

# Report from President Dieter Massin

The period of office in EVAA (2004 – 2008) was characterised by the topics as follow:

1. Administration
2. Athletes as “Centre Point of Interest”
3. Campaign “Fair and Clean Sport”
4. Looking ahead (Future-Programmes)

## ad 1: Administration

### 1.1 Registration of EVAA:

After the registration of the European Veterans Athletic Association (EVAA) in Lausanne (SUI) in 2004, the EVAA-Council pushed the constitutional work referring to the corrections and the revisions to the related rules, as well as to the regulations and orders (By-Laws, Rules of Competition),

### 1.2 New Handbook:

As a result of this work the new “Handbook” had been finished and could be distributed shortly after the General Assembly of Poznan (POL) in 2006. The new Handbook (4th edition, after the last one before in 2000) covers the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules of Competition, Bidding for EVAC, History, Championship-Records, Figures of Competitors’ Statistics for various EVAC, Addresses and additionally the “European Best Veterans”

### 1.3 “Technical Board of Managers”

The main change after the General Assembly (with the election of the “Technical Director”) was the establishment of the “Technical Board of Managers”. This change was the right one for the future: All technical questions and requirements, the core of the EVAA work, will be treated, discussed and prepared for council decisions with the aim of simplifying and to strengthening the work “pro” (that means for the benefit of) the athletes. This change made it possible to plan for the future of the European veteran’s movement.

#### **1.4 Office in Marathon**

Thanks to the assistance and the intensive commitment of Georgios Constantopoulos (GRE) a new office could be opened. The inauguration of this office (free of charge) was in January 2008. With the office (including an employee) EVAA will be in a very favourable position to work stronger than before for the athletes and their benefits especially.

### **ad 2: Athletes as “Centre Point of Interest”**

#### **2.1 European Best Veterans**

From the beginning onwards the new EVAA-Council (elected in 2004) concentrated its work on the athletes and their performances, appearances, characters and their position in the society. Among others EVAA pushed the public relation. Consequently the EVAA followed the idea of the IAAF/WMA and, beginning with the first election in 2005, from then on is honouring the best veterans of the year. Rietje Dijkman (NEL) and Wolfgang Reuter (GER) were the first “European Best Veterans” (“EBV”). In honour and in respect to their performances and elections (inclusive the award) these EBV will be published on the “Wall of Fame” in the new office in Marathon, where the yearly prize will be awarded.

#### **2.2 Fair Play Award**

After the sudden and unexpected passing of Torsten Carlus (former EVAA – President, 1996 till 1997 and long time WMA – President, 1997 till 2005), and with the consent of the Carlus family the EVAA Council decided to name future Fair Play Awards “Torsten Carlus Fair Play Award”. In recognition of his contributions towards a clean and fair sport in the veteran’s movement the first laureate of the “Fair Play Award” was Prof. Dr. Karri Wichmann (FIN) to whom the award was presented at the EVACI in Helsinki 2006.

#### **2.3 EVAA Academy**

The 2004 new elected council has also focussed its work on additional benefits, i.e. a further information policy as to the athletes, assistants and advisors of the athletes/federations and simplifications of administrative work as well. For this reason EVAA Council has founded the “EVAA-Academy” following an



initiative of the new secretary Kurt Kaschke (GER). For more details compare the report of Kurt Kaschke.

#### **2.4 Extension of the Championships (EVAC)**

EVAA Championships are organised since 1978 beginning with the European premiere stadia in Viareggio -ITA-, that was followed in 1989 by non-stadia events in Brugge -BEL- and the 1997 indoor-championships in Birmingham -GBR-. The latest “baby” is the Mountain Championship that in co-operation with the World Association, WMRA started in 2006 in Unterharmersbach -GER.

#### **2.5 Protection and Care to the Athletes**

The “Anti-Doping-Campaign” of EVAA is worldwide unique and is focussed on systematic advice and support to the athletes, coaches and federations. This campaign is made solely for the veterans (more information on the EVAA-website); the new campaign of education of “Safety Judge” has also to be seen in this context.

