

Chainwheel Chatter



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

Volume 33 Number 8

Established 1972

August 2006

NEXT Meeting!!!

****One Week Early****

August 24, 2006 – 7:00 p.m.

*Foster Community Center
200 N. Foster St. – Lansing*

What to Expect on DALMAC 2006

Come and hear "What to Expect on DALMAC 2006". Hear about the new and improved map book format, and the new "continuous" bridge crossing. Learn if there are last minute changes to consider.

Share your experiences and get new insight on how to avoid problems. Ask experienced DALMAC riders the questions that will make you feel more prepared. Make your 2006 ride even better.

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.

If you have questions about these positions, contact any current or former board member for more information. A nomination form is available at <http://www.biketcba.org/board/NomineeProfile.pdf>. Completed forms may be returned to any board member or mailed to: TCBA, P O Box 22146, Lansing, MI 48909. Nominations will close at the September 28 membership meeting. The election results will be announced at the October membership meeting, and those elected will take office effective January 1.

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.

Board Meeting

The Board of Directors will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 1, 2006 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 September 5, 2006.

Newsletter/Ride Calendar Deadline

The **deadline for the next newsletter is Saturday, August 12, 2006.** Please send items to Charla Scheidler, 10384 Blackberry Ln., Haslett, MI 48840, FAX to (517) 339-1758 or email to: chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org.

Ride calendar information should be sent to Ed Usewick, 590 Boutell Dr., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 or emailed to rideschedule@biketcba.org. To be included in the newsletter this information must be received no later than the above-mentioned newsletter deadline.

Cycle Forum

"DALMAC - Questions and Answers, and Beyond DALMAC - the Fall Riding Season"

Plan to join Allan Huber at **6:00 p.m.** immediately preceding the membership meeting on **Thursday, August 24, 2006.**

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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 an email to chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org, FAX to (517) 339-1758, or mail to Charla Scheidler, 10384 Blackberry Ln., Haslett, MI 48840.

FOR SALE: 2004 Lemond Buenos Aires, 55cm (Lg), triple. Appx. 600 miles. Carbon/Steel combination. Super smooth ride. Excellent condition. Includes Flight Deck computer, Shimano SPDs and spare Selle SMP TRK saddle. \$1300.00 OBO. Have decided that I am not worthy (back to the recumbent.) Herb - 517-881-5744 or herbiehere@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: 2002 Cannondale RT1000 Tandem - 1000.2 miles - dk green/silver - Shimano Deore components - Flight Deck 105 levers - computers: front-Shim Flight Deck SC 6501, rear-Cat Eye Astrale - seats: front-male gel, rear-female gel - seat heights: front-medium, rear-small - Nashbar panniers - 2 water bottle cages - bell \$1800 call Ron: 517-676-1195 (H) or 517-290-8043 (C)

FOR SALE: Kestrel 200SCI, Bright Red, 54 cm, Shimano 105 with 8 speed cassette and double chain ring. This is approximately a 1992 model, all carbon fiber frame and fork. The wheels are Campagnola Lambada with 23c continental tires. Comes with an Avocet O2 saddle. Total weight is about 21 pounds. \$650. Contact Dave @ 734-652-3429 or email: dave_louann@hotmail.com.

FOR SALE: Child Stoker Conversion Kit for a Tandem. Included lengthened sealed cartridge bearing rear BB, child seat, Control Tech adjustable stoker handle bar stem, handle bar, axle/crankarms/clamp/seat tube protector/pedals/toe clips, chain, left side chainring and chainring bolts. Was on a Burley and a Cannondale. Asking \$250. Contact Mark @ 517-719-8321.

GIVE OR TAKE. . . Cleaning out your closets or garage? Please consider recycling items you no longer need...biking gear and/or clothing in good condition will be passed on to new riders who need like items. Please call if you have things to donate, or if you wish to be donated to. Overflow will be donated to a charitable bike tour going to the Ukraine for the purpose of donating bikes, etc. Thank you very much to those who have already donated. Call Sheri. (517) 323-7487.

OLD BIKES/TOOLS HANGING AROUND? The MSU Bike Project is looking for old bikes in working or restorable condition. Ideal bikes are 1 ~ 5 spd. with fenders/chain guards, baskets, etc. but newer are great! Tools & parts for all types of bikes much needed. Full details on donating: www.bikes.msu.edu/donations/.

MEMBER SPECIALS



Mike's Firehouse Grill would like to invite the Tri-County Bicycle Association members to come join us for lunch or dinner! We are extending a 10% discount to all TCBA members.

Located at 447 S. Jefferson St., Mason, in the former building of the City of Mason Firehouse.

For directions menus, and the history of our unique and exciting atmosphere visit our web site: www.mikesfirehousegrill.com.

We hope that you will take advantage of this offer and we look forward to seeing you at Mike's Firehouse Grill!

PERSONAL TRAINING - Benefit from bicycling-oriented fitness training with Audrey Morris, Certified Personal Trainer. Focus is on a progressive training program that strengthens the core and other muscles key to biking, as well as flexibility and aerobic elements. Certified by NASM, one of the top certifying organizations. Gift certificates available. Call Audrey at (517) 712-4678.

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.

