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Gear/Fanatic Pol

Our Why



Becky #5677, Patty #14509, Angie #13211, Tammi #14236







Jessie #14583

21-22











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# News from the 4<sup>th</sup> signature Race of 2017 Fox Cities Marathon and Half Marathon! http://conta.cc/2os00wr





#### Scheduled 2017 races

FEB 26 / Cowtown Marathon / TX

APR 30 / Tacoma City Marathon / WA

JUL 9 / Mad Marathon / VT

SEP 24 / Fox Cities Marathon / WI

DEC 9 / Tuscon Marathon / AZ

"Special club medals given at races!"











#### Signature Race Series is here.

The Maniacs / Fanatics have partnered with some AWESOME races around the country to bring you the 1st annual Signature Race Series.

For more information visit: <a href="http://www.marathonmaniacs.com/signature-race-series/">http://www.marathonmaniacs.com/signature-race-series/</a>

# Half Fanatic Reunion Race!

#### October 1st, 2017

Branson, MO

Grand County Half Marathon

Perks Include:

Custom Club Finisher's Medal Custom Club Shirts For All Members Race Bag

Race Water Bottle

Finisher Cowboy Hat

\*\*\$20 race discount for all members in good standing\*\*





Did you earn the 2nd Signature Race Series medal at Tacoma City? Well you cant stop there!

Come to Vermont and earn the 3rd medal at the MAD MARATHON on July 9th!



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### HALF FANATICS REGION PAGES

We are setting up Half Fanatics Facebook group pages in regions across the USA and beyond. If you live in one of the areas, please feel free to join. More regions will be added, so keep a look out for yours!

#### Region:

Albuquerque, NM

Anchorage / South Central Alaska

Atlanta, GA

Augusta, GA

Austin, TX

Baltimore, MD

Baton Rouge, LA

Birmingham, AL

Buffalo, NY

Central Arkansas / Little Rock

Central Gulf Coast / Mobile

Chattanooga, TN

Chicago / Western IL

Cincinnati, OH

Colorado Springs, CO

Dallas Fort Worth, TX.

Denver, CO

Des Moines, South Central IA

Detroit, MI

<u>European</u>

Greensboro, NC

Honolulu, HI (Oahu)

Houston, TX

Kansas City, MO

Knoxville, TN

Lincoln / Omaha NE

Long Beach, CA

Lubbock / West Texas

Miami, FL



#### Region:

Memphis, TN

Nashville, TN

New Orleans, LA

Northern New Jersey

Northwest Arkansas

North Dakota

Oklahoma City, OK

Orlando, FL

Panama City / Gulf Coast, FL

Portland, OR.