### **ad 3: Campaign “Fair and Clean Sport”**

#### **3.1 Anti-Doping-Congress**

A unique initiative started in Poznan (2006) EVAA: seminars/congresses and courses for delegates, athletes and coaches. The first congress, titled “Anti-Doping-Congress”, had the aim to inform about “anti-doping matters” in general and in dealing with special “anti-doping questions”. Also a booklet was published after this congress.

#### **3.2 Anti-Doping-Declaration**

In 2005 the German veterans Guido Müller and Arno Hamaekers together started a private initiative-group “proMASTERS” which focused on a signatory initiative, “Vaterstettener Erklärung” (“Vaterstettener Declaration”, named for the location where the movement started). Up to now more than 700 veterans already signed this declaration, coming from more than 20 countries in Europe. On this basis a similar initiative for federations was founded in 2007 in Helsinki; this declaration (“Anti-Doping-Declaration of Helsinki”) was signed by 30 European federations.

### 3.3 TUE application

As consequence of the EVAA information policy the sensitivity of the athletes to anti-doping matters increased very quickly. The increase of demand of TUE application forms is its best proof. In the meantime 92% of all applications (worldwide) are originating in Europe.

### 3.4 Anti-Doping-Fee

Since 2006 EVAA added an additional fee to the entry fees. This fee is exclusively provided for extra tests during EVAC.

### 3.5 FINDEX

A further consequence to the new anti-doping-policy of EVAA was the development of a database of prohibited substances. Rüdiger Nickel (GER), lawyer and expert in anti-doping matters, has developed this database, called FINDEX (see EVAA-website). FINDEX is an excellent support for quick information and it will be yearly updated in accordance to WADA.

## ad 4: Looking ahead

“A rolling stone gathers no moss” - this saying will be the guideline for the EVAA work in the upcoming years and here and now it is to say that EVAA beside the daily work will realise subjects as follow:

- Continuation of the successful co-operation and partnership with the European Athletics Association (EAA)
- Projects of standardisation (database, entry booklets, competitor booklets...)
- Analysis of world and regional veterans' championships
- Co-operation with AMA (African Masters' Association), supported by the European Union (EU)
- Seminars and congresses (EVAA Academy)
- Celebration of the 30th birthday of EVAA in October/November 2008
- Establishment and expansion of the EVAA Office in Marathon.

Finally it is to say that all projects, all works and all ideas could only be realised because of a wonderful collaboration in a fantastic team of friends and colleagues in the EVAA Council.



All council members sorted things out, clenched in many situations, contributed their free time for the team work in EVAA, always aimed to do the best for the athletes.

For this I have to express many thanks to all my friends of the EVAA Council, who enabled all progresses, all developments and all successes. I did enjoy all council meetings and all championships together with the EVAA Council, the athletes, the delegates, the coaches and the local organisers - always in a harmonious atmosphere, born by an extreme sportsmanship.

The veterans' movement in Europe is on a very good track. Congratulation, thanks and compliments to all federations and their athletes for their commitments and contributions.

Let's continue and improve together this way!

# Report from Vice-President Vesa Lappalainen

My two first years as a Vice-President of EVAA has been full of interesting work. I focus this period for 3 main items: to learn new things, to answer demands and to develop our sport movement. Two years have taught me to co-operate in our Council and with our Affiliates and Athletes. In this work my duty as a team manager has helped a lot. Straight opinions and comments from athletes are basic elements to do this work. Learning by doing with our athletes is my goal in the future, too.

I did my best in the organisation work of EVACI 2007 in Helsinki. These Championships had only 1,5 years to prepare. It was hard, but finally successful work. LOC of Helsinki managed to handle all 2086 entries, a new indoor participation record, to go through all events during 4 competition days and get results direct to internet. Of course many things could be done better, but under these circumstances Helsinki did an excellent work and answered to all demands.

Our Sport Movement is growing all the time. This will cause a lot of development work. On this field I see my duty as a coordinator between EVAA and local organisations of our Championships. It is important that our Championships are held under the rules and also services out side of sport field are in order. It is not possible to say all in the contracts of our Championships, it is necessary to give our help and experiments for LOC. For example, during our evaluation visit in Ghent, Belgium, who was bidding Indoor Championships, we could give important information of all organisation work what LOC has to do.

