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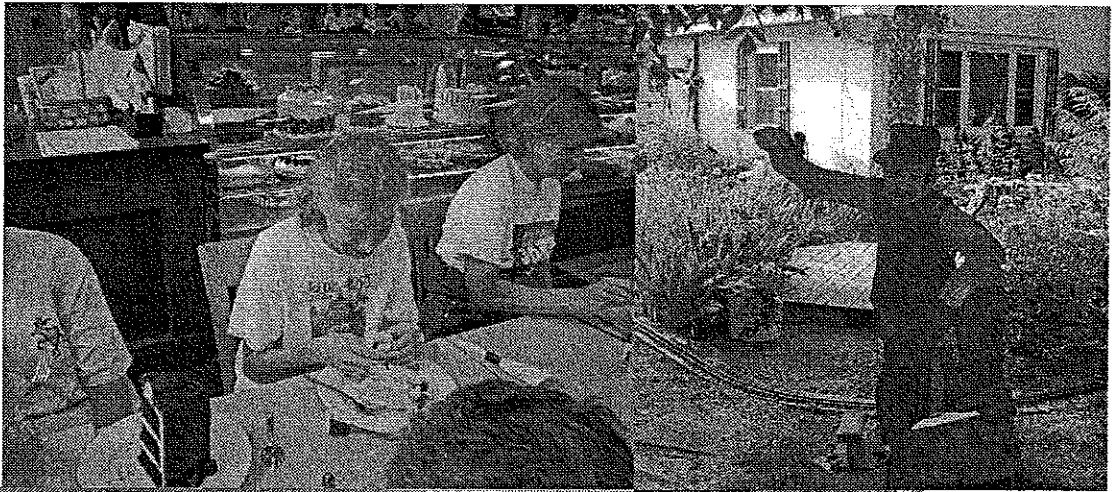
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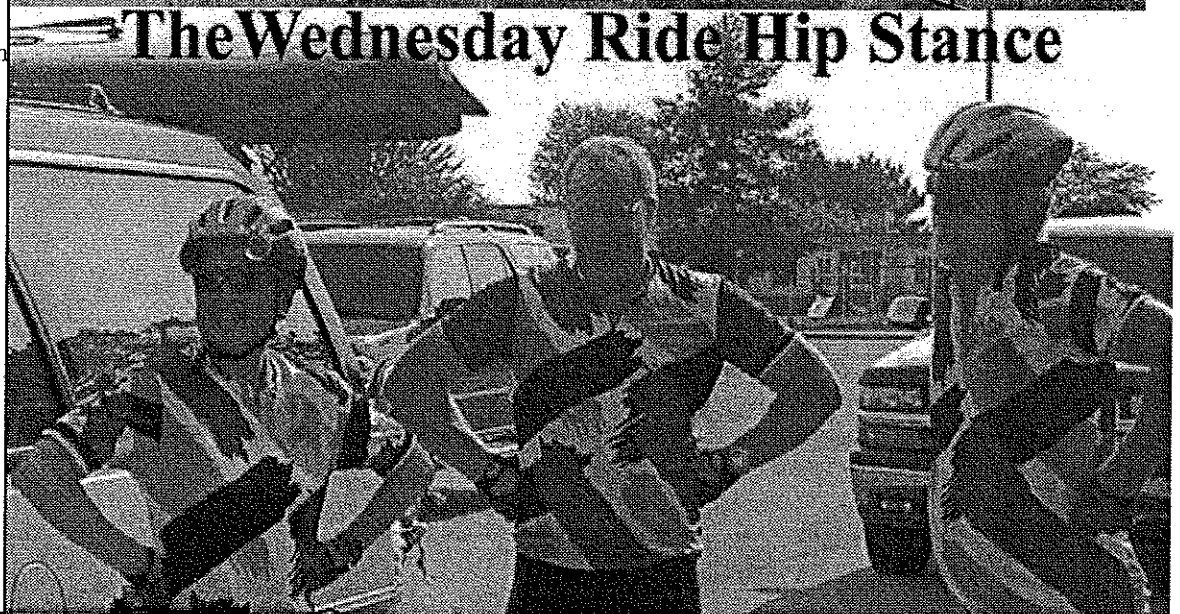
The "RAMBLER"

