

SEPTEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

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Flying Fanatic/Editor

Race Photos

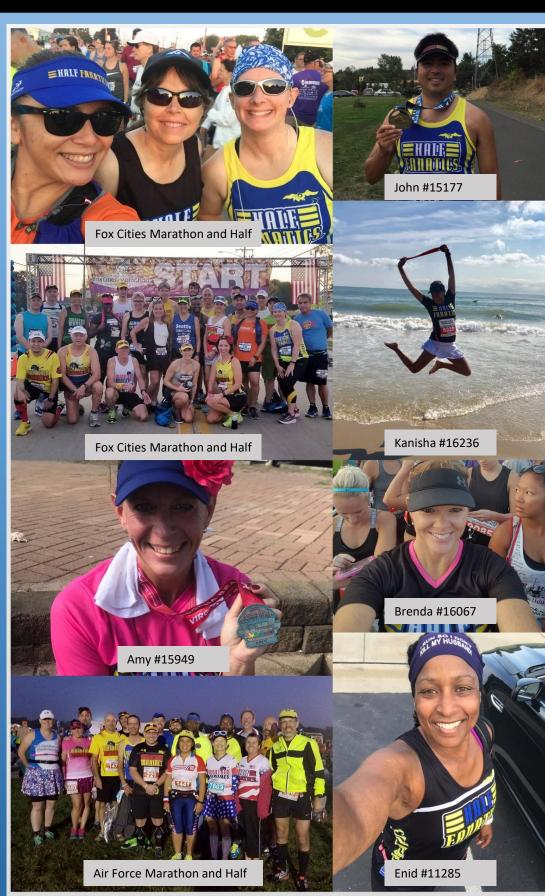
New Members

15

19

16-18







HALF-MARATHON CRAZY

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As the 1st annual Signature Race Series winds down, the 2018 Signature Race Series comes together. Races 1-3 are ready to go! We will be announcing races 4 & 5 soon. All races come with discount codes that can be found on the race calendar.

http://www.marathonmaniacs.com/signature-race-series/

*Please remember that you will need to join the race on the Half Fanatic Race Calendar to receive the Special Club Medal at the finish!

















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DID YOU KNOW?





EXPO SCHEDULE

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

> **Odyssey Half Marathon** November 5th **Route 66 Marathon** November 17 **Tucson Marathon Expo** December 9th

September had 213 race events listed on the Half Fanatics Race Calendar.

The top three events from this month include the Rock n Roll Virginia Beach, Rock n Roll Philadelphia, and Disneyland Half.

- The Virginia Beach RnR Half was well represented this year. People like this event because the locals are really friendly and they come out to support it. The course is mostly flat, with nice scenery and a finish at the boardwalk.
- Another RnR event, this one up the road in Philadelphia. Running through the city of Brotherly Love with bands and cheer squads all along the route. Finish with an awesome RnR medal.
- It seems Disney has an event every month. The Disneyland Half runs through California Adventure and Disneyland Park. It features all the characters you know and love. Plenty of course support along the way for this very warm event!



Code of Conduct

Did you know we have a code of conduct? One of the many things I love about being part of the Half Fanatics is the kind-hearted people who are Fanatics. Anywhere I go, I have a family. Please take a moment to review our code of conduct at http://www.halffanatics.com/code-of-conduct/.

As a member of the Marathon Maniacs and/or Half Fanatics, you are held to a high standard of ethical behavior. You must do the right thing as generally as following the law, acting honorably and treating both members and non-members with respect.

When you are wearing Maniac or Fanatic gear, you are representing the club. The actions that you partake in reflect that of the club organization. This also applies when engaging with others on social media and though we encourage individualism, each member's actions shape the way that others view our running club.











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THE SUN COCCOCO

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 COCCOCO

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 COCO

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.



Lisa #9941, Stacy #9942 Landed on the SUN!



