2023 : RRCA Distance Running Hall of Fame : 1971
Developed in 1971, the RRCA Distance Running Hall of Fame inducts individuals who have made significant contributions to the sport of long distance running either through excellence in the sport or significant contributions to the sport.

1971
Bob Cambell
Clarence DeMar
Leonard Edelen
John J. Kelley
H. Browning Ross

1972
Ted Corbitt
Fred Faller
Louis Gregory
John A. Kelley
Joseph Kleinerman

1973
Tarzan Brown
Victor Drygall
James Hinky
Henigan
Paul Jerry Nason

1974
Pat Dengis
Leslie Pawson
Mel Porter
Charles Robbins
Fred Wilt

1975
Horace Ashenfieter
Don Lash
Joseph McCluskey

1976
R.E. Johnson
George Sheehan
Curtis Stone

1977
Eino Pentti
Greg Rice
Frank Shorter

1978
John Hayes
Bill Rodgers
Aldo Scandurra

1979
Joe Henderson
Ray Sears
Gar Williams

1980
Ruth Anderson
Nina Kuscsik
Thomas Osler
William Steiner

1981
Hal Higdon
Steve Prefontaine
Ken Young

1982
William Agee
William “Billy” Mills
Robert Gib-Welch

1983
Ed Benham
Paul de Bruyn
Gabe Mirkin

1984
Clive Davies
Jacqueline Hansen
Joan Benoit
Samuelsen
Kathrine Switzer
Bob Schul
Craig Virgin

1985
Henley Gabeau
Gordon McKenzie
Alex Ratelle
John “Jock” Semple
Louis White

1986
Nick Costes
Ron Daws
Doris Brown
Heritage

1987
Bill Bowerman
Hugh Jascourt
Don Kardong
Francie Larrieu
Smith

1988
Garry Bjorklund
Cheryl Flanagan
Thomas Hicks
Kenny Moore

1989
Dick Beardsley
Herb Lorenz
Sy Mah

1990
Pat Porter
Max Truex

1991
Barry Brown
Lynn Jennings
Fred Lebow

1992
Jeff Darman
Jeff Galloway
Ted Haydon

1993
Jack Bacher
Norm Green
Mary Decker Slaney

1994
Julie Brown
Amby Burfoot
Marion Irvine

1995
Ann Trason
George Young

1996
Ed Eyestone
Jerry Koke
Pete Pfitzinger

1997
Kim Jones
Jon Sinclair

1998
Benji Durden
Doug Kurtis

1999
Gerry Lindgren
Tony Sandoval

2000
Mark Curp
John Tuttle

2001
Miki Gorman
Greg Meyer

2002
Patti Lyons Dillon
Herb Lindsay

2003
Bob Kempainen
Cathy O’Brien

2004
Helen Klein
Lisa Rainsberger

2005
Keith Brantly
Steve Spence

2006
Deena Kastor
Meb Keflezighi

2007
Jenny Spangler
Judith St. Hilaire

2008
Beth Bonner
Todd Williams

2009
Anne Marie Letko
Khalid Khannouch

2010
Libbie Hickman
Colleen De Reuck

2011
Allan Culpepper
Julia Emmons
Bob Kennedy

2012
Abdi Abdirahman
Linda Somers
Smith
Joe Vigil

2013
Tom Fleming
David Martin
Allan Steinfeld

2014
Anne Audain
Ken Martin

2015
Sara Mae Berman
Jack Daniels
Phil Stewart
Molly Huddle (born August 31, 1984) is a 10-time All-American at Notre Dame and was the runner-up in the 5,000 at the 2011 NCAA Outdoor Championships. She was named all-BIG EAST 15 times and won seven BIG EAST track and field titles. Huddle won a silver medal in the 5,000 at the 2010 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. On June 28, 2012, Huddle finished 2nd in the 5000 at the 2012 United States Olympic Trials to qualify for the 2012 London Olympics. At the London Games (2012), she placed 11th in the 5,000. She set the American record in the 5,000 in 2014 (14:42.64). Also in 2014, her win at the NYRR New York Mini 10K made her the first American to win the title in a decade, and her time of 31:37 set an American record for a women-only race. In 2015, Huddle won her first United Airlines NYC Half, set the American road 5K record (14:50) at the B.A.A. 5K, won the USATF Outdoor Championships 10,000 meters, and placed fourth at the IAAF World Championships 10,000. She swept the 5,000 meter and 10,000-meter events at the 2016 U.S. Olympic Trials, becoming the first woman in history to win both races in the same year. On August 12, 2016, Huddle achieved an American record of 30:13.17 in the 10,000 at the 2016 Olympic Games while placing sixth, breaking Shalane Flanagan’s 2008 Olympic time of 30:22.22. In November 2016, Huddle ran the New York City Marathon as her marathon debut where she finished in 3rd place in 2:28:13.

Galen Rupp is one of the greatest distance runners in University of Oregon history. He became the first person ever to win six NCAA distance races in the same calendar year. Rupp redshirted the 2008 college track season to focus on the 10,000 at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, where he finished second (27:43.11), earning a spot on the 2008 U.S. Olympic team. He went on to finish 13th at the 2008 Olympics with an U.S. Olympic–record time of 27:36.99. On June 28, 2012, Rupp broke Steve Prefontaine’s last remaining record – his Olympic Trials 5000-meter record from 1972 – winning the race in 13:22.67. On August 4, 2012, at the London Olympic Games, Rupp took the silver medal in the 10,000-meter with a time of 27:30:90. This was the first time a U.S. man had earned a medal in the Olympic 10,000-meter run in 48 years, the last being Billy Mills’s gold in the 1964 Olympics. At the 2016 Olympic Trials Marathon in Los Angeles, Rupp won his debut marathon with a time of 2:11:13. A few months later, on July 1, Rupp won the 10,000-meter run at the United States Olympic Trials with a time of 27:55.04, qualifying for the Olympics in a second event. At the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Rupp placed fifth in the 10,000-meter run. Eight days later, he finished third and earned the Bronze medal in the Olympic Marathon with a time of 2:10:05. On October 8, 2017, Rupp won the Bank of America Chicago Marathon with a time of 2:09:20, becoming the first American male to win the race since Khalid Khannouchi in 2002. On February 29, 2020, Rupp won the 2020 United States Olympic Marathon Trials in Atlanta with a time of 2:09:20. On August 8, 2021, Rupp finished eighth in the Olympic Marathon held in Sapporo, Japan with a time of 2:11:41.
Carey Pinkowski came to the helm of the Bank of America Chicago Marathon nearly three decades ago, serving as its executive race director since 1990. During his tenure, the Chicago Marathon has experienced astronomical growth, expanding from 6000 registered runners in 1990 to a record 45,786 finishers in 2019, including runners from all 50 states and more than 130 countries. For 30 years, Pinkowski has been a key player in building the marathon’s dynamic relationships with the city, the corporate community and the local neighborhoods along the course. Under Pinkowski’s leadership, the event generates an economic impact on the City of Chicago of $378 million, and, since 2002, charity runners have helped the Chicago Marathon charity program raise more than $234 million for local, national and global causes. In 2006, Pinkowski helped found the Abbott World Marathon Majors along with the race directors from the Boston, London, Berlin and New York City marathons. Pinkowski’s legacy with the Chicago Marathon includes designing its record setting and spectator friendly course that traverses 29 diverse Chicago neighborhoods, starting and finishing in Chicago’s “front yard,” Grant Park. To commemorate his 20th anniversary as Executive Race Director, the City of Chicago and Bank of America bestowed Pinkowski with an honorary street naming – “Carey Pinkowski Drive” – at the intersection of Monroe Street and Columbus Drive, the site of the race’s start line.

2022 – 52nd Class of Lewy-Boulet, Kipyego, Wardian, and Reed

Magdalena Lewy-Boulet (born August 1, 1973) is an American distance runner. Lewy-Boulet grew up in Poland and immigrated to the United States in 1991. She was sworn in as a U.S. citizen on the morning of September 11, 2001. She earned her bachelor’s degree in human biodynamics from U.C. Berkley in 1997 and a master’s degree in exercise physiology from Cal State Hayward. Boulet earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team by finishing second in the 2008 U.S. Women’s Olympic Marathon Trials with a personal-best time of 2:30:19. She won two team Bronze medals as the captain of the US Cross Country team at the World Cross Country Championships in 2010 and 2011. She won the 2002 San Francisco Marathon and finished sixth overall and first among American women at the 2009 New York City Marathon. She finished second at the 2010 Rotterdam Marathon, in a personal best time of 2:26:22. At the 2010 Chicago Marathon, she finished 7th in a time of 2:28:44. She won the 20K national title at the New Haven Road Race in a time of 1:07:41. After a ten-year career running marathons on the road, she transitioned to running trail and ultra-distance events in 2013. In 2015, Magda won her 100 mile debut at the prestigious Western States Endurance Run, and was named North American Ultra Runner of the Year. Currently Magda leads Innovation & Product Development at GU Energy Labs and enjoys training and competing in ultra endurance trail races.

Sally Jepkosgei Kipyego (born 19 December 1985) is a Kenyan-born American long- and middle-distance runner. She was the silver medalist in the 10,000 metres at the 2011 World Championships in Athletics and the silver medalist in the same race at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. She has a personal record of 30:38.35 minutes for that event and her 5000 metres best of 14:30.42 minutes makes her the second fastest Kenyan woman for the distance. She became the first Kenyan woman to win an NCAA cross country individual championship, the first woman to win three consecutive NCAA Division I Cross Country titles, and the first runner to win three consecutive Big 12 Conference cross country titles. She also won three straight NCAA Indoor titles over 5000 m and was a two-time NCAA Outdoor champion. She is tied with Suzy Favor-Hamilton for the most individual championships in NCAA history. Kipyego won more individual NCAA championships in 2 years than any other runner in NCAA history. In 20216, Sally was runner-up at the New York City Marathon behind winner Mary Keitany (2:24:26) and ahead of Molly Huddle who placed third in 2:28:13. In 2017, she became an American Citizen. In Atlanta, Georgia, at the U.S. Woman's Olympic Trials Marathon on February 29, 2020, Sally took third place in 2:28:52. She earned a spot on the US Olympic Team. Kipyego was considered a top contender going into the Olympic Marathon run in Sapporo, Japan, Aug. 7, 2021. She ran with the front runners alongside teammate Molly Seidel the first half of the race. In the hot and humid conditions, Kipyego's pace wasn't strong enough to keep with the pack. She moved back and finished 17th in 2:32:53. Academically, Kipyego earned a nursing degree.
Michael Wardian (born April 12, 1974) is an American marathoner and ultra-marathoner. He won the 2008, 2009 and 2010 US 50 km championships and the 2011 US 50 mile championship. In 2008, he won the U.S. National 100 km championship. Wardian was the 2007 JFK 50 Mile winner, and won the National Marathon Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon in Washington DC for three consecutive years (2006–2008) and again in 2010, 2011 and 2012. In 2006 during a span of 45-days, Wardian won four out of five marathons he raced. In 2007, he ran 13 marathons (not including ultramarathons), and seven marathons in a span of nine weeks (winning three). In 2008 after winning the Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon in Washington DC on a Saturday, he finish 3rd at a marathon in Knoxville, Tennessee the very next day. Wardian qualified and participated in the 2004, 2008 and 2012 Men’s Olympic Marathon trials. Some of the notable ultra-marathons Wardian has completed include the Marathon des Sables, the Western States Endurance Run, the Himalayan 100 Mile Stage Race and the Vermont 100 Mile Endurance Run. The USATF named Wardian the 2008 and 2009 Ultra Runner of the year. In September 2011, he won the silver medal at the World 100K Championships. In January 2017, Wardian ran seven marathons in seven days on seven continents in a record average time of 2:45/marathon. In 2018, he was first at the Maldives Addu Marathon. On October 27, 2019, Wardian won the inaugural Marine Corps Marathon 50K with a time of 3:11:52. In 2020, Wardian won the Quarantine Backyard Ultra, running nearly 263 miles over the course of 63 hours, without sleep, in a repetitive loop in Arlington, VA to follow social distancing guidelines during the coronavirus pandemic.

Tony Reed (born 1956) is the co-founder and executive director of the National Black Marathoners’ Association (NBMA) and a proprietor of the National Black Distance Running Hall of Fame. He’s also the first Black person to have completed a marathon on each of the seven continents. He’s run 131 marathons ago, in all 50 states and logged over 45,000 miles since 1976. He holds two graduate degrees (management and accounting) and two undergraduate degrees (management and mathematics). He’s taught project management, IT, accounting, and business collegiate courses and seminars. And he’s authored six books and over fifty business, leadership, and technical articles. His adventures are chronicled in Running Shoes are Cheaper Than Insulin: Marathon Adventures On All seven Continents (2008), and his latest book is an autobiography, “From the Road Race to the Rat Race: Essays From a Black Executive Marathoner.” Tony is the director and producer of the soon to be released documentary, Breaking Three Hours: Trailblazing African-American Women Marathoners. The film is about nine amazing women who are National Black Distance Running Hall of Fame honorees that have all run under 3 hours for the marathon.

2021 – 51st Class of Bevans, Bawcom, Rhines and Ritzenhein

Marilyn Bevans: Her many African American firsts include the following: winning a marathon in February 1975 Beltsville, Maryland; Washington Birthday Marathon. First to run under 3 hours (2:55:52) at the 1975 Boston Marathon. First to represent the United States in international marathon competition in 1976 West Germany for the Women’s International Marathon, and in 1981 Tokyo International Marathon. Marilyn is the only Black American female to ever make the podium at the Boston Marathon with her 2nd place finish in 1977. Marilyn’s thirteen sub-3-hour marathons ranked number one on the all-time list of American born Black American for a remarkable 44 years. For eight years (1973 – 1981) Marilyn was the fastest African American marathoner ever with a best of 2:49:56 achieved at the 1979 Boston Marathon. She was part of the first generation of women long distance runners in the United States who preceded Title IX. Marilyn was one of the top female marathoners in the world from 1975 to 1977 with consistent high finishes in Boston of 4th, 6th, and 2nd respectively, along with a 5th place in the 1975 NY Marathon. In 1977 Track & Field News ranked her 10th in the world. Marilyn coached for over 30 years at Baltimore Perry Hall High School and twice was All-Metro Coach of the Year.
Janet Cherobon-Bawcom (born August 22, 1978) is an American distance runner. She grew up in Kenya, before attending college in the United States at Harding University in Arkansas. She graduated from Harding in 2005 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in health care management and nursing. In college, she won three Division II national championships and was named an All-American eight times. She was inducted into the Division II Track and Field Hall of Fame in 2010 and the Harding Athletic Hall of Fame in 2012. In 2011, Cherobon-Bawcom was a three-time U.S. road champion, winning the 20 km, with a time of 1:08:31, the 10 mi (54:15), and the 10 km (32:47) races. In August of that year, the IAAF declared her eligible to represent the United States in international competition. At the end of the year, she was declared the women's champion of the 2011 USA Running Circuit. She was the 2011 RRCA Road Runner of the Year as multi-RRCA Championship winner.

Jennifer "Jen" Rhines (born July 1, 1974) is an American long-distance runner who has competed in three different Summer Olympics and made 15 US Teams. Rhines attended Villanova University as an undergraduate. While at Villanova, where she earned a degree in Civil Engineering, Rhines was a five-time NCAA individual champion: 5000 meters (1994, 1995, and 1996), 5000i meters (1995), and cross country (1994). As a post-collegiate professional runner, Rhines has won three USA 15K national titles (1998, 2005, 2011), a USA half-marathon championship (2011), and was USA 10,000 meter champion on the track in 2002. She competed in the women's 10,000 meters race at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, and finished 16th with a time of 31:26.66. In the 2004 Athens Olympics, she competed in the women's marathon and finished in 34th place with a time of 2:43:52. Rhines qualified for the 2008 Olympic Games by placing second in the 5000 meters at the U.S. Olympic Trials. She finished 14th in the 5000m Beijing final with a time of 16:34.63. Rhines won the 2011 USA Half marathon title, with a time of 1:11:14 in Houston, TX.

Dathan Ritzenhein (born December 30, 1982) is an American long-distance runner. He held the American record in the 5,000 meters (12:56.27) from 2009-2010. He is a three-time national Cross Country champion with wins at the USA Cross Country Championships in 2005, 2008 and 2010. In 2004, Ritzenhein ran the 10,000 m at the Olympic Games in Athens. Ritzenhein began his professional career on December 31, 2004, when he finished 3rd in a 10 km road race in Italy. Ritzenhein won the U.S. Cross Country Championships in the 12 km for his first senior national title. He made his Marathon debut in the 2006 ING New York City Marathon, finishing in 11th place with a time of 2:14:01. Ritzenhein finished second with a time of 2:11:07 in the 2008 Olympic Marathon Trials, which placed him on Team USA for the Beijing Olympics. In the 2008 Olympic Marathon, Ritzenhein was the first American Runner to cross the finish line in 9th with a time of 2:11:59. In 2009, Ritzenhein placed 2nd at the U.S. Half Marathon Championship. Three months later, he set a personal best at the 2009 London Marathon, finishing 11th in 2:10:00. In the 2012 Olympic Marathon Trials, Ritzenhein ran a personal best 2:09:55, but placed 4th, narrowly missing a spot on the US Marathon Team. On the evening of June 22, 2012, Ritzenhein placed third in the US Olympic Trials in the 10K run and successfully achieved the Olympic 'A' standard of 27:45.00. At the 2012 London Olympics, Ritzenhein finished 13th in the 10,000 m finals with a time of 27:45:89.
Kara Goucher (née Grgason, born July 9, 1978), was a standout runner for the University of Colorado. In 2000, Goucher became the NCAA Outdoor Champion in the 3000 m and 5000 m, the NCAA Cross Country Champion, and also a 5000 m Olympic Trials Finalist (eighth). In 2006, Goucher set PRs at all distances on the international circuit, running the World “A” Standard in the 1500 m, 5000 m, and 10,000 m. She finished third in the 3000 m at the 2006 IAAF World Cup in a new personal best time of 8:41.42. Her 3000 m time led the nation and her 10,000 m time ranked her as the 2nd fastest American woman of all time. At the 2007 IAAF World Championships in Osaka, Japan, she won the bronze medal in the women’s 10,000 m event. Her career on the track culminated in 2008 when Goucher competed in the Beijing Summer Olympics in both the 10,000 m and 5000 m. In the 10,000 m final, she placed tenth with a personal best of 30:55.16, and in the 5000 m she placed ninth with a time of 15:49.39. Goucher made her marathon debut at the New York City Marathon on November 2, 2008. She finished in 3rd place with a time of 2:25:53, becoming the first American, at that time, on the podium since Anne Marie Letko in 1994. The next year, she placed 3rd at the 2009 Boston Marathon with a time of 2:32:25. Following the birth of her son, Goucher returned to competition at the Arizona Half Marathon in January 2011, finishing second. In April of that year, Goucher returned to marathoning in Boston, where she placed 5th with a time of 2:24:52, setting a new personal best. Goucher qualified for the 2012 Summer Olympics by placing 3rd at the U.S. Olympic Trials - Marathon in Houston, TX, with a time of 2:26:06. She would go on to place 11th at the 2012 Summer Olympics with a time of 2:26:07.

