

**GOBA 29 There's no place like GOBA
June 17-24, 2017**

**Larry Jenkins Hired as Columbus
Outdoor Pursuits Executive Director**

Larry Jenkins of Westerville began as the Executive Director of Columbus Outdoor Pursuits and the GOBA Director on July 2nd. Many GOBA riders met Larry on this year's ride because he was a volunteer. He was officially announced as the GOBA Director on Friday at the Song Contest.

Larry is a COP member and has ridden TOSRV multiple times. He also participated in several week-long bicycle adventures and is an avid outdoors person.

Larry serves on multiple nonprofit boards. In addition, he is very active in the Westerville Sunrise Rotary and has organized several large Rotary events.

He served on Westerville City Council and has an understanding of local government.



Photo of Larry Jenkins

**GOBA 30 June 16-24, 2018
Route Details Announcement:
November 20, 2017
1,500 Rider Limit**

GOBA 29: Wind, Fire and Rain

SAG Driver Pete Shaw commented that GOBA 29 had wind, fire, and rain, and he did not remember in his over twenty-year involvement with GOBA a time when three major events had such a large impact on the week.

Wind: Jerry Rampelt and Mary Larson walked through Hedges Boyer Park twice warning campers that a weather front will be moving through about 4:30 PM on Sunday. It was mild with sunny skies and seemed to be a hollow warning.

Almost like clockwork, a gust of wind followed by rain hit the park at 4:30. About eight tents were destroyed, and we averted a major injury when the pole of a canopy pierced a tent and missed both campers resting inside. Also, the GOBA information booth had a support post snap in half like a twig.

Fire: On Thursday afternoon, a gas leak at the High Point Free Will Baptist church caused an explosion and destroyed the building. The church was on the Century route, and returning riders were detoured. The church was also on the Friday route, so it was repainted on Thursday evening. No one was injured in the blast.

Rain: Two to two-and-one half inches of rain fell between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Friday, June 23 as GOBA riders covered the 56-mile route. On Thursday GOBA was in regular contact with Emergency Management staff and receiving reports about the predicted rainfall produced from Hurricane Dora that hit the gulf coast several days earlier.

A decision was made to give riders the choice of braving the rain on Friday or picking up their cars in Findlay on Thursday evening. Riders were asked to choose one person to pick up their car and return to Bellefontaine for the rest of their group. Ultimately four busloads made the trip to Findlay.

The cooperation from the Bellefontaine City School District and community was beyond anyone's dream. They opened the school for Thursday night camping only asking riders to eat in the cafeteria and clean up before departing. Jerry Rampelt walked the building on Friday morning after the riders left and found an immaculate school building.

On the route to Kenton, riders were wet and cold, and SAG drivers and HAM radio operators combed the course to make sure riders suffering from cold were assisted. A few riders were taken off the course and transported to Kenton, but no one had hypothermia.

GOBA Photos Available Online goba.smugmug.com

GOBA photos are available for viewing online, and you can order copies. Go to goba.smugmug.com to view and order photos.

GOBA has sold a DVD of all photos in the past, but this year we only had nine DVD orders so a change was made in how riders can obtain copies of the photos. The website will be operating for at least six months.

GOBA photographers are continually asked if a rider's photo will be in the calendar, and photographers say, "absolutely yes" with a wink and nod. Now we can promise that your photo will be on the GOBA photo website.



Photos that were extremely blurry were deleted.

Photo copyright: The photos are copyrighted, and you are granted permission to make copies of the photos for your personal use. It is a violation of the copyright to sell copies of the photos.

You can purchase copies of the photos or download a digital copy for your personal use. Hover the cursor over the lower right section of the photo to see the purchase and download buttons.

There are over 4,000 photos at goba.smugmug.com, and the following photographers volunteered their talents:

Cheryl Heidenreich
Ron Schroeder
Toby Rampelt
Jerry Rampelt

GOBA Calendar

The 2018 GOBA calendar will be mailed in December, and it is full of photos from GOBA 29. One calendar is mailed per household.

GOBA by the numbers

- 1,396 registered
- 1052 from Ohio
- 41 states
- 3 countries
- 111 were under age 16
- 24 have ridden all 29 GOBAs
- 378 first time riders
- 104 rode the Century

Note from Jerry Rampelt

I became GOBA Director in January 2017 following the retirement of Julie Van Winkle. Julie designed the GOBA 29 route following the death of Bill Gordon, and we all owe her thanks for a beautifully designed route.

Obviously, there was a steep learning curve for me, and I was thankful for having ridden twelve GOBAs. I also was a volunteer photographer for three years and knew many of the GOBA staff and volunteers.

