

VOL. 18 NO. 3 WINTER 2003

The newsletter for friends of Adventures for Women

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Dear Adventurous Women:

Another year is drawing to a close and I cannot help but reflect on what a fine year we have had with this organization. Our membership count is over 160; many new and enthusiastic ladies have joined our ranks. We have started to explore some new programs such as our Workshop on Firearms Safety. The Lake George Reflections weekend was a huge success. It has been a good year for AFW.

Financially, we are a bit more sound than in the past. On the following page you will see a break-down in pie chart form of where our revenue comes from and what the expenses are. Please take a moment to study this and feel free to comment or ask questions. This is YOUR organization, not just mine.

And while the finances are balanced and the club seems to be stable, we are still faced with many changes to come in 2004. We will be bidding farewell to two fine ladies, Kathy Conniff Clines and Renee Michaels. Both are moving on to different adventures in their lives and will no longer be able to take active roles at AFW. I know we will all miss them terribly. Kathy has run City Paths, been a guide at AFW, our editor for Expanding Horizons and most importantly my conscience; she will be sorely missed. Renee has lent her wonderful creative talents to our printed materials and offered up some great suggestions with regard to our process and structure.

How will we go forward in the face of such disruption? Well, other wonderful women step in to take their place and little by little we learn and grow. A new idea, a new opportunity for someone else to shine. It goes to show that things cannot and should not remain stagnant.

I leave you with wishes for a wonderful holiday season, however you may celebrate.

mind the path ... Betty



Determined women conquer Breakneck Ridge during a thunderstorm. From left to right: Sue Juronics, Betty Plunkett, Dagi Murphy, Roberta McIver, Joanne Carrubba, and Judy Malsbury

New Year's Day Sunset Hike

We know many of you look forward to this tradition of welcoming in the New Year by hiking to the top of Bear Mountain on January 1. Please feel free to bring friends and family; male and female. We will meet at 3:15 PM on Thursday, January 1, 2004 in the first parking lot of Anthony Wayne Recreation Area and hike three to four moderate miles up the mountain road to the peak overlooking the Hudson. Dress warmly in layers, wear hiking boots and bring water. The parking area is right off the ramp from Exit 17 on the Palisades Interstate Parkway. RSVP to AFW Trustee Jen Francisco at 973-256-4141.

Not Really Good-bye

by Kathy Conniff Clines

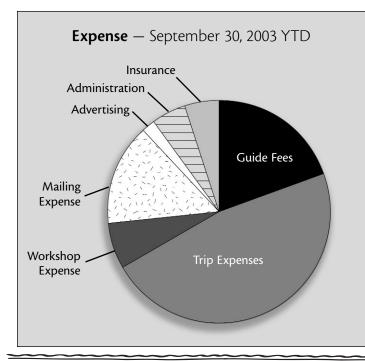
When Springtime finally blossomed out this year, I decided to embark on a new adventure, and a move to Canada seemed right. It has been fun editing Expanding Horizons these last few years, but now it is time to turn that task over to Jean-Marie Herron. Many thanks to Betsy Thomason, Betty Plunkett, Renee Michaels and Dolores "Eagle Eyes" Andrews for all their help.

Although I am looking forward to a new place to live and new people to meet, I will never forget my New Jersey home and all my friends at Adventures for Women. I plan to return for a few hikes next year with AFW, so as California Governor-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger famously said as The Terminator: "I'll be back!"

Show Me the Money?

by Betty Plunkett, Director AFW

It has often occurred to me that our Adventures for Women members might like to know where we get our money from and what we spend it on. Since this is a nonprofit organization, you will always have the right to ask those questions. Below is a graph depicting our expense structure. If you should have further questions, please feel free to write or call the office.





Hiking the Appalachian Trail. Back row (left to right): Julie Wilkerson, Joanne Carrubba, Joan Coppola, Johanna Frost-Johnson, Dagi Murphy, Julie Mahoney, Laura Clines, Judy Malsbury, Claudia Krynicki (bending over). Front row (left to right): Diane Kennedy, Kathy Conniff Clines, Lynne Greenfield, Karen Sciano.

Fall Clean-Up — Thank You!

A big thank you to those who managed to squeeze this fall's clean-up of the MacEvoy Trail at Ramapo Mountain State Forest into their schedules. We truly appreciate our organizer for this event, Jen Francisco and her fellow helping hands: Barbara Harris, Julie Wilkerson and Harry Francisco. Maybe next year we can find some more hands for this great cause.

Pot Luck Dinner

Friday, January 30, 2004

Come join your fellow adventurers for an evening of fun and food in Morristown on Friday, January 30 from 7 to 10 PM. Please call Jean-Marie Herron for details at 201-512-1582 or e-mail her at jmherron@optonline.net. All members are welcome and we encourage you to bring a friend or relative who might be interested in joining our group.

It's Time to Renew!

Yes, ladies it is that time of the year to renew your AFW membership for 2004. Inside this mailing you will find your renewal form, a return envelope, a risk form for 2004 and an order form for an AFW shirt! Remember, sending in your renewal by December 31, 2003 saves you \$10 over the 2004 membership.

Welcome New Members

Angela Gatzonis, Robin Weber, Lauren Weiss, Anne Murphy

EDITOR: Jean-Marie Herron LAYOUT: Denise Gill