



## MID-VALLEY BICYCLE CLUB

# Spokesman

October 2002

Greetings

### Up front

by Bill Daley, President

#### ANNUAL MEETING - PARTY TIME - ANNUAL MEETING

The Board has agreed to host the annual meeting this year on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at the Adair Village Club House. Activities will start with a social hour at 5 p.m. Dinner will be at 6 p.m. The awards ceremony and election of officers will be held immediately after the dinner.

This is always an entertaining and fun evening. Valley Catering is again providing the food at a modest cost of \$16.95 per person including the gratuity. This price is the same as last year. All Mid-Valley Bicycle Club members and their families are invited. Please mark your calendar now.

We need to provide Valley Catering with a headcount of those attending the dinner by November 12<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP by email to Darrel Cummings <[darrel\\_cummings@HP.com](mailto:darrel_cummings@HP.com)> or to Bill Daley at 6315 NW Vineyard Dr. Corvallis OR 97330.

John Morris is collecting nominations for the annual awards to be given out at the November meeting. Please give him an assist on selecting members worthy for an award. Brian Cripes and Mike Wilson have agreed to put on an electronic slide show as they did last year. If you have any photos to go into the show please contact Brian at <[brian\\_cripe@hpcom](mailto:brian_cripe@hpcom)>.

I'm inviting all members to please come to this meeting. It's a great opportunity to visit with your fellow cyclists in a relaxed and friendly setting.

Reminder: Saturday ride starting time is now 9 a.m.

Sincerely, Bill

#### Triangle Lake Overnighter (The Ride That Almost Wasn't)

Susan Christie

I had never felt less ready for a bike ride. Not even several years ago, when I worked into the wee hours for several weeks to finish a lengthy work project, right up until the night before we left on our northern route cross-continent tour.

This time, in early July, we were planning to join a group of riders on a four-day tour, billed as the "Gorge-ous" Tour out through the Columbia Gorge and back. Lonnie Morse, affectionately known on the Cycle Oregon forums, as "Cap'n Dink," had organized the ride. We had tickets to Portland for us and our bikes for Friday morning's 10:13 Cascades train. My veteran Tour Easy, Red Zinger, and its trailer were all packed and waiting in the garage, next to Matt's Gold Rush and its trailer.

However, a persistent flu-like illness (later note: it turned out to be walking pneumonia!) was still bugging me, and

we hadn't been able to reach Shannon, who always comes by to feed our cat and bring in our mail and papers when we're away. At home Thursday evening, I

expressed my doubt about being up to the ride and my concern about home tasks not arranged for. As I coughed away, Matt said, sensibly, "We don't have to do this, you know." I knew immediately he was right, but I wanted to go, even in the midst of my uncertainty. Red Zinger and I hadn't been on tour for quite some time, and I was so much looking forward to it!

In the end, we decided not to do the tour, and a couple

#### Also in this issue

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- Triangle Lake Overnighter
- Travels with Walt
- CBBT report

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*Walt Prichard*

Fall has set in and most construction is complete for this year. We did get a few nice stretches of road with new bike lanes, particularly Harrison Street from the LDS church to 53<sup>rd</sup> St. If you haven't tried it yet put it on the list. You now have a nice way to get to the Bald Hill Park from north Corvallis. Hopefully they will have the gravel swept off the section of Brooklane that was paved a week ago. This will complete another link around the southern part of Corvallis. This should help some commuters as well as recreational riders looking for a way around Country Club hill.

There are plans for more bike lanes next year, the big one being 35th St. The intersection of 35th and Hwy 20/34 will receive some major work and there will be bike lanes from the school to Western. If The Village at Oak Creek annexation goes through there will be a bike lane and sidewalk on the west side of 35<sup>th</sup> St. from the OSU Foundation property to close to the railroad tracks. If not then we will have to wait for a grant from ODOT if it ever comes through. This is one of those missing links that we need for **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**. There are several other projects pending but we need public input to take away some parking. More on that later. Remember Clean Up Saturday Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, rain or shine and we'll try out a new coffee shop this time because Connie's has closed. See you there!

**Bridge the Gap - 2002 Covered Bridge Bicycle Tour**

*Larry Thurber*

Once again, the Mid-Valley's Covered Bridge Bicycle Tour was a success! Over 380 riders from the Northwest and beyond took in the covered bridges and scenery of Linn County, Oregon on August 11, 2002. Success was attributed to great Oregon summer weather, enthusiastic volunteers, excellent food, and sponsors such as

Cellular One and Peak Sports. Jordan Fire Station, Crabtree Volunteer Fire Station, Scio High School, and the City of Lebanon (River Park) sponsored rest stops.

