CSCC THE BENT FORK CHRONICLES

COLORADO SPRINGS CYCLING CLUB
P.O. BOX 49602, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. 80849-9602

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Regular Rides

Ride leaders can be contacted prior to the ride for more details. Rides may be canceled due to weather conditions or lack of interest.

Sunday Afternoon Ride. Meet at Bijou Street on the south side of Acacia Park at 1:00 pm for a slow to moderate ride of about 20 miles. This is a good ride to meet fellow club members. Contact David Spiese 635-3240.

Monday Evening Dinner Ride. September is the last month this year for this 15 mile ride which leaves from Acacia Park at 5:30 pm. Dinner is along the route or at a downtown location. Bob Smith 528-6834.

Tuesday Lunch Bunch Ride. Meet at 10:00 am at the Hidden Inn in the Garden of the Gods for a summer lunch ride with Anne Smith. This is an easy ride of approximately 20 miles with lunch at a restaurant during or at the end of the ride. Please call ahead. 528-6834.

Wednesday Evening Womens Killian's Run. September is the last month this season for the gals only fun ride which leaves from Acacia Park on September 5 and 19. Meet at 5:45 pm for a 6:00 pm start. The ride will be about 15 westside miles. Plan on going to the downtown Old Chicago after the ride. Contact Cathy Pillis 473-6750.

CSCC Events Calendar. Check the monthly event calendar for the complete schedule of all CSCC rides. There's plenty of rides on the September and October schedule. If the event you are interested in is not described in detail in the newsletter, call the number listed on the event calendar for more details.

The ED Sed

Doyle Dikes

Share your cycling experiences, tips, or opinions in the Bent Fork Chronicles. Electronic submissions via floppy diskette or modem are preferred.

September and October Events

Survivors Classic Centuries, **Saturday, September 1.** All rides start and finish from Sky Sox Stadium. There will be loops of 12, 25, 50, 62 & 100 miles. Two mass starts will be at 7:00 and 7:15 am from Sky Sox Stadium. Proceeds support the Survivors Charities of the Pikes Peak Peace Officers Association. Routes are ideal for tandems. See the brochure for more details. Bob Smith 628-6834

John Ellis Celebration, Saturday, September 8. Rides of 20, 31 & 62 miles (moderate-to-difficult) will start from Bricker Park near Astrozon and Chelton at 9:30 am. Drinks and snacks will be available after the rides, a $1 contribution per person will be requested to help cover the cost. John Ellis 637-8473.

Leadville Lead Triangle Weekend, September 15-16. Carpool from Duckwalls on Colorado Avenue west of 31st at 6:00 am on Saturday and drive to Leadville. Ride departs from the Delaware Hotel at 9:00 am to ride over Tennessee, Vail and Fremont Passes during prime foliage season. Sunday's ride departs from the Delaware Hotel at 10:00 am for a loop around Turquoise Lake. Make your reservations at the Historic Delaware Hotel in Leadville (800) 748-2004. Bob Smith 528-6834.

Tandem Sunday, October 7. Meet at the K-Mart on Powers and Palmer Park at 10:00 am for rides on relatively flat loops of 30 and 50 miles. Socialize over pizza at the Pizza Hut after the ride. Single bikes are also welcome. Call 592-6834.

Halloween Ride and Party, Sunday, October 28. Ride starts from the Smith's home at 5485 Wilson Rd at 1:00 pm. There will be NO ACACIA PARK RIDE on this date. Adults $5.00 and children $2.50 or $10.00 per family. Fajitas will be served after the ride. Costumes are optional. RSVP required. Call 528-6834.

Possible Rides

September Centuries

Enchanted Circle Wheeler Peak Tour, Sunday, September 9 in Red River, New Mexico.

Front Range Century, Denver Bicycle Touring Club, Sunday, September 9 in Ft. Lupton, Colorado.

Challenge of the Summits, Pedal Pueblo, Sunday, September 23 in Pueblo, Colorado.