Vickie #15900 Landed on Venus





States without SUN achievement: YOU could be the first for AL, AK, CT, DE, IA, LA, ME, MS, MT, NH, ND, SD, UT, VT, WV, WI *We do have members from GBR!



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MILLESTONES

Congratulations to the following Half Fanatics who reached a milestone this month! Let me know if you reach one too! Send me an email at halffanaticnewsletter@gmail.com.



Rose #3059 150TH HALF



Jim #6523 50th State AND 100th Half



Ci #4575 100[™] HALF



Aubree #579 50th HALF AND New Marathon Maniac

Congratulations

The Half Fanatics have launched their Hall of Fame and inducted their first 2 members! Please give these awesome runners the accolades they deserve when you see them at your next race. Visit the Hall of Fame at http://www.halffanatics.com/fanatic-hall-of-

fame/.



Dee Dee Urguhart HF#1398 337 Races



Jeff Davenport HF#623 339 Races



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HALF FANATICS REGION PAGES

Half Fanatics Facebook group pages have been setup in regions across the USA and beyond. If you live in one of the areas, connect with your local chapter!



Region:

Marathon Maniacs Europe Half Fanatics European

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

Region:

Dallas Fort Worth, TX.

Denver, CO

Des Moines, South Central IA

Detroit, MI

European

Greensboro, NC

Honolulu, HI (Oahu)

Houston, TX

Kansas City, MO

Knoxville, TN

Lincoln / Omaha NE

Long Beach, CA

Lubbock / West Texas

Miami, FL



Regional Ambassadors in your area will be wearing this jacket so you can easily spot them at your next race.

in receive a discount when you sign up



Melissa Wood HF#8628 Denver, CO Amb

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

Rochester, NY

Region:

