

BRR Chases Pot of Gold

Mission Bay was the site of the annual St Patrick's Day 10K Run. BRRs were seen wearing green along with their usual yellow and black. Lisa Pechin started her racing season right where she left off last year as a Dirt Dog Series champion. With a time of 40:04, Lisa was the top women's master finisher and led a 1-2 finish in the 40-44 division for the BRRs as Jane Aitchison followed in a 42:55 finish alongside Antonio Melchor who placed 13th in the 45-49 age group. President, Michelle Esqueda, earned a 3rd place finish in the 45-49 age group with a time of 47:16. Other BRR women runners were Karen Barros with a time of 1:00:39 good for 8th place in the 50-54 age group, Virginia Lopez placed 3rd in the 65-69 age group with a time of 1:03:55, and tying Virginia, was Gabriela Javier who placed 16th in the 45-49 division. Also winning 1st place accolades were the tandem of Jane Williams in the 60-64 age group with a time of 49:43 and her partner Richard Williams in the 70-74 age group with a great time of 47:26. Helio Castaneda finished a minute in front of Richard with a time of 46:14 and took 2nd place in the 60-64 age group. The 1st BRR overall for the men was Kurt Hallock who ran 40:18, which earned him 6th place in the 50-54 age group and he was followed by Manuel Ramirez who ran the race in 40:56 with a 16th place finish in the 40-44 age group. Steven Barros ran in 43:45, good for 9th place in the 50-54 age group and John Cross finished 6th in the 80+ age group with a time of 1:22:25. Typical for mid-March along the bay, the weather turned cold and windy, lucky it was after most of the runners had finished. Too cold, to really enjoy the beer and pizza that was provided for the finishers!!

BRR Women Rock Carlsbad 5000

On Sunday 6 April 2008, the BRRs participated in the 23rd Annual Carlsbad 5000. The BRR Master's women led the way with 2 top 25 finishers. Lisa Pechin finished in 16th place overall with a time of 19:21 good for 10th place in the 40-44 age group followed by Jane Aitchison in 25th place overall with a 49 second PB and a time of 20:02 good for 16th place in the 40-44 age group. An outstanding 3:20 improvement over Jane's last year's time! The BRRs also had 1 top 25 finisher in the women's 30-39 division. Fanny Tilley ran an amazing time of 19:28 which earned her 16th place overall in the 30-39 division and 11th place in the 30-34 age group. Also competing was:
Angie Contreras with a time of 24:08, 39th in the 45-49 age division
Ana Maria Gilman with a time of 26:24, 14th in the 55-59 age division
Newcomer Mariana Jimenez, who ran in 26:48 and placed 150th in the 25-29 age group
Karen Barros ended up with a time of 28:55 and placed 79th in the 50-54 age division
Gabriela Javier with a time of 29:49 earned 86th place in the 50-54 age division
Overall an excellent day by the Bonita women! There were more than 1000 runners per race. Way to go ladies!!

Not to be out done by the BRR women, the BRR men enjoyed an outstanding day at the race. Manuel Ramirez led the way with a finish in 18:22, good for 30th place in the 40-44 age division. Antonio Melchor ran a 19:01 with a 42nd place finish in the 45-49 age

group. Ricardo Abril finished 61st in the 45-49 age group with a time of 19:52. Steven Barros ran a 20:54 with a 44th place finish in the 50-54 age division. Hamilton Tilley finished in 20:59, good for 92nd place in the 30-34 age division, Helio Castaneda ended up with a time of 22:44 (29th place in the 60-64 age group), Norbie Avila finished in 24:00 (175th place in the 45-49 age group), and Ron Morgan just missed the award stand with a time of 24:49, which earned him a 4th place ranking in the 70-74 age division! Finally, John Cross made the award stand with a 3rd place finish in the 80-84 age division with a time of 38:21.

BRR Sizzles at La Jolla Half Marathon

On Sunday 27 April 2008, the BRRs conquered the picturesque, but challenging La Jolla Half Marathon which runs from the Del Mar Race Track to La Jolla Cove. With temperatures already approaching 65° an hour before the race start, it made an already tough run into a survival run! There were five BRRs up to the challenge. With the temperatures quickly climbing and hitting the 80°+ mark, the following runners made it a very successful day. Leading the way was Kurt Hallock with an impressive time of 1:32:39 for a 1st place award in the men's 50-54 age division and 47th overall! Not too far behind earning a 5th place award in the women's 40-44 division, Jane Aitchison with her 3rd sub 1:40 half marathon in as many tries, finished with a time of 1:38:36. She was the 20th female overall. Following Jane was resident marathoner, turned half marathoner, Luis Rszlawski with a time of 1:48:03 good for 41st in the 45-49 men's division. Running her 2nd half marathon was new BRR member Vanessa Martinez with a PB of 1:56:28! Very impressive considering the extreme conditions! Finally, veteran extraordinaire Richard Williams continues his winning streak by finishing 1st in the men's 70-74 division with a time of 1:57:12. Kudos to these brave 5 runners for taking on an already tough course intensified by sizzling temperatures. In the accompanying 5K race, Ricardo Abril carried the BRR banner. Ricardo just getting under the 20:00 mark with a 19:58, for 6th in the 45-49 age division. Way to go BRRs!!

