

## **Empire Runners April 28, 2011 Club Meeting**

*(Pending approval at the May 26, 2011 meeting)*

President Alex Wolf-Root (president@empirerunners.org) called the April 2011 meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

### **Secretary's Report:**

Secretary Paul Berg (secretary@empirerunners.org) read the March meeting minutes, which were approved as read.

### **Treasurers' Report:**

For treasurer Tanya Narath (treasurer@empirerunners.org) Val Sell reported that the current club balance is \$31,968, down \$162 from the same time last year.

HS/SSU donations YTD \$1255 projected \$9525 for 2011.

Race financials: Loop-de-loop, net \$959.

### **President's Report:**

President Alex Wolf-Root reported that many club members were sighted at the Viking Track classic April 23 as volunteers.

Peyton Jordan meet at Stanford will face diluted talent field due to Jackrabbit derby on May 1.

### **Race Reports:**

#### **A. Recent Events**

1. Loop de Loop - 4/3/11 Biggest turnout ever, large FF training group. Next year is 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, t-shirts promised, as well as pre-race results to avoid any delay in reporting actual results.
2. Petaluma Footrace - 4/10/11 Chris Mason reported that they had 900 runners and raised \$17,000.
3. Annadel Half Marathon and Kathy's 5k- 4/17/11. Val Sell reported that the half marathon had 279 runners, approximately 40 more than last year. Top male runners was ex-Piner athlete Jeff Gardina, top woman was Julie Nacouzi from MHS. The race and FF training group raised \$22,000 for trail maintenance, signage and the discovery center. Kathy's race had approximately 220 runners and raised \$4300, allowing the organization to be a Kenwood footrace sponsor.
4. Zippy 5k - 4/24/11. Part of the USATF road racing series. an ER open men's team competed, failed to score when two members forgot PA registrations.
5. Carlsbad 5k 4/06/11. 3 Empire runners competed. Brad Zanetti reported that he's interested in recruiting a full ER team for next year.
6. Boston marathon 4/18/11. 6 ER members, good weather. Shirley Fee 2<sup>nd</sup> in her 70-74 age group.
7. Viking Track Classic 4/23/11. MHS. John Staroba won 2 mile open in 9:57.
8. Marin Half marathon. 4/23/11. Theresa Manchester reported that she ran. Nice race, half trail, half road.

#### **B. Upcoming Events**

1. Jackrabbit Derby - 5/1/11, 8am. 3mile, Spring Lake boat dock.
2. Heart and Sole Elite Mile - 5/6/11. SRHS 5pm for HS meet, 8:15 elite mile.
3. Human Race - 5/7/11. Val and Gil will have the ER tent. Smart money says Gerald McCormick will win!
4. Summer Track Series 6/14/11. SRHS.
5. Kenwood Footrace! - 7/4/11. Val Sell reported that there will be online or race day registration. There will be 2 in store registration days in May and June only meant for people who have trouble registering on-line. There is also a planned 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary surprise! SRHS volunteers will again man the aid stations and food. Piner HS volunteers will provide parking assistance.
6. Fitch Mountain footrace- 6/12/11. Tori Meredith reported that she needs volunteers for registration.
7. Cloverdale Marathon, half- ,5k- 10/23/11. Greg Carter reported that the friendly city of Cloverdale would be hosting this new event. Proceeds to fund child literacy will provide showers and food.
8. MooCow Half marathon, and 5k. 9/18/11

### **Committee Reports:**

A. Bylaws committee. The long-anticipated bylaws revision has been delivered to the committee. After review by the committee, plans are for a report to the full membership next month.

### **New Business**

A. Grand Prix Division awards.

Gerald McCormick presented:

***I propose that the club awards the top 3 finishers in each division a gift certificate to a local running store.***

***1st place: 20 dollars***

***2nd place: 15 dollars***

***3rd place: 10 dollars***

***The club would be responsible for buying \$45 worth of gift certificates per division. There are 18 divisions (9 male, 9 female), so the total dollar amount would be \$810.***

***The gift certificates will be bought equally (\$270 each) among Fleet Feet Santa Rosa, Heart and Sole Sports Santa Rosa, and Athletic Soles of Petaluma.***

***As stated in the rules, the top 3 winners overall will be eliminated from age group awards.***

Not surprisingly, debate ensued. It was explained that Fleet Feet has traditionally supplied the top 6 overall awards in exchange for naming right on the FF Grand Prix. Individual members have traditionally donated the age group awards, which has often lead to inequitable prizes in many categories. Last year, due to the difficulty of securing donations, the former GP czar proposed that the club buy gift certificates from Fleet Feet instead of member donations.

The discussion focused primarily on the sentiment that FF has been a strong supporter of the club over the years, and many did not want to jeopardize that relationship. The other two stores are newer and have not yet shown the commitment to support the club, which would be welcomed in other areas.

Finally, the motion was rescinded, with the understanding that czar Gerald would attempt to get a better deal on gift cards from FF for the allotted \$810.

B. New Membership Director and Apparel director needed. Gil Moreno has decided to pursue his golf career and resign after 5 years. Kudos to Gil for an excellent job.

### **Monkey Business**

*Raffle:* Sledge won \$19, and \$20 went to the student grant fund

*Drawing:* Michelle Wood would have won \$200 if she attended the meeting....

President Alex Wolf-Root concluded the meeting at 8:51 pm.

### *Attendance:*

Paul Berg, Jerry Lyman, Will Ortlinghaus, Jacob Ortlinghaus, Val Sell, Brad Zanetti, Melanie Rosales, Luis Rosales, SL Edge, Victoria Lynn Meredith, Larry Meredith, Chris Mason, Gerald McCormick, Alex Wolf-Root, Doc, Bill Browne, Super George, Iguana Don, Darryl Beardall, Theresa Manchester, Greg Carter, Mini-Mel, Mr. Mel