

8th Annapolis Run

Sunday, August 28, 1983

7:30 a.m.

John Gudas, Race Director
54 Southgate Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 263-9664

Dear Striders:

The 8th Annapolis Run is now history. Gary Siriano continued his domination of the men, and Sue Crowe led the women this year. We finished over 2,000 runners again, even under conditions of heat and very high humidity. This was my second year as Race Director of this event, and as I move on to other Strider activities, I would like to comment on what the Annapolis Run means to me.

This year, in particular, the Annapolis Run was a club-wide event. During the trophy presentation, the stands and field were filled with red-shirted volunteers. Most of these volunteers sacrificed their opportunity to run, and I want each to know that his efforts were very much appreciated. I feel that the Striders have turned the corner and see the Annapolis Run as an opportunity to return something to the local running community, and in the process, spread growth and activity within the club.

Organizing this race is truly a joy. It means working with Marti Betz to design the printed material and promote our image as a first rate event. It means planning and budgeting with Dan Spadone, and thus being assured that the tremendous number of transactions are being handled professionally. The Annapolis Run means asking Mike van Beuren to coordinate the invited runners, then take on publicity, then arrange a site for the race-eve activities. In his spare time, Mike also assisted in registration through final scoring. Directing this race includes catching Dick Hillman on the fly and convincing him that processing 260+ volunteers is a fun job, then seeing his efforts pay off in an orderly assignment of these volunteers. The Annapolis Run is Gert Spadone and her disciples registering and then assisting in scoring all of the entrants and many rejections. I'll miss Gert's phone calls which always end with the phrase, "Don't worry--it's getting done."

The greatest pleasure in organizing the Annapolis Run is working with new faces. Don Goodwin joined the committee this year and engineered the most popular shirt in the history of this run, as well as a thoroughly professional job with the trophies. Giff and Kathy Munger jumped into the event in July and organized a cadre of medical personnel which met the challenge of the heat. The action in the medical area was heavy, and the interest showed by Giff and Kathy was very much appreciated by the runners in need.

This year, again, the Annapolis Run means Nancy Jordan (and family) in the form of slides and more slides. The race-eve show was an artistic triumph drawing applause from the hundreds of runners who watched. The Annapolis Run is Betty Impellizzeri again professionally dispensing the race numbers and shirts. Betty and her helpers meet each and every runner, and do the most to enhance the image of our club.

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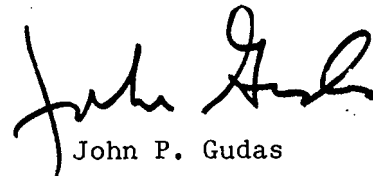
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The Annapolis Run is watching Walt Eilers organize St. John's College to provide the best race-eve arrangements in our history, not to mention three different spaghetti sauces.

After all this preparation, the Annapolis Run is a very good road-race. It means that Ron Jarashow is up at 3:00 a.m. placing no-parking signs, and working closely with the police jurisdictions to control traffic. It means that all stadium activities revolve around Fred Betz. This includes the rental and return of all equipment, and the cradle-to-grave attention to detail required at registration, the start, the finish and all post-race activities. The Annapolis Run means seeing Don Waddington again manage the course and train the many volunteers to do the right job at the right time. This year, Don was everywhere, and set up a communication system which allowed us to follow the runners and problems throughout the course. The Annapolis Run means John Butterfield masterfully controlling the start, and exciting all of us with his call of the hundreds of finishers. Finally, the Annapolis Run is Bill Law and his dozens of volunteers who handle the finish and scoring. Very few people in the club understand how he does it, but Bill has set up a system which is the centerpiece of our race, and is indeed a committee-within-a-committee.

Over the past eight years, the Annapolis Run has grown and reflected the special focus of the race directors. We saw Randy Fox take the race from inception to the point of an established event, with a history and great expectations. Walt Eilers then guided this event through growth and radical change, to the point where it became the centerpiece of the Strider activities. My interest in following these individuals was to consolidate their efforts, and build this race--not in size, but in quality. I also hoped to continue to establish its reputation in the minds of all area runners. We have intentionally avoided change the past two years, and I feel that my personal goals were met.

In the future, I hope that all Striders continue to see the Annapolis Run as a special event. The relationships I developed with many good people the past two years are special to me. I look forward to this race as a continuing source of pride to us all.



John P. Gudas

