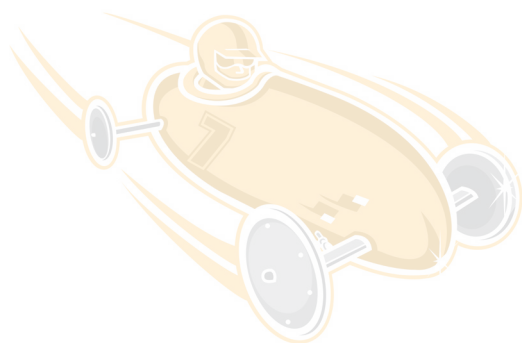


# 2016

## ANNUAL REPORT



est. 1934

# SOAPBOX DERBY®

Gravity Powered

STEM Driven

[soapboxderby.org](http://soapboxderby.org)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	President's Note
<b>2</b>	About Us
<b>4</b>	Our Impact
<b>8</b>	Highlights
<b>10</b>	Financial Position
<b>12</b>	Our Partners

# President's Note

Over the past several years I have seen our community, board, staff and volunteers come together with a shared sense of purpose, working effectively as a unified voice to accomplish our mission of building knowledge and character, and creating meaningful experiences through collaboration and fair and honest competition. I have had the pleasure of watching the Derby truly raise the bar for ourselves and for our stakeholders. Last year we celebrated the 79th running of the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby. The greatest gravity racers in the world and their families were treated to festivities throughout the week, such as the SUBWAY® Challenge and DQ Rally Challenge races, all leading up to the World Championship race.

We've also seen tremendous growth in our STEM-Based Education Program. We had a 58% increase in the number of teams participating in the Gravity Racing Challenge STEM Team Competition. We've also seen steady growth in the Mini Car Program and the STEM Summer Camp saw a record number of participants.

Nearly 70 events were held at the world famous Derby Downs Track including corporate outings; Family Day presented by the City of Akron; Senior Day presented by Cleveland Clinic Akron General; United Way Corporate Derby Challenge presented by Fallsway Equipment Company; Kids Day presented by Move It Now!, and Inclusion Day presented by GPD Employees' Foundation.

We are truly excited as the Derby enters new territory with the recent launch of a curriculum as part of our STEM-Based Education Program. As we continue to grow and reinvent an organization that began in 1934, please consider supporting our mission by making a donation to the Bill Speeg Memorial Scholarship Fund or our STEM-Based Education Program that supports at-risk youth in Summit County. You can also help by volunteering at one of our exciting events throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you at Derby Downs soon.

*Joe Mazur*  
President & CEO



President's  
Note

About Us

Our  
Impact

Highlights

Financial  
Position

Our  
Partners

It's an exciting time at the world headquarters of gravity racing!

# About Us

The STEM-Based Education program is in more than 600 classrooms in the United States.

## *The Derby*

The Derby dates back to 1934, when the first All-American race was held in Dayton, Ohio. The All-American program has grown to more than 1,265 races and more than 106 racing districts throughout the world each year.

The Soap Box Derby's two youth initiatives are the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby Racing Program and the STEM-Based Education Program, which provides educational opportunities for K-12 youth through Soap Box Derby racing. The education program is in more than 600 classrooms in the United States and includes the Gravity Racing Challenge STEM Team Competition, Soap Box Derby Mini Car Program and Soap Box Derby STEM camps.

## *Mission*

The Soap Box Derby is an international non-profit organization whose mission is to build knowledge and character, and to create meaningful experiences through collaboration and fair and honest competition.



## Our Staff

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President & CEO .....	<i>Joe Mazur</i>
Vice President .....	<i>Bobby Dinkins</i>
Kit Production .....	<i>Duane Burkhammer</i>
Race Programs Coordinator .....	<i>Lynne Collier</i>
Resource Development Manager ....	<i>Alexis Cozadd</i>
Shipping .....	<i>Jim Crawford</i>
Events Manager .....	<i>Morgan Garner</i>
Region 8 Program Coordinator .....	<i>Frankie Gilmore</i>
Education Program Director .....	<i>Linda Hubbell</i>
Programs Coordinator .....	<i>Heather Pulley</i>
Marketing Manager .....	<i>Doreen Thorne</i>
Accountant .....	<i>Cindi Zagar</i>

