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## *The RAMBLER*



### **Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club** *Access online at [WWW.lmb.org/crr](http://WWW.lmb.org/crr)*

The **CRR Awards Banquet** was Dec 13th and what a great time it was. It is not often that we see so many riders with other than cycling attire on. We log many miles on 2 wheels throughout the year it was a time to mingle. 👍

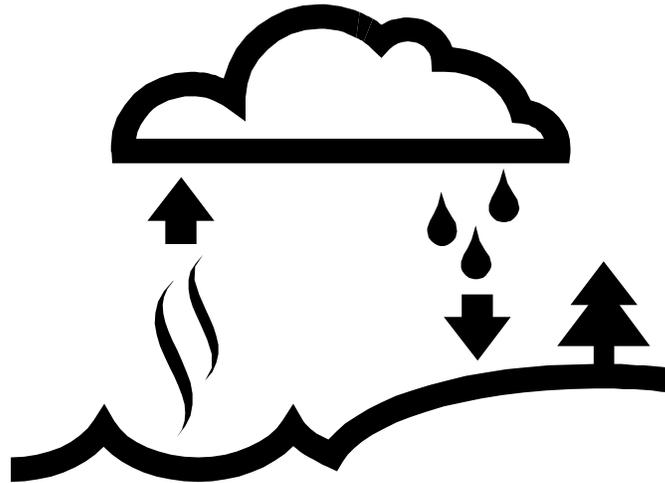
**Clinton River Riders** monthly meeting is January 12th at 7pm in the Mt. Clemens Public Library. Normally the 2nd Monday of the month. The library is on Cass Ave. across from the high school. 🗺️

Membership renewal is due. Application is the back page of this newsletter. And CRR Officer elections are in January/February 2015. It is never too early to think about goals in 2015 and being involved in a larger capacity.

We all know that the 2015 Blue Water Ramble is Saturday June 20th. That is right a Saturday, so save the date. There are still some parts of the plan that are fluid but Harsen's Island is playing a larger role in the routes and starting point is the Algonac High School (near Kay's restaurant). Last years BWR was highly successful and this years can be even greater. It takes a team and great individuals to bring it all together. You can be part of the wonderful time that helps cyclists have an event that is worthwhile. With an Algonac start there will be some changes to rest stops and the size or role of certain stops. More details are to follow in the coming months. This CRR's one big event that enables many of the other excellent things that CRR does for cycling and supported agencies. Don't forget to support our sponsors and thank them with your words and deeds.

## Birthdays

01/03 Lynda Schmitz  
01/07 John Ten Eyck  
01/08 James VanScott  
01/11 Diana Kengel  
01/11 Deb Angst  
01/13 Marilyn Tarantino  
01/16 Ed Lindow  
01/19 Shelley Buchler  
01/21 Mike Freeman  
01/21 Karen Warner  
01/24 Mark LaBelle  
01/26 Nino Pacini  
01/29 Joyce Lajack  
01/30 William Toland



Club members are entitled to purchase one club item per year at a reduced cost. Contact Deb Angst at 586-524-3657 or email [digitaldeb@comcast.net](mailto:digitaldeb@comcast.net) to get yours today.

**New Members:** All are welcome in association with Clinton River Riders. We appreciate your interest in cycling and hope to enjoy many miles riding together.

We discovered on a recent ride that Mack Ave between Alter and Moross has been repaved. Traffic does not always make it the best route for cycling but early on Saturday or Sunday is probably peaceful. There are lots of alternatives as well, this is just another consideration.

There are some rides on January 1st so you can lead all your friends in exercise and miles. 1 is the First Dozen in Dearborn, <http://www.saddlemen.org/events/first-dozen> . There is a First Ride in the First Hour <http://bikeyipsi.org> . There is the Polar Rhino Ride <http://www.flyingrhinocc.com/polar-rhino-ride/> . Also Macomb Bike does a ride from the fountain on Belle Isle New Year's Eve at 11am.