As in previous years, 4 different routes were offered to riders, ranging from 40 miles to a full 100-mile century. All riders started at Timber Linn Park in Albany, passed through Scio and then branched out to the outlying areas including Jordan, Lacombe, Lebanon, and Crabtree on their way to the covered bridges. New rest stops were added this year at Lebanon's River Park and at the Crabtree Volunteer Fire Station. The Crabtree rest stop eliminated the need to backtrack into Scio against the usual northern summer headwind.

Positive comments were received on all aspects of the ride. Riders noted the support of our SAG group, the variety of food, our excellent maps, the T-shirt graphics (Thanks Vic!), the scenery and even the great job we did on the weather! It couldn't have been accomplished without the 66 volunteers who helped put the event together. About 1/4 of the volunteers came from outside of the MVBC, including the Covered Bridge Society of Oregon, the Santiam Slow Spokes, and spouses of club members. Thanks to all who participated as volunteers - it can't be done without you!

This year was also a financial success for the CBBT. After expenses we ended in the black and were able to donate approximately \$1200 total to the Bicycle Transportation Alliance, the Covered Bridge Society of Oregon, Scio High School, and the Jordan and Crabtree Volunteer Fire Stations. The rest of the funds raised by the CBBT will go back to the community in the form of children's bicycle safety education programs, helmet donations, and support of other club activities. A special thanks goes to Dan Youngberg for reducing the food costs by almost 25% and still delivering quality rest stops. Mark your calendars for next year, as it will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Covered Bridge Bicycle Tour!

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of phone calls and e-mails took care of cancellation responsibilities. It was a sad decision.

Thus it came to be, instead of enjoying a bike/train trip to Portland Friday morning, we were home doing much-needed chores, one of which was to call a plumber to fix a slow leak around the base of the toilet in our downstairs bathroom. (These things happen in old 1906 houses!) I spent much time resting, grumbling about my affliction, and how it was spoiling my fun.

We slept late Saturday morning, and when I finally crawled out of bed and headed for the bathroom, the sound of running water quickly caught my attention, as did the lake in the middle of the bathroom and kitchen floors soon after. A water pipe had come loose near the toilet where the plumber had worked the day before, and we had a small flood!

Fortunately, it was clean water. I won't describe the details of the cleanup process. Suffice it to say that it was a while before we were ready to get some breakfast. Suddenly, we were thankful about our decision not to go on the tour. I shudder to think of the condition of our house if that pipe had gushed water for days instead of minutes.

Come Sunday morning, I decided I felt better. An idea took shape... We were all packed. Why not ride somewhere for an overnighter Monday and Tuesday? We had already taken the vacation days. We dived into the trunk after the state and county bike maps. In a little while, it was decided. We would ride over to Triangle Lake and camp for the night! Our destination was only about 50 miles from Corvallis, yet we had never been there.

As we pulled away from home Monday morning, trailers in tow, I told Red Zinger, "Hey! We're off again. It's been a while. I hope I'm up to this..." To make the trip as easy on me as possible, we headed straight south to Monroe on Hwy. 99W, then took Territorial Road to Cheshire, where we turned west on Hwy. 36 to Triangle Lake. That stretch of road has one "two-chevron" hill and one "three-chevron" hill, neither of which is very long. I did OK, but my effort wasn't dazzling, by any means. I got an unexpected bit of rest about a half mile up the steepest hill while Matt quickly scurried back to the store to retrieve the bottle of ice-cold water he had left behind.

Along Hwy. 36, as we entered the Coast Range, the Valley landscape gave way to fir and pine forest and fresh, clean air. Suddenly I felt we had actually gotten somewhere new. We arrived mid-afternoon at Triangle Lake Park and found a nice campsite beside the gurgling stream carrying water out of Triangle Lake. Fourth of July crowds were long gone and the lake and the campground were peaceful.

I wasn't even very tired. As I gave Matt an enthusiastic hug, I proclaimed, "I made it! And it didn't even half kill me!" We had a restful and enjoyable afternoon and evening there, marred only by the discovery that we had forgotten to bring the freeze-dried dinners we wanted to try. Oh well. Whole

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## MAX HEADWIND

### *Dangerfield Day*

Friday afternoon arrives early  
my half-day off  
No line in the bank  
I deposit my paycheck

the teller does her work  
then wishes me well  
with a nickname that's not one I claim, she's too familiar

I walk to my car  
bluejay in my path  
squawks as though  
I should have brought  
him a snack, maybe a meal,  
perhaps two

Finally home, onto my bike  
I head out to the park  
but have to stop  
waiting for a squirrel  
to run his circuits  
traffic cop in training

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wheat bagels with peanut butter and honey are nutritious and filling. And we had bananas and hot chocolate.