## Board Members

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Chair - Kevin Thomas  
Vice Chair - Carla Sibley  
Treasurer - Alan Brubaker  
Secretary - Gregg Mervis  
Michael Callahan  
Jason Dodson  
William J. Ginter  
Todd Guillian, CFP®  
Bill Lowery  
Chris Ludle  
Mark D. Mroczynski  
Dominic Rizzo  
Pat Roberts  
Tony Troilo  
Bob Troyer

## Honorary Board Members

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Bobby Cooper  
Jack Engelke  
Brian Graham  
Paul Jackson  
Bobby Nickoli  
Marty Sullivan  
Michele Tomer  
Thomas Welsh

[President's  
Note](#)

[About Us](#)

[Our  
Impact](#)

[Highlights](#)

[Financial  
Position](#)

[Our  
Partners](#)

# Our Impact

## Our Core Values

- Innovation and entrepreneurship
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Mentoring
- Volunteerism
- Commitment to community
- Youth education and leadership development
- Family engagement and enrichment
- Honesty, integrity and perseverance



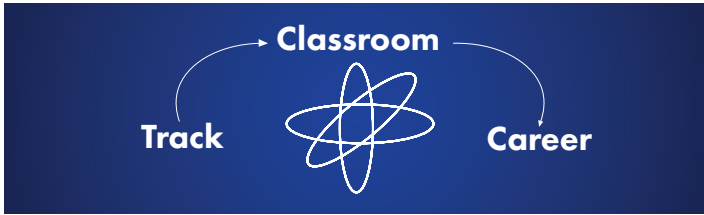
IMPACTING SINCE  
**1934**

GRAVITY  
POWERED

STEM  
DRIVEN

# Derby Spotlights

The Derby Spotlight was started in January 2016 to highlight past Soap Box Derby racers who have gone on to STEM careers, emphasizing how the Soap Box Derby was instrumental in steering these individuals into their career path.



**Nicole Stout**



**James Fell**



**Michael Gallo**



**Todd Hinton**



**David Reid**



**Alan Uhler**



“The Soap Box Derby was for me, and can be for future generations, a key building block to begin developing a multitude of mechanical skills that has helped me in my STEM career.”

– Alan Uhler

**Kristi Murphy**



**John Horner**



“Soap Box Derby racing gave me an outlet for my interest in mechanics and enabled me to experiment and apply scientific concepts so I could see the results each week when racing.”

– James Fell

**Mike Corson, Jr.**



President's Note

About Us

Our Impact

Highlights

Financial Position

Our Partners





3,000 volunteers

## Volunteers

Volunteers have been the foundation of the Soap Box Derby since its beginning. We rely heavily on our volunteers to ensure the success in all of our race locations.

We were fortunate to have more than 290 volunteers for the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship and a total of more than 3,000 volunteers that support all of our events yearly around the world.

Our volunteers have come from many places such as the City of Akron, FirstEnergy, Time Warner Cable, UPS, Cleveland Clinic Akron General, GPD Employees' Foundation, Oriana House, Summit DD, Autism Society of Greater Akron and local high schools.





# 2016 President's Youth Volunteer Service Award's and Hall of Fame Inductees

## President's Youth Volunteer Service Award

The award was established to recognize youth under the age of 21 who have made a positive impact on Soap Box Derby programs by volunteering and mentoring on the local or national level.



**Laura Hubbell**  
Johnstown, Ohio



**Veronica Harris**  
Campbell, California

## Hall of Fame Inductees

Candidates may be considered for induction into the Soap Box Derby Hall of Fame on the basis of significant contributions to the program by dedicating years of service to the organization; as an ambassador, promoting the betterment of the sport and its participating young persons or by supporting the youth racing program through financial or sponsorship contribution, enabling the continued growth of the youth racing program.



**Chuck Jones**  
Akron, Ohio



**Bill Speeg**  
Valley Center, California



**John Esque**  
Akron, Ohio

President's  
Note

About Us

Our  
Impact

Highlights

Financial  
Position

Our  
Partners

# Highlights

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While our focus has been on the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby, we have expanded our programs and now offer more opportunities to our racers, our community and our race locations.



