

## Club Happenings

### August 1 (Sat) Gliders Move Meet Time To 7 am

The Gliders will meet at 7 am on both Saturday and Sunday (at GRU on Saturdays and the Plaza on Sundays) while sun conditions permit. Watch the email list and/or the RideLine (538-8100) for changes.

### August 23 (Sun) Kayak Trip – See page 12

### September 6 (Sun) Adopt-A-Road Cleanup and Cookout, 4 pm

Meet at the Pearl station in Micanopy (please park along CR 234 or across the street). Long pants and sturdy shoes recommended. Afterwards, something new! A picnic at Brian Raisler's home just off of Williston Road (directions at the cleanup).

### September 7 (Mon) Labor Day Rides and Picnic at Morningside Nature Center

All rides meet at 9 am. For those who want to leave the car at home, meet at the Plaza for a two hour ride through Brooker, Graham, Waldo, and Orange Heights. Those meeting at Morningside can choose a road ride or an off-road expedition through Gum Root Swamp city park. Bring a side dish to top off Chandler's hamburgers and hot dogs.

### September 19 (Sat) Melrose area Hunters style road ride

Arrive at Craig Lee's house in Melrose between 8:30 and 9 am. Ride will start around 9 and involve right at 30 miles of riding. Craig has promised that the ride will not move to the upper 30s this time. Come out for a leisurely ride followed by a cool dip in the lake behind Craigs house and maybe a visit to a local restaurant. Also check out Craigs web page linked to the GCC home page to see pictures of the house and lake. For more details call Craig Lee 475-1825 or email to theeles@atlantic.net. Or email Rob Wilt at afn09010@afn.org.

### October 3-4 (Sat-Sun) Gainesville Cycling Festival

Two Centuries in Two Days! The Saturn Santa Fe Century, and our own Horse Farm Hundred. Look for full details soon in the mail, including your *personal* Gainesville Cycling Festival Entry Certificate. This certificate is worth \$5 off on the entry fee for the Horse Farm Hundred. *Use this certificate when registering*, either by mail or on the day of the ride, to get your \$5 discount.





# President's Message

## The Good Old Days

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of Directors**

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*GCC Web Page*  
<http://www.afn.org/~bike>

**E**ver hear anyone say that? "The good old days!" Well the fact is some of those were good and some were bad, just like today. But people tend to remember what they want to remember, so they remember the good. Mostly.

Anyway, some things are much better than they used to be in the good 'ole' days. For instance, nowadays you can have your hip replaced with a titanium and polyethylene prosthesis if the original equipment gets too damaged to walk on. Couldn't do that in the good old days, would have had to spend the golden years tooling around in a wheelchair (and not an electric one either). So the new days is gooder than the old days, some ways.

Anyway, computers! I think computers are great, I think everyone should have one and eventually I'm sure everyone will. The amazing thing is that for \$1000 or even less you can get a computer that connects you to the **WORLD**. Notice I say that in capital letters. That's how big this is. If you don't have a computer, you don't know what you are missing, literally.

Here's an analogy. Imagine that you had never ridden a bike, that you had only watched others ride by. With no experience on a bike it would be easy to ignore and dismiss the experience as frivolous, worthless, absent of any real joy (don't laugh, take a look at all those joyless people driving by, glaring at you from their cars). But if you get on that bike and you feel that trickle of sweat sneaking down the center of your spine, feel the wind ripple across your skin, the surge of youthful energy, the pure joy of tuning in to the **WORLD**, then you cannot dismiss it, nor would you ever want to.

A computer with a hookup to the Internet (the web, the net) whatever you want to call it, is a window to that big **WORLD** out there. It's yours for the taking and you should take it. It may never get your endorphin levels going like a fast bike ride, but it can pump your brain.

Now I say this without embarrassment, The Gainesville Cycling Club has one of the finest bike home pages on the web! You need to check it out. We have a fine newsletter, but our newsletter absorbs a large part of our club's money with publication and mailing. In spite of this cost we cannot afford to put color pictures in the newsletter, but check out the color pictures on the web site. Lost your newsletter, but wish you could read that article again, check out the archives on the web site. Wanted to show your friend a Linda McMahon' cartoon from a couple of newsletters back, you'll find it archived on the web site. Wanted that friend in Sweden to read our St. Marks article, but can't stand to spend eight dollars to send it there, email them the home page address and they can check it out for themselves with their computer. And what does all this capability cost the club? Almost nothing!

**NEXT PAGE**

And then there is the Florida Bicycle Touring Calendar. A comprehensive listing of all the bike events all over Florida, Georgia, and Alabama with LINKS to the associated home page of every bike event that has a home page. And if you can't find the information you need from that, they all include an email address to someone who will answer your other questions. All for free.

And email! Ask Bill Boyett (Slider Leader) if email has been useful in the continuation of the Sliders rides. The Group Mail that the club has access to makes it easy for a ride leader to put out the word in short order when things have to change suddenly, and without having to make twenty-five telephone calls. Can't do that with a newsletter, and certainly not for free.

If you don't have a computer yet you are missing the ride. Check out the story line coming in from Mark Fuller as he crosses the United States on his bike, now available on the web site with color pictures! Check out the pics from our club members who rode TOSRV. And much more to come.