Bernard Kipchirchi Lagat (born December 12, 1974) moved to the United States from Kenya in 1996 to compete collegiately at Washington State University. While there, Lagat was an 11-time NCAA All-American, winning the 1999 NCAA Indoor Mile title in 3:55.65. Lagat first represented his native Kenya at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. He would take home a bronze medal in the 1500 m. Four years later, he would improve on his performance at the Olympics, taking home a silver medal in the 1500 m at the Athens games for Kenya. Lagat also won his first gold medal in international competition that year, placing first in the 3000 m at the IAAF World Indoor Championships. In 2005, Lagat announced that he had become a citizen of the United States and would compete for his new country internationally. In 2008, Lagat represented the U.S. at the Beijing Olympic Games in both the 1500 m and 5000 m. At the 2012 Olympic Trials, Lagat was runner-up in the 5000 m to make his 4th Olympic team. At the 2012 Olympics in London, Lagat finished 4th in the 5000 m race, crossing the line 1.33 seconds behind the leader, Mo Farah, after being tripped up when he was going into his final kick. Lagat won the 5000 meters at the 2016 United States Olympic Trials, qualifying him for his 5th Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Lagat became the oldest runner at the 2016 Summer Olympics to represent the United States. Lagat initially claimed the 6th-place finish in the 5000 meters at the Olympics. He was moved to bronze after three runners were disqualified but was moved back to 5th after 2 out of the 3 were reinstated. Lagat made his marathon debut in 2018 at the New York City Marathon with a time of 2:17:20. In July 2019, Lagat ran 2:12:10 in the Gold Coast Marathon in Australia. The result placed him 7th overall and broke Meb Keflezighi’s US Masters record (40+) of 2:12:20 in the men’s marathon. As of 2019, Lagat held the fastest time by a US 40+ man at every distance from the 1500 through the marathon.

Tatyana McFadden (born April 21, 1989) was born with a hole in her spine caused by spina bifida. She spent the first six years of her life in a Russian orphanage with virtually nothing, not even a wheelchair. Paralyzed from the waist down, she learned to walk on her hands simply to keep up with the other children. In 1994, Deborah McFadden adopted Tatyana, brought her to the United States and gave her a wheelchair and a new start on life. At 15, Tatyana made her Paralympic debut in Athens in 2004. She was the youngest member of Team USA. She returned from Greece with her first two medals. Two years later she was winning gold at the World Championships and setting a new world record in the 100 m event. At the 2008 Paralympic in Beijing, at 19, she earned four more medals. In 2012 at the London Games, she added another four medals, three of which were gold. One year later, at the 2013 World Championships, she became the first athlete in history to win six gold medals at the same event. In 2016 at the Rio Paralympics, Tatyana continued her dominance in wheelchair racing by winning four gold and two silver medals, bringing her total count of Paralympic medals to
17. Tatyana challenged herself with the professional marathon circuit in 2009, and with her win at the Chicago Marathon, she set off an extraordinary string of first place finishes that is still going strong. In 2013 she won the Chicago, London, Chicago, and New York marathons; becoming the first man or woman, able-bodied or disabled, to win the Grand Slam (four World Major Marathons in the same year). She repeated her Grand Slam victory in 2014, 2015 and again in 2016.

**Bee McLeod** (born 1961, deceased December 21, 2019) brought a pioneering spirit to the sport. In high school, there was no women's Cross Country team, so she competed as a member of the men's team. Following college, she became active in her local club, the Tidewater Striders, and served in various leadership roles including club president from 2000-2004. Bee ran over 60 marathons and countless shorter distance races (winning several), finished the Ironman Triathlon Lake Placid, and competed in duathlons around the country. In 1988, she qualified for and ran in the Olympic Trials Marathon. McLeod gave 35-years of continuous, valuable service to U.S. distance running and is credited with being “the savior of the RRCA.” The RRCA, at the turn of this century, was undergoing a crisis of survival, with financial deficits more than $180,000. At the time, McLeod was president of her local RRCA member club. In 2004, under difficult circumstances, Bee McLeod was elected president of the RRCA. She worked with the RRCA board and several mentors to make many constructive changes during her tenure as president (2004-2008), including major updates to the RRCA Bylaws. Those updates constitute the main structure of the RRCA Bylaws that remain in force as of 2020. As a result of McLeod's efforts, the RRCA made a dramatic turnaround. At the end of McLeod's presidency, the RRCA eliminated its deficit and had over $500,000 in reserves along with a policy that requires board intervention for spending decision if the board restricted reserve fund falls under a specified amount.

**2019 - 49th Class of Mosbacher, Moore, and Ullyot**

**Nancy Ditz Mosbacher** (born June 25, 1954) As a member of the 1988 United States Olympic team, Nancy Ditz was the first American finisher in the women’s marathon at the 1988 Seoul Summer Olympics. Born in San Jose, CA in 1954, Ditz Mosbacher graduated from Stanford having competed in diving and crew and did not begin running competitively until age 25. However, she quickly found herself naturally talented in the sport. In 1982, she won her debut marathon, the San Francisco Marathon in 2:44:34. In between her debut and making the Olympic team, Ditz Mosbacher won numerous road races, including the U.S. National Marathon Championships (1985), the Los Angeles Marathon (1986, 1987), the San Francisco Marathon (1982), the Oakland Marathon (1983), and Bay to Breakers (1984). In 1984, she set a course record at the California International Marathon with a time of 2:31:36. Since the 1988 Summer Olympics, Ditz Mosbacher has been a color commentator for NBC and CBS Sports. She has covered events such as the 1996 Olympic Marathon Trials, the 1988 and 1989 NCAA Track and Field Championships, and the 1994 Examiner Bay to Breakers.

**Oscar Moore** (born in 1938) in White Plains, NY, a groundbreaking American distance running, Moore qualified for the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, where he became the first African American to represent the U.S. in the 5,000 meters. He first discovered his talent for the sport by running track in high school. Moore won a track scholarship to Southern Illinois University, where he earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in recreation. His school records for the indoor 3,000 meters (7:59.98), 5,000 meters (13:51.20) and the outdoor 5,000 meters (13:51.20) stood well into the 2000s. At the 1964 Olympics, Moore placed eighth in the 5,000 meters with a time of 14:24. His prospects for an even better showing at the 1968 Olympics looked promising, however, a badly-timed ruptured Achilles tendon derailed his chances to run for the U.S. at the games in Mexico City. He retired as a three-time qualifier for the U.S. Olympic trials and six-time All American. In 1971, Moore started the men’s track and field program at Glassboro State College, now Rowan University, where he would coach for 23 years.
Marathon and credited with inventing the Yasso 800s Convention, as a featured speaker. He has been dubbed “the Mayor of Running,” and is titled the Mt. Kilimanjaro Marathon a legend in the running community. A pioneer distance runner, author, and medical physician, Ullyot's expertise and lobbying helped open doors for women in running. Notably, her efforts helped changed the minds of the IAAF (now World Athletics) and IOC, who had previously clung to an archaic view that the sport was detrimental to a woman’s health. A 1961 graduate of Wellesley College, Ullyot is an accomplished runner herself, having finished the Boston Marathon ten times, winning the masters title in 1984. Additionally, she is the only woman to run in every women’s international marathon championships, held in Waldniel, West Germany (1974, 1976, 1979) and she set a PR of 2:47:39 in winning the St. George Marathon in 1988 at age 48. In the early 1980s, her research on the sport’s impact on women was presented to the IOC by the organizing committee for the Los Angeles Olympics, leading to a vote to include the women’s marathon in the 1984 Games. Additionally, Ullyot's work as a writer both through her regular columns in Runner's World and Women’s Sports & Fitness magazines and her books, Women’s Running, and Running Free helped an unknown number of aspiring participants in the sport.

2018 - 48th Class of Cragg & Yasso


Bart Yasso is a legend in the running community. Yasso, born in 1958, has served as the Chief Running Officer of Runner's World since 2007 (retired in 2017), traveling the world to inspire and educate runners of all levels. Yasso joined Runner's World in 1987 to develop the groundbreaking Runner's World Race Sponsorship Program, creating a vehicle for Runner's World to work with over 7,000 races representing 4 million runners per year. In his career, he’s run with two presidents, competed in races on all seven continents, completed the 146-mile Badwater Ultramarathon (before the course was shortened to 135 miles), published a memoir titled My Life on the Run. He has appeared at over 1800 races, along with the RRCA Convention, as a featured speaker. He has been dubbed “the Mayor of Running,” and is credited with inventing the Yasso 800s, a widely used marathon training workout. Yasso has competed in more than 1,200 races and has successfully finished the 56-mile Comrades Marathon and has run races on all seven continents.

2017 - 47th Class of Linden, Hall, McGillivray, and Hirsch

Desiree Linden (born July 26, 1983) is a two-time U.S. Olympic Marathoner and a native of San Diego suburb Chula Vista, California. Linden earned All-American honors in both cross country and track during her tenure at Arizona State University before joining the Hansons Brooks Distance Project in Rochester, Michigan. Linden wowed the marathon world with her near win at the 2011 Boston Marathon. Her second-place finish, an incredible 2:22:38, set an all-time U.S. record on the Boston course (since broken) and made her the third fastest American ever. In 2012, she earned her spot on the US Olympic Team at the 2012 London Summer Games with a runner up performance at the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials. In 2015, Linden participated at the Boston Marathon, which featured a strong international field and the top three US marathoners. She finished as top American and held on for a strong 4th place finish. In the summer of 2015, Des
earned the Pan-Am Games Silver Medal in the 10,000 meter race. In 2016, she finished 2nd at the US Olympic Marathon Trials in LA. She followed that up with a strong showing at the 2016 Rio Olympics, finishing 7th.

Dave McGillivray (born August 22, 1954) is the Race Director of the B.A.A. Boston Marathon, the B.A.A. Half Marathon, the B.A.A. 5K and the B.A.A. 10K, manages and oversees all operational and logistical aspects of these world-class events. McGillivray also directed the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Women’s Marathon in Boston. In 1996, McGillivray established himself as one of the world’s premier race directors with his successful coordination of the 100th Boston Marathon, which attracted a field size of nearly 40,000 participants, the largest in B.A.A. history. Athletically, McGillivray gained national prominence in 1978 when he ran across the U.S. to raise money for the Jimmy Fund. In 2004, McGillivray ran cross-country again as part of a relay team event called TREK USA, which he founded. He has run over 137 marathons, including 42 consecutive Boston Marathons, completed 9 Hawaii Ironman Triathlons, run up the East Coast of the U.S., run for 24 hours, biked for 24 hours, swam for 24 hours, and did 7 marathons on 7 continents in 7 days – all to raise money for worthwhile causes.

Ryan Hall (born October 14, 1982) is a two-time U.S. Olympic marathoner and the American record holder in the half marathon, which he set at the Houston Half Marathon in 2007 with a time of 59:43. Hall's 2:04:58 at the 2011 Boston Marathon is the fastest marathon ever run by an American; the time doesn't count as the American marathon because Boston's point-to-point, net-elevation-loss course makes it ineligible for record purposes. In 2005, Hall began his professional career as a 5,000-meter runner, and represented the United States in the event at the 2005 World Championships. Soon after, he concentrated on road racing, starting with the national 20K title in the fall of 2006. Hall made his marathon debut at the 2007 London Marathon, where he placed seventh in 2:08:24. Hall won the 2008 Olympic Marathon Trials. At the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, Hall placed 10th. He finished third at the 2009 Boston Marathon and fourth at Boston in 2010. His 2:04:58 got him fourth at Boston in 2011. Hall finished second to Meb Kellezighi at the 2012 Olympic Marathon Trials. He dropped out of the 2012 Olympic Marathon after 10 miles with a hamstring injury. On January 15, 2016, Hall announced his retirement from competitive running. He is married to fellow professional runner Sara Hall, and they have four daughters.

George Hirsch (born June 21, 1934) helped Fred Lebow start the five- borough New York City Marathon in 1976 to celebrate the nation’s bicentennial. With the success of the first race, it became an annual event that has become one of the world’s leading sporting events. In 1979, Hirsch founded the Midnight Run in New York’s Central Park, a race that is held every New Year’s Eve. In 2005, Hirsch became the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the New York Road Runners where he has served in the role for 12 years. Hirsch was the founding publisher of New York magazine and The Runner magazine. In January 1987, Rodale, Inc. acquired The Runner and merged it with Runner’s World, and Hirsch became its worldwide publisher after launching several international editions of the magazine. Hirsch was also the first publishing director of Men’s Health and director of international magazines, positions he held until his retirement from Rodale in 2004.

2016 - 46th Class of Anderson, Flanagan & Larsen

Jon Anderson (born October 12, 1949) is a lifelong resident of Eugene, Oregon, where he was coached by the legendary Bill Bowerman. Anderson is credited with contributing to the establishment of Eugene as a “mecca” for running. He is best known for his remarkable 1973 Boston Marathon win on a hot, sunny day. Anderson, just 23, passed Finland’s defending champion Olavi Suomalainen after 20 miles to take the lead and win by nearly two minutes with a time of 2:16:03. That race also made him the first runner to win any major international sporting event in Nike shoes. Upon graduating from Cornell University in 1972, he finished third at the Olympic Trials in the 10,000 meters qualifying for the 1972 U.S. Olympic Track & Field Team. At the 1972 Munich Olympic Games, he placed 8th in his 10,000 meter heat, not qualifying for the finals, but still setting a personal record (28:34.2).
Shalane Flanagan (born July 8, 1981) is a distinguished American runner who grew up in Marblehead, Massachusetts. She won the Women’s 2017 New York City Marathon, the first American woman to do so since Miki Gorman in 1977. She has been a six-time American record holder and is the 3000 meters (indoor), 5000 meters (indoor) and 15K record holder. She attended the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where she won national cross country titles in 2002 and 2003 — becoming the first individual champion in the sport in Tar Heel history. Flanagan ran the 10,000 meters for the first time at the 2008 Stanford Payton Jordan invite, finishing in a time of 30:34.49 to break Deena Kastor’s American record of 30:50.32. At the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials held in Eugene, Oregon, Flanagan competed in both the 5000meters and 10,000meters, winning the 10,000 meters in 31:34.81. This guaranteed her a spot on Team USA for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. On August 16, 2008, Flanagan finished 3rd in the Olympic 10,000 meter final, capturing the bronze medal. On January 14, 2012, Flanagan won the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials in Houston, Texas, setting the event record, clocking 2:25:38. She represented Team USA at the 2012 London Olympic Marathon, finishing 10th in 2:25:51. On February 13, 2016, Flanagan placed third at the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, finishing in 2:29:19 on a warm day in Los Angeles. On August 14, 2016, Flanagan placed 6th at the 2016 Summer Olympics women’s marathon in 2:25:26.

Bob Larsen (born July 23, 1939) is a Hall of Fame distance and track & field coach, known for coaching distance runners, although he has had success coaching across a full range of events. Larsen is arguably the most highly decorated distance and track & field coach in the United States. Overall, he has achieved extraordinary success as a coach at every level, high school, community college, university and open divisions. At Monte Vista High School, his teams won undefeated for three years. In 1976, club team, the Jamul Toads, won the National Cross Country Championships in a huge upset. In 1979, Larsen was the head distance coach overseeing the UCLA cross country program. By 1984, he was head track & field coach where he enjoyed 21-seasons of cross country and 16 seasons of track & field at UCLA, winning two NCAA outdoor team titles (1987-88). In 1995, Larsen was named the Coach of the Year by the United States Track Coaches Association. In 1999, he retired from UCLA and co-founded Team Running USA (now Mammoth Track Club) in 2001. For the 2004 Athens Olympic Games, Larsen was selected as Team USA’s distance coach. Larsen has coached his most notable athlete, Meb Keflezighi, since Keflezighi’s UCLA freshman days. Keflezighi’s accomplishments include four NCAA titles, an American record at 10,000 meters, silver medalist at the 2004 Athens Olympic Marathon, fourth at the 2012 London Olympic Marathon, winner of the 2009 New York City Marathon, and winner of the 2014 Boston Marathon, the first American male to win Boston in 32 years. Keflezighi’s victory at Boston further solidified Larsen’s stature as one of America’s greatest distance coaches ever.

