



## Georgia On My Mind

### Training Camp for Lupus Racing Team

**ATLANTA (February 20, 2016)** – The main goals of team building and bonding were achieved by the Lupus Racing Team at the 2016 pre-season camp in Georgia in early February. The second-year UCI Continental men's cycling team brought several new faces into the fold, including the addition of American Chris Horner as team captain. The 15 riders on the roster deliver a solid mix of veteran riders and young, experienced riders, who will attack often and work together for great performances this season, and in years to come.

"We have a solid group of gentlemen who will show their talents as a welded unit at races. In my opinion, we have built the Lupus Racing Team that will be a revelation in North American races this season," said Sports Director Phil Cortes.

"We have one of the most complete rosters in the U.S. We will show versatility in our roster where the core of all-rounders will support the climbers and sprinters. The recruitment has been fantastic on a talent level. We also have a group of gentlemen who are open to suggestions, and are pretty easy to get along with every day."

Veteran rider Chad Beyer agreed, "This was a good camp for all the Lupus Racing Team to get to know each other and begin to mesh. The better we know each other on and off the bike, the better we will work as a team in the races."



The first days of camp included distributing equipment as well as equipment testing, sponsor introductions, and race planning. Team directors spent one-on-one time with each rider.

"We come into the year with a much more focused program for riders, staff and support crew. We look forward to achieving our season's goals of solid race results and promoting awareness for the auto-immune disease Lupus," commented Assistant Sports Director Steven Carpenter.

The highlight of the camp for many was the speech given by Marjorie Saffran-Sullivan. Marjorie, wife of General Manager Brendan Sullivan, shared her personal experiences of dealing with Lupus. She gave the riders and staff a real-world lesson in why the team exists and its greater purpose.

The team will ride Eddy Merckx San Remo 76 bikes, outfitted with SRAM Red, edco wheels, Challenge handmade tires and Look pedals. The Merckx bikes were built by team mechanic Zack Foley, who worked long days the entire week to get them rolling flawlessly.

“The Eddy Merckx San Remo 76 bikes are simply fantastic; even more so than expected. The combination of SRAM Red and edco wheels are an unbeatable combo which will give the riders the confidence in their equipment. Look Cycles are supplying pedals with added surface contact for 2016 to transfer power to the right places,” added Cortes.

In terms of clothing, the riders are elated to have Biemme supply top-of-the-line clothing that makes sure they are warm on the colder days, dry when it’s wet and cool in the heat.

The riders are fueled by two nutritional partners, which use only the best natural ingredients. Food supplied by Honey Stinger is always a hit. Drink needs are covered by a relatively new company, Sword nutrition. Sword – an acronym of SWeat Oral Replacement Drink - has created a product that will be a game changer for years to come.

Camp began at the Team's hometown of Atlanta, Ga. with the Team Presentation on Friday, Feb. 5, at Peachtree Bikes. Off-the-bike activities also included media training with two former broadcast professionals and an intense core/flexibility instructional session with Triumph Training in Atlanta.

The team then traveled south to Pine Mountain, Ga, the home of Callaway Gardens, Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park (largest state park in Georgia) and endless rolling roads. Physiological testing was implemented by performance director Pierre Hutsebaut (Peak Centre, Performance Manager) so riders could refine form coming into the early USA Cycling Pro Road tour and UCI events in North America.

“We got in some good rides. We did a group ride in Tucker on Saturday which was fun. We also have squeezed in some hours in between photo shoots,” noted Beyer. Several days at Pine Mountain were used for rider head shots and action photography provided by Casey Gibson of CBGphoto.com.

“The Lupus Racing Team has grown by leaps and bounds in the four years since its inception. We look forward to the continued progression of the program and taking on bigger and more challenging adventures,” concluded Carpenter.





