

SARR Members,

The year is half over. How are you doing on your running goals for the year? If you need help, we have a few races coming up soon and our fall training starts next month. It's not too late to make 2018 a great running year.

**The Votes Are In.** Thanks to all of you who attended the Annual SARR Picnic and Election. We had a great time with our fun run and most of our attendees went home with a prize from our Bingo game. The winners in our SARR Board election were: Dawn Mathis (*Exec VP*), David Fuller (*Director of Training*), Ginger Murray (*Treasurer*), and Keith Click (*Secretary*). They will join Laretta Bateman (*VP Membership*), Debra Acosta (*Director of Racing*), and me (*President*) on the SARR Board. Feel free to [contact](#) any of our Board members with questions/comments about your club.

**State of the Club.** As part of the Annual Meeting, I gave a State of the Club address. I won't repeat it all here but in summary, I think this is the best running club in America. Your club is financially strong. We are making a difference in the community. SARR donated several thousand dollars to Street 2 Feet and to the Gulf Coast Food Bank. We partnered with San Antonio Parks & Rec in their Adopt A Trail program to help clean up the Salado Creek Greenway. We received the Mayor's Fitness Council endorsement to help promote fitness in the city. We continue to offer a great slate of races and training programs. And we couldn't do it without your support. In the last year we had over 200 volunteers who have given over 3,500 hours of their time in support of SARR. *Thank you so much!* Let's keep it going!

**Trail Clean-Up.** We will once again be picking up litter at our next cleanup day as part of the SA Parks Adopt-A-Trail program. Join us on Sunday, March 20th. Help keep our trails clean. More info [HERE](#).

**July Races.** We were a little worried that this heat may keep some runners away from our [Freedom Day 4-Miler](#) on July 4th. We shouldn't have been. We had over 250 runners sign up *in just the last 7 days*. There will be well over 600 runners at this race. Hope you are one of them. The same thing is happening with the [SARR Women's Run](#). Registrations continue to climb each week. This is going to be another big SARR event. And we want the guys out there too - just because you can't race in this event doesn't mean you can't participate. Volunteer [HERE](#).

**16 Weeks.** That's how long our [Fall Training](#) program lasts. Just 16 weeks and by the end of it you will be ready to take on anything. Based on our registrations so far, this is going to be our biggest training team ever. Are you in?

**Girls On The Run.** Want to make a difference in the lives of girls in San Antonio? Interested in running and want to help spread your knowledge of the sport? The local Girls on the Run non-profit organization is looking for different levels of volunteer positions, from Coach to Practice Partner, with varied time commitments. Their programs are typically held after school at various elementary and middle schools in the greater San Antonio/Boerne area, and meeting times range from 3:00 to 6:00 pm during the weekday. For specific requirements and expectations of the different roles, contact Andrea Duke at [andrea.duke@girlsontherun.org](mailto:andrea.duke@girlsontherun.org).

**Ruff Going.** I live next to a large neighborhood with long streets shaded by big oaks and even bigger houses. I can easily get 4-5 miles of running without ever crossing any major street. So it is one of my favorite spots for a quick morning run before heading to work.

Though it's a big subdivision, I never see many people outside. Just row after row of stately houses with manicured yards and not a creature stirring. (*Don't these people work? Where are the kids? WTH?*)

I was out in the 'hood last week and running down the middle of their wide, deserted streets. I was in the zone with my headphones on and cruising at an easy pace. My running zen was suddenly interrupted by what felt like a rug brushing against my left ankle. Looking down I saw a small, shaggy dog keeping pace. Startled, I leaped about a yard to the right and gave out a little yip. The dog yipped back at me. I looked around and the streets were still empty. Just me and this mutt. So, I kept running.

And so did the dog. I ran another mile. And so did the dog. I stopped. The dog stopped. I yelled. The dog wagged. I ran some more. So did the dog, right next to me as if we had been doing this for years.

For the next mile there were several bouts of me yelling and it wagging. This dog was about a foot high with pencil-sized, shaved legs (*as manicured as all those lawns*). He was obviously an escapee from one of these McMansions, but which one? I figured I could just out run it and it would tire and finally head for home. After another mile I was starting to doubt this.

As we crested a hill, I could see a couple walking up the street in our direction. As we got closer I noticed they were walking their own dog. My little friend darted towards it causing quite the commotion. As the couple did a leash tango and glared at me, I just kept repeating, "*That's not my dog. That's not my dog.*" I don't think they believed me.

Another half-mile and I just gave up. I walked. The dog walked with me. I guess I was going to have to adopt it. I was already bouncing around dog names in my head (*Sticky was my favorite*), when a car drove up in a hurry. A woman jumped out with tears streaming down her face and yelled for the dog. (*Turns out the dog's name was Renfro. Poor dog.*) She thanked me for rescuing her dog and I assured her I had done no such thing and in fact had probably made the situation worse. But she wasn't listening. She was just hugging and kissing and scolding her pet. A minute later she was gone, with the dog in the front seat enjoying the air conditioner.

The streets were all mine again. Just me and the pavement and the over-plucked lawns. I miss that dog.

Keep Running!

Scott Peacock

President, SARR