August 2004

Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club



The Wednesday Ride Hip Stance



August 2004

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
29	30	31				

HOTLINE
586-819-0222
(Press 1 for latest updates)

WEEKLY RIDES

CHANGES
Call Bill Baker, Ride Director
586-739-0261
CRRrides@wideopenwest.com

13th of Sept

MONDAYS

Club Meeting, 7:00-9:00PM, Clinton Macomb Public Library, 40900 Romeo Plank (From Prestige, take Garfield (N) to Clinton River Road (E) to Romeo Plank (N). Bldg is on right at (SE) corner Romeo Plank and Canal. 1st floor on right **NOTE:** The October meeting will be at Bill Stimpson's house during BWR cleanup. November will be at Mt Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave, just west of Gratiot on the North side.

6:00 PM

Meet at the M.S.U. center, Sq. Lake & Crooks. Ride as many hills as we can be found at a fast pace. Does NOT have a set leader (first person up the hill is the new leader). Pace unknown. Average will start at about 18.5 mph for 30 miles, and will increase to about 19.5 mph for 45 miles in late August. At times we will ride at 25 mph, and at times going up hills, it will slow to about 14 mph. The ride moves to Tue. after club meetings on Mon. The ride will officially start on April, 19. Call Rick Jones for more info.

6:00 PM

Meet Diane Baker at Fraser Cycle for an easy paced ride for 1.5 to 2 hours. The ride is the pace of the slowest rider. There will be no ride the week of the club meeting.

5:30 PM

TUESDAYS

Meet at Prestige Cycles, Moravian and Garfield, for a 30—35 mile ride at an initial pace of 15-17 MPH with a destination of Metro Beach, 30 to 35 miles. Call Rick and Sue Moorman 586-792-0119 for details.

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

Meet in the parking lot of the Rochester Library (turn east at the road just past Pier One Imports blue awnings), near the arch to the start of the walkway/trail) to ride the Paint Creek Trail. Pace is 10-13 MPH. There is an optional single track loop out in Lake Orion. If you don't want to ride the single track, just return to Rochester on the Paint Creek Trail. Lunch at the end of the ride with great root beer floats! Optional: Shopping in downtown Rochester.

5:30 PM

"Sheffield Shuffle I" Meet Ken & Cindy Rosiek at southwest corner of Sheffield Office complex Big Beaver Rd and Cunningham Dr. Approximate distance of 30-35 miles, light conditions permitting. Initial pace of 15-17 MPH. Rolling hills. Ride pace and terrain difficulty will increase as season progresses covering up to 50 miles in July. Good training ride, come early and often.

September 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Dock-sider Ride	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Meeting	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Note: Send newsletter ride changes and/or additions to BLUECYCLIST@YAHOO.COM

5:30 P M

THURSDAYS

"Sheffield Shuffle II" same as Wednesday ride only meet leaders Rick and Sue Moorman.

6:00 P M

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

8:00 A M

FRIDAYS

Meet Duane Nieman in the Romeo/Armada area for 35 to 60+ mile long rides to different locations at a pace of 15 to 18 MPH with a breakfast stop. Call Duane 586-752-6482 or email Bill Smith bsmith02@comcast.net and Bill will add you to a distribution list for latest ride info.

6:00 P M

Meet Dave Baker at Marter & Jefferson, 15-18 MPH for 30-35 miles. Pace will increase to 18mph as season progresses.

8:00 A M

SATURDAYS

Meet Bill and Annette Smith and Sandy Overway at the Stoney Creek boat launch for a 16-19 mph 40-45 mile ride to Armada for breakfast.

