

2014 Magical Moments

Comments from Bismarck Santa Run Participants

I can't stop smiling. The Santa Run was phenomenal. All the little touches did not go unnoticed. The Santa registration bag, the Santa suits, the carolers around the course, the very special finisher's medal, the prizes, the entertainment, the happy volunteers, the delighted participants. ALL so well done, my friends. Thank you for caring enough to pull it all together. Such a wonderful event. Thank you, thank you.

Congratulations on a great event. I enter many of the local races and your race was well organized, the course was fun and the Heritage Center was a nice setting. Also, I am a big fan of Todd Clausnitzer's work so the t-shirts were top notch.

I just wanted to let you know what a fantastic race this was today. I have done many races and this one is up there on top. Here is what I experienced:

- Web site was very easy to navigate with all the information needed for the race.
- Price was right on.
- Bonus email communication the night before. No surprises for race day.
- Venue was great!!! Please don't change it. Enough room for everything.
- Plenty of table set up for packet pick-up and day of race registrations and snack tables after race. No long lines to stand in.
- Loved the Santa gift bags with all the goodies packed inside. Nicely labeled with runners name. No confusion. (bet that took some volunteers)
- The course was great. Time was taken to sand where needed. We all understand this is winter running.
- Great Master of Ceremonies (Rick is so funny...nice Christmas sweater!)
- Good sound system for pre-race announcements.
- Yummy snacks after the race.
- Neat prizes.
- Overall VERY organized for inaugural race!!

Thank you again so much for creating the Santa Run. I heard so many people commenting on just how incredible it was and particularly commenting on the combination of the impressive amount of detail that went into the planning; just the sheer fun of it; and the inspiration of Leane Guerrero and the reason behind the run. I was honored to be part of it as a runner, but also so happy to get to give some music.



What a wonderful event this was today! Not only was it fun, it was one of the best organized 5Ks I've ever participated in. Thank you for your work in putting this on.

Judge Reich,

I would like to extend my gratitude to you and Ann, once again for making my family and I feel so welcome. I hope that RADD continues to grow in size and exposure. I cannot express the amount of respect and admiration I have for what I see happening in your community. A little compassion goes a long way.

Sincerely,
Leane and family

I just wanted to thank you for a great race! This topic hits close to home for me and loved ones, and I couldn't have been more honored to run and support a wonderful cause. Please count me in for next year and also throughout the year. I would love to be involved in RADD!

Thank you for allowing the Legacy High School Choir to participate in the Santa Run! It seemed as if everybody involved enjoyed themselves and it certainly couldn't have been a better day. If you are ever looking for entertainment for an event, please consider us again.

What a great well organized event. We had a blast and the weather was awesome too! Fun memories created for our family! Be back next year!!

The Santa Run was such a cool event! Great costumes, carolers on the route, an awesome spread at the finish line, and a beautiful wreath for winning the female division. The best part about this event, though, was getting to hear how running helped a young woman overcome addiction and get her life back. She began running while in prison, and it became a source of relief for her. She was released early and has been sober for 8 years now. She is married with kids and is set to graduate in the spring with a degree in criminal justice and is planning on going on to law school after. Her escape from stress and frustration used to be drugs, but now it's running that gives her relief. Absolutely amazing!

Very well organized & SUPER FUN event! I get a smile on my face whenever I think of the sight of all of those Santa Clauses!

I think this fantastic event definitely needs to continue as an annual event!

We had a great time!

What a fun and valuable fund-raising event! The Heritage Center would love to host this event again next year...and the next year!

I thought the check-in, run and race went smoothly for me as a runner. I also appreciated it starting timely!

Thank you for putting on the Santa Run, for the great work that the RADD group is doing I was happy to support a great cause and then be able to myself benefit from such a fun experience at the Santa Run.

Not only was this run insanelly fun (and funny!), but it also will give opportunities to those who are dealing with addiction in our community. Running can impact their lives and in some cases, it already has!

The Santa Run was one of the best “fun runs” I have participated in. It was so touching to see the RADD Runners cross the finish line. What a wonderful way to bring those struggling to success.

This was a great run for a great cause! I truly enjoyed how well it was organized and how wonderful all the volunteers were. Great job by all!

I would be happy to be the official Santa for this event again next year!

I have been meaning to send you a message and tell you what a great , well organized and wonderful event the Santa Run was. I enjoyed it and am in for next year!!

I enjoyed everything, the bags, the shirts, the finishing medals, the venue, the weather... It was amazing. Thank you for all your hard work on making this event happen.

My sister in Richmond, Virginia saw me on Facebook! This Bismarck Santa Run has nationwide coverage! Words cannot express what a wonderful thing you and Ann did!

Great event. I sure hope you have this event next December because I would love to participate.

The run was well marked and easy to follow. I knew exactly where I was going. I did see a couple of runners miss the turn after the two laps around the mall area and then under the tunnel. There was no problem with this route but maybe just emphasize the course more in the pre-race instructions. The course was unique and very good. I would not change the location or the route. Also, I would keep the race as a 5k only. I do not think a 10k option is necessary.

You did a great job advertising the event by having Santa at several of the fall races with his 12/13/14 Santa Run sign. I would suggest flyers to advertise the event and put them up at the Y, Women’s Health Center, Aquatic Center, etc. If you have Todd Clausnitzer involved you know that the flyer will be well done and eye catching.

The t-shirts were great. Maybe a different color each year like red, green, grey, etc.

... your event was really great. I would not change it much at all. Hope we have a Santa Run every year.

The Santa Run was fantastic. Yes, I would participate in it again next year and already have told others about it and they are eager to run next year as well.

This was the most well organized event I have participated in this year ... and it's number six since August ... so good job to you and the volunteers. It was amazing! Other events could learn from this one.

Those photos—what wonderful documentation!

One of the best organized runs I have participated in! Wow!

The pictures are awesome!

It was great – I wouldn't change a thing – loved the path, food, speakers, gifts –

I hope you have taken a well-deserved day of rest after yesterday's successful Santa Run. I offer a huge congratulations go to you for creating the concept, and another huge congratulations to you, Ann and all the others who planned and executed the concept with military precision.

You have appropriately aimed the spotlight on chemical addictions causing so much of the heartache we see in our courts. In the process, you have demonstrated by what you have done and by what you have said publically that judges not only recognize the problem but are doing something about it in ways big and small. Doing so, you have honored yourself, your court and the entire North Dakota judicial branch. I am sure I speak on behalf of the entire North Dakota Supreme Court when I say thank you. I am ready to help next year in any way possible—just let me know what I can do.

--Supreme Court Justice Dan Crothers

Thank you to the amazing sponsors and over 100 volunteers who graciously said “yes” and gave of their time, talents and resources to support the 2014 Bismarck Santa Run. Because of all of you, 12-13-14 grew into a colorful event to support a cause that can change lives. We are grateful...more than you will every know.

--2014 Bismarck Santa Run Planning Team

Jay Beyer, Jean Beyer, Julie Bosch, Ross Espeseth, Dave Mason, Ann Reich, Judge David Reich, Tom Regan, Toni Reinbold, Tim Sass

RADD | Runners Against
Destructive Decisions

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