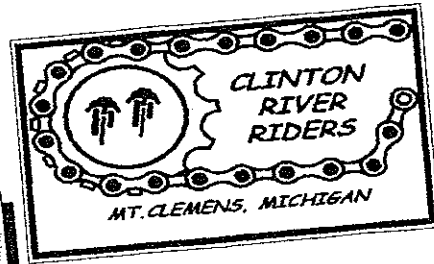


August 2000



RAMBLER

Colorado Mtn. Biking

By Dave Martus

Last Christmas I was happily surprised by a unique gift that was given to me by my wife, Loren. It was a full set of maps of the Great Divide Mountain Bike Trail published by Adventure Cycling Association. Loren knew that for some time I've had a desire to do a backcountry, self-supported mountain bike trip, and she said "let's go this summer" while I was gushing thanks over the gift! I immediately began planning a trip of about 300 miles from Steamboat Springs to Salida CO in a ten-day timeframe. Only 30 miles per day right? **Wrong!** Loren wisely informed me that we should trim the mileage in half, and boy was she right. Our route began in Steamboat Springs and ended about 140 miles and nine days later in Frisco. Riding about 15 miles a day enabled us to take our time and enjoy the beautiful scenery without an impossibly difficult schedule to stick to. Loaded touring on a mountain bike pulling a 100 lb. BOB trailer, in the Rocky Mountains on dirt roads and two-tracks is much more difficult than I imagined! The altitude and the long climbs were really tough but we had

plenty of time to stop, rest, and take in the *brehtaking* landscape before we finished climbing that next pass.

Our nightly campsites were as varied as the countryside that we biked through. The first night we camped next to a gurgling stream in a small mountain meadow. In the morning as the sun rose over the mountaintop to warm the valley, we hiked up the stream into an aspen forest. As soon as we started riding, we had our first and only mechanical failure (no flats even). I broke my handlebar stem by over-torquing the screws. A trout fisherman who lent me his truck to go back into town to get a new stem saved us. Talk about a Good Samaritan!

The next night we camped on the edge of a large pasture and small lake nestled in the mountains where horses were running free. The third day we climbed our first pass and camped at the top in a lovely National Forest campground at 9000 ft.

Up to this point we had been biking through forest, but the fourth day, when we started down the other side of the pass, the landscape changed dramati-

cally. The forest quickly thinned out to the open range sagebrush of the "dry side" of this particular watershed divide. This was our longest day, over 20 miles. I made the mistake of thinking that it was mainly downhill to the Colorado River, and strictly speaking I was right. We did descend a total of 2000 ft that day, but there were also a lot of short (1/2 mile) steep hills to climb along the way. I will never again speak those words; "It's all downhill from here"! That night we camped next to a rushing stream in a side canyon just up from the Colorado River.

The fifth day featured long climbs over two watershed divide with spectacular views of the Gore Canyon of the Colorado River. Later that afternoon we pulled into the town of Kremmling CO. where we had made reservations to stay in a motel. Our first stop in town? A convenience store for junk food and a Diet Coke! Our second stop? A greasy spoon for a burger, fries, and a shake! Not that we weren't eating well. Loren had planned and executed a delicious series of one-pot meals that kept us well fueled on the trail. But we couldn't carry the weight of non-essential goodies like Diet Coke on ice in a cooler!

The next day we went on a short raft trip on the Colorado that was a lot of

(Continued on page 3)

CLUB RIDES



Call the Hotline to listen
for updates.

(810) 819-0222

Call Ride Coordinators Bev
Clark or Duane Larkin with
changes, deletions, questions
at (313) 372-3731 or e-mail Bev
at clarkba@flash.net

Recurring Rides

(More details on each ride can be ob-
tained by calling the ride leaders listed
with each ride.)

Weekend Rides

Saturday

Armada Ride

Saturdays at 8:00 A.M. ride with Sandy
Overway (810) 781-8315 from the Stoney
Creek boat launch to Armada for break-
fast and back. The distance is about 43
miles. This ride usually breaks into two
groups to accommodate both slower and
faster riders, but 14 miles per hour will be
the slowest pace.

Sunday

Wimp Ride

Sundays at 8:30 A.M. join the Duemlings
and Bakers for a Wimp Ride! This is a 20-
30 mile ramble at an easy 13-15 mile per
hour pace or slower if it's windy, with a
stop midway for breakfast. The starting
location varies each week. Call (810)
307-8801 or 739-0261 for details.

Lake Orion Ride

Sunday (Check with ride leader for date).
Ride with John and Marilyn Tarantino
(810) 677-0482 from the Stoney Creek
boat launch to Lake Orion and back, a
distance of about 40 miles at 14-16 mph.
The Tarantinos plan to host this ride once
per month thru the summer.