SUNRISES & SUNSETS FOR AUGUST, 2006

Date	Rise	Set	Date	Rise	Set
1	6:30	8:59	17	6:47	8:37
2	6:31	8:58	18	6:48	8:36
3	6:32	8:56	19	6:49	8:34
4	6:33	8:55	20	6:50	8:32
5	6:34	8:54	21	6:51	8:31
6	6:35	8:53	22	6:52	8:29
7	6:36	8:51	23	6:53	8:28
8	6:37	8:50	24	6:54	8:26
9	6:38	8:49	25	6:55	8:24
10	6:39	8:47	26	6:57	8:23
11	6:40	8:46	27	6:58	8:21
12	6:41	8:44	28	6:59	8:19
13	6:43	8:43	29	6:00	8:18
14	6:44	8:41	30	6:01	8:16
15	6:45	8:40	31	6:02	8:14
16	6:46	8:39			

COMMITTEE & CLUB NEWS

DALMAC 2006 Registration Volunteers Needed

DALMAC registration at MSU Pavilion needs Volunteers to help with registration. Times needed are: Aug. 29, 2006 Tuesday, 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. Aug. 30, 2006 Wednesday 7:00A.M. to 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. Aug. 31, 2006 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.

It is a great way to meet other TCBA members. Please contact Mike Hudson at 517-321-4297 or e-mail hudsonmi@msu.edu. Please no calls after 10:00P.M.

Christmas/Holiday Party

This year's Christmas/Holiday Party is at Kellogg Center. Entertainment will include a caricature artist. I have also reserved the baby grand piano. If you would like to play sometime during the evening, please contact me. This could be for the 6-7 cocktail hour, soft music during dinner, or for about an hour after dinner (perhaps a Christmas sing-a-long). The length of time will depend on the number of responses. Please either e-mail vp@biketcba.org or call Sue Viele at 646-8335.

2005 Incentive Awards

The 2005 Incentive Awards will be available at the August TCBA regular club meeting. If you can not make this meeting; you can either have someone else pick-up the award for you, come to the August board meeting, or as a last resort email Sara Troutman at - boardatlarge1@biketcba.org to make other arrangements.

Awards not claimed by August 31 will be forfeited.

TCBA Club Jerseys

The new TCBA Club Jerseys have arrived! The design is the traditional yellow and red brick pattern, but new graphics as pictured below have been added to the sleeves. These jerseys are in the Louis Garneau "semi-relaxed" fit which is a cut between the "relaxed fit" and "pro fit" styles that we've had in the past. Sizes available are S - XXL, and they are priced at \$50 each.

Left Sleeve

Right Sleeve



In addition, we have a few of the old style "relaxed fit" size XL only, and some "pro fit" sizes XS, S and M are available for \$45 each.

Jerseys will be available for purchase at most TCBA club meetings. To order by mail send your check with your size to: TCBA Jersey, P.O. Box 1628, East Lansing, MI 48826. Please include an additional \$5 if you would like your jersey mailed to you and be sure to indicate your size and style - "semi-relaxed fit" "relaxed fit" or "pro fit."

If you have questions please contact Charla Scheidler, at chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org.

The DALMAC Fund Grants 2006

Thanks to the club members whose volunteer help makes DALMAC a successful event, The DALMAC Fund was able to give out \$51,370 this year. The money went to seven organizations for activities that encourage families, young people, and those with special needs to ride a bicycle.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



David and Deborah Fogg
Mark Perry
Angelo & Kate Dimeo & Family
Mary Jo Barrons & Family
Rachelle Bangela (returning)
Joel & Lori Litchfield & Family
Laurie Kaguni
Toni Alexander
James & Alyssa Nichols
Teri Sexton
Joel Hekler
Steve & Alyssa Gruber
Howard Lantzer
Bob Brooks (returning)
John & Peggy Radamacher (returning)
Pat Schaible (returning)
Bob & Lydia Roth
Craig Barber
Kim Dewey
Don Ralph
Karen Gallagher
Brian George
Amy Coreysky
Karen Duling (returning)
Heather Kleinhardt
Norman Diebold (returning)
LeAnn Turner
Hannah Remtema
Carl Nichols (returning)
Karen Holther
Bob Crawford (returning)
Carol Abdo
James Averill & Denna Latavish
Kristie Macrakis (returning)
Patricia Perry
Chris Kaschner
David & Susan Sndeyink & Family
Jaimie & Alex Figueroa

Planning A Self Contained Bike Trip Hell To Paradise



“How about doing a trip from Hell to Paradise”. Don, my wife’s cousin, and I had just finished one of Michigan’s many great group bicycle tours. At the end of the tour, Don commented that he loved the bicycling, but hated the camping. That is when I suggested the Hell to Paradise

trip, adding that we could carry our own clothes and stay at motels along the way. Of course, I would have to see if my wife would be willing to drop us off in Hell and pick us up in Paradise in the U.P. My wife agreed and so we began the plans for our first attempt at this trip in 2005.

Our first task was to pick a mutually agreeable date. Although I am retired, my summers usually fill up quickly. Don is an accountant so he has to arrange his time off around his accounting duties. We finally settled on the week before Memorial Day.

I took on the responsibility of laying out our route and making the logistical arrangements since I had done this on several other occasions. I had already purchased the Michigan Department of Transportation set of county maps that highlight primary or secondary paved roads that are suitable for bicycling. Using these along with a State of Michigan highway map, I laid out our general route. Before laying out the specific route, I needed to select our daily layovers where there would be decent lodging. I wanted to keep our daily distances between 50 and 75 miles, if possible. After picking our daily stops, I sat down with the county maps and started preparing a cue sheet listing each road by name along with the distance to be traveled on each road.

