

# Chainwheel Chatter



Tri-County Bicycle Association • P.O. Box 22146 • Lansing, MI 48909 • (517) 882-3700 • www.biketcba.org

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September 2003

## NEXT Meeting!!!

**September 25, 2003 – 7:00 p.m.**  
*Foster Community Center*  
*200 N. Foster St. – Lansing*

### Donald Schlieff – Japan from Top to Bottom

Donald Schlieff, a retired teacher, represented the State of Michigan as an exchange teacher of English in Shiga Prefecture, Japan in 1987. In the autumn of 1998, Don realized his dream of bicycling Japan from top to bottom. His journey took sixty days and 2500 miles.

PLEASE NOTE When attending meetings at the Foster Community Center. . . There is **NO PARKING** on the West side of Francis St.

(There has recently been some confusion about this matter and parking tickets were issued to some TCBA members on the evening of our May meeting).



## FALL HAYRIDE

**October 4, 2003**

**Peacock Road Tree Farm**  
**11854 Peacock Road –**  
**Laingsburg**



Join us for a TCBA family fall hayride at the Peacock Road Tree Farm! The festivities will begin at 4:00 p.m. and wrap-up at 9:00 p.m. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Chips will be served.

To help defray costs to TCBA there will be a \$5.00 per person charge. RSVP to Chris Harrison – (231) 972-5278 before September 25 - OR sign-up at the September club meeting. Checks, payable to TCBA, can be mailed to Chris Harrison, 9100 14mile Road, Mecosta, Mich. 49332.

## Board Meeting

The Board of Directors will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 2, 2003 at the Foster Community Center.

Members are welcome to attend all board meetings to express their concerns. Due to time constraints, if you have a specific item to be brought before the board it is suggested that you contact the President one week prior to the meeting, and ask to have it added to the agenda.

Next meeting: October 7.

## Newsletter/Ride Calendar Deadline

The **deadline for the next newsletter is Saturday, September 13, 2003.** Please send items to Charla Scheidler, 10384 Blackberry Ln., Haslett, MI 48840, FAX to (517) 339-1758, or email to: [chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org](mailto:chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org).

**Ride calendar information** should be sent to Wendell Proudfoot, P.O. Box 1628, East Lansing, MI 48826, or emailed to [tbarides@prowen.com](mailto:tbarides@prowen.com). To be included in the newsletter this information must be received no later than the above-mentioned newsletter deadline.

## Cycle Forum

**Topic: " The Fall Riding Experience and Review of the 2003 Riding Season and DALMAC"**

Plan to join Alan Huber at **6:00 p.m.** immediately preceding the membership meeting on **Thursday, September 25, 2003** for the next Cycle Forum session.

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## Executive Board Report

The TCBA Board of Directors met at the Foster Community Center on August 5, 2003. Secretary, Charla Scheidler was unable to attend the meeting and John Foltz filled-in as recording secretary.

### Discussion Items/Announcements

Katie Donnelly reported on the placement status of TCBA members in the Michigan Senior Olympics.

Darryl Burris reported that all DALMAC routes are full and cancellations are being received at the usual rate.

Phil Wells reported that plans for the TCBA/LMB sponsored bicycle parking at the Great Lakes Folk Festival were well underway.

Discussion took place regarding recording of ride miles for non-members. It was agreed that Steve Schuessler should discontinue this practice.

### Action Items

Minutes of the July 8, 2003 meeting were approved as submitted.

Ron Claflin presented a financial report for the current period. The report was approved as presented.

TCBA member and Kids Repair Program (KRP) spokesperson, Pat Harrington, presented a proposal requesting funding from TCBA for various projects. Rather than fund a specific project a motion was made, seconded and carried to contribute a flat amount of \$3,000 to KRP.

Arnie Johnson presented a request from Phil Wells for reimbursement for travel expenses that Phil incurred to attend the Betsie River Trail dedication. Standard operating procedures for a request of this nature were not known. It was decided that some research would be done and reimbursement made accordingly.

Tom Hardenbergh presented a request from the Oak Park YMCA for an additional \$100 through their DALMAC Fund Grant. The request was approved.

Arnie Johnson reported on the status of TCBA map book distribution through local bike shops. In addition it was agreed that 100 map books would be donated to KRP.

