, another excellent master's runner from the Club, finished 9th in that age group and 128th overall in 1:29:13.



September 14, 1980



OFF TO THE RACES — Jim Crowley (No. 423) jumped into the lead at the start of yesterday's five-mile road race for the benefit of the American Cancer Society and was in the same place at the finish to take top honors

in the event. First in the women's competition was Susan Letterle with a time of 34:43. She and Crowley, whose time was 25:44, were both representing the Westerly Track Club. The race, which began and ended at the Avon-

dale Grange, raised \$422 according to Rae Cagnino, chairman of this year's Westerly Cancer Crusade. The race had 86 entries, 76 starters and 68 finishers.

(Sun Photo by William Burrows)

October 1980

This benefit race was produced by current Club president (for life), Steve Schonning as an Eagle Scout project.

Racing Roundup OCT 1, 1980
THE SUN

Road Runners Boost Two Worthy Causes

By BILL CAWLEY

Stephen Schonning was well pleased with L.S. first venture as a promoter of benefit road racing.

The Westerly High School student directed the Sunday competition here with all proceeds being directed to the National Reyes Syndrome campaign, a most worthwhile project in which Schonning has been active.

"With the cooperation of the runners," Schonning noted, "and generous contributors, we were able to raise about \$200 for the Reyes Syndrome fund. I would like to express my appreciation to all who helped."

It was a busy Sunday for Schonning. In addition to directing the three and one-half mile race he competed in the high school division and finished second behind Adrian Pelchat, 3rd. The winner's time was 19:40. Schonning ran the distance in 25:44 and Roger Benoit was third in 36:32.

Top finishers in other male events were:

Junior — Jeff Hall, 24:17; Mark Kenyon and Ronnie Kozlin; Open — James Hirst, 19:13; David Creamer and Larry Purtill; Sub Master — John Coduri, 23:21; Gordon D. Greene and Paul A. Ceresa; Master — Larry Keefe, 24:32; Larry E. Colburn and Alben Publick; Veteran — Jim McGlaflin, 26:12.

First three finishers in female divisions were:

Junior — Debbie Kenyon, 27:00; Jennie Barber and Bethany Schonning; Open — June Boyles, 25:16; and Terry M. Mengle; Sub Master — Agnes Hall, 28:10; Terrie Irvine and Kathleen Harig; Master — Arlene McCoy, 36:24.

Blustery weather made running conditions far from ideal for the Westerly competitors and officials. Times were good considering conditions.

OCT 1, 1980

GOOD GOING JIM! — Jim Hirst of Asha receives congratulations from fellow winning open division in three and one-half Reyes Syndrome Benefit Run.

(S)



October
1980

WESTERLY TRACK CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT

The Westerly Track Club has come a long way in the last twelve months. Our growth in membership and member participation has been most gratifying. There is something you can't measure, as in terms of financial success, and that is a good reputation, which is what we have established. This year, for the first time, our long distance runners have been entering races, both locally and in nearby communities and states, seriously concentrating on team involvement. And this camaraderie, team spirit, togetherness, call it what you will, has resulted in several first place team awards, as well as respectful recognition for the Westerly Track Club. As a matter of fact, very recently I was told by a Providence resident that we are considered to be one of the best track clubs in Rhode Island. Now that is something to take pride in. How sweet it is!

Under Tom McCoy's expert supervision and direction, our summer fun run season was the best ever. Every week, rain or shine, there were a hundred runners or more, from the tiniest, youngest half-miler to our honored veteran distance runners, all gamely striving to finish the run with a better time, a better style, a better kick at the end.

Another area that we, as a strong, active track club can be of assistance in is the track and field events. What a wealth of potential stars we have in our young members. Unfortunately we were not able to do as much as we would have liked in this department this year. However, the good news is that just as the season was ending, we were able to obtain a complete list of upcoming events in track and field for the next several years. This is extremely important as it gives us a goal, an incentive to prepare for a particular event on a specific date. This year we were not aware of meets until they were upon us or even past. With the enthusiasm shown at the fun-runs, I am sure that we can also produce award winning athletes in track, hurdles, javelin, etc.

Our two annual races were held as usual...the Women's Race on a hot, blistery day in August, and the half-marathon in October. Both races were very well organized, very well conducted, but sadly, participation fell far short of our hoped for attendance. It is obvious that we have not yet found the secret of attracting road runners, and this is an area to concentrate on, as we do have such a great course.

In addition to our own races, this year we assisted at the Elk's Road Race and

also hosted the races sponsored by the Cancer Fund and the Rhode Island United Way. All helped to gain us pleasing publicity.

