

# 29th Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure

JUNE 17-24, 2017



[www.goba.com/wordpress](http://www.goba.com/wordpress)

# Follow the Yellow Brick Road!

Gaze into your crystal ball and see yourself bicycling to Ohio's emerald cities ... oh my! Whether your bicycle is ruby or emerald or an entirely different color, you'll follow the winding roads of north central Ohio looking for that elusive yellow brick. Wizards, Scarecrows, and Good Witches beckon you to a bicycle-camping tour like none other.

You'll soon be tapping your bike pedals and saying,  
"There's no place like GOBA!"



## Do Good - Do GOBA!

You, too, can ride with a purpose. Since the beginning, GOBA proceeds have gone to our Columbus Outdoor Pursuits Bicycle Development Fund which provides grants to bicycle-related projects across Ohio. Notable beneficiaries have been the **Bike Lady, Inc.**, [bikelady.org](http://bikelady.org), and The Ohio to Erie Trail, [ohio-to-erie-trail.org](http://ohio-to-erie-trail.org). By adding a donation along with your registration, you can maximize the good works.

[www.goba.com/wordpress](http://www.goba.com/wordpress) • 614-273-0811 • [goba@outdoor-pursuits.org](mailto:goba@outdoor-pursuits.org)

GOBA • P.O. Box 2022 • Columbus, OH 43220

# 29th Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure

## JUNE 17-24, 2017

### Highlights

- **Raffle for Free Registration** (see page 4)
- GPS downloadable rider maps
- 5 days of cycling 45-60 miles from town to town and 2 days of optional loops
- Terrain: mostly flat to rolling and hillier terrain on the optional 100 mile loop
- Mileage for the week: 271... maximum: 431
- Optional residence hall lodging
- Discount for registering by 4/30/17

### Saturday, June 17: Findlay

- Fly, my pretties, fly ... off to Findlay in north central Ohio where you'll be welcomed to the Hancock County Fairgrounds.
- Arrive early and explore Downtown Findlay which will lure you with its tantalizing coffees, sparkling gift shops, and inviting restaurants.
- Don't miss the bicycle parade -- get your favorite Wizard lined up now to help you with your costume!

### Sunday, June 18: Findlay to Tiffin, 55 miles

- Link up with your friends by the lake at Van Buren State Park.
- Press on to Fostoria, where you'll find a convergence of rail lines and train buffs.
- Follow the meandering scenic Sandusky River on gentle, dreamy roads.
- Tiffin will put a spell on you with overnight camping at the lush and shady Hedges Boyer Park.

### Monday, June 19: Tiffin (layover day), optional 60 mile loop

- Rouse yourself for the optional loop to Green Springs and Bellevue's Mad River Railroad Museum.
- Or treat yourself to Tiffin's delights, including the 1928 Ritz Theatre, Tiffin Glass Museum, American Civil War Museum, or a swim at the park.
- Consider signing up for a trip to the magical Seneca Caverns.

### Tuesday, June 20: Tiffin to Upper Sandusky, 50 miles

- Meander among the serene villages of Seneca County.
- Marvel at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey and learn about the miracles there.
- Learn what's behind the curtain of meaning of the "Wharton Shake".
- Upper Sandusky beckons you on to a part of the "Shawshank Trail" before settling into your tree-lined campsite at Wyandot County Fairgrounds.

### Wednesday, June 21: Upper Sandusky to Bellefontaine, 56 miles

- Take off cyclone-fast to your next destination, past fields of corn and (could it be?) poppies.
- Look past the rainbow at Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area and you may spot a bald eagle or other rare birds.
- A visit to Mt. Victory is sure to win you over to buy an eclectic treasure or two in one of its many craft and antique shops.
- Your route propels you on to camp at Bellefontaine High School and neighboring Blue Jacket Park.

