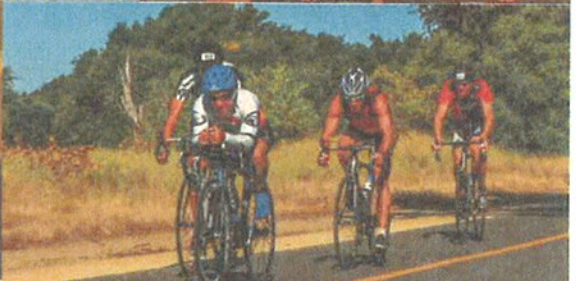




Eppie's Great Race



District 2 Awards Hall of Honor Application



District 2 Awards - Hall of Honor Application

Award applying for (check only one). Please clarify category with nomination selection committee chair prior to working on award submittal.

Regional Treasure Category

Professional Leadership Category

Legacy Category

Name of Nominee or Regional Treasure Eppie's Great Race

Nominee Phone 916 480 1364 Nominee Email george@eppiesgreatrace.org

Person Submitting the Nomination

Name Charlie Willard Title/Position Director, Eppies Great Race

Mailing Address 3132 Spinning Rod Way

City/State Sacramento CA Zip Code 95833

Phone 916 359 4789 Email cwillard@winfirst.com

Person Submitting the Nomination should follow the steps below:

1. Review successful application examples at www.cprsd2.com and the CPRS District 2 boundary map.
2. Review the complete category criteria (professional, etc.).
3. A Letter of Intent is "Recommended": Due August 1, 2014 if you need assistance in providing a complete application. On a separate sheet of paper: please provide your name and contact information, the name of the Nominee or Regional Treasure, category you are applying for, recognizing criteria within the category identify what information you can provide and what you may need assistance with. Please submit to Kelly Gonzalez at the address below.
4. Application Filing Deadline: Friday, October 3, 2014 5:00 p.m. Select the "Category" and provide detailed information as applicable which will enhance the eligibility and merit of the nomination. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Additional documentation and letters of support for the nomination are highly recommended. A hard copy and if possible a digital copy of the application and attachments would be appreciated. Successful award recipients will be required to submit electronically a copy of the application and 6 - 8 high resolution photographs with captions along with support materials. CPRS District 2 retains ownership of all documents associated with the application.
5. If assistance or answers to questions are needed, Kelly Gonzalez, Chair of the Nomination Committee, can be reached at (916) 405-5343.
6. The stated deadlines will be strictly adhered to by the Selection Committee.
 - Submit Letter of Intent, application and supporting information to:
Name: Kelly Gonzalez
Address: 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 3, Elk Grove CA 95624
Email: kellygonzalez@csdparks.com
 - Applications reviewed and evaluated: October-November 2014.
 - Notification of results to applicant by December 2014.
 - Presentation of awards: Spring 2015. Details of presentation and award ceremony will be discussed with award winners at time of notification.
7. Person submitting nomination additionally agrees to the following:

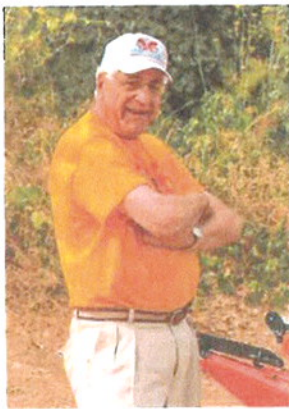
I hereby give CPRS District 2 the irrevocable right and permission to copyright and publish photographs or other digital materials submitted for use in its printed publications, audiovisual presentations, and/or online presentations.

Signature Charlie Willard Date 10-3-14

Eppie's Great Race District 2 Awards Hall of Honor Application

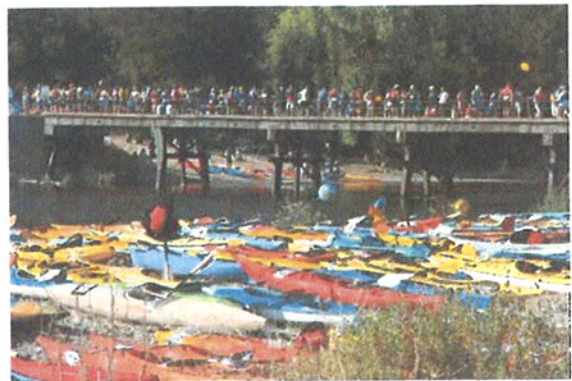
Background

Eppie's Great Race is a triathlon held annually on the American River Parkway utilizing the bike trail and levee top between William Pond Recreation Area and the Guy West Bridge for the 5.8 mile run, the bike trail from Guy West to Sunrise for the 12.5 mile bike leg, and the river from Sunrise to River Bend Park for the 6 mile paddling leg. A packet pickup party is held the night before the race and a post-race awards ceremony, picnic and celebration are held in River Bend Park with a festive atmosphere welcoming all participants, spectators, and crew members.



