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## *The "RAMBLER"*

## *Clinton River Riders Bicycle*

**February  
2005**

Congratulations to Bill Stimpson our club's new President. Bill says,

"It is my hope and my commitment to all club members to continue to promote the sport of cycling and the well being of the Clinton River Riders".

Congratulations also to Annette Smith who moves from publisher to the club's Treasurer. And thanks much to Julie Windhorst for taking over as publisher.

Many thanks go out to John and Marilyn Tarantino for their years of service. The club has benefited in many ways from your leadership and dedication.

I would also like to thank Annette and Bill Smith for their help in getting this newsletter out. They handled the printing, labeling, stamping, and mailing every month from both here and in Florida that saved me a ton of time.

There's more congratulations inside this month's newsletter as well as other interesting tidbits such as,... why are the Clinton River Riders becoming a "chic" club, where are the BWR donations going, new rules for advertising your wares in the newsletter, Bike Feast tickets, possible new secret destination for "men" members only, and other stuff I've managed to cram in here.

Gary Haelewyn, Editor

Julie Windhorst, Publisher



# February 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

## HOTLINE

586-819-0222

(Press 1 for latest updates)

## WEEKLY RIDES

## CHANGES

Call Bill Baker, Ride Director

586-739-0261

CRRrides@wideopenwest.com

### 1st Monday

### MONDAYS

**Club Meeting**, Mt Clemens Library (downstairs), 150 Cass Ave, just west of southbound Gratiot on the North side of Cass across from Mt Clemens High School.

### 6:00 PM

### THURSDAYS

### LIGHTS REQUIRED

Meet Bill and Bill at Prestige Cycles, Moravian & Garfield, 2 hour ride to unknown destinations at 13-15 MPH.

### 9:00 AM

### SATURDAYS

Meet Jane Bernard for the Schultz Funeral Home Ride at 9:00AM at Toepfer (8-1/2Mile) and Gratiot for a 30-35 mile, 14-16mph ride with breakfast or lunch after the ride. Goes every Saturday through the winter unless it's raining at the start location, or the roads are icy.

### 9:00 AM

Meet TJ Hill at the West Branch Parking Lot for a 50 miles of Mountain biking. Lunch will be in Lake Orion around the 30 mile mark.

### 9:00 AM

### SUNDAYS

Meet TJ Hill at the Stoney Creek Boat Launch for more Mountain biking to unknown destinations at the pace of the slowest rider for a distance to be determined

**Feb 27 - Ice Hike-Pointe Pelee. 9:30 am.** Sierra Club 14th Annual Ice Hike. We are hoping for mounds of breaking-up ice and snow pushed onto the Pointe by Lake Erie winter winds. If we get it, the vista will be spectacular! Dress warmly for 2-3 hours of outdoor fun, exploring the interior trails of Pointe Pelee, and climbing the snow piles out on the pointe. Meet in Windsor at the Ontario Information Center on Route 3, (Huron Church Rd.) 3/4 mile south of the Ambassador Bridge. Bring passport; border crossing picture I.D. Ride share to Pointe Pelee, restaurant stop after. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

**March 7—Touring Tuscany-** Leonardo Gianola will be showing his slide show at the March Meeting of a summer cycling trip he and some friends did in Tuscany. Leonardo, who speaks fluent Italian but will present the show in English, will have maps showing the areas they cycled as well as information on where they stayed, cost, foods they ate, and ambience of the people and area.

# March 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 <b>Meeting</b>	8	9	10	11	12
13 <b>Bike Feast 3:00</b>	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**Note:** Send newsletter ride changes and/or additions to [BLUECYCLIST@YAHOO.COM](mailto:BLUECYCLIST@YAHOO.COM)

**March 13**—Slow Spokes Bike Club will again be hosting the upcoming **Bike Feast** at St. Germaine's Church Activities Center located at 28301 Little Mack at Martin Rd in St Clair Shores.

Join other cyclists from the Detroit area clubs for this annual event. Fun and festivities begin at 3:00PM. Potluck dinner to follow. Bring your favorite dish to pass. The Slow Spokes will be preparing two home cooked entrees. There will be a fashion show, games, fun, prizes and lots of bike talk. Tickets are only \$5.00 and can be purchased from Diane Baker. Call Diane at 586-739-0261 to reserve your ticket.

There will also be an optional bike ride along beautiful Lake St Clair beginning at 12:30 PM from the Activities

**April 16—Outer Banks, NC.**—A self contained bicycle tour beginning on or about the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. The plan is to drive to Washington, NC. From there ride a circle route along the Outer Banks. Total mileage is a little more than 300 miles, 50-60 miles a day.