### Thursday, June 22: Bellefontaine (layover day), optional 48- or 100-mile loops

- If you want to nap today, that's fine, but the great and powerful GOBA director urges you to enjoy the options.
- Take the short loop on rolling hills to the highest point in Ohio, the Crystal King at Ohio Caverns, the stunning Piatt Castles, and the sweet sites of West Liberty.
- Continue the challenging terrain for 50 more miles and add on Kiser Lake State Park and a jaunt on the Simon Kenton Bike Path in the splendid town of Urbana.
- Or let yourself be drawn into Bellefontaine, from the history at Orr Mansion to the adventures offered by a horseback ride or a zipline challenge.

**Click for more  
information**

## Friday, June 23: Bellefontaine to Kenton, 61 miles

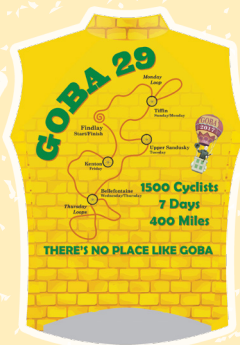
- Today we're off to see the beauty of Indian Lake from the vantage point of the water's edge.
- Wheel on to Kenton, where we'll find our home for the night at the beautiful Hardin County Fairgrounds.
- Delight in all that Kenton has to offer, from the Gene Autry Mural to the Sullivan-Johnson Museum to the Heritage Farmstead right at your back-door.
- Gather your heart and brain and nerve ... it's your turn to sing at the GOBA Song Contest!

## Saturday, June 24: Kenton to Findlay, 49 miles

- Tuck into your last pancake breakfast, then ding-dong, you're off for Findlay.
- Breeze through Forest, named for its dense woods, and visit the historic railroad freight house and log cabin.
- Admire Arlington, wade through their pool, and get a donut at the IGA.
- Tap your ruby cleats on your pedals and before you know it, you're home!



Unisex jersey front



Women's jersey back

## What about GOBA merchandise?

See registration form to order. Orders after April 15, 2017, are subject to availability.

- **GOBA-29 t-shirt:** \$19 each. New 2017 design, short-sleeve shirts in Heather Royal (100% pre-shrunk cotton) and Vintage Ruby (50% cotton/50% poly). Shipped throughout the season. Allow 4-5 weeks for shipping.
- **GOBA-29 jersey:** \$60 each. Your choice of Unisex short sleeve or Women's sleeveless styles, both in CoolPass technical wicking material. All Jerseys will be shipped in early June. **See goba.com** (Click: **Merchandise**).
- **PhotoDisc-2017:** \$40 for multi-Disc set of high-quality images from the tour. To be shipped in the fall.

## RAFFLE FOR FREE GOBA REGISTRATION

Win a free 2017 GOBA registration and the right to wear Rider #29 all week! There's more ... Included is a prize package: an exclusive GOBA-2017 unisex short sleeve jersey, a massage during GOBA week, & 2017 PhotoDisc! To enter the raffle, register by April 15, 2017, & include your nonrefundable donations at \$5 each. Donations for the Raffle go directly to the COP Bicycle Development Fund to benefit Ohio bicycle-related projects. Buying more entries = more chances to win. The winner will be notified by May 15. GOBA will then refund your fee and replace the winner's original number with Rider #29.

**goba.com/wordpress | 614-273-0811**  
**goba@outdoor-pursuits.org | www.facebook.com/gobatour**  
**GOBA | P.O. Box 20222 | Columbus, OH 43220**

## Why is there a GOBA?

Our mission is to organize a yearly one-week bicycle vacation, in order to inspire independence and nurture personal growth, to learn about Ohio, its people, geography and history, to provide inter-generational recreation, to enhance the image of bicycling in Ohio, and to raise funds for bicycle-related projects in Ohio.

## Who We Are.

The tour and the protected trademarks "Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure," "GOBA" and the GOBA symbol (cyclist profile with sunshine overhead) are owned by Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, Inc. COP is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization, providing opportunities and education for outdoor recreation and activities. For information on membership and activities, visit [www.outdoor-pursuits.org](http://www.outdoor-pursuits.org).