2015 - 45th Class of Berman, Daniels, & Stewart

Sara Mae Berman (born May 14, 1936) in the Bronx, New York, is a distinguished American distance runner. Berman came from a generation in which women were not encouraged to be athletic, especially after having children. Berman, along with a group of female runners, actively campaigned for equal rights for women in the sport of distance running. Berman competed in her first road race in June 1964 as an unofficial entrant in the 5-Mile Handicap Race in Marlborough, Massachusetts. She would go on to win the Boston Marathon three times, before women were recognized as official participants (1969 in 3:22:46; 1970 in 3:05:07; and 1971 in 3:08:30). In 1970, she won the first RRCA Women’s Marathon Championship held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, besting a field of six female starters with a time of 3:07:10. That same year, she also finished third in the inaugural New York City Marathon women’s division. Her accomplishments in the sport extend well beyond the race course. Berman was the first female RRCA officer, serving as Vice President from 1966-67. She was one of the original road race course certifiers in New England in the 1960s. She, along with her husband, certified the Boston Marathon course in 1967, enabling runners to qualify on the course for the United States Olympic Trials Marathon held in 1968 in Alamosa, Colorado.
In the 1960’s women were not allowed under the AAU rules to run more than 2 miles in competition. In 1965, the RRCA held the first National Women’s Cross Country Championship at the extended distance of 2.5 miles, despite significant objections by the AAU.

Jack Daniels (born April 26, 1933) in Detroit, Michigan, is a professor of physical education and a coach of Olympic athletes. He received his doctoral degree in exercise physiology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Daniels first achieved prominence in athletics as a member of the 1956 and 1960 United States Olympic teams. He is a two-time Olympic medalist in the modern pentathlon, winning a silver medal at the 1956 Melbourne Summer Olympics and a bronze medal at the 1960 Rome Summer Olympics. The modern pentathlon combines fencing, pistol shooting, swimming, equestrian show jumping and cross country running. Over the course of his coaching career, Daniels has trained or advised a variety of America’s finest runners, including Jim Ryun, a three-time Olympian and world record holder; Joan Benoit Samuelson, winner of the first women’s Olympic Marathon; two-time Olympian Ryan Hall and his wife Sara; Ken Martin and Jerry Lawson, and many others. Daniels outlined his training philosophies in his book, Daniels’ Running Formula, which was first published in 1998. The third edition of his popular training book, Daniels’ Running Formula, was published in 2013.

Phil Stewart (born February 10, 1950) is a lifelong supporter of the RRCA. He is the current editor and publisher of the Road Race Management newsletter and the Road Race Management Directory of the Running Industry. In addition, through his company, Road Race Management, Inc., Phil organizes the annual Road Race Management Race Directors’ Seminar and Trade Exhibit, an annual sport-wide industry gathering. After college, he began competing in races in the Washington, D.C. area, where he emerged as one of the area’s top runners. In 1974 he placed third in the National Amateur Athletic Union’s 50-mile race in New York. He qualified for and participated in the 1976 Olympic Marathon Trials. Stewart received notoriety in 1979 when he took the dramatic photos of President Jimmy Carter’s collapse during a 10k road race at Camp David. The photos were published in Sports Illustrated, Time, People magazine and other publications. Stewart was one of the founders of Running Times magazine (1977), one of the two nationally circulated running magazines for many years. Over the years, he has had prominent leadership roles in running organizations, including President of the D.C. Road Runners Club; Vice President of Administration of the RRCA; Treasurer of the United States Track & Field Association (formerly TAC) Men’s Long Distance Running Committee; and member of the USATF’s Board of Directors. He has received numerous awards and accolades for his contributions to the sport of distance running. Stewart is currently the event director of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run, the premier springtime running event in Washington, D.C.

2014 - 44th Class Audain & Martin

Anne Audain (born November 1, 1955) in Auckland, New Zealand, had severe bone deformities of both feet. She did not walk correctly until she had reconstructive surgery at age 13. Three years later, at age 16, she qualified for the 1972 Munich Olympic Games in the 1500 meters. A year later, at age 17, she finished 9th at the 1973 World Cross Country Championships. She also competed in the 1500 meters at the 1974 British Commonwealth Games in Christchurch, New Zealand, finishing 6th and top New Zealander in the final with a time of 4:21.1. At the 1976 Montreal Summer Olympics, Audain competed in the women’s 800 and 1500 meters. Although she failed to get past the heats, she broke the New Zealand national record for the 1500 meters in her heat. In March 1982, Audain competed in her first 5000meter race, breaking the world record. At the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane she won gold in the women’s 3000 meters in 8:45.53, a New Zealand national record. At the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, Audain competed in the inaugural women’s
Olympic marathon but failed to finish. At the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Scotland, she won a silver medal in the women’s 10,000 meters. In 1988, at her final Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, she placed 11th in the inaugural women’s 10,000 meter race, finishing in 32:10.47. During the 1980s, Audain won more American road races (75) than any other male or female runner, including 7 wins at the Lilac Bloomsday Run in the 80s and early 90s. In 1993 Audain founded the Idaho Women’s Fitness Celebration 5K, which is now the largest 5K race for women in the United States. Audain became an American citizen in 1995. That same year, she received the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire Award for her services to athletics.

**Ken Martin** (born September 10, 1958) is an American long-distance runner who was a two-time United States National Champion in the Marathon. At the 1984 California International Marathon, Martin set a course record with a time of 2:11:24. At the 1985 Pittsburgh Marathon, he competed alongside his wife at the time, Lisa Martin. Based on their performance at the 1985 Pittsburgh Marathon, he and Lisa became the fastest married couple ever in a marathon, winning their respective divisions. Martin placed second in the 1989 New York City Marathon, finishing in 2:09:38. In 2010, he had a bout of Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma. It was, for the time, successfully treated with chemotherapy. Following the chemotherapy, Martin returned to his training, with the goal of setting a new male 50-54 age group record in the mile. The non-Hodgkin lymphoma, however, took on a more aggressive form. Though he was “mad as hell at first” about the disruption in his running plans, he continued exercising, even during treatments for his lymphoma. During two six-day rounds of chemotherapy, Martin brought a stationary bicycle into his hotel room and rode it 30-minutes a day. Through is experience with cancer treatment, he has been an advocate for financing research on exercise’s impact on tumors and cancer treatments.

**2013 - 43rd Class of Fleming, Martin, & Steinfeld**

**Tom Fleming** (born July 23, 1951, deceased April 19, 2017) won the 1973 and 1975 New York City Marathon when it was a hilly, loop course in Central Park. He finished in second place twice at the Boston Marathon in 1973 and 1974, both times less than a minute behind the winner. His personal best marathon of 2:12:05 was set at the 1975 Boston Marathon, when he finished in third place, another of his six Boston Marathon “top ten” finishes. Fleming raced a strong fifth place at the 1976 Olympic Marathon trials. He finished fourth at Fukuoka, Japan in 1977, which was then the unofficial World Marathon Championship. Tom’s marathon victories include the 1978 Cleveland Marathon, the 1978 Toronto Marathon, the 1981 Los Angeles Marathon, and the Jersey Shore Marathon three times. He broke 2:20 in the marathon 27 times. At one point, Tom held American records in the 15-mile, 20-mile, 25K, 30K and 50K distance events. While at William Paterson State College, he won four straight New Jersey Athletic Conference Cross Country titles and was a multiple-time NCAA All-American. He did not start competitive running until track season of his junior year in high school, but still ran a 4:21 mile and 9:22 two-mile as a high school runner.

**David Martin, PhD** (born 1940, decease February 28, 2018), was a Fellow in the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), as well as a contributing member of the Association of Track and Field Statisticians (ATFS), the International Marathon Medical Directors Association (IMMDA), the Association of International Marathons (AIMS), and the International Society of Olympic Historians (ISOH). This multidisciplinary approach to the study of top-level marathon performance-from a scientific as well as historical viewpoint-gives him a unique perspective. In 1978, Martin was selected by the United States Olympic Academy to be one of three representatives to the International Olympic Academy. Even before then, he had begun to compile a database of top-level men’s and women’s performances. His work continued, and the list topped 44,000 performances. His database provided an unparalleled resource for his research on the use of mathematical modeling techniques to assess performance trends in distance running.

**Allan Steinfeld** (born June 7, 1946, deceased January 24, 2017) had a long and decorated career in running. He won the New York Road Runners Club Eight-Mile
Handicap Race in 1966 and completed his first single marathon in 1979 at the Honolulu Marathon in 3:27.43. Steinfeld established himself as one of the nation’s leading authorities on the technical aspects of road racing. He developed methods that have become standard for marathons and races at various distances. He became the Technical Director of the New York City Marathon in 1981. He served as the Chief Referee of the Men’s and Women’s Marathons at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. He was the technical advisor for the network television broadcasts of several Olympic Games, and served as the consultant for television broadcasts of the NYC Marathon and other NYRRC races. He took over as the race director of the New York City Marathon in 1994 and directed the race for ten years.

2012 - 42nd Class of Abdirahman, Somers Smith, & Vigil

Adbihakim “Abdi” Abdirahman (born January 1, 1977 in Somalia) was six years old when his family escaped the violence that led to the Somalian civil war by moving to Mombasa, Kenya. His family moved to Tucson, Arizona in 1989. Since 1998, he has been one of America’s premier distance runners. At Arizona, he was named the 1998 Pacific 10 Conference Cross Country Male Athlete of the Year after finishing second at the 1998 NCAA Cross Country Championships. In 2000, he became an American citizen, and he has since made the United States Olympic track and field team four times, competing three times in the 10,000 meters in 2000 at Sydney (10th place), 2004 at Athens (15th place), and 2008 at Beijing (15th place). In January 2012, he finished third at the Olympic marathon trials in Houston, Texas in 2:09:47. Thus qualified to represent the United States at the 2012 London Olympics in the marathon. At the 2012 Olympics he unfortunately had to drop out of the marathon before the half way mark with a knee injury. In 2016, Abdi finished 3rd in the TCS New York City Marathon in a time of 2:11:23. In 2017, he was top American in the TCS New York City Marathon (7th place) and male masters winner with a time of 2:12:48, establishing a masters record at New York, eclipsing the previous mark of 2:13:32, set in 2015 by Meb Keflezighi.

Joe Vigil, PhD (born November 1929) is widely regarded as the preeminent long distance running coach in the United States. In 2010, the United States Olympic Committee recognized him for his accomplishments as one of America’s greatest goodwill ambassadors. Over the course of his coaching career, he has coached United States national teams, including Olympic and World Championship teams in 25 countries spanning 5 continents. His record as head coach at Adams State is legendary, where he led teams to 7 NAIA national track and field championships and 12 NAIA national Cross Country championships. At the 1995 NCAA Division II national Cross Country championship, his Adams State team achieved a perfect score of 15 points. During his tenure at Adams State, he produced 425 All-Americans and 87 individual national champions. He has also served as United States Olympic and (with Bob Larsen) Team Running USA coach. Three of his most celebrated running protégés are 2004 Olympic marathon bronze medalist Deena Kastor, 2004 Olympic marathon silver medalist Meb Keflezighi, and multiple national Cross Country champion and 10,000 meter Olympic Pat Porter.

Linda Somers Smith (born on May 7, 1961) took up running during her junior year at the University of California. She won the 1992 Chicago Marathon (2:37:41) and the 1993 California International Marathon (2:34:11). In 1996, she was second in the U.S. Olympic marathon trials, with a personal best of 2:30:06. In 1996, at the Atlanta Olympics, she finished 31st with a time of 2:36:58, despite suffering an Achilles tendon tear during the race. At the 2008 Olympic marathon trials, she set the American 45-49 age group record, finishing in a time of 2:38:49 and placing 17th. She is the only person, male or female, to ever qualify by time standard for seven U.S. Olympic marathon trials. On January 14, 2012, at the age of 50, she was the oldest competitor at the Olympic Trials-Marathon in Houston, TX. She finished in 28th place with a time of 2:37:36, setting an American 50-54 age group record.
2011 - 41st Class Culpepper, Emmons, & Kennedy

Alan Culpepper (born in 1972) is a two-time US Olympian qualifying for both the 2000 and 2004 Olympic Games. He got started running through a summer track program with a local club. In 1999, he won the USA Cross Country Championships. That spring he also won the 10,000meter at the USATF Outdoor Championships and ran that event at the 1999 World Championships. In 2000, he took second in the 10,000m at the U.S. Olympic Trials and represented the U.S. at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. In 2002, he ran his debut marathon in Chicago in 2:09:41, and he ran his second marathon at the U.S. Olympic Trials in 2004 in Birmingham, Alabama, where he won the event in 2:11:42. Culpepper placed 12th at the Athens Olympic Marathon. He ran 2:11:02 to take fifth in the 2006 Boston Marathon.

Julia Emmons is the former Executive Director of the Atlanta Track Club in Atlanta, GA, and former director of the Peachtree Road Race, the world’s largest and best-known 10K with 55,000 runners. In her 22 years as head of the Atlanta Track Club, she was very active on the national running scene, serving as Chair of Women’s Long Distance Running for USA Track & Field from 1990-1996. She directed the Olympic Men’s and Women’s Marathons and Race Walks for the 1996 Games in Atlanta, and was on the U.S. Women’s Track and Field team for the 2004 Athens Olympics as Assistant Coach for Endurance Events (marathon, racewalk). In 2005, Emmons served as an Assistant Manager for the U.S. Track and Field Team at the World Championships in Helsinki. She served on the RRCA Board of Directors as Vice President between the years ’88 and ’89.

Robert “Bob” Kennedy, Jr. (born in 1970) held the American record in the 3,000 meters (7:30.84), 2 miles (8:11.59) and the 5000 meters (12:58.21) and is a two time Olympian (1992, 1996). He finished fifth in the 1987 National Junior Championships as a 16-year-old. Kennedy attended Indiana University where he was the 1991 NCAA 1,500 meter National Champion in Track and 1991 Indoor NCAA Mile Champion. He also won the NCAA Cross Country championships during his freshman and senior years (1988 & 1992). His senior year he won the USA Track & Field National Cross Country Championships, becoming only the second person in history to win both the NCAA Cross Country Nationals and U.S. National Cross Country Championships in the same year. Kennedy’s second USATF National Cross Country title came in 2004, the twelve-year gap between titles (1992 & 2004) being the longest in history of the USATF. The highlight of Kennedy’s career came at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. In the 5000 meter finals, Kennedy surged to the front at the beginning of the penultimate lap where he held the lead for almost a lap but was ultimately passed before the closing lap to place 6th overall.
**2010 - 40th Class of De Reuck & Hickman**

**Colleen De Reuck** (born on April 13, 1964) in Vryheid, Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa, became a U.S. citizen on December 11, 2000. Before becoming a U.S. citizen, she represented South Africa in three Olympics, competing in the marathon in 1992 (9th in 2:39:03); the 10,000 in 1996 (13th in 32:14.69); and the marathon in 2000 (31st in 2:36:58). Her most outstanding year was 1998 when she set two world records in winning the Nortel Cherry Blossom 10 Mile in 51:16 and the New Haven 20km in 1:05:11. De Reuck’s first year as a U.S. citizen saw her winning the USA 8km Championship in 26:16, the Arturo Barrios 10K in 32:35 and the Tufts Health Plan 10km for Women in 32:10. She made her first U.S team in 2002 after a second place finish to Deena Kastor at the USA 8K cross country trials. Kastor and De Reuck then finished 2nd and 3rd at the IAAF World Cross Country 8 km. De Reuck made her fourth Olympic team in 2004, this time as an American, after winning the women’s Olympic Trials Marathon race in 2:28:25. She finished 39th at the Olympic Games (2:46:30). In 2005, at the age of 40, she again won the USA XC 8 km race. In 2009 De Reuck led the Boston Marathon for much of the race and finished 8th overall in 2:37:57.

**Libbie Hickman** (born on February 17, 1965) in Billings, Montana, ran track and field in high school and in college at Colorado State University. After graduating in 1987, she began a professional running career that lasted 16-years, highlighted by representing the USA in the 10,000 meters at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney. Hickman won major races on the road and track at every distance from 1500 meters to the half marathon. She had a breakthrough year at road racing in 1991 when she won the ARRA circuit and was ranked as the top woman road racer by Runner’s World magazine. Other career highlights include: winning the 1999 U.S. 10,000m championship; 1997 U.S. 5,000m champion; finishing fourth at the 1996 Olympic Trials 5,000; 1998 half-marathon and 10km road championships; and representing the US at three World Championships (1995, ’97 and ’99). Hickman was selected as the RRCA Road Runner of the Year for the years 1997-2000.

**2009 - 39th Class of Letko & Khannouchi**

**Ann Marie (Lauck) Letko** (born on March 7, 1969) attended Wake Forest on a running scholarship, but after two years transferred to Rutgers in her home state where she was coached by Tom Fleming. In the early 90s Letko signed a contract with Nike and began a professional career that lasted for more than ten years and led to representing the United States in both the 1996 and 2000 Olympics. Letko established herself early as one of the top 10,000meter runners by winning the 1991 World University Championship. After finishing second at the 1993 U.S. 10,000 Championships in 32:01, she followed with a PR of 31:37 at the World Championships in Germany. In 1994, she finished third place with a 2:30:19 at the New York City Marathon. Some of her major race wins during the period 1993-1994 included the Lilac Bloomsday 12K in 1993; the Gate River Run 15K; the Advil Mini Marathon 10K; the Peachtree 10K; the Crim 10 Mile; and the Philadelphia Distance Run Half Marathon in 1994. In early 1996 Letko earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic marathon team when she finished 3rd at the Marathon Trials in Columbia, S.C. She had the U.S. team’s best finish in the Olympic Marathon in Atlanta, 10th place in 2:31:30.
Khalid Khannouchi (born January 1, 1971) in Meknes, Morocco, moved to the United States in 1992 after being refused training assistance from the Morocco track and field federation. He found a job in Brooklyn as a dish washer while living with friends. By 1993, Khannouchi’s name began to appear among the top 20 road racers in America as ranked by Runner’s World magazine. In 1997, he won the LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon in 2:07:10, the fastest marathon debut in history. He returned to Chicago in 1998 and ran almost as fast as the previous year (2:07:19) but finished second. The following year he ran a world record time of 2:05:42, winning Chicago for a second time. May 2000 was very significant in Khannouchi’s life as he became a U.S. citizen. After running 2:08:36 in the Flora London marathon in the spring, he went to Chicago as a U.S. citizen where he set an American record, winning the Chicago Marathon for a third time in 2:07:01. After a year plagued by injury, he produced his most outstanding marathon performances in 2002 when he lowered his world record in winning the London marathon in 2:05:38 in the spring. That fall he won in Chicago for the fourth time in 2:05:56.