And it is also very important to promote our Sport Movement for the Authorities. How excellent examples our athletes are from well-being humans. They are keeping in fitness with their life long sport and not spending tax money in hospitals. Our values are right, let's keep them moving on. What is the best organisation of EVAA? This is also one big item of our futu-



re. How we can serve our athletes and how continental our work is, not forgetting area meetings, like Balkan, Scandinavia or Mediterranean. There is a lot to do. The best way develop our EVAA is open discussion and trustiness in all our meetings.

# Report from Technical Director Lamberto Vacchi

These remarks are written after two years of the installation of the “Technical Board of Managers“ (TBM). It is a duty for me now remember the TBM Members for thinking of the work they have done.

The team work that it is done with my co-ordination let us allowed to face with more attention and specific competence the several appointments for the visits to the venues of the next championships both in bidding face and during the organisation of the events.

All this have permitted to begin and to maintain many contacts with exponents of the “Master Movement” of many countries, first of all, referring to those which open now the doors to the EVAA events and represent for master activity a big opportunity.

As regard to the organisational plan our obligation has been concentrated especially on these matters:

- To guarantee to the championships on organisational standard of European/international level.
- To guarantee the activity of the Safety Judges.
- To maintain the high technical level and the correct interpretation of the technical action in all several expressions.
- To improve the control on the correct declaration of the “Personal best performances” in the entries.

On the research it is determinant the coordination with EVAA Academy as appears for the “Race walking seminar “of Riccione 2007 during the WMA Championships.

The way is long, but the prospects are interesting and give the enthusiasm in the Team.



# Report from Treasurer

## Pekka Kurki

### 1. General

Years 2006-2007 were a period for strong and active development in all areas. We continued the paid efforts to develop Championship sanctioning procedures, guiding and helping new candidates and those carrying through the same. Special attention was paid for AD-area to maintain and develop the checkin procedures.

A completely new function was started in the form of EVAA Academy. Several conferences were held and the interest of many participants has shown by the necessity for this type of development area.

EVAA continued to honour the Best European Veterans. The prizes are awarded during a small ceremony every year.

We have found the necessity to reorganize the Councils organization and working models. This work was started during 2006-2007 and will continue during coming years. Increased activity caused rising costs, but we were happy to cover these with EVAA-fees from very successful Championships.

### 2. Profit and Loss Accounts 2006/2007

Fiscal year 2006 shows a slight profit although below the budget. We expected some more EVAA-fees in Poznan than what was realised. For our development work we received an increased grant from EAA. Revenues were well in line with the budget.

As to expenses, we still needed assistance in legal matters. Total expenses were slightly over budget. Anyway we can consider the surplus of 2.925,60 Euros for 2006 good.

In 2007 both Helsinki Indoors Championships set a new record in participants and a good figure for EVAA-fees. Also Regensburg Non-Stadia revenues deve-

loped positively. Total revenues were well over budget. The result for 2007 was slightly negative. The "old two year" period gave the result of 2.327,95 Euros, which can be considered satisfactory.

### 3. Balance sheets 2007, 2006 and 2005

The Balance on 31.12.2007 was 136.955,94 Euros. Subscribed Capital or our own funds at the same time were 89.858,71 Euros, which means a solid base for future years.

### 4. Future prospects

Budgets 2008-2009 show an estimate for coming years. The new structure of the Council will cause changes in the budget scheme.