**GOBA registration includes** primitive tent camping at fairgrounds, schools, or parks. Expect additional costs for food, other lodging, indoor camping, optional side trips, and some activities. More fun stuff, sign-up forms, and prices will appear in the GOBA March and May Newsletters. Training ideas, packing tips, and what to expect in GOBA camp are covered in "The Way to GOBA" on goba.com. **Route and town details and mileages are approximate and are subject to change.**



# There's No Place Like GOBA!



## Who takes part in GOBA?

GOBA riders come in all shapes and sizes. Many are experienced bicyclists who take part in this cycling vacation, but many participants are new to bicycling. They share one common bond: the love of adventure. They come from 40 states and several foreign countries. While the majority of riders are between 30 and 50, nearly 20% are under 18. And we usually have at least 100 riders age 70 and above!

## What do I get for my registration?

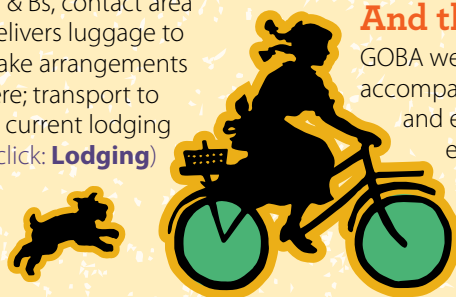
You get real value. GOBA researches and lays out all the routes, paints directional arrows on the roads, prints maps, luggage tags, and patches, secures campgrounds and parking, arranges emergency medical services, moves baggage, provides evening entertainment, publishes newsletters, and a full-color Calendar, and provides an exciting and refreshing week-long adventure vacation. Additional costs are for food, merchandise, massage, repair services, ambulance transport, and entrance fees to attractions, usually at a GOBA discount.

## Where do we stay?

GOBA is a tent camping adventure. Each night, you set up your tent outdoors in a park, at a school, college campus, or fairgrounds in the traveling city called GOBAville. Your luggage is trucked from camp to camp for you. Within walking distance at each campground you will find restrooms, drinking water, shower locations and some of the food options.

## What if I don't want to tent camp?

You make your own arrangements. Sometimes, home stays, dorms, or gym floor options are available. For hotels and B & Bs, contact area tourism bureaus. GOBA delivers luggage to the campgrounds; you make arrangements for your luggage from there; transport to hotels is not included. For current lodging options, [see goba.com](http://see.goba.com) (click: **Lodging**) or the GOBA March and May Newsletters.



## What do we do every day?

Each morning, you load your luggage in the waiting trucks. Since GOBA is a tour and not a race, you then follow the route at a leisurely pace. Along the way you will find activities, attractions, and food stops. In camp, you find your luggage and pitch your tent. There is always evening entertainment, whether it's a street dance downtown, a play, a 5k run, a bicycle race, or something even more special...all great ways to meet local people and enjoy GOBA camaraderie.

## Fifty miles a day seems like a lot!

Covering 50 miles each day in about five hours on the bike is typical. The exciting atmosphere created by so many bicyclists makes the miles fly by. When you sign up, reserve time in the spring to prepare for the tour. Be ready to ride 45-60 miles a day over varying terrain and in all weather. Before registering, consult your physician about your ability to participate in GOBA.

## Fifty miles doesn't seem like much!

It's a different kind of bicycle tour, one designed for sightseeing, lying in the grass, and finding ice cream shops to replenish those burned up calories. Ride at a leisurely pace, take time to see the sights, and finish the week rested. And if you really want more miles than the minimum this week provides, ride the optional routes on the two layover days.

## Where do we eat?

GOBA's unofficial motto is "Eat to ride, ride to eat!" You pay for all meals and snacks. As on any vacation, you may seek restaurants and grocery stores. In addition, most days food may also be purchased from food stops offered by non-profit groups who use their proceeds to benefit local schools, churches and other worthy causes.