For our 2005 trip, I selected Chesaning, Gladwin, Roscommon, Vanderbilt, St. Ignace, and Sault Ste. Marie as our stops. I had hoped to find a place to stop along the Pere Marquette Trail between Clare and Midland since I knew it was a great paved trail. However, using the Internet as my source for finding lodging, I couldn’t find anything listed along the trail except at Clare or Midland. I wanted to continue heading north, so we had to continue north ACROSS the trail all the way to Gladwin making our second day the longest of the trip. The rest was fairly easy.

Before finalizing the route, I contacted each motel either by email or telephone and confirmed reservations with each. After getting all the lodging in place and having a detailed route in place, I prepared daily cue sheets using Microsoft Word table format. I then broke the cue sheets down by county and sent an email to each county road commission along our route providing them with the route for their county and the day we would be riding that section. I asked if there would be any construction or other problems along each route on those dates. Most of the road commissions were very responsive and helpful. I also asked for copies of the most current county maps since the MDOT maps are pretty outdated (they are currently

bringing them up-to-date). In a few cases, alternative routes were suggested.

With all the planning in place, we started our first trip on May 21st, 2005, a beautiful sunny Saturday. However, on Sunday and Monday we encountered a lot of rain. We had forgotten to pack any rags for cleaning our bikes, but on both days, the motels were very helpful in providing rags. Tuesday and Wednesday were great. Our mistake was watching the TV weather forecasts for the rest of the week. Beginning on Sunday, they began forecasting a large storm that was heading for the U.P. on Thursday and Friday. Having already spent two days riding in the rain, when the forecast was the same on Tuesday morning, we chickened out. I called my wife and asked her to come early and pick us up in St. Ignace.

Thursday morning before heading back to Lansing, we checked the weather forecast to find that the storm had dissipated. I didn’t want to ask my wife to spend the next two days in the U.P. with nothing to do, so we returned to Lansing without finishing the trip. Don and I vowed to do it again in 2006 and finish the trip regardless of the weather forecasts.

I went through the same planning process for 2006, but made some changes in the route since we weren’t too happy with the lodging in Vanderbilt. This time, rather than head north to Gladwin, we turned west on the Pere Marquette Trail and spent our second night in Clare. The third and fourth nights were in Grayling and Wolverine. Most of this new route followed Old U.S. 27. This was a pretty good route except between Clare and Harrison. We left Clare about 7:30 and encountered a lot of early morning traffic along a hilly route with no paved shoulder.

I have a portable GPS intended for use in a car that I had taken with me in case we got lost. We were on Old 27 south of Houghton Lake where we were planning to have lunch. Wondering how far we had to go for lunch, I stopped and got out the GPS. After checking the distance to Houghton Lake, I put the GPS back in my rear bag thinking I had turned it off. We started off again for Houghton Lake. A couple of minutes later I heard this voice say “In 4 point 7 miles, turn left”.

Except for having pretty strong head and cross winds the first three days of our second trip, we had really great weather for the whole week, and ignored the forecasts. We arrived in Paradise as planned six days after starting the trip.

Don has a friend in the T-shirt business. The two of them designed a commemorative shirt with a map of Michigan reflecting Hell and Paradise with a dotted line of our route, which reads “2nd Annual Hell to Paradise Bike Tour 2006”. Now we have to come up with a route for next year to provide a catchy name for our 2007 T-shirts.

Ken Hendrick
Klhendrick@msn.com

August 2006 Ride Calendar

Recurring Rides; all rides not started if raining unless noted.

Day/Date	Time	Miles	Class	Start Location	Other Information	Ride Leader
Sundays	8:00 AM	40+	Z	67th District Court House, Grand Blanc	Touring Pace, No ride on the 6 th or 13 th	Ed or Roxanne Usewick 810-694-9919
	9:30 AM	25-45	C	Victor Township Hall		Janice Koller 517-669-5744
	10:00 AM	33-43	B	Holt Junior High School	Ride will have rest stop	Pete Derkos 517-694 3024
	1:00 PM	15-25	D	Kroger at Lake Lansing and Coolidge		Judy Miller or Joane Gruizenga 517-484-5686
	3:00 PM	25-50	B	Potterville City Park	Learn to Paceline safely and more...	Byron (Barney) Adams 517-482-8585
Mondays	6:00 PM	15-30	C	Oneida Township Hall		Kris Stairs 517-627-4211
	6:00 PM	20-30	B	DeWitt Jr. High		Deb or Steve Haman 517-669-1978
	6:30 PM	25-35	C	Coaches American Pub & Grill		Ginger Royston 517-393-4799
Tuesdays	9:30 AM	25-40	B	Rayner Park, Mason	No ride 1 st or 29 th	Jan Koller 517-669-5744
	6:00 PM	15-35	B	Oneida Gospel Church		Ellen Lamb 517-627-4614
	6:15 PM	25-30	B	Holt Pro Cyclery	No ride on 29 th	Larry White 517-694-8667
	6:15 PM	20-30	C	Kroger Lake Lansing and Coolidge	No ride on 8 th or 29 th	Kori Sperling 517-862-7963
	6:30 PM	25-30	B	Williamstown Town Hall	No ride 29 th	Dwayne Scheidler 517-339-4586
Wednesdays	6:00 PM	20-30	B	Dewitt Jr. High	No ride 2 nd , 9 th or 30 th	Deb or Steve Haman 517-669-1978

August - Wednesday Night Rides - MSU Pavilion

ALL CLASSES, 6:15pm, corner of Mt. Hope & Farm Ln.