Philadelphia, PA

Phoenix, AZ

Raleigh / Cary, NC

Richmond, VA

#### Region:

Rochester, NY

Sacramento, CA

San Antonio, TX

San Diego, CA

Seattle, WA

Shreveport, LA

Springfield, MO

St Louis / SW Illinois

Tacoma / South Puget Sound

Tampa / St. Petersburg, FL

Tulsa, OK

Twin Cities, MN

Virginia Beach, VA

Washington DC

vvasinington D

Wichita, KS



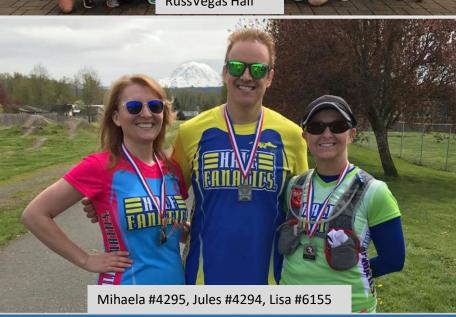
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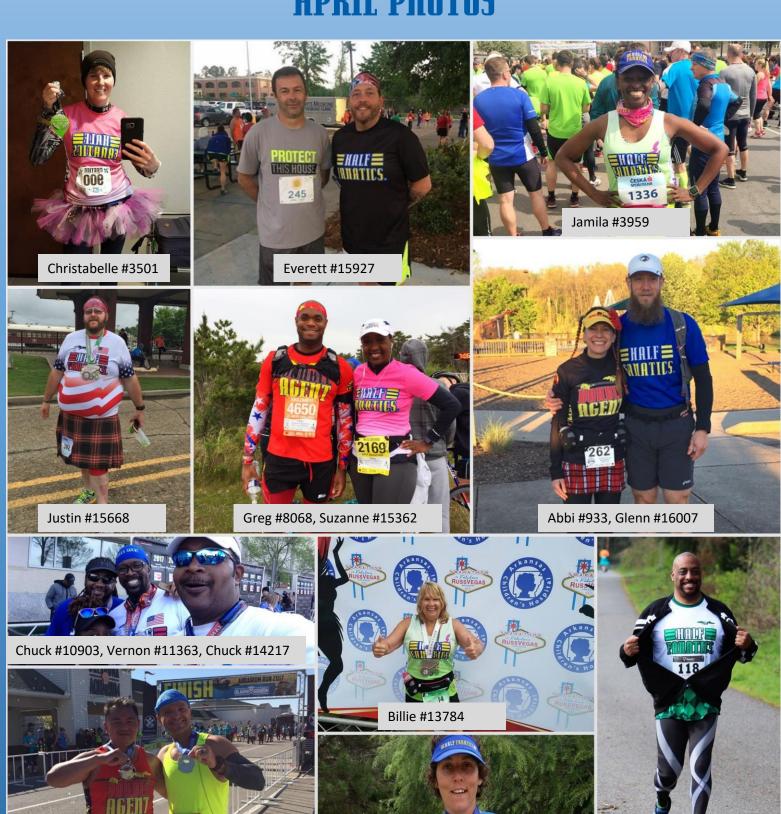






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### **APRIL PHOTOS**



Carla #13789

Bruce #8908

John #8439



HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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### **REGIONAL AMBASSADORS**

















What a great group of people to kick off the Ambassador program! Keep a look out for them at your local events and beyond. We will be seeing some group run offerings in the near future, so make sure to connect with them through the Regional Facebook Chapters.

\*Our club Ambassador program will be capped at 60 ambassadors! This is until we see how the program is coming along. We \*may\* add more at a later time. We have currently reached our cap at this time. If you live in a heavily populated region and we are not currently represented there, please feel free to send us your information (we can and will make exceptions for certain areas. I.E. NYC / Los Angeles, Boston)



















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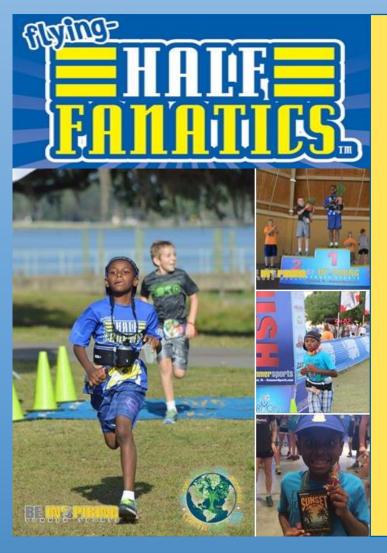








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### Flying Half Fanatic #5

Alexander Ingram ran the Earth Day 12K-won 1st in his age group, Sunset 5K-won 1st in his age group. 2 races in one day!

Alex is running the Sommer Sport 5K series this summer, last year he placed 3rd over for all 4 races. His next goal is to run a 15k and then a half marathon. He loves to run. He loves being a flying Half Fanatic. Alex has ran about 15 5Ks, 12k, 8K, and next is 15k then half

Get your child moving! An 8 week running program with fun and challenging running activities. After you sign your child up you will receive the following.

- 1. Tri-Fold brochure map to track your child's journey.
- 2. Access to an interactive online map to track miles inside The Perch.
- 3. Flying Fanatics kids tech tee.
- 4. Flying Fanatics Finisher Medal.
- 5. Flying Fanatics official club number up on The Perch. Find out more at: <a href="http://www.halffanatics.com/flying-fanatics">http://www.halffanatics.com/flying-fanatics</a>.

#### Mission

- To introduce our youth to the physical and emotional positive effects of running.
- To increase the physical activity of our youth.
- To create a positive environment where all participants are equal.
- \*Hard work and determination will be rewarded at the end of the journey!





HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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#### FROM THE EDITOR

Hello everyone. Thank you for the positive feedback on my first newsletter. As for me, I had a wonderful month of running even though it's been a soggy one in the Pacific NW. Hope the change in weather has allowed you to get out there and explore.