Weekend Rides

**Remember that head and tail
lights are required for all even-
ing rides.**

Mondays

Eastside Ramble

Mondays at 6:30 P.M., join Diane and Bill
Baker (810) 739-0261 for a 20 to 25 mile
ride. This begins at Rockwell Elementary
School, on Masonic between Hoover and
Schoenherr. The pace will be 13-15 miles
per hour, or the pace of the slowest rider.
Note: this ride will not be held on the first
Monday of each month due to the CRR
general meeting.

Hilly Hammer

Mondays at 6:00 P.M., Ride from the MSU
Management Center, at Crooks and
Square Lake Roads. This is a FAST,
HILLY ride of about 35 miles. Note: the
first week of each month this ride is held
on Tuesday instead of Monday, due to the
club meeting.

Tuesdays

Prestige Ride

Tuesdays at 6 P.M., ride with Rich Dyer
(810) 465-0907 to Metro Beach and back
leaving from Prestige Cycles, on Moravian
just east of Garfield. This is a 25 to 30
mile ride at a 15-17 mile per hour pace.

Prestige AM Ride

Tuesdays and Thursday mornings at 9:00
am ride with Rick Okerhjelm or Rich Dyer
to Metro Beach from Prestige Cycles,
Moravian just east of Garfield. The ride is

25 to 30 miles and the early season pace
will be 14-16 MPH.

Wednesdays

Blue Light Special

Wednesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 P.M.,
ride from the Kmart Center at Coolidge
and Big Beaver Roads. The route will
vary each week, but is a fairly hilly ride of
about 25 miles, at 16-18 miles per hour.
Call Rick or Sue Moorman at (810) 792-
0119 for info.

Thursdays

Tuesdays and Thursday mornings at 9:00
am ride with Rick Okerhjelm (810) 286-
3023 or Rich Dyer (810) 465-0907 to
Metro Beach from Prestige Cycles,
Moravian just east of Garfield. The ride is
25 to 30 miles and the early season pace
will be 14-16 MPH.

Blue Light Special

Wednesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 P.M.,
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miles, at 16-18 miles per hour. Call Rick or
Sue Moorman at (810) 792-0119 for info.

Par-Kut Ride

Thursdays at 6:30 PM ride with Bill Duem-
ling (810) 307-8801 and Bill Baker (810)
739-0261 from Par-Kut International 40961
Production Drive, east of I-94 and north of
North River Road in Harrison Twp. This is
a 20-30 mile ride at a 14-16 MPH pace.
The route will vary each week.

Fridays

Grosse Pointe Ride

For next two Fridays at 6:30 P.M., ride
with Glenn O'Connor (810) 751-8881
through Grosse Pointe from the parking lot
at Marter and Jefferson. The ride is 25 to
30 miles, and is paced at 14-16 miles per
hour.

about 15-17 mph. Call Rick for details:
810/792-0119

See next page...

Ride Events
(Also check the Hotline
(810) 819-0222)

Saturday, August 27

Raindate for Aug 6th ride. Ride with Rick Moorman from Dryden to Otisville and back, beginning at 8 am. This will be a 70-mile ride on a very hilly route, at a pace of

Friday– Sunday,
September 15-17

Doug McDermaid is planning a weekend ride from Mio to Cheboygan, MI. If interested call Doug ASAP for details. (810) 939-4670

Non-Ride Events

If you are a club member, mark your calendar for two upcoming Blue Water Ramble work days: September 16 (Saturday) will be route painting day and Monday,

September 18 will be the registration committee's stuffing party to stuff envelopes with registration information. Full details at Sept. 11 CRR meeting.

(Colorado trip continued from page 1)

fun. When we finished in the early afternoon, we decided to get back on the trail. The countryside was again open range and we could see the thunderstorm coming long before we could hear it. We stopped to don our rain gear and continued riding as it began to rain. When the lightning and the pea-sized hail started crashing down around us, we continued a few feet, just to say we rode in the hail, and then dove for cover in the only available place; under some sagebrush next to the road. After the storm passed, we continued to slog up the wet gravel road to our campsite next to a huge reservoir with not a tree in

sight. While we learned to appreciate its beauty, the open, empty landscape had an unsettling effect on us that evening as we watched the night-hawks swoop for insects.

