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USATF Southeast Region Newsletter

Marlene Atwood, USATF Southeast Region Representative
December 22, 2011

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Dear Southeast Region,
The thing about USATF Annual Meetings is that you leave for the annual meeting right after Thanksgiving, and when you return, Christmas is staring you in the face. Even then, many of us go on to national cross country championships before we can even come back to address the Christmas shopping. Needless to say, it's a hectic time of year.

The USATF Annual Meeting always presents a great opportunity to network, attend informative sessions for athletes, administrators, coaches and officials, and weigh in on proposed changes to the bylaws, rules and regulations of our governing body. The other great benefit is that the meeting location changes each year. As you recall from our regional meeting, we will be in Daytona Beach next year, Indianapolis in 2013, Anaheim, CA in 2014, Houston in 2015, and Orlando in 2016! As far as St. Louis this year, the property worked very well. The views from the hotel of the illuminated Gateway Arch towering over the Mississippi River were spectacular! There was also an abundance of restaurants and markets within walking distance. For fitness, there was a fully equipped health club and lots of running paths along the Mississippi. Good job, St. Louis!

The Southeast Region meeting was well attended and I was very pleased to have presented first year "Volunteer Recognition Awards" to a deserving volunteer from each association. It is so very important to recognize our volunteers and the valuable work that they do on behalf of USATF. I want to thank each President for taking the time to honor a volunteer from their association. Complete information on recipients of the 2011 Volunteer Recognition Awards is included in this communication.

As we come to the end of 2011, my goal for 2012 is to have more contact with each association, and to become a trusted and valued representative. I need your help to do this, though. I ask that each association include me in your newsletter distribution list. If you have any special meetings or events that you would consider inviting me to, I would certainly consider attending. If you have any issues you would like to discuss or some advise you need, please feel free to contact me. I am here to assist you in any way I can.

On behalf of USA Track & Field, I want to wish each of you a very **Happy Holiday Season** and a bright **New Year**!

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Southeast Region Volunteer Recognition Awards

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I was very pleased to recognize these individuals for their years of service to their associations at the 2011 USATF Annual Meeting in St. Louis, MO, earlier this month.

Alabama - Walter Bell

- Walter Bell has served as Secretary/Treasurer, Men's and Women's Track and Field chair person, background screening chair person, and finance committee member. Mr. Bell completed USATF Level 1 Coaches Education School in 2009. He served as an implement screening official for the 2011 Association Track & Field Championships, as well as the Region 6 Championships. He is the club coach for the Hoover Track Club. As an official, he works weights & measures, discus, shot, hammer and javelin.

Florida - Mr. James Hiram Williams

- Mr. Williams has been a long standing member of the Florida Association. He is a master level official and served as officials coordinator in 2011 for the NACAC Under 23 Championship as well as the Pan AM Junior Championships. President Robin Beamon recognized him for his hard work during these two major events.

Georgia - Dr. David E. Martin

- Dr. Martin has served as Georgia's LDR Chair for many years and is considered one of the Association's most respected members. Dr. Martin is known on the national and international level as a physiologist specializing in exercise, cardiovascular, and pulmonary physiology. He has served on national committees involved in preparing distance runners for successful international competition. He was instrumental in helping Americans (Meb/Deena) win 2 unexpected medals in the 2004 Men's and Women's Olympic Marathons in Athens, Greece. He has written seven books including *Better Training for Distance Runners* (1997 with Peter Coe). Dr. Martin is no longer as active as he once was, having suffered some disability from Parkinson's Disease.

North Carolina - Katherine Branch

- According to Dr. Albert Davis - Association President, Katherine Branch is the heart and soul of the North Carolina Association. Katherine has assisted at developmental, association, regional and national championships. She has been a coach, club administrator, cheerleader, nurse, and mentor. She expends a great deal of her personal time and resources cheerfully with no personal gain except for the satisfaction of seeing association membership grow. Katherine has worked tirelessly for this association despite illness, personal tragedy and even hospitalization. She is a trusted, proven and respected member of the North Carolina team.
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South Carolina - Bill Truman

- Bill Truman has been President of the Florence Track Club since 2002. His club served 105 track & field athletes and 55 cross country runners this year. He is President Christopher Kling's "go-to-guy" when it comes to volunteering and recruiting for all the association's events. He is accountable and will find whatever is needed to be successful. For the National Youth meet in June this year, Bill and his team took care of the throws area for the entire week. He is always encouraging to all athletes and treats other coaches and officials with the utmost respect. According to Bill, his most rewarding moments of volunteerism were being able to watch both of his children run and earn medals at the state level.

Tennessee - Carolyn Tucker

- Carolyn Tucker has been with the Tennessee Association for over 25 years and has been an invaluable source of information and support to the board members and the association. She has been battling cancer for the last two years and through her recent illness has remained steadfast in her determination to make sure everything is done correctly. This is the first annual meeting that Carolyn has missed in her tenure with the Tennessee Association. She recently retired from the State of Tennessee where she was the program manager for the Department of Children and Family Services. Carolyn celebrated a birthday on December 2nd. President Radir Annoor Sr. asks that we all keep her in our prayers.

Virginia - Tyrone (Tony) Vaughan

- Tony has served as treasurer of the Virginia Association since 2006. Last fall, he took over the Youth Program just prior to the JO Cross Country Championships and did a magnificent job coordinating the program with very short notice. He has continued running the Virginia Youth Program and has taken it to new levels of excellence. Tony is also currently serving as the Communications Coordinator, working with the National Office on a new program. According to President Jim Holdren, his is one of the most active members of the association, taking on whatever needs doing.