Highlights will include the Wright Brothers National Memorial, the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, and 2 ferry boat rides. Schedule will be loose allowing time for sightseeing (It may include a day off).

Estimated duration of the trip including travel to and from North Carolina is 10 days. Primarily camping, with a combination of cooking and restaurants. Call Bob George 586-463-6058 for more information.

**June 23-26—Tobermory and Owen Sound**—Join Ken and Cindy Rosiek for a weekend of hiking and biking in Cananda. Itinerary: Thursday arrive Tobermory, Friday hike Tobermory and Flower Pot Island, Friday evening, arrive in Owen Sound, Saturday and Sunday bike Owen Sound area. Call Ken and Cindy 248-541-0861 or email [jrosiek144107@comcast.net](mailto:jrosiek144107@comcast.net) by February 19.

## Birthdays

Bday First Last Name

03/07 Cathy Muhl  
03/09 Rick Okerhjelm  
03/18 Phyllis Mottershead  
03/20 Gerald Anderson  
03/22 Scott Reader  
03/26 Pennie Morauski  
03/30 Bill Duemling

**Meeting Observations:** 72% of the male members at the February meeting have gray hair compared to only 16% of the female members. Is the club attracting a much younger female population? Unfortunately this phenomena is producing a negative impact on the single male members as only 36% of the attendees were female.

10 Lucky attendees won LAB cycling socks. Unfortunately, most of the winners gun boat feet were too big for the medium sized socks so they were handed over to their 36% counterparts.

Members at the February meeting approved a motion to allow a business to advertise in the club's newsletter. Only members are allowed to advertise their business using the following monthly rates:

**\$10 Business Card size, \$35 1/4 page size, \$50 1/2 page size, \$100 Full page size**

The advertisement must be sent to bluecyclist@yahoo.com, and a check, payable to Clinton River Riders mailed to Gary Haelewyn 41706 Merrimac Cir, Clinton Twp MI 48038. Up to 6 months can be prepaid.

**BWR Donations** recommended by the Finance Committee meeting on January 23rd and approved by the members at the February meeting are as follows:

- \$500** — **League of American Bicyclists**, a national Bicycle Advocacy group
- \$250** — **Polyann/Lapeer County Trail**—Multiuse trail organization
- \$1000** — **Variety Club**—Donates bikes, helmets and locks to under privileged children.
- \$250** — **PEAC**—Provides tandem riding to blind stokers.

**NOTE:** The club pre-committed \$1 per BWR rider to League of Michigan Bicyclists

**BWR News:** The club is looking for a Publicity Chair. In addition to coordinating the advertising for the BWR, this position also gets to decide the rider gift. Also, congratulations to Debbie Angst and Doris Mulligan for submitting the winning Blue Water Ramble T-shirt design at the February meeting. They haven't yet decided how to spend their prize winnings.

**Club Clothing:** Dennis Prost has volunteered to take over the ordering of club merchandise. Call Dennis at 248-652-7890 by March 15th to place your spring/summer club jersey/jacket/shorts order.

**Club Cookbooks** are still available for \$10. To order, call Julie Windhorst (586-939-6073)

**For Men Only:** Our intrepid club reporter overheard someone of high importance speculating of a possible destination of Indiana for June 3,4,5, and 6. Unable to divulge the source of this information, the editor has decided to print it anyway.

**Sept. 2 - 5** -- MIDWEST TANDEM RALLY 2005 Grand Rapids, Michigan Presented by the MUTS - Michigan United Tandem Society. Host Hotel: Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, downtown Grand Rapids.

There are enough rooms at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel for all MTR 2005 attendees!

For complete details on MTR 2005, including on-line registration, a downloadable registration form, and an opportunity to volunteer to help the weekend of the Rally, visit the official event website: <http://www.cmiregistration.com/user/splash.jsp?org=441>

## **Once Upon A Time by T J Hill**

**Back in the first half of the last century during the years 1948 and 1949 I was accused of being a Professional Cyclist. Mike Walden was the accuser though he said it with a big grin on his face. It seems that I had hired into the Western Union Telegraph Company as a messenger. I delivered telegrams via bicycle when working out of the office located at Grand River and Warren in Detroit.**

**This was summertime employment between semesters of school. I got this job by following the lead of Don Mitasky who had gotten that job and encouraged me to follow suit. Don was about a year older than me and was the person from whom I bought my first, skinny tire bike, a Humber that became known as an, "English Racer."**