Sacramento, CA

Salt Lake City, UT

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

Wichita, KS







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UPCOMING RACES

10/28	Miami Beach Halloween Half Marathon	13.1		FL	11/	/4 REVEL Canyon City	13.1		CA
10/28	Silver Comet Half Marathon	13.1		GA	11/	/4 <u>Lake Washington Half Marathon</u>	13.1		WA
10/28	Jazz Half Marathon	13.1	\$	LA	11/	/4 Rock N Roll Savannah	13.1		GA
10/28	Monster Dash	13.1		MN	11/	/4 Merida Rock and Roll Half Marathon	13.1		YUC
10/28	The Colony Half	13.1		TX	11/	/4 <u>Midsouth Championship Half Marathon</u>	13.1		AR
10/28	UCP Life Without Limits Half Marathon	13.1		AL	11/	/4 <u>Moab Trail Half Marathon</u>	13.1		UT
10/28	Skyline Ranches Cross Country Run Half Marathon	13.1		NE	11/	/4 FivePine Lodge Happy Girls Run Half Marathon	13.1		OR
10/28	Minneapolis Halloween Half	13.1		MN	11/	/4 <u>Joshua Tree Half Marathon</u>	13.1		CA
10/28	Trenton Half Marathon	13.1	M.	NJ	11/	/4 <u>In Unity We Run Half Marathon</u>	13.1		WA
10/28	Rock n Roll Chengdu Half Marathon	13.1		CHN	11/	/4 River Valley Run	13.1	سري	AR
10/28	Brookshire's Hero Run	13.1		LA	11/	/4 Hillbilly Hike 1/2 Marathon	13.1		ÍΑ
10/28	Healdsburg Wine Country Half Marathon	13.1		CA	11/	/4 <u>Jenks Half Marathon</u>	13.1		OK
10/28	Haunted Half Provo	<i>1</i> 3.1		UT	11/	/4 Huntsville Half Marathon	13.1		AL
10/28	Georgetown Bridge to Bridge 1/2 Marathon	13.1		SC	11/	/4 Backcountry Wilderness Half Marathon	13.1		СО
10/28	Night Moves Halloween Trail Run	13.1		TX	11/	/4 <u>Battlefield Half Marathon</u>	13.1		VA
10/28	<u>Durbin Trail 30K</u>	30K		[∦] FL	11/	/4 COBRA Fall Back Blast Trail Run	25K		WI
10/28	Great Turtle Trail Run	13.1	", A	MI	11/	/5 <u>D&L Half Marathon</u>	13.1		PA
10/28	Race 13.1 Charleston	13.1		SC	11/	/5 <u>Autumn Trails 16 miler</u>	16M		OR
10/28	Hallowed Half Marathon	13.1		MI	11/	/5 <u>Stony Creek Half Marathon</u>	13.1		MI
10/28	Zombie Runner Half Marathon	13.1		CA	11/	/5 <u>Monroe Half Marathon</u>	13.1		MI
10/28	Spinx Run Fest	13.1		SC	11/	/5 <u>3TV Phoenix Half Marathon</u>	13.1		ΑZ
10/29	Cougar Mountain 20-Mile Trail Run	20M		WA	11/	/5 <u>Road To Hope Half Marathon</u>	13.1		ON
10/29	Ironman 70.3 Austin	13.1		TX	11/	/5 <u>Turn Back The Clock</u>	13.1		WA
10/29	Suffolk Half Marathon	13.1	* <	NY	11/	Odyssey Half Marathon	13.1	\$	AR
10/29	White Mountain Milers' Half Marathon	13.1		NH	11/	/5 <u>Princeton Half Marathon</u>	13,1		NJ
10/29	Hot Cider Hustle	13.1		WI)	11/	/5 Marshall University Half Marathon	13.1		WV
10/29	Air Capital Half Marathon	13.1		KS	11/	/5 bg26.2 & Half Marathon	13.1	\$	KY
10/29	Run to Margaritaville Half Marathon	13.1	\$	FL	11/	/5 <u>Silver Falls Trail Run</u>	13.1		OR
10/29	The Reservoir Run 1/2 Marathon	13.1		СТ	11/	/5 <u>DRC Half</u>	13.1		TX
10/29	NC Halloween Half Marathon	13.1		NC	11/	/5 Golden GATE HALF	13.1		CA
10/29	Scary Run Half Marathon	13.1		WA	11/	/5 <u>Two Cities Half Marathon</u>	13.1		CA
10/29	Cocoa Beach Half Marathon	13.1		FL	11/	/5 Mainly Marathons Southwest (Day 1)	13.1	\$	NM
10/29	Good Life Halfsy	13.1		NE	11/	/5 Kansas Half Marathaon and 5K	13.1		KS
10/29	Florida Halloween Halfathon	13.1		FL	711/	/5 Bass Pro Cohick Half	13.1		MO
10/29	The Wicked Half Marathon	13.1		AZ	- 11/	/5 <u>Disney Wine and Dine Half Marathon</u>	13.1		FL
10/29	Lighthouse Loop Half Marathon	13.1		FL	11/	/5 Raleign City of Oaks Half Marathon	13.1	\$	NC
10/29	<u>Houston Half Marathon</u>	13.1		TX	11/	/5 <u>Battleship NC Half</u>	13.1		NC
10/29	Ocean State Rhode Races Half Marathon	13.1	\$	RI	11/	Mainly Marathons Southwest (Day 2)	13.1	\$	СО
10/29	Mainly Marathons Day of the Dead (Day 2)	13.1	\$	NM	11/	/7 Mainly Marathons Southwest (Day 3)	13.1	\$	UT
10/29	Rock N Roll Los Angeles	13.1		CA	11/	/8 Mainly Marathons Southwest (Day 4)	13.1	\$	AZ
10/29	End of the Road Half Marathon	13.1	\$	PA	11/	/9 Mainly Marathons Southwest (Day 5)	13.1	\$	NV
10/29	Westy Half Marathon	13.1	\$	СО	11/2	10 Mainly Marathons Southwest (Day 6)	13.1	\$	CA
11/4	Indianapolis Monumental Half Marathon	13.1		IN	11/1	11 <u>Myakka River Half Marathon</u>	13.1		FL