The next morning dawned sunny and bright and as we continued up the road toward the last mountain pass we began to ride into forest again. Rounding a bend in the road we came upon a sign that read "Casa Milagro - Bed & Breakfast". Loren and I looked at each other, smiled, and turned into the driveway together. We were not surprised when the innkeeper told us that she had one room left for that night! We figured we deserved it, we earned it! It was a beautiful inn with good company, a hot tub and great food. The next morning we left reluctantly and continued the climb up the last and highest pass on our trip; the 9800-ft. Ute Pass. Our arduous climb was rewarded at the top with a spectacular view of the Gore Range 20 miles across the Blue River valley. It was about 1:00 p.m. when we pushed up off the main road and found a site on a barren, wind-swept knob with the same beautiful view and began to set up camp. We were promptly assailed by millions of voracious, bloodthirsty mosquitoes. These babies must have been of the "I'm so tough that I breed in the dirt and feed in the hot sun" species because there wasn't a trace of standing water for miles around and not a cloud in the sky. I spent most of the afternoon sweating in the tent while Loren opted for the ineffective bug dope and praying for a good stiff wind. Her prayers were answered for a while, but

when the breeze died around five o'clock she resorted to a smoky fire. I was forced out of the tent by hunger. While we were cooking dinner a large SUV drove up the trail and your typical suburban family tumbled out to scope out a campsite. As the male head of the troop was thumping his chest (and slapping his neck) and telling his family how great it would be camping there, the kids were screaming in terror with all the blood they were losing. The real boss of the troop ordered everybody back in the car for a family conference. After they killed all the in-car bugs they drove back down the trail with their tails between their legs. We were laughing so hard that the little devils didn't seem so bad when they turned their attention back to us. In the morning they were gone because it was too cold! We got an early start to beat the traffic on the last leg of the trip – 20 miles of paved, shoulderless, busy road. We really got spoiled on those lightly traveled dirt roads and typically (for us lately), we almost got nailed a few times. Over breakfast in Silverthorne we decided that our next tour might again be off-road, maybe a Montana section of the trail because this experience was so special!

Dave Martus, starting a long downhill run



How the Wheels of Government Move... Somewhat

by Gary
Haelewyn

I attended the SEM-
COG meeting at
Cobo Hall on August

10. The brochure said to park on the roof but for the life of me I couldn't find or remember how to get up there. I did spot a brown sign saying "COBO Hall" about a block in front of the place, but heck, you see the place before the sign. Anyway I spot another sign saying Parking \$5.00 9:00AM to 9:00PM right under COBO Hall so I point the Toyota down the ramp, take a ticket, and find an empty spot close to the elevators.

Up to the 3rd floor and "wow, look at all the people!". Lots of suits and well-dressed folks. Fortunately, I'm still in my work clothes having taken the afternoon off to attend this meeting on Regional Transit. I pick up lots of brochures on transportation facts and figures then head for the main room where 2 huge screens on either side of the podium are displaying the familiar "Window's" icons.

After a short speech by SEMCOG chair Greg Pitoniak, with an accompanying video on different types of buses, trains, light-rail, but no bike lanes, Carmine Palomba, Transportation Director takes over. We're here to give our input for a better transit future

by participating in a visioning session. To achieve this the 100 plus people attending are instructed to register their preferences into an ARS (Automated Response System) keypad in front of each participant. The system is on loan from SMART, the cash strapped bus system for Southeast Michigan. So here goes. How did we get here is the first question, with options like cars, buses, walking, taxis. I choose cars as do 95% of the people here. The responses are shown a few seconds after each question and are broken down by percentages for each option given. Next question, pick one of the 9 reasons for not taking a bus. I choose, no available route. Next, 7 reasons for taking the bus. I don't take the bus so how do I answer? I don't. Still, a lot of people here must have driven their cars to a park 'n-ride and then taken the bus because each of the reasons has a percent showing. Then comes the first hint of a true SEMCOG idea. "What do you think about converting boulevards to bus lanes?" Carmine explains boulevards are streets with islands in between them. We have 10 seconds to decide. Let's see, cut down all the trees, tear up the grass, pour a few hundred miles of concrete, how do you board a bus in the middle,... I vote no. Response, 65% think it's great. The last questions are demographics but one of them asks what type of work we do. One is private citizen, the next 7 are some type of government job, the last is unemployed. Wow, 15% here are private citizens, over 45% work a government job. The rest are unemployed? (I didn't have enough time to write down all the percentages). A few more show the group includes 89% have cars, 93% have drivers licenses, 61% male, 29% are

in their 40's, 25% are in their 50's. 50% are from Wayne county and Detroit, 3% from Macomb, Livingston, St Clair, 20% from Oakland.

We then break into groups of 10 for smaller discussions. Our objectives are all the same, come up with a vision of what regional transit should be and why isn't it already. After an hour of haggling between including the environment and other political authorities, our table concludes, "Regional transit should provide a reasonable alternative to the auto that moves all the people safely, seamlessly, reliably, and cost effectively".

We write it down on a large display board and return to the main room where all the other tables are tacking their visions up on the walls. Someone gets up on the podium and announces this concludes the event but we're encouraged to read what the other groups have written.