## And the rest of my family?

GOBA welcomes non-bicycling family members accompanying riders. However, since extensive planning and expense must go into their participation also, like everyone else, all participants riding in the vehicle must register and pay registration fees in addition to obtaining the Car Camper Pass.



Please note: Columbus Outdoor Pursuits policy requires each GOBA participant, who rides on or is pulled by a bicycle, to reach his/her 2nd birthday by June 17, 2017. Children younger than 2 may come along in the car. Parents and minors participating together are required to stay together throughout the day. Also, due to local restrictions, pets are not allowed.

## What will I need for the tour?

A multi-gear, better-quality bicycle will make the tour much more enjoyable. Experience has shown that “department store” bikes break down frequently. Second, you must have a helmet—you won’t be allowed on the ride without one. Third, you’ll need a small tent and other basic camping gear (but not cooking gear; fires are not permitted in the GOBA camps). A packing list along with training guide and other tips are in **“The Way to GOBA”** (see goba.com). Everything you take should fit in one large or two small bags. **Participants are responsible for their own equipment, including medical devices. GOBA is not able to provide electrical plug-ins and advises participants to look into battery-powered devices.**

## How do I register?

• **Rider limit: 1,500.** Register online at [www.goba.com](http://www.goba.com). Or, use the registration form and waiver below (copy for additional registrants). Mail with a check or money order in US funds drawn on a US bank, payable to **Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure**. Do it now, because registration closes when we reach **1,500 or May 17, 2017**, whichever comes first. There is no partial week registration. There is no extra fee to leave your car parked for the week in Findlay. If your entry is post-marked by April 30, 2017, fees are lower for Adult category. So, sign up early for the 29th annual tour of fun!

**Registration  
Deadline:**  
**May 17, 2017**  
(= received by date,  
not postmark date)

Mail to:  
GOBA-REG  
P.O. Box 20222  
Columbus, Ohio 43220

• **Car Camper Pass:** \$50.00. Deadline: May 17, 2017, or before, if we have reached capacity. To bring a vehicle to each GOBA camp, you must register and pay for the vehicle, the driver and all passengers. “Car Camping” is primitive (no hook-ups) and **vehicle must fit totally within a space 25’ long by 9’ wide**. See policies at goba.com (Click: **Registration**). With your confirmation, you will receive details and a CAR CAMPER APPLICATION: COMPLETE & MAIL BACK IMMEDIATELY.

• **Confirmation:** Within a few weeks of registering, we will send you one confirmation packet for all registrants in your household: with rider numbers and a medical profile form to COMPLETE & RETURN IMMEDIATELY. You may transfer your registration to another person, only in writing, with a \$15.00 transfer fee. See goba.com (Click: **Registration**) for details. **Transfer Deadline: June 7, 2017 (received by date, not postmark).** You will also receive: March, May, and June newsletters, T-shirt and jersey (if ordered), and Calendar in late fall. Directions to Findlay will be in the June Newsletter. Your rider packet (with wristband, rider map [if requested], tour patch, etc.) will be at check-in in Findlay.

• **Refunds:** Requests must be sent by certified mail. A \$49 processing fee will be deducted from all refunds. There will be no refunds for any reason after deadline. **Refund Deadline:**  
**May 17, 2017, postmark**

[goba.com/wordpress](http://goba.com/wordpress)  
**614-273-0811**  
[goba@outdoor-pursuits.org](mailto:goba@outdoor-pursuits.org)  
[www.facebook.com/gobatour](http://www.facebook.com/gobatour)

**Register online at**  
**[goba.com/wordpress](http://goba.com/wordpress)**



## MAIL WAIVER WITH REGISTRATION FORM



**One registrant per Waiver. There must be a separate signed Waiver for each registrant. Read before signing.**

### 2017 COLUMBUS OUTDOOR PURSUITS: LIABILITY WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT, PERMISSION TO PROVIDE MEDICAL TREATMENT AND PUBLICITY RELEASE