**Some of the areas fine local bike stores –**

**Hamilton Bicycles & Outfitters** 69329 North Main Street, Richmond, MI 48062-1144  
(586) 727-5140 <http://www.hamiltonbikes.com>

**Fraser Bicycle**, 34501 Utica Rd, Fraser, MI 48026-3576, (586) 294-4070  
<http://fraserbicycle.com>

**Paul's Bike Depot** Address: , 28057 South Gratiot Ave, Roseville, MI 48066-4204  
(586) 772-9084

**American Cycle & Fitness**, 18517 Romeo Plank Rd, Macomb, Michigan 48044  
(586) 416-1000 <http://americancycleandfitness.com>

**Anchor Bay Bicycle**, 35214 23 Mile Road, New Baltimore, MI 48047-3650  
(586) 725-2878

**Macomb Bike and Fitness** 28411 Schoenherr Road, Warren, MI 48088 (586) 756-5400 <http://www.macombbike.com>

**The Bicycle Doctor/Continental Bike Shop** 24436 John R Rd, Hazel Park, MI 48030-1114 (248) 545-1225 <http://continentalbikeshop.com>

**Metro Bike-N-Sports** Address: 46575 Hayes Rd, Shelby Twp, MI 48315 586 799 7799.

**Stoney Creek Bike & Fitness** 58235 Van Dyke, Washington Twp, MI 48094 586 781 4451  
<http://www.stoneycreekbike.com/>

In your travels from and too Michigan have you ever entertained the thought of visiting the Bicycle Museum of America? It is located at 7 W. Monroe St. (SR 274), New Bremen, OH 45869, 419/629-9249, and admission is free (but donations are gratefully accepted). This is about 9 miles west of I-75 on state 274, exit 102.

<http://www.bicyclemuseum.com/>

Summer hours Mon – Fri 11 am to 7 pm, Sat . 11 am – 2 pm

Fall/Winter hours Mon – Fri 11 am to 5 pm, Sat . 11 am – 2 pm

Ride Schedule changes or announcements let Steve Angst 586-524-3657 or email [crr.rides@gmail.com](mailto:crr.rides@gmail.com) know.

Newsletter Changes to Les Dunham, 586-216-4135 or email [lesdunham@hotmail.com](mailto:lesdunham@hotmail.com)

**CRR Ride Schedule** <http://www.lmb.org/crr/rides.htm>

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**9am** Stony Cr Boat Launch meet TJ Hill for mountain bike riding on roads, paved roads, and trails. Call TJ at 586-293-0162 for more information.

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

**9 am** Stony Cr Boat Launch meet TJ Hill for mountain bike riding on roads, paved roads, and trails. Call TJ at 586-293-0162 for more information.

**Friday**

**Saturday**

**9 am Stony Creek Boat Launch** parking lot, meet TJ Hill for mountain bike riding. Call TJ at 586-293-0162.

**9am** The cool ride— starts from 8 1/2 & Gratiot and goes round trip to Windmill Point. Over all distance is 32 miles and pace is 13-16mph. Above 25f and roads clear/dry are our threshold.

**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.

Weather permitting Fred or Les may schedule a tbd ride starting at 10 or 11am. Distribution will be on email, Facebook, and the CRR ride schedule.

In 2015 I have to be selfish due to education requirements. So I will not perform as newsletter editor next year. And also will not chair food for BWR. Sorry it is a me time.

Additionally and new are a change in job position that will likely lead to me departing Michigan some time after August 2015. There will be Les' Demise (departure) ride when necessary. But there is lots of notice now for someone to learn and fill in the gaps smoothly. If processes can be accomplished with new blood and ideas so much the better. About 23 paper copies a month and some learning to provide knowledge or current events takes about 4 or 5 hours a month. I use Microsoft Office (Publisher and Word) to write the newsletter and then save it to .pdf for electronic copies. If the next newsletter person needs Microsoft Office I can help them out.

## Alfonsina Strada, Woman Cyclist Who Raced in the 1924 Giro d'Italia

Alfonsina Strada is another female cycling legend.