2008 - 38th Class of Bonner & Williams

Todd Williams (born March 7, 1969) is a native of Michigan who ran for the University of Tennessee. He became America’s best 10,000meter runner during most of the 1990s. By 1991, his senior year at Tennessee, his 5K time had improved to 13:41.50 and he had run 28:18.4 for the 10K finishing 2nd in 10,000 and 3rd in 5000 at NCAA Nationals. The fall after graduating from college, he won USA XC Championships and was ranked fifth in the U.S. at 10,000 by Track & Field News. In 1992 Williams finished 19th in World XC Championships, won the 10,000 (28:19.82) at the U.S. Olympic Trials and finished 10th in the 10,000 at the Olympic Games that Fall. After being injured for much of 1994, but still running well enough at the end of that year to qualify for the US XC team for the next year, Williams came back in 1995 to run what he described as one of the best races of his life when he was 9th at the World XC Championships. In 1996, he again was the top finisher in the 10,000 Olympic Trials race but had a disappointing DNF in his heat at the Games in Atlanta. In 1997, he made his marathon debut in Chicago where he ran 2:11:17, finishing 10th.

Beth Bonner (born June 9, 1952) was the first woman to run a sub-three-hour marathon (NYC Marathon in 2:55:22). With few running opportunities for girls in high school in the late 1960s, Bonner convinced her parents to let her attend high school in Morgantown, WV to work with the school’s coach. At that time, there were few distance opportunities in track for women, with the 1,500 meters being the longest Olympic event. However, women were beginning to be recognized for finishing some of the major marathons. Bonner graduated from high school in 1971 and enrolled at a Junior College in Brandywine, Maryland, where she could continue distance training. During 1971, she is credited with two world record setting marathon performances, first a 3:01:41 in Philadelphia and later she became the first woman to finish a marathon in less than three hours when she won the New York Marathon in 2:55:22. These performances were at the age of 19. In 1971, and again in 1972, she was selected to run for the U.S. in the World Cross Country Championships where she became friends with two-time Olympian and five-time World Cross Country Champion, Doris Brown Heritage. Bonner was killed in a bicycling accident on October 9, 1998.

2007 - 37th Class of Spangler & St Hilaire

Jenny Spangler (born July 20, 1963) is most noted as a marathon runner and has the distinction of setting an American junior record of 2:33:52 for the distance at age 19, and an American master record of 2:32:39 at age 40. In 1994, within the qualifying window for the 1996 Olympic Trials Marathon, Spangler finished the Chicago Marathon in 2:42, well below the 2:50 standard. She came to the 1996 Olympic Trials Marathon with confidence and won the race over a hilly course in 2:29:54 to earn an Olympic spot after her third attempt to qualify. By August 1996, when the Olympics were held in Atlanta, Spangler had injury problems and was unable to finish the marathon. In 2003, she set her sights on another Olympic Trials qualifying time at the 2003 LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon. Wiser from past experiences, Spangler finished in 2:32:39, at the age of 40, setting an American master record in the process. The following April she made her fourth Olympic Trials appearance, finishing 10th in 2:36.
Judi St. Hilaire (born September 5, 1959) started running as a teenager and earned an athletic scholarship to the University of Vermont where she was an All-American track star and the National Collegiate Track and Field Champion in 1980. She was a member of the US World Championship Track & Field Team in Tokyo in 1991, and the 1992 US Olympic Team in Barcelona, where she finished 8th in the 10,000 meter final. In 1993, she was ranked No. 1 in the US Track & Field Association’s World Road Race rankings. St. Hilaire held several running records, including the 5K (3.1 miles) American road record in 1989.

2006 - 36th Class of Kastor & Keflezighi

Deena (Drossin) Kastor (born February 14, 1973) has record-breaking running resume that elevates and evolves at the same speed as her insatiable pursuit of excellence, Deena is one of the world’s most extraordinary female athletes. Her career is earmarked by her groundbreaking 2004 Olympic Bronze Medal in the marathon in Athens, Greece, which shattered a 20-year medal drought for U.S. women in the event. Yet, the accomplishments of the 3-time Olympian certainly don’t stop there. Deena has held the American Record in the marathon (2:19:36) and half marathon (1:07:34). She has made 19 U.S. Teams, won 18 U.S. titles and earned two Silver Medals at the World Cross-Country Championships. She is an 8-Time NCAA All-American. Deena’s win at the 2005 Chicago Marathon was highlighted in the inspiring documentary, Spirit of the Marathon. She followed that momentum to win the 2006 London marathon, which ranked her #1 in the world that year. In 2014 Deena set 5 world masters records in one race during the Philadelphia Rock ‘n’ Roll Half-Marathon. Deena believes in a balance of life and strives to always be grateful and give back to her community. She is the president of the ASICS Mammoth Track Club, a local running club with recreational members as well as professionals seeking Olympic berths. She is a motivational speaker for corporations, clubs, and races. She is currently the Executive Producer of BOSTON, the marathon documentary, because she knows it will inspire runners and attract people to the sport she loves.

Mebrahtom “Meb” Keflezighi (born May 5, 1975) is widely acclaimed as one of the greatest runners of our time. From his arrival in America a refugee from war-torn East Africa to his victorious finish at the emotionally charged 2014 Boston Marathon, Meb has secured not only his place in history, but also in the hearts and minds of millions. Meb is the only athlete in history to win the New York Marathon, the Boston Marathon and an Olympic Medal—impressive feats for someone who had never run a mile until middle school. A graduate of the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), his record also includes four NCAA championships, 23 National Championships and a place on four United States Olympic teams. Transcending his own athletic achievements, Meb maintains an unwavering commitment to helping others go the distance in their own lives—physically, professionally, personally and spiritually. Every day, he inspires individuals of all ages and athletic abilities to achieve their own personal best. A sought-after motivational speaker and author, he emphasizes that real victory lies in balancing a healthy, active life that emphasizes education, community, and a strong moral fabric.

2005 - 35th Class of Brantly & Spence

Keith Brantly (born May 23, 1962) is recognized for his extensive distance-running career that encompasses nearly three decades at distances that range from one mile to a marathon. Following his collegiate career with the Florida Gators, he was mentored by Dr. David Martin (also an RRCA Hall of Fame member) who compiled his knowledge to transform Brantly “from a talented runner to a seasoned competitor.” He participated in the U.S. Olympic Trials in the 5K, 10K and Marathon in 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2000. He was a 12-time member of U.S. National track, road racing and cross-country teams. Brantly was also an eight-time U.S. National Road Racing Champion in the 10K, 20K, 25K and Marathon. Brantly ran his first marathon at the Honolulu Marathon in 2:20:35. In the 1993 New York City Marathon, Brantly continued to improve placing fifth in 2:12:51. With years of experience and failing to make the United
States Olympic team twice in previous years, Brantly’s drive to make the team in 1996 was his main focus. At the 1996 Olympic Trials Marathon, Brantly would finish in a time of 2:13:22, placing third and locking him into the US Olympic team. At the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, Brantly finished in a time of 2:18:27, placing twentieth.

Steve Spence (born May 9, 1962) earned state rankings in high school in the mile, 3000meter, two-mile, and cross-country. While at Shippensburg University, Spence earned seven All-American titles. He went on to win bronze at the 1991 World Championship Marathon in Tokyo, Japan. In 1992, he qualified for the Marathon at the Olympic Trials. His win at the trials secured him a spot on the 1992 Olympic Marathon team in Barcelona, Spain, where he placed twelfth with a time of 2:15:21. He then returned to Shippensburg University to coach Cross-Country. In 2017, Spence beat the 5-minute mark on the mile for the 42nd-consecutive year. His streak began in 1976 and is believed to be the longest of its kind.

2004 - 34th Class of Klein & Rainsberger

Helen Klein (born 1923) achieved a marathon World Best time for women 80 and over at the 2002 California International Marathon (CIM) with a 4:31:32 finish. She went on to set new single year marathon records in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006. Her emergence as a world-class age division runner began when she decided to stop smoking at age 55 and take up running. She now holds 12 spots in CIM top 10 finish times for age groups ranging from 65 to 80+. In 2002, Klein set two ultradistance World Records at 50 km (6:45:23) and at 12 hours (50.5 miles 1,094 yards) at the Jim Skophammer 12 Hour in San Mateo, Calif. She also set an American Record at 50 miles in that race. Preceding her marathon record race, she ran eight ultradistance races in 2002. Klein’s ultrarunning career started in 1981, and she has run 136 ultras and 59 marathons. In addition to running ultras, she and her husband, Norm Klein, directed numerous ultra events.

Lisa Rainsberger (born May 7, 1961) at the age of six in 1968, launched an athletic career by swimming 1500 meters across Goguac Lake and winning her age group award. She went on to swim and run Track and Cross Country at the University of Michigan, earning All-America honors in all three sports. In 1984, she ran the inaugural women’s Olympic marathon trials where she finished fourth, missing a spot in the Olympic games. In 1985, she won the Boston Marathon in a time of 2:34:06, and since 2017 is the last U.S. female winner of the Boston Marathon. She is a two-time winner of the Chicago Marathon in 1989 and 1990. She ran in the 1988 Olympic Trials Marathon and the Track Trials in the 10,000meters. She qualified for the 1996 Olympic Trials Marathon. She has won the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile Race three times (‘85, ‘89 90) and the Bloomsday Road Race in ‘91. After finishing 4th American at the U.S. Triathlon National Championships, she and her husband, Ellis, discovered they were expecting their first child. After the birth of her daughter in 1998, Lisa officially retired from national competition and launched her coaching career.

2003 – 33rd Class of Kempainen & O’Brien

Bob Kempainen (born June 18, 1966) developed under the tutelage of Vin Lananna, who recruited him to Dartmouth. represented his native country twice at the Summer Olympics, in 1992 (Barcelona, Spain) and in 1996 (Atlanta, United States). He made his marathon debut in 1991 at the Twin Cities Marathon in Minnesota, where he finished 2nd in a time of 2:12:12. In 1992, he qualified for the Olympic Games by finishing third, in a time of 2:12:54, in the Olympic Trials marathon, held in Columbus, Ohio. He finished 2nd at the 1993 New York City Marathon in a time of 2:11:03. His best time for the marathon was 2:08:47 at the 1994 Boston Marathon, where he finished 7th. In 1995, he finished 2nd at the Los Angeles Marathon, in a time of 2:11:59. He was the 1996 Olympic Trials Marathon (held in Charlotte, North Carolina) champion, winning in a time of 2:12:45. In other USA distance running championships, Kempainen was also the 1990 US National Cross Country Champion.
Cathy Schiro O’Brien (born July 19, 1967) at age 16, was the youngest runner in the 1984 Olympic marathon trials in Olympia, Wash. She ran well for most of the race, but faded slightly when the unfamiliar distance took its toll. She finished ninth in 2:34:24, a world junior record. In 1988, she earned a trip to Seoul, South Korea, for the Olympic Games. She set a 10-mile world record in 1989 with a time of 51:47 minutes. She qualified for the Olympic Team in 1992, placing second in the Olympic Trials. More important than winning second, was the way she helped an opponent and future Olympic team member. The lead runners had come to a water station at the 15-mile mark, and a runner named Janis Klecker fell. Instead of leaving her behind, Schiro-O’Brien stopped and helped her get up. Both thought their chances of making the Olympic team had disappeared, but ironically, Klecker finished first with a time 2:30:12, and Schiro-O’Brien finished second. At the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, Schrio-P’Brien placed tenth and was first American.

2002 – 32nd Class of Dillon & Lindsey

Patti Catalano Dillon (born April 6, 1953) was the first American female to run a sub-2:30 for the marathon. She won multiple marathons in the late 1970’s including the Ocean State Marathon (five-time winner) and the Honolulu Marathon (four-time winner). In addition, she placed second in the Boston Marathon three times. She is a former world record holder in the 5 mile, 10K, 15K, 20K, half-marathon, 30K and marathon. After Patti spoke out about taking the sport in a more professional direction, making the under-the-table payments to lure top athletes to races into real paychecks, she was banned by the Amateur Athletic Union from competing. She competed in the first women’s Olympic Trials Marathon in 1984. Patti’s heritage is from the Mi’kmaq First Nations from Nova Scotia.

Herb Lindsay (born November 12, 1954) competed for the Michigan State Spartans and was an NCAA All-American in Cross Country in 1974 and 1976. He placed third at the 1976 NCAA Division I Men’s Cross Country Championships. He was a one-time national champion, taking the 10 K American title in 1979, becoming the second man to win the title after Bill Rodgers. Lindsay’s winning time of 28:35 minutes remained the championship best until 1996. He won a 5000 m title at the U.S. Olympic Festival in 1979 and was the 1979 runner-up at the USA Cross Country Championships behind Alberto Salazar. On the road running circuit, Lindsay was highly successful, with his best performance being a world record of 61:47 minutes for the half marathon in Manchester, Vermont in 1981. This record stood for one day short of a year. During his career he won the Saint Silvester Road Race, Bolder Boulder, Fifth Third River Bank Run, the Crim 10-miler (three times) and the Cascade Run Off (twice). He was also runner-up at the Falmouth Road Race twice. He played a part in professionalization of the sport, with races between him and other top road racers, such as Frank Shorter and Stan Mavis, leading to the setting up of trust funds, allowing them to be paid yet retain their amateur (and thus Olympics-eligible) status.

2001 – 31st Class of Gorman & Meyer

Miki Gorman (born August 9, 1935, deceased September 19, 2015) is the only U.S. woman to have won Boston and New York Marathons two times each, and one of only two woman runners to win both in the same year. While she grew up in Japan, Gorman came to the U.S. in 1964. She took up running in her early 30’s. She set an unofficial world’s best for the women’s marathon of 2:46:36 at the Western Hemisphere Marathon (the Culver City Marathon) in 1973, just four years after she began running. In April 1974, she won the Boston Marathon in a course record of 2:47:11. Gorman would also place second at Boston in 1976, and then won again in 1977. She won the New York City Marathon in 1976 and 1977, at the age of 41 and 42 respectively. She was the last American woman to win the New York City Marathon, until 2018 when Shalane Flanagan won the race. She set a personal best during her 1976 victory with a time of 2:39:11.
Greg Meyer (born September 18, 1955) ran 2:09.00 in the Boston Marathon in 1983 to win the race. He held the American record for the 10 mile and was a sub 4-minute miler. He was the last American Male to win the Boston Marathon until Meb Keflezighi’s win in 2014. He was also the last American to win the Chicago Marathon until Galen Rupp’s 2017 win. He set ten American road racing records at the following distances: 8K, 10K, 15K, 25K, Ten Mile. Set two World Records in the 15K (Gasparilla 15K, Tampa, Fl.) and the Ten Mile (Cherry Blossom 10 Mile, Wash. D.C). Meyer still holds many American course records at races in the U.S.

2000 - 30th Class of Tuttle & Curp

John Tuttle (born November 16, 1958) was a graduate from Auburn University. Tuttle never ran farther than 3,000m on the track during college, but the 8:35.74 steeple he ran in 1979 (still No. 2 all-time at Auburn) suggested longer distances might be his forte. After he graduated in 1981, he turned to road racing. Tuttle made his 26.2-mile debut at the 1983 Florida Festival Marathon, clocking 2:14.18. In his second 26.2, Grandma’s Marathon in June, Tuttle ran 2:12.31 and finished second. His third PR was at the New York City Marathon that November, 2:10.5, and earned him fourth place. The 1984 Olympic trials used the Skylon International Marathon course, starting in upstate New York. Tuttle ran confidently throughout, trading the lead with Pete Pfitzinger and Alberto Salazar over the final few miles before finishing just behind them in third. He was on the Olympic team. Nagging injuries kept Tuttle from training at his best leading up to the 1984 Games in Los Angeles. He ran the first half of the Olympic marathon alongside Pfitzinger before dehydration set in.

Mark Curp (born January 5, 1959) in Chillicothe, Missouri, held the world record for the half marathon from 1985 until 1990. He continued holding the American record in the half marathon until a new record was set by Ryan Hall in 2007. Curp attended Central Missouri State University, receiving a bachelor's degree in 1981 and a master's degree in 1982. Curp broke the men's world record in the half marathon on September 15, 1985, clocking 1:00:55 at the Philadelphia Distance Run in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at an overall pace just under 4:39 per mile for the official 13.1094-mile distance. According to the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, “in 1987 and 1988, Runner's World magazine ranked him the number one road racer in the world.” (Curp's best time in a marathon came at the 1987 Twin Cities Marathon, when he finished third with a time of 2:11:45.) Curp's world record in the half marathon stood for five years, until September 16, 1990, when Dionicio Ceron broke Curp’s time by nine seconds on the same Philadelphia course.

1999 - 29th Class of Lindgren & Sandoval

Gerry Lindgren (born March 9, 1946) in his senior year of high school, in 1964, ran the 5000 meters in 13:44, setting a U.S. high school record for the distance that would remain unbroken for 40 years. While at Washington State, Lindgren won 11 NCAA Championships, losing only to Jim Ryun in the 1968 indoor two-mile race. He was one of only two people to ever defeat Steve Prefontaine in an NCAA Championship. In 1964, he won the 10,000 meter event in the US-USSR Track Meet in Los Angeles. He finished ninth in the 10,000 meters in the 1964 Summer Olympics after having sprained an ankle during training. In 1965, Lindgren and Billy Mills both broke the world record for the six-mile run when they finished in an extremely rare tie at the AAU National Championships, both running exactly 27:11.6. He coached the University of Hawaii’s women’s track and field team 2005-2007.