We found ourselves wishing very much that this was the first day of a long tour and that we could just keep going... But it wasn't, so we packed up Tuesday morning and headed for Corvallis via the same route we had come. We stopped in Blachly for fresh water and had a nice talk with lovely Pam Hites, at the post office, who told us she would be leaving the next Friday for The Idaho Bicycle Ride, her very first bike tour. She will be helping with lunch when we come to Triangle Lake on Cycle Oregon, and we're hoping to see her again and learn how her tour went. (Later note: we met Pam again in Crow, on the Blackberry bramble ride. Small world! She was very happy about her ride in Idaho.)

I was feeling healthier and stronger, better than the day before, at least until we reached Cheshire and turned north onto Territorial Road. By then, the temperature was in the high 90s and the typical north winds were blowing with a vengeance. In Monroe, we stopped for cool drinks, then began the last 17 miles to Corvallis up Hwy. 99W. I swear that was the longest 17 miles of my life. It was like riding into a pillow! It kept pushing back! And there was no refuge from the relentless blazing sun.

Eventually, we rolled into Corvallis and there was shade,

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**Monday, September 23, 2002**

**Present:** Ann Asbell, Susan Christie, Tim Corbett, Darrel Cummings, Bill Daley, Walt Prichard

**Visitors:** Scott Bricker, Sheila Lyons, Josh Storer

#### **BTA Bike Safety Program**

Sheila, Josh, and Scott described the BTA's bike safety program, which has been presented to fifth graders in all Corvallis schools, and asked for renewed support. The program, which is offered in about 15 communities around the state, includes classroom instruction and on-street training. It culminates in a 6-mile bike ride. The school district provides office space for Josh. The program began as an ODOT-funded pilot program, intended to become self-supporting eventually. In Corvallis, MVBC provide the most financial support last year: \$2,500. Kiwanis Club, Good Samaritan, and the bike shops provided a small amount of financial support. Susan moved and Tim seconded that we provide another \$2500 for this year. Discussion followed. Walt questioned whether or not MVBC should carry such a large percentage of the expenses. He suggested we spend less per year, but continue the support for a longer period. There is plenty of money in our treasury at present, but we can't continue such a level of support indefinitely without another major fundraising event, such as the Northwest Tandem Rally. Tim pointed out that we can run the club on about \$1500 per year. According to Sheila, contributions from other organizations will increase, as fundraising effort continue. The Board voted to provide \$2,500 for another year; the vote was four in favor and one opposed. Ann suggested that Josh submit a short report to the newsletter after the program in spring and fall.

#### **Reports**

**Bike Advocacy: Walt.** Walt attended the Benton County Bicycle Advisory Committee and suggested the idea of making the flashing light at 53<sup>rd</sup> and

Campus Way pedestrian activated. Marge Stevens originally brought up the concern about safe crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists on Campus Way at both 35<sup>th</sup> and 53<sup>rd</sup>. The County committee reacted favorably to the idea and County staff said that it could easily be incorporated when they rebuild 53<sup>rd</sup> next year from Harrison to the Midge Cramer path.

Walt announced that the club's cleanup on Plymouth Road will be October 19. He also reported that Benton County has applied for a \$200,000 grant to improve Chapel and 19<sup>th</sup> streets in Philomath.

**Ride Captains: Tim and Ann.** Ann asked how long should she should continue to seek ride leaders for the Saturday morning short ride. The Board suggested through September. Some discussion followed about the level of capability we should expect of new riders. A new rider last week could ride only about 10 mph, and there was some feeling that 12 mph (for about 30 miles) would be more reasonable, but we don't get that specific. The Board suggested putting a link for first-time riders on the website.

**Bike Rodeo: Tim.** Tim reported that the rodeo was a big hit, with about 160 people of all ages participating, which was more than twice the number last year. Timing of the event helped, since it followed Labor Day weekend and the start of the school year. There was plenty of publicity, especially through the schools. Participating Board members said the rodeo was a very positive experience, and that the kids had better bikes this year. A suggestion for next year was to see what stages could be done out of sequence, to help the flow. Tim commented that the obstacle course was geared solely at bike handling, and that it should cover some basic street riding fundamentals. Walt reported that his stage did include road riding skills.