In 1974, Eppie Johnson had a great idea and the first Eppie's Great Race was held in June of that year. With this event, the "World's Oldest Triathlon" was born and has continued for 41 consecutive years. The first year began with a modest 153 participants. The race has matured to be a signature event for not just the Sacramento region, but all of California, attracting over 5,000 participants, volunteers, and spectators annually. The race not only attracts many people to enjoy the beautiful American River Parkway while training and getting healthy, but it has raised over \$1 million for Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS), a program of Sacramento Regional Parks, providing recreation opportunities for people with physical and mental disabilities.

Eppie's Great Race, unlike most triathlons, has a paddling leg instead of a swimming leg to go with the running and bicycling legs. It is the largest one day paddling event in the country. The "No Swim" Triathlon has created a tremendous following with many people coming back year after year to participate and meet old friends. Many consider other participants to be their Eppie's Great Race family.



Speaking of family, the race lost its founder, Eppie Johnson, in September 2013. He is missed by not just those involved in the race but the entire community. Eppie's son George and daughter Lisa, now lead the Eppie's Great Race Foundation continuing the family tradition. They, along with the Eppie's Great Race Committee, have set a goal to see that the event continues for the next 40 years. Prior to his passing Eppie met two main goals, seeing the race through its first 40 years and raising \$1 million for TRS. The race will continue on.

Not only does the race provide funds for TRS, it also generates business for the community from motel and hotel rooms and meals at restaurants but also increased sales of running, bicycling and paddling equipment. Businesses and clubs also sponsor training events spreading the economic benefits of the race throughout much of the year.

Over the years, many people have participated in the event. Some just one time to meet a goal of completing a triathlon while others have competed almost every year and are still doing it 40 years later. Parents and grandparents get their children and grandchildren involved giving them a lifelong opportunity for fitness. Unlike many youth sports, paddling, bicycling and running/walking can be enjoyed into later years. In fact, over the years the race has seen a need to create new divisions for older athletes. One of the things that makes this race special is you can participate as an iron person or as a member of a team giving people of all abilities an opportunity to participate in the way they please.

1) Profound or original influence on the recreation and leisure opportunities and/or quality of life within the region.

Eppie's Great Race is more than just a race. It is one of the Sacramento area's best known and most popular events with upwards of 2,000 participants each year. It is likely that thousands of people are now engaged in paddling, bicycling and running that otherwise would not be except to get into or stay in shape for Eppie's Great Race. Participants, volunteers, and spectators become familiar with the American River Parkway and continue to recreate there whether or not they



compete, and many train for the race all year in the recreation activities of their choice. It is very common to be out and about and overhear conversations with people talking about training for Eppie's, as the race is affectionately called. The race has had and continues to have a profound effect on the recreation habits and fitness levels of all ages of casual and serious athletes in the greater Sacramento region drawing participants from much of CPRS District 2 and well beyond.

2) Will continue for generations.

The Eppie's Great Race Foundation was established by Eppie Johnson to guarantee the continuation of Eppie's Great Race and its support of its charity, TRS. The Foundation is well supported by a strong Board of Directors including Eppie's son George and daughter Lisa. Eppie's grandchildren are also involved in the Eppie's Great Race Kid's Duathlon both as participants and in generating ideas for improvement. The Duathlon was created to promote youth fitness and to get younger generations interested in recreation activity, including future participation in Eppie's Great Race.



Eppie's Great Race has a strong volunteer base with the aforementioned Foundation Board, an Executive Committee, and a large General Committee which manages all associated race activities. The General Committee has many members who have been volunteering year round for 20 years or

more constituting a core of extremely dedicated and professional leaders. Several local groups, including bike clubs, running clubs, and boating clubs take on key roles in managing the race year after year. Approximately 1,000 volunteers assist with the race each year. The race has many sponsors, vendors, businesses, and individuals providing financial and other support showing broad community involvement and commitment. See attached pages 10 and 11 from the 41st Annual Eppie's Great Race program.

There is also a strong partnership with Sacramento Regional Parks for effective management of all race-related activities.



But the main reason the race will continue for generations is because of the tremendous public enthusiasm for the event.

3) Has contributed to the quality of growth of individuals, quality of life and causes or movement.



Eppie's Great Race makes a large contribution to the quality of life and growth of individuals participating in the TRS program. Many of these people have limited social outlets and recreation opportunities outside TRS-sponsored activities.

Eppie's Great Race has provided over \$1 million over the many years of the event to keep alive and bolster the TRS program.



Eppie's Great Race participants have many choices of Divisions in which to compete including the Family Division, men and woman's age group divisions both in team and ironperson categories, and an Adaptive Division where at least one team member must have a disability. TRS participants have competed in the Adaptive Division.

The race itself has gotten many people off of their couches and helped them develop healthy fitness and recreation habits which can and often do last the remainder of their lives. The race is one of the Sacramento region's premier recreation activities and events.

Eppie and Eppie's Great Race have long supported American River Parkway protection and enhancement through public support of the Sacramento Regional Parks Department. The race and Eppie have recognized and promoted the parkway as Sacramento's crown jewel for many, many years.

4) Has contributed to the quality of the development and growth or group training or education, life fulfillment, or leisure pursuit.