Want to share your "why you run", your achievements, goals, and any stories? Did you have a really great run -- or a horrid one? Are you celebrating any milestones: 50 half marathons? 100? 1000? Did you level up? Shoot me an email to include you in the next newsletter! <a href="mailto:halffanaticnewsletter@gmail.com">halffanaticnewsletter@gmail.com</a>

-Kellie Follett #4560











HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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#### THE SUN © © © © © © © © ©

52 Half Marathons or more within 365 days.

30 Half Marathons in 30 US states\* within 365 days.

20 Half Marathons in 20 different Countries within 365 days.

#### MERCURY © © © © © © ©

45 - 51 Half Marathons within 365 days.

23 Half Marathons in 23 US states\* within 365 days.

28 Half Marathons within 183 days.

#### VENUS COCCO

38 - 44 Half Marathons within 365 days.

20 Half Marathons in 20 US states\* within 365 days

13 Half Marathons within 79 days.

#### EARTH COCCO

31 - 37 Half Marathons within 365 days.

16 Half Marathon in 16 different US states\* within 365 days.

6 Half Marathons within 16 days.

4 Half Marathon in 4 Days.

#### MARS 66666

3 Half Marathons within 3 days.

26 - 30 Half Marathons within 365 days.

4 Half Marathons within a 9 day window.

3 Half Marathons in 3 separate US states\* within a 10-days.

13 Half Marathons in 13 different US states\* within 365 days.

#### JUPITER 6666

4 Half Marathons in 23 days.

19 - 25 Half Marathons within 365 days.

2 Half Marathons in 2 days (or 48 hours) must finish both races!

9 Half Marathons in 9 different US states\* within 365 days.

#### SATURN 666

4 Half Marathons within 37 days.

12 - 18 Half Marathons within 365 days.

4 Half Marathons in 4 different US states\* within 51 days.

#### URANUS 66

3 Half Marathons within a 16 day time frame.

6 Half Marathons in 6 consecutive calendar months.

8 - 11 Half Marathons within 365 days.

#### **NEPTUNE**

2 Half Marathons within a 16 day time frame.

3 Half Marathons within a 90 day time frame.

Congratulations to all the Half Fanatics who achieved their goals.

If you would like your promotion mentioned in the newsletter, please send your name, HF number and Moon level to: halffanaticnewsletter@gmail.com.



Janice #1246 Landed on The SUN



Rachel #6506 Landed on The SUN



Jessi #14583 Landed on Saturn

Lisa #14748 Landed on Jupiter

Ruben #15909 Landed on Jupiter

Denise #11063 also landed on Jupiter.
Congratulations everyone!

#### HALF FANATICS MEMBERSHIP

To be a Fanatic, Half Marathon times are not an issue, just that you finish your races. Also that you are having fun! After all, isn't that why we do this? All races need to be official events, no training runs will count! If you fit the criteria, You too can be a Half Fanatic!

Visit <a href="http://www.halffanatics.com/membership">http://www.halffanatics.com/membership</a> to join!



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### **STAR WARS PHOTOS**





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# Tired of missing pre-race photos?

A new feature on the race calendar allows you to arrange pre-race group photos. And for events that already have a group photo set up, you can easily find out where it is.

To arrange a group photo, send email with a little mini map to info@marathonmaniacs.com.

To find out if your event has a race photo, go the race calendar and look for the camera icon: If it's there, click it to view when and where the group photo will be. (Tip: You may need to disable your pop-up blocker)





# **April had 202 race events listed on the Half Fanatics Race Calendar.**

#### The top five events attended by Half Fanatics were:

Star Wars Half Marathon - The Dark Side, Rock and Roll Nashville, OKC Memorial Marathon, Run the Bluegrass, and Tacoma City Marathon.

- Disney does it again with a fun and busy event with the **Star Wars** Dark Side theme. By far the most popular event for Fanatics this month and everyone had a good time.
- RnR Nashville was well represented this year, and while the weather was hot and humid, and the course was a bit hilly, everyone loved the medal and the music.
- Fanatics braved bit of wind and rain at the **OKC Memorial** and raved about the course support. A terrific event to remember such a horrible day.
- Lots of compliments for the organization of **Run the Bluegrass**. Rolling hilly course, but people keep coming back for this scenic course.
- This year **Tacoma City** was the 2nd event in the Half Fanatic/Marathon Maniac signature series, and this event had lots of crazies. The weather cooperated for a great run on a scenic run along the water.