*Note: Information contained in this article is not the official record of the meeting. The minutes of this meeting will be submitted for approval at the next Board Meeting. Any corrections and/or amendments will be noted in next month's edition of the Chainwheel Chatter.*

## CLASSIFIED



This section of the Chainwheel Chatter is published as a service for **TCBA members only**, to **advertise cycling equipment** free of charge. To place an ad, send email to [chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org](mailto:chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org), FAX to (517) 339-1758, or mail to Charla Scheidler, 10384 Blackberry Ln., Haslett, MI 48840.

### FOR SALE:

Contact

## MEMBER SPECIALS

### SEW MUCH MORE

Cycling wear: jerseys, cycling shorts, tights, and cycling shells. Reasonable prices. Custom fit. Gift certificates. For more information call Sue at (517) 627-1411.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Scott Schueller

Scott Gutierrez

Carla Johnson

Dale & Robyn Dobbrastine

Jane Hale

Gwen & Paul Kato

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS



If you move or have your mail forwarded, please notify us as soon as possible. The newsletters are sent bulk mail, and the post office does not forward bulk mail. The post office returns your newsletter to us (we have to pay to get it back), so your membership ends up in limbo until we hear from you. **Please send your change of address to: TCBA, P.O. Box 22146, Lansing, MI 48909, or email [membership@biketcba.org](mailto:membership@biketcba.org).**

## COMMITTEE & CLUB NEWS

### Map Booklets



Do you ever wonder where to ride in the Tri-County area? Thanks to TCBA volunteers Gary Patterson and Joe Adams, as well as TCBA members who submitted maps, the "new TCBA Map Booklets are printed and ready for distribution.

Each paid TCBA membership is entitled to receive 1 "free map booklet. If you attend TCBA membership meetings you can pick-up your copy there. If you would

like one mailed to you, please forward your request to: Map Booklet, c/o Tri-County Bicycle Association, P.O. Box 22146, Lansing, MI 48909.

### TCBA Club Jerseys

Do you have your TCBA Club Jersey? We have a supply of short sleeve Louis Garneau jerseys with "loose fit" sizing. (meaning that you should generally order one size smaller than your regular bike clothing). They are the traditional yellow and red brick pattern. To view the design, visit the TCBA web site [www.biketcba.org](http://www.biketcba.org). All sizes from XS - XXL are available. They are \$45 each. To make a purchase, contact Charla Scheidler at [secretary@biketcba.org](mailto:secretary@biketcba.org). Or, mail your request to TCBA Jersey, P.O. Box 22146, Lansing, MI 48909. Please include an additional \$5 if you would like your jersey mailed to you. Charla will also be selling jerseys at the beginning of every TCBA club meeting.



### Let Your Biking Friends Learn Your Name While Promoting TCBA

- Durable Laminated Plastic
- Double Clutch Fasteners
- Yellow Background
- Logo and Lettering Engraved in Black
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- Overall Size -- 1-1/2 x 3 inches
- Price \$6.50 Each
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To order contact: D-K Engraving, Inc., Kimberly Lynn – (517) 321-1203. Or visit the web site, [www.biketcba.org](http://www.biketcba.org) for an order form.

### Folk Fest Bike Parking Promotes TCBA



On August 8-10, TCBA and the League of Michigan Bicyclists provided another very successful bike parking service at the marvelous Great Lakes Folk Festival in East Lansing. My thanks to the several TCBA members who helped with setup, teardown and bike handling, and to the TCBA Board for its financial support. We parked well over 500 bikes again this year, and received many expressions of appreciation from customers. Equally important, many of those customers showed great interest in TCBA, and took several dozen copies of the latest Chainwheel Chatter. Thanks also to Cycle-Safe of Grand Rapids, who allowed us a free test run of their excellent new event bike racks; Cycle-Safe designed and built them based on a proposal by Lucinda Means, LMB Executive Director.

This was the fourth straight year that TCBA and LMB offered the bike parking service at the national and Great Lakes Folk Festivals. We expect to be back next year!

Bike parking volunteers included:

Jeff Baker	Chuck Vaughn
Leonard Provencher	Arthur Slabosky
Ralph Bednarz	Brian Bridson
Pat Bednarz	Liutaurus Gedvilas
Kirt Livernois	Mike Egan
Lucinda Means	Michael Hudson
Jeff Stibitz	William Lockhart
Tammy Stone-Gordon	Luke
Karen Kligman	Elizabeth Savage
Gary Guenther	Jethro Wise
June Grabemeyer	Nancy Krupiarz
Barbara Bidigare	Phil Wells
Salil Arora	Karen White
Richard Graham	George Ward