Eppie's Great Race has created a market for training programs for running, bicycling, and paddling. Several companies and the California State University, Sacramento, Aquatic Center provide training programs specifically to prepare for the paddling leg of Eppie's Great Race. These programs are provided by private companies such as Current Adventures, California Canoe and Kayak, and volunteer organizations such as the River City Paddlers. Eppie's Great Race cosponsors a paddling clinic on the course the weekend before the race. There are also training programs for more serious racers to improve their skills.

Eppie's Great Race also provides a heavily discounted kayak rental and training program in cooperation with Current Adventures Kayak School available to those planning to participate in the Junior Division or Junior Ironperson Divisions with annual financial support from Pacific Coast Building Products. The only requirement for this four-session boat rental and training program, and race day boat rental is to prove registration in Eppie's Great Race and pay a \$50 registration fee discounted from the normal fee of \$399.



Running groups and bike clubs also provide recreation outings and training programs geared to help people prepare to compete safely and with proper nutrition/hydration, and equipment.



The financial support that Eppie's Great Race provides to the TRS program helps them to meet their mission statement "To provide therapeutic recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities residing in Sacramento County, which will focus on abilities while encouraging people to attain their highest level of independence by improving social skills, increasing independence and increasing awareness of and involvement in community recreational activities." As mentioned above, the opportunities these programs provide are often the only recreation activities, social outings and life skill training available to TRS participants.



5) **Has received recognition, awards, and honors from the greater public.**

Eppie's Great Race has received many recognitions, awards, and honors for its contributions to the community and to the TRS program. Eppie also received many personal acknowledgements for the accomplishments of the race. A partial list follows:

- Multiple Citations & Declarations of Excellence from local jurisdictions including the Fair Oaks Water District, City of Rocklin, City of Elk Grove, City of Folsom, City of Citrus Heights, City of Rancho Cordova, City of West Sacramento, and the City of Sacramento.
- Declaration of Official, "Eppie's Great Race Week" to be Recognized Annually by the City of Rancho Cordova
- Eppie G. Johnson Therapeutic Recreation Center named for Eppie as recognition of the race's contributions to the TRS program

- Eppie named citizen of the year by the Sacramento Association for Retarded in 1988 for the race's contributions to the TRS program.
- Eppie's Great Race committee named Outstanding County Volunteers in 1996 by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
- Numerous yearly recognitions by Sacramento Regional Parks and Sacramento County Board of Supervisors for contributions of the race to the community and TRS program.
- Citations & Declarations - California State Legislature including a Certificate of Recognition from Assembly member Ken Cooley in 2013 for over 4 decades of Eppie's Great Race, a memorial resolution from Senator Darrell Steinberg upon Eppie's passing recognizing the contributions from the race to the TRS program.
- Citation & Declaration - Congresswoman Doris Matsui (on behalf of U.S. House of Representatives)
- Recognized by Sacramento Magazine among the "50 Things You Must Do in Sacramento"
- Recognized by Rant Sports & Rant Lifestyle #7, on list of "Ten Things You Must Do in Sacramento"
- River City Paddlers recognition of Eppie for his contributions to the sport of kayaking.
- Certificate of Commendation from the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District in 2010 for emergency medical assistance.
- Part of a coalition to receive "Outstanding Environmental Resource Planning and Utilization Award" with American River Parkway leaders
- National "Nonprofit Special Event of the Year" Award - PR News Magazine
- Five Sacramento Public Relations Association, "Cappie Awards of Excellence" for Outstanding Community Special Event
- International Association of Business Communicators "Crystal Award of Excellence" - Special Event
- Recognized by CBS Sacramento as one of the region's "Best Triathlons"
- Eppie Johnson, "Senior Volunteer of the Year" due to "Eppie's Great Race" work - Community Services Planning Council
- Eppie Johnson, "Lifetime Achievement Award" due in part to, "Eppie's Great Race" - California Restaurant Association
- In 2013, recognition by the Cordova Community Council "For 40 years of running, biking and paddling through our city; weaving a path between Rancho Cordova and the World."
- 2007 People Helping People Award-Senior Volunteer Award for outstanding response to the needs of the people in the Sacramento Region.
- National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials, Friends of Parks and Recreation Award-1988.

Race Director Charlie Willard and Eppie Johnson attend exhibit opening at Oakland Museum which recognized Eppie's Great Race as part of the fabric of the Sacramento Community.



6) Contributes to the economic vitality of the region.

Eppie's Great Race is a boon to recreation equipment sales and rental businesses in the greater Sacramento region. Boat rentals are fully reserved months in advance of the race with local firms. At least one of these companies rents up to 100 boats for the race each year. People rent boats throughout the region to bring to the race.



A surfski and outrigger manufacturing firm, Huki Outriggers and Surfskis, is now established in West Sacramento with a significant number of the boats it builds being bought to train for and use in the race. Retailers sell many boats, paddles, personal flotation devices, and clothing for use in the race. Year round purchases of such equipment and gear are generated by the interest in paddle sports spurred by increased knowledge of boating opportunities on the lower American River through exposure from Eppie's Great Race and associated training activities.

Bicycle and running equipment and related gear and clothing sales are enhanced by the race. Participants buy bicycles specifically to train and use in the race. Family members get interested in the sport and buy equipment to recreate and someday possibly race. Higher-end bicycles are bought for the more serious racers including time trial bicycles. Running shoes and clothing are bought to train for and use in the race. General purpose fitness gear such as hydration systems, sport and electrolyte drinks, specialty foods, and packs are bought for all kinds of race-related activity.