9:00 A M

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 A M

SUNDAYS

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

2004 Blue Water Ramble Chairs

Diane Baker & Jim Crawford
2004 BWR Co-Chairs

Committee Chairs

- **Food:** Tom and Sue Graham
- **SAG:** John Tarantino
- **Parking:** Jerry Pavlat
- **Cleanup:** Bill Stimpson
- **Publicity:** OPEN
- **Routes:** Gerry Bartels
- **Ferries:** Bruce Carlson
- **Registration:** Bills Baker & Duemling

The Prez Sez.....

Our next meeting will be Sept. 13 at the Clinton Macomb Library located on Romeo Plank and Canal. Oct. meeting will be held at Bill Stimpson's house during the BWR cleanup. Thanks to Sandra Studebaker and Rick Moorman, our new meeting place will be the Mt. Clemen's Library located at 150 Cass Ave. just west of Gratiot. Starting Nov. 1st, we will be meeting here on the first Monday of the month unless there is a holiday. Then we will meet on the second Monday. Please check the hotline or newsletter if you have questions.

The BWR will be here before you know it. Please make sure to volunteer and help out. This event is the only fundraiser we do all year. It helps pay our insurance and other expenses to run the club, with any extra money supporting cycling organizations. Please remember our major concern Oct. 3rd is the 1000+ bike riders doing our ride. There will be a pre-ride for those club members who would like to ride the route. Please check the hotline for more information. Thank you for supporting the BWR.

John Tarantino

Congratulations Debbie Angst, Rose Goebel, Pennie Morawski, Steve Angst, Art Anderson, Paul Franks, John Mancevich and George Lombardi, all were prize winners at the Just Right Picnic put on by TJ Hill.

Sandra Studebaker has asked that you please add sastudebaker@highstream.net to your 2004 club roster.

Club Cookbooks are still available for \$10. Call Julie Windhorst (586-939-6073) to order.

Birthdays

Bday First Name Last Name

09/02 Bev Clark
09/05 Jim Crawford
09/07 Robert Crowley
09/17 Kathy Cota
09/19 Sue Pavlat
09/22 Carol Crawford
09/23 Eric Noyes
09/24 Bill Kelley
09/25 Paul Franks
09/25 John Edry
09/25 Donna Menendez
09/30 William Baker



Jennifer knew things were getting more serious with Matt when they began tandem flossing.

Thanks
Sheila Jones
for the
"tandem" cartoon,....

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sept 1st—The annual "Docksider" ride to East Lansing, Michigan State University, which is a pre-ride for Dalmac folks. Meet Al Barton and Art Anderson for a ride to East Lansing. Last year we had 3 CRR members who rode up as a day ride. They arranged for a family member to pick them up and return to home that evening. The ride departs from Jim Muir GMC which is at 19 mile and Van Dyke. We meet at the flag pole in front of the dealership. We depart at 8:00AM sharp!! This ride goes as planned "rain or shine." The length of the ride is 94 miles and the ride pace is 17 miles per hour. We emphasize safety and ride decorum on this ride. We take an AM break in Commerce Township for coffee, have lunch in Howell, and take a PM break in Williamston. We generally arrive at the MSU Pavillion at 3:30PM.

Sept 1st—Festival of Trees call for volunteers and input. Again this year our club will decorate and donate trees to turn in by Nov. 19th to Children's Hospital of Michigan. Last year (our rookie year) we did one large 7 ft. tree with a bicycle theme thanks to decoration donations from the Pavlat's, Tarantino's & Baker's. It turned out beautiful with the help and talent of Doris Mulligan & Pam Dyer. This year I'd like to order a few 4 ft. trees. Depending on the number of volunteers we get we could have one or two helpers on each tree. With the 4 ft. trees we can have more members involved and as it turns out we'll get more tickets to the Preview Gala evening event on Nov. 20th. It's a truly fun night out!! SO....if you would be willing to volunteer some of your time to help create some wonderful trees for such a worthwhile cause.....please contact me by phone 248 879-6474 or email me at pedaltime@wowway.com. I need to know how many trees to order by Sept. 1st.

Sept 19—African American Museum Tour planned. Call John Tarantino for details.