The true success of GOBA is the high degree of cooperation by GOBA riders as they cycle each day and show respect for fellow riders, local communities, and volunteers.

At the end of June, I was happy to step aside and welcome Larry Jenkins as the GOBA Director. As an officer in Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, I was on the interviewing committee for Larry and enthusiastically supported naming him COP Executive Director and GOBA Director.



GOBA 29 Route Summary June 17, 23, 2017

	Route	Camp	Mile s
Saturday	Check-in and Bike Parade	Hancock County Fairgrounds	3
Sunday	Findlay to Tiffin	Hedges Boyer Park	55
Monday	Tiffin optional loop	Hedges Boyer Park	60
Tuesday	Tiffin to Upper Sandusky	Wyandot County Fairgrounds	50
Wednesday	Upper Sandusky to Bellefontaine	Bellefontaine High School	56
Thursday	Bellefontaine optional loops	Bellefontaine High School	48 & 100
Friday	Bellefontaine to Kenton	Hardin County Fairgrounds	56
Saturday	Kenton to Findlay	Hancock County Fairgrounds	49
Maximum Total			429
Minimum Total			269

GOBA Volunteers in Towns and Along the Route

GOBA is possible because the host towns organize an array of activities for GOBA riders, and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

Findlay:

Town Coordinator: Kathy Launder
Mayor: Lydia Mihalik
Police Chief: John Dunbar
Fire Chief: Joshua Eberle
Hardin Co. Fairgrounds: Dave Thomas
Bowling Green Athletic Department



Tiffin:

Town Coordinators: Brittany Cook, Bryce Kuhn and Gemma Marschke
Mayor: Aaron Montz
Police Chief: Sgt. Joe Feld
Fire Chief: William Ennis
Seneca County EMA: Daniel Stahl

Upper Sandusky:

Town Coordinators: Lesley and Dan Hayman, Tom Creger
Mayor: Scott Washburn
Police Chief: David Olds
Fire Chief: Lynn Yeater
Upper Sandusky EMA: Dale Risley
Wyandot Co. Fairgrounds: Sommer Miller

Bellefontaine:

Town Coordinators: Paul Benedetti and Ali Pathemore

Mayor: Ben Stahler
School Superintendent: Brad Hall
Police Chief: Brandon Standley
Fire Chief: Andy Fissell
Bellefontaine City Schools
Bellefontaine City Schools Facilities:
Roger Ely
Superintendent: Kris Myers
Logan County EMA: Helen Norris
Kenton:
Town Coordinator: Jeff Barnes
Mayor: Randy Manns
Police Chief: Robert Lutes
Fire Chief: Russell Blue
Kenton School District
Hardin Co. Fairgrounds: Judi Cronley

Along the Route

Van Buren: Allen Twp. Fire Dept

Fostoria: Fostoria Chamber of Commerce

Bettsville: Old Fort Schools

Green Springs: Green Springs 4th of July Committee

Bellevue: Bellevue Recreation & Parks Department

New Riegel: American Legion Post 354

Carey: Carey Chamber of Commerce

Wharton: Richland Twp. Fire Department

Marseilles: Angel Back Grill

Mt. Victory: Silver Creek UMC

Rushsylvania: United Methodist Church

Middleburg: Women Arise

West Liberty: W. Liberty Lions Club

Russells Point: Indian Lake Athletic Boosters

Waynesfield: Waynesfield Goshen Athletic Boosters

McGuffey: Upper Scioto Valley HS Academic Boosters

Forest: Village of Forest

Mt. Blanchard: Village of Mt. Blanchard Council and UMC



Lost & Found – Go to goba.smumug.com and click on the Lost & Found photos.

There are Lost & Found items at the GOBA office. We discard items such as water bottles and towels for sanitary reasons. Go to goba.smugmug.com and see if your lost item was turned in. Email us at gobainfo@goba.com to claim your item.

Song Contest Winner: Dayton Cycling Club.

Costume Contest Winner: Rider #373, Miss Gulch

Bill Gordon Memorial Riders: Rosa and Reuben Rall

Rider 2017: John Johnson

Rider 29: Charlie Brown

GOBA Address Change

The offices of Columbus Outdoor Pursuits and GOBA were in a building that was recently sold. After thirteen years in the same location we had to move.

Renovations are not complete for the new office so there is a temporary address:

Columbus Outdoor Pursuits
27 East Home Street
Westerville, OH 43081



GOBA 30 June 16-24, 2018

GOBA 30 will be a special event and not to be missed. The route will be kept secret until November 20, 2017.

We can tell you that five towns have committed to hosting GOBA 30, and they are enthused about GOBA visiting.

The rider limit of 1,500 riders will continue in 2018.