

Charleston South Carolina Marathon and Touring <u>January 13-18, 2011</u>

#### From my initial email update

Just back from Charleston Marathon with a 5:46 so I now have a wee bit of confidence that I might be able to pull off Houston before they close the gates at 6 hours sharp. Fellow Liberty Lady Maricar was in AZ and had a great time with Yolanda. So Charleston Marathon is done: It was not an exciting race. The town is worth a visit but the marathon course only had moments of nice spots. The first four miles or so miles ran through the old historic town and then it was either Tobacco Road or old deserted factories. It was good however to be with Charlotte, Diane, Kathy Kass, Larry Macon, Lois Berkowitz, Carol Goslin and a load of friends for the weekend, and of course Tom is here for the extra days we're spending in a lovely and special suite that's an old converted factory. We stayed here in 2005. Annette, we missed you but it was 28 degrees at the start, lots of black ice and I saw some falling runners, so don't be jealous. You did the right thing to rest up. Off to the showers before Tom returns 'home' and sees me in this 'condition'.

Friends – photos compliments of Forest Gump aka Charlotte







### Why do the Charleston Marathon?

- Great tourist town worthy of a few days. We visited and had a car for a few days in 2005 and this
  time hoofed it. You see it differently.
- Excellent restaurants in downtown Charleston and it falls on Food Week with great menu deals.
- Good choice of downtown hotels in the French Quarter's historic district. We choose and would choose again the Ansonborough Inn – especially room 228. (Close choices to the start line would include Embassy Suites and Hampton Inn but they are a few blocks out of down town.)
- January marathons in the south should be a way to run a warm marathon, though that was not the case with this year's 28 degree start.

- Good organizing committee as they've done the Festival and other distances for a few years. They have good support and reasonably good numbers of spectators.
- Pacers are available to 5 hours.
- The course runs through the downtown historic district though that's only about 4-5 miles of it.
- They allow 7 ½ hours and even let someone come in at 8:03.
- Nice high-tech t-shirt and colorful medal. Even a cinch backpack









- A large number of bands and entertainment were available.
- Post race food is southern shrimp and grits as well as beer.

Video of start and finish at http://www.postandcourier.com/multimedia/

What's not to like? Overall this was an okay marathon and the following is not to pan it but to be realistic.

- The start line kept changing but it was within a few blocks of each address anyway.
- The course lacks excitement except the first handful of miles and a little bit near to the water.
- If you want a big expo, this is limited to about a handful of vendors and its out of the way requiring a car. There is no public transportation.
- This is a point to point but at least you can get a hotel near the start line. Nothing at the finish line but a bus that you pay for to bring you back to town.
- Odd number of turns and twists to the course. I rather like seeing other runners but we all felt lost and wondered what direction we were going at times. Equally a lot of smallish out and backs.
- Timing clocks were in minutes. I can't relate. What is 220 minutes to my mind!
- As evidence of the tobacco road atmosphere on part of the course, see the article about a body found in a park along the course.
- Do other marathons use gun time versus chip time for age group awards? Its fine but something I'd not noticed before.

**Another Liberty Lady** - One of two main sponsors was T-Bonz Restaurant. It seemed appropriate that the restaurant mascot is a Liberty Lady.

**Course pictures compliments of Charlotte.** The first picture represents the good tourist sites and then we ran into these old factory areas with pretty of boring out-and-backs. Maybe of interest was what looked like a prison with lots of high wire fences – turns out it's the largest Homeland Security training area in the country.







fice nor police released any additional information Monday.







# Some of my course pictures











# Pictures by Diane











#### **Pacers**

They are available but only to the 5 hour pace. Kathy, Diane and Charlotte gathered with the pacer who was a guy most of them knew. I joined them but lost sight at about the five mile mark. While the poor fellow crossed the finish line alone, some scurried ahead and some were behind; to my view, pacers are always helpful and make the running more interesting.