Velodrome at Bloomer Park

Hours of Operation

Sunday 1-5
Monday 12 noon—7PM
Tues/Thurs 12 Noon to 8PM
Wed/Fri 12 noon—9:00 PM
Saturday 10:00AM—6:00PM
Saturday 11:00PM Public TV viewing

Fees:

Kids: Under 18 FREE! Includes bike Rental, equip, & Coaching
Adults: 1st Session Free
\$10 session/\$60 season pass
Bike Rental: \$5

Free Class—Track 101

Thursdays—6:00PM
Saturdays—10:00AM

Details: 248-961-3705
www.velodromeatbloomerpark.com
Or www.nas-track.com

Weekly Race Series

Wednesdays: 6:30 PM
Mike Walden Races
Fridays 7:00PM
Elite Training & NAS-TRACK League racing
Saturdays 3:00PM
Michigan CAT Summer Point Series

Some of the photo's on this month's front page are things we cyclists see along the roads we travel. These are just blurs to passing motorists who are more interested in getting to their destinations than enjoying the journey along the way. Bob George and I recently took a short 4 day circle ride up north staying at state and local campgrounds. That's where some of these pictures came. Below is an article written by Ron Truax about his travels from his home in Dearborn to Montreal. Ron shows us two parts to touring. The miles and logistics side, a boring but necessary part of touring, and the other side, the people and places along the way, the proverbial "roses".

Also, who knows what a "docksider" ride is? Can anyone explain this terminology? And why did poor little Jane Bernard get such a small piece of cake and then have to eat it with her hands? And lastly, when sending photos, watch out for side profiles, they can be hazardous to your perceived image.

Dearborn to Montreal by Ron Truax

The destination was Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and the weeks of planning are over. It was a dream bike ride that began on a clear, cool Saturday morning. The two of us met at Tom's Restaurant for breakfast, then headed up Michigan Avenue to cross the city, the metro area, and the border into Canada. Thirteen days and 850 miles later we arrived in Montreal. Was it that simple?

Usually when I get home, the trip tends to remain a blur. All I can remember is leaving home with all my gear packed on the bike and arriving at the final destination. I know it sounds absurd, but you compress so much living into such a short span of time. Weeks, sometimes months after I've returned home, details still continue to float to the surface of my memory. I've often wondered why it takes so long to refocus, and the only thing I can come up with is that there are two trains of thought taking place simultaneously.

The first is logistics, all the cold details of the trip. How long did it take, where did we overnight, how far did we travel each day? Where did we eat, how often did we do laundry? What roadside repairs did we have to make? Was it cool, hot, rainy, sunny, windy, or calm?

So! it took 13 days, we camped two nights and motel the rest except one. Friends from home that now live in Quebec, put us up and fed us one night. We averaged 71 miles per day. We ate in restaurants and did laundry every three days. We had three flat tires to fix along the way, none of them mine. And it was cool, hot, rainy, sunny, windy, and calm along the way, though we never got wet. We were either asleep, doing laundry or eating when it was raining. We left the U.S. in Algonac and rode across southern Ontario to Niagra Falls where we crossed back over the border at Lewiston, NY. We skirted Lake Ontario around to and up the St. Lawrence river to Ogdensburg, NY. From there we turned north and crossed the border back into Ontario. We continued north for two days till we came to Ottawa, hooked a right, and headed for Montreal. We did a semi circle of the city, found our hotel, and located our ride home. So much for logistics and that half of the story.

And then there's the other side of the story, the compressed living side. The things that happen when you're not necessarily paying attention.

For example, we didn't make it a half mile from home till a buddy unexpectedly rode up next to us. He was on his way to a Criterion race in the next town. He rode with us till his turnoff, telling us how much he wished he was coming along. Then a couple of days later we met up with friends from home that were also riding to Niagra. Ten on bikes and two driving a support vehicles with all the gear. They were traveling light and fast. We spent two nights with them, their second and fourth, the last being at their final destination. On their last day we had to travel 20 miles further than they did. So you can imagine how dumbfounded they were to pull into camp and find us

Dearborn to Montreal (continued)

there with our tents set up. In the morning they would bid us farewell as we headed on while they enjoyed a day of rest before heading home. They were tired and beginning to show signs of "end of the ride blues".

