



May 12, 2008

Dear MWTR Participant:

There are less than two weeks to go before the big day. I hope you are close to being ready!

The Trail Is Open and the Race Is ON!

Thanks to all the great work from volunteer "Trail Blazers," city staff and our friends at Sierra Madre Search & Rescue, the trail was opened to hikers and runners last Friday. That also means that the race will be run as scheduled!

We will be acknowledging their wonderful contributions as best we can between now and the race, but please thank Charlie Bell, Peter McNulty, Gary Hilliard, Mark Gage, John Grace and all the other guys who have gone up to work on the trail since the fire. John organized 12-16 guys to work on the trail on Saturday, so we think most of the work is done. It's been tough and grimy work, but I actually believe that the trail is even better now...it's wider in many areas, which means it's safer.

Between the last hydrant above the trailhead to First Water, much of the vegetation you have used as points of reference have been lost, and the trail is a lot softer in many spots. I would encourage you to get up there and run it before the race so you know what to expect.

Also, special thanks to the non-defending (only because she's pregnant) ladies' champion, Sharon Pevsner, for helping deliver sandwiches that ***The Only Place in Town*** donated for Saturday's work day. Other wonderful contributors to Saturday's work day were ***Starbucks, Webb-Martin Realty, Arnold's Hardware*** and ***Lenora Moss***. Thanks to all these great corporate citizens, and to John Grace for arranging the donations.

All Beer Garden Proceeds Go To The Sierra Madre Fire Fund

Our popular MWTR Beer Garden will be set up in Kersting Court right after the race. It's the perfect place for your friends and family to gather, and for you to tell race stories among your fellow runners. Lisa Brandley of Lucky Baldwin's will be providing a free beverage coupon in your goodie bag, and the money you are charged for every beverage thereafter will be given to the Sierra Madre Fire Fund so the city can pay its share of the firefighting costs. Thanks to David Farnworth of Lucky Baldwin's and Denny Hartman for their generosity.

Great New MWTR Souvenir!

Bring your money to Kersting Court on race day, as we have a souvenir that will knock your socks off! Yes, they are the first-ever official MWTR Socks, cleverly designed by MWTR Committee Member Karen Moran. Everyone will want a pair, as it has been told that they magically get you up (and down) the trail faster. We will also be selling old MWTR t-shirts and maybe some leftover coffee mugs.

All-time Record Field Expected for Kids' Race!

This will be Year Three for the 1-mile Kids' Race up Baldwin Avenue and back, for children from 3 to 12. After the MWTR race starts at 7:30A, Dave Liston will be gathering the kids for an 8:00A start. Every race participant gets a cool T-shirt, absolutely free!

That's it for now. Keep up the training!

Pete Siberell
Chairman, Mt. Wilson Trail Race