#### Entertainment on the course was excellent



#### Results

I absolutely owe my 5:46 to Carol Goslin. I had just decided that my old 5:45s from early 2010 had turned into 6:15s as the norm and I was totally into taking much of the 7 ½ hours this marathon course allowed. Then came along Carol; she was so much fun and encouraging that I had to stay with her no matter how difficult it was (smile). She came in first in our age group and I was second. She really deserved both age group awards for pulling me in! We don't mind that we are generally the oldest females in the marathon and we'll take our age group awards any way we can get them.







Thank you Kevin Brosi for supplying these two on-course pictures with Carol Goslin.

#### Other results of interest

Carol – 5:47 with 1st AG

Charlotte – 4:57

Diana - 5:46 with 2<sup>nd</sup> AG

Diane - 5:08

Henry - 6:11

Kevin – 4:45

Kathy - 5:18

Larry – 6:05 – 5 marathons in 2011 before the middle of January!

Lien - 5:25

Lois – 5:15 with 2<sup>nd</sup> AG

Lou - 6:06

Maricar – 6:26 at Phoenix here with Yolanda



Charleston is timed to 8:03. We saw a gal who looked in our age group who said she'd been lost and she was likely the 8:03.

From Marv about our Tulsa friends: They had a big marathon here in Phoenix today. Several Tulsa peeps ran in it and set PR's. Weather was perfect.

Cowboy Bob was there -- see news article about Cowboy Bob at the end also.

# Newspaper reviews

# GOING THE DISTANCE



leston. heading down East Bay Street and circling The Battery before heading up King Street to North Charleston. It was the marathon in the Holy City since the Bridge-a-thon was held in October 1985. Race officials said 1,019 runners registered for harleston Marathon and that 771 runners crossed the finish line. The race began with thermometer readings in the upper 2 wintown Charleston and ended with temperatures reaching into the 40s in North Charleston. For complete race coverage, si

#### Our hotel – a favorite from 2005

I've figured out that not every room is so special but many are in this old historical factory converted to AAA 4-diamond award.

www.ansonboroughinn.com/ Our room #228 is identified as a premium plus room: "Extremely luxurious and large open floor plan king suites. These rooms have spacious granite baths, with soaking tubs; gas fireplaces; expansive windows with a residential East Bay Street view; original oil paintings; and a wet bar with mini refrigerator,



microwave, and coffee maker. These rooms have 16 foot ceilings and range from 715 to 750 square feet." The first picture is our room with the bed facing a working fireplace.







#### From the hotel website:

**History of the Inn** - The Ansonborough Inn...for those familiar with maritime history, the very name speaks to its nautical heritage. The Inn is located within the historic district of downtown Charleston, so named when Lord Anson of England won the property in a spirited poker game with famous Charlestonian Thomas Gadsden. Lord Anson was sent to Charleston in 1724 to protect the coast of South Carolina from pirates. Admiral Anson was by no means a mere gentleman with a title – he was an exceptional sailor by any standard. He was the third Englishman to circumnavigate the globe. On his many voyages he captured Spanish ships filled with treasures. The most celebrated being in the mid-1740's when he abducted a Spanish vessel carrying booty worth a million and a quarter pounds of sterling. The Ansonborough district stretches from King Street to the edge of the Cooper River, between Society and Calhoun streets. These farmlands were divided into a borough of 25 lots in 1746.



Admiral George Anson

**Development/Background -** Originally a three-story stationer's warehouse (circa 1901), the building was designed for individual condominium units. As a result our suites are larger than most hotel rooms. They range from 450 to 750 SF, which is unlike the typical 288 SF hotel room. Following the original renovation, the Ansonborough Inn has been transformed into this charming all-suite inn rivaling any in the South. Exposed heart pine beams and local fire red brick were commonly used in buildings of the period and these elements were incorporated in the décor throughout the Inn.