## Races

- 79th FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby
- Mayor's Cup Race presented by Accenture
- Gravity Racing Challenge STEM Team Competition presented by Time Warner Cable
- DQ Rally Challenge
- SUBWAY® Challenge
- United Way Corporate Derby Challenge presented by Fallsway Equipment Company
- Gravity Racing Challenge STEM Team Competitions in five locations



## Special Days

- Kids Day presented by Move It Now
- Senior Day presented by Cleveland Clinic Akron General
- Soap Box Derby STEM Summer Camp
- Inclusion Day presented by GPD Employees' Foundation



## And More

- Advancing with the three-year strategic plan
- Hall of Fame inductees
- President's Youth Volunteer Service Award
- Corporate events

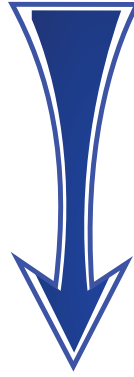
## By The Numbers

### Derby Downs

**79** YEARS  
of tradition

**69** EVENTS  
in 2016

**989** FT



of gravity

President's  
Note

About Us

Our  
Impact

Highlights

Financial  
Position

Our  
Partners

**10,000+** trips down the track

**30+** MPH  
down the track



4.5 Million dollars of economic impact yearly

**GRC**

**600**  
SCHOOLS  
using our STEM  
Programs

**7**

GRC  
Locations



2,300

**312**

EDUCATION TEAMS  
competing in GRC

STUDENTS  
Engaged  
in Ohio

**All American**



**106**

Race Districts

**3,563**

Racers

**1,265**

Races

**7**

World Champions

# Financial Position

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## Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$117,207
Account Receivable	121,314
Other Assets	407,148
Inventories	115,607
Property and Equipment, net	2,062,514

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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,823,790</b>
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## Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	\$181,921
Long Term Liabilities	570,992
Total Equity	2,070,877

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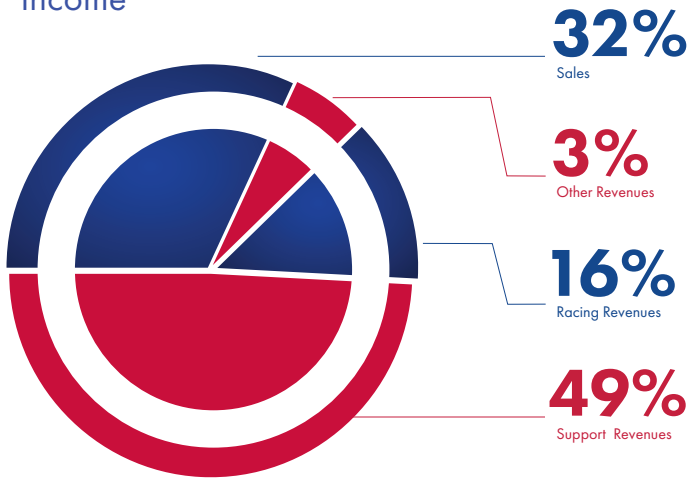
<b>Equals</b>	<b>\$2,823,790</b>
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## Operating Expenses



## Operating Income



President's Note

About Us

Our Impact

Highlights

Financial Position

Our Partners

# Our Partners

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## Foundations

Akron Community Foundation  
ASCVB's Partnerships in Motion  
Destination Development Grant  
Program  
Glenn R. and Alice V. Bogges  
Memorial Foundation  
Bridgestone Americas Trust Fund  
Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust,  
Key Bank Trustee  
City of Akron  
City of Akron Neighborhood  
Partnership Program  
Cohen Community Foundation  
The Mary S. And David C. Corbin  
Foundation  
GAR Foundation  
GAR Fund 2 of Akron Community  
Foundation  
GPD Employees' Foundation  
The Richard M. & Yvonne Hamlin  
Foundation  
Betty V. and John M. Jacobson Foundation  
Lehner Family Foundation  
The Maynard Family Foundation  
John A. McAlonan Fund of Akron  
Community Foundation  
W. Paul Mills and Thora J. Mills Memorial  
Foundation  
R.C. Musson & Katherine M.  
Musson Charitable Foundation  
Northern Ohio Golf Charities  
Foundation, Inc.  
Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association  
Destination Marketing Fund  
OMNOVA Solutions Foundation  
PNC Foundation  
Read Family Fund of Akron  
Community Foundation  
Charles E. and Mabel M. Ritchie  
Memorial Foundation  
The Sisler McFawn Foundation  
Lloyd L. and Louis K. Smith Foundation  
George Stevens Fund of Akron  
Community Foundation  
Summit County CDBG Grant Program  
Time Warner Cable  
(Connect a Million Minds)

