EVENT RECAP

Our annual Donut Derby and Gap Gallop events make September our busiest month – one with invaluable contributions from our terrific LWA volunteers and leaders.

Jack Helffrich was the race director for the Donut Derby which was held on the 6th of September. Cathy and Clyde (pictured) Odom are leading the Gap Gallop which will be Sunday 18th of September. We hope to have great weather and a strong rider turnout.

The LWA leadership team works seamlessly to organize and manage club activities - especially during the 7 months in advance of our Fall events. In addition, we have a very active group of volunteers. Thanks for your enthusiasm and dedication to the Lehigh Wheelmen!

Dave Sheffield, LWA President
2016 Donut Derby
Derby - vs - Donut Derby

The Derby was once described as "...and unlicensed, unsanctioned, illegal (in racing terms) race of approximately 35 miles that goes out every week, rain, shine, snow, sleet, ice or heat. Riders regularly exceed average speeds above 40mph." Walk into any serious cycling shop in France or Italy and mention you've ridden the Derby and they will know exactly what you are talking about. That's The Derby.

The Donut Derby is an unlicensed, unsanctioned, illegal (same caveat) fun race of approximately 35 miles that goes out on Labor Day, rain, shine, snow (snow?), sleet, ice or heat. Every 12 miles there is a rest stop where racers can get water, go to the bathroom and get donuts. For every donut that you eat, five minutes is deducted from your official finish time. Riders regularly consume two, four, a half-dozen or a dozen Krispy Kremes in their bid to beat the best times of the Derby riders. Gina and Jeffrey Stango (pictured) took a bite out of their time at this year's ride. So you can ride like an Olympian, or ride like a turtle that can pack in a dozen donuts. One way or the other, you could win!

The first Donut Derby was Labor Day of 2003. There was cool with a light rain all day, loads of wet leaves on the ground and we still had 300 riders. The Berks Lehigh Regional Police marshaled the start and finish corners for us. They even closed Rt. 222 for 20 minutes to accommodate the mass start. The racers side of the club marshaled every other corner of the course for us to keep folks safe and Red Robin brought out a chef and a grill and donated a burger and sides for everyone's post ride meal.
The Genesis of the DD began in the early spring (late March or early April) of '03. I had been looking around for some time for an event that would let me bring together the two sides of the club for a single event, and nothing was working for me. That morning (a Saturday), Joe McDermott led a ride from the velo out to the Kutztown Bakery. It was cold and we were riding really hard to stay warm. When we got to the bakery I ordered my very favorite nosh in the whole world - a chocolate croissant. They warmed it up, cut it into neat little slices and brought it to the table. As soon as it was set in front of me I knew that if I took even one bite of that croissant, I was going to paint the wall in front of me with puke.

And THEN I knew I had my idea for an event for the whole club...A fun race that you couldn't win with speed alone.

To make it even more fun, I decided there would be only one serious rule - "Chum a Field and You're DNF". You can draft. You can paceline. You can do all those things you can't do in a legal race. But if you barf, you're out! (It does make me incredibly sad that these days folks violate the spirit of the race by cheating at the donut stop with stealing of points sticks and rinsing off the donuts. The sugar is the essence of the time perk. If I were running it today, there would be a few more strictures! ...Stealing points sticks? Really?? How do they look at themselves in the mirror?)

To make the day perfect, everyone got a pair of bright purple boxers with DONUT DERBY screen printed on the butt in LIME GREEN. (Lorie and I were tired of t-shirts) The cost was $25.

Tammy Doran shows true DD spirit (pictured)
Looking through the list of volunteers from back then, the only one still around is Debby Terfinko.

I'm happy it's still going strong. When I first created it, my intention was that it would grow to be several thousand riders in wave starts and a whole day event for the whole family. I envisioned a little kids' version over in the Rodale Park, and adding on a climb up the hill at Bowers, coming back down to catch School Road to create the Donut (Hell) Hole, making the ride that much harder. (Like the CLAWs on the Black Bear) In my mind's eye folks would come out and play softball on the adjacent fields in the afternoon and then fireworks at night so it was a whole day happening. But keeping it small isn't such a bad thing either. I would probably still have grown it bigger than 300 riders, but it's nice that it's just the morning and then done.

Enjoy the MCall attention, and have fun at the race!!