In signing this agreement for myself or for the named participant (if the participant is under age 18), I know that those participating in The 2017 Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure (GOBA) will be exposed to the risks of serious bodily injury, sickness, death, or loss of property due to the circumstances inherent in this event including the negligent acts or omissions of others. I also understand and am aware that there are a variety of specific risks and dangers inherent in a voluntary bicycling event such as GOBA including, without limitation, falls, collisions with other bicyclists, motor vehicles or stationary objects; adverse weather conditions; and those caused by conditions of the road. I also understand that by participating in GOBA I will be riding my bicycle on public roads with many other bicyclists, some of whom may be inexperienced at riding in groups. I also understand that the large number of bicyclists in GOBA many of whom are inexperienced, adds a further element of danger.

I understand that during GOBA I may suffer serious bodily injury, sickness, or death, while walking or travelling via bus or other motor vehicle or boat, due to my own carelessness or because of the negligence of others. I further understand that I may be exposed to these same risks while engaged in other voluntary activities such as dancing, swimming, and dining during GOBA. I understand as well that I will be camping outdoors during GOBA and that this necessarily involves being exposed to the elements including the risk of unpredictable and possibly dangerous weather conditions such as severe or violent thunderstorms, rain, hail, lightning, wind, and tornadoes either during the day or at night.

In exchange for being permitted to participate in GOBA I voluntarily agree to assume all of these and the other risks inherent in GOBA. I acknowledge that I (or the participant for whom I sign if under age 18) am physically capable and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event. I also attest that the equipment used by me (or the participant for whom I sign if under age 18) has been inspected by me and is in good mechanical condition and that I am familiar with its proper use. I am also aware that medical support for this event will be provided by volunteer and other personnel who may be called upon to provide assistance, including first aid, to me during the event. I consent and authorize any such volunteer to assist me (or the participant for whom I sign if under age 18) or to perform such assistance as, in the opinion of such person, may be necessary or appropriate. I understand further that any such medical or other services provided to me (or the participant for whom I sign if under age 18) is not an admission of liability to provide or to continue to provide any such services and is not a waiver by any of said parties' rights under this agreement.

I understand that Columbus Outdoor Pursuits assumes no responsibility or liability with respect to my participation in this event. I agree, however, to abide by any decision of any official of Columbus Outdoor Pursuits relative to my ability to safely participate in this event. I further promise to wear a CPSC, ANSI, SNELL, or ASTM approved bicycle helmet at all times while riding my bicycle during GOBA and I agree to waive my rights to any benefits associated with this event if I fail to wear such a helmet while on my bicycle.

Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of Columbus Outdoor Pursuits' acceptance of my application for participation in GOBA, I, for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, do hereby agree to release, hold harmless, and discharge Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, all sponsors, representatives (including event volunteers), any involved municipalities or other organizations and the boards, trustees, officers, employees of any of them, from any and all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in GOBA even though that liability may arise out of negligence, recklessness, or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities named in this waiver.

I also grant permission to Columbus Outdoor Pursuits and its sponsors to use any photographs, motion pictures, recordings or any record of my participation in GOBA for legitimate purposes.

**I further agree to indemnify and to hold harmless the persons and entities listed in this agreement for any liability they incur to me, a member of my family, or the participant in connection with GOBA.**

I further agree that if, in breach of this agreement, I institute any judicial proceedings against any of the persons listed in this agreement in connection with GOBA, I shall bring them in the Common Pleas Court of Franklin County, Ohio, or in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, located in Columbus, Ohio, and I consent to personal jurisdiction in those courts. I further agree that, in breach of this agreement, I institute any such proceedings, I am responsible for all costs and attorneys fees of any person or entity against whom I institute such proceedings.

I confirm that the named participant below will have reached at least his/her 2nd birthday by June 17, 2017, if he/she will be pulled by or riding on a bicycle on GOBA.

I understand and agree that there will be no refunds after May 17, 2017.