Class/Mileage	8/2	8/9	8/16	8/23	8/30
A, 30-40 mi					DALMAC
B; 25-35 mi.	Sara Troutman 517-331-1004	Jim Delinescheff 517-333-9329	Sue Viele 517-333-0306	Katie Donnelly 517-349-5564	DALMAC
C; 20-30 mi.	Kori Sperling 517-393-2842	Sara Troutman 517-331-1004	Eddie Belcher 517-669-7259	Mary Burris 517-394-1617	DALMAC Sydney Hager 517-393-2579
D; 15-25 mi.		Katie Donnelly 517-349-5564			DALMAC

No club rides shall take place during the general membership meetings or to conflict with the Women on Wheels ride, the 100,000 Meter T-shirt Ride, or club-sponsored social activities.

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL TCBA RIDES!!!

(continued on next page)

August 2006 Ride Calendar (continued)

Thursdays	6:00 PM	20-30	B	DeWitt Jr. High	No Ride 17 th , 24 th or 31 st	Deb or Steve Haman 517-669-1978
	6:00 PM	15-35	B	Onieda Gospel Church	No Ride 24 th or 31 st	Ellen Lamb 517-6274614
	6:30 PM	25-30	B	Williamstown Town Hall	No ride 24 th or 31 st	Charla Scheidler 517-339-4586
Fridays	9:00 AM	40-60	Z	DeWitt Township Hall		Janice Koller 517-669-5744
Saturdays	8:00 AM	40+	Z	67th District Court House, Grand Blanc	No ride on the 5 th ; Touring Pace	Ed or Roxanne Usewick 810-694-9919
	9:00 AM	12	D	Coaches	Breakfast ride. Bring the kids! New rider-friendly!	Milt Gruhn 517-393-1617

Other Rides, Not Reoccurring:

Day/Date	Time	Miles	Class	Start Location	Other Info	Ride Leader
8/1 (Tues)	9:30 AM	50-60	Z	Dansville Village park	Ride will go to Grass Lake	Jan Koller 517-669-5744
8/12 (Sat)	8:00 AM	65-70	Z	Mega Mall		Edie Belcher 517-669-7259
8/19 (Sat)	7:30 AM	95-100	Z	Oneida Township Hall	Scenic route goes through the beautiful Hastings countryside	Edie Belcher 517-669-7259
8/27 (Sun)	8: AM	102	Z	Williamstown Township Hall	Ride will go to Chesaning	Katie Donnelly 517-3495564

Ride Starting Point Descriptions

67th District Court House Grand Blanc
Coaches Corner of M-99 and Bishop Road, SW Lansing former City Limit, Plum Crazy Too, Bishop Inn
Dansville Village Park M-36 Dansville
Dewitt Junior High Sch., South lot..... Dewitt
Dewitt Township Hall... 1401 W. Herbison Rd. 1/2 mi. west of Old 27
Haslett Middle School.....
 E on Franklin St from Marsh Rd, 1st light S of Haslett Rd
Holt Junior High School.. Aurelius Rd, ½ mi south of Holt Rd. Holt
Holt Pro Cycle.....Cedar, 3 blocks S of Holt Rd.
Kroger, Coolidge & Lake Lansing Parking lot near Coolidge
Mega Mall....15487 Old US-27 (Northeast St.) & Northcrest Rd / NE Corner of lot
Owosso Fire/Police Station..... Owosso
Oneida Gospel Church.....
 Corner of Oneida and Strange Hwy, Gd Ledge
Oneida Township Hall.....St Joseph & Oneida Rd. Grand Ledge
Potterville City Park..... Main Street just west of Hartel (M-100)
Potterville High School..... High St., Potterville
Rayner Park Ash Street M-36, west of fairgrounds, Mason
Sawdon School Lamson Rd., Grand Ledge
Victor Township Hall Alward Rd & Shepardsville Rd, Laingsburg, 1 mi. N of Round Lake Rd.
Williamstown Twp Hall..... Corner Zimmer & Germany Rds 4 mi east & 1 mi south of Haslett

RIDE CLASSIFICATIONS

A+ 19+ MPH
 A 17-19 MPH
 B 14-17 MPH
 C 12-14 MPH
 D Under 12 MPH Fun and Social Group Ride
 F Family Fun & First-Timers Ride
 M Mountain Bike N/A
 Z Rides over 40 miles in length to be ridden at the rider's own pace without on the road ride leader supervision. Leader must have detailed map of the ride for all riders.

FOR MORE RIDES CALL:
517-882-3700 - or visit the Web Site:
www.biketcba.org

**Also check this number for updates-
 changes on rides listed in this
 Chainwheel Chatter.**

To receive the Ride Line Transcript by email
 send your email address to: donnell13@msu.edu

A Danube Adventure With Lee And Carol Perrine On Their Cannondale Tandem – Part I



It takes innovative packaging to convince British Airlines that that big box is actually my other suitcase and that it should travel as my second piece of luggage. They agree and that still leaves us with 3 more bags of 70 pounds each

so they are surprised when we show up with “only” 2. How could we possibly carry over 140 pounds of stuff on our tandem bicycle for 15 days?

With a \$700.00 savings in fare we opt to fly from Toronto. It also makes the airport security check through a lot simpler.

Our 747 jumbo jet departs promptly at 8:00 p.m. and soon we are climbing out above towering thunderheads with the setting sun turning them to fiery columns of orange and gray.