Motels, hotels, and restaurants benefit from racers, family members, and support crews staying overnight and eating out. Many local groups go out for pre- or post-race dinners providing business for local restaurants.

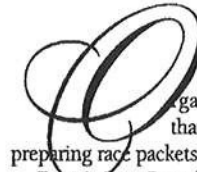
Training programs for the race also generate income for private businesses and non-profit providers.

41st EPPIE'S GREAT RACE.

Thank you to our Volunteers, Individuals,



—brightroom.com photo



Organizing Eppie's Great Race® is no small task. More than 800 volunteers are required to provide services, from preparing race packets to parking cars to recording race results.

Eppie's Great Race thanks the many Sacramento-area groups and individuals who volunteer and help raise money for the Sacramento County's Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS). Many athletes, students, seniors, teachers and naturalists also volunteer their time to help people with disabilities. Many former TRS program participants return each year as volunteers to lend their support to Eppie's Great Race.

More volunteers are always needed, and it is a fun, easy and worthwhile thing to do. *To volunteer, please report to the volunteer tent in River Bend Park near the main stage at the Old Spaghetti Factory Pre-race Pasta Feed on Friday or on race day.*

Eppie's Great Race Committees thanks these **VOLUNTEER** groups for their support:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 20 / 30 Club | Embarcadero Lions' Club | Polka Dots MC of Sacramento, CA | Sacramento Local Conservation Corp. |
| American Red Cross | Girl Scouts Heart of Central California | River City Paddlers | Sacramento Wheelmen |
| American River Raft Rental | Hui o Hawaii of Sacramento | Sacramento Amateur Radio Communications Reserve | TRS Participants & Family |
| Capital Road Race Management | Metro Fire Department | Sacramento Bike Hikers | U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Sacramento Division |
| City Bicycle Works | Metro Fire Depart. CERT | Sacramento City Access Leisure Staff and Volunteers | |
| Current Adventures | COMMS & Amateur Radio Communications | | |
| Donner Ski Patrol | | | |

Eppie's Great Race Committees thanks these **BUSINESSES & INDIVIDUALS** for their contributions:

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Adventure Sports | California State Fair | Happy Daze RV | Pepsico |
| Adventure Sports Journal | Capital City Catering | Heritage Community Credit Union | Quiznos |
| American River Therapeutic Massage | Capital Road Race Management | IHOP Restaurants | REI |
| Assemblymember Ken Cooley | Charlie Willard, Race Director | James P. Lennane Family Foundation | River City Paddlers |
| Atlas | City Bicycle Works | Kaiser Permanente | Sacramento Co. Dept. of Regional Parks |
| Auburn Printers & Integrated Marketing | City of Rancho Cordova | Lighthouse Strategic Advisors | Sacramento Magazine |
| Audrey Flood | Clear Channel Radio | Mr. and Mrs. George Marcus | Sacramento State Aquatic Center |
| BJ Design & Pear Creations-Barbara Jacinto | Colin White Productions | Marcus & Millichap | The Sample Guy |
| Deborah Baron | County of Sacramento | Markstein Beverage (Michelob) | Schwab Charitable Fund |
| Beck's Shoes | D3 Dynamic Digital Displays | Marriotts | Sports Authority |
| Bill and Ruby Shepherd | Dan Davidson | McDonald's Corporation | Steve's Media Service |
| John O. Bronson Co. | Eppie's Great Race Committee | Monorch PR | Team Solutions Group |
| Brookfield Restaurant/Sam Manolakis | Eppie's Great Race Foundation | Northern California Collection Services | University Copy and Print |
| Best Western Sutter House | Eppie's Great Race Team | George Nyberg | Univision |
| Cycle California Magazine | Feil Family | The Old Spaghetti Factory | US Cryotherapy |
| California Family Fitness | Hanson Bridgett, LLP | Pacific Coast Building Products | V's Creative Events |
| | | Paul A. Garcia Family Fund | |

Eppie's Great Race Committees thanks these **BUSINESSES** for their contributions to the 2014 Raffle:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| American River Therapeutic Massage | Clear Channel Radio | Sacramento Zoo | Shepherd's Touch Massage-The Health Alley |
| Performance Bicycle | Pipeworks | Bel Air/Raley's | |
| Sports Authority | East Bay Restaurant Supply | Starbucks | |
| Eppie's Great Race Foundation | Sam's Club/Walmart | | |

Local Businesses and our Vendors

**Local businesses who displayed the
EPPIE'S GREAT RACE 41 POSTER:
Thank you for helping us get the word out!**

California Family Fitness (16)
Kaiser Permanente (13)
Sport Authority (10)