I read a few of the others, gather my handouts and leave. Take the elevator back to garage basement, get in my car and drive to the toll booth. \$6.75 says the man in the booth. I protest the sign outside says \$5.00. He says you have to be here before 9:00AM. I tell him I guess I didn't read the fine print. I drive off thinking what a great job I've done helping solve Southeast Michigan's transportation problems. If you missed this one, don't feel bad, as SEMCOG plans on having many more of these meetings over the next 13 months. Then they'll tabulate all the results and move forward. The wheels of government may move slowly, more so, the higher up you go. Don't be discouraged though, much can be done to further our cause for bike lanes. It just takes lots of persistence and determination.



CRR

Phil Pimental lost his son to an auto accident. Phil just joined the club. He and his daughter worked at the BWR last year serving lunch and his daughter modeled at the Bike feast. He rides many Wednesday nights. Our heartfelt condolences.

Email Addresses

We would like to publish email addresses as an addition to the roster. This would go to club members only. If you would like to verify the current E-Mail address on record to ensure it is correct before publication, or would NOT like to have your E-Mail address published (it will then be removed from the database), please give it to Sandy Overway at the next club meeting, or leave me a message on 810-781-8315. This is the time for members who have not previously entered their E-Mail address on the renewal form to get it in the database!

New Members

July 2000

Scott McGovern
John, Connie & family Canale
John Kopp
Patrick and Gail Rice
Bea Saleski

Want Ads

1994 Santana Sovereign Medium Frame - Burgundy with Aerospoke Wheels, Drum Brake, 2 Computers, SPD Pedals, Rear Rack - Call Dave Komendera for details at 248-879-6474.

Trek 400 Road Bike, red 19" steel frame, very good condition.

\$150.00 Call Jay at (248) 360-4792

Trek 850 Mountain Bike, gray 18 steel frame, very good condition, \$150.00 Call Doug or Laurie at (810) 939-4670

Vision VR42 Recumbent (1997 Model). Above seat steering. Very low miles, like new. \$1600.00

Night Rider Classic 12/20/32 watt dual beam system. New in box. \$155.00

Terry Men's Liberator Saddle. Just two rides. \$25.00

Wanted!!! Cinelli Volare SLX Saddle. (Came on bikes in the mid '80's with Nuovo Record and Superbe Pro Class components.)

For above call Bruce Carlson (810) 254-9322 or email bicarlson@juno.com



Birthdays for August

- 8/4 Jerry Pavlat
- 8/7 Julia Schultz
- 8/8 Ken Stigleman
- 8/10 Michael Sproul
- 8/14 Warren Berthelsen
- 8/18 Ilene Hirsch
- 8/20 Alan Strebendt
- 8/21 Mike Ondre
- 8/24 Dee Whitmore (not included last month, sorry Dee)



September

- Bev Clark 9/2
- Bob Bartley 9/2
- Jim Crawford 9/5
- Connie Canale 9/5
- Bob Crowley 9/7
- Graciela Balmaceda 9/11
- John Canale 9/11
- Julie Kay 9/17
- Wally Kiehler 9/19
- Sue Pavlat 9/19
- Loren Bach 9/19
- Carol Crawford 9/22
- Eric Noyes 9/23
- Donna Menendez 9/25
- Paul Franks 9/25
- John Edry 9/25
- Greg Schultz 9/25
- William Baker 9/30

Monthly Meetings

1st Monday of the month

Meeting time is 7 PM

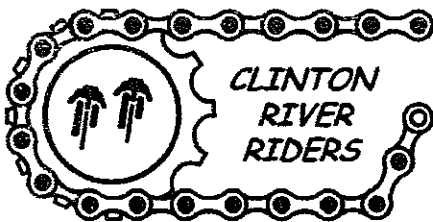
Dates

September 11 (Due to holiday)

October 2

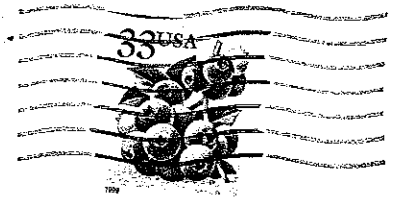
November 6

Mt. Clemens Recreation Center, 300 Groesbeck Mt. Clemens, MI (next to ice arena) Call John Tarantino (810) 677-0482 or Bev Clark or Duane Larkin (313) 372-3731 for more info or club applications. Volunteers needed to bring treats. (Club subsidizes cost)



36558 Moravian
Clinton Twp MI 48035

Gary Haelewyn
Jan Haelewyn
41706 Merrimac
Clinton Twp MI 48038



APPLICATION FORM
CLINTON RIVER RIDERS BICYCLE CLUB

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

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone (____) _____
email address _____

Family Names Birthdate
Name _____

New Member
 Renewal

Please make check payable to:
Clinton River Riders
36558 Moravian
Clinton Twp., MI 48035

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WHEELMAN ("LAW")
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 UNDERSTAND that: (a) BICYCLING AC-

TIVITIES 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 result of my participation in the Activity.

3. HEARBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, COVENANT NOT TO SUE, AND AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS the Club, the LAW, 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)