

## COLORADO SPRINGS CYCLING CLUB

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The Colorado Springs Cycling Club Newsletter is the official publication of the Colorado Springs Cycling Club (CSCC). Opinions and articles contained herein do not necessarily represent official club positions, unless so stated or indicated.

## CLUB OFFICERS

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## RIDE SCHEDULE

Sunday Show & Go Ride -- This ride starts at Acacia Park downtown at 1:00PM. The distance and pace depends upon those who show. Call any of the officers for details. This ride will go if the temperature is above 40 degrees and road conditions permit unless there is another club event scheduled.

Monday Dinner Ride -- Starting April 11th this ride leaves Acacia Park downtown at 5:30PM. The pace is slow to moderate for a distance of 15 miles with dinner stop in route or after the ride. Ride leader, Bob Smith at 528-6834.

Tuesday Lunch Bunch Ride -- Moderate paced ride of 20-30 miles meeting in the parking lot east of Quail Lake Park at 11:00AM. Ride leader, Suzy Cerrato at 579-8599.

Membership Meeting -- The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 21st at 7:00PM. For meeting location and program call Anne at 528-6834.

First Annual TOARV May 21st and 22nd:

CSCC is sponsoring the 1st Annual Tour of the Arkansas River Valley (TOARV). This is a 2-day, 190 mile event from Pioneer Park in Florence to Buena Vista and back to Florence with an overnight in Buena Vista. This will be the first major tour sponsored by CSCC, we need every members assistance to make this a success. Registration forms and details will be mailed to club members in about a week. We need volunteers for registration, sag and rest

stops. If you would like to help, contact Bob or Anne at 528-6834.

CLUB MEMBERS DISCOUNT: Aquila Cycles on Union Blvd. has just joined the CSCC's member discount program, welcome aboard Aquila Cycles. As a member in good standing of CSCC you are entitled to a 10% discount on the purchase of cycling accessories from the following bike shops:

Aquila Cycles	633-9810
Colorado Springs Bike Shop	634-4915
Tour de France Schwinn	599-0190
Campus Bike Shop, Denver	(303) 698-2811

In order to obtain your discount you must present a valid CSCC membership card. If you have not received your membership card, contact Anne Smith at 528-6834.

## DATES to REMEMBER and COMING ATTRACTIONS

Mar 13th -- CSCC presents Ski Monarch contact Suzy Cerrato for advance discount tickets by Mar 9th at 579-8599. Meet at Albertsons parking lot on 115 and Cheyenne Mountain Road at 5:45AM on the Sunday, Mar 13th to carpool to Monarch.

Mar 20th -- St. Patrick's Day Ride. Acacia Park Downtown at 1:00PM -- Ride Leader Anne Smith

May 8th -- Mother's Day Ride

May 21-22 -- 1st Annual TOARV

May 29th -- Memorial Day Ride

Jul 2-4 -- 4th of July campout at Red Rocks campsite near Woodland Park. There will mountain bike and road bike rides for everyone. Contact Jim Hoge at 633-7688.

Do you have an idea for a ride or some other thing that is more fun to do with a group? Please call any of the club officers with your ideas or better yet bring them to the next meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

Welcome back for an year with CSCC to Andy Mann. Also a welcome aboard to Jene Ducharme and Neal and Charity Kovac. Many of you have met Neal and Charity on our Sunday afternoon rides from Acacia Park. Hope to see you soon on one of our rides or other events.

The CSCC mailing list is now maintained on a computer. We have added the date that your membership expires to the mailing label. Additionally your last issue of the still unnamed CSCC newsletter will be marked RENEWAL. This will be your only renewal notice. So in order to keep receiving the newsletter please fill out the enclosed membership application and send in your check or money order.

CLASSIFIED ADS: The CSCC Newsletter accepts classified advertisements from both members and non-members. Non-commercial ads are free to club members. Non-member/commercial rates will be reviewed at the next club meeting. Please submit typed ads to club mailing address by the 15th of the month preceding publication. You must include all pertinent information and where you can be contacted. The CSCC newsletter can not be held responsible for any typographical errors.

#### OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

April 1-3 1988 Easter Hill Country Tour -- Tired of winter and ready for spring? Try this 3-day tour in beautiful Kerrville, Texas. All tours are loops of varying distance out of Kerrville. For more info contact the Fort Worth Bicycle Association, Easter Hill Country Tour, 7201 W. Vickery, Fort Worth, Texas 76116

May 7-9 Death Valley to Mt. Whitney Stage Race -- This is a UCSF race with a citizens category. Contact Jim Cerrato at 684-9483 for details.

May 28-30 Memorial Day Weekend -- Annual Southwest Mountain Tour 170 mile 3 day tour in the Questa, Rio Grande and Taos New Mexico area. Denver Bicycle Touring Club (303)798-3713

May 28-30 Memorial Day Weekend -- Southwest Colorado Tour This breathtaking 3 day tour is presented by the Denver Bicycle Tour Club (303)798-3713.

June 4&5 American Lung Association -- First Annual Overnight Tour. Start in Pueblo and camp in San Isabel and return to Pueblo. Steve Hall 633-5001 or Bob Hansen 596-1952.

June 19-24 Ride the Rockies -- This is a 6-day 384 mile tour from Craig to Golden. Contact the Denver Post at (303)820-1338 or obtain an entry form in the Sunday, Feb 28th edition of the Denver Post.

Aug 27 Hotter'N'Hundred -- 10, 25, 50, 100K & 100 mile loops starting in Wichita Falls, Tx. The country's largest century ride.

Sept 11 Front Range Century -- 25, 50 & 100 loops on rural country roads. Denver Bicycle Touring Club (303)798-3713.

Sept 18 Tour de Hardscrabble Century -- Strada Bicycling Club RT Newman 475-2753.

For more information about rides from race training to touring contact Bob at 528-6834.

#### RIDE THE ROCKIES '87 TANDEM TOUR

The 2nd edition of Ride the Rockies or the Denver Post Colorado Bike Tour started in Durango on June 27, 1987 and arrived in Denver on July 3, 1987. The tour was 6 days, 403 miles, 5 (actually 7) mountain passes and thousands of feet of elevation gained and lost. Our steed was a Ride the Rockies veteran Santana tandem. We had already decided that this year's tour was going to be more difficult. It was nearly 100 miles longer and nearly everyday had atleast two climbs and this time we were married. We had gotten married after the 86 tour (we figured if we could survive a 6-day bike tour on a tandem through the rockies then marriage should be easy).

We arrived in Durango Saturday afternoon by bus from Denver and setup camp at Fort Lewis College and awaited the arrival of the two tractor-trailers that were transporting the bicycles from Denver. We uncrated the tandem and reassembled it along with hundreds of other folks. We had dinner at the College cafeteria (college food hasn't gotten any better in the last 12 years) and we turned in early. It rained some during the night which was an omen of things to come. We were up early on Sunday, packed our tent, ate a community breakfast at the College and headed for downtown.

We left Durango elevation 6600 feet with 2,124 other riders ranging in age from 9 to 69 including son Bobby, around 8:00AM with the Durango to Silverton Narrow-gauge Train. At first we thought that we were in the Ironhorse Classic and surely we'd beat the train to Silverton. About 5 miles out of Durango things began to separate a little and we were leading a peloton of about 20 riders. During the first 20 miles of the tour from Durango to near Purgatory we traveled along the beautiful Animus River Valley. Then we started the climb up Coal Bank Pass/Hill to 10,660 feet. At the top everyone stops for pictures, food, drink and a well deserved rest. We remounted and descended for the next three miles down to 9700' just in time to climb back to 10899' up Molas Divide. By the time we reached the Summit of Molas Divide the sun had gone into hiding and we had given up beating the train to Silverton. It became a race to beat the rain and sleet.

We managed to get into Silverton elevation 9500' before the rain and sleet but we had to setup camp in the rain. Yes we did camp. Silverton is an old mining town of only 800 people and mostly renowned for ice cold showers. After a cold shower, dinner, an ice cream cone and some more rain we hit the down at around 7:30PM. Anne fell asleep immediately and so much for day one of R-the-R 1987.

On tour day two we awakened at 5:00AM to sub-freezing temperatures and lines for the John. We broke camp, put our bags on the truck and ate a breakfast of granola, yogurt and hot coffee. The town of Silverton planned a nice celebration for the riders but the weather did not cooperate.