#### **New Discussion**

#### CATEGORIES

All Categories

Ride Share / Room Share

Training Discussion

Race Chat

Website Feedback

Other Discounts

### **Half Fanatics Forum**

As a Half Fanatics member, you have access to the private forum. Look under the Members menu and select Forum. There you can arrange ride/room shares, chat about different events, and send feedback to the Main Fanatics about the web site. Best of all, you can access the super secret discounts to different events and the Running Warehouse. Login to the Half Fanatics web site and give it a try. You never know what you might find there!



HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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### **UPCOMING JUNE RACES**

		VU.	-	TILD )		III JEJEPIO		
6/1	Metal Saw Texas Marathon	13.1	Т	·x	6/10	Utah Valley Half Marathon	13.1 \$	UT
6/1	Mainly Marathons Heartland (Day 5)	13.1 \$	i IA	4	6/10	Marathon2marathon	13.1	IA
6/2	Mainly Marathons Heartland (Day 6)	13.1 \$	٧	VI	6/10	Race the Lake	13.1	NY
6/3	Mainly Marathons Heartland (Day 7)	13.1 \$	N	ΛN	6/10	Flagstaff Extreme Big Pine	27K	AZ
6/3	Downhill at Dawn Half Marathon	13.1	N	IC	6/11	Ironman 70.3 Wisconsin	13.1	WI
6/3	<u>Texas Trail Running Festival</u>	13.1	Т	x	6/11	Cedar Point Half Marathon	13.1	ОН
6/3	Race 13.1 Cincinnati, OH	13.1	C	)H	6/11	Swan Lake Marathon	13.1	SD
6/3	Newport Half Marathon	13.1	C	)R	6/11	<u>Lake Placid Half Marathon</u>	13.1	NY
6/3	SoCal Wine Country Women's Half Marathon	13.1	C	CA CONTRACT	6/11	<u>Divas Half Marathon Toronto</u>	13.1	ON
6/3	Grand Teton Half Marathon	13.1	٧	VY	6/11	ZIONSVILLE HALF MARATHON AND 5K	13.1	IN
6/3	Asheville Half Marathon and 10k	13.1	N	IC S	6/11	Wounded Warriors Military Miles Half	13.1	TX
6/3	Rothrock Trail Challenge	17.2	Р	'A A	6/11	ODDyssey Half Marathon	13.1	PA
6/3	Hospital Run Half	13.1	Ν	ЛО	6/11	Hotlanta Half Marathon	13.1	GA
6/3	Race 13.1 - Raleigh	13.1	N	IC ~~~	6/11	Hudson Walkway Half	13.1	NY
6/3	Sunburst 1/2 Marathon	13.1	11	N /		REVEL Rockies	13.1	СО
6/3	Fontana Days Half Marathon	13.1	C	A M	6/11	SHE Power Half Marathon - Indianapolis	13.1	IN
6/3	Summer Night Trail Half Marathon	13.1	II.	N /	6/15	Bear Lake Half Marathon - Idaho	13.1	ID
6/3	Prairie Trails Half	13.1	11	N X &		Bear Lake Half Marathon - Wyoming	13.1	WY
6/3	HillBilly Half	13.1	5	N	-	Bear Lake Half Marathon - Utah	13.1	UT
6/3	XTERRA Knoxville Trail Run	13.1	. স	N V		Sugar Daddy Half Marathon	13.1 \$	CA
6/3	Lola's Lake Waconia Half Marathon	13.1	À	ΛN	6/17	Mary's Peak 25K	25K	OR
6/3	ZOOMA Annapolis	13.1%		ИD		~ ~ / 000	13.1	MN
6/4	Skirt Sports 13er	13.1		0		Mayors Marathon	13.1	AK
6/4	North Shore Classic	13.1	Ž Ņ	5	7	Grateful Dad Half Marathon, 10k, 5k	13.1	OR
6/4	DIVA - San Francisco Bay	13.1		A		Gorges Ithaca Half Marathon	13.1	NY
6/4	Biggest Loser Half Marathon - Erie	13.1 \$		A		Hilliard Classic Half Marathon	13.1	ОН
6/4	Steamboat Springs Half Marathon	13.1		10		<u>Leadville Heavy Half</u>	13.1	СО
6/4	The Scorcher Half Marathon	13.1		OKY CITY		Race 13.1 Roanoke	13.1	VA
6/4	Black Bear Half Marathon	13.1		ΛE		Walt Stack DSE Runners Double Dipsea	13.7	CA
6/4	Amica Iron Horse Half Marathon	13.1		T )		Rock Tahoe Half Marathon	13.1	NV
6/4	Casper Marathon	13.1 \$		VY		Estes Park Half Marathon	13.1	СО
6/4	Boulder Rez Half Marathon	13.1		20		Manitoba Half Marathon	13.1	MB
6/4	Covered Bridges Half Marathon	13.1		/T Ψ		Mammoth Half Marathon	13.1	CA
6/4	Half Sauer Half Kraut	13.1		'A		Seattle Rock n Roll	13.1 \$	WA
6/4	Deadwood Mickelson Trail Half Marathon	13.1 \$		D		Capt'n Karls (Night) Trail Series 30k @ Pedernales Falls	30k	TX
6/4	Rock and Roll San Diego	13.1		CA		Glacier Half Marathon	13.1	MT
6/4	North Olympic Discovery 1/2 Marathon	13.1		VA		Slacker Half Marathon	13.1	CO
	Niagara Falls Women's Half	13.1				Morgan Valley Half Marathon	13.1	UT
	Echo Half Marathon	13.1		L		Harmon Lakes Trail Festival Half Marathon	13.1	ND
-5	Bald Peak Half	13.1		)R	6	Charlevoix Half Marathon	13.1	MI
	THE HEIGHTS HALF MARATHON  Valley stand Half Marathon	13.1		)H		Love Liberates Half Marathon Sturgie Falls Half	13.1 \$	OR
	Yellowstone Half Marathon  Spagualmia Valley Run	13.1		ИT		Sturgis Falls Half  Kona Marathan Half Marathan	13.1	IA LII
	Snoqualmie Valley Run  Rook in Solo Half	13.1		VA M		Kona Marathon Half Marathon	13.1	HI
	Rock 'n Sole Half Hatfield McCov Blackborn, Mountain	13.1		VI ·v		Fairfield Half Marathon  Hot Madison Half Marathon	13.1 \$	CT
	Hatfield McCov - Blackberry Mountain	13.1		Y ww		Her Madison Half Marathon  Pristal Indopendence Phode Pace	13.1 \$	WI
	Hatfield McCoy - River Road	13.1		VV 40		Bristol Independence Rhode Race Summerlake Learny	13.1 \$	RI
	Run For A Vet	13.1		ЛO		Summerlake Loopy  Pad White & Phys Burn Half Marathan	13.1	OR
6/10	Race The Lake Cooperstown	13.1	1/	IY	//1	Red, White, & Blues Run Half Marathon	13.1	OR

