

Leader Board

SoCal Ultra Running Series - Mar. 20, 2006

www.socalultraseries.org

First Quarter

From the Board

Great! Unlike last year we made it through the first quarter without a weather related race cancellation or postponement. Avalon celebrated its 25th year with a strong turnout and the Calico staff built on a strong first year and pulled off another good race even if the wind almost blew the aid stations to Las Vegas. The new Orange Curtain 100k offered participants an opportunity to try their skills in a fixed distance paved ultra. New race director, Kevin McGuinness, staged numerous training runs on the course leading up to the Lake Hodges 50k. Race day weather presented challenges but about 89 runners managed to still cross the finish line. Plenty of good races to keep you busy in April, May, and June including the return of the PCT 50.

We had a nice gathering for the awards party in January with about thirty members and guests in attendance. About ten of us managed a little eight mile fun run on the nearby trails before kicking things off. We had plenty of good food, too. I don't think anyone went away hungry and most everyone went away with an award of

some type. Every membership dollar was returned to members via awards or services during the year. Be sure to recruit a new member or two for next year.

Speaking of new members, we have seven new names on the roster, so far. Be sure to welcome Leigh Corbin, Yen Darcy, Kimberly Yang, Robert Schipsi, Tracy Moore, Drina Hirst, and Danny Amos.

A couple of issues ago I raised a few questions about the history of the Series. What races were part of the Series when it began in 1990? What races have been part of the Series since the beginning? Who won the first Series? Thanks to Rob McNair for providing many of the answers. Earl Towner and Pam Smith were the first year's winners. Races included Avalon 50, Spunky Canyon 40.5 miler (R), PCT 50 miler, Are You Tough Enough 100k (R), Malibu 50 miler, Steamroller 100k, Cuyamaca 50k, West Coast University 50 miler (R), Orange 12 and 24 hour (T), Baldy Peaks 50k, Angeles Crest 100 miler, Dam Tough 38.6 miler (R), and the San Juan 50 miler. (R)=Road event and (T)=Track event. Avalon and AC are the only two to run

continuously (excluding the one fire cancellation of AC). Five hundred and twenty nine runners participated in at least one of the Series races that first year.

As always, the Series web site at www.socalultraseries.org offers the most up-to-date information I have about Series races.

See you on the trail,
Scott
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