Congratulations to all 2011 Southeast Region Volunteer Awardees!

Southeast Region Men's & Women's Marathon Trials Qualifiers
Good Luck in Houston on January 14th!

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Florida
Pawelek, Kim (FL)
Petrick, Sara (FL)
Criscione, Jeremy (FL)
McDonagh, Neil (FL)

Georgia
Cherobon-Bawcom, Janet (GA)
Herbst-Lucke, Stephanie (GA)
Horst, Jill (GA)
Karrh, Tamara (GA)
Knowles, Laurie (GA)
Ogwaro, Oscar (GA)

Tennessee
Portis, Laura (TN)
Thompson, Sharon (TN)

North Carolina
Bracy, Addie (NC)
Chrisman, Caitlin (NC)
Hepp Hovis, Megan (NC)
Iammarino, Christa (NC)
McKaig, Alissa (NC)
Minty, Jessica (NC)
Modliszewski, Jen (NC)
Nedlo, Meagan (NC)
Potter, Emily (NC)
Crews, John (NC)
Driscoll, Joe (NC)
Jankowski, David (NC)
Mack, Bobby (NC)

Virginia
High, Renee (VA)
Knudson, Louise (VA)
Reddy, Veena (VA)
Rittenhouse, Melissa (VA)
Thomas, Lisa (VA)
Flynn, Ricky (VA)
Moran, Ed (VA)
Wardian, Michael (VA)

Upcoming Southeast Region Events

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National Championships
- 2/5/12 - Melbourne, Florida - National Masters Half Marathon Championship (Melbourne & Beaches Music Half Marathon)
- 8/25/12 - Laurel Springs, NC - USA 10K Trails Championship (Part of Continental Divide Race)
- 5/19/12 - Williamsburg, VA - USA Masters 8K Championship (Run for the Dream)

Note on other Championships awarded at the USATF Annual Meeting:
North Carolina Association advises that the 2013 Junior Olympics will be held at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC. The 2014 Masters National Track & Field Championships will be held at Wake Forest University in Winston Salem, NC. The CVB from Raleigh, Winston Salem, Charlotte and Greensboro were in attendance and provided support for both successful bids.

(The National Office will be updating the "Championships Open for Bid" page at http://www.usatf.org/groups/EventDirectors/bids/openBids.asp so that Associations can review what events are open for bidding.)

USATF Coaching Education Level 1 Schools
- 1/13 - 1/15/12 - Queens University, Charlotte, NC
- 5/25 - 5/27/12 - University of Central Florida - Orlando, FL (TBA)
- 6/17 - 6/18/12- UNC Greensboro - Greensboro, NC (TBA)

2011 Southeast Region Survey

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At the Association Workshop this year, I distributed a survey to Southeast Region meeting attendees to help me (as a new representative) understand what each association understood a regional rep's role to be and what support each association felt they needed. The survey also asked what value was derived from the regional meetings that were held at the workshops and at the annual meeting, and how they
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could be improved.

- Surveys that were returned revealed that Associations would like a regional rep to help share ideas and information across the region. They want promotion of the good things that happen in each association.
- They also welcome regular communications via e-newsletter that will keep them up-to-date on any news, events, or information at the regional and national level.
- Regarding regional breakout sessions - agendas were important. Written reports from each association were also important - especially if they were available for distribution. There was a need to keep the sessions positive and not a forum for negative statements. Dwelling on grievances was also a negative. Longer sessions were suggested for more in-depth discussions.

Thanks to everyone who took time to provide their comments. It has helped me understand some of the high level needs. I believe there are so many possibilities in developing the regional rep role and enhancing the regional meetings. Your constructive feedback is always welcome.

Quick Notes

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- **Association Trademark License Agreements Due December 31** - On November 28, 2011, Andy Martin from the National Office sent out a communication to Association Presidents, Secretaries, and offices that included each Association's Trademark License Agreement. One of many steps being taken to further the commitment to protect the USATF properties (USATF name and logo) and overall USATF brand is to have each accredited Association execute the Trademark License Agreement. The agreement is an important document that, in conjunction with the Association Logo & Brand Standards Manual, will help communicate what can and cannot be done with the Association logo. Andy advised that it is important that there is 100% compliance in the return of the executed license agreements. The deadline for submitting the license agreement is **December 31, 2011**. They should be sent to Sherry.Quack@usatf.org. Failure to return the license agreement will result in your association no longer having the right to use the USATF association logo or name; not being eligible for a 2013 Association grant; not being included on the 2012 USATF Directors and Officers Liability policy.
- **2012 Association Workshop RFP** - please note that the National Office has sent out an "Association Workshop Request for Proposal" via email on December 20, 2011. If you have interest in hosting the 2012 workshop, please visit the Association Document Resource Center at the usatf.org for complete details.
- **2012 Association Committee Appointments** - please note that these are due at the National Office by January 13, 2012. The form was also sent out via email on December 20, 2011. The form can also be found at the Association Document Resource Center.
- **2012 USATF Regional Open Track & Field Championship Bid** - details are being finalized and I will be distributing information shortly.
- **2012 Association Grants - $15,000.** Grant applications will be available in January and will be due in May. I'll keep you posted.

Contact Information

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