What's New? - The Inn was completely remodeled in 1999 by owners George & Sandra Fennell. In keeping with the nautical heritage of Admiral George Anson, the Fennells have overseen the transformation of the Inn into one of the Historic District's truly unique properties. You'll notice their attention to detail...handsome historic antiques and reproductions and a vast collection of original oil paintings throughout the guest suites and common areas.

**Awards -** The Ansonborough Inn received the Charleston Chamber of Commerce's Enhancement Award for property beautification.

**Location** - The Ansonborough Inn's location is both central and convenient on Hasell Street. Tucked away just a block north of The Market Street area, the Inn is within easy walking distance of all of downtown Charleston's history, shops, and restaurants, which provides guests the ability to arrive and park (\$12.00/a night) without traffic congestion. From our front door you can also walk to the highly acclaimed SC Aquarium. The view from our rooftop terrace boasts views of the city's steeples, Cooper River Bridge and the USS Yorktown.

#### **Tourist**

From our 2005 trip there is a photo show at <a href="https://www.TomsKoi.com">www.TomsKoi.com</a> (click on photo shows) and then go to page 7 of the shows. Here's his favorite from this trip.

#### Charleston Overview and History

From <a href="https://www.PlanetWare.com">www.PlanetWare.com</a> — If you want to see a well preserved "Southern belle" and breathe the atmosphere of the old white South, you must go to Charleston. Built on a peninsula where the Cooper River and the Ashley River flow into the Atlantic, it retains, to a greater extent than any other town in the southern states, the luxurious, almost aristocratic, ambience of the great days of plantation society - dependent as it was on the sweat and the misery of the blacks. A walk or a drive in a horse-drawn carriage through the Historic District, with its Georgian mansions fronted by yearneds and Classical columns and its control of the state of the s

its Georgian mansions fronted by verandas and Classical columns and its slender church towers, makes it easy to see why the heroine of "Gone with the Wind" preferred to live in Charleston.



Tourism is now a major element in the economy of Charleston, but the armed forces also make a considerable contribution. Transport planes of the United States Air Force drone almost constantly over the town, and ships of the United States Navy set out from the port on exercises.

The first British settlers landed on the marshy banks of the Kiawah (now the Ashley) River in April 1670, naming their settlement Charles Towne in honor of Charles II. A few years later, however, they moved to the more conveniently situated peninsula and began to develop a new town. Reinforced by new settlers, including French Huguenots, Charles Towne grew to become an important port that owed its prosperity to the trade in skins, rice and indigo. The planters living in the interior sought entertainment and relaxation in the town, and it acquired the first theatre, the first museum and the first college in North America. In 1773 Charleston was described as the wealthiest town in the American South. During the War of Independence the town was occupied in 1780 by British forces, who held it until December 1781. Eighty years later the bombardment of Fort Sumter, at the entrance to Charleston harbor, marked the beginning of the Civil War. The town suffered much damage during the war, but was rebuilt in the old style. It was similarly rebuilt in 1989 after being devastated by Hurricane Hugo.













#### **Foodies**

I've had a few requests for more information on food and clearly that's for when I'm with Tom. I'm prone to eat a PBJ sandwich standing up. Charleston however is known for food and we found a few repeats and a few new ones. We also found one that might have caused a couple stressful days.







On the good side – We had a meal with Charlotte. She is the southern belle who dresses in costume and generally with Tara but Tara wasn't here so Charlotte dressed as Forest Gump. She's on her way to becoming a Marathon Maniac and adding to the headline by having her three marathons in three months all run in South Carolina! She also took me to Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. Restaurant where she purchased a Bubba Gump hat for her costume. I purchased some GUMPism playing cards and learned a bit about Forest.

- Stupid is as stupid does.
- There's an awful lot you can tell about a person by their shoes.
- I don't know if we each have a destiny or if we are all just floating around accidental like on a breeze.
- Mama always said you gotta put the past behind you before you can move on.