Tony Sandoval (born May 19, 1954) is best known for winning the 1980 U.S. Olympic Marathon trials. Sandoval was among 466 Americans in 24 sports unable to compete in that year’s Summer Olympics, because the United States led a boycott of the Moscow Games to protest Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. He placed fourth with a 2:14:58 in the 1976 trials in his first attempt to make the Olympic team. He placed 15th in the Boston Marathon in 1979. He failed to make the Olympic Team in 1984 and 1988 before popping an Achilles tendon at mile eight in the 1992 Olympic Trials. Sandoval continued to run for fitness as he completed his medical studies and became a cardiologist, tending mostly to New Mexico's poor.
Benji Durden (born August 28, 1951) established himself during the early ‘80s at the height of the running boom. Durden ran track in Sacramento, California as a youth, aspiring to become a miler. After moving to Georgia, he attended the University of Georgia, in Athens (UGA), where he ran the mile in 4:15 as a freshman. He graduated from UGA in 1973. After college, Durden moved to Stone Mountain, becoming a fixture on the Atlanta-area running scene while working at Jeff Galloway’s Phidippides running shop. In 1980, on a course running from Buffalo, New York, to Niagara Falls, Ontario, Durden finished second in the symbolic US Olympic Trials (the boycott had already been announced by the time the Trials were held in May) against one of the deepest field of American marathoners ever assembled. Durden surged into the lead at the 19 mile mark and built up a ten second advantage over the lead runners until Anthony Sandoval caught him in the 23rd mile. Sandoval pulled away in the 24th mile and went on to win the race. Durden finished second in a time of 2:10:40.3, a personal best by over three minutes.

Doug Kurtis (born March 12, 1952) was one the most prolific and ubiquitous marathoners in the 80's and 90's. With an impressive seventy-six sub 2:20's and forty race victories, several as a master runner. His successes crossed almost every continent, including victories in Bangkok, Thailand, and Barcelona, Spain, as well as at home. He won the Detroit Free Press event six years in a row from 1987-92. Kurtis ran his last marathon in 2013 accomplishing his 200th sub-three-hour marathon. His running career didn't end on the roads. As an event director, he jump-started three major races in Detroit: the Free Press Marathon, Turkey Trot, and Corktown Races. The races have tripled their attendance under his guidance. During seven of those years, he also found the time to write a weekly running column, coach three athletes who qualified for the Olympic Marathon Trials and volunteered with several local running clubs. In 2017, he was the RRCA’s Detroit Convention organizing chairperson.


Jon Sinclair (born September 4, 1957) gravitated to organized running for the same reason countless others became runners; he was not good enough or big enough for any other sport. After he was coaxed onto the track team, he promptly won his first mile race in near record time. In his career as a professional, Sinclair recorded more wins than any other male runner in modern road racing history. In addition to being the all-time cumulative men’s point leader in the Runner’s World rankings at the time, he is a former USA National Cross Country and 10,000 meter champion and an Olympic Trials finalist in the 5000 meters. He has represented the U.S. on numerous national teams. Today, both Jon Sinclair and Kim Jones coach athletes from beginners to elites through Anaerobic Management, one of the first online coaching services founded in 1995.
1996 - 26th Class of Eyestone, Kokesh & Pfitzinger

**Ed Eyestone** (born June 15, 1961) earned 10 All-American honors and four NCAA championships at BYU. Eyestone then went on to work as the head cross-country and assistant track and field coach for BYU 15 years later. During that his senior year, Eyestone set the NCAA 10,000 meter record that stood for almost 20 years until Dathan Ritzenhein broke it in 2004. After college, he ran the marathon in the 1988 and 1992 Olympics with a best finish of 13th. He coached at Weber State before returning to BYU where he has coached two national champions.

**Pete Pfitzinger** (born August 29, 1957) is best known for his accomplishments in the marathon, an event in which he represented the United States in two Summer Olympic Games: the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics (finished 11th), and the 1988 Seoul Olympics (finished 14th). In the 1984 Olympic Marathon Team Trials in Buffalo, Pfitzinger became immediately known among American marathoners by taking the lead halfway through the race, relinquishing it in the final mile, then storming past the heavily favored Alberto Salazar in the final yards to win the race in a time of 2:11:43. In the 1988 Olympic Marathon Team Trials, held in Jersey City, Pfitzinger finished 3rd in a time of 2:13:09, to qualify for his second Olympic Games. Pfitzinger won the Syracuse (New York) marathon in 1981, the Wiri (New Zealand) marathon in 1983, and the San Francisco Marathon in 1983 and 1986. He was 2nd at the Montreal (Canada) marathon in 1983. He was 3rd at the Nike OTC Marathon in 1981 and at the New York City Marathon in 1987. Each of his 13-career marathons were run in times between 2:11:43 - 2:15:2.

**Jerry Kokesh** has worked in sports administration since 1973 and in various capacities for the U.S. Biathlon Team since 1988. He was President of the Road Runners Club of America for six years and a member of the RRCA board for 19 years.

1995 - 25th Class of Trason & Young

**Ann Trason** (born August 30, 1960) broke twenty world records during her career as an ultramarathoner. The rugged Western States 100 Mile is the biggest and most well-known ultra in the USA, and the event is stamped with her accomplishments. For ten consecutive years Trason won the women’s division, and in two of those races she finished second overall. As if that were not challenge and accomplishment enough, she twice dominated the Western States, with some 30,000 feet of elevation change, snow at the high altitude start and baking furnace like conditions in the canyons, less than two weeks after winning the prestigious 56-mile Comrades ultra in South Africa.

**George Young** (born July 24, 1937) was the first American to compete in running events at four Olympic Games. In his first three Olympics (’60, ’64, ’68), George competed in the steeplechase, winning a bronze medal in Mexico City. He also ran in the Olympic marathon in 1968. In 1972, he competed at 5000m. In total, his competitive career spanned an impressive 25 years. George demonstrated his versatility by setting American Records at each track distance he contested. He broke the steeplechase record three times, and the 2 mile and 5000m once each. George established a Mt. SAC steeplechase meet record each time he contested the event. In 1972, in preparation for the Olympic Trials, he moved up to 5000m at Mt. SAC, and won there as well.
Julie Brown (born February 4, 1955) held the national high school record in the 800-meter distance. She was the first woman to earn an athletic scholarship to UCLA for cross-country running. In 1975, Brown was crowned the world’s cross-country champion. She went on to try out for the United States Olympic team in the 1980 squad, but was unable to compete when the United States boycotted the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow, Russia. She won the 1983 Avon International Marathon in Los Angeles in 2:26:26. In 1984, she again became a United States Olympic Team member, this time as a marathon runner in the inaugural women’s marathon at the Los Angeles Games. Unfortunately, she struggled with mononucleosis during the competition and finished 32nd. Brown retired from running in the late ’80s to pursue a career in law.

Marion Irvine (born October 19, 1929) qualified for the Olympic trials by running a 2:51:01 at age 54, in a run that forever changed perceptions about athletic capabilities of older women. Dubbed “The Flying Nun,” she was already garnering national attention for records such as the first sub-20 minute 5-kilometer, sub-38 minute 10K, and sub-three hour marathon (2:59:55) by a woman over 50. In the weeks leading up to the Trials, Irvine appeared on “Today” and “Good Morning, America” national talk shows and was featured in “Sports Illustrated” and “Time” magazines. On May 12, 1984, Irvine ran a brilliant 2:52:02, just missing the Olympics but besting many far younger competitors. She continued to set records in the 55-59 and 60-64 age divisions.

Ambrose “Amby” Burfoot (born August 19, 1946) is an American marathoner whose peak competitive years came in the late 1960s and early 1970s. His high school coach, John J. Kelley (The “Younger”), was the 1957 Boston Marathon, and his influence led Burfoot to take up the marathon while still a collegian. In his senior year at Wesleyan University, where Burfoot was the roommate and teammate of Bill Rodgers, Burfoot won the Boston Marathon in 1968. In the Fukuoka Marathon in Japan in December 1968, Burfoot ran a personal best time of 2:14:28.8, which was one second from the American marathon record at the time. As of 2015, he had run the Manchester Road Race 53 times in a row besting the streak of Charlie “Doc” Robbins. In the process, he won Manchester nine times. Burfoot also continues to run the Boston Marathon at five-year intervals, marking his 1968 win. He ran the 2013 Boston Marathon but was stopped three-quarters of a mile from completion after a terrorist attack near the finish line. He has run Boston each year since returning for 2014. In 1978, Burfoot joined Bob Anderson as East Coast editor for Anderson's publication, Runner's World magazine. In 1985, when Runner's World was bought by Rodale Press and moved from Mountain View, California, to Emmaus, Pennsylvania, he was named the executive editor.

1993 – 23rd Class of Bachelor, Green & Decker Slaney

Jack Bachelor (born December 30, 1943) is a two-time U.S. Olympian in the 5,000 meters in 1968 Mexico City Olympics, and the Marathon in 1972 Munich Olympics. At Mexico City, he finished fourth in his qualifying heat and was the only American to qualify of the finals, however he was unable to compete in the finals due to illness. Three months prior to the 1972 U.S. Olympic Trials, Bachelor, along with Florida Track Club teammates Frank Shorter and Jeff Galloway, moved to Vail, Colorado to train at altitude. Although the Munich marathon course was essentially flat, temperatures were just over 80 °. The race was run on Sunday, September 10 and started at 3 pm. Shorter won in near Olympic record time of 2:12:19.8 and Bachelor crossed the line in ninth place in 2:17:38.2. He was a founding member of the Florida Track Club at Gainesville, Florida in the late 1960s.
Norm Green (born June 27, 1932, deceased May 16, 2023) was a standout miler in high school and got down to 4:24 at the University of California at Berkeley before giving up the sport during his sophomore year because of a heavy study load and a part-time job. He was "born again" as a runner in 1981 when he ran a 2:25:51 marathon at age 52 and a 2:27:42 at age 55, making him the oldest American to break 2:30 at the time. He also clocked 32:09 for 10K, 1:05:50 for 20K, and 1:09:30 for a half marathon during his 50s. Green was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1995. He returned to racing in 1997 after treatment but did very little racing over the next seven years because of injuries.

Mary Decker Slaney (born August 4, 1958) was known as "Little Mary Decker" because she wore pigtails and braces, when at 14-years-old and 89 lbs., she set her first American record. During her career, she won gold medals in the 1500 meters and 3000 meters at the 1983 World Championships, and was the world record holder in the mile, 5000 meters and 10,000 meters. In total, she set 17 official and unofficial world records, including being the first woman in history to break 4:20 for the mile. She also set 36 US national records at distances ranging from 800 meters to 10,000 meters, and has held the US record in the mile, 2000 meters and 3000 meters since the early 1980s, while her 1500 meters record stood for 32 years. In May 1997, Slaney and two other athletes were suspended by the IAAF, which stressed it was not presuming the athletes guilty of using banned substances, but that it had grown impatient because the cases had taken nearly a year to get settled. Less than four months later, Slaney’s suspensions were lifted after a hearing with a USATF doping hearing board, which concluded that “Mary Slaney committed no doping violation last year.” The International Olympic Committee laboratory reports outlined that her testosterone levels were always within her own normal range, which itself was always within the normal, allowable range. Those facts were never disputed. She was exonerated by USATF, because of this, and because the IOC laboratories were unable to explain why their own internal scientific literature questioned the validity and reliability of the test as a proxy for doping, especially for women whose hormone levels naturally fluctuate.

1992 – 22nd Class of Darman, Galloway & Haydon

Jeff Darman (born December 1943) was active as a high school Cross Country runner. After high school graduation, Jeff stopped running and became a three pack a day smoker until he neared 30 and decided a lifestyle change was needed. He got involved with the DC Road Runners Club and was inspired by the DCRR president of the time, Gar Williams, to get more involved with the RRCA. When Darman got involved with the RRCA, they were battling with the AAU over athletes’ rights. Darman lobbied and testified before Congress on The Amateur Sports Act, groundbreaking legislation that changed the landscape for professional and amateur running in the United States. Darman served at the RRCA president from 1977-1979, and during that time, he was actively involved in engaging women in leadership roles in running and working to provide more running opportunities for women. Darman has directed prestigious races including the Credit Union Cherry Blossom, Nike Women's Race, and he still directs the ACLI Capital Challenge. Darman’s PR and marketing clients have included Avon, Moving Comfort, Nike, Running Times, Perrier and many more. Darman has also served on many committees and boards of running organizations including Professional Road Racing Organization (PRRO) and USA Track & Field (board member).

Jeff Galloway (born July 12, 1945) is the author of more than a dozen books on running. He ran the 10,000 meter in the 1972 Olympics and was also an alternate on the marathon team. He runs the Galloway Marathon Program, which takes place in more than 40 cities. This low-mileage program uses Jeff’s run-walk-run method, putting the marathon within reach of almost everyone. He has coached hundreds of thousands of runners and walkers to their goals. An All-American runner at Wesleyan University who earned an M.S. in social studies from Florida State University, Galloway has developed clinics for NASA astronauts, Vice President Al Gore and a variety of North American corporations. He served on the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, designing a heritage program to bring the Olympic excitement and fitness into area schools.
Ted Haydon (born 1912, deceased 1985), was a former Olympic coach who founded the University of Chicago Track Club. Mr. Haydon, who was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame, was a coach with the U.S. Olympic teams in 1968 and 1972, and for the Pan American Games in 1963 and 1979.

1991 – 21st Class of Brown, Jennings, & Lebow

Fred Lebow (born June 3, 1932, deceased October 9, 1994), was an avid road runner. Lebow founded the New York City Marathon. He transformed the marathon from a small race with 55 finishers in 1970 to one of the largest marathons in the world with over 36,544 finishers in 2004. He ran in the inaugural NYC marathon in 1970, finishing 45th out of 55 runners with a time of 4:12:09. In 1992, he ran his last NYC Marathon, in celebration of his 60th birthday, after being diagnosed with brain cancer in early 1990. His finished in 5:32:35. During his career Lebow completed 69 marathons in 30 countries. In addition to the NYC Marathon, he also organized the Empire State Building Run Up, the Fifth Avenue Mile, and the Crazy Legs Mini Marathon, the first strictly women’s race. Lebow also served as president of the New York Road Runners Club for twenty years. The documentary Run for Your Life tells the story of Lebow and the New York City Marathon.

Lynn Jennings (born July 1, 1960) was the first female on her high school’s all-male track team. From her sophomore year until graduation, Jennings was ranked number one on her team and third overall in the league. She continued to run in college as part of the Princeton University track team, but struggled to keep up in school and stick to a rigorous practice schedule. She quit running several times out of frustration. In 1984, she was inspired to resurrect her career while watching Joan Benoit Samuelson win the Olympic Gold medal in the first women’s marathon. At that moment, she recommitted herself to the sport and qualified for the 1988 Olympic Games, where she finished sixth in the 10,000 meter event. Jennings then went on to win nine U.S. cross-country championships and an Olympic Bronze medal in the 10,000 meters in Barcelona in 1992.

Barry Brown (born July 26, 1944, deceased 1992) was for more than 25 years one of the nation’s leading distance runners. He was a nationally ranked steeple chaser in the late ’60s and early ’70s and a record-breaking masters runner in the ’80s. He still holds the American masters record for the marathon, 2:15:15 set in 1984 at Twin Cities. He was known for high-mileage training and the way he captivated running companions with his rhapsodies on the sport.

1990 – 20th Class of Porter and Treux

Max Treux (born November 4, 1935, deceased March 24, 1991) won the NCAA Cross Country championship in 1957 while running for USC and set an American record in the 5,000 meters. He won the 10,000 meters race in the National AAU championships in 1956 and 1959. His earned a place in 1956 U.S. Olympic team, but was unable to compete in the games because of an injury. He continued to run as a member of the U.S. Air Force after graduation from USC. He was awarded a spot on the 1960 U.S. Olympic team and competed in the 10,000 meters in Rome. He was the only U.S. runner to qualify for the 10,000 finals where he raced against 19 of the world’s top runners in the event. He finished sixth and set an American record. At 5-foot-5, Treux was the smallest athlete to ever represent the United States in track and field in the Olympics.

1989 – 19th Class of Beardsley, Lorenze, Mah & Tinsley

Dick Beardsley (born March 21, 1956) is best known for tying for first place with Inge Simonsen in the inaugural 1981 London Marathon and his close finish with Alberto Salazar in the 1982 Boston Marathon. Beardsley ran his first marathon in 2:47:14 at the 1977 Paavo Nurmi Marathon in Hurley, Wisconsin. In subsequent marathons, he steadily lowered his times: 2:33:22, 2:33:06, and 2:31:50. Beardsley is the only man to have ever run 13 consecutive personal bests in the marathon and is in the Guinness Book of World Records for the feat. Beardsley is also a two-time Olympic Trials Marathon qualifier. He is a two-time winner and course record holder of the Grandma’s Marathon in Duluth, Minnesota and has won the London and Napa Valley marathons. Beardsley is one of the subjects of the book Duel in the Sun, published in 2006 by John Brant. His memoir, Staying the Course: A Runner’s Toughest Race, was co-authored by Maureen Anderson and published in 2002 by the University of Minnesota Press.

Herb Loren (born April 7, 1939, deceased February 27, 2011) was arguably one of America’s greatest distance runners of the ‘60s and early ‘70s. Lorenz’s early years were shaped by the ravages of World War II. His father was killed in the conflict when Herb was just five years. He came to the United States at age fourteen, and as a sophomore in high school he finished second in the state in the mile and as a junior he finished fourth, running both races in the 4:30s. At a time when most runners ended their careers upon graduating from college, Lorenz continued to train and race. Throughout the rest of the 60’s he was a regular in AAU national track races, and became the dominant distance runner on the Middle Atlantic road-racing scene (supplanting two-time Olympian and South Jersey native Browning Ross in that role) and was twice a member of national teams sent to compete in the World Cross-Country Championships. Lorenz moved up to the longer distances, and in 1971, he just missed making the Pan-Am team in the marathon, losing to winner Kenny Moore and novice marathoner Frank Shorter. In 1975, he set an American age-36 record of 2:17:43 in the Boston Marathon and in 1979 he won the Masters division of the Beantown classic with a record 2:24:41. He went on to set American Masters records of 30:41 for 10K, 47:18 for 15K (roads), 47:59 for 15K (track), 1:04:42 for 20K, 1:07:54 for the half-marathon, and 1:19:58 for 25K.