In 1924, she became the first, and only, female cyclist to compete in the Giro d'Italia. Though people like Annie Londonderry had made great progress in America and other countries, even years later, attitudes toward women in competitive cycling were still very negative in Italy. Social attitudes ultimately led to Alfonsina's nickname "Devil in a Dress." Folklore has it that villagers would even make the sign of the cross whenever Alfonsina passed by them on her bicycle. How, then, did she come to compete in the Giro



That year, there was a strike due to financial strife with the organizers to open up registration to indoor and board for the event. Although having registered under the name Alfonsin Strada, making it hard to distinguish her gender. Although it was too late to exclude her, and

amongst teams and riders of the Giro race's organizers. This led to the organizers offering to pay their independent riders, offering to pay their money. Alfonsina was selected to ride that year, "Alfonsin Strada," making it hard to distinguish her gender. Although it was too late to exclude her, and organizers allowed her to race.

During the early stages of the race, Alfonsina did fairly well and became a favorite of the crowds. As the race wore on, however, misfortune struck and forced her out of competition. During a particularly stormy mountain stage, she crashed and broke off one side of her handlebars. She was assisted on the roadside by a peasant who jammed a piece of a broomstick in the bar. She was able to finish, but didn't make the time cut-off that stage. Instead of barring her way, she was allowed to continue as a non-competitive rider. She continued onward, and though ineligible for prizes, she did best some of the men in that year's edition of the Giro.



Though she was not allowed to attempt the Giro again, Alfonsina continued to race for many years in exhibitions and races around Europe and Russia. She even set the female world record for the hour in 1938, which would stay for nearly 20 years.

Alfonsina Strada paved the way for young women like my daughter to participate in this sport. Even though there is still a long way to go to reach equality in cycling, the doors were beaten down long ago.

Even though there is still a long way to go to reach equality in cycling, the doors were beaten down long ago.

Oh for the newsletter it is fine to submit articles especially this time and into early spring. Not a great deal in cycling technology changes and it gets more difficult every year to think and type my thought in a coherent manner. Your experiences and insight can always help others or remind some of lessons learned or different perspective. Never a bad thing, imo.

Looking Forward to 2015—

For the interest of some and especially new members, some of the bike rides in the first part of the year can also be some of the most challenging.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Metro Grand Spring Tour (MGST). It begins in Willow Run Metro Park (on I-275, the other side of DTW airport).

The next weekend (Mother's Day weekend) is Tour of the Scioto River Valley (TOSRV). It starts in Columbus, OH and heads to Portsmouth, OH (on the Kentucky border). Then back on Sunday. An early season double century that can have vast weather challenges.

Other May rides are the Zoo-De-Mac (Kalamazoo to Mackinaw) and the Horsey 100 in Lexington, KY.

Then the first full weekend in June (5, 6, 7, & 8 in 2015) is the CRR Men's trip. Work has it that it will be in Traverse City, MI. Usually it works like this – on Friday about 6am the main group carools to the location, then Friday afternoon is a quick ~40 miles. Saturday is usually 100 miles, Sunday is ~70 miles, and Monday the reverse of Friday. So that all are back about 5pm Monday after riding about 260 miles over 4 days. Coordination is key. Expenses, logistics, and all are on the group. So usually 2 persons to a room, all pitch in to pay for fuel, and dining is on the individual.

One person is planning to ride the Texas MS ride in April (18 & 19). Probably requires a Thursday departure and return may be flexible if some want to pedal somewhere else around Texas for a day or two. Again the logistic are on the riders. A few CRR have expressed interest in participating. Driving vs. flying is still being considered. The more riders the more driving makes sense (1, 2, or more vehicles?)

### Application Form - Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club

- \$15.00 Individual (over 18)
- \$20.00 Family

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

#### Additional Family Members

Name	Birthday
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- New Member       Renewal
- Yes, please add me to your list of active volunteers who help promote bicycling at the local, state, and federal level. I may be called upon to write a letter or attend a meeting.

Please make check payable and mail to:  
**Clinton River Riders Bicycle Club**  
**34501 Utica Road**  
**Fraser., MI 48026**

#### 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 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 know to me or not readily foreseeable at the time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILTY 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 on e of the "RELEASEES" herein) FROM ALL LIABLILTY, 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 NEGLIGENT 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**