

Dear ##F ##G,

I'm sorry this is so late in getting to you – please accept my apologies for that. I've had lots more on my plate than normal, and my 'horizon' (what I see in front of me to do and work on) has been incredibly compressed – a race that happens 30 days from now isn't even making the back burner for me yet. It is what it is, and I'll make the best of it and do as much as I can when I can get to it.

You are on the Entrants List, and you'll stay there until you tell me otherwise. If you've already decided that you cannot run, please let me know as soon as possible – the Wait Listers are chomping at the bit to run! Don't pull the plug prematurely, though – wait until you're sure you can't run. After all, miracles can and do happen!

I've finally been able to put the Ancient Oaks RunSignUp online registration site up, so you will get an email within the next 24 hours that includes a link for you to click on – it will take you to the site and allow you to input your information. The link will only work one time, so make sure you're ready to use it when you click on it ;-).

The AO100 RunSignUp site is not public, and it's not possible to register any other way than the link sent in the email. That's because AO100's Wait Listers would string me up if someone snuck in ahead of them via the RunSignUp site ;-).

I've still not gotten the AO100 website back up, so I've decided for the time being to keep an AO100 page on my timing results website www.mcmtiming.com. The direct link to that page is here:

<http://mcmtiming.com/ancient-oaks/>

Check there first with questions – chances are I may have already addressed your question or issue and what you're looking for is posted there.

If you've not decided on a hotel, then you should plan on staying somewhere as close to Exit 215 off I-95 (SR 50, Cheney Highway). There are lots of choices, as well as several restaurants, a Lowe's, a drug store, and a 24-Hour Wal-Mart nearby.

I've set up a 'preferred hotel' option for those of you who want a place to stay and haven't yet decided on one. Usually, I stay at the Days Inn just west of I-95, but that hotel is undergoing extensive renovations and doesn't have enough rooms available. So I've made arrangements with the Quality Inn across the street from the Days Inn. Call them directly at 321-269-7110 and ask for the Ancient Oaks rate of \$70.00 per night. The hotel's address is 3655 Cheney Hwy, Titusville, FL 32780.

Pre-race packet pickup is still going to be at the IHOP restaurant located in front of the Days Inn, from 4 PM until 7 PM. We'll have the back room and you're welcome to order off the menu – you order, you pay, everyone's happy ;-).

If you're driving, please be aware that the park has VERY stringent rules as to what's allowable inside the park. We STRONGLY DISCOURAGE the use of motor homes and/or travel trailers, since there is NO CAMPING allowed in the park. Please do everything in your power to avoid bringing a huge vehicle into the park. The rule of thumb is that your vehicle should be able to fit into a standard parking lot parking place – if it doesn't, PLEASE let me know as soon as possible, so that I can run interference for you with the park. THANK YOU VERY MUCH for your understanding and cooperation!

Regarding tents, please DO NOT bring a camping tent with you! We will have two communal 10x10 popup tents located in the picnic area of the race start/finish line, and those are available for your use. If you have any kind of tent, it needs to be 10x10 or smaller, and it needs to be an obvious day-use type of thing – nothing that looks like it can be slept in ;-).

We'll have the use of most of the parking lot throughout the entirety of the race, but the park will be open to the public on both Saturday and Sunday, so some of the parking lot will be roped off for that public use. Please also be conscious of the public use of the trails, and practice appropriate trail courtesy.

The race consists of a 3.46-mile trail loop, so you'll return to the start/finish line area 29 times during the race. For most of you, this will be about every 40-80 minutes, so you will have ample opportunities to resupply yourself either at our aid station, or from your vehicle. It is VERY easy to self-crew from your vehicle, since the race runs right

through the parking area at the start of every loop. I've done it myself successfully four different times ;-).

I'll be sending out another Race Update email sometime next week, and each Update will be posted on the race page at www.mcmtiming.com , so be sure to check there once in a while to see if anything's changed or been added.

Thank you for coming to run Ancient Oaks, thank you for your patience, and I look forward to watching you cross the finish line in the Enchanted Forest Nature Sanctuary the third weekend in December!

Sincerely,

Mike Melton
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Ancient Oaks 100-Mile Endurance Run
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