AFN Consultants
Adventure Sports
American Cycling Publications
American River Bicycle
Anderson's Bicycle Rental
Apex Cycles & Service
Auburn Bike Works
Back Country
Bangor Bikes
Bicycle Emporium
Bicycle Planet
Bicycles Plus
Bob's Cycle Center (2)
CA Canoe & Kayak
CSUS Aquatic Center
Camp Richardson Mountain Sports
City Bicycle Works
College Cyclery
Cyclepaths Bike Shop
Davis Bike Collective
Davis Bike Exchange
Davis Wheelworks
East Sac Bike & Board
Elite Bicycles
Elk Grove Cyclery
Factory Bike
Fisk Cyclery Shop
Fleet Feet
Florin Bicycle
Flume Trail Bikes
Folsom Bike & Grind
Foy's Bike Shop/Foy's Schwinn Cyclery
Freewheeler Bicycle Center
Gold Country Cyclery
Golden Spoke Bike Shop
Gravity Shop
Greenline Cycles

Hub Bike
Icon Cycles
Ken's Bike - Ski - Board
Kinetic Cycles
LGBT
Mike's Bikes
Mountain Mike's Tees and Skis
Mountain Recreation
Mr. Bicycle
Natomas Bike Shop
Olympic Bike Shop
Paco's Bike and Ski
Patriot Bicycle
Performance Bicycles (3)
Placerville Bike Shop
Precision Bicycles
Ray's Cycle
REI (3)
Rex Cycles
River Raft Rentals
Robby's Bicycles
Rockville Bikes
Roseville Bike
Royak Marine
Sacramento Area Bycle Advocates
Sacramento Bicycle Kitchen
Sharp Bicycles
Sierra Outdoor Center
Sport Chalet (3)
The Old Spaghetti Factory
The River Store
Tour of Nevada City Bicycle Shop
Uptown Bike
West Shore Sports
Van's Bicycle Center
Velo Bike Shop
Village Bicycles & Village Ski Loft
Vintage Bicycle Supply

**Eppie's Great Race would like to
thank all it's Vendors:**

ATM
Adventure Sports
Clear Channel Radio
California Family Fitness
California Sports Optics
Costa's Finest Kettle Corn
Current Adventures
Cycle California Magazine
Eppie's Great Race Foundation
Eppie's Great Race T-Shirt Booth
Friends of Folsom
Friends of the Sacramento River
Hagen's Original Orange Freeze
Kids Duathlon
Performance Bicycle
Point West Rotary
Quilt'M by Sunflower Designs
Quiznos
Ready for Life (Rancho Cordova)
Quick Stick Decals
Sacramento Bee
Sacramento County Parks
Sacramento Loaves & Fishes
Sacramento Sheriff's Department
Save the American River
Association
Shepherd's Touch/Health Alley
Sports Authority
Team In Training
US Cryotherapy

**OUR SECRET INGREDIENT IS
TASTE!**

**THANKS FOR BEING
A PARTICIPANT IN EPPIES
GREAT RACE**



Quiznos
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THIS COUPON ENTITLES YOU TO:

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Valid only at participating US and/or 10th District Quiznos. Coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase. One coupon per person per order. Limit of one redemption per visit. May not be used in conjunction with any other offers. Offer reduces the cash value portion of the coupon holder's total order value. See restrictions. Make no cash back on this coupon. All items subject to availability. Offer good while supplies last. Offer good on delivery orders only. Excludes taxes and fees. ©2014 Quiznos. All rights reserved.

Quiznos
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CLU#1246-A Expires 12/31/2014

**If you would like to place a poster in your business in May - July
2015, please contact the Eppie's Great Race Office (916) 480-0270.
We are happy to deliver your posters to your place of business.**

Regional Parks Department
Jeffrey R. Leatherman, Director



Divisions
Administration
Golf
Leisure Services
Maintenance
Rangers
Therapeutic Recreation Services

County of Sacramento

September 30, 2014

CPRS District 2

Dear Selection Committee,

I am pleased to support the nomination of Eppie's Great Race for the CPRS' Hall of Honor Legacy Award. For over 41 years Eppie's Great Race has been a cornerstone of the Sacramento community and one of the premier recreation events in the Sacramento area. Each July, more than 2,000 participants in 26 divisions, join together for "The World's Oldest Triathlon" on the American River Parkway. Also known as the "No-Swim Triathlon" it features a 5.82-mile run, 12.5-mile bike and 6.35-mile paddle. Participants include anyone from elite athletes and fitness enthusiasts to families and people with disabilities.

Over the many years, this event has gained enormous community support with its efforts to improve overall community health and its openness to adaptive recreation teams. The event promotes health and wellness, brings families and friends together, and showcases one of Sacramento's finest natural resources – the beautiful American River Parkway. It also promotes volunteerism and community involvement, encourages participation in year-round outdoor recreational activities, and increases awareness of the value of recreation.

In 2005, in its 32nd year, Eppie's Great Race expanded their community reach to youth and added an Eppie's Kid's Duathlon. The Duathlon ran concurrently to Eppie's Great Race until 2014 and is now split off to include its own date and course in the lower portions of the American River Parkway. Children ages 13 years and younger are challenged to run .5 to 2.5 miles and then bike 2 to 6 miles along 3 age appropriate courses.

Both Eppie's Great Race and Eppie's Kid's Duathlon could not go on without the support of the volunteers who work year round to make these events possible. In addition, Eppie's Great Race serves as one of the largest volunteer opportunities of the year in the Sacramento area. The race recruits over 1000 volunteers each year in a number of diverse work areas. Everything from food service, to handing out water to the athletes, to taking kayaks out of the water after the race is done by volunteers. To date, over 100,000 volunteer hours have been logged.

