

10 Questions (2/2/09)

1) NAME & NICKNAME(S): Kyle Blasch



2) AGE (OR AGE GROUP): 37

3) FAMILY / PETS / LOVED ONES: Two retired 4-legged running companions - Cloey and Casey

4) SCHOOLING: B.S. Civil/Environmental & B.S. Earth Sciences 1994 MIT  
M.S. Meteorology 1994 MIT  
Ph.D. Hydrology 2003 University of Arizona

5) OCCUPATION: Research Hydrologist, USGS  
Bioenvironmental engineer, US Air Force Reserves

6) HAS BEEN RUNNING WITH THE VIG GROUP SINCE 2008, AND GOT INVOLVED BECAUSE: Since I moved here in October 2008 from Tucson, Arizona.

7) NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS (RUNNING OR OTHERWISE): Feeling totally wrecked after most of my recent races. Three top ten ultramarathon finishes last year including a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the San Diego 100 miler. (I even won a pair of shoes...a first in 25 years of running... Do I have to list the shoes as income on my taxes if the race entrance fee cost more than the shoes? Can I label myself as a semi-pro athlete? haha Sounds much more interesting than a "hydrologist".)

8) GOALS (RUNNING OR OTHERWISE): 1 - Take some time off to heal from current maladies and eventually run some ultras in this part of the country. 2 - Toughen up enough to run here year round (ahem....I snuck some runs on the treadmill this winter).

9) PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE / PERSONAL MOTTO: "Outside of a dog a book is man's best friend but inside of a dog it's too dark to read" – Groucho Marx.....This has nothing to do with running...it just makes me laugh.

10) OTHER "INTERESTING" TIDBITS: In the past 5 years I had over 30 venomous snake and boa constrictor encounters while trail running/hiking. Surprisingly the dogs, the snakes, and myself all survived unharmed.....though flashbacks still occur. The dogs and I may have even discovered a subspecies of the mildly venomous night snake in an area it has never been sighted before in the Tucson Mountains (currently under biological review).