Thanks to you all! – Phil Wells

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## A Look Back Down the Road

by Ron Truax

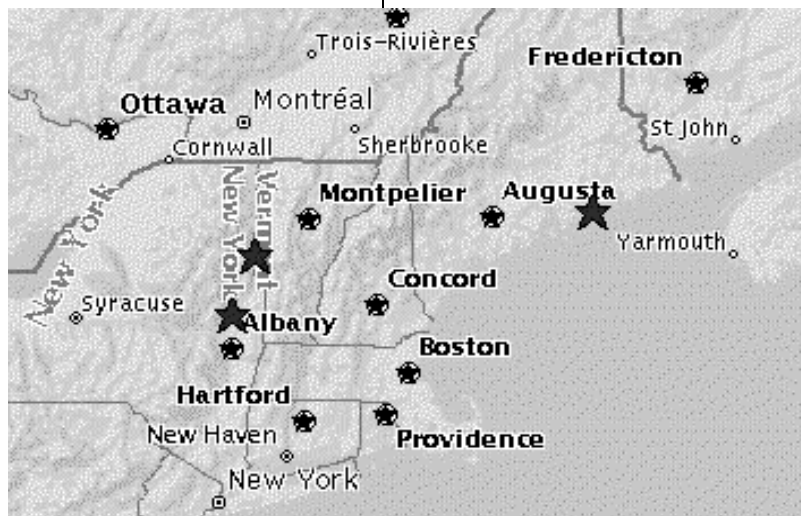
Last year's big adventure led us to the East Coast. The big adventure was a self-contained bike trip, and we consisted of my friends Mark, Dave, Rich, plus myself. We've been friends a long time and travel well together. In the past we've ridden from Detroit to Mystic, Connecticut and Boston, Massachusetts. But on this trip the target was Detroit to Bar Harbor, Maine. It was over a thousand miles away and nobody had enough time, so I suggested leaving from eastern New York. Dave has a cousin in Saratoga Springs giving us a jumping off point and shortening the trip by over 500 miles. We would depart New York and cross Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. With that settled, we turned to Adventure Cycling for routing. Except for our starting point, the northern tier transcontinental maps worked out perfectly. While we were leaving from Saratoga Springs, their route passed through at Ticonderoga, NY, which was two days north of us. We had to work out a direct route east, which intersected with theirs. It still took two days but we connected up with them half ways across Vermont. From there we'd just follow the plastic coated maps of Adventure Cycling.

Back when planning started there were four of us, but as time went by, our numbers began to dwindle. Rich dropped out first due to cut backs at work and his vacation time being axed. Next was Mark. Because of his extended work hours, he had no time in the saddle. Now Dave, on the other hand, was another story. For whatever reason. He didn't seem very excited. When asked about the trip, "Yea, I'm interested," didn't sound very enthusiastic. So when he'd call to inquire about the ride, I'd tell him I didn't think it was going to happen. After awhile, he finally called with what I needed to hear. "Ron, about this trip, I really want to go. Why can't you and I do it?" That's all I was waiting for. "We can go now, Dave," I said. A trip can be difficult enough without packing along a boat anchor. And anyone who doesn't get excited, becomes just that. So things finally began to come together, if only for Dave and me.

Then, the day arrived when the car was loaded and we were off. Leaving home on a Monday, we were on our bikes by Wednesday morning. Without a care in the world, we were able to put New York behind us in a day. Luckily, the terrain gave us a chance to settle in. Compared with what was to come, the road had only undulated gently beneath us. Upon entering Vermont, we

were hoping for another day to ease into the bigger climbs, but alas, it wasn't to be. That afternoon we rode over Sherburne Pass with an 8% grade to an elevation of 2190 feet. It was serious now with four mountain ranges to go in Vermont alone. Luckily, experience had taught us that focus was just as important as strength. Not that you can just will yourself over the top. But it allows you to celebrate the little things, like reaching the top before suffering a coronary. And once there, you couldn't have imagined the views. The mountain top lakes and the rivers that wind down through the forested valleys were amazing. It only took two days each to cross Vermont and New Hampshire but it felt more like minutes. Mountain after mountain, valley after valley, only interrupted by small towns and villages. With the countryside-flooding past, time became just numbers on a

watch. The maps had shown Maine to be easier to maneuver, and it was except for one spot. Just west of Sweden, a tiny speck on the map, was a hill that I had to walk, climb. Twenty paces was as far as I could go without collapsing. I would stop, hold the brake, and try to catch my breath. I could watch the sweat role down my



