

## **17<sup>th</sup> Ascent of the Great Divide Hill Climb - MacDonald Pass - September 23, 2007**

This year's Hill Climb was wet, wild and full of fun. It poured rain on the brave volunteers setting up the course, only to slow in time for the participants to be greeted with a chilly fog. We had 21 teams ascend MacDonald Pass. Brian Weick, the timer for the event, christened this year's event "Gorillas in the Mist" due to the heavy fog that encased the summit.

The Great Divide Hill Climb lays claim as the most unique race in Montana with bicyclists and runners competing on the same course at the same time. Cyclists and runners race up a 2,200 foot climb in 6.2 miles on Highway 12 on the East side of MacDonald Pass. The cyclist and runner individual times are combined to determine overall team winners.

There were no individual records broken this year, however we had two new team records. The team of Michelle Richardson and Michele Bazzanella (Mchill B & Mchell on Wheels) broke their previous record by 1 minute 20 seconds in the Open Womens division with a time of 1:28:23. A new record in the Masters Co-Ed division was established by Sarah & Geoff (the team of Sarah Slanger and Geoff Proctor) with a time of 1:31:15, beating a 2004 time of 1:33:25 held by Ann Seifert & Raz Rasmussen.

Montana Velo cyclists claimed the top individual spots with Scott Herzig by a bike length over Geoff Proctor with times of 31:01 & 31:02. Michelle Richardson of Montana Velo was the fastest woman cyclist in 36:36 with Tara Basilewitch of the Great Divide Team closely behind with 36:44. The top male runner was Ryan Kearney with a blazing fast time of 43:45, Evan Eck was second with a time of 53:05. Michele Bazzanella was the fastest female runner with a time of 51:47 and Jen Reiter had a time of 56:21 in second.

The team winners were:

- The Ovenchickens (Matt Curran & Ryan Kearney) in the Open Men's division.
- Mchill B & Mchell on Wheels (Michelle Richardson & Michele Bazzanella) in the Open Women's division.
- Fahrvergnugen (Tara & Dirk Basilewitsch) in the Open Co-Ed division
- Team Peur-Ray(Puree) (Robert Ray & Alan Peura) for the Masters Men
- Sarah & Geoff (Geoff Proctor & Sarah Slanger) finished first in the Master's Co-ed division.
- Hoomey & Tughes (Stu Kellner & John Sullivan) lead the Super Masters Men
- Rachel on the Stumpjumperbumper (Mark Scarff & Rachel Peura) topped the Super Master Co-Ed division

We had some very creative team names this year including "George", "Fahrvegnugen" & "Demons in Depends" but the coveted Best Team Name award went to the "Ferocious Brosious & Evan the Excell" team of Bryan Brosious & Evan Eck.

The "Fleet Feet Award" for the Most Inspirational Runner went to Rachel Peura for an outstanding race effort. Jason Fruh took home the "Big Ring Award" as the Most Inspirational Biker.

The full results from the 2007 Great Divide Hill Climb are listed below:

Runners: Female

1	MICHELE BAZZANELLA	51:47
2	JEN REITER	56:21
3	DEBBIE GIBSON	57:06
4	AGGIE SHWAYDER	59:19
5	SARAH SLANGER	1:00:13
6	VADINE RISPENS	1:01:12
7	SARAH RAZ	1:05:21
8	EMILY DAVIES	1:09:20
9	RACHEL PEURA	1:17:45
10	JUDY GROOMBRIDGE	1:36:31

Runners: Male

1	RYAN KEARNEY	43:45
2	EVAN ECK	53:05
3	ALAN PEURA	55:25
4	ALAN WINTERSTEEN	57:44
5	BLAIR HOPKINS	58:05
6	DIRK BASILEWITSCH	58:34
7	JOHN ALKE	1:00:28
8	BRIAN HEENEY	1:01:06
9	ADAM KOPZUK	1:02:13
10	JOHN SULLIVAN	1:08:36
11	STEVE RUMLEY	1:13:30