We got under way around 6:30AM. Everything was wet and cold we were almost thankful to be climbing immediately.

The climb over Red Mountain Pass elevation 11,075' was relatively easy and the State Patrol made it very safe by limiting traffic to one way at a time. The road over Red Mountain is commonly referred to as the Million Dollar Highway because the road base is gold and silver ore. It could easily be known as the million dollar highway for its scenic beauty. Descending into Ouray on a tandem was very difficult due to all the hairpin turns with no guard rails. Ouray is called Little Switzerland and it has public pool that is fed by hot springs. After a long dip in the pool and brunch we headed for Montrose elevation 5800 feet. We were concerned that the rains would return and we hammered the 35 miles to Montrose in an hour and forty minutes over mostly flat to rolling terrain.

We immediately located our gear and setup camp hoping to get things dried out from the two previous days of rain (Durango and Silverton). No such luck, no sooner was the tent up than it started to rain. We camped at the Montrose Junior High where the showers were maybe 60 degrees and the all-u-can eat spaghetti was pretty good. Bobby went for a bus tour of the Black Canyon. Anne and I wanted to go, but we missed the bus. We opted for an ice cream cone and a visit to the local bikery. It rained off and on all evening.

Tour day 3 and all is well because in Gunnison we have a bed reserved and today's 65 miles is probably the easiest of the tour. We started the with a huge breakfast served by the local Lions Club. It was still dark when we had breakfast. We got underway at 6:35AM and it seemed as though we were climbing again. Today consisted of three climbs; Cerros Summit, Blue Mesa and another unnamed short climb for a total of 4000 feet. The route was US 50 along the Blue Mesa and Black Canyon Areas. Due to spring and early summer rains, the area was abnormally very green and lush. We meet a lot of people today from last year's tour. The 86 tour had the Pink Flamingos and a few other groups. This year there were a lot more tandems and single bikes with strange passengers. There were oversize stuffed animals and a little dog named Sparky riding in an open box on the back of his master's bike. There were also Team WETSU (We Eat This Shit Up) and of course the Flamingos and Team Turtle. We arrived at Western State College Campus in Gunnison elevation 7800' round 1:30. Bobby did not arrive until around 3:30. He was beginning to feel the grind of riding everyday. We setup our tent and put everything out to dry. Today was the best weather of the tour. Gunnison had a block party and food fair for riders which was very nice. The Colorado towns are beginning to get with the program this year. Last year Leadville was the only town to roll out the red carpet. Anne and I turned in around 9:00PM. We had our first hot shower and bed in days, nothing could be better. Bobby really enjoyed the block party, was beginning to make some friends and did not seem to mind the camping.

Having traveled 175 miles in three days over Coal Bank Hill, Molas Divide, Red Mountain Pass, Cerros Summit and Blue Mesa Summit with a total elevation gain of 10,934 feet we were only 1200 feet higher than Durango. We have crossed only one of the five declared passes (actually 7, Coal Bank Hill and Molas Divide are passes in our book)

and it was still 230 miles to Denver. Stay tuned for the final three days of Ride-the-Rockies Part II in the next issue. For information about the 88 Ride the Rockies Denver Post Colorado Bike Tour contact the Denver Post or get your entry form from Sunday February 28th's edition of the Denver Post.


by Bob Smith

#### EVENT REPORTS

New Years started with a bang as far as CSCC was concerned. The first ride of the year was the Second Annual Frozen Water Bottle Ride on January 3rd. There were 18 brave souls up for the challenge and for the second year in a row the water bottles did freeze about halfway through the 28 mile loop. We had sunshine and maybe 25 degree temperatures. A good time was had by all and several riders had hot chocolate and pizza at Pizza Hut after the ride.

On January 24th eight hardy club members traded their bikes for skis and headed for Ski Cooper. After carbo loading in Buena Vista for a day on the slopes. Ski Cooper was beautiful but chilly -45 degree wind chill factor at the top. This didn't stop the merriment and a good time was had by all. Check the calendar of events for the next ski trip.

by Anne Smith

 Tour de France  
Schwinn

"SALES AND SERVICE"

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