arms and drip off at my elbows. Everywhere else I could feel it just trickle downwards. It was as if my shoes were sweat magnets. But where we crossed Maine wasn't nearly as mountainous as what was behind us. The western edge of the state looked deceiving similar to northern Michigan. But in no time it turned into high rollers. Two days put us at the coast and two more at our last overnight, Ellsworth, Maine. Being only twenty miles from Bar Harbor, it was just a short hop to the local airport and a waiting rental car. With a quick spin around Bar Harbor, we headed back to New York. The trip ended unceremoniously after eight and a half days and 450 miles. The ten hour drive back to New York gave us time to wind down and return to the real world of our every day lives. It also gave us time to start tossing around ideas for next year's trip. It's never too early.

We had left home feeling excited but anxious at the same time, while returning feeling like conquering heroes. We had faced down the fears of failure. The trip that was almost over before it started was now memories, stories to share with friends. What more could you ask? With ten trips in as many years behind me, it's a given that I'm going somewhere come summer. A bike seat puts you front row, center in life, and that's the best seat in the house.

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## TCBA Needs You! Nominations for Club Officers

TCBA is looking for club members interested in running for club offices. New ideas and fresh perspectives are needed! Please consider taking this opportunity to serve your club. Also, look around at your fellow members – many may be willing to serve if asked, but would never do so without encouragement from others. You probably know someone who just needs a friendly “nudge” to step forward. A brief description of the positions available and their responsibilities follow. All require that candidates be members in “good standing” (current on dues), and all are one year terms. Board members are expected to attend monthly board meetings.

***President.*** The President presides over all membership and board meetings. He/she prepares agendas for board meetings and prepares an annual report for presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting (October). The individual in this position would benefit from previous organizational leadership experience, practical knowledge of or experience in running efficient meetings, and the ability and willingness to delegate responsibility to others.

***Vice President.*** The Vice President acts in the President’s absence and performs such other duties as delegated by the President. To that extent, the personal characteristics described for that position apply here as well. In addition, the Vice-President has, in recent years, been charged with developing club meeting programs and social activities (picnic, hayride, holiday party). He/she may establish and lead a Program Committee to assist in this function, so the ability and willingness to delegate responsibility to others is especially beneficial to provide back-up support for these activities.

***Secretary.*** The Secretary records and files the minutes of all meetings, prepares and conducts the annual election of directors, and performs such other duties as delegated by the President. In addition, he/she prepares and submits documents to government agencies on an annual basis and handles all official correspondence for the club, including get-well and sympathy notes. The individual in this position should be a good listener in order to take notes at meetings and should have better than average writing skills in order to accurately record the actions taken. A working knowledge of word processing and email capabilities is especially useful as minutes have, in recent years, been sent electronically to board members for review prior to board meetings.

***Treasurer.*** The Treasurer is responsible for the funds and financial records of the Association, prepares and delivers an annual accounting at the annual membership meeting, and performs such other duties as delegated by the President. He/she presents a draft budget annually for board consideration as well as monthly reports documenting cash flow and adherence to the approved budget. This individual works with the Events Director and an appointed DALMAC treasurer to establish procedures and to maintain accountability for all transactions. Previous accounting experience and working knowledge of accounting-related computer software are desirable.

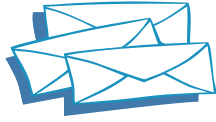
***Events Director.*** The Events Director prepares and conducts the annual DALMAC bicycle tour, delivers monthly and annual reports to the Board of Directors to account for all bills and receipts, and performs such other duties as delegated by the President. He/she appoints and chairs the DALMAC Committee and DALMAC volunteers. Previous experience as both a DALMAC volunteer and DALMAC rider benefits this individual by providing an appreciation of the breadth of the DALMAC operation as well as rider needs. Experience working with volunteers or with a volunteer organization is desirable; an ability and willingness to delegate tasks to others is essential.

***Director-at-large (2).*** The Directors-at-large have no specific duties, but have full voting rights as members of the Board of Directors. These individuals are often assigned to lead or serve as a liaison with club committees. The Ride Program Committee has generally been led by one of these board members. A director-at-large position would be especially useful for an individual who desires to learn more about the operation of the club before serving in other elected positions.

If you have other questions about these positions, contact any current or former board member for more information. A nomination form is available in this issue, on the club web site (<http://www.voyager.net/TCBA/board/NomineeProfile.pdf>) or from any board member. Completed forms may be returned to any board member or to Katie Donnelly, who is coordinating nominee recruitment. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the September 25 membership meeting, at which time nominations will close. The election will be conducted by mail and at the October 30 membership meeting. Those elected will take office effective January 1.