- I cut that grass for free.
- A promise is a promise.
- That's all I have to say about that.
- There's only so much fortune a man really needs and the rest is just for showing off.
- What does normal mean, anyway?
- Don't let anybody tell you they're better than you.
- Miracles happen, everyday. Some people don't think so, but they do.
- Mama always said life was like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get.
- I'm not a smart man, but I know what love is.
- Mama always had a way of explaining things so I could understand them.

#### The Citadel

From their website: The Citadel is a landmark in Charleston and South Carolina that is noted for its educational reputation as well as its rich history. Founded in 1842, The Citadel has an undergraduate student body of about 2,000 students who make up the South Carolina Corps of Cadets. Another 1,000 students attend The Citadel Graduate College, a civilian evening program that offers graduate and professional as well as undergraduate programs.

The Citadel is best known nationally for its Corps of Cadets which draws students from about 40 states and a dozen countries. The men and women in the Corps live and study under a classical military system that makes leadership and character training an essential part of the educational experience. About a third of the graduating classes accept military commissions.

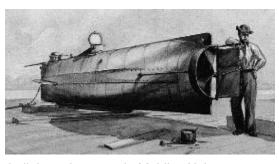
When I heard that the freshmen had to walk in the gutters for all of their first year, and stand at attention throughout their games, and drop to pushups when there was a field goal, I somehow wasn't surprised to learn that only about 30% receive officer commissions. They don't sound very smart to me to put up with all this.

The Bulldog is their mascot. The campus is lovely and was on our bus tour.

The amazing Hunley – Charlotte had told me the story about this first and civil war submarine where men were lost and then the submarine itself was lost until recently. We saw the replica on display at the downtown museum with the story about the men found recently. They were still sitting exactly in their spots and for some reason never knew their lives were soon to be lost. They pedaled this submarine! Our marathon course ran by the new museum showing the original Hunley, said to be amazingly similar to the replica we saw which was made years before the original was found.

#### From Hunley.com

For the last crew of the now legendary Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley, the end of the American Civil War came on the night of February 17th, 1864 just outside Charleston Harbor. The violent percussion of 135-pounds of black powder stealthily delivered by the tiny, hand cranked iron sub reduced the U.S. Navy's 207-foot blockade vessel Housatonic to sunken wreckage, killing five of her crew and sending the rest into the rigging to escape the chilling waters washing over her decks.



#### From hnsa.org/ships/hunley.htm

H.L. Hunley was the first submarine to sink an enemy warship in combat. It was built in spring 1862 in Mobile, Alabama at the Park & Lyons Machine Shop by a coalition of machinists and businessmen including engineers James McClintock and Baxter Watson, lawyer Horace L. Hunley, and four members of an organization of underwater "torpedo" (contact-mine) manufacturers called the Singer Submarine Corps. Eight crewmen operated the submersible. Seven individuals sat side-by-side on a wooden bench affixed along the port side of the vessel and turned a hand-cranked propeller featuring an innovative reduction gear system, while the commander was responsible for steering the submarine and deploying the weapons system. Following successful testing in Mobile, the submarine was shipped to Charleston, South Carolina by flatcar in August 1863 at the request of Charleston's military commander General P.G.T. Beauregard. Beauregard hoped the submarine could help break the naval blockade that was then preventing access to the city's harbor. Hunley sank twice during her development. Once while tied to her moorings, the hatches were left open and the submarine was swamped, killing five. She sank a second time during a practice dive, killing all eight of her crew, including her namesake,

