



San Antonio RoadRunners

San Antonio, TX

Hello SARR Members,

Just like that, March is almost in our rearview mirror. As we steamroll into April, I'll say that our 50th year is going great! I'd like to begin by sharing a little something from Al Becken.



[Special Message from Al](#)

We owe our founding members many thanks for starting this club 50 years ago. Al stays in tune with the happenings of our club and he has relayed how happy he is with the things we are doing.

On to business: Our Winter Road and Off-Road Training programs concluded this month, and I was blown away by all our dedicated runners, coaches, and volunteers...everyone was so inspiring! Between these two programs, we had over 400 people out there training this winter. Our Spring Walk2Run is now underway and going very well.

Mark your calendars, our **Annual Membership Meeting** will be on Saturday June 24th, and we'll provide more details as we get closer. We have 5 Board positions up for election at the meeting and I sent out the Call for Nominations in a separate email earlier this week. Additionally, we take nominations for our annual awards. Nomination/election details are also on our website under the About Us section located [HERE](#).

Board News: We have two Board members whose terms run through next year that are stepping down early. First, Ginger Murray, our Treasurer is stepping down due to her and Jim's recent decision to relocate to Washington State to be closer to their family. Both Ginger and Jim have been highly involved with SARR and I couldn't begin to name all the things they've done for our club or the hours they've put in, but here are a few highlights. Ginger has been our Treasurer for a number of years, and her tireless efforts ensured our club was able to endure and overcome the financial challenges that hit the running community so hard during the pandemic years. Jim has served in various capacities throughout the years both as a Board member and as a volunteer on other programs. He's done great things for our Kids Program, he was the Director of Coaches, and he was instrumental in getting San Antonio designated as a Runner Friendly Community. I'm very happy for them, but they will sure be missed!

Lynn Hurt, our Secretary is also stepping down for health and personal reasons. Lynn has been such a

positive force on Board and really kept her focus on what's best for our club and our members. The good news is that Lynn isn't going anywhere, she just plans to take care of some things in her life so she can get back to running regularly. She fully intends to remain very active in our club and I have no doubt we'll be seeing her involved in Pacing, Coaching or just being out there running quite a bit in the near future. We are so thankful her and Jimmy aren't going anywhere. I'd also like to share that Lynn has been a great conduit to Al Becken. Lynn keeps Al well supplied with pictures of races and other great things we have going on and he really enjoys seeing them. He is truly special.

At our March Board Meeting we appointed replacements to fill the remainder of Ginger and Lynn's current terms. I'd like to announce Jeanine Merrill will be taking over as our Treasurer and Leigh Ann Qualia will be taking over as our Secretary. Jeanine and Leigh Ann are both long time SARR members. Please help me in welcoming both of them to the Board, these positions are very demanding, and we appreciate them stepping in. Ginger and Lynn are helping with their transition so as not to disrupt club operations.

Now how about those races: This month we had the hugely successful 20th Annual Prickly Pear Trail Race. This year our 50K was designated as a Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) 2023 RRCA Southern Region Championship Race and it sure did not disappoint. We had a little over 600 participants with 99 50K runners crossing the finish line and 11 more Virtual 50Kers. Our RRCA State Rep was there to present awards and was highly impressed with this race. Shout out to Kimberly, Joey and all the other great volunteers that made this a great race, it was a long day but a good day! Between the Great Greenway Marathon Relay and the Prickly Pear, we've had about 1,200 runners!

Fiesta time! On April 23rd, we have the **49th Running of the SARR Mission 5K/10K/Half Marathon**. This fun race also features a kids 1K fun run. The Mission 10K is Texas' oldest 10K race! So put on your fiesta gear and let's go! **This one is almost sold out!** Sign up [HERE](#).



Our **SARR Spring Pick up the Pace Training Program** is kicking off April 29th and goes through July 3rd. This program prepares you for the SARR Freedom Day 4-Miler. It's a good chance to go out and run with others and make new friends. Sign up [HERE](#).



Our **May the 4th Be With You Race** is approaching soon as well. It's on Thursday, May 4th, McAllister Park Pavilion #2. This is another fun race (I know, I say that about all of them) and you won't want to miss it! It's not timed so use the force, grab your Star Wars costume, and get signed up [HERE](#).



Zoo Runs: April also starts our free Monthly Zoo Runs. These are held on Wednesdays at 6:30pm beginning April 5th and run through October 25th. The runs are held at Breckenridge Park.

Our **Monthly Fun Runs** are held the first Saturday of each month at 8:30am at McAllister Park, Al Becken Pavilion, so come on out! Reminder, our July, August, and September Fun Runs will be at some different locations, so stay tuned.

Finally, most of the Board members attended the RRCA conference last week and let me tell you, we did our best to represent SARR well. Scott, David and I conducted a presentation on our training program and clubs all over were amazed at the things we're doing in the area of training. We all got some valuable information and great ideas of things we can do or bring to our club to make it even better than it already is. Stay tuned for more good things.

Best regards,

Keith Click
President, SARR