

AURA NEWS

Arkansas Ultra Running Association

Upcoming AURA Events

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UTS Standings & Membership Changes

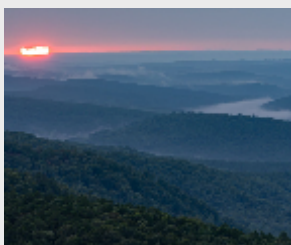
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Athens Big Fork Trail Marathon

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ReTreads & AURA Board

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From the Club President & Editor



Congratulations to all who ran the Athens Big Fork Trail Marathon! Every runner and every pup finished. We all had another wonderful time hanging out as a community.

The finish line was such a joyful place with cheers for every runner coming in. The men's finish was fun to watch as Daniel Evans and Matt Pruitt came speeding down Hwy 8. Daniel finished first with Matt less than a minute behind. Chantel Pennicott's finish also invoked much excitement as she broke Zoe Rom's female course record with a time of 4:56! We also had some long time ABF'ers hit milestones. Stan Ferguson finished his 20th "official" (2015 was on the rain route), Josh Snyder finished his 15th Consecutive ABF. Jon Bitler & PT finished their 13th, Natalie McBee & Will Landreth finished their 10th. We also had 5 people complete their 5th year. It Was A Pretty Impressive Year.

Big, Big Thank You to ALL who volunteered. We have an amazing community. A community that rises to the occasion every single time the call for help goes out. You are what makes these events so special. Much appreciation to all who helped!

Big thanks also to all who donated! Last year proceeds from the race paid for all of the repair work and supplies for to the flooring and busted pipes in the bathrooms and back half of the building as well as assistance in the purchase of new repeater for the OARA HAM operators. This year the proceeds will be equally divided between OARA and the Big Fork Community Center, as both have equipment needs. They would also like to express their gratitude.

Next up is White Rock with RD's Lisa Gunnoe and Robert Vogler (aka PoDog).

I look forward to the next time we gather together! Until then, Happy Trails.

~ Stacey Shaver-Matson~

Upcoming AURA Events And Volunteer Opportunities



White Rock Classic 50K

Saturday, February 03, 2024
9:00 am start

Remember to bring cash for parking and a donation. Please help Lisa & PoDog cover their race cost!

*Reminder- The first aid station at Mile 4 will be water only. 50K will have their first full aid station at mile 11.44ish. 25K's first aid station will be at mile 7.21ish. **Be prepared.**

[Website Link](#)

Friday & Saturday, Feb 23rd-24th

[Website Link](#)
[Volunteer Link](#)



Please come run or volunteer and say Thank You to Rachel and Dustin for their years of service to our trail running community. Their vision for this race was such a gift. We will all miss the Speer Family! We are beyond grateful for them!!

Please also welcome next year's RD, Bea Mickelson. She has been the captain at Charlton since the race started. If you have run the race then you know that she is an organizer that pays attention to details and you know what a big heart she has!



March 15 - 17

Registration Link



Saturday March 30

All proceeds are donated to the community that serves this event. An option to add a race shirt is available at the time of registration. Enter your info in the comments section.

Website/Registration Link



Runners Choice

You must email [George](#) your results and a link to the race website for verification by April 15th.



April 13th

Please support this worthy cause as a runner, a volunteer, or both. Runners and volunteers will receive this cool shirt. As always, all proceeds are donated to Pinnacle Mountain State Park.

Registration Link Volunteer Link



Mount Magazine Trail Run

May 4th

PT volunteers for SO much. Please return his kindness and support this event by running or volunteering. All proceeds are donated to Mt Magazine State Park.

Website Link - Registration Coming Soon



UTS Standings - Currently Laura Kearns, Kimmy Riley, and Lisa Web are in the lead for the Women's Open division and Daniel Arnold, Kenny Garner, and Randall Bright are in the lead for the Men's open division. Click the link to see the full list and the age division break down.

UTS LITE Standings - Currently Teresa Taylor, Shannon Wiley and Natalie Woody are in the lead for the Women's Open division. Bryan McCullar, Jim Tadel, and Jason Auer are in the lead for the Men's open division. Click the link to see the full list and the age division break down.

Will You Earn A High Mileage Award?

Click the links to see where you stand [UTS Miles](#) [UTS LITE Miles](#) Awards Ceremony and a club meeting will be held, directly after the [Catsmacker](#) .

CHANGES WITH AURA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal began on January 1st 2024. We are switched registration for AURA's membership to the Run SignUp platform. This will keep all of our events and activities on one platform. We feel like Run Sign Up is more user friendly and we hope that you also find that to be the case.



If you have any questions or concerns about this please let me know. I am here to help.

[Click Here To See Events In The Ultra Trail Series](#)

[Click Here to Register for the UTS or UTS Lite](#)

The 2023-2024 Ultra Trail Series finishes at the Catsmacker in May. However, you will have the opportunity to join the 2024-2025 UTS/UTS LITE Series starting May 1st, 2024.

Do we have your mug shot for the AURA membership page?