\$ indicates a discount, check halffanatics.com for race discount code



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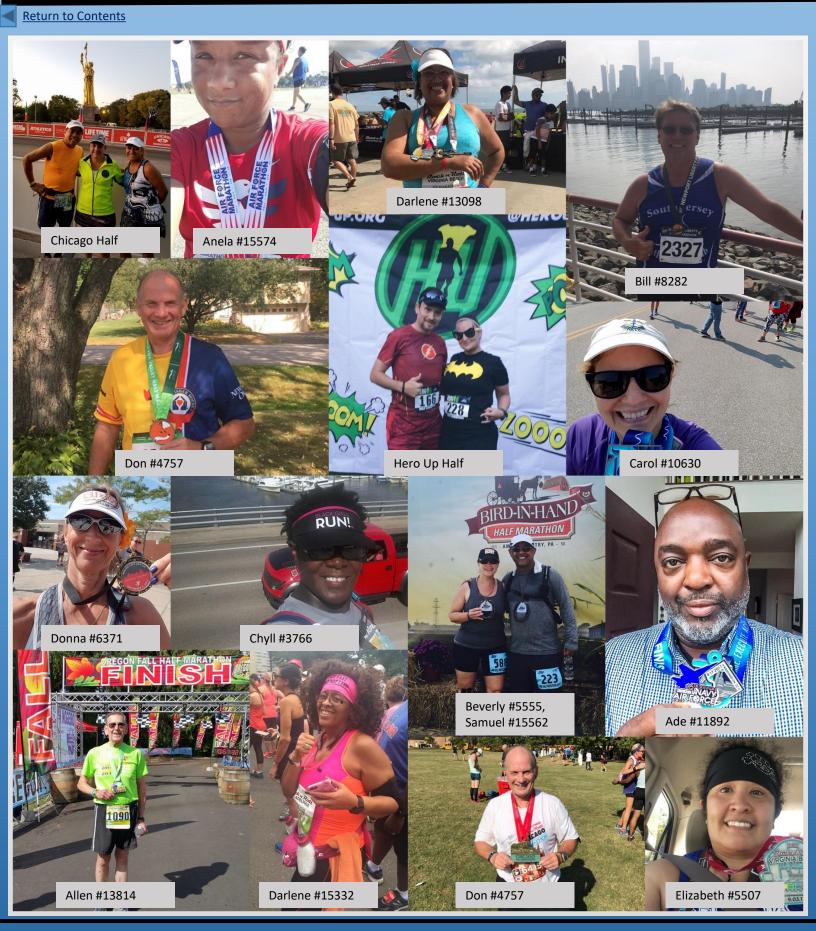
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UPCOMING RACES