Thian K. "Sy" Mah (born August 2, 1926, deceased November 7, 1988) was a pioneering U.S. marathon runner who once held the Guinness World record for running 524 marathons in his lifetime. The son of a Chinese immigrant family, Mah was born in Bashaw, Alberta. Described as "an ordinary runner of ordinary speed", Mah did not begin running marathons until he was 40, taking up the sport to prevent heart disease that ran in his family. In 1964, he formed the Metro Toronto Fitness Club with three others, and later started the North York Track Club. Mah ran the Glass City Marathon in Toledo, Ohio numerous times, his first at the inaugural event in 1971. By 1977, he completed his 100th marathon there with a 3:18:18 performance. In 1981, Mah ran his 198th marathon to break the record for most marathons set by Ted Corbitt. He would later run his 300th in Detroit (1983), his 400th in Virginia (1986), and his 500th in Boston (1988). The 1984 New York City Marathon was Mah’s 348th marathon and 35th of the year. Mah established and taught exercise and cardiac rehabilitation classes at the University of Toledo in Ohio.
Harold Tinsley began running track and cross country at Clemson University his sophomore year and progressed to be All-ACC in Cross Country and won the mile championship in 4:17.5 at the Carolinas (NC, SC) AAU Association Meet in 1958. After graduation, he didn’t run again until he began jogging in 1970 to lose weight and gain fitness. In 1971, a track club was formed in Huntsville, Alabama, and Tinsley was elected Executive Secretary. Since that time, Tinsley was involved in every aspect of the development of the sport of distance running. In 1975, he set the 2 Mile World Record (9:55.0) for men age 38. He won the RRCA National 10K Masters Championship in the Peachtree Road Race in Atlanta in 1977 in a time of 33:24. Tinsley ran races all over the country in the 1980s and was considered one of the top masters in the nation. In 1978 Tinsley was elected RRCA VP-Southern Region and in 1983 was elected President of the RRCA and served as president for 3 years. He served on the RRCA Executive Board in various offices for 10 years. Tinsley was the first recipient of the RRCA Outstanding Volunteer Award in 1975 and has won several RRCA awards since. He and Louise founded the first marathon in the state of Alabama in 1977 and co-directed the Rocket City Marathon for 20 years.

1988 – 18th Class of Bjorklund, Bridges, Hicks & Moore

Garry Bjorklund (born April 22, 1951) represented the U.S. in the 1976 Summer Olympics in the 10,000 m. At the Olympics, Bjorklund reached the final, becoming the lone U.S. qualifier for the event, finishing in 13th place. As a high schooler, he set a Minnesota state record for the mile run which lasted 39 years. At the University of Minnesota, he won the 1971 national championship in the six-mile run, and won numerous conference championships in various disciplines. Due to the 1980 Summer Olympics boycott by the U.S., Bjorklund was unable to run the marathon in the Games that year. However, he did run the fastest marathon of his career at that year’s Grandma’s Marathon, posting a time of 2:10.20.

Cheryl (Bridges) Flanagan (now Treworgy) (born December 25, 1947) began her running career as a sophomore at North Central High School in Indianapolis. In her senior year in high school, she competed in the national cross-country championships. In 1966, she became the first female athlete in the U.S. to receive an athletic scholarship to a public university from Indiana State University. She graduated in three years with a degree in physical education. In 1969, she finished fourth in the World Cross Country Championships in Scotland.[1] She set the U.S. records in the 3 mile and 5,000 meter distances. In 1971, she finished 3rd in the U.S. cross country championship. On December 7, 1971, Bridges ran her first marathon, finishing the Culver City Marathon in a world record time of 2:49:40.

Thomas Hicks (born January 11, 1876, deceased January 28, 1952) was one of the first two men to finish in the 1904 Olympic marathon in St Louis. Hicks had been around the American distance running scene for some years, having finished sixth in Boston in 1900, improving to fifth in 1901 and placing second in 1904. At the 1904 Olympic marathon, it was hot and hilly. There were no water stations, apart from a well at the halfway mark, and the cars following the race churned up at lot of dust. Sustained by doses of brandy, egg white, and strychnine during the latter stages of the race, enabled Hicks to finish. His dreams of being champion were shattered when he arrived only to see Fred Lorz being photographed, as the victor, with Alice Roosevelt, President Teddy Roosevelt’s daughter. It was learned that Lorz had covered much of the course in a car, and then claimed that his Olympic “victory” was only a practical joke. The AAU did not share his sense of humor. No more was heard of Hicks as after his ordeal.

Kenny Moore (born December 1, 1943, deceased May 4, 2022) enjoyed a solid running career at the University of Oregon under the direction of Coach Bill Bowerman. After graduating in 1966, he found his niche in long-distance events, including the marathon, and in 1969, he set the U.S. marathon record with a time of 2:13:29. He also scored six consecutive wins at San Francisco’s Bay-to-Breakers from 1968-1973. In 1972, he represented the U.S. at the Munich Olympics, where he placed fourth in the marathon. After enjoying a stellar athletic career, Moore took his interest in sports in a different direction in becoming a writer for Sports Illustrated. He stayed with the magazine for 24 years (1971-1995).
Throughout his life, Moore’s passion for the University of Oregon and its track coach never wavered. He co-wrote and produced Without Limits, a Warner Brothers feature film about Steve Prefontaine and Bowerman.

1987 – 17th Bowerman, Jascourt, Kardong, & Larrieu Smith

William Jay "Bill" Bowerman (born February 19, 1911, deceased December 24, 1999) was an American track and field coach and co-founder of Nike, Inc. Over his career, he trained 31 Olympic athletes, 51 All-Americans, 12 American record-holders, 22 NCAA champions and 16 sub-4 minute milers. During his 24 years as coach at the University of Oregon, the Ducks track and field team had a winning season every season but one, attained 4 NCAA titles, and finished in the top 10 in the nation 16 times. As co-founder of Nike, he invented some of their top brands, including the Cortez and Waffle Racer, and assisted in the company moving from being a distributor of other shoe brands to one creating their own shoes in house.

Hugh Jascourt (born 1935, deceased July 27, 2005) was a cross-country star at the University of Pennsylvania in the 1950s, he became a running advocate and a race promoter at a time when it was something of an anomaly to see men and women of all ages, shapes and sizes, clad in running shorts and lightweight running shoes, jogging on city streets. He organized the first Road Runners clubs in Philadelphia in 1956 and in Detroit in 1958, while he was studying law at Wayne State University. He moved to Washington in 1959, organized the D.C. Road Runners Club in 1961 and immediately began promoting local races year-round. Thirty-seven people showed up at Hains Point on June 21, 1961, for the first event put on by the DC Road Runners Club.

Donald “Don” Kardong (born December 22, 1948) began running during his sophomore year of high school. Kardong ran four years of Cross Country and three years of Track at Stanford, missing one season of eligibility while attending Stanford-in-Britain. He was a member of Stanford’s second place NCAA Cross Country team in 1968. He had a best mile time in college of 4:03.2. After graduating from Stanford, Kardong ran his first marathon in 2:18:06 and went on to compete in the 1972 U.S. Olympic Trials in the marathon and 10,000 meters. He finished sixth in both events. In 1974, he ran a personal record of 4:01.9 in the mile. In 1975, he was a member of the U.S. Track and Field Delegation to the People’s Republic of China. In 1976, he competed in the IAAF Cross Country Championships in Chepstow, Wales. He finished fourth in the Olympic Marathon in Montreal in 1976, running a personal best of 2:11:16, missing the bronze medal by three seconds. Kardong was selected “Road Runner of the Year” by the Road Runners Club of America in 1976. He won the 1976 Peachtree Road Race and the 1978 Honolulu Marathon. He is the founder of the Lilac Bloomsday 12K in Spokane, WA (one of the largest road races in the U.S.) and is a past president of the Road Runners Club of America.

Francie Larrieu Smith (born December 23, 1952) was the flagbearer at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona for the United States of America. Larrieu Smith was the third female American athlete to make five American Olympic teams, behind the six of fencer Jan York-Romary. Smith had her best Olympic finish in 1988 with a fifth-place finish in the 10,000 meters at Seoul, South Korea. She is notable for one of the longest distance running careers, beginning with the 1972 Olympics as a 19-year-old running the 1500 metres, then the longest distance race for women, and again in the 1976 Olympics. She also qualified for the 1980 Summer Olympics but did not participate because of the 1980 Summer Olympics boycott. Her best performance was when she finished 5th in the Women’s 10000 meters in 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul. Her final appearance was finishing 12th in the marathon in the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona where, as the elder stateswoman of American track and field at age 39. During her 30-year career, Smith established 36 U.S. records and 12 world bests in distances ranging from 1,000 to 10,000 meters.
1986 – 16th Class of Costes, Brown Heritage & Daws

**Nick Costes** (born August 3, 1926, deceased March 24, 2003) was the first U.S. runner to apply intensive interval training in preparation for a marathon and would later author the standard for interval training in a book for the Runner’s World Book of the Month Club. The ’54 Boston was his first marathon, and even though he had no buildup training for the race he ran 2:35:17 and was the second American in 9th place. In 1955, he was doing speed work like no other distance runner in the history of U.S. distance running. With that training, he was third place, first American, in 2:19:57 at Boston in 1956. He competed in the marathon at the 1956 Summer Olympics. In the 1956 Boston Marathon he improved his time to 2:18:01. Costes moved to Alabama in 1957 to organize a Track and Cross Country program and teach physical education at Troy State. In 1958, he conducted the first road race in Alabama, marking the start of running clubs in Alabama. He served on the RRCA Board of Directors from 1975 to 1978.

**Doris Brown Heritage** (born September 17, 1942) is pioneer in women’s distance running. She won the World Cross Country championships from 1967 to 1972, which was during its first five years. Undeterred by the obstacles women faced in the sport during those years, she had already developed her versatility as a runner. After being barred from even using the school track while she was in Peninsula High School, she joined a local running club and set a national record in the 440-yard dash. She next trained for the 800 meters and finished third at the 1960 Olympic Trials, but her time didn’t qualify her for the Rome Olympics. That year, she entered Seattle Pacific College and began running with the men’s team. In 1966, she became the first women to run a sub-5 minute mile indoors, clocking 4:52. In 1968, she finished fifth in the 800 meters at the Mexico City Olympics. She set world records at 3000m and two miles during 1971, and that year, took a silver medal in the 800m at the Pan American Games. In all, she represented the U.S. on nine world cross country teams and won 14 national titles.

**Ron Daws** (born June 21, 1937, deceased July 28, 1992) was a runner who competed in the 1968 Olympic Marathon in Mexico. In Ron’s first book, The Self-Made Olympian, he explained coach Arthur Lydiard’s system of training. His second book, Running Your Best, included workout charts, quotes and anecdotes gathered from 25-years at the top of the sport. Daws helped organize the Minnesota Road Runners Club (Minnesota Distance Running Association). He continued running marathons until 1983 and took many athletes under his wing. From the mid-1960s to the middle-1980s Daws was the guru of the running community in Minnesota.

1985 – 15th Class of Gabeau, McKenzie, Ratelle, Semple & White

**Henley Roughton Gabeau** (born February 14, 1944, deceased November 7, 2018) took her first tentative steps to run in 1975, following in her then 12-year old daughter’s example. There were very few women running at that time and the area clubs did not welcome women. So the dozen women Henley met at area races formed their own club, the Washington RunHers, and elected Henley as their first president. Leading the RunHers led to activism for many running issues. Henley met Jeff Darman who set her on a leadership path for the RRCA. She was elected first woman president of the RRCA in 1986 and established the first National Office for the RRCA in 1987. When she stepped down as RRCA president in 1990, she was given the job as the first paid executive director of the RRCA and grew the RRCA from 380 to nearly 700 clubs.
Gordon McKenzie (born June 26, 1927, deceased July 19, 2013) was a two-time Olympian 1956 (10K) and 1960 (Marathon). He was U.S. AAU Cross-Country Champion in 1953, a race that featured the Ashenfelter brothers and Browning Ross. In the 1956, he set American Records at 6 miles (29:18.6) and 10K (30:23). He moved up to the marathon in 1960 and pushed John J. Kelly to a course record during their classic duel in the Olympic Marathon trial race at Yonkers. He was second at the Boston Marathon in 1960 in a time of 2:22:18. Gordon represented the racially integrated New York Pioneer Club (NYPC) his entire running career. In the early 1960s, with his engineering background, Gordon was helpful to John Sterner and Ted Corbitt in their efforts to develop a system of accurately measuring road race courses in the United States.

Alex Ratelle (born September 12, 1924, deceased June 10, 2012) flew 60 missions as a navigator in a B-17 bomber with the Army Air Corps during World War II. He was shot down twice but sustained only minor injuries when the plane crash-landed. At the age of 40, he would resume running for exercise. Handwritten results from the inaugural Grandma’s Marathon, on June 25, 1977, note the oldest finisher as Alex Ratelle of Minneapolis. He was 52 and merely placed fourth in 2:37:32. Ratelle went on to finish Grandma’s Marathon for 21 straight years through 1997 and became recognized as the race’s grandfather. He completed 161 marathons.

John “Jock” Semple (born October 26, 1903, deceased March 10, 1988) was the organizer of the Boston Marathon. Semple drew notoriety when he attempted to remove Kathrine Switzer’s race number during the 1967 Boston Marathon, because she was a woman. Semple was a physical therapist for the Boston Bruins and the Boston Celtics for more than 40 years and was also a trainer for Olympic athletes. He trained the United States Olympic hockey team in 1948 and 1952. He worked with Olympic bobsledders, skiers and skaters throughout the years. He ran in more than 100 marathons and was instrumental in the rise of the Boston Marathon over the years, including the implementation of qualifying times in 1970 and the formal admission of female runners in 1972.

Louis White, born 1908, deceased, graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx. In 1945, White finished 5th in the Yonkers Marathon and joined the Pioneer Club and began training with Joe Kleinerman. Lou White ran his first Boston Marathon on April 19, 1946 at the age of 37. His time of 2:52:29 was good for 15th place overall. Prior to running Boston, White competed in various sports including handball, soccer, swimming and speed skating. In 1948, White moved from the New York area to Boston, where he competed for the Boston Athletic Association over the next two years. His best finish ever at the Boston Marathon came in 1949, when he placed 3rd overall in a time of 2:36:48. Later that year, he would finish in the same position at the National Marathon Championships in Yonkers, New York. Eventually, White moved back to New York, becoming a charter member of the New York Road Runners in 1958. During the 1970’s and 1980’s, he continued to stay involved in the sport, manually scoring road races throughout the area. In 1988, after being inducted into the New York Road Runners Hall of Fame, he was quoted as saying, “You should pursue your dreams no matter what obstacles you may encounter. Talent and hard work are necessary for success.”

1984 – 14th Class of Benoit Samuelson, Hansen, Switzer, Schul, Virgin & Davies

Joan Benoit Samuelson (born May 16, 1957) started distance running to help recover from a broken leg suffered while slaloming. Excelling in athletics at Bowdoin College, she entered the 1979 Boston Marathon as a relative unknown. She won the race in 2:35:15, knocking eight minutes off the competition record. She repeated that success with a victory in 1983 that slashed more than two minutes off the world’s best time, set by Grete Waitz in the London Marathon just a day before. Her Boston course record of 2:22:43, set in 1983, was not broken for 11 years. At the 1984 Summer Olympics she won the first Olympic women’s marathon in a time of 2:24.52 in hot and
smoggy conditions, more than a minute ahead of her rivals. Benoit Samuelson enjoyed success at other distances as well, winning the prestigious Falmouth Road Race (7.1 miles) a total of six times (1976, 1978, 1981-1983, and 1985), breaking the course record on four of those occasions. She won the 1985 Chicago Marathon in an American Record time of 2:21:21 that would last as the AR for eighteen years until broken by Deena Kastor in 2003 in London. She founded the Beach to Beacon Road Race, a 10 km (6.21 mile) race held in Cape Elizabeth, Maine each August that goes from Crescent Beach State Park to Ft. Williams Park and Portland Head Light. It attracts many of the world's top distance runners. At the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team trials, at the age of 50, she finished in 2:49:08, setting a new US 50+ record and beating her personal goal of a mid-2:50s retirement marathon.

Jacqueline Hansen (born November 20, 1948) became the first woman in history to run a sub-2:40 marathon (2:38.19 in 1975) and won 12 of her first 15 marathons including the 1973 Boston. Hansen was the president of a group, the International Runners Committee, that successfully lobbied the International Olympic Committee to add women's events for the 5,000 meters, the 10,000 meters, and the marathon. Hansen set a world best mark on December 1, 1974, with a 2:43:55 performance at the Western Hemisphere Marathon in Culver City, California, then recaptured it from Christa Vahlensieck of West Germany on October 12, 1975, with 2:38:19 at the Nike OTC Marathon in Eugene, Oregon. With these two performances, she was ranked first in women's marathon for 1974 and 1975. Besides two world records in the marathon, Jacqueline broke the world record for 15 kilometers on the road, for 6 miles on the track, and 11 other distances on the track in one 50-mile race (200 laps) on the track, winning a national title for the 50-miler. As a master athlete, she won two World Championship titles in the 1500 and 5,000 meters. After her competitive running career, Hansen worked for the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles, and coached an all-women's running team called "See Jane Run" (later known as "The Janes") to multiple USA Cross Country Championships.