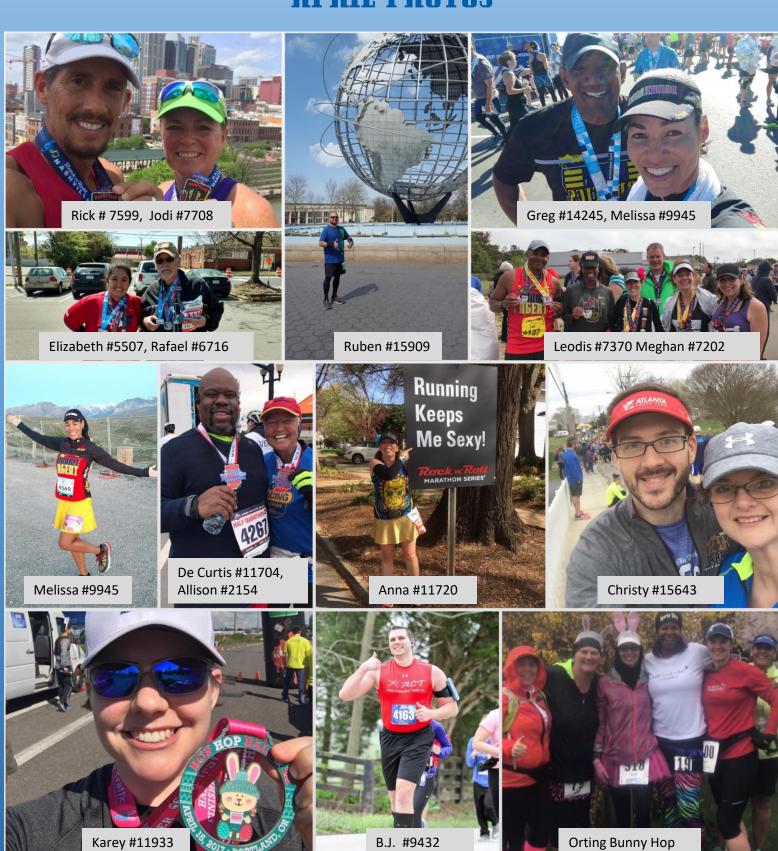
<sup>\*</sup>You can find these races (and many more) on the Race Calendar at: <a href="http://www.marathonmaniacsdb.com/fanatics/events">http://www.marathonmaniacsdb.com/fanatics/events</a>