UPS Foundation  
Welty Family Foundation

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## Partners

AAA  
AKA Media  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Akron RubberDucks  
American Legion  
Baymont Inn & Suites  
Best Western Plus - West Akron  
Inn & Suites  
Camping World  
ComDoc  
Crain, Langner & Company  
Dairy Queen  
J.W. Didado Electric  
Don Sitts Auto Group  
East Community Learning Center  
FirstMerit  
Golden Corral  
Greater Akron Chamber  
Hampton Inn Akron South  
HFA  
Hilton Garden Inn Akron  
Holiday Inn Akron West  
Holiday Inn Express Akron South  
Jones Group Interiors  
Keep Akron Beautiful  
Malco Industries  
Marous Brothers Construction  
Laura R. and Lucian Q. Moffitt  
Move It Now  
Myers Industries  
NORKA Beverage Company  
Ohio Valley Scale  
Papa John's  
Precision Garage Door  
Presta Products  
Quality Inn & Conference Center  
Radisson Akron/Fairlawn  
Residence Inn Akron South/Green  
Roetzel & Andress  
Rubber City Radio Group  
Spkcasters  
Spaghetti Warehouse  
SUBWAY®

Sully's Tool & Party Rental  
Summit Racing Equipment  
Superior-Speedie  
Swensons  
Taylor Made Jewelry  
Tri City Communication  
WBNX-TV  
Whitespace Creative  
Woodland Mulch

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## Individual Donors

Alan Brubaker	Trilogy Plastics
Andy Crump	Kevin Thomas
Jason Dodson	Tony Troilo
F.O.P. Lodge 139	Bob Troyer
William J. Ginter	Tom Welsh
Todd A. Guilliam	
William Harris	
Paul Jackson	
Troilo Joseph	
Danielle Kimmel	
Aaron Liimatainen	
Will Looman	
Bill Lowery	
Christopher Ludle	
Joseph Mazur	
Medical Mutual of Ohio	
Gregg Mervis	
Ken Morrow	
Mark D. Mroczynski	
Bobby Nickoli	
Pottstown AMBUCS Association	
Adam Purdy	
Ronald Reed	
Dominic Rizzo	
Pat Roberts	
Carla Sibley	
Kelly Speeg	

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As we continue to grow and reinvent an organization that began in 1934 we want to thank the many volunteers, community leaders, corporations, foundations and individuals - especially our title sponsor for the All-American race, FirstEnergy - whose generous contributions ensure that we can continue our mission of building knowledge and character, and creating meaningful experiences through collaboration and fair and honest competition.

**Thank you for your support!**

# The Bill Speeg Memorial Scholarship Fund



The Bill Speeg Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2016. The Fund honors the late Bill Speeg, who passed away in 2014 at the age of 46.

The top three finishers in the Local and Rally Divisions of the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship race annually receive scholarships from the Fund.

Speeg of Valley Center, California, became involved with the Soap Box Derby in 1999 when his daughter Ashley began to race. Speeg quickly became involved in local Oceanside and statewide California Soap Box Derby activities, serving as a board member and in other official capacities. The Speeg family traveled to races throughout the country where he offered technical support, financial assistance and mentoring to many young racers. He had served as a Regional Director for nearly 10 years at the time of his passing. He was vice president of Freeberg Industrial Fabrication Corp. in Escondido, California.

President's  
Note

About Us


Our  
Impact

Highlights

Financial  
Position

Our  
Partners





# SOAP BOX DERBY®