As far as recognition and publicity is concerned, I feel that we are beginning to make some headway. It has been difficult at times to obtain the desired publicity, but we are working hard on it, and have had some excellent news stories, pictures, and even a feature article in the Sun Dial this summer which did much to promote a good image of our Track Club.

It was unfortunate, also, that we could not continue with our fun-runs as we had hoped, but it will be something to work towards for next year, along with more social activities to keep in touch during the slow, off-season.

Our annual picnic was a huge success. We are indeed fortunate to have such a good relationship with organizations such as the YMCA, to have been able to use the Y Camp, which was just an ideal location for the picnic. And also with the B.P.O.E. who have so generously given us the use of this Hall here tonight. On behalf of the Westerly Track Club, please accept a most sincere 'Thank You'.

But most of all, I want to thank the members of the Westerly Track Club, for you are the people who have made the Club what it is today. Without your support, your participation and enthusiasm, there would be no club. We have indeed come a long way, and hopefully we can now increase the pace and continue to grow... in number, in excellence, in sportsmanship...in friendship.

Genevieve S. Kurdziel
President



October 12, 1980

4th annual and final

WTC Half Marathon

Jim Crowley won with a time of
1:10:31. No other results found

**November
1980**

The Sun, Westerly, R. I., Wednesday, November 5, 1980

Area Marathoners Run Ocean State

WESTERLY — Several marathoners from the Westerly area were kept busy this past Sunday covering 26 miles and 385 yards down Newport way.

The occasion was the fifth annual Ocean State Marathon where a total field of 2,500 starters and 1,723 finishers peopled the Newport roadways, including 17 local runners.

The finishers from the Westerly area, their times and order of finish are as follows:

The area's first two finishers, both in their first marathon ever, were Forrester Stafford, 282nd, with a time of 2:58:40; and Bradley Safford, 292nd, with a time of

2:59:01; then came Bob Benson, 358th, at 3:02:03; Clyde Beverly, 428th, at 3:04:57; Ron Hall, 464th, at 3:06:36; and Larry Hirsch, 472nd, at 3:07:05 (24 minutes slower than his best marathon time, because of leg problems).

Next was Gaboury Benoit, 537th, at 3:10:45; then Adrian Pelchat Jr., 621st at 3:14:14; Janis Vancans, 643rd, at 3:15:27; Tom Koppermann, 695th, at 3:17:57; Peter Cardinal, 792nd, at 3:22:47; Joe Smith, 807th, at 3:23:21; Ken Kozlin, 1027th, at 3:32:36; Charlie Ross, 1203rd, at 3:41:31; Brace Richmond, 1318th, at 3:48:59; Andrew Clapham, 1488th, at 4:00:49; Chuck Goss, 1667th, at 4:29:29; and Lou Toscano, 1707th, at 4:47:18.

Track Club

Jim Crowley finished in 24th place in 24 minutes, seven seconds to lead the Westerly Track Club delegation competing in the 44th annual Manchester, Conn., five-mile road race on Thanksgiving Day.

Nine members of the local organization competed and Patricia Swim finished in the top 10 of the women's division in 30 minutes, two seconds.

Times of other Track Club entries follow:

Leroy Falconi, 31:30; Charles Ross, 33:28; Al Darling, 33:50; Rod Sweet, 34:23; Russ Hughett, 36:04; Heather Parson, 37:40, and Julie Willson, 40:20.

Local Runners

Race at Dannon

WESTERLY — Ten members of the Westerly Track Club traveled to Hartford Sunday to participate in the Dannon Road Runners Club 6.4-mile road race held in Goodwin Park.

The weather was excellent for the race, and all local members finished the race over the three-lap course.

The Westerly area runners and their times are:

June Boyles, 50:10; Al Darling, 45:35; Leroy Falconi, 41:57; Chuck Goss, 48:42; Russ Herritt, 54:00; Heather Parson, 50:40; Charles Ross, 44:30; "Jogger Joe" Smith, 40:56; Rod Sweet, 46:32; and Julie Willson, 56:10.

Track Club members are reminded to their reservations in early for the upcoming New Year's Eve Party and run.



In Memoriam

The following runners, who are no longer with us, were either WTC members or part of the area running scene.

Bill Bublitz
Roger Camire
Bobby Doyle
Ron Hall
Steve Hancock
Holton (Sam) Hathaway
Jessie Kelley
George Maine
Bruce Richmond
Roger Schonning
Charlie Stavros



End of Part 1