

TRI-COUNTY BICYCLE
ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 22146
LANSING, MI 48909
(517) 882-3700
WWW.BIKETCBA.ORG

Chainwheel Chatter

Volume 34, Number 10

Established 1972

October 2008

IN THIS ISSUE

Meetings/Deadlines Announcements	
Front Cover	
Board Minutes	2
Consumer Product Recalls / Safety	3
Starting Points / Ride Classifications	4
Ride Calendar	4
More 2008 SummerTour Experience	5
New Members	6
L.A.B Road 1 Class	6
Address Change?	6
Sunrise & Sunsets	6
Exercise, Addition, and Values	7
Webmaster's Editorial	8
DALMAC Recap	9
Classifieds	10
Member Specials	10
Change of Address Form / TCBA Contacts	11
Membership Application Back Cover	

MEETING	DATE & TIME	LOCATION	PRESENTER & TOPIC
MEMBERSHIP	October 30, 2008 7:00 p.m.	Foster Community Center 200 N. Foster St. Lansing, MI	TCBA Annual "Open Mike" Meeting and Board of Directors electron.
CYCLE FORUM	October 30, 2008 6:00 p.m.	Foster Community Center 200 N. Foster St. Lansing, MI	Allan Huber Bicycling Illumination for Safe Night Riding
BOARD MEETING	November 4, 2008 6:30 p.m.	Foster Community Center 200 N. Foster St. Lansing, MI	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 you contact the President one week prior to the meeting and ask to have it added to the agenda.



DEADLINES

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 10	Please send items to Janet Weber, 767 Linden Street, Charlotte, MI 48813 or fax to 1-800-480-1160, or send your e-mail to chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org by the indicated deadline.
RIDE CALENDAR OCTOBER 8	Information for the ride calendar needs to be sent to Ed Usewick, 590 Boutell Drive, Grand Blanc, MI 48439 or e-mailed to rideschedule@biketcba.org. So we can include this information in the next newsletter, please note the indicated deadline. Furthermore, please be sure to use the electronic tools to register rides. Please ensure you include critical information such as ride times, mileage, location, and ride leader name and telephone number.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING! Please come and ensure your voice is heard.



Please mark your calendars to attend the TCBA Annual Christmas party. This year's event will take place on Thursday, December 4th at the Chisholm Hills Golf Course, 2395 S. Washington, Lansing. Cost will be \$10 per person. Cocktails are at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. Come enjoy the festive season with your fellow TCBA Riders as we prepare for another great riding season!



**MINUTES OF THE TRI-COUNTY BICYCLE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Foster Community Center - Lansing
August 5, 2008**

Board members present included Joe Adams, Linda Antinori, Dick Sulin, Herb Drake, and Kris Stairs. Also present were club members Katie Donnelly and Lenny Provencher.

Reports

1. **President's Report:** Joe Adams, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. There were no additions to the meeting agenda.
2. **Minutes/Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the July meeting were presented for review by Linda Antinori, Secretary. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Herb Drake, seconded by Dick Sulin, and carried unanimously.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Dick Sulin, Treasurer, presented the July Financial Reports to the Board for review. A motion to pass the Financial Reports was made by Linda Antinori and seconded by Kris Stairs. The motion was passed unanimously.
4. **Events Director:** Joe Adams reported in Al Simon's absence that all DALMAC routes were closed June 30. Final rider counts stand at 2,163.
5. **Ride Program Committee:** We are still looking into possible new designs for our club jersey.
6. **DALMAC Fund:** Joe Adams will email Tom Hardenbergh about the status of the DALMAC Fund applications.
7. **Chainwheel Chatter:** Janet Weber presented a cost benefit analysis to try to reduce the cost of mailing and the cost to the club of undeliverable Chainwheel Chatters. After discussion, the Board opted to have Koehler Printing add a right angle fold to the newsletter and have Hot Prospects mail it as a letter using Change Service Requested. This method saves TCBA not only money, but solves the problem of undeliverable newsletters at no further cost to the club. We would also like to look into an electronic delivery system of the Chainwheel Chatter such as an email notification to club members that newsletter is available online.

Old Business:

- The woman who did the TCBA name tags in the past has neither the equipment nor any blank name tags. Linda Antinori is to look into other possible sources to provide this service.
- The Web page update was tabled until after DALMAC.