**October General Meeting: Darrel.** Darrel invited Sheila, Scott, and Josh to make a presentation about the BTA and the bike safety program at the next general meeting, Monday, October 21, at King Tin. Darrel also wants to plan a bike swap meet. Tim suggested that it be

a separate event, and would be a good indoor activity during the winter. We should advertise widely, to reach people who are not club members. The new Board might be willing to make plans.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Annual Awards Dinner and Elections.**

Formal elections will be held Sunday, November 17, at the annual dinner at Valley Catering's facility in Adair. Bill is working on a slate of officers to propose. He will have it complete by the October Board meeting. He reports that several of the current officers are willing to serve another term. Bill will make arrangements for the dinner, using the same menu we had last year, which was very well received. The dinner will also be a venue for presenting this year's awards and recognizing club volunteers. Darrel offered to do the invitations, with the help of John Morris.

**New Club Jersey.** Several Board members said that Joe Monteleone might be willing to organize production of another club jersey. The Board suggested that we update the design we have now, rather than do a completely new design.

#### **New Business**

**Quest Wholesale: Bill.** Quest Wholesale, formerly Quail Quest, recently sent us a new catalog and price list. We can buy wholesale foods there for our events. Susan suggested that we buy from this local business, rather than use chain stores, in order to "keep our money local."

**New Bicycling Magazine.** We received via e-mail from the publisher, a special introductory club offer to a new magazine, Rides, Rallies, & Tours Magazine: The Ultimate Guide for Serious and Leisure Road Cyclists. The magazine will be available both electronically and in printed format. The Board discussed how we might publicize the magazine. Contact information: Susan Law, Publisher, 2221 Justin Road, Suite 119, #122, Flower Mound, TX 75028. Phone: 214-534-2122; e-mail: slaw@rrtmag.com; website: www.rrtmag.com

Meeting adjourned.  
Report submitted by Susan Christie



## MVBC EVENT CALENDAR: October - November, 2002

Saturday rides meet at Circle Blvd. **BEANERY**. Sign up roster is available until ten minutes past the hour. Rides begin at fifteen minutes past the hour. An ANSI/SNELL approved helmet is required. Recommended equipment: Frame pump, spare inner tube, patch kit, minor adjustment tools, full water bottle, and clothing to fit the climate because we ride rain, or shine. Because of the range of abilities, rides usually break into groups riding at different paces. Group sizes and abilities vary depending on who shows up. Tour Captains: Ann Asbell 757-7080 & Tim Corbett 757-6691.

### Ride Start Time Change - 9:00AM

**October 12, Saturday, 9 am:** Check out the Sturgeon

- Long Ride: Roaring River Fish Hatchery. 80 Miles (B650)
- Medium Ride: Waterloo. 61.3 Miles (A520)
- Short Ride: Albany. 34 Miles (A160)

**October 19, Saturday, 9 am: PLYMOUTH ROAD CLEAN-UP DAY**

- Long Ride: Brownsville via Bellfountain 76.2 miles (B610)
- Short Ride: Bellfountain Rd. to Decker. 35 miles (B220)

**October 26, Saturday, 9 am: Cemetery Ride!!!**

- Long Ride: Dever, Conser, Scrael Hill 60 miles (B450)
- Short Ride: Albany via Palestine 30.2 miles (A100)

**October 28, Monday, 7 pm:** Board Meeting at Burgess residence (3160 NW Arrowood Circle)

**November 2, Saturday, 9 am:**

- Long Ride: Albany & Monmouth 58 miles (B410)
- Short Ride: Albany via Riverside 32.9 miles (B150)

**November 9, Saturday, 9 am: PEDEE CRAFT FAIR**

- Long Ride: King's Valley 61.2 Miles (C510)
- Short Ride: Decker 33 Miles (B170)

**November 16, Saturday, 9 am:**

- Long Ride: Crabtree via Seven Mile 61.3 Miles (B490)
- Short Ride: Albany via Tangent 34 miles (A160)

**November 17 (Sunday!), Annual Dinner & Meeting, See Website or Newsletter for Details.**

**November 23, Saturday, 9 am:**

- Long Ride: Independence Hwy to Dallas back via Airlie. 64.5 Miles (B560)
- Short Ride: Independence Hwy to Helmick Park back via Hwy 99. 33.9 miles (B200)

**November 30, Saturday, 9 am:**

- Long Ride: Shedd to Lebanon back via Tangent. 52 miles (A-340)
- Short Ride: Harvest Drive to Shedd back via Tangent. 34 miles (A-210)

**December 7, Saturday, 9 am:** Big winds today, you guess from where.

- Long Ride: Philomath to Kings Valley back via Airlie. 46 Miles (B280)
- Short Ride: Philomath to Decker Road back via Bellfountain Road. 33 miles (B170)

Announcements: (Note that the rides below are "Show & Go" style.)