Club Meeting

September's meeting will be on Tuesday, the 18th, at 7:00 pm at the Broadmoorings Clubhouse off Cheyenne Mountain Boulevard which is located east of Highway 115 and north of Quail Lake. The agenda will include reports on Hotter'N Hell or Bust Ride and the Survivors Classic Centuries. Bring your ideas to contribute to the plans for the Christmas Party. Please bring your own beverage of choice. The food treat will feature building your own ice cream sundae.

THE PREZ SEZ

by Bob Smith

The Prez is practically speechless this month. I'm doing more riding and less writing these days. I plan to write a chronicle on the Hotter'N Hell or Bust Ride for the November/December newsletter.

Get out and do a September Century, especially, the Survivors Classic Centuries on September 1. This ride is an excellent opportunity for cyclists to establish a better rapport with the police. We still need volunteers and riders.

I'm very pleased with turnout for many of our rides and activities this summer. Keep up the good work. Remember that riding increases bicycle awareness.

Our distinguished members for the month are Doyle Dikes, Jim Donnelly, Ann Howard, Marlene

Kissinger and Doyle's parents. Doyle is ride leader of the month for the great ATB ride over Wheeler Pass and organizing the best ever Great Pueblo Ride (GPR). Jim is our volunteer of the month for driving out to save Anne and I from the storm on GPR. Thanks to Ann, Marlene and Doyle's parent for providing SAG and the picnic lunch for GPR.

Top Riders

Rider	Miles	Rides
Bob Smith	2454	72
Anne Smith	2447	73
John Leofsky	1677	53
John Ellis	1585	29
Ken Pearson-Hagen	1512	42
Doyle Dikes	1380	50
David Spiese	1362	36
Jim Donnelly	1182	29
Bob Hyde	1163	30
Doug Barnett	1107	17
Carol Jensen	1054	19

Top Ride Leaders

Rider	Miles	Rides
Bob Smith	1511	46
John Ellis	610	12
John Leofsky	537	24
Anne Smith	348	15
Doyle Dikes	409	7
Bob Hyde	139	2
Tom Noonan	107	4
Cathy Pillis	54	4
Ed Keneski	43	1
Ken Pearson-Hagen	36	2
Bob LeCour	35	2
Bill Rewerts	32	2
Paul Privitera	31	1
Tracey Nyboer	28	2
Norm Howard	17	1

Membership Chronicle

The CSCC members and officers welcome the following new members: David and Sheery Adair, John Cunningham, Mike & and Vivian Lehan and Paul Williams. Welcome again to renewing members: Paul & Lois Bower and Cathy Pillis.

Arvada Century Chronicle

Dick and Wanda Snell

On August 5th, we rode the big Arvada Century. It was big in many ways. The event was big as measured by the number of riders; there were 1300. There were options for 25, 50, and 100 miles, about half rode the full century.

The cool, cloudy, threatening weather at the early start caused some concern as we embarked from the big suburb on Denver's northwest side. The rain stayed away all day as the weather turned quite nice for this big ride. The route meandered quickly through Arvada and then rambled northward on a succession of country roads through farm and ranch land to Longmont. The second half of the ride wasn't quite as pleasant as the first half because of the increasing traffic and city exposure as the ride headed back into the Denver area. The entire route was essentially flat with no big hills. The routes were well chosen - either country roads with little traffic or more heavily traveled roads with wide, clean shoulders.

The scenery was OK - some pastoral country settings but nothing spectacular. The shining star of the ride was the organization. It started with a smooth running registration and packet pickup operation and got better from there on. We've never seen such detailed, complete route descriptions. There were eight big rest stops, one about every twelve miles, with friendly volunteers, cold water, bananas, orange slices, energy bars, and restrooms. At the finish we were treated to a big barbecue in the park - chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, chips, drinks, and live entertainment.

This was our first century in a couple of years and we really enjoyed this big event. We recommend this event for someone looking for a flat century with superb organization and support. It is ideal for a first century.

WOWAKAS Chronicle

Geary Gearette

And on some summer's day, when the breeze is on the air, When the sun is a shimmering disc above the alumina clouds, When the road is a ribbon of black along the green roadways,

A WOWAKAS comes pedaling -- pedaling -- pedaling --
A WOWAKAS comes pedaling, up to Acacia Park.

