

"Chobot Challenge"

15k TRAIL RACE

& "Hike for Mike" 5K Fun Run/Walk

SUN, JULY 12, 2020 * 9 AM * RUSTIC PARK, BIRDSBORO, PA

Honoring Michael Chobot; trail runner, award winning sound engineer, lovable eccentric.

Point Scoring Race for the Mid-Atlantic USA T & F Off-Road Series

Michael Chobot (sounds like "Robot"), in his too-short 26 years, was AWESOME yet somewhat of a "weird duck". Ironically, a 2013 Emmy nominee in sound for a wildlife documentary entitled "Duckumentary", Michael marched to the beat of a different "drum, harmonica & kazoo". He developed a taste for Baked Beans over Egg Noodles when, while a struggling sound tech in NYC, he found both on sale at the same time. He refused to drink anything but chocolate milk on his 21st Birthday, maybe the ONLY day at Penn State that he DIDN'T have a beer in his hand. He toted a backpack with him everywhere containing oddities like a compass, astronaut food, a 1 lb bag of rice, a space blanket, twine, waterproof matches, a Swiss army knife and other things that only Michael could see the need to have with him at all times. He once carried a queen sized mattress overland for 2 miles on his back instead of using a truck available to him just to see if he could do it. Even till his passing in 2013, Michael wasn't just a "brother" or "son" or "sound engineer" or "trail runner" or "Penn Stater", he was a little bit of "everything". And the Chobot Challenge, on some of the same Berks Co's trails where Michael learned to run, is a little bit of "everything" too! It has long, gradual climbs that will tax you and long, gradual downhills where you'll run so fast that it will at least LOOK like you actually trained hard for this. It passes one of the prettiest sites in Eastern PA; a spot known to very few; even those living in this area. It has 4 narrow & ankle-deep creek crossings (one of the few races still with creek crossings) & 1 knee deep one right before the finish. You'll run everything from smooth single track to abandoned roads, with a pretty creekside start/finish, a covered pavilion, playground, modern bathrooms, shower, etc. on hand too. And naturally, it has all the other race aspects that make Pretzel City the top trail race organizer around. Come out & run the type of trails that gave Michael so much joy & happiness, cause they're sure to bring YOU joy & happiness as well! **LEGAL LINGO: YOU RACE AT YOUR OWN RISK & ARE SOLEY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR WELFARE WHILE RACING!** These trails are cleaner than most college dorm rooms occupied by males. But if you tweak something, drag your butt to the next aide station so we can get you out via fossil fuel. Get lost? Ray Charles could follow this course except for one reason; HE'S DEAD! Since longer trail races are a little "tuff", entry is discouraged for 1) 15K runners under 14 yrs old (contact director for exceptions-often allowed) 2) anyone who ever called me on the phone at ALL hours to sell me medical insurance, 'cause you'll need it yourself if I ever get my hands on you and 3) anyone who thinks that EZ-Pass is a short, downfield throw to a receiver in football. Because if you do, you're too dim to follow our course marks.

Entry: Both events start 9 A.M.; reg. opens at 8 A.M. **15k Fee:** \$34 if postmarked by Mon, June 22nd, includes a guaranteed short sleeved "breathable" tech shirt of the size you request. After that, fee is \$40 while the shirts last; \$34 when they're gone. **5K Fee:** \$24 if postmarked by Mon, June 22nd, includes a guaranteed short sleeved "breathable" tech shirt of the size you request. After that, fee is \$30 while the shirts last; \$24 when they're gone. FEW "EXTRA" SHIRTS PRINTED over our pre-reg needs so if you want some type to proof that you had the fortitude or stupidity to enter this event, PRE-ENTER even if the price break has passed!! Tech shirts only guaranteed to those entering by 6/22, cotton shirts may be substituted after that point. Post-reg entries entering before raceday get first dibs at the remaining shirts, prioritized by date of entry. Rain or shine, no refunds or mailed shirts/awards. No awards for Hike for Mike Fun Run/Walk. **HIKERS ALLOWED ONLY IN THE 5K!**

PLEASE NOTE: ANY AMOUNT PAID TO PRETZEL CITY OVER THE ENTRY FEE, ALONG WITH A PORTION OF THE RACE PROCEEDS, IS DONATED TO THE MICHAEL CHOBOT MEMORIAL SOUND STUDIO AT PENN STATE-MAIN CAMPUS. Those wanting a proof of donation for tax purposes should include a separate check, instead, for that amount only, to The Pennsylvania State University.