Horace L. Hunley. H.L. Hunley's history-making achievement occurred on the bright moonlit night of February 17, 1864, when its commander, Lt. George Dixon, spotted the Federal steam sloop-of-war Housatonic moored approximately two miles from Battery Marshall in the north entrance to Charleston Harbor. The submarine silently approached its victim and was not sighted by the watch aboard Housatonic until it was so close the sloop's heavy guns could not be depressed sufficiently to defend against attack. As Housatonic's crew slipped the anchor chain and backed the engine in an attempt to avert the attack, H.L. Hunley detonated an explosive charge against the sloop-of-war's starboard side just aft of the mizzenmast; five minutes later, Housatonic lay completely submerged. H.L. Hunley failed to return from the mission and the exact cause for its loss remains a mystery. The submarine was discovered May 3, 1995 and recovered from its watery grave on August 8, 2000. Currently, H.L. Hunley is undergoing archaeological study and conservation treatment at the Warren Lasch Conservation Center. She was listed on the National Register December 29, 1978.

#### From Wikipedia.com

H. L. Hunley was a submarine of the Confederate States of America that played a small part in the American Civil War, but a large role in the history of naval warfare. The Hunley demonstrated both the advantages and the dangers of undersea warfare. She was the first combat submarine to sink an enemy warship, although the Hunley was not completely submerged and was lost at some point following her successful attack. The Confederacy lost 21 crewmen in three sinkings of the Hunley during her short career. The submarine was named for her inventor, Horace Lawson Hunley, shortly after she was taken into service under the control of the Confederate Army at Charleston, South Carolina.

H. L. Hunley, nearly 40 feet (12 m) long, was built at Mobile, Alabama, and launched in July 1863. She was then shipped by rail on August 12, 1863 to Charleston, South Carolina. Hunley (then called Fish Boat) sank on August 29, 1863, during a training exercise, killing five members of her crew. She sank again on October 15, 1863, killing all eight of her second crew, including H. L. Hunley himself, who was aboard at the time, even though he was not enlisted in the Confederate armed forces. Both times the Hunley was raised and returned to service. On February 17, 1864, Hunley attacked and sank the 1240-short ton (1124 metric tons) [1] screw sloop USS Housatonic on Union blockade duty in Charleston's outer harbor. Soon after, Hunley sank for unknown reasons, killing all eight of her third crew. This time, the innovative ship was lost.

From usatoday.com about the mystery of The Hunley - Part of the story is solid. Part of it remains a mystery. What is certain is that on the night of Feb. 17, 1864, the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley sank the USS Housatonic in Charleston Harbor in South Carolina to become the first submarine to sink a ship during combat. Then the Hunley itself literally sank into oblivion when it went down with its crew of eight. The resting place of the Civil War submarine, which had remained a mystery for more than century, finally was discovered in 1995 off Sullivan's Island. But before the submarine sank, the story goes, it flashed a blue light to Confederate soldiers on the shore to signal success. But as this part of the story comes from second- and third-hand accounts, it "gets a little fuzzy," says archaeologist Mike Scafuri of the Warren Lasch Conservation Center in Charleston, where the recovered Hunley is on display. Nobody knows whether the signal was supposed to be made directly after the attack or as the Hunley approached shore, Scafuri says. And another question remains: Could a lantern have produced a strong enough light for the soldiers to see? To try to answer the question of the mysterious blue signal, 12 students at Hamburg (Pa.) Area High School are building three replicas of the submarine's lantern in the school's metal shop. Retired history teacher Ned Eisenhuth and retired shop teacher Fred Lutkis began the project after expressing interest last summer in the history of the Hunley to the Lasch Conservation Center. These will be the only true replicas of the Hunley's lantern, Eisenhuth says. Next month, the school plans to donate the best replica of the lantern to the conservation center, which has been studying the submarine since it was excavated in 2000 with help from the Friends of the Hunley Organization. Scafuri says the conservation center and the high school hope to answer the following questions with replicas of the only light source on the Hunley:

- •Could the soldiers on shore have seen the blue light from more than 1,000 feet away?
- •Just how powerful was the lantern?
- Could the lantern actually produce a blue-colored light?