Karen O'Brien Winkler
Ride Leader Report – August 2016

Drum roll please. Your top ride leader in August was Jean Black with 9 rides and 64 riders. Second place goes to Mike Solliday with 6 rides and a whopping 106 riders. Third and fourth are Frieder de Biasi 4 rides/26 riders and Richard Baldock 4 rides/11 riders. For the year, Jean Black leads the pack with 33 rides and 263 riders followed by Richard Baldock 31 rides/68 riders, Torie Loven 26 rides/270 riders, Dave Sprigle 23 rides/84 riders and Donalee Frary 20 rides/131 riders. Terry Terfinko remains solidly in first place as Mr. Popularity averaging 17.5 riders on his 12 rides. Honorable mention goes to Cathy Odom who had 18 on her first ride and Dave Drummer who drew 43 riders for his “Wurst” ride. The temperatures are cooling and soon autumn will be upon us. Visit www.meetup.com/lehigh-wheelmen-association/ to find your perfect ride. Be safe out there.

Dick McCreight
"MEMBER OF THE MONTH'

Justin Butsavage medaled at Junior Pan American Track Championships (Sept. 6, 2016) – After a tough World Championships, Team USA juniors looked to reach multiple podiums at the Aug. 26-31 Junior Pan American Track Championships in Trinidad and Tobago. The team claimed three gold, one silver and four bronze medals at the five-day event.

The team got off to a great start with Summer Moak and Eva Burke setting the fastest time in qualifying for the women’s team sprint. In the evening session, Burke and Moak went faster to win the team sprint in 36.436 seconds, besting a fast Chilean team (36.605 seconds).

The men’s team pursuit squad of Justin Butsavage, Johnny Kuhfahl, Luke Mullis, and Alex Brewer had a tough ride in qualifying (4:33.245), but held onto fourth. The four put more than eight seconds into their qualifying time that evening, claiming bronze in 4:24.676 ahead of a resurgent Venezuelan squad (4:29.682).

Team USA finished second in the medal count behind Colombia.

JUSTIN is an LWA member, 17 years old, riding for only 3 years - Mondays since 2014. His career accomplishments include the Jr Track Nationals 2016, Bronze Medal in Team Sprint and Bronze Medal in Match Sprint. He qualified in Jr. ICQ at T-Town in Team Pursuit and received the PA Cycling Association 2015 Track Rider of the Year Award. Justin Rode with Team USA Juniors in Team Pursuit, and earned a bronze medal.

... Experiencing Website "Problems":

Rule 1: Contact Membership Administration (see below).
Rule 2: See Rule 1.

... Renewal via Snail Mail:
LWA, P.O. BOX 140, TREXLERTOWN, PA 18087-0140
Please notify Membership when check actually mailed....

... LWA Membership Administration
Rob Smith, rbsmith@fast.net
Richard Baldock, rv314159@rcn.com,
For Sale
Hard Shell Bike Case $50.
Travel case for one road bike.
Call Terry 484-707-2866
LWA Discount Sponsors

Receive a 10% Discount with your LWA membership card!
(unless otherwise noted)

Action Wheels
530 W. Broad St. #1
Bethlehem, PA 18018
610-866-1113
www.action-wheels.com

BikeLine Allentown
1728 Tilghman St.
Allentown, PA 18104
610-437-6100
www.bikeline.com

BikeLine Bethlehem
2112 Schoenersville Rd.
Bethlehem, PA 18018
610-691-0943
www.bikeline.com

Bikesport
325 West Main Street
Trappe, PA 19426
610-489-7300
www.bikesportbikes.com

Curt’s Cyclery
Route #248
Nazareth, PA
610-759-5134
http://curtscyclery.com/
info@curtscyclery.com

Cutters Bike Shop
418 E. 3rd St.
Bethlehem, PA 18015
610-419-4207
www.cuttersbikeshop.com

Fitness Central Bike Shop
4337 Route 309
Schoenswick, PA 18078
610-769-7300
www.fitnesscentralinc.com

Keswick Cycle Co.
408 N. Easton Road
Glenside, PA 19038
215-885-7433
www.keswickcycle.com

Saucon Valley Bikes
824 Main St.
Hellertown, PA 18055
610-838-1500
www.sauconvalleybikes.com

Sleeping Dog Professional Cycles
330 W. Weis St.
Topton, PA 19562
610-682-1000
www.sleepingdogprocycles.com

South Mountain Cycles
& Coffee Bar
337 Chestnut Street
Emmaus, PA 18049
610-967-4490
email: smcbikes@ptd.net

Spokes Bike Shop
16590 Route 61
Hamburg, PA 19526
610-562-8900
www.spokesbikeshop.com

The Velo Shop
6465 Village Lane, Suite 8,
Macungie, PA 18062
267-374-3915
www.theveloshop.net
info@theveloshop.net

Village Bicycle Shop
7 South Village Circle
Reinholds, PA 17569
610-742-4786
email: gs391@verizon.net

SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
BIKE SHOP