## EVAA P/L Accounts 2006/2007; Budgets 2006/2007, Budgets 2008/2009

	A 2006	B 2006	A 2007	B 2007	A 2006+A 2007	B 2006+ B 2007	B 2008	B 2009	B 2008+B 2009
<b>Revenues</b>									
<b>Championships fees:</b>									
3101 EVAA fees stadia	34.000,00	38500	0,00	0	34.000,00	38500,00	38500	0	38500
3102 EVAA fees non-stadia	0,00	0	17.736,00	16500	17.736,00	16500,00	0	18000	18000
3103 EVAA fees indoor	0,00	0	24.972,00	16500	24.972,00	16500,00	0	20000	20000
3104 sanction fees	17.000,00	13000	6.000,00	6000	23.000,00	19000,00	12000	6000	18000
3105 EVAA fees other	1.580,00	0	0,00		1.580,00	0,00		0	0
<b>Championships fees total</b>	<b>52.580,00</b>	<b>51500</b>	<b>48.708,00</b>	<b>39000</b>	<b>101.288,00</b>	<b>90.500,00</b>	<b>50500</b>	<b>44000</b>	<b>94500</b>
<b>Grants:</b>									
3201 IAAF/WAVA/WMA grant	0,00	0	4.158,29	4000	4.158,29	4000,00	0	4000	4000
3202 EAA grant	7.796,29	6400	6.027,36	6400	13.823,65	12800,00	6400	7000	13400
<b>Grants total</b>	<b>7.796,29</b>	<b>6400</b>	<b>10.185,65</b>	<b>10400</b>	<b>17.981,94</b>	<b>16.800,00</b>	<b>6400</b>	<b>11000</b>	<b>17400</b>
<b>Various:</b>									
3301 bank interest	139,33	100	1.214,42	100	1.353,75	200,00	1000	1000	2000
3302 bond income	0,00	1400	3.840,38		3.840,38	1400,00	3000	3000	6000
3304 sponsor income	0,00	0	1.400,00		1.400,00	0,00	0	0	0
<b>Various total</b>	<b>139,33</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>6.454,80</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.594,13</b>	<b>1.600,00</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>8000</b>
<b>REVENUES TOTAL</b>	<b>60.515,62</b>	<b>59400</b>	<b>65.348,45</b>	<b>49500</b>	<b>125.864,07</b>	<b>108.900,00</b>	<b>60900</b>	<b>59000</b>	<b>119900</b>

	A 2006	B 2006	A 2007	B 2007	A 2006+A 2007	B 2006+ B 2007	B 2008	B 2009	B 2008+B 2009
<b>Expenses</b>									
Administration:									
5101 postage, phone, fax	-3.299,59	-3750	-1.891,56	-3750	-5.191,15	-7500,00	-3700	-4200	-7900
5102 office supplies & machines	-701,71	-500	-2.663,13	-500	-3.364,84	-1000,00	-1000	-500	-1500
5103 printing expences	-4.751,65	-4000	-358,14	-1000	-5.109,79	-5000,00	-4000	-1000	-5000
5104 council meetings	-8.704,61	-15000	-23.951,13	-15000	-32.655,74	-30000,00	-18000	-15000	-33000
5105 internet	-3.325,54	-4000	-3.525,13	-4000	-6.850,67	-8000,00	-4000	-4000	-8000
5106 legal services	-6.382,03	0	-842,42	0	-7.224,45	0,00	-2000	-1000	-3000
5107 bookkeeping, auditing, tax. au	-1.700,18	0	-1.568,50	0	-3.268,68	0,00	-1000	-1000	-2000
5108 miscellaneous	-5.395,11	0	-165,04	0	-5.560,15	0,00	-200	-1000	-1200
<b>Administration total</b>	<b>-34.260,42</b>	<b>-27250</b>	<b>-34.965,05</b>	<b>-24250</b>	<b>-69.225,47</b>	<b>-51.500,00</b>	<b>-33900</b>	<b>-27700</b>	<b>-61600</b>
Championships:									
4101 stadia championships	-3.148,01	-3000	-3.426,99	-500	-6.575,00	-3500,00	-4000	-1000	-5000
4102 non-stadia championships	2.119,05	-500	-4.633,53	-1000	-2.514,48	-1500,00	-1000	-5000	-6000
4103 indoor championships	-1.717,73	-500	-6.091,05	-1000	-7.808,78	-1500,00	-1000	-6000	-7000
4105 general assembly	-10.972,79	-2000	-164,50	0	-11.137,29	-2000,00	0	0	0
4106 stadia committee	0,00	-2000	-1.051,00	-1000	-1.051,00	-3000,00	0	-1000	-1000
4107 non-stadia committee	-429,91	0	0,00	0	-429,91	0,00	0	-1000	-1000
4108 indoor committee	0,00	0	-808,22	0	-808,22	0,00	0	-1000	-1000
4109 mountain running championsh.	619,91	0	-466,38	0	153,53	0,00	-1000	-500	-1500
<b>Championships total</b>	<b>-13.529,48</b>	<b>-8000</b>	<b>-16.641,67</b>	<b>-3500</b>	<b>-30.171,15</b>	<b>-11.500,00</b>	<b>-7000</b>	<b>-15500</b>	<b>-22500</b>
Various:									
4301 rel. IAAF/EAA/WMA/IMGA	-1.644,96	-7000	-5.592,70	-7000	-7.237,66	-14000,00	-6000	-6000	-12000
4302 repr., gifts, honor guests	-4.589,27	-3000	-1.940,90	-3000	-6.530,17	-6000,00	-3000	-3000	-6000
4303 bank charges	-258,68	-1000	-228,02	-1000	-486,70	-2000,00	-300	-300	-600
4305 miscellaneous	-79,63	-7400	0,00	0	-79,63	-7400,00	-7000	-500	-7500
4306 EVAA Academy	-3.227,58	0	-6.577,76	-7400	-9.805,34	-7400,00	-3700	-6000	-9700
<b>Various total</b>	<b>-9.800,12</b>	<b>-18400</b>	<b>-14.339,38</b>	<b>-18400</b>	<b>-24.139,50</b>	<b>-36.800,00</b>	<b>-20000</b>	<b>-15800</b>	<b>-35800</b>
<b>EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>-57.590,02</b>	<b>-53650</b>	<b>-65.946,10</b>	<b>-46150</b>	<b>-123.536,12</b>	<b>-99.800,00</b>	<b>-60900</b>	<b>-59000</b>	<b>-119900</b>
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>2.925,60</b>	<b>5750</b>	<b>-597,65</b>	<b>3350</b>	<b>2.327,95</b>	<b>9.100,00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## EVAA BALANCE SHEETS 2005, 2006, 2007