Six hours later we descend back to earth to a bright and sunny London morning, but my body keeps telling me it's 2:a.m. and it wants to go to sleep, but with only an hour and a half to catch our next flight to Vienna, its just keep rushing on. Believe me an hour and a half isn't all that much time in a huge, strange terminal and with all the security checking.

We make our connection with minutes to spare and another 2 hours and we arrive in Vienna, Austria. By the time we find our bike and baggage and a shuttle to the Das Reinisch B&B, the village clock is showing 4:00 p.m., but our bodies say 6:00a.m., so we find our room and crash for the rest of the day, fully exhausted.

After a few hours sleep we are up and at it ready to go, but it's only 3:00 a.m. and still dark. Of course, we can't get back to sleep so we just lay there till time for the great Buffet breakfast.

We spent the rest of the morning getting the bike together and touring around the village of Schewchat, finding an ATM, and buying a few things at the E-Center that we would need later.

We spent a couple hours searching for a nearby geocache but the coordinates led us to a new construction site near the airport, so we didn't find it.

Our only problem with the bike was a crushed and broken front shifter but with a little tape and a promised flat bike path the middle gear would be all that we would need anyway.

It is now our fourth day and we are ready to leave for the train station which is 10 miles away and on the other side of the city. We choose to follow a path along the Leising canal but after Carol lost an argument over which way to turn everything went downhill from there. I finally had to admit I was wrong when we started seeing wheat and corn fields on both sides of the path. (in a big city?)

The canal led us to within a couple miles of the West Bahnhof (train station) but the Friday afternoon rush hour traffic (people, bikes and cars) made for a difficult ride.

We finally arrive at the train station, get our tickets to Passau, Germany where we will begin our ride down along the Danube river through Germany, Austria, Slovakia and end in Budapest, Hungary, some 500 miles later-- and the train leaves in 30 minutes. Wait a minute, the train is on track 12 which is two floors above where we are standing. Have you ever taken your loaded tandem up a 2 story escalator and across 11 sets of train tracks? It was easier than I thought it might be. Now where is that bicycle baggage car? In the middle of the train. And from there, another ten cars before we can find one that we can board. Even then we have to sit on our panniers in the section between two cars with six other people.

After two hours we need to make a transfer at Wels and I have horrible visions of not getting back to the baggage car to retrieve our bike before the train departs (they only stop for about a minute at each station) for Munich with our bike and us standing on the platform going to Passau.

Next problem—get from track 3 to track 7.

Just take the elevator up to the overpass, across the tracks and then back down. Oh,oh, the elevator is six inches shorter than our bike. I guess you just run the front wheel up the back wall and stand the bike on its rear wheel.

By the time we get down to track 7 the doors of the train are beginning to close but the conductor sees us coming and holds the train a few seconds till we get on. At least we got a seat with the bike right beside us for the final 2 hours to Passau.

It is 8:00 p.m. when we finally get to Passau, patch a flat tire which we knew we would have, and roll out of the station on a Friday evening of a holiday weekend with no reservations. I had visions of spending the night on a bench in the station, but would you believe there was a hotel right across the street with plenty of rooms.

We have just enough time for a short stroll through the city and supper at a neat little gasthof on the Ins river, one of the three which run through the city.

It's the fifth day and we are ready to start our ride down the Danube, but wait a minute, we want to get a geocache in Germany and there is one right across the Ins river but high up the side of the mountain. We opt for a shuttle bus ride up to the Oberhaus and a tour of the ruins. We also have to find six clues in the ruins to calculate the final coordinates to the cache.

This does take about 2 hours and leads us to the cache which naturally is half way down the back side of the mountain.

Shuttle back down to the Rathaus (city hall) for lunch and then just one more geocache hunt down the Ils river which was unsuccessful and we are off down “der Donauradweg” (Danube bike way).

All my childhood fantasies about waltzing beside the beautiful “blue” Danube are immediately washed away by “Mississippi mud”. Runoff from the recent spring floods.

(continued on next page)

A Danube Adventure

(continued from previous page)

The path is a beautiful 8 foot wide paved strip running along side the river with the highway just above, with a steel guardrail separator.

It isn't long before we come to two Aberent women, (large, carved, wooden mermaids). We couldn't read the sign so we don't know what their significance was

Riding on the bike path we aren't noticing any zimmer signs (rooms for rent) so we give up early and stop in Opfern at the Donau Hotel & Radler Station (bike repair shop). This was our fifth day from home and we have ridden only 16 miles down the Danube.

Our sixth day started out rainy but by 10:00 a.m. we were able to make our way down to the ferry dock. There are several pedestrian, bicycle only ferries crossing the Danube and we had decided to ride as many as we could, just to add to the adventure. We rode across with a girl cyclist from New York. She was wearing a Uof M cap and also knew about East Lansing. Small world.

The constant river traffic of barges and tour boats was new and interesting for Michiganders as were the many dams and locks. We soon arrive at our first dam and lock and of course it had 40 steps up and 40 steps down to get over the boat canal. They did have a narrow trough up one side to push your bike in but with front and rear pannier sticking out, the push up was still a struggle.

There was a large barge in the lock. It was being run by a family and it looked like they also made it their home, with a Child's swimming pool and 3 automobiles on board. We crossed the river several times today before a storm blew up at Sloggen. The roadway also shared a few country lanes now with car traffic before entering a beautiful mile long promenade on the waterfront at Aschach. By now it is 4 o'clock and our GPS is showing us a geocache just 4 miles off the path and we decide to try and find it before giving up for the day. The only problem was the mountain started 3 1/2 miles away and the Schauberg ruins were at the top. We rode as far up as we could but the last half mile was almost too steep to walk even. But it was worth all the effort. We had trouble finding the hidden cache so went exploring the ruins till almost sunset and the view from on top was spectacular. On our last try where we think it might be, we find it. Lucky us.

