As many of you know, we have a Facebook fan page (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Empire-Runners-Club/175376832474904), and on there is a thread to introduce yourself, so you can get to know some of your club-mates. And as all of you know, we have some awesome club members! So here are some snippets from what some of your club-mates had to say about themselves:

Spencer Hall

- "... Joined the running club in 6th grade, but all we did was run a mile every Friday and honestly, I was really only in it for the little shoe-lace tokens we got for finishing... Really got serious after attending the Stanford running camp the next summer and I guess you could say it's all been downhill from there."
- "...I'm second all-time for Empire High School Boys in the 2000 meter Steeple. First is Steve Guerrini, who also happens to hold the national record in that event."

Sam Strobino

"...I like xc anything to be honest. I don't really have a favorite distance. (Goal is) To still be running when I'm 80..."

Nathan Koch

- "Started in Santa Rosa Express in 5th grade... Proudest running accomplishment ~Running 3:01 at Chicago Marathon, qualifying for Boston, and then pulling off a 3:09 in Boston... Biggest running goal ~ breaking 3 in the marathon and 5:00 in the mile.
- "...Random running fact ~ I've got the nicest legs you'll ever see a pair of split shorts on.

Jen Ortlinghaus

- "...My favorite distance is the half marathon, but I'm in the 50 and D.C. Marathon Group...only 39 states to qo"
- "Qualifying for the Boston Marathon 5 minutes under my age group time (at Silicon Valley) is my proudest accomplishment... I would like to run Boston with (or at least on the same day) as my husband."

Will Ortlinghaus

(Been running) "On and off since high school, along with cycling... Half marathon is my favorite race distance.

(Goal): "QUALIFY FOR THE BOSTON MARATHON"

"I was the fastest white boy in my high school"

Carrie Peterson-Kirby

(proudest accomplishment): "Running through my entire 3rd pregnancy. Up until 3 days before he was born"

"...I would like to run around a 3:10 for CIM in two weeks. Then retire my marathon "career" and become a pacer

"I shared an elevator with Catherine Ndereba."

Shirley Fee

Started with Team In Training, I wanted to do something good for people.

(Accomplishment) "North Face Endurance Challenge Trail Marathon, with little training." (Goal): "Run a 50 mile trail run"

Mike Wortman

"A friend of mine talked me into running XC at Rancho one year. Kinda kept with it."

(Goal): Qualify for USA Champs in the 3k Steeple. (Cool fact): I'm on the all time Empire adult performance list in the steeple."

(Hobbies): Motorcycles and cooking "

Sid Andreis

(Started running): "Bad break up"

(Biggest accomplishment): Boston Baby 2010! Sooooooo amazing...oh and breaking a 5 min mile on second try."

(Goals): "Western States 100 for sure! Oh and breaking a 3 hr marathon. (Nate [Koch], Brandon [Crowell], and I are going to next year at CIM!)"

("Fun" fact): I had no idea what a cool down was until XC this year... I ran a race every weekend last year except for 2"

Paul Berg

"... didn't start running 'til the ripe old age of 48... A group of friends were training to climb Mt Shasta, about the same time my daughter Celeste was showing an interest in running. After a few months of 25 mile weeks, all 4 of us conquered Shasta, and I acquired a great bonding ritual to share with my kid.."

"Proudest running accomplishment. Boston marathon in 2008, 3:23 at 53 yrs old.... Biggest running goal. Black shirt at the Dipsea."

"Random running fact. I've got some pretty good age-graded times in the 100 and 200m"

Jen Clouse

"Years running: Since I could at age 5-so about 20 years...I liked it & turned out to be pretty decent too...

Favorite race distance: Used to be 100 meters now I like the 10K

"Random running fact: I was (maybe still am) the 100m record holder for 8th grade girls at Rincon Valley middle school & I was a sprinter in high school & college but also ran XC"

"I am currently a personal trainer and was the assistant xc/track coach @ CN/UHS & am now in nursing

school full time @ SRJC

Bryan Bradley

"I ran cross country back at Slater Jr high, and Montgomery high. My junior year (94) was the last time that I had ran cross country. My senior year I had broke my hand and got major senior-itist, and only came out to a couple of practices before giving running up. ... I had just recently returned from living in San Diego for the past 10 years and wanted something new and challenging. I sent an email to my old cross country coach, Larry Meredith to see if I could start running with the group. I officially returned to running November 1, 2010. I signed up to be a member of the club at the last 2 mile and plan on doing all the events for 2011."

"I have always been a sprinter. I love doing the 100m and 200m. ... Proudest running accomplishment- In cross country, my best moments had to be running low 6, high 5 minute mile paces. I was always the biggest most muscular person out on the course. In track, having the 16th best all time long jump, 22' 8" in my junior year."

"...Random running fact- Ran the 100m in 11.1, can't wait for the summer track series to show off my speed..."