



J Simpson Africa Lodge No. 628  
Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania  
[www.JSA628.com](http://www.JSA628.com)



## Run for the Red!

Our Lodge supports the Red Cross for the second year with water stations for the Pocono Marathon

May 6, 2007, is the second time more than 1,000 distance runners from Pennsylvania and beyond took part in an officially certified 26.2-mile marathon course through some of the most beautiful scenery in Pennsylvania. and for the second year J. Simpson Africa Lodge #628 was there. At the water stop was George Mason, WM, Secretary Ken Foulkes, Past Master Kevin Booth, and Ray Unger from Pocono Lodge come out. Marc Boorstien allowed the use of his generator, and Jason Foley got out of work long enough to join us as well. Also there were Lee Leonard, Ellen Mason, Zach Mason, Don Mason, his girlfriend Margie, Laura, and Leslie Mason, Linsey Booth and her boyfriend Scott, little Steve Booth, was a BIG help and his mom Sandy Booth. If there were any others this year that I let out, let me know and I will gladly add them!

The race began at 8am at the Clear Run Elementary School on Route 611 in Coolbaugh Township (Near Tobyhanna). The course then traveled through Mt. Pocono onto PA Routes 940 and 191 through Paradise Valley, Henryville, Analomink, and eventually into Stroudsburg, ending at the Stroudsburg High School stadium. The fast course was designed by experienced marathon runners and includes a drop in elevation of nearly 1500 feet. Check out the website for course details and elevation chart - [www.poconomarathon.org](http://www.poconomarathon.org)



We had the first water stop at the Tobyhanna firehouse. It was a cold morning 40 degrees with a northeast wind.

“The success of last year’s marathon was possible due to a tremendous amount of community support, “ according to Race Director Bob Werts, “ and we had even more support for the second annual marathon.”



*George T. Mason, PM, spins some tunes to encourage the runners*

The Pocono Mountain Run for the Red Marathon benefited the Monroe County Chapter of the American Red Cross. All funds received will go directly to the local chapter's disaster relief efforts.

Registration was simple, and can be accessed through our website or by visiting [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com). Runners got great results with accurate chip timing. The top finishing male and female received a cash prize of \$2,000. All runners who finished the marathon received a medal and high quality souvenir shirt, as well as a "Goody Bag" stuffed with great items.

Race day also included a Run for the Red –5K Road Race. The 5K run finished at the Stroudsburg High School Stadium. Werts said "This encouraged runners who might not ordinarily think of running a full marathon the opportunity to support our local Red Cross chapter by joining the event and running a shorter distance."



*Above, Brothers Jason Foley And Lee Leonard Discuss the temperature and the wind!*

*Page Seven: Top picture, Linsey Booth can attest that mixing Gatorade in 40 degrees with winds can make a person real cold!*

*Bottom picture: Kevin C. Booth, PM Passes Out Gatorade to the runners!*

The Pocono Mountain Run for the Red Marathon is a huge undertaking for the local American Red Cross of Monroe County and volunteers are needed. Martha LaBar, Executive Director for the American Red Cross of Monroe County said, "This event will be a tremendous help for our disaster relief program, and I hope many people will come out to run and to volunteer to help!"

Anyone wishing to volunteer next year or find out more about sponsorship opportunities should contact the Red Cross of Monroe County at 570-476-3800 or visit the website.

[www.poconomarathon.org](http://www.poconomarathon.org)

Jason Foley started the idea for the lodge to join this community project to help the Red Cross last year. The funds for the water station come out of our charity fundraising effort, our ongoing commitment to help the community. Those that survived the 1955 flood disaster in the Stroudsburg's, and the other floods that we have had since know how valuable the red cross services are and how much we need to support this worthwhile cause.