New Business:

- The Board discussed the upcoming elections and asked Janet Weber to list the link to the TCBA Board of Directors Nominee Profile as well as a brief description of what is required of each Board member in the September Chainwheel Chatter.
- Joe Adams informed the Board that we are running out of the map booklets that are included in the new member packets. The Board decided to have 200 map booklets published.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

CONSUMER PRODUCT RECALLS

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. CPSC in concert with the companies named below issued voluntary recalls of the bicycling products. Web sites to the various recalled items are provided to allow you to conduct further investigation into these products. The Chain-wheel Chatter has abbreviated these recalls to afford you the information on the items.

Electra Bicycle Company has expanded their recall of the Amsterdam Bicycles; Chain can derail and pose injury risk to riders. We had a complete recall listed in the September issue of the Chatter. To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml08/08365.html>.

Cervélo SA recalls bicycle forks due to fall hazard. This recall is of the Wolf SL Carbon Fiber Bicycle Forks. The forks steerer can break during normal use, causing the rider to lose control, fall and suffer serious injuries. To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml08/08368.html>.

Deda Forza Bicycle Handlebar Stems The top of the bicycle handlebar stem can crack and cause the rider to lose control, posing a crash hazard. To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including a picture of the recalled product, please go to: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml08/08385.html>

In addition to the recalls, in light of the recent start of school, the CPSC has also issued a press release for "back to school" safety concerns:

HELMET SAFETY

Wear a bicycle helmet when biking or riding a scooter to and from school. Make sure your child's bicycle helmet has a label stating it meets CPSC's mandatory safety standards. Wearing a bicycle helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by as much as 85 percent.

CPSC staff has reports of an annual average of 80 children under 16 years of age who died in bicycle-related inci-

dents in recent years.

About half of the 500,000 bicycle-related emergency room-treated injuries in 2007 involved children under the age of 16. When taking part in other recreational activities, wear the right helmet for that activity. Read CPSC's "Which Helmet for Which Activity" publication, which helps parents choose the most appropriate helmet, at <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSC/PUBS/PUBS/349.pdf> (pdf).

More than 80 percent of the nearly 50,000 emergency room-treated injuries involving unpowered scooters in 2007 were to children younger than 15. In addition to wearing a helmet, CPSC recommends elbow and knee pads when riding a scooter.

*******MORE HELMET SAFETY*******

Congress has lit a fire under CPSC with deadlines, and the agency is scrambling to comply with new requirements. In short:

CPSC will be enforcing new rules on lead, lead in paint (already regulated), phthalates (plastic softening agents) and documentation after November 12th. Other changes follow at intervals over a period beginning in December.

The definition of products for children, with the most stringent requirements, includes toddler helmets and probably most youth helmets. Testing by a certified lab will be required starting December 12 for children's products, not just the manufacturer's own facility.

CPSC is required to enforce the ASTM F963 toy safety standard beginning in September of 2009. That does not include real safety helmets but does include toy helmets, requiring that they be labeled as toys offering no protection.

No recalled products can be exported or sold within the US. Non-compliant products arriving at a port can be destroyed rather than sent back. They cannot be re-exported to another country without

that country's approval.

The rules about "sales" even apply to non-profits distributing free helmets, including service clubs, fire departments, schools and others. You are not permitted to distribute any recalled products.

Information on the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) is available on the CPSC Web site:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/cpsia.html>

and of course we have a page up on the new law with more details on how it affects helmets:

<http://www.helmets.org/cpsia.htm>



Road 1 Class Student Rachelle Bangela (above) and George Grof (below) performing skills. TCBA Members always wear helmets. Photos courtesy of Bill Savage.



October 2008 Ride Calendar
 Recurring Rides; No Ride if Rain, Unless Noted

Day/Date	Time	Miles	Class	Start Location	Other Information	Ride Leader
SUNDAYS	10:00 AM	40-45	Z	Holt Junior High School	Ride will go to Country Mill	Pete Derkos 517-694-3024
TUESDAYS	4:00 PM	25-35	C	Owosso Fire & Police Station		David Smith 989-723-1211
WEDNESDAYS	5:30 PM	20	B	Dewitt Junior High School		Linda Antinori 517-410-6043
THURSDAYS	4:00 PM	25-35	C	Owosso Fire & Police Station	No ride on Oct 30th; Club Meeting	David Smith 989-723-1211
SATURDAYS	3:30 PM	25	M	Burchfield Trailhead, Riverbend Lot		Tina Patrick 517-575-9924

Other DAY RIDES (one time only) in October....