The races above with \$ have discounts. Look for the gold coin on the race calendar page, which signifies a discount. Click the coin and after a brief disclaimer reminding us that discounts are for members only, the code will be revealed along with the amount saved. RACE DIRECTORS - PLEASE SEND YOUR RACE DISCOUNT CODES to Jeff Bollman jeff@marathonmaniacs.com



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### **APRIL PHOTOS**



B.J. #9432



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HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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### WELCOME TO THE ASYLUM! **NEW APRIL 2017 HALF FANATICS**



16021	Emperatriz Boyd,	

16022 Kendall Boyd, GA

16023 Anne Chen, CA

16030 Damarcus Miller, AL

16031 Kaitlyn Varghese, IN

16033 Hamilton, GA

16034 Larry Larzelere, OK

16035 Catrina Scott, OK

16037 Jami Steiner, OK

16038 Norie Dimeo-Ediger, OR

16041 Jacky Hunt-Broersma, NC

16042 Michelle Brack, NC

16044 Ken Noh, GA

16045 Joy Aiello, CA

16046 Edward Del Favero,

16051 Karen Thomas (#16051), GA

16052 Dustin Erhardt, ND

16053 Irma Arellano, TX

16055 Erin Malinski, WA

16058 Jaclyn Nowotny, IA

16024 Lynn Lepley, AL

16025 Laura Magee, OK

16026 Kristina Gray, OK

16027 Amy Russell, TX

16028 tutu~turtle, NC

16029 Bruno Pasqualucci, CT

16032 Megan Owens, AR

16036 Charlotte Peng, WA

16039 Chuck Hardy, GA

16040 XIAOHANG GAO, VA

16043 Renee Howell, NY

16047 Andrea Godfrey, ok

16048 Dale Holloway, NC

16049 Wanda Jenkins, MD

16050 Kathryn Welch, KS

16054 Montana Ross, FL

16056 Jamie Harper White, KY

16057 Meridith Nguyen, KY

16059 Mary Tadlock, LA

16060 Beth Whitehead, OH

16061 Kristie Lacy, OK

16062 Melanie Lander, OK

16063 Karen Speten, MA

16064 Jewels, LA

16065 Patricia Ross, MO

16066 Liz Filion, WA

16067 Brenda Matheny, OH

16068 Brenda McGuinn, NC

16069 Kumli Anye, MD

16070 Laura Grimes, AR

16071 Kathryn Wilson, Fl

16072 Hope H., KS

16073 Kristle A Lacy, Ok

16074 Kelsey Hutchison, CA

16075 Karen Edsall, VA

16076 John Mangel, NC

16077 Anne Furlow, VA

16078 Stephany Nichols, OK

16079 Mike Hobbs, CA

16080 Steve Brandeburg, AR

16081 Brandi Waller, FL

16082 Amy Var, HI

16083 Pamela Lockhart, TX

16084 Amanda Luna, CA

16085 Patrick Gioia, CA

16086 Scott "The Low Rider" Porter, FL

16087 Mackenzie Holliday, FL

16088 Ralph Trujillo, CA