Extras: Lots of awards, covered registration area, hot & cold post race grub, instant results, results on pretzelcitysports.com the next day, WELL marked course if no one screws with it, 2 water stops for 15k-1 for 5k, EMS on site, nice creekside start/finish area with picnic areas & playground, So-so parking-carpooling wherever possible, etc. Please note: course not accessible by car. Also, shallow creek crossings on both courses; 5 in the 15k, 3 in the 5k. DID have secured cables, if up, you can use them to cross all creeks in 5k, two creek crossings in the 15k have no cable crossings.

Awards: M & F 1st & 2nd overall plus:
0-19: 3M, 3F 20-29: 4M, 4F 30-39: 4M, 4F 40-49: 4M, 4F 50-59:4M, 4F 60-67: 4M, 2F
68+: 3M, 2F Clydesdale: 4M, 4F

Clydesdale Qualification: Minimum weight of 210 for men, 160 for women. Clydes not eligible for age group awards. Honor system, no scale on site. MUST select the Clydesdale designation BEFORE the race begins.

Directions: From the West: Take Rt. 724 East from Reading until it T's in Birdsboro at the Turkey Hill. Go right and STAY on that road, do NOT turn left at Rita's. Pass any sign that say Road Closed Ahead. Turns into Furnace St & then Haycreek Rd; do not bear right anywhere along the way. Rustic Park is where the road dead-ends.

From the East: Take Rt. 724 West from Pottstown, Go about 8 miles on Rt 724 until it "T's" in Birdsboro at Rita's Italian Ice. Go left and STAY on that road, do NOT turn right at Rita's. Pass any sign that say Road Closed Ahead. Turns into Furnace St & then Haycreek Rd; do not bear right anywhere along the way. Rustic Park is where the road dead-ends.

**optional on-line reg via credit card available on
www.pretzelcitysports.com**

(closes at midnight, the Wed before the race-nominal service charge applies)

**Check Payable to & Mailed to (with waiver): Pretzel City Sports, 112 W. 36TH ST., READING, PA 19606
Race Sounding Board: Ron Horn, rhornpcs@aol.com , 610-779-2668, www.pretzelcitysports.com**

Print as clear as the water you'll run thru. – Sign entry on back—Chobot App may be copied

Last Name _____ First Name _____
Street Address _____ Event: _____ 15k _____ 5k
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Sex: M F Clydesdale? _____ Yes _____ No
Race Day Age _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____ Tech Shirt Style: _____M _____F Size: XS S M L XL 2X
(tech only guaranteed for prereg, postreg may get cotton shirts. If XS is not available, will be increased to a S)
Email _____ Already on Pretzel City Email List? _____ Yes _____ No

Tel:(_____) _____ AM, PM or Both _____ ??? WAIVER: I know that running a trail run is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter or run unless I am medically able & properly trained. I also know that there will be traffic, winter hazards, debris, and poor footing on the course and assume the risk for running on it. I also assume any or all other risks associated with running or attending the race including but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the affects of the weather, the conditions of the roads and getting lost, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Knowing these facts, and in consideration of your accepting my entry fee, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, and waive, release and discharge Pretzel City Sports, the Hay Creek Watershed Association, Birdsboro, PA Water Authority, all municipalities in which the event is held, the race committee, volunteers, all other organizations directly or indirectly associated with the race, any or all sponsors including their agents, employees, assigns or anyone acting on their behalf, or anyone else associated in any way with this race, from any or all claims or liability for death, personal injury or property damage of any kind or nature whatsoever arising out of , or in the course of, my participation in this event. This waiver extends to all claims of every kind or nature whatsoever; foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown. Also, By entering this race, I am granting permission to Pretzel City Sports to use any pictures or likenesses of me secured at the event in any way they see fit without review, restriction or compensation. I HAVE READ & UNDERSTAND THIS WAIVER:

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____/_____/20_____
INSURED BY ROAD RUNNERS CLUB OF AMERICA