11/11	SEGAMI Veteran's Day Half Marathon	13.1	G	4	11/18	Big Easy Half Marathon	13.1		LA
11/11	Brown County Hilly Half	13.1	IN	J	11/18	Magnolia Half Marathon	13.1	\$	MS
11/11	Rally Point Arizona Run and Festival	13.1	A	Z	11/18	Holly Springs Half Marathon	13.1		NC
11/11	Fayetteville Half Marathon	13.1	Al	R	11/18	Philadelphia Half Marathon	13.1	\$	PA
11/11	<u>Longview</u>	13.1	M	0	11/18	Secret City Half Marathon	13.1		TN
11/11	Chickamauga Battlefield Half Marathon	13.1	G	Д	11/18	Mayberry Half Marathon	13.1	0 -	NC
11/11	Charlotte Half Marathon	13.1	\$ N	6,00	11/18	Race 13.1 Dallas	13.1		TX
11/11	Renfro Rock N Run	13.1	K;	Y	11/18	Palos Verdes Half Marathon	13.1	\$	CA
11/11	Les Schwab Tires Veterans Day Half Marathon	13.1	0	R	11/18	Annapolis Running Classic	13.1		MD
11/11	Richmond Half Marathon	13.1	V	4	11/18	Lexus LaceUp Palos Verdes	13.1	1	CA
11/11	Bend Ale Run	13.1	0	R/~	11/18	Dead Horse 30K	30K		UT
11/11	Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Half Marathon	13.1	FI	by .	11/18	Grand Ridge Trail Half Marathon	13.1		WA
11/11	Lexington Half Marathon	13.1	S		11/18	Shiner Beer Run	13.1		TX
11/11	Churchill's Half marathon	13.1	m /01	H	11/18	Spa Running Festival Half Marathon	13.1		AR
11/11	The Nashville Half Marathon	13.1	E DE	13	11/18	Chosen Half Marathon	13.1		TX
11/11	Race to Remember - Veterans Day Race	13.1	-) W	Α	11/18	642 Gulf Bank Half Marathon	13.1	\$	KW
11/11	Red Ribbon Half Marathon	13.1	₹0 FI	L	11/19	EWEB Run to Stay Warm	13.1		OR
11/11	Old Koloa Sugar Mill Run Half Marathon	13.1	<i></i> ₽ H	l	11/19	Snetterton Race Track Half Marathon	13.1		NFK
11/12	Back Roads Half Marathon	13.1	/ M	II	11/19	Battle of Leon Creek 15 Miler	15M	\$	TX
11/12	Bakersfield Half Marathon	13.1	C.	4	11/19	The Magic City Half Marathon	13.1		AL
11/12	Revel Mt Lemmon	13.1	The state of the s	Z	3. 11/19	St. Pete Half Marathon	13.1	Share I	FL
11/12	Battle to the Pacific	13.1	*	R~~3	11/19	Berkeley Half Marathon	13.1		CA
11/12	Seacoast Half Marathon	13.1	N	H/	11/19	The Williams Route 66 Half Marathon	13.1		ОК
11/12	Louisville Half Marathon	13.1 🌈	\$ K	Y	11/19	Havana Half Marathon	13.1		CU
11/12	Wolfpack Trail Run 14.5mi	14.5M	W	/ I	11/19	<u>LaPorte by the Bay Half Marathon</u>	13.1		TX
11/12	Surfers Point Half Marathon	13.1	C	4	11/19	Naples Fall Classic	13.1		FL
11/12	RDC Half Marathon	13.1	N	c A	11/19	Norfolk Harbor half	13.1		VA
11/12	Syracuse Half Marathon	13.1	N'	Y	11/23	Thanksgiving Day Half Marathon	13.1		GA
11/12	Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon and 6k	13.1	V	4	11/23	Just Think First Skinny Turkey Half Marathon	13:1		NC
11/12	Avengers Super Heroes Half Marathon	13.1	C	4	11/23	Thankful 13 Half Marathon	13.1		UT
11/12	Blue Red Half Marathon	13.1	T	K	11/23	Feast and Feathers Trail Half Marathon	13.1		NE
11/12	Trinity River Run	13.1	\$ TX	<u></u>	11/23	Community First Thanksgiving Distance Classic	13.1		FL
11/12	Faxon Law Guilford Half Marathon	13.1	\$ C	Т	11/23	Struttin' for Stuffin'	13.1		ID
11/12	Gobbler Grind Half Marathon	13.1	\$ K	S	11/24	Black Toenail Friday Half Marathon	13.1		MI
11/12	Silver Strand Half Marathon	13.1	C/	4	11/24	Brokeman's #OptOutside Ultra	16.7M		ОН
11/12	Madison Half Marathon	13.1	W	4	11/25	Schaumburg Turkey Trot Half Marathon	13.1		IL
11/12	Honor Run Half Marathon	13.1	K	Y	11/25	Ghost of Seattle Half Marathon	13.1		WA
11/12	2017 Rock 'n' Roll Las Vegas 1/2 Marathon	13.1	N		11/25	NCR Trail Half Marathon	13.1		MD
11/12	Fort Worth Half Marathon	13.1	\$ TX		11/25	Kaiser Realty Coastal Half Marathon	13.1		AL
11/12	Pensacola Half Marathon	13.1	FI		11/25	Leftovers Trail Half Marathon	13.1		MI
11/12	Temecula Half Marathon	13.1	C/		11/26	Space Coast Half Marathon	13.1	\$	FL
11/18	Queens Half Marathon	13.1	\$ N		11/26	Seattle Half Marathon	13.1		WA
11/18	White River Half Marathon	13.1	, \$ AI						