Proceeds from Eppie's Great Race go to a great cause. Since 1980, Eppie's Great Race has generously donated over \$1 million in race proceeds to the County of Sacramento's Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) program. TRS has provided skills-training and recreational opportunities for people with various abilities throughout the Sacramento area since 1975. Thanks in large part to funding from race donations TRS has been able to provide low-cost, high-quality programs to their participants.

Eppie's Great Race is definitely a tradition in the Sacramento community that families look forward to in the summertime. It is our hope that this Sacramento legacy will continue to live on at least another 41 years and will be something passed down to future Sacramento generations. Sacramento County Regional Parks is honored to host this event on the American River Parkway and is pleased to support the nomination for the CPRS District 2 Hall of Honor Legacy Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeff Leath".

Jeffrey R. Leatherman, Director
Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks



AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY FOUNDATION

Preserving the legacy through community stewardship

Executive Committee

John Lisle, President

John Lisle, President

Patty Seisky, Vice President

Sue Fossum, Secretary

Scott Wolcott, Treasurer

Dan Hall, Past President

Dan Hall, Past President

Board

Anna Ballard

Anna Ballard

Jose Bodipo-Memba

Jose Bodipo-Memba

Chris Conley

Chris Conley

Keith G. Coolidge

Keith G. Coolidge

Alexis Fitzpatrick

Alexis Fitzpatrick

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Bill Hambrick

John Hiber

Jeremy Hollis

Jeremy Hollis

Valerie Vento Johnson

Valerie Vento Johnson

Jim Jones

Mark Krausse

Mark Krausse

Stan Phillippe

Michael Smith

Michael Smith

Ken Whittall-Scherlee

Ken Whittall-Scherlee

Jim Wiley

Jim Wiley

Leo Winternitz

Staff

Dianna Poggetto

Dianna Poggetto

Christina Harris

Christina Harris

Meghan Toland

Meghan Toland

Matt Ocko

Matt Ocko

Jennifer Fuss

Jennifer Fuss

September 23, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with honor that we write this letter of support for Eppie Johnson, the man behind the famous Eppie's Great Race for the Regional Treasure Award.

Eppie's Great Race has been an institution in the Sacramento area for the past 40 years. This event has the ability to bring people from every age group, ethnic diversity and physical ability to participate in a recreational challenge.

For many Eppie's is the first entrée into the tri-athlete world. The Great Race brings together an entire community through volunteer opportunities as well as vendors during the day.

The race takes place along the world renowned American River Parkway and through the participants generates economic commerce for the Sacramento Area. In addition to the economic commerce, the proceeds from the race benefit Sacramento's TRS program.

The model for Eppie's Great Race is a benefit for the entire Sacramento community. I hope you vote in favor of Eppie's Great Race for the Regional Treasure Award.

Sincerely,

Dianna Dal Poggetto
Executive Director

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0008
(916) 319-2008
FAX (916) 319-2108

DISTRICT OFFICE
2729 PROSPECT PARK DRIVE, SUITE 130
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670
(916) 464-1910
FAX (916) 464-1915

E-MAIL
Assemblyman.Cooley@assembly.ca.gov

Assembly California Legislature



KEN COOLEY
ASSEMBLYMAN, EIGHTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE
REVIEW
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
INSURANCE
RULES (D-ALT)

SELECT COMMITTEES
CHAIR: COMMUNITY AND
NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY COLLEGES
JOB CREATION FOR THE NEW ECONOMY
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY,
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
ASIA/CALIFORNIA TRADE AND
INVESTMENT PROMOTION

ALFRED E. ALQUIST SEISMIC SAFETY
COMMISSION

September 30, 2014

Hall of Honor Board of Directors
California Park and Recreation Society, District 2
7971 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95832

Re: 2015 CPRS District 2 Hall of Honor Awards - Regional Treasure Category

Dear Board of Directors,

It is my pleasure to write in support of the nomination of Eppie's Great Race to the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) District 2 Hall of Honor for 2015 as a Regional Treasure. This award recognizes and promotes significant historical park and recreation contributions to enhancing quality of life in the Sacramento region. Eppie's Great Race is an annual local event that meets and indeed, surpasses, the benchmarks set forth.

Since 1974, Eppie's Great Race has provided a unique recreational opportunity that showcases one of the region's greatest physical assets: the course is located entirely within the American River Parkway. In addition to the camaraderie and family atmosphere that the race provides, the event promotes health and fitness for its many participants. More recently, the Great Race has expanded its reach in the community to encourage young people to get involved in fitness through a Kid's Duathlon.

The race has a long history and the event will celebrate its 42nd anniversary in 2015. Year after year, in the heat of midsummer, Eppie's event attracts approximately 2,000 participants—including some international competitors—and even more spectators who love the excitement of this iconic Sacramento activity. Additionally, proceeds from the race go to provide recreational services for the disabled. More than one million dollars have been raised for this purpose.

The Great Race is a Sacramento area tradition with a rich and storied history. I strongly urge the Board to recognize this event as a 2015 Regional Treasure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Cooley".

