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The RAMBLER



Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club

Access online at WWW.lmb.org/crr

The 2009 **Blue Water Ramble** was success for the 900 +/- cyclists that participated in the cool & windy conditions. Riders from as far away as Atlanta took part in the ride. Everyone should be saluted for their efforts from preparation to managing, execution and recovery from all aspects of making this happen. So many riders look forward to the results on these efforts. The 29th annual BWR in 2010 is on October 3rd. So please plan to be a part of it.

There is **no club meeting in October** due to the BWR stuffing party, execution, and clean up. Our next meeting will be November 9th. There are typically several items considered at the November meeting. It is very important that if you want your opinion considered that you attend and vote accordingly.

The CRR awards banquet is December 12th at Fern Hill Country Club.

The design of a new club jersey is complete and initial order is imminent. The design team, led by Debbie Angst, worked diligently to bring this to fruition. Interested club members need decide on their purchase soon.

It is time to think about club membership renewal. Some people have ideas on getting to the warmer weather. Please remain in Clinton River Riders no matter where you find yourself.

Nov. Birthdays

11/05 Carol Green
11/12 Gary Haelewyn
11/12 Al Barton
11/17 Marc D Arel
11/20 Bob Goebel
11/21 Judy Ann Gruner
11/21 Joe Solonika
11/23 Larry Goike
11/24 Tom Graham
11/24 Mimi Gendreau
11/28 Concetta Pellerito

Club members are entitled to purchase one club jersey next year at a reduced cost (\$34). Contact Dennis Prost at 248-931-7300 or email dmprost@strategicfnding.com to get yours today.

Visitors: Guy Harvey, Judy Ann Gruner, David Paul, David Ransom, Gerald E. Boor, Kenneth E. Caldwell joined from the BWR application process. Welcome to your association with Clinton River Riders. We appreciate your interest in cycling and hope to enjoy many miles riding together.

Our next club meeting is November 9th. Our meetings are always the 2nd Monday of the month. 7 pm downstairs in the Mt Clemens Library on Cass Ave. Note – There is no meeting in the month of October, due to the BWR and clean up party.

The effort to make **texting while driving illegal** in every state has gained the support of Ford Motor Company. Ford is the first automaker to endorse such federal legislation. Text-messaging bans have been enacted in 14 states and the District of Columbia, aimed at stopping an activity that makes motorists 23 times more likely to be involved in an accident (like driving over cyclists). Legislation now in the U.S. Senate and House proposes a 25% cut in federal highway financing for states not complying with a text-messaging ban.

Biking to school has been met with resistance from on Saratoga NY middle school. A New York mother is fighting back against her Maple Avenue Middle School district after administrators and officials told her she and her son didn't have the right to bike to school together — and that his safety, even beyond school walls, was out of her hands. Janette Kaddo Marino said their 3-mile rides to and from school in Saratoga Springs have been met with stiff opposition from officials and even a state trooper who claimed it was unsafe — and illegal — for her 12-year-old son Adam to travel on his own pair of wheels.

Even though administrators have tried to stop the Marino's from biking, school officials say they don't actually have the right to bar parents or students from walking or biking to school, and that the policy itself has been widely misunderstood.

One section of the school policy states: "The Board of Education forbids the riding of bicycles by students to and from Maple Avenue Middle School." Another section also prohibits riding to elementary schools. In an apparent contradiction, a third section states: "Secondary school pupils may ride their bicycles to school and shall park them in the racks provided."

Members of a local transportation advocacy group Saratoga Healthy Transportation Network sent a call to members requesting that cyclists join the Marino's for their ride to school.

It's easy to pick on elected officials — especially when they make policy decisions like this. The school board is currently debating whether to amend its policy. Saratoga Springs school officials should rethink their bike-riding policy.

Riding together is probably a perfect time for the family to talk and be together. Secondly, in case these school officials haven't noticed, there are a lot of fat kids in America today. A way to prevent the creation of chunky children is to allow kids to walk or bike to school. While it is important to keep children safe, riding a bicycle with parents is probably not the most dangerous aspect of their day.

More reason to ride your bike to the store -



Broken Chain

Thankfully, a broken chain is unusual on a road bike. It happens more frequently during mountain biking on technical terrain because there's more temptation to force shifts

while stomping on the pedals. Still, road chains can break, most often due to poor shifting technique or improper assembly.

Be especially careful when joining chains that use a master link, as many do nowadays. Master links are convenient when installing new chains or removing/reinstalling them for cleaning, but you must make certain that the pins and plates are fully engaged.

With the advent of 10- and 11-speed cassettes, chains have gotten narrower and some would say more fragile. If you're unsure of how to repair the chain visit the nearest bike shop.

Some cyclist ideas from Interbike recently -

Pedro's Tulio QR Multi-Tool Might be a good idea

This ingenious product replaces the skewer in a rear quick-release hub. The handle contains 8 tools -- 4, 5, 6 and 8-mm allen wrenches, a No.2 flat screwdriver, a chain tool compatible with 1- through 11-speed chains, and a pair of spoke wrenches (3.3 and 3.45 mm). The \$40 Tulio fits 130- and 135-mm hubs that have 10-mm QR axles. Weight: 99 grams. Subtract your current QR to get the actual weight penalty. It's probably less than the multi-tool in your seat bag or pocket, and it's impossible to ride off without it.



IT Clips stands for inner tubes, and the clips allow old ones to be turned into useful bungee-type cords instead of landfill cloggers. Quite a great green idea from young **Gary Gruber** of Boulder, Colorado. The length of the bungee or tie-down can be adjusted by cutting the tube or drawing it through the plastic clips. Metal hooks are included to expand the array of uses. IT Clips come in red, green, yellow or blue and are available at bike shops and hardware stores in North America and Australia. The size for road tubes costs \$4-5; add 50 cents for the larger MTB tube size. The company can customize IT Clips for event promotion. There's a dealer locator on the website. <http://www.IT-Clips.com>

CRR Ride Schedule

Tuesday

9 am Sheffield Shuffle NW corner of Big Beaver & Cunningham (1 blk west of Coolidge) Meet Rick and Sue Moorman for a 16 - 18 avg ride with a distance of 35 - 50 miles.

Wednesday.

9 am Rick & Sue Moorman lead a 30 mile ride from TBD To TBD. Contact Rick for the weekly particulars.

Friday

9 am Meet Bill & Annette for a ride at 15-18 MPH ride. Call Bill at 248-652-2278 or email nlt than Wed. Meet often at the Romeo Kmart to various destinations.

Saturday

9 am Stony Creek West Branch parking lot, meet TJ Hill for mountain bike riding, pace of TJ. Call TJ at 586-293-0162.

The **Saturday Shultz's ride** has started. The ride starts at 9 am from 8 ½ & Gratiot, for about 33 miles at a pace of 14-16 mph. Goes all winter weather and road conditions permitting. The Moorman's, Les Dunham, or Ron Truax usually leads this ride.

Sunday

9 am Stony Cr Boat Launch Meet TJ Hill for 50 miles of mostly dirt road riding. With a lunch stop somewhere near the 30 mile mark. Call TJ at 586-293-0162.

9 am Meet Dick Williams at **Gr Pointe North HS** for 40 miles of riding thru Detroit and back. 14-17mph. See lots of scenic Detroit and dine together somewhere along the route.

Gary Haelewyn Ride Director HOTLINE 586-819-0222

Newsletter Changes to Les Dunham, lesdunham@hotmail.com or 586-216-4135.

