

Colorama 24 Was So Much More!

The 24th Colorama Run/Walk on October 6th was truly a Friends Group Effort to brag about. We had a record 675+ runners and walkers and over 72 Smokey Bear Fun Runners—a record. Although it was a very cool day and got even colder as the day progressed toward awards, participants were happy to run on the well-groomed trails. We had two new sponsors this year, thanks to the solicitation of President, Louise Borzinski. She secured Oliva Di Vita, a new business in downtown Delafield and Wheel & Sprocket. REI's marketing director offered over \$500 in free drawing prizes including a tent and several nice backpacks and weekend bags. All favored the new design in metallic gold on the long sleeved t-shirts, professionally drawn by Mary Benson, Board member and local artist. Many treats were displayed by Wendy Vehanen and Anne Riendl passed out Gatorade at the finish line water stop. Many other very helpful volunteers registered folks, passed out numbers, t-shirts, pins, and ChampionChips, or water at the other water stops on the course. Some guided walkers through the newly opened Hausmann Nature Center. A booth for REI advertising seed gathering in the afternoon, a snowmaking information booth, a hot dog and beverage stand, and a table displaying the free drawing prizes kept folks busy when they weren't running, walking, or cheering for their friends. Grand totals are not in at this writing as we had to mail more t-shirts, but preliminary net profits will exceed \$10,000 for the Friends of Lapham Peak to be used for park amenities. Thanks so much for all who made this 24th Colorama an event to remember.

Note: Next year will be the 25th Annual Colorama. If you have ideas for our t-shirt design, color, or suggestions to make this THE biggest Colorama Run, please contact Kris at jmaki4@wi.rr.com. I already have some wonderful suggestions.

Sincerely, Kris Maki