	31.12.2007	31.12.2006	31.12.2005
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Tangible commodities			
1120 inventory	0,67	0,67	0,67
Tangible commodities total	0,67	0,67	0,67
Non-current assets total	0,67	0,67	0,67
<b>Current assets</b>			
Receivables short term			
1515 cash in hand P. Kurki	0,00	515,25	720,29
1516 receivables Türkkal	0,00	155,83	155,83
1517 receivables Marina Hoernecke-G	0,00	800,00	0,00
1520 receivables carried forward	0,00	0,00	1.179,98
1530 other receivables	0,00	20.000,00	0,00
<b>Receivables short term total</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>21.471,08</b>	<b>2.056,10</b>
<b>Investments</b>			
1600 shares, stocks, bonds	0,00	70.000,00	70.000,00
<b>Investments total</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>70.000,00</b>	<b>70.000,00</b>
<b>Cash in hand and at banks</b>			
1730 Okobank EUR -2180574	136.955,27	38.485,34	59.473,99
<b>Cash in hand and at banks total</b>	<b>136.955,27</b>	<b>38.485,34</b>	<b>59.473,99</b>
<b>Current assets total</b>	<b>136.955,27</b>	<b>129.956,42</b>	<b>131.530,09</b>
	<b>136.955,94</b>	<b>129.957,09</b>	<b>131.530,76</b>

	31.12.2007	31.12.2006	31.12.2005
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Subscribed capital</b>			
Reserves			
2010 capital	90.921,86	90.921,86	90.921,86
Reserves total	90.921,86	90.921,86	90.921,86
Retained earnings (loss)			
2020 surplus/deficit previous perio	-465,50	-3.391,10	0,00
Retained earnings (loss) total	-465,50	-3.391,10	0,00
Profit (loss) for the financial year	-597,65	2.925,60	-3.391,10
<b>Subscribed capital total</b>	<b>89.858,71</b>	<b>90.456,36</b>	<b>87.530,76</b>
<b>Short term creditors</b>			
Other short term creditors			
2450 accrued expenses	2.838,23	1.500,73	0,00
2461 performance bond	44.000,00	38.000,00	44.000,00
2465 cash loan P. Kurki	259,00	0,00	0,00
<b>Other short term creditors total</b>	<b>47.097,23</b>	<b>39.500,73</b>	<b>44.000,00</b>
<b>Short term creditors total</b>	<b>47.097,23</b>	<b>39.500,73</b>	<b>44.000,00</b>
	<b>136.955,94</b>	<b>129.957,09</b>	<b>131.530,76</b>

