

2012 Highlights updated Jan 3,2013

Ken Brewer

Highlight for me in 2012 was Rocket City Marathon with a time of 3:35:57 (chip time) and a new State Record for Age.

Roxana Conroy

I do have a highlight for the year and it would have to be the half marathon at Little River Canyon. I was reluctant to do the race because I normally do not run more than five miles at a time. Also, this course was particularly challenging to me as I tend to avoid hill running. Well, I decided to go for it and was glad I did. What a great run! I have always admired the beauty of this area, but to see it from the perspective of a run was truly remarkable. At the end of the run I felt proud that I had finished, but I was inspired in another way too. It helped me to appreciate the gorgeous backyard we have. How lucky we are to live here. Sometimes I think seeing a place on foot makes all the difference.

On a personal note, I want to recognize Peter (my husband) and all the others that worked tirelessly to make this race a first year success!

I hope all of you will mark your calendars now, October 12th and come out and run the Canyon half marathon.

Rich Etter

My highlights for 2012 are running over 2000 miles and considering my first 5K race was 1 and a 1/2 years ago my 5K time has went from 24:26 to 19:45 in 18 months.

Tom Griffin

In 2012, I ran well in most races, but fought a groin strain periodically through the year which kept me from training for and running longer races. In August I moved to Cary, NC and was fortunate to place 1st in my age group in the three races I ran here. I have been unable to find a club like the Anniston Runners Club so will join one of the two clubs in the area. None of them are as visible in the community and in races as ARC. Anniston/Calhoun County is fortunate to have a club that is as active as the Anniston Runners Club and to have officers and members so involved in the community. I greatly miss the races, the Grand Prix and mostly all the great people I met and am friends with at ARC. Keep volunteering and don't ever lose your spirit! My goal for the year is to run a half marathon in June and if I tolerate it well to run in the Raleigh Marathon in November. The best for the new year to all my ARC friends! Run safely and "keep putting one foot in front of the other!"

Chris Mahaffey

My highlights of 2012 would be running 2:50 at Mercedes, breaking 17:30 in a 5k, hitting 100mi in a week, which I did four times, and maybe beating Ken Brewer for most mileage, which I would have never thought I had a chance to do.

Brian Mount

2012 I did 18 marathons and 2 of these was ultras. I also did five halves. Many 5k and 10k races also. Great year of running and learned so much about myself from running. Great year overall in my life. Cannot wait to see what 2013 holds. Happy New year everybody.

Steve Miles

959 miles for the year. 4 Half Marathons, 1 15k, 4 10k's, 16 5k's, 1 random distance race (Peavine Falls 8.2 miles), and 1 Relay for a total of 27 races. Of the 27 races in which I competed, I finished 1st overall twice, 2nd overall four times, 3rd overall four times, 1st in age five times, 2nd in age four times, and 3rd in age two times. I was most proud of placing in three of my four half marathons and placing in three of my four trail runs. Funny enough, the same race caused that little hiccup, Xterra Oak Mtn Half where I placed 4th in my age group. Woodstock remained elusive yet once again with a 4th place age division finish there. My favorite race of the year was the last one, the Round the Bay Relay in Ft. Walton where I ran with some great friends. We ran for fun not for awards. That was great. Looking forward to another great year of running.

Jim Parham

My highlight for 2012 occurred 2 days ago at Wounded Warrior in Gadsden. On the surface, a 5K in 1:01. Why is it a highlight?

Josh Wetzel is my friend. We have swum and run together many times. A few years ago, Josh volunteered to defend our country. In the tradition of no easy day, Josh earned his Airborne wings and became a member of the Army Special Forces. On May 31 of this year, while leading his men on patrol in Afghanistan, the enemy's IED took Josh's legs. He has endured countless surgeries progressing from ICU, to hospital bed, to wheel chair, to first steps learning to walk with prosthetics.

Paraphrasing his words, "I can choose to endure and be miserable or I can be happy and do my best to inspire others". He has done the latter. On Dec 29 he completed his second 5K and a PR. This is just the beginning.

We will swim and run together again. My honor.

Kevin Payne

Proud to say I made 1200. I did 19 yesterday to hit exactly 1200 for the year. I had to do 122 the last 14 days of the year to make it, but I made it! I had a total of 152 for the month. Losing my mom suddenly this month got me even further behind, but I was determined to complete my goal. I think she would be proud I made it also.

Suzy Spiceland

This past year marked some immense accomplishments for me! I set PR's at all major distances (5K at Mardi Gras, 10K at Plucked Turkey, Half marathon at Chief Ladiga, and Marathon at Illinois Marathon). This was the first year I ever cracked the hour mark for a 10K, not just once but twice, and the 5:00:00 mark for a full, scoring a 4:49:43. Hot Dog :-)! I joined the Half Fanatics, qualified and joined the Marathon Maniacs, and qualified for the 50 States Club. The number of long distance races I did ballooned. I raced in 7 fulls (up from 1 last year) and 9 halves (up from 2 last year). I did my first trail runs, including the Coldwater Mountain race. I totally loved the trails and intend to more trail running this year if my body will let me. My total miles for the year rose from 1350 to 1462. Perhaps the most fun thing I have done this year is to connect with tons of runners on Facebook. Now when I go to races out of town, I almost always meet a friend!

Jay Worrall

Definitely my highlight of the year was getting third at the Operation Endurance 24 hour race in Columbus, GA. I was in 4th place entering the last 30 minutes of the race, and I had to run hard for a couple miles to catch the man in front of me. I couldn't quite catch the guy in second, but at least I finished in the top three. It was fun too because Jen won first for the women, and we were able to run together throughout most of the race.

Jennifer Worrall

Jen's highlight was the Delano 12 hour race. She won, running 64 miles total, and in the process also set the Alabama state record 50 mile record for 35 year old women, finishing the first 50 miles (of the 64 she did total) in 8:48:42. Considering that she won the Operation Endurance 24 hr race just a few weeks later, I'd say March was one big highlight! Of course she has had to shut down running big races after that because of the pregnancy, but I know she's looking forward to getting back into Ultras next year!