

SEPTEMBER 1987

36558 MORAVIAN DRIVE, MT. CLEMENS, MICHIGAN 48043



CLINTON RIVER RIDERS

OFFICERS

President:	Duane Nieman	263-4234
Vice Pres:	Andy Neumann	756-3369
Secretary:	Elizabeth Nieman	263-4234
Treasurer:	Warren Berthelsen	781-6706
Historian:	Rose Goebel	286-0384

NEXT MEETING - Monday, October 5, 7:00 p.m. at Fraser Public Library, 14 Mile Rd., west of Utica Rd.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS - The Clinton River Riders would like to welcome the following new members to the club: Eugene Chojnowski Family, David Daniel, Marty Klein, Joe Martucci, Sharon Wiseman and Dave Switney. We hope to see you on coming events.

HELP WANTED - Friday Oct. 2, 7:00 pm - Volunteers are needed to help stuff rider packets for the BWR. Your help is requested at the Moorman home, located at 36595 Eaton Drive, which is between Kelly Rd. and Groesbeck, south of 16 Mile Rd.

BLUE WATER RAMBLE - Oct. 4 - Plans have been finalized by the various committee heads. Everyone that has signed up to help with the BWR will be notified of their duties. Rick Moorman is still looking for help with the registration at St. Clair High School and Denise Cryderman needs volunteers to help at the reststops on the day of the ride also if you would like to bake cookies for the BWR call Denise.

Rick Moorman - 792-0119
Denise Cryderman - 293-0162

Club Ride Schedule

September 20 - Sunday - "1st Half of the M.S. Ride" Andy Neumann will be leading this ride from the Amtrack Station in Dearborn to Ann Arbor and back. This will be a 85 mile ride at 15 to 17 mph pace. Meet at the Amtrack Station in Dearborn, Michigan and Greenfield, at 8:00 a.m.

September 20 - Sunday - "Tyrone Hills Tour" - Anita Allen will be leading C pace ride leaving at 9:30 a.m. from the car pool parking lot located on Old US 23, Just north of M 59.

This ride will be stopping at the Brick Oven Bakery in Fenton.

September 27 - Sunday - "Tandem Ride" Dave Heck will be leading this 60 to 70 miles TANDEM ONLY ride from Utica High School, Shelby Rd. and 21 Mile Rd., leaving at 7:30 a.m. The pace will be 18 - 20 mph. The first part will be hilly and the second flat. Eat breakfast before ride, and there will be two catered rest stops during the ride. Call Dave at 254-1868 if you will be riding.

September 27 - Sunday - "BWR Pre Ride" - Meet Ted Gondert at the St. Clair High School at 8:00 a.m. for either a 65 or 100 mile loop of the BWR. This will be a 15-17 mph pace. Please bring money and identification for the ferry crossing into Canada.

October 4 - Sunday - BLUE WATER RAMBLE - See you there.

October 11 - Sunday - "Apple Cider Ride" Leaving Utica High School, Shelby Rd. and 21 Mile Rd. at 8:00 a.m. This will be a sixty mile ride to Paint Creek and back at a 15-17 mph pace. Andy Neumann will be your ride leader.

CRR WEEKLY RECURRING RIDES

Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. - Meet your ride leader, Warren Berthelsen or Ron Skiba at Pavlat's for a 25 mile ride to Metro Beach and back. This is an easy pace of 13 to 15 mph. through September.

Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. - Meet your ride leader John Edry at the bank at 17 Mile and Garfield for an 20+ mph pace ride to Stony Creek and back. Approximately 30 miles. Bring lights, ride will continue through September.

Fridays - 6:00 p.m. - Meet your ride leader Sandra Studebaker in the northeast corner of MCCC south campus parking lot for a 15 to 17 mph. pace to Grosse Pointe.

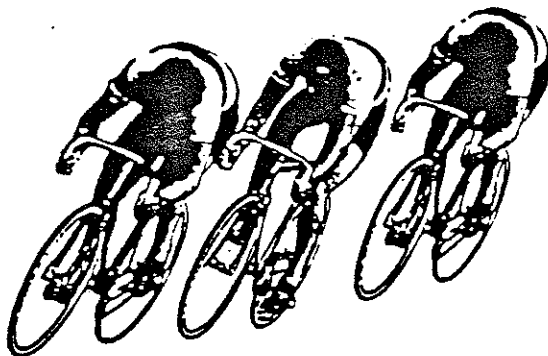
TOURS SPONSORED BY OTHER CLUBS

Oct. 11 - Oakland Riders - The White Horse Inn Ride - This is 24 mile ride C pace ride leaving from Dryden High School parking lot, (Rochester Rd. just north of Dryden Rd.) at 9:00 a.m.

Oct. 18 - Oakland Riders - Ortonville - Hadley - Goodrich Cider Tour - Approx. a 33 mile C pace ride, leaving from the school parking lot off South Street between M-15 and downtown Ortonville. at 10:00 a.m.