\$ indicates a discount, check halffanatics.com for race discount code











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FANATIC GEAR

Plan early for cooler temperatures and rain.











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.

This month's question:

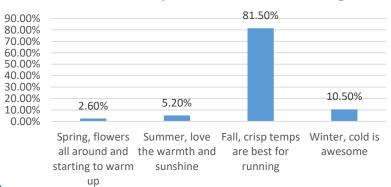
Biggest pet-peeve when finishing a race...

Please submit your response at:

http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eeog33h sj8c68nyd/start

Last month's question:

What season is your favorite for running?





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EVERY MONDAY • RUN MILES BASED ON THE DATE DIVIDED IN HALF (EX: FRI. SEPT 8TH = 4 MILES) USE #FANATICFRIDAYCHALLENGE TO BE FEATURED AS OUR FANATIC OF THE WEEK!

STRAVA

Join us on STRAVA as the Official Half Fanatics & track your miles!

Fanatic Friday Challenge! Run miles based on the date divided in half and take a photo using #fanaticfridaychallenge to be featured on our Instagram and Facebook!

Track your miles on STRAVA and join our club page here: https://www.strava.com/clubs/half-fanatics



Get your child moving! An 8 week running program with fun and challenging running activities.

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!

Find out more at: http://www.halffanatics.com/flyingfanatics.

Welcome to the Perch June New Member **Braden S., Flying Fanatic #81**

FROM THE EDITOR

Fall is one of my favorite running times of the year. I'm ready for the cooler temperatures and a little rain. Watching the leaves change color and fall. Just need to watch for hidden hazards under those leaves. There are many wonderful fall run events. Check out the race calendar and find one near you.

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! halffanaticnewsletter@gmail.com