Wednesday October 1st	5:45 PM	22	B	MSU Pavilion		Katie Donnelly 517-349-5564
Saturday October 4th	9:00 AM	67	Z	Holt Commuter Lot		Darryl Burris 517-394-1617
Wednesday October 8th	5:45 PM	19	B	MSU Pavilion		Katie Donnelly 517-349-5564

Ride Starting Point Descriptions

Burchfield Trailhead.....881 Grovenberg Rd., Holt
Dewitt Junior High Schoolsouth lot, Dewitt
Dewitt Township Hall.....1401 W. Herbison Rd. 1/2 mi. west of
Holt Junior High Aurelius Rd, 1/2 mi south of Holt Rd, Holt
Holt Commuter Lot.....1 block left of the Holt Road Exit off 127
 or 1/3 mi east of the College Road and Holt Road intersection.
MSU Pavilion.....northeast corner of Forest and College Road
Owosso Fire/Police Station Owosso
 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
 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
 To receive the Ride Line Transcript by email send your
 email address to: donnell3@msu.edu

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL TCBA RIDES!!!

More 2008 SummerTour Experience

By Monica Goble

This July, I was fortunate to complete another SummerTour 5-day bike ride and camping adventure organized by the Tri-County Bicycle Association of Lansing, Michigan. My son, Jamie, was my support person. Back in February when he asked if we might go I sent in the application without a second thought. They only take 200 people and it fills up quickly, so I figured why not send it in - the check may bounce back and that will be my excuse for not going. But it didn't bounce back and as the July date drew closer, having just celebrated my 50th birthday, I began to wonder about my stamina. I told other bikers in the bike club that I was going with my 17-year-old son and they simply said: You're in trouble.

Before I knew it Day 1 was upon us. We drove from our house, with bikes loaded onto the car by Jamie, at 6am bound for Caro High School, the starting (and ending) point in the middle of Michigan's thumb. We hadn't talked much about what we were packing. This was our 4th SummerTour so we knew the routine. Jamie reminded me to pack the travel Scrabble for the evenings. And the pinochle deck. And I made sure to pack my padded bike shorts.

OK, so I hadn't trained this year as well as I might. My work schedule finally lightened on July 1 but that only left me with a week. I had done some spin classes and local short rides. Then I did a 50-mile ride with the local bike club the weekend before the trip and realized I truly was in trouble, whether or not I was biking with a 17-year-old. The only solution was to buy a pair of bike shoes with cleats on the sole that attach to the pedals. They allow you to be continuously pushing and pulling when pedaling. I showed the family my new bike shoes, feeling very professional. Jamie declared they looked like old lady shoes. Yes, exactly what I need, I replied. He mentioned how I might fall, forgetting to release them when coming to a stop. That's a risk I'll have to take. I rode with these in place up and down the driveway once before we left and did OK.

Days 1 and 3 were 65 mile days. My shoes really were the ticket. And of course the fine bike that Dad bought for me 8 years ago. I did topple over once at a stop sign, trying to put my left foot down as I slowly stopped, forgetting it was still clipped in. Luckily Jamie was right there to help me up and didn't make too much fun of me. Other riders assured me later - that's something you'll only do once.

After the first day of riding we were delighted to make it to the campsite (on Lake Huron) and got our bags off the baggage truck. We had packed 2 tents. However, we realized then that we had only packed one set of poles. We each chided the other for the oversight. Aah, family togetherness. After assembling the tent and placing our luggage inside it was cramped to say the least. But we were tired enough each night that we slept well (Mr. Prepared with his ear plugs), even though there was barely room to breathe. The campground store sold ice cream and blue slushies and Jamie's patronage boosted its sales each afternoon. In the evenings he enjoyed skimming stones into the big Great Lake.

We had one night of rain. After we laid down I heard thunder and thought to myself, Oh, no. After it started pouring I thought of all the things we had left outside the tent. Towels. Bike bag. Helmets. Our tent stayed dry but when I woke up the next morning I thought how wet the things left outside would be. Opened my eyes and saw Mr. Prepared had slid everything into the tent before it rained - it was all perfectly dry. And we were ready for another day of (dry) riding.