Oct. 18 - Ann Arbor Helmet Tour - Meet at the registration desk at Community High School, opposite the Farmers Market, 5th Ave. at Detroit Street at 8:00 a.m. for 20, 35, 45 or 60 mile routes along the Huron River Drive.

CONGRATULATIONS - To Bob Crowley and his K-Mart team in winning The Business Men's Race, at the Troy Bike Races on August 29. Also to all the club members who participated in the races. Thank you to Ed Gostin, who took some beautiful photo's of this events, which will be put in the club photo album.





BRAVO BONSAI
By Joe DeOro

For those of you who missed it - it really was a good one! Missed what? The best darn ride of the year, that's all. The BONSAI! What I'm talking about neighbors is Dave Gaskell's "Outer Drive Bonsai". A quick 75 mile sprint around Detroit and its environs.

It started on the morning of August 2 when six intrepid cyclists met at the Ram's Horn Restaurant on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe for breakfast and the last chance for carbo packing. The group would not be intimidated by the threat of black clouds rolling overhead or a morbid forecast that called for a 50% chance of thunderstorms. Well, maybe they were intimidated a little; but just a little. After slamming down melba toast and warm milk, this macho crew slinked to their cars under threatening skies and almost decided to call the whole thing off. As they clung to each other, their faces turned up to the spectacle of the boiling sky. A slight break in the darkness down on the horizon promoted a stupendous and unanimous cry of "BONSAI"!! (Or maybe if the truth was known, someone suggested, "Well, what do you say, let's try it.")

Finally they were off. Down the road. Right turn on Outer Drive. Dave Gaskell in the lead followed by Eagle Eye, Rick Moorman, then Ted Gondert, Bob Crowley, Nate Fitzpatrick, and barely bringing up the rear at a reasonable pace was Mrs. DeOro's favorite son - me. I will always remember this ride, not for the fact that I was bringing up the rear - that's not an unusual position for me to be in (unless the possum is on the ride). but this was the first ride that I was openly referred to as "The Old Man". If I could afford a hair transplant today, I'd use Grecian Formula tomorrow. None-the-less, there we were, rolling along when Dave announces that PRIMES were set up on the course. He and his wife, Pat had posted red paper dinner plates along the route that we were expected to sprint for.

"Look fellows, the winner of the most PRIMES will receive a grand prize. "No I won't warn you when they're coming up. You'll just have to watch for them."

Well, Old Eagle Eye Rick wasted no time jumping on the first two. He caught everyone by surprise. Most thought Rick was just going to the front to pull for awhile when all of a sudden he'd throw up his arms in victory and yell, "BONSAI" - Eat Dirt Suckers!!" - And there's Joe bringing up the rear at a reasonable pace.

This sudden show of power was too much for Bob and Nate. They ganged together, all two of them, and decided that if they were to switch the lead between themselves, and allow no one else to pass, they could take the rest of the primes and share the "grand" prize between them. With this tactic, they took the pace from 20 mph. up to 28 mph. They held this pace for eight straight miles pulling four willing bodies behind them. It was great! A free ride in the fast lane. At 28 mph. it's fun even

when you're just pulling up the rear. All the while Dave was nothing but smiles taking particular delight in knowing that there were no primes along this part of the ride. Nice try guys.

Dave was the ideal host. He kept the group together, provided some fun in the form of primes, provided a route completely different from the normal Sunday rides, and possibly appreciated the most, he kept all the flats to himself.

BRAVO DAVE!

I hope I haven't given anyone the idea that this was an all-out 75 mile sprint. It was a quick ride but a well planned ride with very timely stops so that even someone who likes to ride at a reasonable pace could stay up with the animals. The first stop was at the block and a half mark, It started to rain, (I noticed three drops myself), so we dashed for shelter. After three minutes and no more drops, we were on the road again. And what a road it was; more of a great video arcade simulator that tested your reflexes, with potholes, cracks, and bumps every few inches. Teddy was in the air more than he was on the ground. Luckily the obstacle course only lasted a few miles.

The second stop was in Dearborn at Outer Drive and Michigan Avenue. A planned stop for water and munches and a 10 minute demonstration by Dave on the proper use of tire irons. The third stop was in Lincoln Park at Outer Drive and the Dix-Toledo highway. This was a 10 minute review and refresher course on the proper use of tire irons. I really have to had it to Dave for the way he combined the joys of riding with the instructional seminars, all in the same outing. **BRAVO DAVE!**

The fourth stop was in a ghetto Kentucky Fried Chicken store. Teddy was obviously out of his elements here. He seemed amazed at the 1 1/2 " thick plastic barrier that was set between the clerks and the customers. And the locked restroom doors really blew his mind.