# Auditors' Report 2007

Elected as Auditors by the General Assembly in Poznan in 2006, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of EVAA, covered the period 1st January 2007 to 31st December 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of EVAA's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and make a recommendation based on our audit.

We conducted and performed our audit so as to obtain all information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We have examined whether the annual accounts and the bookkeeping comply with the law and statutes of EVAA. We have audited, on a test basis, the following:

- the status of the bank account
- the observance of financial budgets in amount and content of individual positions
- the correctness and completeness of vouchers
- the orderly accounting of income and expenses

We have got access to the respective treasury records in the journal and the main book and obtained explanations by the treasurer. The treasurer has kept the accounts in a clear and correct way. The financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the usual standards on accounting practice.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the EVAA as at 31st December 2007. Thus we recommend the exoneration of the treasurer and the Council in regard to their financial management.

*Copenhagen, Denmark April 24, 2008*

*Susanne Hedeager*

*Jean Thomas*

# Report from Secretary Kurt Kaschke

After my election as EVAA secretary 2006 in Poznań I was introduced and supported by our former Secretary and now Honorary Member of EVAA Marina Hoernecke-Gill and the all Council Member of EVAA – a great team. I like to thank all my supporters who have given me a hand and who were always patient in answering my various questions.

My first duty was to collect all documents of EVAA and put them into a proper order – well prepared by Marina Hoernecke-Gill. The second part was to contact our European Affiliates and to send a questionnaire to update information about regional and national activities in master athletics. Now all addresses of our affiliates are on EVAA website and our contact persons in master athletics seem to be updated, too. Please be so kind and tell us all changes of contacts and addresses of national federations because we need the correct postboxes to have a good and effective communication.

In my application to the candidature of EVAA Secretary I promised to enlarge and to develop computer work and modern communication technology in EVAA activities. By now we have a standard in agendas, minutes, and to-do-lists. For all council meetings presentation documents are produced so that every Council Member has got the information he needs for decisions.

I intended to create “EVAA Academy” – in Helsinki 2007, this idea became reality.

- We started in Poznan with EVAA first “Anti-Doping-Congress” (110 visitors) and produced a booklet, given for free to all EVAA Federations.
- During Helsinki's Indoor Championships we worked together with the University of Jyväskylä and offered two seminars for coaching and training (35 listeners).
- Riccione was host of the WMA Stadia Championships 2007 where EVAA Academy presented a seminar about “Race Walking” with great success (160 specialists and listeners).

- 2008 the Bulgaria Federation asked for a seminar special for women. During their Balkan Cross Championship EVAA Academy presented “The Running – a Way of Life” (20 auditors) (see brochure).
- In Ljubljana “The Work of a Safety Judge” will be presented by the Technical Board of Managers under the patronage of Lamberto Vacchi and Nicola Maggio.

In January 2008 the opening of EVAA Office in Marathon was another step forward to develop EVAA more and more. EVAA will take the chance to honor European's Best Veterans once a year in the historical surrounding of this ancient birthplace of marathon during our annual council meeting.

There are more activities planned in Marathon like a certification seminar for judges in master athletics. Just keep in your mind 2010 Marathon is going to celebrate its 2500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ancient Marathon Run – the original one. EVAA is planning to have a special event for master athlete's right there!

Another step forward in communication between EVAA and its affiliates are our regular European Federations' Meetings during WMA championships. We will be present and we will try to be present in regional championships.

It is great to work in a great team and thank you again for your support and collaboration.