No host goodies and banter at Circle Blvd. Beanery half an hour before the Saturday rides. Please, only go inside if you plan to buy something.

Every Wednesday at 9:30 AM: Meet near Camp Adair Road - first gravel parking lot east of Hwy. 99W. Ride to Dallas or Monmouth at an easy to moderate pace. Weekly except when nobody shows up. Dave Wallace 753-1778. Counts for Club Mileage if somebody remembers to record it.



blessed shade, near the skate park. I clambered off my bike and collapsed onto the grass. It wasn't very nice grass. It was hard and sticky. Now if someone would only spray me with a hose and bring me an iced trio-and-cream from the Beanery. Recovery was quick, I'm pleased to say, though no hose and cold water were forthcoming, and soon we were gratefully sipping icy coffee drinks.

As we left the Beanery to lug the trailers home, now mere blocks away, I heard Matt calling behind me, "Find a shady street!" Well, I thought, I'll try, but the sun is practically straight up, so it's not easy.

All in all, however, we really enjoyed our quick trip, and we think it would make a great shakedown overnighter for loop tour. As Jim Munford said once, "No matter what's wrong, just get on your bike and ride..."

#### Travels with Walt

*Walt Prichard as he and 7 others cycled across the southern U.S. in April/May 2002. Previous installments were in the April, May, and June issues. Editor.*

#### **May 8, Holt FL, 65 miles**

As Willie Nelson would say "We are on the road again. Going down the highway.

We are best of friends doing things our way" or something like that. It sure felt good to get going again. Luree and I are tenting just like everyone else and we don't know where anything is and don't have a system yet so we are really struggling. In another 7 days we will have it all worked out. Probably the biggest change is for Luree. She doesn't have her own bathroom or kitchen any more. However she does have good air conditioning and the truck handles a little easier. I did finally get someone to put a new motor in the Mother ship and it should be ready by the time I get back.

Now the ride today had to be great - the 1st 30 miles were right on the gulf. With the water on the right and unbelievable estates on the left and crazy drivers on the road. We are in a pretty nice RV park tonight and were told at the local restaurant that we are in the red neck Riviera right now. That explained a lot about the working folks when I came to town. Well I think I am about up to use the phone. Tailwinds!

#### **May 9, Bonifay FL, 74 miles**

Today we rode on Hwy 90 all day. A great road that has been replaced by Interstate 10. The traffic wasn't too bad after the 1st 10 miles. A few rollers but not many. To begin with, it cooled off last night to about 65 and we all started

looking for covers about 1 am. But we did sleep well. The tents were soaked as the humidity was 100%. When we started riding the temp started up real fast and was in the mid 80s by 8am and by 10 it was in the 90s.

I think we all are riding smarter (slower) now and are doing better. George is still suffering a lot by the end of the day, however. Myron's friend, Basil Cambel, joined us tonight and will ride out the rest of the ride with us. He is a computer person with IBM, in his 50s, and he too rides a Ryan Bent. We took the scenic route thru DeFuniak Springs today and saw how the rich lived in the late 1800s. It was very impressive. Their opera house was second only to New York City.

The big Yellow Bug (Penske) is working out OK but we are getting used to it. It is starting to get dark and the bugs are coming so I am climbing in my tent. Sweet Dreams.

#### **May 10, Gretna FL, 76 miles**

An early start sure helps. We were on the road before 7 and we had already eaten a big breakfast at the Waffle House. Again it was 75 and foggy when we started and it was over 90 by 10. A couple of us went off route today for a couple of miles. We went to Georgia. We wanted to check out the lights tonight to see if they would

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go out but we really had to go on. For me it was pretty important. I now have had my bike in all of the lower 48 states and Hawaii. For George it was just another state and John isn't counting.

Without our official song writer, Willie, Don Burnes and George decided that we needed a new rallying song so they came up with "We all live in a Yellow Penske Truck, Yellow Penske Truck. We all live in a Yellow Penske Truck since the motor home went amuck." Of course it is sung to the tune of a yellow submarine. I guess it isn't too original. Maybe Ken Vogler will send us another verse.

The weather forecast for the Saturday ride will be: low of 76 and a high of 95, 20% chance of thundershowers. Winds 5 to 15 and humidity 95 to 100%. It should be a great day to ride about 80 miles. Get out by 7 while it is cool. We are now in the Eastern Time zone so we have lost all the time we can. The conversation around camp is changing. Reservation keeps coming up and how many days in St. Augustine and Jacksonville. We still have 5 more riding days but everyone is experiencing a little regret to end but are tired of the heat. Have a great ride tomorrow and keep the rubber side down!