Special thanks from Lupus Racing Team to: Casey Gibson (camp photographer), Andrew Johnson (Triumph Training), Deborah Gibb/Steve Lewis (Media Training), Peachtree Bikes (official shop and Service Course), Callaway Gardens (Camp Host/photo locations), FDR State Park (team photo location).

## 2016 Lupus Racing Team Roster

<u>Name (age*)</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Twitter</u>
Chad Beyer (29)	Scottsdale, Ariz.	@thachad
Winston David (28)	Greenville, S.C.	@winstondavid87
Oliver Flautt (22)	Atlanta, Ga.	@OliverFlautt
Chris Horner (44)	Bend, Ore.	@hornerakg
Matthieu Jeannes (28)	Saint Yvi in Brittany, France	@MatthieuJeannes
Marcos Lazzarotto (25)	Bento Gonçalves, Brasil	@marcoslazzarotto
Bryan Lewis (25)	Roanoke, Va.	@bryanlewis13
Jonah Mead-VanCourt (19)	Ithaca, N.Y.	@jmead_jonah
Barry Miller (27)	San Francisco, Calif.	@barryfmiller
Evan Murphy (27)	New York, N.Y.	@rualrite
Michael Olheiser (41)	Huntsville, Ala.	@trainhard4life
Michael Stone (24)	Monroe, Ga.	@mikestone21
Nolan Tankersley (20)	Erwin, Tenn.	@Rollen_Nolan
Nicolae Tanovitchii (22)	Chisinau, Moldova	@Nikolai5593
Thomas Vaubourzeix (26)	La Croix Valmer, France	@VaubourzeixT

\* ages as of February 1, 2016



### Follow the Team

**Web:** LupusRacingTeam.com

**Twitter:** @LupusRacingTeam

**Instagram:** LupusRacingTeam  
#LRTOffTheFront

**Facebook:** LupusRacingTeam

**YouTube:** Lupus Racing Team  
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### **About Lupus Racing Team**

The Lupus Racing Team is owned and operated by Cycle Culture, Inc., a 501(c)3 Georgia business with offices in Atlanta and New York. This is the fourth year Cycle Culture has operated a cycling team, and the second consecutive year the team will compete internationally as a UCI Continental squad. The Team partners with the [Georgia Chapter](#) of the Lupus Foundation of America to raise awareness and improve funding for an illness that affects 55,00 Georgians and 1.5 million Americans. Lupus is a chronic, autoimmune disease that can damage any part of the body, for which there is currently no known cure. Learn more about the Team, beneficiary and sponsors at [LupusRacingTeam.com](http://LupusRacingTeam.com). Follow the team on Twitter ([@lupusracingteam](#)), Facebook ([LupusRacingTeam](#)) and YouTube ([LupusRacingTeam](#)).

### **About the Lupus Foundation of America, Georgia Chapter**

The Lupus Foundation of America is devoted to solving the mystery of lupus, one of the world's cruelest, most unpredictable and devastating diseases, while giving caring support to those who suffer from its brutal impact. The Foundation leads the fight to improve the quality of life for all people affected by lupus. The Georgia Chapter is the only statewide resource for the 55,000 Georgians living with lupus. The impact on the patients and families served and empowered by the Georgia chapter is compelling. In 2016, the Georgia Chapter will host eight educational symposiums and workshops, including the first programs in Tipton and Kennesaw. There are more than 30 statewide support groups for people with lupus, and the Georgia Chapter holds the country's largest Walk to End Lupus Now with 14,000 walkers raising more than \$600,000 in 2015. Ninety percent of every dollar donated funds essential education programs, patient support, advocacy and awareness in more than 120 counties across the state. For more information, visit [LupusGA.org](http://LupusGA.org), and follow us on Twitter [@LupusGeorgia](#), Facebook at [facebook.com/LupusGeorgia](http://facebook.com/LupusGeorgia) and Instagram [@lupusgeorgia](#).

*Photos courtesy of Casey Gibson/CBGphoto.com*

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