Then there was the farmers wife that had stuck the tractor in the ditch by the edge of the road. She waved us down and pleaded for help to get it out before her husband got home. She burst into tears when we finally freed the beast.

And then there was the old couple we shared stories with in the laundromat. You could tell the old boy had worked hard all his life with his gnarled hands and thinned out look, but he still had that spark of life in his eyes especially when he told us the story of taking his kids out fishing when a storm blew in. He told his kids to stay under the deck while he got his ship back to port. He said they never forgot that day. We talked and laughed until they were done, then loaded up and were about to leave when the old fellow came over and shook our hands and wished us well. Less than hour earlier we had been total strangers to each other.

There are more stories but my point is to show how much living can be compressed into a short span of time when you do it on top of a bicycle. People aren't afraid to approach and ask questions or just pass the time of day. And that makes me feel better about the condition of the world and the people in it. We don't do these trips just to see how many miles we can get out of a set of tires. We do them to establish a connection to other real people. It's reassuring to know that those "good old days" are still alive and well.



Two of our outstanding CRR greeters at the opening of the Macomb Orchard Trail on July 26th.

The Macomb Orchard Trail was officially opened this July 26th. The event consisted of many accolades placed on Government officials and Trail organizers.

Teddy, Dave and Sharon, Annette, and Mike from CRR participated in the ribbon cutting festivities and a brief walk to the hospitality tent for pop or water and a free water bottle. The many officials were surprised by the number of people at the turnout and remarked how this would give them incentive to push forward. Candice Miller noted how the beginning of the 16 mile trail to Metro Parkway inspired her to provide a safe way to the beach area. Now she is committed to seeing more Michigan people exercise.

We have seen more and more people using the 9 mile pathway. 3 and 5 year olds are appearing on the trail with their parents, so we all need to be aware of showing courtesy to all the users. You might want to consider using a bell to announce your presence.

The event also showcased the officers who will be patrolling the trail either by bike or by horseback. As the event was going on, a sheriff's helicopter hovered overhead, drowning out the speakers. You can find the entire story in the Macomb Daily on July 27th. or http://www.macombdaily.com/stories/072704/loc_trail001.shtml.



Just Right Picnic and Ride 2004

The day had come for the Just Right Club Picnic and preceding that the CRR led road ride to Wolcott Mill and the TJ Hill led Mountain Bike Ride loop to Tom Asmus's home.

All in all the numbers of bikers that attended the two rides and then partook of the food and beverages at the picnic were, what I would term, "Just Right." Between those who had pre-paid and those who had sent RSVP's I estimated that we would have 50 bikers in attendance. I think that number was about correct that I passed on to the Picnic committee.

So the bike ride began with 23 riders. I should have had a sign in sheet, as there were about 4 riders who I didn't know by name or by sight. Before we even got going I decided to change the route from using the periphery trail to the first hole in the fence and onto Sheldon road to using the bike path to the Mt. Vernon hole in the fence. There were two things that caused me to make this change. First was a generous water/mud puddle in the first 100 meters of trail. There would be other puddles along the Sheldon trail in that final half-mile before exiting at the hole in the fence. Next there was the descent and ascent on Snell Road as it crosses the Stony Creek. I was concerned that some people would find the descent intimidating.

So we filed out the Mt. Vernon hole in the fence and went left on Snell about 200 meters to the Miller's Crossing Nature Trail. I went rather slow as we crossed the first section of boardwalk that seemed relatively dry. We did section two and section three of the Boardwalk then went left on the pavement to the 28 Mile/Gunn exit, where we went left west. We continued west a mile and a quarter to Weygant that is a dirt side street and went north a half mile to the tee at East Buell where we went left, west a quarter mile to Hadden where we did a right left jiggle and then went west on West Buell.