# Report from Women's Representative Selma Türkkal

Last two years since Poznan, Europe has become the highest level in veteran athletics in the worldwide. I am very proud of belonging in an association like EVAA. Not only because of its wonderful organizational level but also very comprehensible and beneficial items established for the veteran athletics in the structure for women athletes always with nice atmosphere. In the year 2006 at EVAA's council meeting in Frankfurt, Germany, the long distance runner Melitta Czerwenka-Nagel, Germany (W75), was elected with walker Arthur Thomson, Great Britain for European Best Veteran 2006 in master athletics.

No other woman has set up so many World Records outdoors and indoors in the course of one year. And Melitta mostly is superior to the other veterans in her age group and has outclassed the old records. She is in the possession of 7 World Records in W75, set up 2005 and 2006. Her Outdoor records, 10km Roads (50.29), 3000m (14.26.01), 5000m (24.32.98), 10000m (50.00.93) and Half Marathon (2.00.33). Indoor records, 800m (3.31.94) and 1500m (6.47.04). In 2006 she broke 5 World Records. In WMA World Championships Indoor in Linz March 2006 she set up 2 World Records Indoor: 800m (3.31.94) and 1500m (6.47.04). In Saarbrücken, Germany, and June 2006 she broke 2 World Records Outdoor: 3000m (14.26.01) and 5000m (24.32.98). In the German Championships in Aachen in August she broke the World Record in 800m: 3.28.73. And finally in Merzig, Germany, in September she noted the World Record 2:00,03 in Half Marathon.

Besides of that (from a total of 6 candidates forwarded by the WMA regions) William (Bill) Collins, USA and Melitta Czerwenka-Nagel, GER, were chosen as the WMA Best Masters for 2006. On the occasion of the IAAF Gala in Monaco in November they had been awarded as "IAAF Best Masters of the Year 2006".

This was very important to signify and to recognize the level of European athletes' performances. In 2007 Best Veteran Woman Athlete was Edith Graff,





BEL (W65) together with Best Veteran Man Athlete: Carl-Erik Särndal, SWE High Jump M70. Edith posted four world records: 80m Hurdles outdoor (14.24/-1.2); 60m Hurdles indoor (10.58); High Jump indoor (1.31); Triple Jump indoors (9.04) In the WMA Championships in Riccione she won two gold medals and in the European Veteran Championship Indoors in Helsinki, FIN four gold medals. In Triple Jump she is superior to the other veterans in W65.

Edith and Carl-Erik were invited to Marathon, Greece, at the end of January 2008 and EVAA celebrated with a special "EBV" award in Greece together with the inauguration of the EVAA Office Athens. For the IAAF Masters' Committee; Marina Hoernecke-Gil (ESP) and Bridget Cushen (GBR) have been elected for the period 2007 to 2011, as women representatives from Europe.

These movements show us that EUROPE is very strong with female not only athletes also with the highest positions in the Committees. European athletes gained improvement on their performances. This can be seen in our website if you go through outdoor, indoor, stadia, non-stadia records and performances.

In Europe, we organised special veteran athletics Master Development Programme for the less developed regions. With the frame of this programme we have seminars specifically on that area.

This year 12th April 2008 with the occasion of the Balkan Cross Championships in Plovdiv (Bulgaria), EVAA organised the first women seminar worldwide. EVAA-Secretary Kurt Kaschke as an organiser of EVAA Academy; invited the participants, delegates and coaches to this seminar "The Running - A way of life" Lecturers were like Ilse Bechthold (GER), the former chairperson of the IAAF Women's Committee, 2008 elected by the IOC as "sport woman of the year", Prof. Vesna Repic (SRB), Professor of Physical Culture Serbia, and Nikolina Stereva (BUL), former world record holder 800m.

Subjects of this seminar were 'the theses Globality, Identity and Visions of Women's Athletics history and practice in Master female athletics and experiences in running. It was the first time in EVAA history something special for female athletes had been done. This was an excellent step forward for female master athletics. I am sure and wish to continue that way. Here, in Ljubljana continuation of these seminars will be presented. I wish all of you to see in this seminar. Because it shows our ideas, our needs, our aims and our wishes. Due to my finishing office term as a Women Representative after 10 years I have to say that I have had the great pleasure and honour to work with EVAA. I want to take an opportunity to thank you all.