**HAVING READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS AGREEMENT, I VOLUNTARILY AND KNOWINGLY SIGN IT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Participant: Print your name above*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Participant: Sign and date above*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*For Participants Age 15 and under: Have accompanying Adult print name above*

**For Participants under age 18, Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian must sign below**

### CONSENT AND RELEASE OF CUSTODIAL PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent or Guardian*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name of Parent/Guardian*



**YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE PROCESSED AS SOON  
AS WE RECEIVE COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM, FULL FEE  
PAYMENT, AND DATED/SIGNED LIABILITY WAIVER.**



## GOBA 2017 Registration Form Register online or use this form. Only One Person per Form. Rider limit 1,500.

Applications must be **received by May 17, 2017** (not postmark). All persons must register, including non-biking ones. **\$49 Fee for refunds.**

No refunds after May 17, 2017. Fees change based on date. **Registrations are transferable - until June 7, 2017. See Registration on goba.com**

**Incomplete or improperly filled-out applications will be returned without being processed. Each registrant must read, agree with, sign & date the Liability Waiver and Indemnification Agreement. Please Print Legibly.**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Ham radio operator? Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell on Tour (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ No.

of previous GOBAs (0-28) \_\_\_\_\_ Male or Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact (Not on GOBA): Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Emerg. Contact Day Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

On GOBA with (print name + relationship): \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Check box**, if you want a paper route map on tour. **Leave blank**, if you want no map, or will use the free GPS maps.

☐ **Yes**, I am planning on participating in the GOBA Bicycle Parade, Saturday evening, June 17, 2017.

**Sign up for Optional Extras** ... see goba.com/wordpress/ or GOBA Newsletters

- Reward: Program for Returning Riders
- Towel Service
- Lodging: Residence Hall in Tiffin
- Optional Trips

### 1 GOBA REGISTRATION FEES

(fees do not include food, t-shirt, some activities)

\_\_\_\_\_ Postmark by April 30, 2017... ☐ **\$300**: Adult, Age 16 & over

\_\_\_\_\_ Postmark May 1, 2017 til deadline... ☐ **\$325**: Adult, Age 16 & over

\_\_\_\_\_ Children 6-15, accompanied by responsible adult = **\$95**

\_\_\_\_\_ Children 5 and under, accompanying responsible adult = **Free**

\_\_\_\_\_ Car Camper Pass = \$50 ...Deadline: 5/17/17.  
(Driver/passengers must also register & pay Adult/Child Fees.  
Pass is not needed to leave car in Findlay.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total registration fee enclosed**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Donation** (see our *Mission*). COP is a non-profit, 501(c)(3).

### 2 RAFFLE FOR GOBA RIDER #29 (donation)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total enclosed** (number of chances \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 5)  
Entries must be postmarked by April 15, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL ENCLOSED: 1 + 2 + 3** (fees + donations + raffle + cost of merchandise)

**PAY BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER:** To **GOBA**, only in U.S. dollars & drawn on U.S. bank.

- Have You... ☐ Signed and dated the Liability Waiver (on the right)? ☐ Checked for deadlines and correct fees? ☐ Put correct postage on envelope?  
☐ Filled out the registration form completely? ☐ Signed and enclosed your check?

**Mail To: GOBA-REG, P.O. Box 20222, Columbus, Ohio 43220**

**Note: \$35 charge for bad checks**

### 3 MERCHANDISE (all prices include tax, shipping)

See goba.com (Click: **Merchandise** or **Photos**)

\_\_\_\_\_ **No. of Heather Royal t-shirts x \$19.....circle size(s)**  
S M L XL 2X 3X

\_\_\_\_\_ **No. of Vintage Ruby t-shirts x \$19.....circle size(s)**  
S M L XL 2X 3X

\_\_\_\_\_ **No. of Unisex Jerseys x \$60.....circle size(s)**  
XS S M L XL 2X 3X 4X

\_\_\_\_\_ **No. of Women's Sleeveless Jerseys x \$60.....circle size(s)**  
XS S M L XL 2X 3X

\_\_\_\_\_ **No. of PhotoDisc-2017 x \$40**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total merchandise cost enclosed**