Jamie and I looked forward to playing Scrabble each evening. We forgot to pack a dictionary for reference and he took that as a license for many creative word entries. One way or the other the kid beat me in all but one game. At the end of another close game I had one letter left and he had three. I was winning but just barely. He asked if he could sleep on the game, and he did literally. The next day he came up with an entry of "jo" that won it. I disputed that word and declared myself the winner. Then the first thing he did when we got home on Sunday was to look it up and found it was slang for "darling or sweetheart." I was forced to concede that one.

The last night we played pinochle with new riding friends, Emily and Algie. It was another close finish, with our woman's team winning this time. We try to play pinochle at

least once on these rides. One unfortunate year Jamie and I got talked into entering a euchre card tournament the group was having. The only catch is we didn't know how to play (they said it's an easy card game but it wasn't). Catch on we didn't and we resigned in disgrace saying never again. But pinochle we'll always love.

The riding was all good although the corn fields were a bit monotonous after a while. Ethanol in the making. Sugar beats and soy beans provided some variety. The biggest town in the thumb is Bad Axe and their high schoolers are "The Hatchets." It was all very flat which is good for the endurance but doesn't necessarily add interest. The last day was interesting however with plenty of wind - blowing in the opposite direction all day. The huge turbines on the local commercial wind farm were spinning significantly faster than my wheels. Across all the fields the wind blew with nothing to block it. Jamie drafted me towards the end. Otherwise I may have had to hop on the ride's friendly sag wagon. I tried to hunch over to decrease resistance but that didn't feel too good on the back. Made it to the end after 47-miles of headwinds. Threw our things in the car, said goodbye to a few tired people and Jamie drove us home, knowing how exhausted I was. I was in my comfortable bed by 7pm, not even having the energy to watch 60-Minutes (the only show I watch all week).

Met many interesting people along the way. One couple from St. Louis said how upsetting the Anheuser-Busch merger was for the city. Another couple from Chicago updated us on their international bike trips. And Uncle Milty who oversees the accommodations had lemonade and watermelon ready for us after each day's ride. All-in-all a fun thing to do with your 17-year-old - even when he outdistances you, teases you, and beats you 3-games-to-1 in Scrabble.



Photo courtesy of Donovan Riley

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



JOHN PERSON
DEBORAH HARDMAN
NANCY FREDRICKS
CATHY LARRISON
GREG CASPERSON
KELLY CASPERSON
SHAWNDA HOLLIER



Sue and Joe Rabidoux on the NWTour. Photo courtesy of Donovan Riley.

HAS YOUR ADDRESSED CHANGED?

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 e-mail your address change to membership@biketcba.org. Or, for your convenience, please mail the form on the last page to TCBA, Membership Change of Address, P. O. Box 22146, Lansing, MI 48909.

L.A.B. Road I Class

By Bill Savage, Chairman, Education & Safety Commission

A League of American Bicyclists "Road I Class" was held on August 23, 2008, at the Plymouth Congregational Church in Lansing. League Cycling Instructors' (L.C.I.'s) Brian Cahalan and Wes Grose instructed the entertaining and enlightening nine-hour class, with about half the time in the classroom discussing safe riding practices, and the rest of the time practicing these skills on the roads and in parking lot drills. Participating in the class were:

Sandy Atherton, Kim Dewey, Mary Elizabeth Knowles, Rachelle Bangela, George Grof, Janet Weber, and Bob Crawford.

All class members received their "Road I" Certificates and are now eligible to take further L.A.B. classes.

It is anticipated that another "Road I" class will be held in May, 2009. TCBA members will be given an opportunity to sign up for the class, before it is placed on the L.A.B. website. The preferred class size is 6 to 10 participants, and the cost will be approximately \$60.

Photo courtesy of Bill Savage.



