

Empire Runners January 2009 Club Meeting

(pending approval at the February 26, 2009 meeting)

President **Bob Finlay** (bfinlay@sbcglobal.net) called the January 22, 2009 meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Secretary's Report:

Outgoing Secretary **Nate Koch** (nathankoch@gmail.com) read the December meeting minutes, which were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer **John Harmon** (jj2harmon@yahoo.com) was not present. Secretary Paul Berg read treasurer's Report.

Paul reported that the current club balance is \$32,758.87, up \$3920 from the same time last year. The major expense in the past month was for the AED for \$1738. The Student Grant Fund balance is \$1120, approx \$40 less than the same time last year.

President's Report:

President **Bob Finlay** reported that the new and returning board members met on January 7th to discuss ideas and goals for the upcoming year.

Recent Events:

Last 10k and Final 2 mile: 12/20/08. Big turnout, cold morning. Results in the newsletter.

Christmas Day Fun Run: 12/25/08. Small, spirited group. **Gil Moreno** set the fashion tone in gold lame tights.

Resolution Run: 1/1/09. Another big turnout this year. Lots of very organized volunteers led by **Val Sell**, who reported that the club cleared \$1000. Results in the newsletter. Val also reported that this was her 7th and final year directing the race, and a new director is sought for the race. **LT** inquired whether the race could still be held at Montgomery if Val, who is a Montgomery coach, was not the director. Val said she would still apply for the permit, but needs someone else to organize it. President **Finlay** thanked **Val** for her many years of organizing this event.

Tennessee Valley Run (Tamalpa Runners): **Gil, Doc, Puddles, Darryl** and a few more Empire runners enjoyed it.

Upcoming Events:

Valley Ford Relays: 2/15/09. **Larry Meredith** offered to create more equitable teams for anyone interested. An egroup message will be sent explaining.

Ilsanjo Classic: 3/15/09. El Molino athletes will assist **Mark James**.

Couples Relay: 2/08/08. (Tamalpa) Vintage Oaks, Novato. **Gil** and **Val** will be running, and said it is a fun event for any configuration of "couple".

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: **Ralph Harms** reported that the initial 6 inductees will be presented awards at the Club Party on January 31. President **Bob Finlay** will present the awards.

Fleet Feet Grand Prix: President **Finlay** reported that several age group awards are still available to sponsor.

2008 Awards Banquet and Club party: 1/31/09. **Val Sell** reported that 17 raffle prizes are committed, and 8 more are still needed.

Vineman Aid station: **Val Sell** reported that we are seeking a volunteer coordinator for the event in August. Empire Runners staffs an aid station for the running stage of the event on Starr Road near Windsor. The Club receives \$200 for participating, plus "best aid station" honors the last 2 years. Many other participants agreed it is a fun event to be part of, supporting these athletes.

Grand Prix awards: **Val Sell** proposed that we consider giving Fleet Feet gift cards instead of Empire Runners merchandise credit, as agreed to at the December meeting. Val argued that Fleet Feet gives a large amount of merchandise for prizes throughout the year, and most grand prix winners would likely appreciate a wider choice of FF items. **Gil Moreno** agreed, adding that he would not have enough inventory to cover all the awards. **Bob Finlay** countered that Fleet Feet received a good return on their sponsorship investment, having the grand prix bearing their name, and other club support. It was generally agreed that it was too late to change the awards for this year, and Grand Prix czar **Bob Rogers** may want to reconsider for next year.

Unfinished Business:

Membership software: **Jerry Lyman** reported that the committee is still considering options.

AED: **Nate Koch** presented features of the newly purchased device, including self-testing, child's pads and metronome for chest compression. Nate is working on written procedures for race directors. Included is a 7-minute instructional video, which we will view at a meeting in the near future.

After the purchase, it was pointed out by new member Sarah Gibson that we needed a physician's prescription to purchase the device, which Sarah was able to provide.

New Business:

Kathy Van Riper Inspirational Award: President **Bob Finlay** gave some history of how the award came to its present form, emphasizing his conversations with Mark Van Riper and the sensitivity of making sure that it would be something that Kathy is comfortable with.

Ralph Harms clarified that the KVR award will be handled by the Hall of Fame committee.

Proposal by **Jerry Lyman**:

It is proposed that the Empire Runners Club establish an annual

Kathy Van Riper Inspiration Award

Presented annually to an Empire Runners Club member whose personal courage, generosity of spirit, and dedication to the sport of running extraordinarily inspires us as runners and as fellow human beings

- First recipient to be Kathy Van Riper
- Subsequent recipients (one per year) to be selected by club officers or by special committee
- Nominations may be submitted from any club member, including officers or committee members
- Recipient to be announced at the December club meeting and presented award (trophy or plaque TBD) at the subsequent club awards banquet.
- The names of award winners and their biographies to be maintained on the club website

2nd by **Dave DeSelle**. Passed Unanimously.

Raffle/Drawing

Raffle: **Nate Koch** won (again) \$25

Drawing: **Dave Secchitano** (\$200, not present)

President **Bob Finlay** concluded the meeting at 7:50 pm

Attendance:

Gil Moreno, Paul Berg, "Bones" Koch, LT, Marko James, Ralph Harms, Hutch, Bob Shor, "Super G", Dave DeSelle, Dale Trowbridge, Don Sampson, Mini-Mel, Shirley Fee, Val Sell, Pappy, Dawk, Larry Meredith, Sledge-O-Matic, El Prez, Chris Mason, Darryl Beardall