Ken Cooley
Assemblyman, 8th District





**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**
700 H STREET, SUITE 2450 • SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

DON NOTTOLI
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT
Telephone (916) 874-5465
FAX (916) 874-7593
E-MAIL: nottolid@saccounty.net

September 30, 2014

Hall of Honor Board of Directors
California Park and Recreation Society
District 2
7971 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95832

Dear Directors:

Subject: 2015 California Park and Recreation Society, District 2
Hall of Honor Awards - Regional Treasure Category

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter supporting the nomination of *Eppie's Great Race* for consideration in the *2015 California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS), District 2 Hall of Honor Awards - Regional Treasure Category*.

I have some familiarity with this award and know that it is presented in recognition of, or to document and promote, historical park, recreation and leisure contributors within the greater Sacramento region. A few weeks ago, in late July, the *41st Annual Eppie's Great Race* was held, and as always, it was a popular, well-received and well-supported premier event which should qualify under the 2015 CPRS Regional Treasure Category.

Since its initial running in 1974, *Eppie's Great Race* has provided a unique recreational opportunity which showcases one of our region's greatest assets, the American River Parkway. In addition to the camaraderie and family atmosphere which the race provides, the event promotes health and fitness for many hundreds of participants and thereby serves to improve the quality of life for all those taking part.

More recently, *Eppie's Great Race* expanded its reach to encourage youngsters to become involved in fitness through a *Kid's Duathlon*. This event offers young people an opportunity to achieve a higher

Hall of Honor Board of Directors
September 30, 2104
Page 2

level of fitness while enjoying friendly competition with those their own age.

Throughout the years, *Eppie's Great Race* has welcomed approximately 2,000 participants and far more spectators each summer to enjoy and experience the excitement of this very popular event. Participants are fully aware that proceeds from the race go towards recreational services serving the disabled, including *Therapeutic Recreation Services*. Since its inception, this event has raised more than \$1,000,000 toward that worthwhile purpose.

In closing, I want to reiterate my support for *Eppie's Great Race* nomination in this award category and offer my view that this event truly is a "Regional Treasure." If you should need additional information, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (916) 874-5465.

Sincerely,



Don Nottoli, Supervisor
Fifth District

DN:sv



David J. Lucchetti
President

10600 White Rock Road, Suite 100
PO BOX 419074
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9074

(916) 631-6500
Dave.Lucchetti@paccoast.com

October 1, 2014

Hall of Honor Board of Directors
California Park and Recreation Society, District 2
7971 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95832

RE: 2015 CPRS District 2 Hall of Honors Awards – Regional Treasure Category

Dear Hall of Honor Directors:

As a long time Eppie's participant and owner of Pacific Coast Building Products, I am writing in strong support for the nomination of the Eppie's Great Race as a Regional Treasure for the 2015 Hall of Honor. Eppie's Race is an annual local event that meets this award and is deserving of such recognition.

Since 1974, Eppie's Great Race has provided a unique recreational opportunity that showcases one of the region's greatest physical assets as a spectacular course located entirely within the American River Parkway. In addition to the camaraderie and family atmosphere that the race provides, the event promotes health and fitness for its many participants. The race is well organized and the post race activities are fun and welcoming. Recently, the Great Race has expanded its reach in the community to encourage young people to get involved in fitness through a Kid's Duathlon. The Duathlon offers the region's youth an opportunity to achieve a higher level of fitness and to enjoy the friendly competition with others their own age. As a competitor in several of the races thru out the over 40 years of Eppie's Great Race, I am glad that I can still participate because of the many age divisions of the race. My family, my company and my friends, all come out to the American River Parkway to enjoy as a fellow participant, volunteer or spectator. Just a spectacular fun filled event.

This event will celebrate its 42nd anniversary this year. While there are a number of company employees that participate in the race, in both the iron person and team categories, since 2011, one of our subsidiary divisions, PABCO Roofing from Tacoma Washington has participated in this annual event. As co-workers and friends, the team relay provided by the Eppie's Great Race brings out the best in everyone on the team. In the heat of midsummer, Eppie's event attracts approximately 2,000 participants and even more spectators who relish the color and excitement of this iconic Sacramento activity. We are honored to be a part of Eppie's family.

The Great Race is a Sacramento area tradition with a rich and storied history. I strongly urge the Directors to recognize this event as a Regional Treasure for 2015.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David J. Lucchetti", is written over a blue horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, extending to the right of the line.

David J Lucchetti

DJL: lmc
DL:14.240



Dariotis Group Restaurants

1910 J STREET • SACRAMENTO, CA 95811
PHONE: 916-443-3031 • FAX: 916-443-3032
WEBSITE: www.osf.com

September 29, 2014

Hall of Honor Board of Directors
California Park and Recreation Society, District 2
7971 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95832

Re: 2015 CPRS District 2 Hall of Honor Awards – Regional Treasure Category

Dear Directors:

On behalf of The Old Spaghetti Factory, I am writing in support of the nomination of Eppie's Great Race to the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) District 2 Hall of Honor for 2015 as a Regional Treasure. Eppie's Great Race meets the criteria of the award due to its promotion of recreational activities on the American River Parkway and contribution it makes to the quality of life in the Sacramento region.

