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One of my “Grenades” is Missing

Friday, October 16, 2020

These are not dangerous, as you can see from the photo. In fact, they are the necessities that keep me going on longer treks whether running or walking. My fuel belt accommodates three flasks, but now I can only find 2 of them

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My search through all possible locations in the house brought back pleasant memories, but not the missing flask.

I was asked about these “grenades” several years ago in the Czech Republic. It was at the start of the Czech National Championship Half Marathon. Nobody was carrying water so my fuel belt attracted attention. I speak passible Czech because of my Slovak roots, but “grenades” (gre NAH des) wasn't in my vocabulary. Turns out that everyone else just depended on the frequent water stops.

That's never enough for me. At my age and with the dry mouth caused by my allergies, I want water when I NEED it, not at some designated location. So not only was I a curiosity being an old American woman with a German name (it means “baking oven”), speaking broken, ungrammatical Czech, but I also was carrying water “grenades”

So, how did I end up here?

When we travel, I always try to run a few miles in each country as time and activities allow, but this was different. We were spending several days in Pardubice, a city near Prague during a trip to Europe. DH was presenting a paper at a conference there. He's retired, but likes to keep up with colleagues around the world.

When I realized that the course of the race went right by our hotel, I signed up. Couldn't let that opportunity pass. It was a lovely day. Friendly, welcoming people, a course through historic Old Town and

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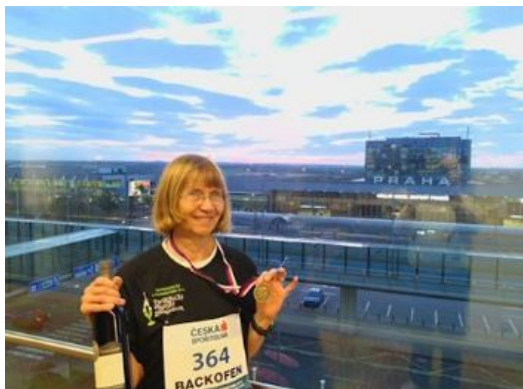
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all I had to do was avoid tripping on cobblestones and finish before the course closed at 3:00 hours.

Along with the serious, elite athletes there were regular people and whole families participating. I had lots of company.

Gotta love racing here. A shirt, a medal and a bottle of wine for all finishers.



DH took this photo before we boarded our flight to our next stop, Paris and eventually the beaches of Normandy.

To this day DH loves to tell people that I was once the “fastest American in the Czech National Half Marathon”

Yes, I was the ONLY American in the race! AND the oldest woman by 6 years.

This memory triggered some hope for a post Covid future too.



At the end of the race I posted this on Facebook with the caption – “How often do you finish a race in front of a monument erected centuries ago in thanksgiving for the end of the Black Plague?”

Now looking forward to the eventual end of Covid and a return to normalcy.

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MTN_KITTEN



227 days ago



DIANNEMT

Great story! Hope your find the missing "grenade".

229 days ago



AMUSICALIFE

Great blog. Love the last photo. It is Ironic like you said.

230 days ago



OVERWORKEDJANET

I love this blog!

231 days ago



TOMATOCAFEGAL

Cool!

231 days ago



2BDYNAMIC

What a great story!! Hope that flask turns up! ...And

232 days ago



On that run! ..



KOHINOOR2

story!! Thank you for sharing!

233 days ago



GETULLY

Hope you find it!

233 days ago



KURTZIE1998

Liked your blog, and congrats on doing the race. Great memories, hope you find your missing

grenade of water.

233 days ago



HEALTHYANDFIT27

Great blog! Thanks for sharing!

233 days ago



49LINDA77

What a fun, well written story! Thank you!

233 days ago



BONIFIANT

What a wonderful story. Thank you.

234 days ago



KAY-SUPREME

Wonderful story! I'm sure you'll find the missing flask soon, randomly, when you aren't looking for it!

234 days ago



BESSIEBELL

Impressive

234 days ago

CHERYLHURT

We so miss traveling!

234 days ago



ELSCO55

Wow.

234 days ago



RACHNACH

**KEEP
SPARK
ING!**

234 days ago



FRAN0426

What a lovely time your trip must have been. Too also be the only American women running a race on Czech Republic, so neat.

234 days ago



PATSGIRLY

I love your story!

234 days ago



MJREIMERS

Good luck finding your missing grenade!

234 days ago



ISNESS

Pardubice - I also know this town. They also are famous for their horse races "Velka Pardubicka"... Yes Black Plague... I've been in a museum somewhere in Czech Republic, there was an exhibition of human skulls, artifacts made of it - victims of BP.

234 days ago



HAYBURNER1969

Great blog, Mom!

234 days ago



RAJMHJ

A phenomenal spur-of-the-moment adventure to run a half-marathon in a foreign country!!! That is a wonderful a memory for you and such an inspiration to the rest of us to Dare to Live always.

234 days ago



AZMOMXTWO

what a great adventure and memory
I hope you find the water Grenade

234 days ago



WATERMELLEN

Good memories -- and good times will come again!!

234 days ago



MANGO1960

Great story!

235 days ago



DCHANCE6

Great story! I hope you find your grenade! 😊

235 days ago



JPPERSELL

Wow you are amazing! I love that you got to run in a marathon in another country! That sounds so exciting! Good for you for finishing! I do hope that the covid virus ends one day. There are too many people dying from it. I do hope that you find the grenade. Good luck!

235 days ago



Comment edited on: 10/17/2020 12:43:28 PM



GRAMPIAN



Great, positive blog.
235 days ago

THANK
YOU!



RHOOK20047



What great memories. You are awesome to keep your exercise going when travelling.
235 days ago



SUSANYOUNGER




235 days ago



CD26054030



Wow! Maybe we will have a monument to the end of Covid. Thanks for smiles
235 days ago



CATNAP6291



NICE PICTURES
235 days ago



THOMS1




Great story!
235 days ago

HUGS



SWEETNEEY





235 days ago



SHAKERATTLEROLL




★ on the race. You did a great job of running and continually exercises wherever you are.
235 days ago



YELLOW09RED



Good morning Eileen,
I love reading your blogs. So much fun to read you are able to run in the different countries.
Have a great Saturday walk/run.

Debbie



235 days ago



UPTOIT59



Hope makes the days doable!
235 days ago



THINCPL2004



Great story, I too can't wait to travel again!
235 days ago



LIVINGLOVINLIFE



Lovely story and I know many are so ready for travel again. Hopefully soon.
235 days ago



NAVYWIFESKI



Funny! Yes, normal please!:) 🙏❤️🙏
235 days ago

PLCHAPPELL



Love this story - can't wait to travel again



235 days ago



LIS193

AWESOME

235 days ago

v



KITTYHAWK1949

half marathon 314 AWESOME KEEP IT UP! KEEP SPARKING!

235 days ago

v



MARYJEANSL

What a great story! (Maybe your grenade is the same place my missing car key went. I think the Little Man Who Wasn't There absconded with it.)

235 days ago

v



SUNNYBEACHGIRL

What a great story. I have not been to Prague but the beaches of Normandy were amazing

235 days ago

v



DOVESEYES

AWESOME Well Done! mmm

235 days ago

v



MEADSBAY

Great story!

THANK YOU! I LIKE IT! HUGS

235 days ago

v



LINDA!

This is so interesting. The fact that you travel often and try to run in each country is....

235 days ago

AWESOME

v



BJAEGER307

How cool! That is something that you got to participate in a race in the Czech Republic. I bet that was a trip of a lifetime for you and hubby. What wonderful memories and stories you must have!

235 days ago

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