**May 11, Monticello FL**

Finally the heat let up on us today. It only got up to 85 and it feels cool. We went through Tallahassee today and that was fun for me. It is a very pretty city - at least the part we went through. There isn't really much to say about today. More Southern forests and lots of short rollers. A few cows and a little ag but not much. For those of you who have been to Hawaii the plants are much the same but very few palm trees.

George got lost today. Of course he had no problem finding a postal lady to get him going the right way and I actually think he shaved off some miles. We are staying in a KOA tonight and we are in cabins. Of course it has a swimming pool and we all have taken advantage of it. Our cooking isn't going too well out of the van so we will all get in the van and go about two miles to an off ramp on I 10 and find something to eat there. Tailwinds

**May 12, Wellbom FL, 82 miles**

Another warm day in Florida. It started out about 70 at 6:30 when we left and at 1:30 when we got in it was 95 and that is hot. Thank goodness for McDonalds and their air conditioning - they were a life saver today.

Road kill was the word for today. We saw an alligator that was about 6 foot long that raced a car and lost. Now you don't see that on Bellfountain Rd. You also don't see armadillos or turtles. That was the fare for today.

Luree had an interesting day. She was stopped 4 times. I guess driving a rental truck and looking a bit lost made her look a little suspicious. They told her they were looking for terrorists and only wanted to look in the back. It really had her upset when we got in. We wish all the mothers out there a Happy Mothers Day. We do miss our families and are looking forward to coming home.

Tomorrow will be our last long day. I think it is about 100 miles and we are a little concerned with the heat. The last stretch is about 30 miles without services. We will be staying in a motel so it should be a little easier. Well I better take a shower and maybe a nap in the shade. Tail Winds Walt PS Ken Vogler. I HAVENT SEEN THE SECOND VERSE TO THE YELLOW PENSKE TRUCK.

**May 13, Micanopy FL, 87 miles, 16 mph avg**

We made it to the motel in good time. It was overcast until about 12 and we already had 65+ miles in before the sun got here in earnest. You will notice that we did not do the 100 miles we had planned. We adjusted the route a little and shaved off about 14 miles. There was no need to kill ourselves so close to the end.

It is really surprising to find out that there is very little ag going on in this part of the state. I expected orange groves and truck gardens all over. All we have seen was a couple large fields of tomatoes and maybe 40 acre of melons. The rest has been pasture and grass fields and beef cows. The biggest crop has been pine trees and there are 1000's of acres of planted trees. There have been a few bayous along the creeks but most have

been cleared for pastures and ponds. I am a bit disappointed.

With all the clouds today there were some nervous riders but we made another day without rain. Actually we had about 20 drops per foot during the night and some hurried out and put on their rain flies.

Being in the van has really hurt our cooking ability. We are relying on restaurants and today is Monday and a lot of things are closed. We may have to load into the van and go down the interstate 6 miles to the next exit to find dinner tonight.

We are now less than 100 miles from our goal and we are getting excited.

I had better get ready to take them to dinner and get this mailed off. Tailwinds!

**May 14, Palatka FL, 63 miles**

We are camping for the last time this trip. It is an old KOA and was very nice about 30 years ago. They haven't done any maintenance for the last 10 years and it is half full of permanent campers. It does still have a nice pool and the price is right. We are camping under palm trees and a canopy of oaks. We are eating in and George and Luree are cooking and John and Denny are making a fruit salad. I am sure we are not going to go hungry tonight.

After complaining about no citrus trees we found some today and stopped for breakfast in Citra, FL. We were told that the freeze in 1985 killed about 2000 acres of trees around that town. Anyway we had homemade raisin bread, French toast with homemade orange syrup and orange marmalade on it. An interesting little town that is under a canopy of huge oak trees. Actually there was quite a bit of road that was covered with the trees.

It really threatened to rain this morning and the temp was down into the 60 for awhile. It didn't rain and the sun came out and it is now in the 80's.

We were told by a policeman to ride to the right of the fog line today. It had been paved once but was full of holes and ruts and very unsafe. Fortunately we only had about a mile to go to our turn off. It is sure nice to ride in a bike friendly area. Down here trucks are king and everyone thinks they are driving a truck. They won't even move out to the

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## OUR RIDE CAPTAIN REPORTS

Wow, what a fantastic August we had! On August 17, fifty-one riders rode 2617 miles. This day really helped boost the monthly total to a record 9638.2 miles. The total is well over 2714 miles more than any month in the last three years, and the loop tour miles are not included. Of course there were five Saturdays. September, on the other hand, was the weakest showing since January, and we only beat that cold, wet month by 22 miles. Go figure! For the year we are averaging over 29 people on each ride.