Stop No. 5 was Greek Town for pizza and air-conditioning. The temperature was over 90 degrees and rising and the humidity was out of sight. You couldn't stand in one place and breathe-you had to move. While moving you could just drop your jaw and use the ram induction method to force hot sticky globs of air down your throat and into your lungs. The rest stop, pizza was good, but the air-conditioning was great. I didn't think any stop could top that one. I thought that until we rode on to the last one.

Stop No. 6 was at the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club for cold lemonade and a cool dip in the lake. But, wait a minute. Where's Joe? He's bringing up the rear, guarding the bikes while everyone else is polluting the lake.

Oh well, just being on this ride was thrill enough. I just hope that this turns out to be an annual ride.

B R A V O D A V E !!!!!



ALMONT - LAPEER CHALLENGE
By Sandra Studebaker

For those CRR members not lured away by the Rat (Ride Around Torch) lake, the River Raisin tour, or class reunions, the Almont-Lapeer club ride, organized by this reporter offered a metric-century challenge of its own on Sunday August 9th.

The first challenge was met successfully by those eleven hardy club members who rolled out of bed around 5:30 a.m. in spite of a heavy downpour outside their bedroom windows to get to the distant Almont starting point for a 7:00 a.m. departure. Thanks go to Andy (alias Benotto), Doris (telephone wake-up service), Gary, Jim, (Big) John, Ken & daughter Lisa, Ray, and Tom & Tina for your support in showing up for the ride despite the inclement weather.

After moving all the cars from the parking lot of the Community Hospital to the city park two miles up the road, the second challenge came in finding an open-early-on-Sunday eatery in tiny Almont. Several of us piled into Jim Cramer's van for the two-block ride to the center of town where we found a hospitable donut shop. Over steaming cups of coffee and huge apple fritters the conversation centered on whether the rain would let up or not. The sky and the consensus were gloomy and mutiny was brewing, with Ray and Ken & Lisa having already headed for home.

The third early-morning challenge was making the decision to start to ride in the rain. Three intrepid souls rose to the challenge. Ride leader Sandra, fortified with Gortex, leg warmers, and wool socks was not to be intimidated by inclement weather and fair-weather friends, and was joined in the decision by new members Jim Cramer and Gary Haelewyn. Let's hear it for new blood!

The fourth challenge lay ahead. Could the three of us maintain our initial determination and enthusiasm as we headed off into the rain? It was now an hour and twenty minutes past the 7:00 a.m. departure time. Lapeer, and our rendezvous with Anita Allen's 10:00 a.m. group was about thirty miles away.

We became more optimistic about halfway to Lapeer when the rain, which had been light as we rolled Northward along Lake Pleasant Road, stopped altogether. A left turn onto Lum Road began the series of scenic stairstep back roads that took us Westward to Lapeer. Upon reaching the city a left turn on Nepessing, another on Saginaw, and a right on Genesee Street took us directly to the park where Anita, Ed Gostin, Jerry & son Chris, and Tom and Sue were waiting, certain that no one from Almont would show up due to the rain.

After introductions, the nine of us set off Eastward to Imlay City into a rain that was heavier than it had been earlier. The challenge was now passed on to the new six riders as the three of us were now on the return leg. Would they persevere in the rain and the rolling hills of Newark Road between Lapeer and Imlay City or would they turn back?

The group of nine soon split into two groups with Ed and Chris joining the three of us in the lead group. (A note for the unknowing is that former racer Ed Gostin can draft a wheel so slick you don't even know he's there.) The rolling hills along Newark Road posed their own challenge, with Jim in first position for most of the way. (A special thank you to Gary for holding back to give a psychological pull up the most noticeable hill at Five Lakes Road at the Attica Township line.)

Upon reaching Imlay City seventeen miles later, we looked for a place to get a bite to eat while waiting for the second group. While the others took shelter from the rain under a storefront awning, this ride leader learned from a party store owner that the local Eagles Club was holding an all-you-can-eat blueberry pancake, scrambled eggs, hash browns, sausage, orange juice, and coffee breakfast for \$3.50. We trundled back across the railroad tracks to a nondescript white building, assembled our bikes where they could be seen, and went dripping into the Eagles Hall to partake of the warmth and enticing aroma. The pancakes weren't that great (where did all the blueberries go) but plentiful. Before long we were joined by the second group who had seen our assemblage of bikes and tracked us down. They had indeed accepted the challenge with 100% participation.

The challenge lessened considerably for the remaining portion of the ride. Upon exiting the Hall we found the rain had stopped and the sun was threatening to come out. We, three, parted from the Lapeer contingent who were returning over the route we had ridden earlier in the morning. Jim, Gary, and I headed East on the badly deteriorated paved shoulder of M-21 for three miles where we turned South onto Graham (Glover) Road, which is populated with several U-PICK UM Blueberry Farms. Jim resumed his position at the front of our trio and took us into Almont. At the city park we all agreed it had been a good ride despite, or because of, the rain. Too bad the others who initially showed up for the ride didn't accept the challenge meted out by the rain.