By the time we get into Popping it is dark but we find a gasthof with zimmers and move in. We even got to enjoy supper just as they close. 44 miles, several fahres (ferry boats) a dam and a geocache find. We're beat.

We start today racing the Viktoria barge but they finally concede as they approach a dam and lock. It's a holiday Monday and lots of roller bladders have joined the bicycles on the roadway. There are several castles and ruins high on the mountains as we roll into Linz. We lock our bike to a bench in the main square and set out to explore Linz. The GPS will keep track of where we wander and guide us back to the bike as well as lead us to another geocache up in the botanical gardens behind a statue of Bergegeist. Along the way we tour the huge Linz Dom cathedral with its many stained glass windows. On the way out of town the path goes by the King of Dirt BMX bicycle course where some crazy kids were trying to teach their bikes to fly and nearly succeeding.

Along the way we have been seeing several other cyclists with similar panniers and when we finally found a couple from Denmark that could speak English we learned that they were traveling on a radfahrt excursion boat. This was a neat way to go. The cyclists would eat breakfast and supper and sleep on the boat and then the next day the boat would move 30 to 50 miles down the river and those that wanted could ride their bike or take a day off and ride the boat. They would finish in Vienna.

The next day started out raining as usual and the roadway shifted to country lanes through fields of wheat, barley, corn and potatoes, with abundant wildlife including large eared rabbits, deer, pheasants, grouse and quail. We got lost in the city of Enns trying to find a bridge that crossed the Enns river.

We nearly had a catastrophe when I tried to steer between a pole in the middle of the bike lane and a tall hedge. The right handle bar caught in the hedge and threw us to the ground. I rolled into the street and luckily no cars were going by. Carol only made it to the gutter but neither of us were hurt except for a cut on my thumb. How embarrassing as we lay there.

We finally found a fahre that would take us across either the Danube or the Enns so we chose the Enns and on to St. Pantleon.

We had stopped to admire an orchid in the window of a house beside the street when the owner popped her head out the window and wanted to talk. It really hurts when you are not able to speak to someone and compliment them on their beautiful creations. There were at least sixty large orchid flowers on this one plant.

It had just started to sprinkle as we were leaving town but we decided to go on anyway. Very bad decision. The sprinkle turned to rain, then a downpour and no place nearby to hide out in. We stopped under an overhanging tree but with no shoulder on the side of the road we were forced to stand in the traffic lane huddled together under our one yellow poncho, hoping that we didn't get run over. It seemed like everyone wanted to leave town that afternoon. People must have wondered what that yellow hump with four legs sticking out below, straddling a long bike in the middle of the road in a rainstorm was doing. Having fun? How embarrassing. Definitely our worst day. We finally ride into Grein and a room at the Golden Cross. 70 Euro's for bed and breakfast for two. With the poor money exchange rate that amounted to about \$100.00. Good thing our budget was flexible. 41 miles, 2 embarrassments and we got wet.

After an early morning walk around Grein we leave on the paved road shoulder and probably just as well as we would need rain shelter six times today and they aren't easy to find on the roadway. The shelters included an abandoned gas station, a gasthof where we also had lunch, a railroad underpass and a farmer's machine shed where they were getting a huge Claas combine ready to go. The farmer's wife could speak English well so we had a good time talking about their farming enterprise. The many rain showers did make for some spectacular waterfalls rushing down the mountains to the river. Some of them right between the houses. Another dam crossing afforded us a grand view of the Melk Abbey in the distance. We finally end up at the Stumpfer Gasthof & zimmer which is right on the river and just a few yards from the beautiful Schonbuhol castle. 34 miles, 6 rain showers and a couple river crossings.



It Ain't Like It Used To Be

Thirty-four years ago, as TCBA was being formed, the Weathervane Bike Shop in Okemos in January offered a Spring tuneup on your Raleigh bike for \$2.50.

The March, 1973 issue had the following announcement: *Announcing the first T.C.B.A. ride of the year. Starting from Lansing Mall at 10 A.M. on March 24. The ride will be a short 16 mile round-trip to the Ledges. We will meet in the parking lot just south of Eberhards at 9:45. The route winds over Willow Highway, and since there are a few blind curves, it is advisable to wear an orange safety flag. Also, if you could carry a spare tube, it could save you a long walk to the gas station. The pace will be rather slow, so don't worry about those tired muscles. Everyone is welcome from families to racers. A few Frisbees or a softball and bat would be appreciated. This ride is classified "Tourist."*

Things have changed in the past 33 years. Eberhards is gone. I've seen nobody wearing an orange safety flag. Gas stations no longer have bicycle tubes. And who can remember carrying either a Frisbee or a softball and bat on a ride?

In the June issue, you were informed: "Bring money for T shirts. We have been informed that price of shirts has gone up to \$2.25." Then in July: "New orders being taken for T-Shirts --cost \$3.00."

