

Calendar of events

- Feb. 13 – There is a marathon Volunteer Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for 1 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 13 at Life Fitness Management in LaVale. Lots to discuss.
- Feb 14 – First annual [Hobo's Heartbreaker 10K and half-mile kids run](#) on Cooks Mill Road in Londonderry Township, Pa.. The low-key event begins and ends at Cooks Mill United Methodist Church, located approximately 2.5 miles north of Ellerslie, Md. Entry fee is \$3 for the general public and free for Mountain Maryland Marathon Club (M3) members. Donations to support Brittany Armentrout's effort to race in Australia this summer also will be accepted (see April 4 for details).
- Feb. 15 – M3 [training run](#) of 12 to 18 miles at 8 a.m beginning in downtown Cumberland. Must email run@mountainMDmarathon.org or call 240-522-0276 in advance to verify your participation. All training runs are free. Please bring your own water/hydration system.
- Feb. 16 – Regular [monthly Mountain Maryland Marathon Club meeting](#) starts at 6 p.m. at Life Fitness Management on National Highway in LaVale. Meeting is open to the public. Topics of discussion include a review of the Hobo's Heartbreaker run, an update on marathon issues including sponsorship and logistics updates, a status of the 2nd annual Spring is Here! 10K and half mile kids run scheduled for Saturday, April 4 and other items.
- Feb. 21 – M3 training run of 10 miles at 8 a.m. Must email run@mountainMDmarathon.org or call 240-522-0276 in advance to verify your participation. All training runs are free. Please bring your own water/hydration system.
- Feb 22 – [RRCA Club Challenge 10-miler](#) in Columbia, Md. Race time 8 a.m. Leaving the Times-News parking lot at 4:45 a.m. for the 2.5-hour trip if you want to carpool with me (1 passenger spot already taken). RRCA state convention follows race awards ceremony. Will return no later than 2:45 p.m. The 10-miler is a team-oriented event complete with team standings. Entry is \$7 but you don't pay until race day. Visit

<http://www.striders.net/races/rrca/2009> for details. If you register online, please be sure to register as a Mountain Maryland Marathon Club member - [password mtntop09](#) - so you can be counted in the team standings. If you sign up as a club member, the Mtn Md Marathon Club will pay your \$7 entry fee. This can be a competitive event or a fun run or a little bit of both. So long as someone can maintain a 12 minute-per-mile pace or better, you'd be considered an official finisher.

March 7 – [5th annual Hooley Plunge](#) at Rocky Gap State Park. It's a SPLASH! And it benefits the Allegany County Special Olympics and other programs providing aid to the developmentally disabled. See www.hooleyplunge.com for event details – and prepare for a possible low-key fun run coordinated by the Mountain Maryland Marathon Club. As if you needed another reason to visit Lake Habeeb for a refreshingly cool dip in early March. Stakeholders meet Monday – visit www.mountainMDmarathon.org often to see if this race becomes a reality!

April 4 - [Spring is Here! 10K and half-mile kids run](#) on Saturday, April 4. Race starts at 8 a.m. Race-day registration only, beginning at 7 a.m. The race is run entirely on Mason Road in Cumberland. The starting line is near the Union Grove Campground on Mason Road, about 3.2 miles from the intersection of Naves Cross Road and Mason Road. Last year, we ran in the opposite direction. This year we start near the Union Grove one-room schoolhouse. Entry form is online. The event is officially a fundraiser for Brittany Armentrout's trip to Australia - yet another very good reason not to advertise the race just yet! Visit www.mountainMDmarathon.org and click on "Help Brittany race in Australia" for details.

April 19 – Ah, saving the best for last – the Mountain Maryland Marathon Festival presented by Life Fitness Management. As of now, [we have 174 total registrations](#) for the marathon (51), half marathon (63), 5K (25) and Kids Marathon (35). This is up from 154 just 12 days ago. We more than doubled the number of registered runners between Dec. 24 and Jan. 24. We have entries from 11 states and Washington D.C.

We're well on our way toward reaching our goal of 300 participants between all 4 events (not including the free, 400-meter tot trot).

- Next races:
- 2.14.09: Hobo's Heartbreaker (M3 race)
 - 3.7.09: Hooley Plunge fun run? Why not!?
 - 3.14.09: Chambersburg (Pa.) Half Marathon. Visit www.chambersburghalf.org for details.
 - 3.28.09: The Great Escape 5K/2-mile walk at Mexico Farms, south of Cumberland. Visit www.qcstriders.org for details.