Sunrises & Sunsets for October 2008

DAY	RISE	SET	DAY	RISE	SET
1	7:35 AM	7:20 PM	16	7:52 AM	6:55 PM
2	7:36 AM	7:18 PM	17	7:53 AM	6:53 PM
3	7:37 AM	7:17 PM	18	7:55 AM	6:52 PM
4	7:38 AM	7:15 PM	19	7:56 AM	6:50 PM
5	7:40 AM	7:13 PM	20	7:57 AM	6:48 PM
6	7:41 AM	7:11 PM	21	7:58 AM	6:47 PM
7	7:42 AM	7:10 PM	22	7:59 AM	6:45 PM
8	7:43 AM	7:08 PM	23	8:01 AM	6:44 PM
9	7:44 AM	7:06 PM	24	8:02 AM	6:42 PM
10	7:45 AM	7:05 PM	25	8:03 AM	6:41 PM
11	7:46 AM	7:03 PM	26	8:04 AM	6:39 PM
12	7:48 AM	7:01 PM	27	8:06 AM	6:38 PM
13	7:49 AM	7:00 PM	28	8:07 AM	6:37 PM
14	7:50 AM	6:58 PM	29	8:08 AM	6:35 PM
15	7:51 AM	6:56 PM	30	8:09 AM	6:34 PM
			31	8:11 AM	6:33 PM

EXERCISE, ADDICTION AND VALUES

by Ron Berby

I didn't know it at the time, but I had already fallen prey to addiction at age twelve in 1955. That was when I began to run. And in the fifty-plus years since, I have each day had to get my daily fix of exercise.

At first I believed mistakenly that I ran in order to be in shape to run cross country and track for Milford High School and later Michigan State. But after "retiring" from running after MSU, I lost my way for a time to another form of addiction. When I returned to running, it enabled me to again trade addictions, this time maybe for good. But again I mistakenly believed I was running to get in shape for the next race, by now often a marathon or even ultra marathon. It took yet some time, but finally the realization entered my brain: I ran most days because it made me feel better. And since the year 2000, riding a bicycle has become my daily drug of choice.

When you get in the running (or biking) culture, you find ways to get your daily fix. As a runner, I found myself running in new places when I traveled, among them an hour-long run in the great hills of the Daniel Boone National Forest in central Kentucky, an hour and twenty minute meandering around the University of Wisconsin campus and downtown Madison, as well as a forty-five minute stop-and-go jaunt through Chicago's Loop and Lakefront during the rush of a lunch hour.

Taking my bike on vacations and other trips, I have ridden in Rhinelander and Ashland, Wisconsin; Columbus, Ohio (where my wife, Sally, was running a marathon); Bloomington and Terre Haute, Indiana; and Champaign/Urbana, Illinois.

Sally and I find that our outlooks and values are evermore affected by our need to exercise. We had been riding bikes for maybe a year when we started feeling sorry for well-to-do relatives. Despite their owning a vast spread where they raise purebred horses for Olympic Equestrian events, including a riding arena and massive barns, they are sadly deprived. You

see, they live on a loose, gravelly road, hardly fit for riding bikes.

And finally, even our major purchases have been adjusted to meet our exercise needs. A few years back we insisted on making measurements before buying a Dodge Caravan. Sure enough, if we removed their wheels, we could fit two bikes in it, and have room to spare for luggage. We took the bikes on a trip to northern Wisconsin, and rode them along north woods rails-to-trails.



More recently we bought a Toyota Matrix, but only after the steel tape showed that with the back seats folded down, it could hold a road bike without removing the bike's wheels. Further, if we also folded down the "shotgun" seat and only the right rear seat, we could fit our tandem in there, with the bike's wheels removed. However, this meant that on trips to bike tours in places like Laingsburg and Clare, one of us would have to sit in the rear seat behind the driver, while the other appeared to be a chauffeur. Big deal, appearances never meant that much to either of us.

Speaking of the tandem, I'll have to tell you about my cousin, Bill. Bill's a normal American. Golf is his most aggressive form of exercise. When we showed him our tandem, told him we paid \$2,200 for it, and further that with the additional doo-dads it totaled about \$3,000, he said, "You paid \$3,000 for a bike?!"

I didn't answer him right away. But after thinking about it, I simply asked, "Bill, how much did you pay for your Chevy Avalanche?"

He didn't really answer, but grinned at getting my point. He saw that people pay for what they value.



"Enjoy the little things in life, for one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things."

~ Robert Brault



SummerTour riders. Front: Bob Flynn, Clark Long, Dave Smith. Back: Rick Stillely and Phil Sanderson. Photo courtesy of Donovan Riley.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Extra copies of the Chainwheel Chatter are available at all member meetings. Members are encouraged to pick up a few bundles to distribute to your local bicycle shops, YMCA locations, or other sports and/or training centers where potential new members or individuals interested in biking can receive them.