After a mile we crossed Rochester Road and fortunately on Sunday the traffic is light and all made the crossing without difficulty. After a mile and a quarter we pass Collins and continue west for 3/4ths of a mile to Lake George where we went right north. There are a couple of hills in the next mile and everyone made it over in reasonable shape.

At the corner of Clarkston and Lake George I expected Co-Captain Dave dot Kom to take some of the group on the short cut route north. It seems the group all decided to go left with the main group though at a lesser pace.

As things came to pass the trail did have sections where the greenery obscured the path of the trail. Frank Mottershead got in a rut and went into crash mode among the weeds. I had stopped the group up on the Kern trail waiting for everyone to arrive. Leonardo informed me that Frank had crashed. I went back to check on Frank. I arrived at the top of the trail just as Frank was finishing off the final piece of dirt.

After a few more lefts, rights, dog legs, and chicken legs, we pulled into Tom and Mary Asmus's driveway and parked our bikes hither and yon and then assembled on the patio for a picture.

After a short interval of rest room stops as well as water intake for those who find a need for water we headed out with three additional riders. Tom and Mary as well as Mike Samyn. In a mile and a half we stopped at the Cranberry Lake historic home site where an, Historic Barn is in the process of being reassembled. Tom gave the spiel, the barn raising is going to occur on Saturday August 21st and anyone wishing to lend their muscle to this endeavor is invited to attend as much horsepower will be needed to get the sides erected into vertical position.

With our Barn stop over we continued on east to Rochester Road then east another mile to Rush where we went right, south. In a half-mile we reached Letts Road that is the location of the biggest Oak Tree in Oakland County? Years ago when I measured it's circumference it scaled 244 inches. We gathered round and took pictures with various cameras. With that stop complete on we went to the automatic left onto Parks then the mile east to Dequindre where we regrouped at the top of the hill before the descent south to Inwood. We went west a half mile to Hixon then south a half mile to Buell then west a half mile to Hadden then south a half mile to Gunn. We then went west with a couple of doglegs a mile to Sheldon where we went south. In a half mile we crossed Snell then in another half mile we reached the hole in the fence we filed thru and regrouped after turning left north along the trail.

For both Sandra as well as for Frank Mottershead this was their, first ever, "Dirt Road Ride," thus congratulations are in order for their willingness to try something new in the way of biking.

In the parking lot I went about collecting money for the picnic, for those wanting to partake of the food and beverages. George Weidman showed up to say Hi. George is an old time Dakota Inn Just Right friend who has moved to Cape Coral Florida. He reiterated the story of how he had attended a Bob Milne concert in Cape Coral. Seems Bob was reiterating some of the idiosyncrasy of the Dakota Inn patrons. He mentioned how he would shout, "Throw him a penny." audience reply would be, "Ain't got no penny." This was then the sound that Bob heard from the audience in Cape Coral. Bob went on with the tale, "Throw him a Fish." From the audience came the reply, "Ain't got no Fish." then the finale, "Throw him out", followed much yelling of, "Yeah." Needless to say Bob wanted the person in the audience to come up to talk with him after the concert was concluded.

Well soon I went over to the picnic finance manager Ron McLaughlin and turned in the money I had collected as well as putting George Lombardi's ticket in the door prize jar.

Soon it was time for libation followed by food and then eating and then more libation and then without any requests from the audience I began to sing from my repertoire of obscure songs. I did the Strohs Detroit song as well as Why is Paddy not at work today. I even was able to get bikers participation in Allouette and after a time managed to do Man Piaba as well.

Tom Zemple won the distance award for the person who drove the furthest to get to the bike ride. Tom came from Ann Arbor that is about 70 Miles from Stony Creek. Frank came from his home on Beverly east of Evergreen that isn't exactly close either nor is Royal Oak for that matter. Anyway I want to thank each of you who made the effort to attend the Bike Event and Picnic as seemingly everyone had a Just Right time.

Till next time, happy days and exhilarating trails.

TJ Hill, Just Right, bicycle aficionado.