

The Sally-Forth Award

Is awarded to

Ralph Shoukry



#1310 Garapito Trail to Hub Junction & Beyond, March 8, 2017

Ralph was far enough ahead of his group that they did not see him miss the trail up to Eagle Peak. When everybody else got to the peak, all wondered why Ralph was not there. Other non-OTP hikers reported that they had seen a hiker below on the Eagle Springs trail and asked if he was our lost hiker. Making contact by radio, Wendell told Ralph to stay in place and that he would backtrack and join Ralph to go on to the hub to finish the hike.

The Sally-Forth award is similar to the Pathfinder Award, except the recipients are not designated as hike leaders. Indeed, the award is intended to honor those who cannot follow the leader for whatever reason, and who go off on their own path, usually with dire consequences. The award is named after and inspired by Sally Spotts, its first recipient.



OTP Order of the Purple Heart



Dennis Fassnacht

#1304 Jones Peak from Bailey Canyon Trailhead, January 18, 2017

On the way back from the Cabin, Dennis accidently fell down a 50 foot cliff. Using roots and branches, he slowed his fall, but still obtained significant scrapes and scratches. He was assisted by two non-OTP hikers who called the paramedics and stayed with Dennis until they came. Dennis eventually walked out with the paramedics. The call triggered the Mountain Rescue Team who hiked back to the cliff, then found and returned Dennis' hat, phone and other items left behind.

The OTP Order of the Purple Heart is awarded to those members of the OTP Hiking and Debating Society who are accidentally wounded or become ill through no fault of their own during any of the society's officially scheduled hiking events.



OTP Order of the Purple Heart



Is awarded to

Patricia Forbess

#1315 Rocky Peak via the Chumash Trail, April 19, 2017

The trail in places is steep and rocky. Pat stumbled falling face down onto the rocky surface resulting to visible scrapes and bruises to her face. No damage to the trail was noted.

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The Hard Luck Award

Is awarded to



Jim Spotts

#1343 Malibu Creek State Park, November 15, 2017

Jim Spotts forgot his walking pole at the MASH site picnic tables. It was discovered by Larry Savell who brought it back and returned it to him

The Hard Luck Award is given to those hikers or leaders, who, due to circumstances out of their control, have a problem on the hike either before or after the hike, but not necessarily serious.



The Hard Luck Award

Is awarded to





Steve Babcock

#1304 Elysian Park, January 4, 2017

Steve left his walking stick at the lunch spot picnic tables. He had to add a one mile round trip to his hike in order to retrieve it.

The Hard Luck Award is given to those hikers or leaders, who, due to circumstances out of their control, have a problem on the hike either before or after the hike, but not necessarily serious.



Special Fox Tail Award

Is awarded to



Ron Forbess

#1325 Palo Comado Canyon, June 28, 2017

This was one of Ron's "peak bagger" hikes where Ron leads his hearty band into off-trail treks just to reach peaks not yet conquered by OTP hikers. Ron's route took hikers a quarter mile through fox tail weeds whose prickly seeds gathered around and into boots, socks and pants. Afterward, they spent 45 minutes pulling out fox tails, eventually giving up and throwing away their socks.

Special awards are offered by the Honors and Awards Committee to acknowledge special events that occur on our hikes. These are generally unplanned events, and are unique enough to warrant special recognition.





Special Shaved Head Award

Is awarded to

Mickey Costello

#1312 Griffith Park Ferndale Trailhead, March 29, 2017.

At the after-hike reception, Mickey, and four other stalwart hikers shaved their heads and recorded a video meant to comfort as well as to stand in unity with Anna Decker who had lost her hair resulting from chemo-therapy.

Special recognition (one poison oak leaf cluster) is given to Mickey who originated the idea of showing love to Anna – proving that we are indeed a special OTP family.



Special Shaved Head Award

Is awarded to

John Chady

#1312 Griffith Park Ferndale Trailhead, March 29, 2017.

At the after-hike reception, John, and four other stalwart hikers shaved their heads and recorded a video meant to comfort as well as stand in unity with Anna Decker who was undergoing chemo-therapy.



Special Shaved Head Award

Is awarded to

Phil Rutherford

#1312 Griffith Park Ferndale Trailhead, March 29, 2017.

At the after-hike reception, Phil, and four other stalwart hikers shaved their heads and recorded a video meant to comfort as well as stand in unity with Anna Decker who was undergoing chemo-therapy.



Special Shaved Head Award

Is awarded to

Dennis Fassnacht

#1312 Griffith Park Ferndale Trailhead, March 29, 2017.

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Special Shaved Head Award

Is awarded to

Ralph Shoukry

#1312 Griffith Park Ferndale Trailhead, March 29, 2017.

At the after-hike reception, Ralph, and four other stalwart hikers shaved their heads and recorded a video meant to comfort as well as stand in unity with Anna Decker who was undergoing chemotherapy.

Although Ralph's shaved head is his default scalp condition, his good intention is being recognized here.



"We are Family Award"

Is awarded to

Anna Decker

Besides accidently running over her leg with her son's truck, and later having her spleen removed (separate events), Anna also had to deal with chemo-therapy for her lymphatic cancer. Five fellow hikers shaved their heads in sympathy and in unity with all her tribulations.

We Love You

Anna



"We are Family Award"

Is awarded to

Janet Blake



Janet has been dealing with a rare chronic skin condition. Dermatologist Dr. Jan Gardner recognized the condition as auto-immune in nature, requiring specialized therapy. Jan recommended that Janet see a specialist in Dallas, Texas. Assisted by Ralph Shoukry logistically, and with all of our support, Janet temporarily moved to Dallas for 3 months undergoing treatment.

Together, Janet, Jan, Ralph and all of us OTP'ers – another example of:

"We are Family"



"We are Family Award"

Is awarded to

Jan Gardner



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"We are Family Award"

Is awarded to



Ralph Shoukry

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