Hello TCBA Board and membership biketcba.org. I recently received an email request from Board at Large Herb Drake for a complete revamping of biketcba.org, most notably recommending "redesign of the TCBA "home" page so it becomes more like the newsletter or a general information source rather than the current menu-style."

A new look would be nice, but I believe it's too much to ask from an all volunteer club.

I have been TCBA's volunteer Webmaster for 14 years. The notion of a club Website was entirely my idea, and initially the Board showed little interest, but I persisted in putting together our award-winning website. I do most of the work on biketcba.org. I do the Home Page, and everything to do with SummerTour, WOW, T-Shirt, NW Tour, and with Thomas Baumann's assistance, the DALMAC interactive application pages. I also handle all the updates to the DALMAC pages, I upload Chainwheel Chatter each month and do updates to Braking News, Chain Links, all the photo collections and ride reports for all the rides, and all other pages as needed. I receive and respond to several thousand TCBA emails annually (1,295 non-spam emails so far this year). Altogether, I probably spend a 400-500 hours a year as Webmaster. I also generally manage to ride enough for a Level 1 award every year.

Over the years, I've had assistance from other volunteers. Del Johnson does the DALMAC online registration page. Wendell Proudfoot does the mileage reports and compiles the Chainwheel Chatter Ride List and the Called-in Ride Line updates into his own Ride List to which we

have a link on biketcba.org. John Foltz handles the Forum and the recumbent page.

For my website work, I use a couple of Macintosh computers, my broadband Internet connection, a couple of printers, several digital cameras, several hard drives, two scanners, and lots of software, including Adobe GoLive, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Acrobat Professional, Microsoft Office, Apple iPhoto, Apple iMovie, various Internet browsers, hundreds of fonts, and more. I have never charged TCBA for my time, Internet connection, hardware or software.

I agree that it would be nice to make some major changes to the TCBA website. I am perfectly capable of making those changes, but expect it would take me about 1,000 hours annually, a new Mac, and some new software. More importantly, it would limit my ability to ride my bike. I'm not willing to make that commitment, so I am stepping aside at the end of 2008. In the interim, I will continue to upload members' photo collections and manage the website as it is. I am willing to continue to manage the SummerTour and Northwest Tour pages and handle some of the ride reports. I am willing also to meet with my successor(s) to effectuate a good transition, and I'll be glad to furnish all the necessary passwords.

I don't think the Board understands how much volunteer commitment or expert help would be involved in upgrading the club website as outlined. One doesn't need to go far to see a good example of a modern bike club website. The League of Michigan Bicyclists has an excellent site: <<http://www.lmb.org/>>. John Lindenmayer, LMB's Associate Director and Webmaster, a paid LMB employee, took about a year to program that new website and devotes around 50% of his time annually to

keeping it current. LMB has had to acquire all new Macintosh computer equipment and software for John's effort. The latest Macintosh hardware and software is essential to any creative effort like this. As a non-profit, TCBA may be able to get a break on some of the cost, but we're talking \$ thousands.

TCBA is an all volunteer organization. That is the key strength of our organization, but it imposes limits on what we can do. TCBA has a long standing policy against paying for services that volunteers can provide. The TCBA Board has specifically rejected the notion of paying for Website services. So, where LMB can utilize half of John Lindenmayer's paid work time for their Website, TCBA would need to find volunteers to do that work.

Every time the club takes on some new task, we must first enlist the help of the volunteers that it takes to do that task. This isn't just a one time update, but what the Board is asking for will necessitate constant updates, so lots of volunteer commitment. I'm not convinced that we can enlist enough qualified volunteers to pull all this off. Maybe we just can't have what a paid organization can have.

Furthermore, I believe that biketcba.org does a good and effective job now of conveying necessary information to the membership. Chainwheel Chatter is already available online every month, typically the same day that it is submitted to the printer for mailing. As far as I know all club forms and ride information is available online. I've been willing to post photos and journals of club events, generally within a couple of weeks of receiving them from the members who took them. Altogether, I have posted several thousand member photos on the biketcba.org website and they're all still there. I use the Braking News page to post bulletins or news items that are brought to my attention. That's usually a same day posting.