Kathrine Switzer (born January 5, 1947) will always be best known as, KV Switzer, the woman who challenged the all-male tradition of the Boston Marathon and became the first woman to officially enter and run the event under bib number 261. Her entry created an uproar and worldwide notoriety when race official, Jock Semple, tried to forcibly remove her from the competition. It was another five years before women were officially allowed to enter and compete. Switzer understood the gravity of her participation and accomplishment. Switzer was the women's winner of the 1974 New York City Marathon, with a time of 3:07:29. Her personal best time for the marathon is 2:51:37, at Boston in 1975. Decades later, the Boston Marathon incident continues to capture the public imagination and is, in part, the reason Switzer has dedicated her multi-faceted career to creating opportunities and equal sport status for women, including creating programs in 27 countries for millions of women to get involved with running. For the 2017 Boston Marathon, bib number 261, the same number Switzer was assigned in 1967, was assigned to her as “Switzer, Kathrine V.” This marked the 50th anniversary of her historic marathon. She was placed in wave 1 and corral 1 and finished in 4:44:31. Boston Marathon has retired her race bib number, 261, in honor of her contribution to the advancement of the sport of running.

Bob Schul (born September 28, 1937) was the only American to have won the Olympic gold medal in the 5000M, as of 2016, at the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympics in a time of 13:48.8. After graduating from Miami (Ohio) University, Bob Schul served four years in the United States Air Force. In 1961, he joined the Los Angeles Track Club where most of the top U.S. distance runners were training under the noted Hungarian coach Mihaly Igloi. He toured on many of America's International Teams and was a member of the 1963 Pan American Team. Schul competed in events from the 400 meters to 5000 meters including the steeplechase and gained the speed and endurance to run a sub-4 minute mile. He was the National Champion at 5K in 1964 and 3 miles in 1965. In 1964, he set the World Two Mile record running 8:26.4. He retired in 1965 upon the return of pain from a previous knee injury. He resumed training in 1967 for fitness purposes, which led him to the Olympic Trials at South Lake Tahoe where he placed fifth despite numerous injuries and limited training.
Craig Virgin (born August 2, 1955) was a legend in Illinois High School track and Cross Country circles, where he held the 2-mile national high school record for many years. His time of 8:40.9 still stands as the fastest time ever recorded in an all high school race. In college at the University of Illinois, Virgin overcame injuries and illnesses to win nine Big 10 Championships, an NCAA Championship, and qualify for his first U.S. Olympic Team. A three-time Olympian in the 10,000 meters, the 1976 NCAA Cross-Country Champion, a seven-time U.S. record-holder in road and track, and the two-time winner of the World Cross-Country Championships, Virgin has a running resume to be proud of. He became the first and only American male to win the I.A.A.F. World Cross-Country championship in 1980. Virgin retired from serious competitive running in January 1992 after a 23-year career of competition in Cross Country, Track and Road Racing.

Clive Davies (born August 17, 1915, deceased April 25, 2001) set 46 U.S. and world age-group records in distances ranging from 1 mile to 60 kilometers (37.2 miles), all between ages 59 and 70. He still holds national marathon records in seven age categories from 60 to 68. Perhaps his greatest performance was the 1982 Boston Marathon at age 66. Mr. Davies clocked 2 hours, 43 minutes, 56 seconds - a pace just under 10 mph for 26.2 miles - despite starting so far back in the pack that he lost 90 seconds and was forced to run on grass to pass slower runners.

1983 – 13th Class of Benham, de Bruyn & Mirkin

Ed Benham (born July 12, 1907) began running on a whim just in 1979 when he was 72 year old. Without any training, the 5-foot-5-inch retired jockey entered a 10-mile race in Ocean City, Maryland with his oldest son. He won a $50 gift certificate and a first prize in his age group. By 1991, he had set more the 130 World Records for his age group, including the marathon record set in 1989 for an 82 year old in a time of 3:48:35. His record stood until 2013, when Canadian runner Ed Whitlock bested his time in 3:41:35.

Paul de Bruyn (born October 7, 1907, deceased April 5, 1997) arrived in New York in 1930 from Germany, and started running for a local track club. He won the German marathon title in 1931. He became the first runner from outside North America to win the Boston Marathon in 1932. De Bruyn went on to participate in the marathons of the 1932 and the 1936 Summer Olympics. He finished 15th in 1932 and gave up at km 35 in 1936. Not fitting into the training regimen of German athletics he returned to the United States and became a U.S. citizen.

Gabe Mirkin (born June 18, 1935) was a competitive marathon runner who was the first to promote regular weekly races exclusively for women, children, and fun runs for novice runners. In 1963, The AAU had a rule that it was illegal for women to run races longer than a half mile, so Mirkin held the first 2.5 mile Road Runners Club of America National Championship for Women in Catonsville, Maryland. In 1967 with Barry Geisler of New York, he hosted the first Age Group Road Runners club of America National Championships in Van Courtland Park in New York for boys and girls. That same year, he held the first National Postal Championship for the one-mile run for the same age groups, simultaneously at many different sites throughout the United States and Canada. In 1962, he started the Run for Your Life program, a two mile, fun run for novice runners that was added to regular RRCA America weekly road races for more serious runners, and thus the start of the first running boom. He was the medical editor of Runner’s World and Running Times magazines. He had his own nationally syndicated radio shows and was the fitness broadcaster for CBS radio for 27 years.

1982 – 12th Class of Agee, Gibb & Mills

William “Bill” Agee, born December 25, 1905 (deceased March 26, 1954), was a U.S. Olympic Men’s Marathon runner. He placed 44th in the 1928 Olympics with a time of 2:58:50. He ran for the Emorywood Club and the Stonewall Democratic AC. He won the 1928 US Olympic Trial marathon in Baltimore and
also won marathons in Baltimore in 1929, 1930, and 1931. Agee was AAU Marathon Champion in 1939 and AAU 15 mile champion in 1929-31.

Roberta “Bobbi” Gibb (born November 2, 1942) was the first woman to complete the Boston Marathon. In 1966, the 23-year-old Gibb applied to enter the Boston Marathon but was refused because she was a woman. She ran unofficially with a time of 3:21:40 and was well received by the other runners, as well as greeted by the Governor of Massachusetts at the finish. Her run made front-page news. Gibb’s run in 1966 challenged prevalent prejudices and misconceptions about women’s athletic capabilities. The next year, Gibb ran unofficially and finished in 3:27:17, an hour ahead of Kathrine Switzer, who had obtained an official number by disguising her gender on her entry form. She was the first of five unofficial entrants in 1968, with a time of 3:30:00. Women were officially allowed to run Boston in 1972. She continued to be a recreational runner and to run marathons. Gibb ran the 1986 and 1996 Boston Marathons to celebrate the anniversaries of her first win. Her most recent Boston finish was in 2001.

William “Billy” Mills (born June 30, 1938) is a Native American who was raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. His given native name, Makata Taka Hela, loosely means “love your country. He took up running while attending the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, KS. He attended the University of Kansas on an athletic scholarship and was named a NCCA All-America Cross Country runner three times. Mills qualified for the 1964 Summer Olympics on the U.S. Track and Field Team in the 10,000 meter and the marathon. Mills was a virtual unknown. He had finished second to Gerry Lindgren in the U.S. Olympic trials. In the finals at the Olympics, the race proved to be a dramatic finish with Mills surprise win in a time of 28:24.4, which almost 50-seconds faster than he had run before. He set a new Olympic record for the event. No American had ever before won the 10,000 meters, nor had any other American come close until Galen Rupp took the silver in the 2012 London Olympics. At the same games, he finished 14th in the marathon in 2:22:55.4. Mills later set U.S. records for 10,000 m (28:17.6) and the three-mile run and had a 5,000 meter best of 13:41.4. In 1965, he and Gerry Lindgren both broke the world record for the six-mile run when they finished in a tie at the U.S. AAU nationals, running 27:11.6.

1981 – 11th Class of Higdon, Prefontaine & Young

Hal Higdon (born June 17, 1931) is the author of 34 books, including the best-selling Marathon: The Ultimate Training Guide. He is a founding member of the RRCA. While attending Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, Higdon won the Midwest Conference titles in the mile, half-mile and cross-country. His best mile time (post-college time) was 4:13.6, and he had notable success at running long-distance races. He participated in the US Olympic Trials in 1952, running in the 10,000 meters. Subsequently he entered the Trials seven times over the years, with his best performance being fifth in the 3,000 meter steeplechase in 1960. In 1964, he took fifth at the Boston Marathon with a personal best of 2:21:55. Higdon still holds the current M40 American record for the steeplechase, set in 1975.

Steve “Pre” Prefontaine (born January 25, 1951, deceased May 30, 1975) grew from hometown hero, to record-setting college phenomenon, to internationally acclaimed track star. Since his death in 1975, Pre has become the stuff of legend. He was recruited by several top track programs and enrolled at the University of Oregon to train under coach Bill Bowerman. In 1972, he began his training for the Olympic Games in Munich. He set the American record in the 5000 meters at the 1972 Olympic Trials in Eugene on July 9. An underdog at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Prefontaine took the lead in the 5,000 m final during the last mile, but he faded to forth at the end of the race. In his four years at Oregon, Prefontaine never lost a collegiate (NCAA) race at 3 miles, 5,000 meters, 6 miles, or 10,000 meters. In 1973, he began a protracted fight with the AAU, which demanded that athletes who wanted
to remain "amateur" for the Olympics not be paid for appearances in track meets. Some viewed this arrangement as unfair, because the participants drew large crowds that generated millions of dollars in revenue, with the athletes being forced to shoulder the burden of all their own expenses without assistance. At the time, the AAU was rescinding athletes’ amateur status if they were endorsed in any way. Because Prefontaine was accepting free clothes and footwear from Nike, he was subject to the AAU’s ruling. He died in 1975 in a car crash. An annual track event, the Prefontaine Classic, has been held in his memory since 1975.

Ken Young (born November 9, 1941, deceased February 6, 2018) invented the art and science of record keeping for the sport of long distance running. He first used a computer to produce race results in 1970, and produced computer based running performance rankings by 1974. In 1980, these rankings had developed into the National Running Data Center (NRDC) which pioneered and developed road records in the United States. In the 1990s Ken developed a relational database for distance running and began the “Analytical Distance Runner” newsletter. He co-founded the Association of Road Racing Statisticians (ARRS) in 2003. Ken was also a running legend amassing 141,000 lifetime miles. His first ultramarathon was the famous 1970 50 mile national championship in Rocklin, CA. In 1972 he set an indoor world record for the marathon of 2:41:29. He held the American Track Records at both 40 miles and 50K. In 1974, he ran his marathon personal best of 2:25 at Boston.

1980 – 10th Class of Anderson, Kuscsik, Osler & Steiner

Ruth Anderson, (born July 27, 1929, deceased February 27, 2016), pioneered women’s ultra-running in the 1970s, at a time when virtually no American women participated in the sport. She established numerous American ultra women’s records, and became an inspiration for the first generation of American ultra women, who led the world ultra rankings well into the 1980s. The Ruth Anderson 50k/50m/100k held in San Francisco each April since 1993 is named after her. In 1986, she was a founding member of the first Ultrarunning Subcommittee of USA Track & Field. Anderson continues today as a USATF committee member and volunteer for long distance running, particularly ultrarunning.

Nina Kuscsik (born January 2, 1939) was the first woman to officially win the Boston Marathon in 1972. Alongside Beth Bonner, Kuscsik became the second American woman to complete a marathon in under three hours, running a time of 2:56:04 at the 1971 at the New York City Marathon. She began jogging in 1967 with the assistance of Bill Bowerman’s jogging book as her guide. In 1969, she entered the Boston Marathon as an unofficial entrant and ran 3:46. She completed 80 marathons with a best time of 2:50:22. Kuscsik set an American record for 50 miles in 1977 in 6:35:53. She was a two-time winner or the New York City Marathon. Her winning time for the 1972 New York City Marathon was on the slow side since the women had a sit-down strike for ten minutes after the gun went off to protest women’s inequality in marathon running. She introduced changes in the athletic rules to allow women to run the marathon in United States and to hold United States Championships. She also prepared and introduced resolution adopted by the USA and the IAAF to place the women’s marathon in the Summer Olympics.

William “Bill” Steiner (born September 3, 1911) placed first in the marathon in the 1935 Jewish Olympics and the World Maccabiah Games. In addition, he took two second places in the 10,000 meter and 1,600 meter relay team. In 1936, Steiner’s marathon team won the National Relay. In 1942, he was ranked eighth in the world as a marathoner. In addition, Steiner was ranked number one as an American runner in the 20-mile (1932), 20K (1933) and in 30K (1946 and 1947). He finished seventh in the 1942 Boston Marathon
and had the tenth fastest time in the world. He also holds a third place (1934) and fifth place (1932) in the Boston Marathon. Steiner finished first in the Metropolitan Marathon (1932, 1934 and 1947), Metropolitan 15 and 20 Kilometers (1934) and Metropolitan 25 Kilometers (1936).

**Thomas Osler** (born April 26, 1940, deceased March 26, 2023), ran more than 2600 races in his 63 years in the sport. His first national championship was a 25K race, in 1965. He captured a second national title for a 30K race in 1967. It was the same year he finished 19th in the Boston Marathon. Later that year, he self-published a seminal work on running, the 32-page classic, The Conditioning of Distance Runners. Osler also published the Serious Runner's Handbook in the '70s during the height of the running boom. His best running times were: 6 miles on the track 30:30 in 1965 and 1967; 10 miles on the track 52:40 in 1966; Marathon 2:29:02 at Boston (18th) in 1967; 50 miles on the track 5:49:14 in 1975; 100 miles on the track in 16:11:15 in 1978. In addition, he authored two running books and was a founding member of the Road Runners Club of America.

**1979 – 9th Class of Henderson, Sears & Williams**

**Joe Henderson** (born June 3, 1943) became an avid runner at age 14, and was an Iowa high school Track and Cross Country champion. He went on to run for Drake University. Although he began his writing career at the Des Moines Register, Henderson went on to write for Track and Field News. In 1970, Henderson joined Bob Anderson as chief editor for Runner's World magazine. He brought aboard Dr. George Sheehan as the magazine's medical editor, after being introduced to him by Hal Higdon during the 1968 Summer Olympics. Henderson wrote articles for Runner's World for 33 years.

**Ray Sears** (born 1900, deceased April 18, 1989), graduated with the class of 1935 from Butler University. He ran Track and Cross Country. He was the 1934 American record-holder in the indoor two-mile and was the American two-mile champion. The 1934-35 track team captain held many long-time Butler and national track records, and later became Cross Country coach at his alma mater.

**Garnett “Gar” Williams** (born January 30, 1933, deceased January 16, 2023) began running in his senior year in college in Augustana College, Ill., as a miler and two-miler on the track team. He immediately became hooked on running and has kept it up ever since. His peak racing years (1955 to late 1960’s) had some disappointments (e.g., never making an Olympic team) and some decent performances including Nat. AAU Marathon champion in 1965. He was president of the D.C. Road Runners Club (DCRRC) from 1969-73. During that time, the DCRRC began holding regularly scheduled business meetings, delegating key duties to various individuals, adding many new racing sites, adopting a race-director’s checklist, sponsoring clinics, and generally upgrading administrative procedures. From 1973-76 Gar was president of the RRCA. Corresponding with the beginning of the running boom, this period saw a revival of RRCA and the institution of the State Rep system; creation of RRCA literature on club administration; establishment of several RRCA annual awards (Road Runners of the Year, Journalistic Excellence, and others), and, at his last annual meeting as president he revised the annual meeting to change sites from Boston [in connection with the Marathon] to a different city each year.
**1978 – 8th Class of Hayes, Rodgers & Scandurra**

**John Joseph "Johnny" Hayes** (born April 10, 1886, deceased August 25, 1965), won gold in the Marathon at the 1908 Summer Olympics in London. He is one of only three American athletes to win the Marathon. Hayes started his running career with a fifth-place finish at the 1906 Boston Marathon with a time of 2:55:38, running on behalf of the St. Bartholomew Athletic Club. He improved the following year by finishing third with a time of 2:30:38 and then winning the Yonkers Marathon. In 1908, he finished second in the Boston Marathon with a time of 2:26:34, which qualified him for the Summer Olympics. The British Olympic Association wanted to start the race in front of Windsor Castle and finish in front of the royal reviewing stand at White City Stadium, which extended the race distance. The distance wouldn’t be codified as the official marathon length by IAAF until 1921.

**Bill Rodgers** (born December 23, 1947) is a past American record holder in the marathon. He is best known for his victories in the Boston Marathon and the New York City Marathon in the late 1970s. He won both races four times each between 1975 and 1980, twice breaking the American record at Boston with a time of 2:09:55 in 1975, and a 2:09:27 in 1979. In 1977, he won the Fukuoka Marathon, making him the only runner ever to hold the championship of all three major marathons at the same time. He made the 1976 U.S. Olympic team and finished 40th in the Marathon. His most remarkable year on the road racing circuit came in 1978, when he won 27 of the 30 races he entered, including the Pepsi 10,000 meter nationals with a new World Road 10K best time of 28:36.3. He also won the Falmouth Road Race and the Boston & New York Marathons.