Bikers: Female

1	MICHELLE RICHARDSON	36:36
2	TARA BASILEWITSCH	36:44
3	PAM FRUH	44:42

Bikers: Male

1	SCOTT HERZIG	31:01
2	GEOFF PROCTOR	31:02
3	W. JOHN TIETZ	35:07
4	ROBERT RAY	35:29
5	DREW SCHOENIG	35:48
6	BRYAN BROSIOUS	38:45
7	DONALD CORNISH	41:24
8	TROY ZICKEFOOSE	41:49
9	MATT CURRAN	43:41
10	RICK MCADAM	44:08
11	JASON FRUH	45:07
12	MARK SHWAYDER	45:51
13	STU KELLNER	46:14
14	CAREY HESTER	46:32
15	BLAYNE FRITZ	51:06
16	MARK SCARFF	55:26

17 KEN MARTINELLI 55:34  
18 RYAN THEISSEN 1:02:18

Division: Open Men (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 THE OVENCHICKENS MATT CURRAN, RYAN KEARNEY 1:27:26  
2 FEROCIOUS BROSIOUS & EVAN THE BRYAN BROSIOUS, EVAN ECK 1:31:50  
EXCELLENT

Division: Open Women (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 MICHILL B & MICHELL ON WHEELS MICHELLE RICHARDSON, MICHELE BAZZANELLA, 1:28:23  
\*New Record! Old Record by: THE CHELLMINATORS - 2006 - 1:30:43  
Biker: 2-L Michelle Richardson  
Runner: 1-L Michele Bazzanella

Division: Open Co-Ed (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 FAHRVERGNUGEN TARA BASILEWITSCH, DIRK BASILEWITSCH, 1:35:18  
2 NO SPLASH TROY ZICKEFOOSE, JEN REITER, 1:38:10  
3 DON AND DEBBIE DONALD CORNISH, DEBBIE GIBSON, 1:38:30  
4 SUPER COOL ALPHA SQUADRON MARK SHWAYDER, AGGIE SHWAYDER, 1:45:10  
5 FRISPENATORS JASON FRUH, VADINE RISPENS, 1:46:19  
6 PAM AND ADAM PAM FRUH, ADAM KOPZUK, 1:46:55  
7 THE DRONES CAREY HESTER, SARAH RAZ, 1:51:53  
8 GIRL BOO RYAN THEISSEN, EMILY DAVIES, 2:11:38

Division: Masters Men (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 TEAM PEUR-RAY (PUREE) ROBERT RAY, ALAN PEURA, 1:30:54  
2 TEAM DEER SPRINGS DREW SCHOENIG, BLAIR HOPKINS, 1:33:53  
3 TEAM T&A W. JOHN TIETZ, JOHN ALKE, 1:35:35  
4 FRITZ & HEENEY BLAYNE FRITZ, BRIAN HEENEY, 1:52:12  
5 GEORGE KEN MARTINELLI, ALAN WINTERSTEEN, 1:53:18

Division: Masters Co-Ed (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 SARAH & GEOFF GEOFF PROCTOR, SARAH SLANGER, 1:31:15  
\*New Record! Old Record by: RAZZLE DAZZLE - 2004 - 1:33:25  
Biker: Ann Seifert  
Runner: Raz Rasmussen  
2 THE ALPHA & THE OMEGA SCOTT HERZIG, JUDY GROOMBRIDGE, 2:07:32

Division: Super Masters Men (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 HOOMEY & TUGHES STU KELLNER, JOHN SULLIVAN, 1:54:50  
2 DEMONS IN DEPENDS RICK MCADAM, STEVE RUMLEY, 1:57:38

Division: Super Masters Co-Ed (Team name listed first,then Biker,Runner,Time)

1 RACHEL ON THE STUMPJUMPERBUMPER MARK SCARFF, RACHEL PEURA, 2:13:11

Best Team Name Award: Ferocious Brosious & Evan the Excellent

Big Ring Award - Most Inspirational Biker: Jason Fruh

Fleet Feet Award - Most Inspirational Runner: Rachel Peura