## FROM THE TCBA MAIL BAG

### **Ride for Their Future Sunday, September 14, 2003 Eaton Rapids Public Schools Education Foundation**

The ride is a cloverleaf style with four different loops, each starting and ending at Eaton Rapids High School. Loops are 6, 17, 31 and 62 miles long.

All routes open at 7:00 a.m., rain or shine. Registration is from 7:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Eaton Rapids High School. All riders must be on the route by 10:00 a.m. The school closes at 3:00 p.m. so plan your riding time accordingly.

Lunch, which features hotdogs, chili, chips, beverage, and cookies will be furnished as well as SAG stops, detailed map, marked route and SAG vehicle service. Lunch will be served between 10:00 and 2:00.

Helmets are required for all riders and adults must accompany young riders.

Pre-registration by August 14 is \$14 Individual, \$32 Family (a family is defined as 1 or 2 adults plus children ages 5-17). After August 14 and day of registration is \$19 Individual and \$42 Family.

A short sleeve T-shirt is available for purchase if you pre-register, with a limited number available the day of the ride.

Applications are available at local bike shops or contact [wjmyer@earthlink.net](mailto:wjmyer@earthlink.net).

**IN ADDITION** - If you have experience as a sag driver and are interested in helping out it would be a great. This is the Education Foundations first fundraiser so if there is anyone who would like to help in any way please call Marie Myer at (517) 663-1143.

### **Michigan Recumbent Weekend September 6th & 7th, 2003**

Michigan Recumbent Rally - East: September 6th  
Vineyard Classic ("Wine and Recline") Tour: September 7<sup>th</sup>.

A weekend of recumbent fun! Starting mid-morning on Saturday, September 6th, recumbent bikes and trikes will gather for demos, short rides and swapping stories at the Michigan Recumbent Rally - West. The Rally will be held at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, specifically on the main campus, adjacent to parking lot 49, which in turn is located between Lee Honors College and the Kanley Chapel. For a map of the WMU campus, visit [www.wmich.edu/admi/maps.html](http://www.wmich.edu/admi/maps.html). On the online map, the Rally area is the yellow-colored parking lot next to Sangren Hall.

The Rally will take place from 10am until 3pm and is completely free. Breakaway Cycles is expected to attend with a full range of recumbents. For more information about the Michigan Recumbent Rally - West, contact Paul Pancella at [Paul.Pancella@WMich.edu](mailto:Paul.Pancella@WMich.edu) (anytime) or call 616/353-0125. After the Rally, participants may want to plan on taking a trip on the the nearby Kal-Haven Trail with a group start at 4:00pm from the Kalamazoo trailhead (maps to the trailhead, and of the Trail, available at the Rally site). For more information about lodging and attractions in the Kalamazoo area visit <http://www.kazoofun.com/>.

On Sunday, September 7th, a recumbent contingent ("mass" recumbent start at 8:30am) will join in the Vineyard Classic Bike Tour, held in Paw Paw, Michigan, just west of Kalamazoo. The ride has three different lengths (22/39/60 miles) traveling through small towns, orchards and of course, vineyards. Brochures for the Vineyard ride, with a pre-ride registration discount, can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Paw Paw Service League, 55105 Orchard Lane, Paw Paw, MI 49507. For more information on the Vineyard Classic tour, call 616/657-6309 or e-mail [oas@wmich.edu](mailto:oas@wmich.edu).

### **Fall Recumbent Rendezvous September 20th, 2003**

With cooler weather approaching, take this opportunity to take one last opportunity to try out different recumbent bikes, socialize with other recumbent riders or have your questions answered about that future recumbent purchase. The Rendezvous will be held at Stony Creek Metropark from 9am until 3pm at the Eastwood Beach shelter area. Stony Creek Metropark is located north of Detroit on 26 Mile Road just west of M-53. For more information contact Bob Krzewinski at [wolverbob@cs.com](mailto:wolverbob@cs.com) or call 734/487-9058.

Events at the Rendezvous will consist of recumbent displays, bike dealers, test-rides, information table and a "buying your first recumbent workshop" at 11am and 1pm. Recumbent owners are urged to bring their bike(s) for display as well as "show and tell". In case of rain the event will still be held as the pool shelter has a very large covered area for all events to take place under. Recumbent owners with bikes to sell can display them at the event but no sales are allowed within the park.