16089 Robin Moneypenny, OK

16090 Debbie Stewart, MO

16091 CJ Roy, NE

16092 Russell Gilbert, TX

16093 Christina Fowler, Was

16094 Jill Murphy,

16095 Jana Brennan, IL

16096 Parker Ackerman, TX

16097 Ashley Spencer, AR

16098 Sheri Van Veldhouse, WA

16099 Gregg Spaulding, WA

16100 Morgan Sherrill, WA

16101 Linda Brewster, AL

16102 Kevin Bradley, AR

16103 Vicki George, OK

16104 Sandee Kelly, TX

16105 Tom Karpowich, FL

16106 Jessica Adams, Geo 16107 Melissa Kramarich, LA

16108 Pat Garner, CA

16109 Tina Lam, AK

16110 Robin Troy, AR

16111 Tanisha Arseneau, AL

16112 Jeff Denney, KS

16113 Angela Dennis, AR 16114 Joseph Berry, AR

16115 Donna Smith (#16115), CA

16116 Che Kinnard, AR

16117 Brittany Pena, AR

16118 Joshua Etzkorn, Ark

16119 Joy Miller, NJ 16120 Tina Douglas, AR

16121 Heather McGowan, MI

L6122 Jean Williams, FL

16123 Eugenia White, LA

16124 Lori Talley, AR

16125 Ashley Gorze, OR

16126 Monirul Hawke, WA 16127 Brandy Sykes, AR

16128 Lori Beatty, FL

16129 crystal ring, Ark

16130 Megan Rose Osborn, IN 16131 Michelle Behling, NJ

16132 Justin Kleinfelter, PA

16133 Jenny Ganoe, ORANATICS

16134 Nora Roberts, AE

16135 Jackie Joseph, MI

16136 Heinrich Theuretzbacher, FL

16137 Justin Palmqvist, WI

16138 Juan Pruitt, Tex

16139 Jerry Maynard, WV

16140 Amy Fair, OK

16141 Doug Clouser, IN

16142 Tonya Kropp, Vir 16143 Kristin Taylor, TX

16144 CATHERINE MICHELSON, LA

16145 LiGerald Jones, VA

16146 Marleen Greenleaf, MD

16147 Lisa Somsan, AZ



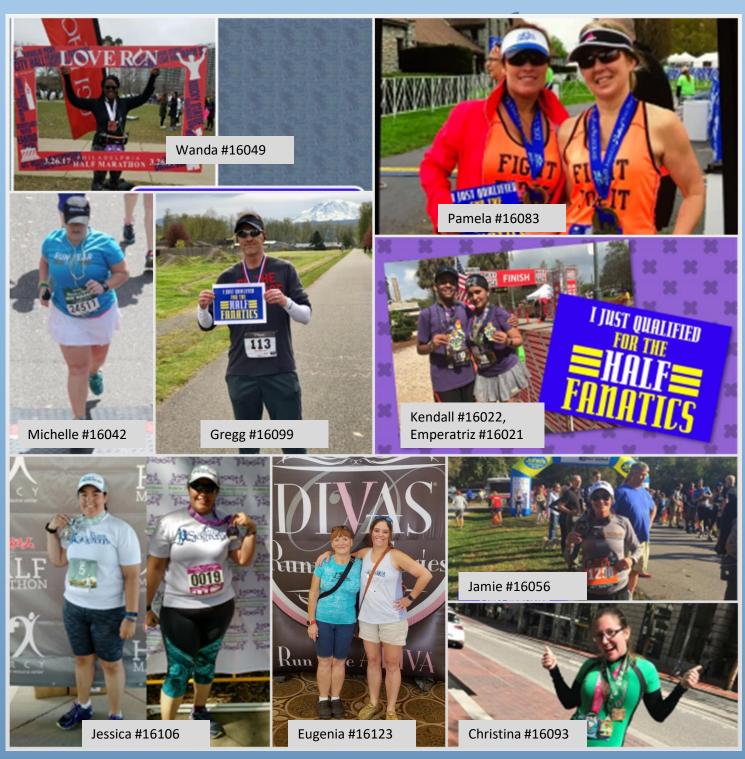
HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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# WELCOME TO THE ASYLUM! NEW APRIL 2017 HALF FANATICS







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#### **NEW FANATIC GEAR**

There are some new amazing designs in the gear store. Check them out at

http://www.databarevents.com/store/category/2/ Half-Fanatics







#### **EXPO SCHEDULE**

The Gear Guy will be at the following event Expos with club gear for Marathon Maniacs and Half Fanatics:

Mad Marathon Expo July 9th

Fox Cities Marathon Expo September 24th

**Tucson Marathon Expo**December 9<sup>th</sup>

**Tobacco Road Marathon**March 2018

### FANATIC POLL



Each month there will be a "Fanatic poll" posted online. Please take a few moments to answer this poll. Results will be in the next newsletter.