Using X-rays and drawings from the conservation center of the actual lantern remnants from the recovered submarine, students have begun soldering and molding sheet metal to form the lantern. The lantern consists of three cylinders that fit tightly inside one another: the outside, inside and lens cylinders, says Lutkus. "The hardest part has been going off the diagrams (of the lantern) that were mailed to us" by the conservation center, says Hamburg senior Cody Wertz, one of six students working on lantern construction. "There's some stuff that you don't know exactly, that we have to guess to the best of our ability what they would have had."

#### The Cooper River Bridge

Now if they'd let the marathon run over this bridge, like they do for another shorter run, it could really be a great course! Charlotte ran over the old bridge and then the new one that has only recently

opened. Lucky girl.



Check out http://www.cooperriverbridge.org where it tells about this being the Americas longest cable span bridge. Clearly these are their pictures and not mine though I'd love to see the Bridge with these views.





I once thought of collecting bridge runs and I don't know where that goal went but I'm off to do the Golden Gate for the 3<sup>rd</sup> run and about the 6<sup>th</sup> crossing again this July. Seattle's Floating Bridge was tackled and might not exist any longer; I enjoyed Waco Texas's old historical and now pedestrian bridge. I've bicycled twice and ran five times across NYC's

Verrazano Narrows Bridge and of course the NYC Marathon

has a number of bridges connecting the five boroughs. Flying Pig had their Purple People Bridge, Hartford yes, Miami's multiple bridges, Louisville's Kentucky Derby, Cape May's where we almost got blown off the bridges and had to hold on, and OBXs that we thought would never end or worse would get closed down before we got there.



#### The Market Place

Historical downtown has a large area for the old Market Place with many arts and crafts but the most famous local craft and allegedly only found in this area is the Sweet Grass Baskets. They are pricey due to the intensity of labor required.



# Churches and more churches – it's called the Holy City

We noticed there being so many with maybe only the number of attorneys in town outnumbering the churches. Both are prolific and we don't exactly know why but the churches are certainly colorful and worth a tour in themselves. Some really anchor the town. Obviously these aerial views were pictures picked off the web.



#### Rainbow row of houses

Pictured and famous in Charleston is the row of houses of colorful paints and fortunately the historical society protects them. They run along Bay Street and Battery Street which did face the water but now with reclaimed land they do not.

#### Overall – a good trip

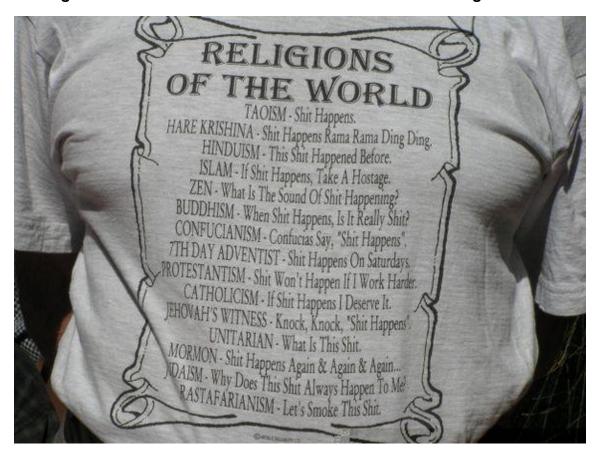
A good finish time and a good time finishing, so what else could a marathon want? A nice town with lots of interest enough to bring one back again and again. We recovered from bad food at a good restaurant and lived to tell about it.



#### Next up?

I'm off to Houston for the marathon and 8 days should give me time to visit with friends David Williams and David Parker, see Galveston (Steve and Paula Boone's suggestion) and visit one more presidential library in College Station. Houston will be my third marathon in January and then I'm resting up by hiking in Maui until I return to Houston for the Surfside Beach Marathon. From Surfside I'll head directly to another hike in Big Bend and Guadalupe National Parks, plus Carlsbad Caverns.