Webmaster's Editorial

Continued from Page 8

DALMAC REPORT

by Al Simons, Events Director

As for sending email to the members, that can be done easily, but like the website update, would necessitate volunteers. Katie Donnelly does distribute the Called-in Ride Line, for instance, via email to all who wish to receive it that way. The interactive membership application form that Thomas Baumann and I programmed asks for email addresses, so the club already has that information from the folks who want to make it available to us. To distribute mailings to all the members would merely mean acquiring some bulk mailing software (large numbers of emails from a single sender are typically rejected unless they're handled with bulk mailing software), then preparing the mailings that are to be distributed. Since Chainwheel Chatter is already in PDF format, sending it out via email could easily be automated, but at nearly 500Kb per issue, it would tend to clog a lot of mailboxes. In my view, having Chainwheel Chatter online for download is preferable to sending it out via email.

The Forum. New registration for the Forum has been closed all year because John Foltz, the Forum administrator, was besieged with

phony registrations submitted maliciously by "bots." Reopening Forum registration would necessitate implementing new software of the kind where the applicant types in the numbers or letters shown in a graphic image. Programming and installing that sort of software shouldn't be particularly complex, but to do it we need a volunteer. If you're interested in serving as that volunteer, please let me know.

As I see it, everything about the biketcba.org website is a matter of volunteer commitment. If anybody is interesting in taking on all or part of this daunting task, email me at (webmaster@biketcba.org) for further details.

I wish TCBA the best of luck.

Sincerely,

Ed Noonan, Webmaster: Tri-County Bicycle Association, <http://www.biketcba.org/> Lansing, Michigan, USA, webmaster@biketcba.org



Thank you crew, committees, and riders for another successful DALMAC! The new overnight sites and routes were a big hit with everybody including our new host villages and cities. The staff has two more meetings, the DALMAC debriefing where we discuss what went well and areas to improve, and our appreciation dinner where the entire staff (approximately 130 people will convene one last time for DALMAC 2008...then we begin working on DALMAC 2009.

There is a limited supply of DALMAC Jerseys and T-Shirts available. E-mail DALMAC@BikeTCBA.org and we'll let you know what is available and how to purchase them.

There are a few "Lost and We Found It" items that I will bring to the next couple TCBA Meetings. There are no items of significance, except there is a set of keys attached to a VW Key Phob that I'm sure someone wants back.

Thank you,

Al Simons,
Events Director



DALMAC Photos courtesy of Linda Antinori



DALMAC 2008 ~ Someone should have told these riders the "MAC" in DALMAC does not stand for Mc,Donald's!

CLASSIFIEDS



FOR SALE: SARIS Bones 2-Bike Trunk Mount Rack, with extender. Used 5 times. \$50. Call Janet (517) 543-7942 or email janetweber@cablespeed.com.

FOR SALE: 13" KHS Alite 500 mountain bike, dark blue. Frame: Alloy 7005 Hydro formed double butted tubing w/replaceable derailleur hanger, FORK: Spinner Point 286LC, 100mm, Preload adjust, hydraulic lockout, Shimano Components. 2005 model purchased in late 2006 - hardly ridden - in almost new condition. Asking price is \$350.00 or best offer. Phone (517) 333-9258 - ask for Brad.

FOR SALE: Bones/Saris Bumper Supported Bike Rack, Model #805. Holds two bikes. Excellent Condition. Asking \$45.00. Call Carl at

(517) 484-9254.

FOR SALE: SANTANA TANDEM, Medium size Visa. If you want to buy a tandem, then you want a Santana. 21 Speed, STI Shifting, with rear rack. In good condition. This is a great family bike for you and your spouse or child. Cost \$2800 when new, we're selling it for \$1150. Call Charlie at (517) 337-1793 or email at cmack@msu.edu.

FOR SALE: BIKE CULTURE! Unique bike books and magazines available at OutYourBackDoor.com. Highlights include "The Recumbent Bicycle" book and new "Velo Vision" magazine issues. Dozens of other new and vintage bike culture books--all hard-to-find. 100's of free bike culture articles at the OYB website. Check out the handy "5-Way OYB Bag"---does more than any other bike bag! Jeff Potter, proprietor and TCBAer (Williamston).