**Don and I lived on Sussex in Detroit near Joy Road and Greenfield. Grand River and Warren was 3 or 4 miles further into the city from where we lived. Though I was very familiar with the streets within a few miles of my home, Warren and Grand River was not in my knowledge base so far as side streets were concerned. I had a good deal of anxiety about taking the job for fear I wouldn't be able to find the streets to which the telegrams were addressed.**

**Anxiety or not I got the job and got started. The delivery area was divided into quadrants from the office location at Grand River and Warren. The office manager would give you a pile of telegrams that she had sorted into zones and wrote a time that you had to complete delivery. Your first job was to sort the telegrams into some order that you could follow without having to do much backtracking.**

**At first I got help from Don arranging the order before setting off to make the deliveries. It didn't take me long to learn all the streets in our area and thus sort and deliver on my own. Both Don and I were bike racers of a sort and thus we were pretty fast on the bike and generally completed our delivery with time to spare. I was advised to not show up to much before your time was up or we might find ourselves having to scramble to get the deliveries done within the time allotted by the office manager.**

**Of our eight-hour shift we were likely on the bike 6 hours each day. I don't know how many miles we covered each day but needless to say it was plenty. Along with our work time we added the distance from home and back to our daily mileage.**

**We covered a large swath of the Detroit landscape during our deliveries and thus were very well versed in where seemingly everything was located. Among the places I delivered to was the Olympia Stadium, home of the Detroit Red Wings. Since it was summer there was no hockey going on at the time. On occasion I was sent downtown to work out of the Main Office at Congress and Shelby. What I recall from those times was that you didn't get in much bike riding but rather a lot of riding up and down elevators.**

**On one occasion I had a telegram that I interpreted as going to 1301 Grand River. This seemed to be out of the area from the remainder of my telegrams. I made all my other deliveries then went searching for 1301. There was no such address and no such company in that area. Back at the office I ran into Don Mitasky and mentioned the distance I had gone searching for 1301 Grand River. Don took one look at the address and said that is 5301 and it is the Crown Cork and Seal Company and it is only a couple blocks from the office. Don took the telegram from me and said he would deliver it. He also said not to mention the error to the manager even though it was her handwriting I had misinterpreted. So Don saved me from a reprimand and all went well.**

**When school started our employment went from five days a week to Saturdays only. I made \$5.23 for an eight-hour shift. That was I believe \$0.75 per hour. It was a great job for a skinny kid that thought bike riding was about the most enjoyable thing he had ever done.**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club

Make check payable to:  
 Clinton River Riders  
 Mail to: 36558 Moravian  
 Clinton Township MI 48035

\_\_\_\_\_ \$12.50 Individual (over 18)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Family

New Member       Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, please add me to your list of active volunteers who help promote bicycling at the local, state, and federal level. I understand I may be called upon on occasion to write a letter or attend a meeting supporting bicycless as a legitimate mode of transportation.**

Family Names      Birthdate

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY,  
 ASSUMPTION OF RISK,  
 AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT  
 ("AGREEMENT")

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to participate in any way in The Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club ("Club") sponsored Bicycling Activities ("Activity") I for myself, my personal representatives,

assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of Bicycling Activities and that I am qualified to participate in such Activity. I further acknowledge that the Activity will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the Activity and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I further agree and warrant that if at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the Activity.

2. FULLY UNDERSTANDING that: (a) BICYCLING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS OF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING PERMANENT DISABILITY, PARALYSIS AND DEATH ("RISK"); (b) these risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions, or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Activity, the condition in which the Activity takes place, or THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" NAMED BELOW; (c) there may be OTHER RISKS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LOSSES either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at the time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS AND DAMAGES I incur as a risk of my participation in the Activity.

3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, COVENANT NOT TO SUE, AND AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS the Club, their respective administrators, directors, agents, and employees, other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the Activity takes place (each considered one of the "RELEASEES" herein), FROM ALL LIABILITY CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES ON MY ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE RESCUE OPERATION.

I HAVE READ THIS AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE OF ANY NATURE AND INTEND IT TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW AND AGREE THAT IF ANY PORTION OF THIS AGREEMENT IS HELD TO BE INVALID THE BALANCE NOT WITHSTANDING, SHALL CONTINUE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

Signature _____	Date _____
Signature _____	Date _____
Signature _____	Date _____

(All riding members must sign)



Gary Haelewyn  
 41706 Merrimac  
 Clinton Twp MI 48038