

December 2012

Hi everyone,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful and peaceful holiday season. If you eat too much turkey and stuffing, you can always work it off at our next club run, coming up New Year's Day:

Tuesday, January 1, 2013, 2 p.m.: New Years Day Resolution Run, 5K & 1-Mile Run/Walk, Veterans Memorial Blvd, Huntsville. Meet in the southwest corner of the West Hills Mall parking lot. \$1 entry. Register at the starting point. Restrooms are not available in the start/finish area.

I hope to see you there!

** Club News **

In November we had our fall business meeting, where we approved the financial report for the Half Marathon, discussed the awards to be given out in our upcoming awards and elections meeting, and much more. Meeting minutes and a Financial Report for the Huntsville Half & Quarter Marathon & 5K Run/Walk are online on the Latest News page of the club web site.

Our Half Marathon had a profit of nearly \$4,000, which will be given to local charities and local running teams. Our awards committee, composed of Glen Carter, Kas Kramer, Skipper Nethery, and Cheri Villines, will be identifying recipients in some of the same categories as last year, along with some new categories! If you wish to nominate someone for an award, please contact Skipper at snteeth@suddenlink.net.

January promises to be a busy month for our club. In addition to our New Year's Day Club Run, our annual awards and elections meeting will be held on the 24th, and then on the 26th we have another club run, Frost Your Fanny.

In addition, we have a very special "extra club run" on January 20, the Run for the Governor's 5K and 1 mi Run/Walk in Point Blank. Hosted by club member Leah Koester and her parents, Bill and Barbara West, the course runs through Governor's Point subdivision, the former plantation of the 2nd governor of Texas, George T. Wood. It begins and ends at the West's beautiful antebellum home, built in 1857. The West's have built a small museum on the property to display the many artifacts found on the property, including tools, guns, jewelry, and coins from over a century ago. Come for the run, stay for refreshments, to see the house, and tour the museum! I will send a reminder the week before this run with directions & details.

In fact, the whole year promises to be active. The calendar of 2013 club events has recently been posted to our web site. We are keeping the well-received club runs at Elkins Lake, in April, and at the Forest Hills Pool, in July. In addition, we are adding a club meeting during the summer, in which a medical specialist will talk about running injuries, and helping host another "extra" club run, at Forest Glen camp east of Huntsville, in May.

Don't forget about our club Facebook group, a great place to find partners for runs, learn about upcoming races, and see pictures. Click on the Facebook link on the club web site. Remember to help our webmaster, Ken Johnson, keep up with your latest race times by e-mailing them to him

at 1941runner@sbcglobal.net , which he will post on the Latest News page on our web site. Also e-mail Ken to be added to our Marathon Honor Roll.

**** Runner of the Month ****

As the year draws to a close, I think of all that we have accomplished as a club, and many, many things that club members have done to make it all happen. One club member who is often part of those efforts is Glen Carter.

Glen joined the club in the summer of 2006 and has been actively involved ever since. An active runner and racer with twelve marathons under his belt, Glen rarely misses a club run, and contributes in multiple areas at our Half Marathon, assembling packets before the race and then helping with the course or the finish line on race day. He invariably greets me with a hearty "Hello, Mr. President," which always makes me smile. When I asked him to serve on our awards committee, he accepted without hesitation.

Glen epitomizes that can-do, lend-a-hand spirit that helps make our club so strong. Therefore, with the powers invested in me by Grapthar, Roman God of Running, Cardamom, and Carburetors, I hereby declare Glen Carter Seven Hills' **RUNNER OF THE MONTH**. Congratulations Glen!

**** Runs and Related Events ****

Several new races will be coming to Huntsville this winter or spring, all listed on the race schedule on our web site. These include:

* The Love Run Marathon, held at Huntsville State Park on Feb. 9 (discount code, good through Jan. 1, is **LOVERUN2013**)

* The Run with the Lions, to be held Mar. 23

* The Texas 10 Series, coming on Apr. 6 (discount code, for 20% off, is **SEVENHILLS13**).

Also, the "Sweethearts 5K" returns for its second year, on Feb. 16, and the Rocky Raccoon 50 mi and 100 mi returns, on Feb. 2 & 3. Our club will, as usual, help staff a key aid station at that run. It's an exciting time to be a runner in Huntsville and the surrounding area!

To close, it has been a good and very productive year for our club. I want to thank everyone for their contributions, especially our officers, Steve, Courtney, Jan, and Ken, who do so much behind the scenes to keep things going, and who have been a such a pleasure to work with. I believe even bigger things are in store for us in 2013! If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, don't hesitate to contact me or any club officer. Happy Holidays, and Happy Running!-Darren.

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