First of all I want to say my deepest thanks to Mrs. Hannelore Guschmann and Mr. Jacques Serruys. I want to thank Mr. Dieter Massin who has listened always and try to find a relative solution and Mr. Kurt Kaschke who prepares our seminars with very special lecturers.

I want to thank my EVAA council and all committee members (now and in the past), Mrs. Marina Hoernecke-Gill our real guide who understands ladies and always helps, my committee members Mrs. Bridget Cushen and Mrs. Mariana Lengyel Ionescu, ALL WOMEN ATHLETES who are still on track and will be in the arena in the future, my family. I like to thank everyone whom I know and supported me during my office term for ten years.

# Report from Statistician Ivar Söderlind

## Some Data

191 792 visitors on EVAA Website since 2002 ([www.evaaa.nu](http://www.evaaa.nu)). In June 2000 I and the webmaster Åke Runnman from Umeå in Sweden, started the official EVAA Website. The numbers of visitors have strongly increased. We have had 191 792 visitors from January 2002 until January 2008. The number of visitors are increasing from 14 917 in 2002 to 40 620 in 2005, 42001 in 2006 and in 2007 we had 48 618 visitors. But we really hope that veteran athletes, Veteran Federations etc. to a larger extent will contribute with information (articles, results, statistics etc) and photos to the Site.

## Veterans are interested of results and records.

As I have declared since 1988, when I began to compile the European Veteran Records, and contrary to popular thought, my experience is and also to a certain extent research shows that older athletes compete for reasons that go well beyond fitness and that this group of older athletes also are very interested in performance parameters - results, best performance, records etc. My experience is that the interest even has increased the latest years.

## New Veteran Records in EVAA Website

At least six times a year I have presented and will go on presenting new lists of records/best performances in the EVAA Website and will at the same time send the lists by mail to the statisticians in EVAA's Member Federations and other concerned Veteran Athletes all over Europe.

## Report by EVAA's Record Application

Most of the European veteran statisticians from the Member Federations give me information about new records. But please always report new records by a record application (preferably EVAA's application ). Take copies of the application from the EVAA Web Site and also send me a copy of the result lists. Results from European Veteran Championships – EVAC (Stadia/ Non Stadia/Indoors) and results from World Masters Championships are not



necessary to report to me. I also have control over the results from international competitions figuring in the IAAF Calendar.

### **New Records**

In 2007 I have noted 119 new or modified European Veteran Records/Best Performances – 42 Indoor Records, 62 Outdoor Records Stadia and 15 Outdoor Records Non Stadia.

I also have noted in my record lists if the European records are world records or better than the official world records. I continuously inform WMA's statistician about new world records. Notice that EVAA has decided that only events which are in the program for European Championships will be in the record lists (with exception of 3000m). I and my statistician colleague in Sweden Ove Edlund have in 2007 presented (preliminary) lists of European Veteran Records for pentathlon/heptathlon and weight pentathlon (with 2004 WMA Scoring Tables). But we must have tasks from all the statisticians in the European countries about the actual national records with the results from all single events!

### **European Best Veteran (EBV)**

An Award Working Group, selected by EVAA's Council propose in December every year candidates for European Best Veterans (EBV) (one man and one woman) to the EVAA Council. The Award Working Group for 2006-2008 consists of Ivar Söderlind, Lamberto Vacchi and Selma Türkka. It is a combination of skills to estimate, not only results and records. The "EBV" should also practice sportsmanship and fair play, should never have been guilty for drug use and is an opponent against drug use. Best Veterans 2007 was Edith Graff, BEL and Carl-Erik Särndal, SWE. At the EVAA Council meeting in January 2008 in the new office of the EVAA in Marathon, Greece (located in the Olympic Stadium complex) the awards were presented to Edith and Carl Erik.

### **Many thanks**

Finally, many thanks to all statisticians, leaders and veterans athletes for all kind letters and mails with many questions, encouragement, information, results and of course also applications for new European records.