

## 29<sup>th</sup> Wildflower Run – by Carol Holzgrafe

In the end it wasn't rain 825 runners had to deal with during Sunday's 29<sup>th</sup> Wildflower Run, but a frigid, 35 mile-an-hour wind.

"The wind was crazy," said one runner, speeding by too fast to leave his name, "but it was good running with the wind."

Ryan Corvese and Inna Vishik, had the fastest 10K times for men and women, Kyle Deisenroth and Emily Guthormsen, for the 5K. Natalie Mazaud and Jacob Hall finished first and second in the 2K for kids, 10 and under.

Natalie's father said she had won the 2K race last year and intended to win this year too; and she did.

Names, ranking and times for the 5 and 10K races plus a 5K walk are available at [www.wildflowerrun.org](http://www.wildflowerrun.org) and/or [www.svtiming.org/](http://www.svtiming.org/) Similar details for the 2K can be found at the Wildflower Run site. South Valley Endurance provided the timing chips and convenient, almost immediate printouts of run data.

The Run is a project of Morgan Hill's American Association of University Women branch. All proceeds are used to provide college scholarships to local women and camperships to 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls who will attend the Tech Trek Science and Math Camp for Girls at Stanford University this summer.

Besides offering a well-organized certified race, the AAUW volunteers – 130 strong – offered T-shirts in deep purple with a striking design: a large poppy with running legs as the flower's stamen. The shirt was designed by former Morgan Hill resident, Jim Holzgrafe of Quail Run Graphics.

Katie and Brian Howard, recently honored on Philanthropy Day, provided Jamba Juice smoothies for all runners. Many other local businesses sponsored the run or offered services (massage, anyone?) after the race.

All runners received ribbons as they crossed the finish lines and the top three winners in each category were photographed wearing medals around their necks while posing on the three-tiered stand familiar to Olympic Game viewers.

While 5 and 10K races tend to focus on teens and adults, 2K runners and their siblings could have their faces painted or a temporary tattoo added to a cheek.

Shea Mattox, age 7, who attends Nobel Elementary School in San Jose, and Emily Pember, 9, a fourth grader at Nordstrom School, were both eager to begin the run – the first time for Shea, the third for Emily.

Both had exactly the same comment.

"I just like to run," they said.

While no event as large as the Wildflower Run is ever entirely "glitch" free – the wind blew over the timing arch and the Live Oak custodian did not have the key to open a crucial gate – this one was, apparently, close. Run Director Elizabeth Mandel said that, even with all the work, everyone had fun.

"We had so many competent volunteers," Mandel said, "we could hardly miss." And they had 29 years to practice.

The next Wildflower Run is scheduled for April 14, 2013, leaving plenty of time to get in shape.

For Race results: [www.wildflowerrun.org](http://www.wildflowerrun.org) and/or [www.svtiming.org/](http://www.svtiming.org/)

Top Three in each race

10K

#1 Ryan Corvese, age 17

#2 Clint Scott, age 40 M

#3 Pierre delforge, age 45 M

10K Women

#1 Inna Vishik

#2 Claire Maust

#3 Julie Wolfsmith

5K men

#1 Kyle Deisenroth

#2 Austin Heiser

#3 Jeff Pesta

5K women

1 Emily Guthormsen

2 Sarah Gilbert

3 Annie Bergholz

2K for Under 10 kids

1 Natalie Mazaud, age 10 (9-10 category) 8:35:00

2 Jacob Hall, 7-8 category 9:31:00

3 Jason Toombs 9-10 category 9:40:00