#### And as something to think about - this must be a t-shirt idea for running!



#### Itinerary

#### Thur 1/13 – Diana and Tom

7:15am Car service to airport – verify which terminal

9:47am Depart Newark EWR via CO#3065

12:12pm Arrive Charleston CHS

Taxi recommended as transport to hotel - \$30-\$40 though shuttles are available Later learned that a flat \$34 can be had through Prime Time Charleston 843 478 6778 and a \$3 fare for anywhere in Charleston downtown.

Hotel Ansonborough Inn (1) – AAA 4-Diamond facility in converted factory

12 Hasell Street, Charleston, SC 29401 Tele 843 723 1655

Conf – see file - www.ansonboroughinn.com

Includes breakfast and evening hors d'oeuvres with wine

Tourist: Mini van tours available, bike and walking tours, and bike rentals.

Fri 1/14

11:00am Expo and packet pick up until 8pm (or until 7:30pm – two times listed)

Pre-race pasta dinner, race expo and packet pick up will be staged near the finish line on the Navy Yard at Noisette at the corner of McMillan Avenue near Noisette Boulevard. Expo: There will be a large tent. Physical address: 1362 McMillan Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405-2035. This is also the location for the finish line.

Later Directions: Exit I-26 onto Cosgrove at Exit 216 B, follow Cosgrove 1.4 miles, crossing lights at Azalea, Rivers, and Spruill. You will dead end into a massive parking area. Look for the Large White Tent to your Eleven o'clock position.

Note: apparently there is no bus from downtown Charleston to the Expo.

Directions to Expo: From I-26 take exit 216B, follow thru the light at Azelea, go over a bridge, follow thru the light at Rivers and thru the next light at Spruill. Go 300 yards to large parking lot, look straight ahead and you will see the large tent about 400 years further. Park and walk to the tent, please.

# Sat 1/15

8:00am Marathon & Half Marathon (Begins in Downtown Charleston near 75 Calhoun Street)

11:00am Shrimp & Grits are served, finish line entertainment begins. (North Charleston on the Navy Yard at Noisette)

Later info Full and Half Marathon start near the Gailliard Municipal Auditorium at 73 Calhoun St.

Earlier info Marathon start at Maritime Center, 10 Wharfside Street, Charleston 29401 (aquarium area) <a href="www.riverfrontracefestival.com">www.riverfrontracefestival.com</a> - <a href="www.charlestonmarathon.com">www.charlestonmarathon.com</a> - 7 ½ hour finish time limit - From Ansonborough Inn .44 miles to Maritime Center per <a href="www.mapquest.com">www.mapquest.com</a>

Earlier info The marathon and half-marathon start near the South Carolina Aquarium in downtown Charleston and finishes at Noisette Boulevard on The Navy Yard with music and a Lowcountry favorite, Shrimp & Grits. Purchased \$3 bus from finish line to return in downtown Charleston

#### Mon 1/17

It's MLK day so it is a holiday?

#### **Tue 1/18**

4:25pm Depart Charleston CHS via CO#2074

6:24pm Arrive Newark

Car service pick up at curb after call.

#### **Participants:**

Diane Bolton – at Hyatt Place near airport Annette Wulffe – with Diane – maybe can't come? Kathy Kass – at Doubletree Guest Suites 843 577 2644 Kevin Brosi – with wife Lucy Charlotte Corriher (ex Johnson) – with Kathy

Diane, Kathy and Charlotte later moved to Embassy Suites close to the start but a little bit out of town.

