

THE ARKANSAS ULTRA RUNNER

January 2001

The Newsletters For Members Of The Arkansas Ultra Running Association

Athens-Big Fork Trail Marathon on January 6th -8:00 A.M.
 White Rock Classic 25/50K on February 3rd -9:00 A.M.

Message From The Bigshot-With this issue we close out the 12th year of the AURA. The new running year begins in February. There are several issues that are discussed in this edition of the AURA. I am depending on each of you to at least take note. The first concerns the weather. As I write this newsletter, the power has just been turned on after three days of being iced in. On January 6th, February 3rd and February 17th, we have three good runs planned: The Athens-Big Fork Trail Marathon, the White Rock 25/50K and the Sylamore Trail 50K. Speaking only for the Bigshot, if weather is as bad as it has been the last three days, I won't be there. The number one reason is that I can not get down my driveway. Did I tell you about the time a couple of years ago when I stepped out of the front door on my way to work, slipped on the ice and slide on my back down the front yard into the street then down the street through a stop sign and finally stopped against the curb. I know for some of you, the race really starts when you get in the car and the adventure of getting to the starting line is as important as finishing the race. But for me, if there are "Winter Storm Warnings" posted on the weather reports, I am staying at home. Rain and cold will not deter the Bigshot but ice and hazardous driving conditions will. As I look at the long range forecast for the next week, it is supposed to snow Sunday night (Dec 31st) then start a warming trend on Tuesday thru Friday. No Saturday, yet. Bottom line: If in doubt use your best judgement and a little common sense. If you would like to call me and ask if the race is still on the number is 225-6609

Big news on the local ultra scene that you may or may not have heard about concerns the status of the *Ouachita Trail 50 Miler*. The race started in 1989 and for 5 years or so was a first class draw. When the Race Directors decided to let it go, AURA Brother, Nick Williams, stepped in and organized it as a low key fun run thinking that there were just too many memories associated with it to just let it pass away. Last year Ann Moore revived it as a full fledged race and included a 50K in addition to the 50 Miler. It was a grand success. The news now is that Stan and Chrissy Ferguson are going to be the Directors of it and I am excited about the future of this race. The date is April 21st.

After 12 years of newsletters, fun runs, points, credits, bumper stickers and T-shirts, the Bigshot has made a command decision to upgrade the status of the AURA. Each of you is invited to be a part of the AURA in the new millennium. Because of the interest of new runners and races, he felt that if the AURA was to continue to grow, it needed credibility. Credibility that comes by being affiliated with a national running organization-Road Runner Club of America. The advantage to this move is in the form of recognition that is needed in dealing with governmental and private sector agencies. (Think- U.S. Forest Service.) Also, with the RRCA comes event and race director liability insurance. If new races are to come and new race directors

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are to step up, we need to have it. The disadvantage to this move is that the Bigshot will lose control! We'll let him deal with it. So here is what will happen. You will find in this newsletter an AURA application. \$10.00 per family for the 2001 running year. There will be two boxes. One to check if you want to continue as you did this year and receive the Newsletter only or (2) check if you want to be a member of the AURA/RRCA. If your application is not checked, I will assume that you wish to be a part of the changes that are in progress. When our membership drive closes with the February issue, we will meet sometime in March and elect officers. Then we will send our application to the national office and it will be a done deal. If you have any comments-225-6609 or cpeyton@aristotle.net(preferred)

The following was e-mailed to me with the request to insert in the AURA newsletter.

OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL RUN

Robert Vogler, President of the River Valley Running Club, is putting together a trail run of the entire length of the Ozark Highlands Trail, 165 miles in length beginning at Lake Fort Smith State Park and ending at Woolem Ford on the Buffalo River. The Ozark Highlands Trail is one of the best trails in the country going through some of the most beautiful woods in the state. It is well marked and easy to follow. The current plan is to do the trail in 6 days sometime in early March. Exact dates have not been set and may be run in two consecutive three day weekends for those who cannot get six days off. The daily mileage ranges from 20 to 30 miles per day. Everyone is welcome to join part or the entire run. Anyone interested please contact Robert at Robertvogler@netscape.net or call 501-229-3297

AURA FUN RUN REPORT

On December 23 we had a good band of runners to show for Steve Eubanks' *Hickory Nut Mountain Fun Run*. Despite the icy conditions, before and after, we all enjoyed the day and the 20 mile run(Bigshot on bicycle). Steve extended his hospitality by inviting everyone back to his cabin for chili and a warm fire.