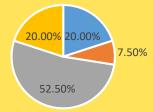
Last month's question:

The best run events have....?

This month's question:
You cannot run without...?

Please submit your response at:

http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ee4s 59yhj29eci76/a003j29eni0j/questions



- Medal, without a doubt. No bling, no run!
- T-shirt, it's a must. It's my badge of honor.
- Medal and T-shirt, of course! What is this craziness?!
- Neither, lower entry fee without medal and shirt.



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### OUR WHY....WHY WE RUN

We all have our reason we run – our why – and it's what gets us out the door most days. The more I run, the more people I meet, the more I'm learning about what brought others on their journey. Each month, I want to share as many of your whys as possible. Send me email to share yours.

So how did my running career start? I did a couple years running on the Wii Fit, running on the spot, many miles that way. Then I had the opportunity to watch my daughter-in-law run a triathlon, sprint one, and saw all of these people old, fat, thin, tall & short, and decided maybe I could try and run.

I had also lost my Mom and sister when they were 42 years old, and here I was 46 with an 11 year old who needed his Mum. This was end of July 2010. The next day I started running around the block, increasing distance every day until I ran the full way, 2.8 miles in 85 degree temps. When I finished i was as red as a Strawberry and my heart was pounding out my chest, but I had done it. I signed up for my first 5K, Wildcats Labor Day. I was HOOKED!! Ran my fist Marathon April 2011 and first Half May 2011. July 2011 I did the same sprint triathlon. Fast forward, today I have 106 full/ Ultras and nearing 100 halves to my name. TITANIUM-SUN level.

I am not tall nor I am lean, nor young, but somehow I have inspired many to start running or achieve other life goals. I have made life long friends whom I have met on my running journey. The highlight of all the runs for me was in 2012 when I went home to Scotland to run the Edinburgh Festival Marathon and my Dad watch me finish with tears in his eyes. I was never into PE in school, I was book smart not sporty. Now I was an ATHLETE!

Be the best you can be, fast or slow, walking or running. Share your story with someone. We each have a story to tell!

Janice Northrup #1246





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### OUR WHY....WHY WE RUN

In my Sophomore year at college, I worked at the Athletes Foot sports store in downtown Boston, where I met and began working for Bill McGoldrick. He wasn't just a runner, he was a marathoner! As Bill talked about running, I was inspired to start running more than just the occasional jog. Soon I was running home from work each day. Then adding long runs along the Charles River on weekends.

Before I knew it, I was registered for a 10k and then another. As the Boston Marathon came onto the schedule, I was lucky enough to be signed on as a volunteer and see the legendary Bill Rogers run. When my time at the Athletes Foot ended, I continued running and volunteering at the Boston Marathon. I was there at the finish line when Alberto Salazar won the 'Duel in the Sun' before he was rushed to the medical area with exhaustion. I knew then I needed to run Boston. It took many miles, recovery from a nagging injury or two, and a few years, but I was fortunate enough to have Boston be my first and second marathons. Meeting the right people while volunteering had its reward that enabled me to run with a bib without having to qualify.

I continued running for years after my two Boston Marathons, but career, marriage, and kids began to get in the way of regular training and serious mileage. This was also a time that half marathons weren't as prevalent as they are now, so I'd fit in a race here or there over the years before moving to Oregon.

Eventually I was asked to join a Hood to Coast team. As the miles increased, the spark reignited that relaxed feeling running gave me. As busy as life was, running brought a tranquility over me. While my family considers me hyper, running created a calm. I found that I NEEDED that feeling.

In 2013, I learned what a Half Fanatic was. Just by means of registering for two races too close together, I realized that I had already qualified to join. My type-A personality may have gotten the best of me, because I decided that to really be a Fanatic, I would register and run 4 halfs in 4 days!

To date I've run more than 100 halfs. I became a Marathon Maniac and I just ran the Boston Marathon 31 years removed from my previous run for the finish line down Boylston Street -- this time with my oldest daughter cheering me on.

Why do I run now? It continues to bring me tranquility on my solo runs and a sense of community when running or racing with friends. Pacing allows me to give that same joy and confidence back to others. Running also keeps me fit (I ran Boston 2017 at my college weight) and sane. Plus the added bonus to show my daughters that no matter how old you are, you can still make time to exercise and keep fit

Gregg LeBlanc #4564

