

The following is a story from a lady who should be known as the official MTC wedding correspondent (Pat Buckley profiled the wedding of MTC members Ed and Beverly Doughty last year). In the future, all wedding news should be cleared with Pat.

"Do You Take This Runner.....?"

by Pat Buckley

Early in the morning of November 16 as on any race morning, I awoke with some time to spare for coffee, a chance to choose the right clothing for the day and a little time to think about the coming run. It was good to see it would be a beautiful day. I eagerly drove to the starting place, and approaching the South Portland High parking area began to see familiar faces, some doing stretches and warm-up runs. All were smiling, greeting each new arrival. There was a photographer nearby, catching everyone with his movie camera. Something different was happening.

Then someone said "Here they come!" When the approaching van parked, out came the two people we were waiting for, with big smiles. They wore identical sweatshirts with the day's date and their names in a heart design. This was the "Wedding Day Run" of Dianne Whitcomb and John Kazillionis, who had met months earlier through the South



Portland "Tuesday Night Running Group." We who had seen romance bloom had looked forward to this morning as much as to the wedding ceremony.

John and Dianne gave out t-shirts they had designed for the occasion, declared the run under way, and off we took through several miles of familiar streets. Though we wore identical shirts, there wasn't much resemblance to a race, no record-breaking pace, clumped together instead of spaced according to speed (a nice break for me and my buddy, Donna). All the while jokes flew, aimed at the principal runners, who, typically, gave back as good as they got. Mid-way someone shouted to a surprised pedestrian, "It's a wedding run." The finishers went to the nearby home of friends of the couple for a brunch and more jokes, mostly on the groom.

Later, at the wedding, one wouldn't have thought that the handsome couple on the altar and some of the guests in shiny dresses and (horrors) high heels and suits and neckties had hours earlier been doing what had made this day possible, sweating and pounding the pavement together.



LEFT: Dianne Whitcomb and John Kazillionis on their Wedding Day Run.
ABOVE: Dr. & Mrs. Kaz in a cleaner and happier state.

WhitcombDianne KazillionisJohn 02 1992



John and Gerald (2 weeks old)

The Youngest MTC Member (that we know of)

By Pat Buckley

Just a year ago, this newsletter reported the wedding of two MTC members, Dianne Whitcomb and John Kazilionis, who met through the South Portland "Tuesday Night Group." The ceremony was preceded by a wedding morning run, with the idea that we'd repeat the run each anniversary if we were all still on our feet.

But a repeat run didn't take place this year due to the arrival of Gerald Joseph (named for each of his grandfathers), on October 10. He weighed eight pounds, one ounce, with his mother's red hair and blue eyes. It's also reported he has excellent lung capacity, day and night. Should make for a good VO2 max should he follow his mom and dad's running footsteps.

Dianne continued to run during her pregnancy and had an early morning walk-jog on the day that Gerald later appeared. John and Dianne are now running regularly again, but someone much smaller dictates the exact schedule. In 1991, Dianne qualified for the '92 Boston Marathon but later requested a medical waiver. She's hoping to do Boston this coming April instead. Maybe someone not quite yet on his own feet will be cheering her along.