- * CHECK TO SEE IF THERE IS A PHOTO OF YOU ON THE MEMBERSHIP PAGE
- * IF THERE ISN'T A PHOTO OF YOU, PLEASE EMAIL A PHOTO TO GEORGE AT advdesinc@sbcglobal.net



Stan Ferguson
20 Year ABF Award



2024 Athens Big Fork Trail Marathon



Will Landreth & Natalie McBee
10 Year Finish at ABF



Krista Buck, Iron Will Winner



Early Start Groups



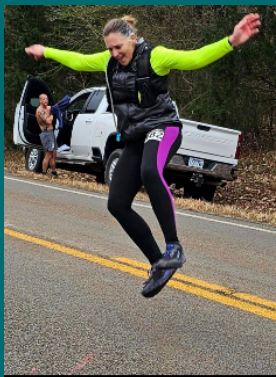
Daniel Evans,
Marathon Winner



Chantel, the new Women's Course Record Holder



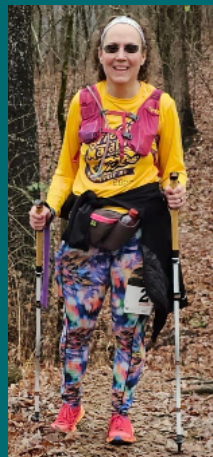
Jacob wins the 17 Miler once again!



Cheryl Matson, female 17 Mile Winner



Someone Who Values the Important Things in Life 🥰

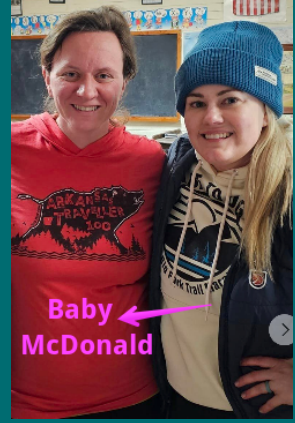




Blaylock Creek funded by Fleet Feet Little Rock



Volunteers at the Start/Finish



Course Sweepers



OARA HAMs at Blaylock



Little Missouri Aid



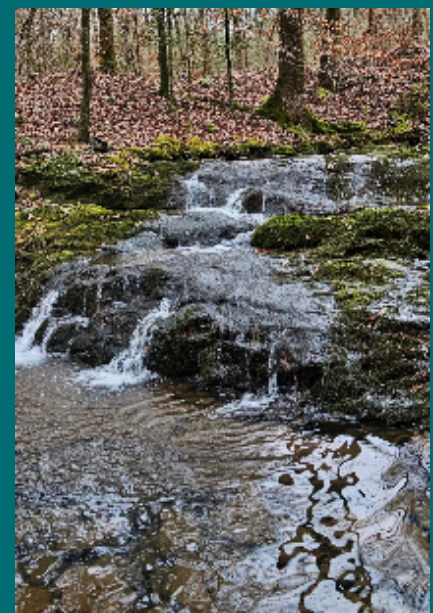
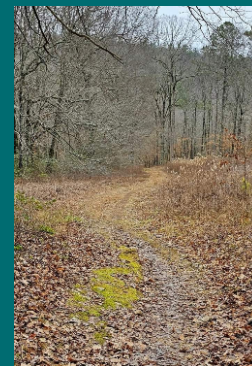
Snoot Mountain/Team Jackass



My Family & Personal Support System



Big Fork Mall Crew



**Registration will open to the public on August 1st
For the January 4th, 2025
Athens Big Fork Trail Marathon**

RETREADS

Hello **All**, the first Wednesday of every month is RETREADS Day. What is a RETREAD? Could be a retired runner. Maybe not. Could be a runner who wants to eat out in the company of other runners.

We are currently meeting at Homer's Restaurant, 9700 West Rodney Parham Road. We have the private room reserved for 11:30 a.m. If you plan on coming, it is important that you contact me the day before as our location is subject to change. At some time soon Homer's is scheduled to move to the old Franke location also on Rodney Parham. Or, we could decide to spend the summer at 2 Rivers Park. Right now as I write this, Homers is the location. So email me at CHRLYPYTN@GMAIL.COM if you've not been to RETREADS before and not on my notification list.



Thanks, Charley and Lou Peyton

Don't Miss The Fun!



AURA BOARD



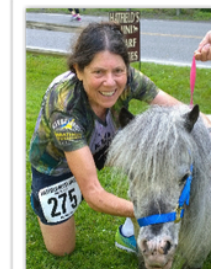
Stacey Shaver-Matson
President
Newsletter Editor
RD - ABF/OT50/AR Traveller 100



Shawn Sellers
Vice President
UTS & UTS LITE Coordinator



Katie Helms
Treasurer
RD - Catsmacker



Vickie McDonald
Secretary
UROY Coordinator



Rober Vogler (PoDog)
Trail Manager



Stan Ferguson
Website, IT, and
Equipment Manager



George Peterka
Website & IT



Jerry White
RRCA Arkansas State Rep



Arkansas Ultra Running Association
[Website](#)
[UTS Calendar](#)

Contact Information Can be found [Here](#)