Since 1974, Eppie's Great Race has provided a unique recreational opportunity that showcases one of the region's greatest physical assets as the course is located entirely within the American River Parkway. In addition to the camaraderie and family atmosphere that the race provides, the event promotes health and fitness for its many participants, improving the quality of life for those who take part. Recently, the Great Race has expanded its reach in the community to encourage young people to get involved in fitness through a Kid's Duathlon. Now a separate event, the Duathlon offers the region's youth an opportunity to achieve a higher level of fitness and to enjoy the friendly competition with others their own age.

The Old Spaghetti Factory has been a sponsor and supporter of the race for over 10 years. Eppie's Great Race positively impacts our business as participants look for healthy food made with quality ingredients.

Eppie's Great Race is a Sacramento area tradition – as Eppie himself said, the race is woven into the fabric of the Sacramento community. I strongly urge the Board to recognize this event as a Regional Treasure for 2015.

Sincerely,

George Dariotis
Dariotis Group Restaurants

The Dariotis Group
Restaurants:

Arizona - Chandler
California - Concord, Elk Grove, Fresno, Rancho Cordova, Rancho Cucamonga, Redwood City,
Roseville, Sacramento, San Jose, San Marcos, Stockton.



PO Box 712, West Sacramento, CA 95691
916-730-5833 Jude@Huki.com

September 26, 2014

California Park and Recreation Society, District 2
Hall of Honor Directors

Re: 2015 CRRS District 2 Hall of Honors Awards - Regional Treasure Category

Dear Hall of Honor Board Directors:

As the owner of Huki, a Sacramento canoe and kayak manufacturing company, I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Eppie's Great Race for the 2015 Hall of Honor.

For over four decades Eppie's Great Race has served as a summer focal point for the athletic activities of, not only our local Sacramento population, but that of all Northern California. The way the race is embraced by the community is truly moving, as hundreds of official and unofficial volunteers turn out to support the complex logistics of the world's oldest continuously running triathlon.

One of my most prized trophies is a panoramic photograph of the start line of the paddling leg of Eppie's Great Race, taken in 2012. The bank of the American River is covered with more human powered paddling craft than I have ever seen in at one time. The boats represent a vast number of companies, including my own, which is located in West Sacramento and it is certain that a significant portion of my sales is attributable to athletes training specifically for Eppie's Great Race.

Eppie Johnson himself remarked to me that the number of 'Hukis' at the races was always amazing. What is always amazing however is the Great Race itself, and the boon it is to California sports and to the health and well-being of those who participate.

Please consider Eppie's Great Race for the 2015 Hall of Honor Award.

Yours faithfully,

Jude Turczynski, Owner
[HUKI @ Outriggers & Surfskis](http://www.huki.com)
www.huki.com
cell 916-730-5833

Current Adventures

P. O. Box 828 Lotus, CA 95651
530-333-9115 or 1-888-4-KAYAKING
FAX: 530-333-1291



September 26th, 2014

Hall of Honor Board of Directors
California Park and Recreation Society, District 2
7971 Freeport Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95832

Re: 2014 CPRS District 2 Hall of Honor Awards – Regional Treasure Category

Dear Hall of Fame Board of Directors,

I am writing to you to show my resounding support for the nomination of Eppie's Great Race for the 2015 Hall of Honor Award.

I write to you from several perspectives in providing my encouragement for you to award Eppie's Great Race with this prestigious honor. I am the owner of Current Adventures Kayak School and The River Store (a kayak and river recreation retail outlet)- both based in Lotus California, and operating primarily in the Central California region. I am also a 25 year participant in the Great Race itself.

To me, Eppie's Great Race embodies the spirit of motivating people from all backgrounds and lifestyles to get out and get involved in their community and in their own fitness and participation in local and worthwhile events. EVERYONE in the region is familiar with this event by name, and it carries the reputation of being an incredibly fun and worthwhile activity that anyone can participate in. I have personally seen thousands of people over the years enjoy the camaraderie and excitement of being involved with this event either as a participant or a volunteer or even as a friend of a participant. I can assure you that Sacramento and the surrounding region would not be the same as far as fitness, running, kayaking, biking and awareness of the fantastic American River Parkway were it not for this annual and iconic race.

In terms of our businesses, we have offered rentals and training programs specific to the kayaking portion of The Great Race each year for over 20 years now, and it contributes significantly to our bottom line and to the overall participation in kayaking throughout the Central California Region. Many, many folks were first inspired to try kayaking in order to participate in this event, and many of those

found a new appreciation for that sport and for the incredible resources this region offers for paddlers of all ages and abilities.

In the context of Community events, I can think of no other that has done so much for so many, and is so widely known and responsible for people's lifestyle choices. It is truly a huge asset to the area with no equal in its influences and positive effects on so many businesses and individuals.

Please consider positively Eppie's Great Race for the Hall of Honor Award.

Sincerely,

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Daniel R. Crandall".

Daniel R. Crandall

Dan Crandall
Owner
Current Adventures Kayak School
The River Store
Kayaking.com
Dan@kayaking.com
530-333-9115