Because this update covers parts of three months, from August 7 through October 5, it is difficult to highlight individual miles. Elise Ross led all riders in August with 356 miles. Terry Dibble, Mark Newsome, and Eric Ahlvin also broke the 300 mile mark. In September, only Shung Chieh and Tim Corbett rode more than 200 miles, (205 and 202 respectively). As we close in on the November mileage awards at the annual dinner, Henry McCarthy leads all riders with 1821 miles, all on a fast recumbent bike! Other riders pushing Henry are Tim Corbett (1613), Dan Youngberg (1563), Elise Ross (1525), and Jan Konzack (1468). Total miles do not include Loop Tour miles. Leading all Wednesday riders is Walt Prichard with 981 miles which puts him in the lead for total miles, 2109, (Saturday and Wednesday).

There were 35 new riders since the last captain's report. I apologize in advance for errors in interpreting handwriting. If you know any of these people, please make a point to encourage our new riders to join the MVBC and continue to ride. And they are: Steve Slover, Mark and Kristi Miner, \_\_\_ Dye, Dave and Lisa Bateham, Karen and Michael Campbell, Margie Sunderland, Jim and Maxine Gau, Denny and Jean Schmidt, Jesse Chaney, Dave D., Michal Hebson, Deborah Clark, Lee and Gretchen Tucker, Nathan Barnett, Mike and Elise Hickson, Lonnie Danielson, Tim Roels, Keith Watkins, Ken Trammell, Glenn Dalinz, Stuart Allen, Brian Kraus, David Kuhns, Darren Hart, Martha Stiffer, Carrie Simpson, Linda Meyers, and William Watson. A special thanks goes to the Ride Leaders who helped many of these new people: Jerry Rooney, Joho Morris, Bill Daley, Lloyd and Grace Swanson, Walt Prichard, and Dave Wallace.

I hope that Leon Ungier is about ready to ride again

after breaking a collarbone on a ride. Unfortunately, this kept him from doing Cycle Oregon. Finally, a story of note - On a recent cold, foggy Wednesday, our club president, Bill Daley, was the only rider to show up for the ride. He rode to Buena Vista and back.

### Thank You's

President  
Mid-Valley Bicycle Club  
PO Box 1373  
Corvallis, OR 97339

Dear President:

#### **Thanks for your generous donation to the Bicycle Transportation Alliance!**

We have been working hard to promote bicycling and improve cycling conditions in Oregon. Your contribution will help us further these efforts and expand our advocacy and outreach.

Your gift of \$625 from the Covered Bridge Bicycle Tour will help us create thriving communities where people can bicycle and walk safely. We offer a bicycle safety education program in middle schools throughout Oregon, protect cyclists' rights and promote sound transportation policies at the state legislature, and work with local governments and planning agencies to promote bicycle transportation. Your donation will also support a year of great events that promote and encourage cycling, from the high-profile **Allice B. Toeclips Awards Party** in February to the **Providence Bridge Pedal** in August and the **Bike Commute Challenge** in September.

Thanks again for your generous support of the Bicycle Transportation Alliance. Please don't hesitate to call me with comments or questions.

Best regards,  
Catherine Clarlo  
Executive Director, BTA

The Bicycle Transportation Alliance and Getting There (the local BTA Chapter) would like to say THANK YOU! The MVBC board of directors renewed their generous donation of \$2500 to support the Bike Safety Education Program. We can't say thank you enough. The program is in its 5th year in Corvallis and thanks to the MVBC it will continue. Thanks to all the volunteers who come out to ride with the kids also! A big thank you to Richard Burgess who, with Josh Storer, the program instructor, is leading a riding group to expand on all the good lessons learned in the safety class. Hip Hip Hurray!

Sheila Lyons  
Former BTA Board Member

- Club Information -

The Mid-Valley Bicycle Club is a recreational touring club for cyclists of all ages. We ride rain or shine! Helmets are required for all riders. Social and educational meetings are held regularly. Check this Newsletter or our website at www.mvbc.com for current information.

I (We) want to join the Mid-Valley Bicycle Club. Enclosed are annual dues as checked below.