(1) Ansonborough Inn is located within the historic district of downtown Charleston. Near the market area, you can walk to the finest restaurants, shopping and entertainment the Holy City has to offer. Ansonborough Inn resides on property that was named after Lord Anson of England, who, while on assignment to protect Charleston from pirates, won the property in a spirited poker game. Originally a three-story stationer's warehouse, circa 1901, the building was designed for individual condominium units. As a result our suites are large and range from 450 to 750 sq ft. Following that renovation, Ansonborough Inn has been transformed into a charming all-suite inn rivaling any in the South. Our majestic atrium welcomes you with exposed heart pine beams and local fire red brick. These elements were commonly used during the period and are incorporated in the decor throughout the inn. Each room has data ports for internet access, dual phone lines and voice mail. The guest business center is also available 24/7 with our compliments. A delightful continental breakfast is served each morning in the Centurion Room. Each afternoon, enjoy our wine and cheese social with our own home made pimento cheese dip.

**From:** support@raceit.com [mailto:support@raceit.com]

Subject: Transaction Confirmation for Charleston Marathon's Riverfront Race Festival

Thank you very much for being part of our event. We appreciate your participation. If you have any question, at any time, please email charles@CharlestonMarathon.com or call 843.303.3334. Our course is flat, except for one overpass. Plan to come early and stay late. Charleston is a terrific place to enjoy and site-see.

This email confirms your transaction completed successfully for \$85.00Registration: Charleston

Marathon's Riverfront Race Festival: Marathon

Registrant: Diana Burton (email: dianab@juno.com)

Gender: F

Age on day of event: 65 Address: 185 Kingfisher Dr. Middletown, NJ 07748 US

T-shirt size?: S

Those that are signed up by January 4 have their first name on top of their bib and their city and state on the bottom.

#### News article on Cowboy Bob



Robert "Cowboy" Bishton is gearing up for the Charleston Marathon and like most of us he's extremely eager to be a part of history as this is Charleston's very first marathon.

Many athletes have a unique charm that they would never play or run without, but Cowboy is a little different. Not only is he bringing his Cowboy hat but he'll also be toting along a strong sense of accomplishment and a case with164 Bibs from each marathon that he has completed in the past six years. Excluding all the training and conditioning that's 6,919.98 kilometers, 4,296.2 miles, and 63,140 yards in just under 6 years. Think about running from downtown Charleston, SC to Phoenix, AZ and back again... You'd still have to

add on miles.

To make his story even more interesting Cowboy emailed us a few days ago with a very polite inquiry:

"If your bib numbering system allows for it, I'm asking to be be assigned #165. I am trying to collect as many bibs as possible that match the number of my marathons and Charleston will be my 165th since Oct. 2004.

With only the exception of Boston, run twice, and Snickers in Albany, GA, where my father retired, I have not repeated events.

I've been looking forward to Charleston ever since I met a member of your organization (quite possibly you) at another event expo several years ago and signed up for more information on your email list. I've run Myrtle Beach and Kiawah, where I finished my first circuit of the 50-States and Washington, D.C. Charleston will be used as my 3rd run in South Carolina to help complete my 3rd circuit of the United States.

Thank you for your consideration."

We were extremely ecstatic to hear his story and easily obliged.

Whether Charleston is your 1st or 165th marathon as racer, volunteer, or spectator... Saturday, January 15th will be a special day for all us and we are honored to have each of you with us! The picture above was taken as Robert "Cowboy" Bishton was just 2-miles from the finish of the Bismarck, ND Marathon in 2009.

From one of the Maniacs to Annette:

#### **Arriving**

Kevin (Friday around 11:00 am)

Kathy K (Friday around 11:00 am)

Martha and Steffen (Friday afternoon)

Kathy B and Frank (Friday afternoon)

Jason (Friday around 3:30 pm)

Jeff (late Friday evening)

#### Hotels

Kevin (Embassy Suites - downtown)

Kathy K (Embassy Suites - downtown) \*

Martha and Steffen (Renaissance - downtown)

Kathy B. and Frank (French Quarter Inn - downtown)

Jason (Best Western - downtown)

Jeff (LaQuinta - North Charleston)

\*Kathy's (and I think Jeff''s) friends Diane, Annette and Charlotte are considering staying at Embassy Suites as well so hopefully we'll see them too.