-Kellie Follett #4560



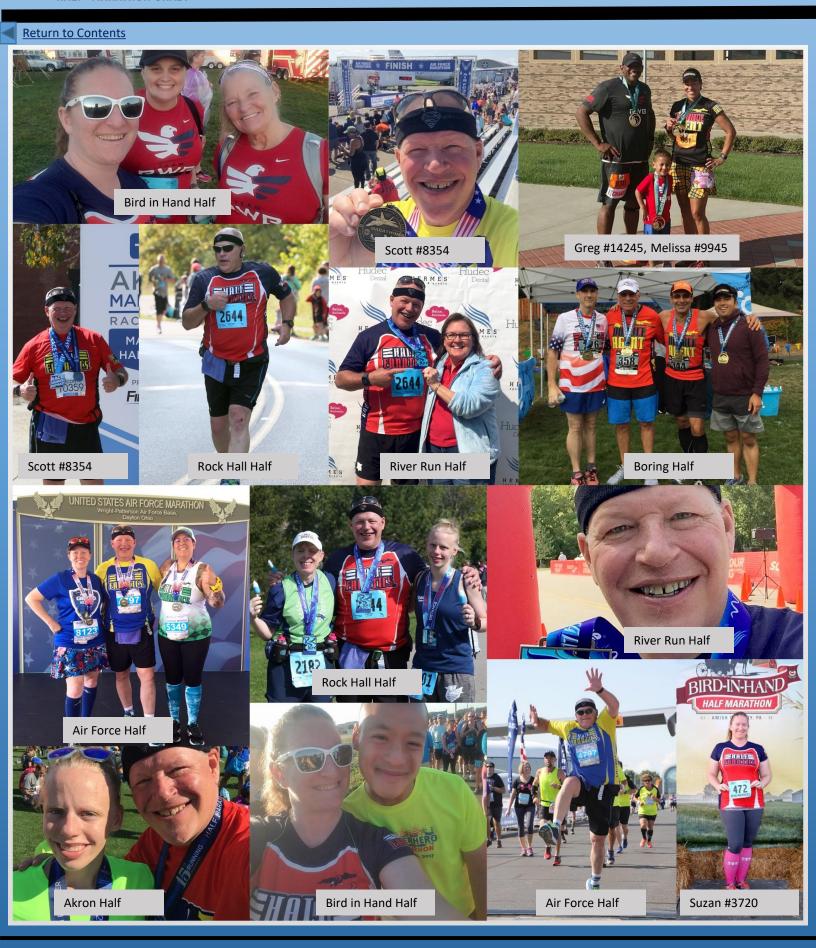














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WELCOME TO THE ASYLUM! NEW SEPTEMBER 2017 HALF FANATICS



16486	Bonnie McClung, ON	16513	Anita Santiago, MO
16487	Tracey Garrant, FL	16514	Wayne Erickson, Tn
16488	Kynita Humphrey	16515	Darlene Bisson, WA
16489	Michelle Agriesti, TX	16516	Boyd Harter, VA
16490	Dan Chapman, OR	16517	Kenneth Stebler, NM
16491	Richard Goldstein, FL	16518	Krista Poppe, IL
16492	Christine Reeves, MI	16519	Amy Hall, TX
16493	Pina Porceddu, GA	16520	Jacqueline Fabrizzio, AK
16494	Arun Kallikadavil, NC	16521	Juno DuBose, NC
16495	Brooklyn Pyburn, AR	16522	Anita Lichman, ME
16496	Ellen Woods, CA	16523	Kama Klimes, ID
16497	Trinkly, WA	16524	Candice Marcella, TX
16498	Staci Stover, OK	16525	Annette Brown, ME
16499	Steven Goetsch, TX	16526	Randall Schramm, NE
16500	Jennifer Anderson (#16500), WA	16527	Travis Langemeier , NE
16501	Stephanie Lee (#16501), OK	16528	Dominique Roberts, MD
16502	Brandi Ridpath, OK	16529	Rachael Duran, OH
16503	Sarah Sharp, OK	16530	Nancy Muir, ON
16504	Lauri Richards, WA	16531	Karen Jung, MO
16505	Chewey BK Lam, CO	16532	Kristine Harper, TX
16506	Frank Stachour, VA	16533	Nancy Boman, WA
16507	Josette Ward, OK	16534	Eric Ehmann, MA
16508	Tracie Jenkins, NC	16535	K Cook, WA
16509	Melisa Augusto, DC	16536	Bobby Tran, MD
16510	Nicole Schuster , Min	16537	Rashida Lewis, Ark
16511	Lori Gray, CO	16538	Carina Kool, CA
16512	Paul Huffman, OH	16539	Kevin Lunceford, Ark



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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.



I hate running. I always have and probably always will. The aches and pains, the hot and cold temperatures, the getting up way too early. You name it. I hate just about everything about running! Well, except costume runs. I love wearing costumes, but technically I can still wear them without running.

So why do I do it? Well, it started for me about 13 years ago, when my son was born. At the time, I smoked about a pack of cigarettes a day, and I did little or no physical activity. I weighed about 260 lbs. When I slept, I snored louder than a chain saw. It was around that time that a great former NFL football player, Reggie White, passed away in his sleep from something called sleep apnea. He was 42 at the time - same age as me. Turns out, I had sleep apnea too. Made me rethink my life a little bit. I'd like to be around to see my son grow up. Maybe see a grandkid or two.

A year or so after that, I started having awful abdominal cramping. It was so bad, I had to go the ER. Turns out I had appendicitis. Plus, they said I had the added bonus of a bad gall bladder. So, I had them both removed within a month or so. The doctor told me if I wanted to stop losing body parts, it was time to get serious about my diet and exercise regimen.