Membership:  \$15.00 Individual or  \$20.00 Family

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Family member names: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you do NOT want to be included in the club roster published in the newsletter

In consideration of my application, I hereby, for myself, my executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Mid-Valley Bicycle Club, its officers, and members, prior to, during, and after my membership or association with the club or any event. I agree to accept all rules and regulations of the club.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of parent or guardian if under 18: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: MID-VALLEY BI CYCLE CLUB, P.O. Box 1373, Corvallis, OR 97339-1373

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center for bikes.

Well every one is in now and that is a miracle considering the traffic. The next message will be from St. Augustine. Tailwinds!

**May 15, St. Augustine FL, 55 miles**

We have landed and taken over the town. That is we went to the beach and took pictures of the surf getting our feet wet. Then we got lunch at the sea wall and now we changed motels and we are right on the edge of Old Town and all the history. We already have plans to watch the sun come up on the Atlantic tomorrow and toast with a few tall dark ones tonight. Myron and Barb came in alone but got pictures with us and have gone again. Everyone else is feeling great about the ride and glad and sad that it is over. Luree didn't get lost today and had some time to see some of the town before we got here. All of the above made me feel extra good. I got a call about the motor home and they will have it done Saturday. Things are looking up (north) and out (west) right now. When I get a chance I will send out something to wrap up this trip but right now I am headed for a shower and some getting back to normal. I just wanted everyone to know that we made it safe and sound. Keep the rubber side down.

**May 18, Clinton MS**

A few of you will be interested to know that we made a record run from Jacksonville to Pensacola yesterday and the motor home was finished. We drove to a Win-Dixie and proceeded to move from the Penske back to the motor home. Right after we started a thunderstorm began and I got pretty wet before I got the move completed. Then we headed for the campground and by this time the rain was really coming down. The campground was full so we turned around and headed for Wal-Mart. When

we got there with both vehicles it was a real southern storm. I would imagine it rained 3 inches in 2 hours with major lighting and thunder. Just ten days before when we were here it was 95 and this morning it was 55.

We returned the Penske this AM and we are now on our way home. If anyone remembers when we were at Perk Beach in MS it was very close to 100 and today when I went by it was a cool 60. We really hit the dry window with no rain on us while riding for the whole trip. A week or so later it is cool and rainy. Last night would have been really tough on campers; at one time there was an inch of standing water everywhere and I do mean everywhere. I guess we paid for the dry by withstanding those high temps and suffocating humidity.

We now know where the oil went on the motor home engine. A part of the motor home body rubbed a tiny hole in the oil cooler line. It probably lost all its oil in a mile or so and then ran another 10 miles before seizing up. It was too bad it had to happen but at least it wasn't in east Texas. Just another chapter in our story now. I have a lot of things I would like to share about the trip but they will have to ferment for a while before they are ready for the printer.

I hope you have enjoyed the e-mails I sent out. I hope I didn't leave anyone on the trip in a bad light. Everyone was an individual and enjoyed the trip in their own way and expressed it in their personalities and interaction with the rest of the group. I can assure you that they will never forget the trip and there will be very few days that some little snippet from the trip doesn't pop up and surprise them. I think it will bring a smile to their mind. Keep the rubber side down when you are on the road and may you always have tailwinds in your life. Walt. The End

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**MID-VALLEY BICYCLE CLUB**  
P.O. Box 1373  
CORVALLIS, OR 97339-1373

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### ***Meetings & Announcements***

#### **Ireland Report**

*Lloyd & Grace Swanson*

A number of you heard that we had an accident while cycling in western Ireland last month. We wanted to let you know that we survived what could have been a very serious mishap.

Coming down a steep incline in a driving rain and howling wind, I couldn't get enough brakes (2 rim and 1 drag brake), we got too much speed, and the bike slid out from under us on a curve. We slid across the road (chip-sealed) - thank goodness it was very wet. Grace sustained a huge black eye and I lost some skin on 1 leg, both knees, and 2 fingers. There was no traffic. The only damage to the bike was a scraped and bent front handlebar. Since we were miles from the nearest civilization, all we could do was pick up the bike and continue on our way. We licked our wounds for the next few days but were able to continue on our way. Thank you for your concern.

#### **Board Meeting**

MVBC October Board Meeting, Monday, October 28, 7:00 pm, Burgess's Residence, 3160 NW Arrowood Circle

#### **Annual Meeting**

MVBC Annual Meeting, Sunday, November 17, 6:00 pm, Adair Village Club House. Food, election, awards, slide show. Please RVSP Darrel Cummings or Bill Daley by November 12th.

#### **IMPORTANT SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Submit articles, stories and photos for the November/December MVBC Spokesman no later than November 25.

Please send this material to the editor in Word format:

Lloydvswanson@attbi.com