By September, a successful DALMAC had been experienced: *DALMAC NOTES: For all those who missed the ride you missed a superb adventure. Three hundred people biked from Lansing to the Mackinac Bridge over some of the best rural roads in Michigan. To the many club members who worked on the committee and helped on the 4-day trip, I can't thank you enough, Steve, Don, Kim, Stan, Tom, Linda, Norm, your hard work made DALMAC a tremendous success and helped make a name for TCBA. I bet the DALMAC Tour will become one of the most prestigious bike tours in the nation within a few years. --J.G.*

In 1975, Shiawassee County was known as "chuckhole country"; now it is the location of our very successful T-Shirt Ride.

From the 1976 Ride Calendar:
Saturday, Jan 31 - YANKEE SPRINGS XC SKIING TRIP. An all-day trip to Yankee Springs. Meet at Lansing Mall (behind Montgomery Wards) at 11:00 A.M. We will car-pool-it from there. Plan on skiing for the afternoon. There are no restaurants or stores near the area, so it is advisable to eat lunch beforehand and bring a snack. Gene Losey, xxx-3714.

Saturday, May 22- YANKEE SPRINGS, class B, 30-40 miles, meet at Courthouse on M-43 in Hastings (45 minutes from Lansing), 10 am. Beautiful country around Gunn Lake, slightly hilly, Gene Losey (xxx-3714).

Wednesday, July 7 - WEDNESDAY NITE RIDE, all classes. Because this ride has been so popular, we'll be running all

classes, with several leaders and distances. All leave from Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, class A at 6:15 pm, classes B, C, & D at 6:30 pm. Marty Rabb (xxx-4261) plus other leaders. Saturday, July 24 - ROSE LAKE TO SLEEPY HOLLOW SWIM RIDE, class C, 26 miles, meet at the Rose Lake Research Center District Headquarters on Stoll Rd, 8:30 am. We'll ride to the new Sleepy Hollow State Park and swim for a couple of hours. Note: there are a couple miles of gravel to get to the beach. To get to Rose Lake take (temporary) I-69 east to Upton Rd., turn left and go to Stoll Rd. and turn right. Bring swim suit and snack. Eva Urban (xxx-9492).

Michigan government was out to help us in 1976: *The club has been contacted by State Representative Ernest Nash regarding H.B. 5830. This bill proposes to amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require every bicyclist to use white plastic reflective handlebar tape. ... Because a handlebar bag would obscure the tape from the front, the next step would probably be to ban the use of handlebar bags after dark. Another bill, S.B. 627, contains this amendment to the Michigan Vehicle Code: "a person operating a bicycle or other slow-moving vehicle, which disrupts the normal flow of traffic, shall pull off the roadway to let the other vehicle pass."*

Neither bill became law here, but the one like the second did pass in New York State.

Here is a copy of the ride classifications from 30 years ago:

Class "A" - Expert - Paces at 15-18 miles per hour, stopping only for food and necessities. For gung-ho bike crazies!!!

Class "B" - Advanced Tourist - Paces at 11-13 miles per hour, stopping occasionally to rest. For experienced touring cyclists.

Class "C" - Tourist - Paces at 8-11 miles per hour with frequent rest stops. For the average cyclist.

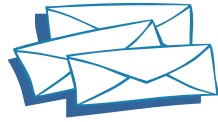
Class "D" - Novice - Paces at 5-8 miles per hour on residential streets and bike paths. For family rides, beginning tourists, and those who enjoy leisurely rides.

Class "E" - Beginner - Slow and easy. For beginning riders with little or no cycling experience.

One of many recommendations in 1976: *Wear a hat to keep the direct sun off your head and you'll feel cooler.*

On another, more current note: I've already helped several people with routing outside the Lansing area, based on the work already done on the next phase of mapbook development. As you may recall, that includes nearly all the area from Grand Rapids to Flint to Ann Arbor to Kalamazoo and back to Grand Rapids. If you want to ride in this area, let me know where and I'll help you out.

Dick Janson
 Just Me and Sarah Dipitee
 dickj@tds.net (517) 675-7340



FROM THE TCBA MAIL BAG

Kids Repair Program

The mission of the Kids Repair Program is to provide positive experiences and educational opportunities in bicycle safety, repair and maintenance for youth in the Lansing area. The Tri-County Bicycle Association and The DALMAC Fund have been generous in their support of the program.

The Kids Repair Program is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization teaching bike safety, repair and maintenance to students 9-17 years of age. Each student is provided 20 hours of class instruction and receives a "Certificate of Achievement" & in most cases a bike with a helmet and a lock upon completing the course.

Students are given 20 hours of instruction in bicycle safety, repair and maintenance. Upon completion, a graduation ceremony is held and a "Certificate of Achievement" is awarded.

Volunteers are needed! You can help in many ways!

Public Volunteer Job Descriptions

TASK	TIME COMMITMENT
INSTRUCTOR	4 hours per week
RECEPTIONIST	2 to 4 hours per week
OFFICE ASSISTANT	2 hours per week
PARTS MANAGER	2 to 4 hours per week
DONOR CULTIVATION	2 to 4 hours per week
GRANT WRITER	12 hours per month
PUBLIC RELATIONS/ NEWSLETTER	2 to 6 hours per month
RECRUITER	2 to 4 hours per week
FILE CLERK	1 to 2 hours per week

Contact Curt "Grandad" Eure at 325-7308 or stop in to the new class facility at Hill Vocational Center, (the old driver's education building in Southeast parking lot)...

Help TCBA and LMB Provide Bike Parking at the Great Lakes Folk Festival!