A French helmet on her waving hair, a bandanna about her head, A jersey of neon pink Lycra, and shorts of teal Supplex, They fit without a wrinkle, tight like an aero sheath.

And she rides with a jeweled twinkle, Her ruby red finger nails a-twinkle, Spinning her pedals smoothly, iridescent sunglasses a-twinkle.

As the ride headed for Upper Skyway, she set the pace, Was chased and caught as the ride turned into a race. As she imagined riding out of sight, (O, jet black Cannondale, riding out of sight!), She rose out of the saddle, attacking with all her might.

When the breeze was a breath of fresh air on a summer's day, And the sun was a shimmering disc above the alumina clouds, And the road was a ribbon of black along the green roadways,

The WOWAKAS came pedaling --pedaling -- pedaling --
The WOWAKAS woman came pedaling, up to Acacia Park.

Wheeler National Trail Chronicle and Book Review

Doyle Dikes

The Mountain Bike Guide to Summit County, Colorado. Laura Rossetter. Sage Creek Press, Silverthorne, Colorado, 80498. 1989. $8.95

This book was sent to CSCC with a request for an review sometime ago. Since it seemed necessary to ride one of the routes to write a meaningful review, I placed Ride 13, the Wheeler National Recreation Trail on the schedule for Sunday, August 5. This route is described in Laura's book as advanced with a distance of 26 miles taking 5 hours time.

Laura's guide is simple and straightforward, it assumes you've got the bike and associated gear and know how to use it so there is no what-to or how-to material, except for a brief review of safety fundamentals. It is also thin on historical details. I liked the guide's voice, finding it quite credible since it is very objective. This black and white guide contrasted starkly with a fat paperback book written in a macho voice with a color photograph of the male author on the back cover. He raved about "bombing down gnarly trails." I see Laura's Mountain Bike Guide to Summit County as a 1990's lean and mean guide to riding in the heart of Colorado.

The Wheeler National Trail ride starts in Breckenridge, climbs to a saddle on the Ten Mile Range between Peaks 8 and 9 and descends to Wheeler Junction near Copper Mountain and returns on the paved bike path to Breckenridge. I anticipated a difficult ascent and descent since the elevation gain was 3,308 feet to a maximum elevation of 12,408 feet.

Laura's guide defined expert as: "Riding conditions for extended periods over rough terrain exist. Routes require expert riding skills. Long climbs and extensive elevation gains demand top physical condition. Occasional hazardous route conditions require periods of walking."

Five CSCC members starting biking from the Breckenridge Bike Path trailhead at 10 am. We are of age

forty-some, experience believe ourselves well equipped and conditioned. We were eager for the challenge of an expert ride as we cruised up the main street of Breckenride, west through the Beaver Run Resort and Convention Center and past the parking lot thereby losing the route immediately in the construction zone start.

Riding back slowly through Beaver Run Resort Hotel and Convention Center, we found the parking lot which was full of automobiles. There was a break in the ski boundary fence with a sign half on the ground reading, "Access to Peak 9 Closed, use King Crown's Road Access." (The only King Crown's road I knew of was in Woodland Park.) Someone said "Maybe it's just for trucks only", and we rode on across the clearing at the base of the ski run to a Burro Trail sign pointing into the trees. A couple on mountain bikes asked if that was the trail to Wheeler Trail. We didn't know. Some of my group wanted to charge down the trail as I read in the guide about "riding under the quad chair lift." To ride under the quad chair lift and stay off the ski slopes as cautioned by the guide, it was necessary to start up a hill too steep to bike! I convinced everyone of this and soon we were pushing our bikes upward.

Before too long we came to a major fork in the road and while I was trying to figure out if we had "passed two roads on the right", the other riders barged on ahead and crossed a cable strung across the road which lead to the base of another quad chair lift. We continued up and as the hill got steeper and steeper making it more and more difficult to push our bikes, we began to realize that we were on Peak Ten, not Peak Nine.