FOR SALE: 2006 Atmos helmet. Medium. Red, white and blue. Never worn. New: \$174 Yours: \$100 Women's NIKE Road shoes, size 8. \$20; and Pearl Izumi Road Shoes, size 7 1/2. \$20 Call (517)

483-9610.



WANTED: Road 172.5 cranks for Shimano type square taper. If spider has 110 cc then I have the rings for them. Looks are not important, just need to be usable. I have a very ugly set of 175 if you want to try longer cranks. Call Robert Mosher at (517) 420 5820.

FOUND: The Ingham County Sheriff's Office found two (2) Road bikes laying at the side of the road. Bikes were found at Holt Road and Okemos Road. One bike is a Giant CFR and the other a Trek Composite. If anyone lost these bikes please contact Deputy Christine McPharlin of the Ingham County Sheriff's Office. Deputy McPharlin can be reached at (517) 676-8231 or send her an e-mail at mcpharlin@ingham.org.

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.



CLUB ITEMS — The TCBA has several club items for sale: Club Jerseys (\$55) [no more large available]. We still have some Poly-Insulated Water Bottles for \$10, red, blue, and purple. Contact Herb Drake or Kris Stairs at the next monthly meeting to purchase your club needs.

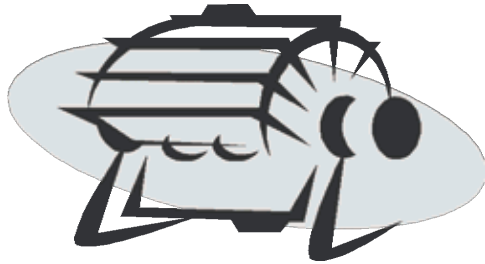
HAPPY HALLOWEEN

TCBA MEMBER CONTACT

Your respect is requested when using any of the numbers on this page. Phone calls during family time and at late hours can be intrusive. You may also leave a message for any of these individuals at (517) 882-3700.

TCBA OFFICERS:

- President: Joe Adams
E-mail: president@biketcba.org
- Vice President: Susan Viele
E-mail vp@biketcba.org
- Treasurer: Dick Sulin
E-mail treasurer@biketcba.org
- Secretary: Linda Antinori
E-mail secretary@biketcba.org
- Events Director: Al Simons
DALMAC Hotline (517) 882-3700
E-mail eventsdirector@biketcba.org
- Board at Large:
- Herb Drake
E-mail boardatlarge2@biketcba.org
- Kris Stairs
E-mail boardatlarge1@biketcba.org



OTHER GOOD NUMBERS:

- Bike Travel Case Use Coordinator
E-mail:.....philwells@sbcglobal.net
- DALMAC/Events Hotline.....TUBES-00 (517) 882-3700
DALMAC E-mail:.....dalmac@biketcba.org
- DALMAC FUND: Tom Hardenbergh
DALMAC Treasurer: Ken Hendrick
E-Mail.....dalmactreasurer@biketcba.org
- LMB Office
E-mail:.....office@lmb.org
- LMB Rep.: Phil Wells
E-mail:.....pwells@lmb.org
- Librarian: Tom Hardenbergh
- Membership Coordinator:
Nancy Johnson
E-mail:.....membership@biketcba.org
- Name Tag Coordinator: Edie Belcher
- Newsletter Editor: Janet Weber
E-mail:....chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org
- Ride Coordinator: Ed Usewick
E-mail:.....rideschedule@biketcba.org
- Ride Line:.....TUBES-OO (517) 882-3700
- Ride Line: Call In Coordinator:
Katie Donnelly.....TUBES-OO (517) 882-3700
- Ride Mileage Keeper:
Steve Schuesler
E-mail:.....s.schuesler@comcast.net
- Safety & Education: Bill Savage
E-mail:.....MSUSavage@aol.com
- SummerTour: Lee Adair
E-mail:.....summertour@biketcba.org
- T-Shirt Ride: Deb Holdcraft
E-mail:.....tshirt@biketcba.org
- Weather
- W O W: Joane Gruizenga
E-mail:wow@biketcba.org

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please complete this form, clip and drop in an envelop to ensure we receive your correct address so you receive your Chainwheel Chatter. Thank you!



NAME _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

MAIL TO: TCBA, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP CHANGE OF ADDRESS, P.O. BOX 22146, LANSING, MI 48909.