The Great Lakes Folk Festival returns to downtown East Lansing this year, August 11-13. And returning to the festival is free guarded "valet" bike parking—thanks to the volunteer efforts of TCBA members and others. TCBA

and the League of Michigan Bicyclists have offered this popular service at the past six festivals. Past volunteers can tell you it's fun and low-stress. Please consider volunteering this year to help with bike parking.

The festival's main sponsor is the MSU Museum. Featuring a huge range of music from polka to blues, plus dance and other folk arts, the festival draws large crowds. Offering free bike parking encourages people to bike to the festival instead of driving—which promotes cycling as a convenient and practical mode of transportation, alleviates traffic congestion, encourages exercise, saves energy and protects air quality. It also provides a golden opportunity to promote TCBA and LMB membership as well as cycling safety and events.

Bike parking volunteers get training, chairs, a tent for shade, snacks, refreshments, a chance to make new friends and an opportunity to promote bicycling. All volunteers receive an official GLFF volunteer T-shirt, an invitation to the volunteer party on Saturday night, access to the "Green Room" (more free beverages and snacks) and other perks.

The Festival volunteers are asked to work one or more shifts of about three hours. You can sign up at the festival web site, www.greatlakesfolkfest.net (click on "volunteers" then "registration"); or call (517) 432-GLFF. The shift time choices are approximate. Choose shift(s) between Friday late afternoon and Sunday evening. Volunteers will be contacted to work out precise schedules. You may also help set up the bike "corral" Friday (mid-to-late afternoon) and/or tear it down Sunday (late afternoon/early evening).

For more information about the bike parking service, contact Phil Wells 517-267-8971; or email: philwells99@yahoo.com

Top 10 Worst Cities for Bicycle Theft

[Kryptonite](#), the bicycle lock company, has announced its Top 10 Worst Cities for Bike Theft in 2006. Kryptonite uses its own data to create the list. This is the eighth time the company has published the list, which is compiled by theft data that Kryptonite has accumulated over three decades. With the latest FBI

Uniform Crime Report (2004) showing a property crime every 3.1 seconds, Kryptonite warns cyclists everywhere to always lock their bicycle when not in use especially in the following areas:

Top 10 Worst Cities for Bike Theft

1. New York, N.Y.

2. San Francisco, Calif.
3. Chicago, Ill.
4. Washington, D.C.
5. Boston, Mass.
6. Eugene, Ore.
7. Philadelphia, Pa.
8. Oakland, CA
9. Seattle, WA
10. Miami, FL

FROM THE TCBA MAIL BAG

(continued)

Specialized Bicycle Components Inc. Recalls Bicycles Due to Fall Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: Bicycles with SW Carbon Stem with Magnesium Faceplate

Units: About 2,700

Manufacturer: Specialized Bicycle Components Inc., of Morgan Hill, Calif.

Hazard: The bicycle's stem has a magnesium faceplate that holds the handlebar in place. The faceplates on the recalled stems can crack allowing the handlebar to break off the bicycle, posing a serious fall hazard.

Incidents/Injuries: Specialized has received five reports of the magnesium faceplate exhibiting cracks. No injuries have been reported.

Description and Models: The SW Carbon Stem with Magnesium Faceplate is black with the words "S-Works" and "Magnesium Faceplate" printed on it. The stems were included as original equipment on the following 2006 bicycles models: S-Works Tarmac, Tarmac Pro, S-Works Roubaix, Roubaix Pro, Allez Pro and S-Works Transition. It was also sold as an after market item under the name S Works Advanced Composite Mag Road Stem.

Sold at: Authorized Specialized retailers from June 2005 through April 2006 as original equipment of the bicycle models referenced above or as an after market item for about \$160.

Manufactured In: Taiwan

Remedy: Consumers should stop riding the bicycles that have the recalled stems immediately and take them to an authorized Specialized retailer for a free replacement faceplate.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, call Specialized at (877) 808-8154 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. MT, Monday through Friday, or visit the company's Web site at www.Specialized.com

To view this recall online, please visit our website at: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06195.html>

Felt Bicycles Announce Recall to Repair Mountain Bicycles for Brake Failure

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: Felt Mountain Bicycles

Units: About 700

Importer: Felt Bicycles, of Lake Forest, Calif.

Manufacturer: Kinesis, Taiwan.

Hazard: The steel brake boss can detach from the frame, causing the rider to lose control and fall.

Incidents/Injuries: Felt Bicycles has received three reports of the brake boss coming loose. No injuries reported.

Description: This recall involves all model year 2005 and 2006 Kinesis made RXC bicycles. The frames on these bicycles are made with carbon fiber rear seat stays and are equipped with V-style brakes, and not equipped with disk brakes from the factory. Frames affected by this recall were shipped to dealers between October 2004 and April 2006.

Sold at: Bicycle specialty stores nationwide from October 2004 through April 2006 for between \$1,050 and \$5,000.

Manufactured In: Taiwan

Remedy: Consumers should stop using the bicycles immediately and contact your local Felt bicycle dealer to receive a free inspection and repair.

Consumer Contact: For more information, contact Felt Bicycles at (866) 433-5887 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.feltracing.com

To view this recall online, please visit our website at: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06206.html>

Florida Joins the "3ft Passing Law" States

Florida recently passed legislation (H.B. 7079) saying that "the driver of a vehicle overtaking a bicycle or other nonmotorized vehicle must pass the bicycle or other nonmotorized vehicle at a safe distance of not less than 3 feet between the vehicle and the bicycle or other nonmotorized vehicle." Arizona, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Utah, and Wisconsin also have similar laws on their books.

Hope You're Enjoying Your Summer!