We turned around and headed down and as the rest of the group began bushwhacking into the trees to get on a road visible across a small valley, I headed back to the last major intersection and veered left. I then rode up the road the others were headed for which ended in a dead end at the top of another chairlift. As I waited for the others, I rested and ate part of my lunch. Eventually, the others came up the road and were amazed, how I get there first?

By now I knew where the route lay and we were soon pedaling the switchback dirt road which passed the Peak Nine Restaurant. Soon we were above timberline, past the highest ski lift. By now, the road bed was a layer of stones. We continued upward on the zigzagging switchback road, pushing our bikes when heading into the wind and riding our bikes when pushed by the wind. A few four wheel drive vehicles crept past.

I caught up with the resting group after we passed the intersection of the road with Wheeler National Trail. After a little backtracking, we were riding on the Wheeler National Trail to Wheeler Pass. This stretch requires negotiating a trail which is one-half track wide trail. The trail is so narrow that it is impossible to avoid foot dabs and keep the bike wheels from getting out of the track. The trail traverses a beautiful alpine green hillside above timberline and passes through short willows. It also includes a bog hazard which I fell into. I rolled off my bike as my front wheel sank to it's axle after I was unable to avoid a black 3 x 18 inch puddle of water. As I tumbled onto the willows, I reflected that my fall benefited neither the willows or myself.

Arriving at the top of Wheeler Pass, I marveled at the view of the Gore Range. I later noticed that the sign atop the pass, the very one in the picture on page 72 of Laura's guide, proclaims the elevation of Wheeler Pass as 12,460 feet while the caption of the picture reads "Looking towards the Gore Range from 12,408 ft Wheeler Pass." Is 12,460 or 12,408 the altitude of Wheeler Pass?

As we rested atop the pass, a single rider passed by, the only other cyclist we saw above timber line. He was riding hard and fast using cleats with helmet hanging from his fanny pack.

The descent required constant braking and frequent dismounting to negotiate short difficult stretches of trail. We also stopped a few time because our hands were getting numb. The long hard stretch of braking makes one wonder if this trail is

really suitable for mountain bikes since it cannot be freely ridden. Arriving at the bottom of the trail, we picked up the paved bike and whizzed back to Breckenridge, finishing a ride of 28 exhilarating and exhausting miles.

Laura's guide led us on an adventuresome ride complete with controversy and difficulty. Another ride from her guide seems in order to make a well rounded evaluation, so look for the easy ride of Boreas Pass on a future schedule.

Commercial Memberships

In order to provide a fair and equitable program to businesses who which to advertise in The Bent Fork Chronicles, the CSCC has instituted a Commercial Membership Plan. The Plan entitles a member business to a monthly business card size ad and a yearly full page sale or promotional ad. A Commercial Membership costs $35. All artwork and ad layout must be provided to the editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

The Bike Pedal

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Classifieds

Non-commercial advertisements are free to all club members. Commercial advertisements are through Commercial membership in CSCC only. No ads will be published in The Bent Fork Chronicles without membership. 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 cannot be held responsible for any typographical errors.

BIKE REPAIRS: Overhauls including bearing repacking and wheel truing. Eight years experience. Reasonable rates. Call Ken Pearson-Hagen at 590-7384.

FOR SALE: Santana Sovereign Touring Tandem. The bike is a 1985 model, 22x21 frame size, dark blue metallic, 21 speed, Stronglight cranks, Look Pedals and Huret 3 function computer. In excellent condition. The bike was purchased new in May of 1986. Contact Bob or Anne Smith at 528-6834. Asking $2000 or best offer.

CSCC Map Booklet

If club members have unsold copies or money outstanding, please contact Anne.

Copies are $5 each. Contact Bob or Anne if you want a copy. If you have a favorite ride you would like included in the next edition, provide a route description to Bob Smith.

Discounts

As a CSCC member, you are entitled to a 10% discount on the purchase of cycling accessories from the following bike shops:

Colorado Springs Bike Shops (719) 634-4915. Now at two locations.

Pedal Revolution (719) 389-0909

Rustic Hills Bicycle Center (719) 550-1188

Bike Pedal, discounts on used bikes, 595-7804.

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.