Greg "Gordo" Wilson 3-Peats!

With temperatures soaring into the 90s running through the mud pits of the 3rd annual San Diego Skyline Church mud run was a welcoming relief. On Saturday 13 April 2008, for the 3rd year in a row, BRR veteran Greg Wilson won the 5K race!! Greg won the 10K the 1st year he ran this race and has won the 5K the last 2 years. This year Greg was able to run 49 seconds faster than his winning time last year. He just missed out dipping under 20 minutes with a time of 20:08. Making this race a challenge is a steep hill that the runners have to traverse twice, but it was here that Greg was able to make his move and break away from the youngster, 17 yr old, that had been tailing him throughout the race.

Greg's reason for running all of these extreme trail races is his plan to return to Mill Valley, CA. to take on the challenging Dipsea trail race, where he placed 37th overall in

2006. Looks like “Gordo” is on his way to becoming a running machine, which will help him in his quest to earn the coveted black shirt that goes to the top 35 finishers at the annual Dipsea race.

In his continuing preparation, Greg took on the extreme challenge of the San Diego Trail Series 10K on Saturday 26 April 2008 in Mission Gorge. Temperatures again soared into the 90s. This seems to be a theme with the races he has been running lately. Greg was able to pull off a 3rd place overall finish with time of 43:49, winning his age group.

BRRs Run Literacy 8K

The 19th annual Union Tribune Race for Literacy 8K saw the largest contingency of BRR participation in the history of this race. Leading the charge again were the BRR women who garnered three award winning efforts, with an additional two top ten age placers. In a race for top BRR honors Lisa Pechin fell short with a 30:19, but earned the top master women’s award. She was followed by Jane Aitchison who finished with a time of 31:48, good for 3rd place in the 40-44 age division. The third BRR award winner with an impressive sprint to the finish was BRR President Michelle Esqueda also earned the 3rd place award in the 45-49 age division with a time of 36:08. All three efforts were PBs! Ana Maria Gilman and Blanca Sanchez were the other two top ten placers in the 55-59 division with 6th and 7th places respectively and times of 41:40 and 42:40. Karen Barrios and Teresa Pulido ran 44:57 and 48:02 times for the 50-54 division. The youngsters were led by Lola Zamudio with a time of 39:00 and Mariana Jimenez with a 40:48 finish.

Manuel Ramirez won the battle for top BRR honors by holding off Lisa Pechin with a PB time of 30:08 which earned him 6th place in the 40-44 age division. Kurt Hallock followed with a time of 31:14 and 8th place in a very tough 50-55 age division. Antonio Melchor finished in 31:48, 5th place in the 45-49 age division along with Ricardo Abril finishing in 32:34 with 7th place in the same age division. Steven Barros, 9th place in the 50-54 age group, out kicked Luis Rzeslawski, 10th place in the 45-49 age group, 33:47 to 33:51. Roger Scarlett ran 35:35 and earned 15th place for the 50-54 age division, Helio Castaneda ran a 37:11 for 6th place in the 60-64 age division and John Cross took top 80-84 age division honors with a 2nd place time of 1:03:21!

BRR run Coronado Bridge Run

On Sunday 18 May 2008, the Original Bay Bridge Run/Walk was held and BRR veteran Greg Wilson led the way with an impressive 8th place overall finish with almost a 5 minute victory over the 2nd place finisher in the 55-59 age division. Greg ran an impressive time of 23:40 for the 4-mile run that started in the Gas Lamp District and raced over the Coronado Bay Bridge, finishing in Tidelands Park. Gary Demers ran the race in 38:33 and finished 18th in the 55-59 age group. Didi Discar raced in the women’s 35-39 age division and finished with a time of 43:12. Both Gary and Didi concur that

they would both have placed better had they not been stuck behind 3000 walkers!!
Congratulations to Greg, Gary, and Didi.

Allen Turrietta wins age division at Palos Verde Half Marathon

Saturday 17 May 2008 at the Palos Verde Marathon and Half Marathon, another one of the BRR senior stars, Allen Turrietta, ran an outstanding 1:26:43 to win the men's 50-54 age division and garner a 14th overall placing in the half marathon. Allen stated that he has run this race before, but has had to wait until he turned 50 to finally get that victory!