It was also about that time that my wife finally decided to quit smoking. Within a week after she quit, so did I. I bought an elliptical machine, and I spent every night for the next year or two exercising in front of the TV when I got home from work.

Before too long, my wife starting doing Couch-to-5K. She asked me to come along for a few runs to keep her company. Next thing you know, she's signing up for 5Ks, 10Ks, and then half marathons! So, I started signing up for them too. Then, she joined the Half Fanatics running club. A few days later, I did too. Before I knew it, she signed up for a full marathon! I told her, "I have no interest in running a full marathon." For good measure, she ended up running three full marathons, and I ran the third one with her in 2012. What was I thinking?! She then started training for and doing triathlons! I told her, "I have no interest in doing a triathlon." I meant it too, because I can't swim.

The following year, I turned 50. That same year, my father passed away from COPD and heart failure. He was a life long smoker, and he could hardly breath during his final few months. It was very difficult to watch. After he passed, I decided in his honor that I would run a marathon in all 50 states before I turn 60. Along the way, I became a Marathon Maniac and a Double Agent. At this writing, I have completed 35 states. If all goes well, my 50th state will be Disney World, FL in Jan 2019. As for my Half Fanatics participation, I reached the SUN level in March this year, and I just recently ran my 100th half at the Boring Half Marathon.

There you have it. I run to be there for my family, to be around my running wife as much as possible, and to remember my dad. You only get so many years in this life, and I think we should make the most it while we can. So yes, I do hate running, but it's one of things that keeps me going.

Ci #4575





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OUR WHY....WHY WE RUN



I was always an active and athletic kid growing up, but as I became an adult, responsibilities and other activities took up more and more of my time. Like most people, I fell into a poor diet and being "healthy" wasn't a consideration. I would sporadically go on a diet and exercise binge to try to make my physical self look a certain way; believing that was where I would find happiness.

This behavior continued into my 30's as I got married and found a career. In 2008, my husband became severely ill, and everything else in my life was put on hold to be his caregiver. For 15 months, that was my only role and only concern. When he died in 2009, my entire world fell apart, since my primary role was eliminated and I was no longer sure of my purpose in life.

Some friends introduced me to someone who had done something called "Ironman" and all these exotic bike rides. We became fast friends and soon she had me off my butt and being active again. My mood was better. My diet was better (without being on a diet) and I quit smoking. I used physical activity to reduce my stress and I was tired enough to sleep at night without nightmares.

In 2013, I decided to sign up for my first official event since adolescence. I suggested we sign up for a 5K and dress as Superheroes. My friend Lisa said, "If you are going to do something, make it worth the trip. Do a half marathon." I, in my naivety, agreed and we signed up for the Seattle Half Marathon. We not so jokingly say that we trained for two weeks, but took the last 10 days of it off for a taper. We finished in 4 hours and some change, and I couldn't walk for a week afterward! I decided that next time (yep, I knew there would be a next time), I would train and do better.

In 2014, we started training and signing up for some local events. We met some other runners who told us about a group called the Half Fanatics. So, we found our events and worked hard to complete two half marathons and become Half Fanatics! Our elation soon quelled, when we realized that we were "stuck on Uranus" and we were motivated to "moon up" and improve our standings. We met some AMAZING Half Fanatics who took us under their collective wings and taught us about running and more importantly taught us how to have fun while doing it.

This year (2017), we were so encouraged by this group that we finally took on and completed the challenge of heading to the Sun! We saw so many beautiful places along the way and ran through every type of weather. We learned so much about ourselves and other people. I started running to find purpose and meaning, but I found so much more along the way! I run because I can't imagine my life without the friends I have made. I run because I hope to inspire someone else to do the same. I run because otherwise, I would miss the sunrises and sunsets and prisms in the raindrops. I run because I can and – I run because I really like new running shoes (and tacos)! Stacv #9942