**Aldo Scandurra** (born 1917, deceased December 31, 2000), was an entrepreneur, university professor and founding member of the New York Road Runners Club. He was a celebrated long distance runner and a junior national marathon champion in 1955. He completed the London-Brighton 52.5-mile ultra-distance run in 1965. Scandurra is credited with orchestrating the rise of road running in New York, and he wrote the first rule book for distance running. He helped forge a distinct identity for the sport separate from track and field. Scandurra served as the RRCA president from 1968-69. He also founded the Long Island Road Runners, which was incorporated in 1979. He participated in the first meeting of the Association of International Marathons (AIMS) in 1982. The following year he served as the chairman of the road racing committee of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF)

**Frank Shorter** (born October 31, 1947) first achieved fame through his victory in the 1969 NCAA 10,000 meter his senior year at Yale. Shorter trained with Jack Bachelor as members of the Florida Track Club (FTC) while pursuing a law degree at the University of Florida. The FTC’s core nucleus of Frank, Jack and Jeff Galloway qualified for the 1972 Olympics and their success made Gainesville, Florida the Mecca of distant running on the East Coast in the early 1970s. Shorter won the U.S. national cross-country championships four times (1970-1973). He was the U.S. Olympic Trials Champion in both the 10,000 meter and the Marathon in both 1972 and 1976. He also won both the 10,000 meter and the Marathon at the 1971 Pan American Games. A four-time winner of the Fukuoka Marathon (1971-1974), he also won the Peachtree Road Race in 1977 and the Falmouth Road Race in 1975 and 1976. Shorter is most well-known for his gold medal in the Marathon at the 1972 Munich Olympics. He also finished fifth in the 1972 Olympic 10,000 m final. He finished second in the Marathon at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal Shorter was the World Mast
Eino Pentti (born October 18, 1906, deceased January 24, 1993), represented the United States in the 10,000 meters at the 1932 and 1936 Summer Olympics. Pentti placed second in the 10,000 meters at the 1932 United States Olympic Trials, qualifying for the 1932 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles; at the Olympics he failed to finish, due to being sick with fever, as did the two other Americans. He captured his first Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) championship title in the 10,000 meters in 1934; he won the championship again in 1937 and 1938.[2][3] At the 1936 Olympic Trials Pentti placed second a hundred yards behind Don Lash, who set a new American record of 31:06.9. He qualified for the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, where he placed 16th.

Greg Rice (born January 3, 1916, deceased May 19, 1991), developed his running form at Notre Dame, working with John P. Nicholson, before graduating in 1939. In 1940, he won the Sullivan Award as the best amateur athlete in the United States. From 1938-42, he won national titles outdoors in the 5,000 meters and indoors in the three-mile from 1940-43.

1976 – 6th Class of Johnson, Sheehan & Stone

Richard Earl Johnson (born March 10, 1891, deceased November 19, 1965) made his Olympic debut in 1920, but was eliminated in the heats of the 10,000 meter. He competed for the United States in the 1924 Summer Olympics held in Paris, France on the Cross Country team where he won the silver medal with his teammates Arthur Studenroth and August Fager. He was the AAU five-mile champion for three consecutive years starting in 1921. In 1924, he won the AAU 10-mile championship.

George Sheehan (born November 5, 1918, deceased November 1, 1993), was a track star at Manhattan College. He served as a doctor in the United States Navy in the South Pacific during World War II on the destroyer USS Daly. He didn’t rediscover his love of running until age 45. At the age of 50, he ran a 4:47 mile, which was the world’s first sub-five-minute time by a 50-year-old. Sheehan wrote a weekly column for 25 years in his local newspaper. In addition, he was the medical editor for Runner’s World magazine. He wrote eight books and lectured around the world. Diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1986, Sheehan continued to run until his legs could no longer carry him. Going the Distance was his last book. It was published shortly after his death in 1993.

Curtis Stone (born November 19, 1922) made the Olympics three consecutive times in 1948, 1952 and 1956 and received medals in the 5,000 meters race in 1948 at London, 1956 at Melbourne, and in the 5,000 and 10,000 meters races in 1952 at Helsinki. Stone spoke of his experiences running against the Russians. Amidst the anxiety of the Cold War, he focused solely on winning a medal. “They were tension-filled times and people never thought I would place, and I did.”

1975 – 5th Class of Ashenfelter, Lash & McCluskey

Horace Ashenfelter, born January 23, 1923 (deceased January 6, 2018), won fifteen national AAU titles and three collegiate national titles during his career. He served in World War II and then attended Penn State. He won the NCAA 2-mile run in 1949, the IC4A outdoor 2-mile in 1948 and 1949, and the IC4A indoor 2-mile in 1948. Ashenfelter was the surprise winner of the steeplechase at the 1952 Summer Olympics at Helsinki with a dramatic surge on the last lap following the final water jump after trailing substantially early in the race. He was also AAU national champion in cross-country, 1951, 1955 and 1956; the steeplechase, 1951, 1953, and 1956; the 3-mile run, 1954 and 1955; the 6-mile, 1950; and the indoor 3-mile, 1952 through 1956.
Don Lash (born August 15, 1912, deceased September 19, 1994), was a distance runner who won 12 national titles from 1934 to 1940, including seven consecutive men’s national cross country championships. He also set a world record at 8:58.4 for the two-mile run in 1936. In the 1936 Summer Olympics he placed 13th in the 5,000-meter run and eighth in the 10,000-meter. In 1938, Lash set a meet record of 14:00.39 in the 5,000 meters at the AAU indoor national championships.

Joseph “Joe” McCluskey (born June 2, 1911, deceased August 31, 2002), won an Olympic bronze medal at age 21 while still a student at Fordham University in New York. In 1936, he placed 10th in the steeplechase at the Berlin Games. In 1948, at the age of 37, he came within two yards of making his third Olympic team, taking fourth place at the American trials. After his 40th birthday, McCluskey began to compete in a variety of events, including throws, in the Masters age group competitions. In 1984, aged 73, McCluskey competed in 13 events in a 12-hour period. In 1995, he returned to Fordham to run a two-mile race at the age of 84.

1974 – 4th Class of Dengis, Pawson, Porter & Robbins

Frank “Pat” Dengis (born January 18, 1902, deceased December 17, 1939), placed fifth at the Port Chester Marathon in 1932 and fourth in 1933 before scoring his first victory in 1934. In 1935 he placed second behind John A. Kelley at the Boston Marathon (2:34:11.2) and won the AAU national championship marathon in Washington in 2:53:53. Dengis entered 1936 as one of the leading candidates to qualify for the American Olympic team, but in both of the Olympic tryout races suffered from medical problems. Dengis won the marathon at the 1937 Pan American Games in Dallas, in 2:42:43. In 1938, he won the Salisbury Beach Marathon in 2:30:27.6, the fastest time in the world that year. Despite his successes, Dengis never won the Boston Marathon. In the last two years of his career he won nine marathons and lost only two – the 1938 and 1939 Boston Marathons. In he 1938 Boston Marathon he placed second behind Les Pawson.

Leslie “Les” Pawson (born February 3, 1905, deceased October 13, 1992), saw major competition from John A. Kelley, Ellison Brown, and Gerard Cote. Pawson won the Boston Marathon in 1933, 1938, and 1941, becoming the second runner to win the race three times. For Pawson’s 1945 win, the olive wreath was made in the US for the first time due to the war in Greece where the wreath had been imported from in previous year.

Mel Porter competed for the U.S. in the 1936 Berlin Olympics in the Marathon. He also won the AAU National Marathon that ran from Mt. Vernon and ended at the White House on June 12, 1937, beating fellow Porter was a member of the Millrose Athletic Club of New York.

Charles “Doc” Robbins (born 1921, deceased August 10, 2006), was a unique character on the U.S. long distance running scene. Robbins won eleven national running championships, including: five 20 kilometer titles, plus, two 25 kilometers, two 30 kilometers, and two marathon championships. Yet, his enormous potential in running was much greater than his actual achievements. Robbins was known to be a “light trainer.” For various reasons, he devoted relatively little time to training for long distance running. Robbins completed his 50th consecutive Manchester Road Race in 2001. He has participated in 20 Boston Marathons, finishing as high as third over all in 1944. He was famous for running barefoot for over 70 years.
Fred Wilt (born December 14, 1920, deceased September 5, 1994) was an outstanding distance runner at Indiana University under Hall of Fame coach Billy Hayes before becoming an Olympic competitor while running for the New York Athletic Club. He competed in two Olympic 10,000-meter finals, finishing 11th in 1948 and 21st in 1952. He won eight National AAU titles, ranging from the indoor mile in 1951 to three championships in Cross Country. At age 32, Wilt set an indoor world record in the two-mile run and later that year, broke an 18-year-old American record with a time of 14:26.8 for 5000 meters. His interests changed to focus on the technical side of track and field. His book, How They Train, was a long-time best seller.

1973 – 3rd Class of Brown, Dyrgall, McArdle, Hennigan & Nason

Ellison “Tarzan” Brown (born September 22, 1914, deceased August 23, 1975), a Narragansett Indian, won the Boston Marathon in 1936 and 1939. He took off so fast in the 1936 Boston marathon that the press followed the second runner, John A. Kelley, until the 20 mile mark where Kelley caught up to Tarzan. As Kelley overtook Tarzan, an amazing feat given the steady record break pace Tarzan had set, Kelley patted Tarzan on the back. What followed was a struggle between Tarzan, who took the lead on the downhill, and Kelley, who took the lead on the up hills, until finally Tarzan took the lead again to win the race. This struggle inspired reporter Jerry Nason to name the last Newton hill Heartbreak Hill because Tarzan “broke Kelley’s heart.” In the 1939, he was the first runner to break the 2:30 mark for the marathon. In 1939, Brown entered two different 26-mile races within 24 hours of one another, and he won both races.

Victor Dyrgall (born October 8, 1917, deceased October 4, 2006) won several U.S. Men’s Championships, including the 1946, 1948 and 1949 15k, the 1948 and 1949 20k, the 1948, and the 1951 30k. He competed in the marathon in the 1952 Summer Olympics in Helsinki, Finland.

Peter “Pete” McArdle (born March 22, 1929, deceased June 24, 1985) was an Irish runner who came to the U.S. in 1956 and became a citizen in 1962. He won the gold medal in the men’s 10,000 meters at the 1963 Pan American Games in Sao Paulo, Brazil by defeating two-time Pan American gold medalist and record holder Osvaldo Suarez. He was third in the men’s marathon. Competing for the New York Athletic Club in the 1960s, he established himself as one of the nation’s top distance runners. In the 1964 Summer Olympics he finished 20th in the marathon.

James “Hinky” Hennigan (born April 25, 1892, deceased February 27, 1950), competed at the 1924, 1928 and the 1932 Summer Olympics. He also won the Boston Marathon in 1931 in 2:46:45. He had a running career that spanned 28 years. He served in World War I, ran through the roaring 20’s, and suffered through the great depression. He managed to win 700 prizes during his running career as stated in the New York Times, February 28, 1950. He ran the Boston marathon 20 times.

Paul Jerry Nason (born 1909, deceased June 1986), was a well-known track and field expert and the Boston Globe sports editor for 33 years. He covered the Boston Marathon for the Boston Globe for 50 straight years. He finished that singular streak while in retirement in 1982, as a gifted observer of the world’s oldest foot race. He was a Massachusetts guy, born in Newton, and wrote with clarity and dignity. He embodied the spirit of the race as much as any runner who ever covered the distance.

1972 – 2nd Class of Corbitt, Faller, Gregory, Kelley & Kleinerman
Theodore “Ted” Corbitt (born January 31, 1919, deceased December 12, 2007) Corbitt is often called “the father of long distance running.” He was an ultramarathon pioneer, helping to revive interest in the sport in the United States in the 1960s and 1970s. The grandson of slaves, Corbitt was born on a cotton farm near Dunbarton, South Carolina. He ran track in high school and at the University of Cincinnati. Due to the racial discrimination common at the time, he was sometimes banned from track meets when white athletes refused to compete against him. After army service in World War II, Corbitt earned a graduate degree in physical therapy from New York University, where he later lectured. He was a physiotherapist for more than 40 years. Corbitt joined the nation’s first integrated running organization, the New York Pioneer Club, in 1947.[5] He competed in the Marathon at the 1952 Summer Olympics in Helsinki. In January 1954, he won the Philadelphia Marathon, the first of his four wins there. In May 1954, he won the Yonkers Marathon, becoming the U.S. National Marathon Champion. At various times, Corbitt held the U.S. track records for distances of 25 miles, the marathon, 40 miles, 50 miles and 100 miles. He remained a nationally competitive runner well into his fifties. He was the founder and first president of the Road Runners Club of America and the founding president of the New York Road Runners Club. He is largely responsible for the movement to adhere to strict measurement criteria and course certification.

Frederick “Fred” Faller (born July 30, 1895, deceased August 11, 1984), competed at the 1920 Summer Olympics. He finished eighth in the 10,000 m, 15th in the individual cross-country and fourth in the team cross-country event. Faller won the AAU 10 mile and cross-country titles in 1919–20, and finished second in the 10 mile race at the 1919 Inter-Allied Games.

Louis “Doc” Gregory (born July 10, 1902, deceased April 21, 1989) was a world class runner and familiar figure on the New England road-racing circuit throughout the 1930s and 1940s. He competed in events from five miles to the marathon for the Millrose Athletic Association. At the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, he competed in the finals of the 10,000 meters as a member of the USA Olympic Team. He placed second in the 1942 Boston Marathon with a time of 2:28:03. He won 16 AAU national championships at various distances. Doc Gregory moved to Pensacola, Florida where he began his second career as a master’s runner rewriting the record books, setting scores of age group records. He ran 3:53 for the marathon to break the world age record for 76 years olds by an hour and 8 minutes.

John A. “Johnny” Kelley (born September 6, 1907, deceased October 6, 2004) was one of the most colorful characters in the history of the B.A.A. Boston Marathon, John A. Kelley was a fixture of the race for nearly seven decades. A two-time winner of Boston, 1935 and 1945, he finished second seven times and recorded 18 top 10 finishes. Kelley completed 58 of the 61 Boston Marathons he started. In 1993, the statue “Young at Heart” was dedicated in honor of Kelley. Located at the base of the third hill in Newton, the statue depicts a young Kelley winning in 1935 at age 27 and clasping hands with an older Kelley finishing in 1991 at age 83. Beginning with the 1995 race, Kelley has annually served, except in 1999, as the Grand Marshal of the Boston Marathon, preceding the runners in a pace vehicle. In addition, He finished 18th at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin.
Joseph Kleinerman (born Jan. 12, 1912, deceased November 11, 2003), was one of the founders of the Road Runners Club of America and the New York Road Runners Club. He was a key figure in developing the New York City Marathon and women’s distance running. In 1941 and 1942, he finished 10th in the Boston Marathon. His best time there was 2:38, and he ran that, as he once told Newsday, "with sneakers, on dirt roads, and without any water stops." The Millrose Athletic Association named him an assistant coach in 1941, head coach in 1967 and coach emeritus in 2002. Into his 90's, he remained active as the New York Road Runners Club’s registrar. Kleinerman estimated he had run 500 races. Knee injuries forced him to stop racing at 53 and running at 70. At 81, after knee replacement surgery, he found the perfect physical therapy: he started jogging.

1971 – 1st Class of Campbell, Edelen, Kelley & Ross

Bob Campbell (born 1909, deceased December 10, 2004), won seven New England championships at distances from three to 10-miles, plus steeplechase and cross country titles during his 14-year running career. He coached the Norfolk Young Men’s Association, which won 25 New England and 15 National AAU team championships. His athletes included one Olympic and two Pan American Games marathoners. He served as an official for the Boston Marathon for 41 years and chaired the Olympic Marathon Trials Site Selection Committee from 1980 through 1984.

Clarence DeMar (born June 7, 1888, deceased June 11, 1958), was seven-time winner of the Boston Marathon and Bronze medalist at the 1924 Paris Olympics. The 1910 Boston marathon was DeMar’s first; he finished 2nd. Later in 1910 he was advised by a doctor that he had a heart murmur and should stop running within a year or two. The next year at the Boston marathon the doctors on the starting line advised him of his heart murmur and told him that he should drop out if he was fatigued, and that he should not run any more races. Nevertheless, he won in 2:21:39, a course record. DeMar was one of the twelve members of the U.S. marathon team in the 1912 Summer Olympics, finishing 12th. DeMar continued running until shortly before his death, running his last Boston marathon at age 65.

Leonard “Buddy” Edelen (born September 22, 1937 (deceased February 19, 1997), was the first American marathoner in nearly four decades to set a world record by cutting 48 seconds off the world record when he won Britain’s Polytechnic Marathon in 2:14:28 on June 15, 1963. It was the first marathon record by an American since Albert Michelsen ran 2:29:02 in 1925. A member of the Summer Olympics in Tokyo in 1964, he finished sixth. Edelen ran 13 more marathons, winning seven. He stopped competing at age 28.

John J. Kelly (born December 24, 1930, deceased August 21, 2011), was the winner of the 1957 Boston Marathon and the marathon at the 1959 Pan American Games. He was a member of two United States Olympic Marathon teams. He placed 21st and 19th in the Melbourne and Rome Olympic marathons respectively. He is the only runner to ever win both the Boston Marathon and Mount Washington Road Race, which he won in 1961. He made the ascent in one hour and 8 minutes 54 seconds, nearly seven minutes faster than the winning times in the three previous years the race had been held. After his win at Boston, Kelley would win several other marathons, including eight consecutive wins of the Yonkers Marathon in Yonkers, New York.[4] During all those years, the Yonkers Marathon served as the National Championship
H. Browning Ross (born April 26, 1924, deceased April 27, 1998) devoted his life to spreading his love and enthusiasm for long distance running and is often credited as the cornerstone to the development of long distance runners in the U.S. He competed in the 1948 London Olympics where he became the only American to compete in the steeplechase final, placing 7th overall with a 9:23.2 time. At the 1951 Pan American Games, Browning placed 1st in the 1500 meter run. In 1955, he recognized the need for distance running results to be published and widely distributed to increase the public’s awareness of the sport. Shortly thereafter he created the Long Distance Log, the only publication devoted exclusively to long distance running in the USA. The first issues were mimeographed on the backs of recycled high school history tests. The Log would become the major instrument to unite runners and address their concerns over the next 20 years. He was the first editor-in-chief of the magazine, which mailed monthly to about 1,000 subscribers throughout the country until 1975. In 1958, Ross founded the Philadelphia Road Runners Club, which later became the national Road Runners Club of America.

Thank you to the many people that have contributed to this compellation of biographies and photos for each member of the RRCA’s Distance Running Hall of Fame. The contributors are too numerous to name in this publication, but we thank them all for allowing the RRCA to publish the information.

Photo: Hall of Fame members gather at the 60th RRCA Anniversary Celebration in Arlington, VA in 2018.
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