Name	Credits
David Horton	50
Mike Dupriest	40
Jim Sweatt	30
Carrie Dupriest	25
Patty Groth	25
David Smith	20
Lou Peyton	15
Johnnie Knapp	10
Debbie Riggsby	10
Henry Osterloh	05
Charley Peyton	05

REGIONAL ULTRA CALENDAR

Place your ice(0)box magnet here

- JANUARY 6TH, 2001 *ATHENS-BIGFORK MARATHON-UTS #2* - Big Fork
Community Center; Arkansas. No fee but a \$5 donation per runner requested.
- February 3, 2001 *THE ROCKY RACCOON 100 MILE RUN*
Huntsville, Texas. Contact: Mickey Rollins 1945 Campbell Road, Houston, Texas 77080
- FEBRUARY 3RD, 2001 *WHITE ROCK, CLASSIC, 25 AND 50K-UTS #3*
Cass, Arkansas. No Entry. Plenty of thrills; not many frills. 9:00 a.m. start.
- FEBRUARY 17TH, 2001 *SYLAMORE TRAIL 50K-UTS #4*
Allison, Arkansas. Contact: Randy and Bobby Davidson. (Application next issue)
- MARCH 3RD, 2001 *MISSISSIPPI TRAIL 50*
Laurel, Mississippi Applications this issue.
- MARCH 17TH, 2001 *CROSS TIMBERS 50 MILE TRAIL RUN*
Lake Texhoma, Texas Tony Birdwell, 580-924-9293
- MARCH 31, 2001 *THE GRASSLANDS 10,25 and 50 Miles.*
Decatur, Texas. Contact: Suzi Cope 3550, Carmel Court, Southlake, Texas 76092
- APRIL 21ST, 2001 *THE OUACHITA TRAIL 50*
Little Rock, Arkansas Applications soon.(UTS #5)
- MAY 5TH, 2001 *STROLLIN' JIM 40.*
Wartrace, Tennessee Gary Cantrell, 233 Union Ridge, Wartrace, Tennessee 37183
- MAY 19TH, 2001 *THE CATSMACKER UTS #6*
Lake Sylvia area Arrangements Pending.

UTS=Ultra Trail Series run.

AURA RACE RESULTS

SUNMART -Huntsville, Texas-December 9th, 2000

50 Mile

John Gaston	6:56:25	8 th place
Stan Ferguson	7:10:45	10 th place
Patty Groth	10:28:13	7 th in age group
Carrie Dupriest	10:28:23	8 th in age group

50K

Chrissy Ferguson 4:25:- 7th woman;2nd master

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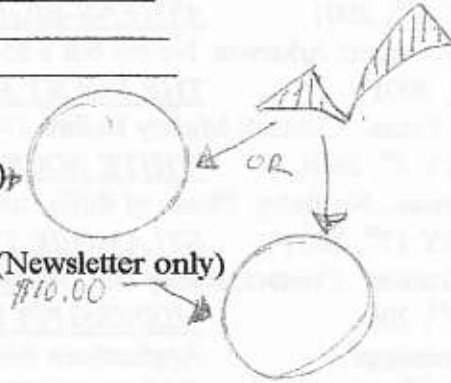
2001 Membership Application Arkansas Ultra Running Association

Name _____
Street _____
Town, State, Zip _____
E-mail(optional) _____

Place a check by your preference
I would like to join the AURA/RRCA(\$10.00)

OR

I would like to renew my AURA membership(Newsletter only)



Send Application and \$10:00 to
Charley Peyton
41 WhiteOak Lane
Little Rock, AR 72227

(Cut along the line and detach)



The Bigshot with his Santa rabbit, Buddy, at the AURA Aid Station for the Jingle Bell Jog

White Rock Classic-Directions: I-40 to Ozark. Hwy 23 12 miles to Turner Bend Campground. 9:00 a.m. start.

Sylamore Trail 50K-Directions: I-40 to Conway. Hwy 65 at Conway to Leslie. Hwy 66 at Leslie to Mountain View. Hwy 9 at Mountain View to Allison.

Hwy 23
Oodps!
Hwy 65

START WRSOK

MtnView

Leslie

Conway



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