And speaking of money (see how I sneaked that in), the club's big event, The Horse Farm Hundred, is coming up October 4<sup>th</sup> (see the section about it on the web site). We can't get the computer to do this job. We need flesh and blood volunteers to help with a myriad of tasks on and preceding that big day. Come on out and help your club. Give Roger Pierce a call or email him and let him know you want to help out. It's lots more fun than it is work.

See you on the road and on the web.

Following winds, my friends

**Rob Wilt**



club address or deliver to Roger Pierce.

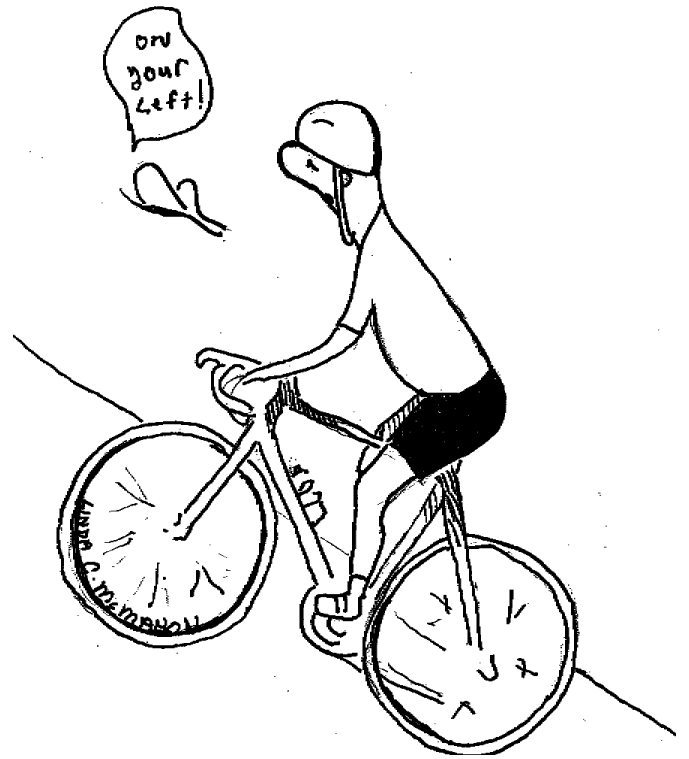
## ***T-Shirt Design Contest***

**D**esign a T-Shirt for the Horse Farm Hundred and win two of the shirts and free entry to the Horse Farm Hundred. Designs should incorporate both cycling and horse themes. The words "Gainesville Cycling Club" and "Horse Farm Hundred" must be included. "1998" and "18<sup>th</sup> Annual" may also be used. Designs must be in full color (maximum of six colors), and must fit within an 11-inch box.



All entries become the sole property of the Gainesville Cycling Club, Inc. The Club may use the entries in any manner that will further the purposes of the Club without further compensation. This contest is open to all GCC members.

The submission deadline is August 21<sup>st</sup>. Mail to the



# Book Reviews

by Roger Pierce

## Two Wheels by Greg Moody

If you like suspenseful, blood and guts murder mysteries, then the added attraction of having the setting a pro cycling team during the spring campaign in Europe makes this a must read. When the book was serialized in *Velo News* a few years ago, I could hardly wait for the next issue to come out with the next episode. Reading the full book, I found it hard to put down.

The story follows the Haven Cycling Team as its star rider is blown to kingdom come and replaced by a washed-up American pro, Will Ross, the main character in the story. The tale of intrigue of how he came to be selected for the job, and why, and how he reacts and rides, form the heart of the novel. We also follow French Inspector Luc Godot as he ferrets out the bad guys in true Columbo fashion. The story peaks with the running of Paris Robaix, and ends with a bang.

## Perfect Circles by Greg Moody

The sequel to *Two Wheels*, this novel follows Will Ross and the Haven Cycling Team as they enter the Tour de France. But more evil lurks as an unknown force dispenses undetectable drugs to riders, sometimes with gruesome results. Greg packs in plenty of suspense and a lot of cycling action into his 382 page novel, as well as a new element not present in *Two Wheels*, sex. Though not a major plot element, it does hit you in the face. Luc Godot is back, but now as the Chief of Security for Haven Pharmaceuticals, and with a live-in mistress!

## The Yellow Jersey by Ralph Hurne

*Bicycling Magazine* calls this "The greatest cycling novel ever written." But while cycling and the Tour de France are integral parts of the story, it is actually about the love life of an expatriate English antique dealer living in Belgium, Terry Davenport, who

describes himself as a "sensualist, bon vivant, radical, cyclist extraordinaire, light work done with horse and trap."

The setting is the early '70's, and we soon learn that Terry is not content with one woman. Cycling early on in the novel deals with his coaching of Romain Hendrickx, a climbing sensation with a shot at the yellow jersey in the Tour de France. All of the preceding combine to land Terry in the Tour de France in a year when riders rode on national teams, with Terry on the "mixed" nationality team. Events become dramatic, with many twists and turns. But in the end, this is a novel about a person, not a hero.

## To Get These Books

Available from Velo Press, 1(800)234-8356 or <http://www.velocatalogue.com>. Paperbacks under \$15. *The Yellow Jersey* is available at Primo.

## Bicyclopedia

If you want to know anything about bicycling, check out this site on the World Wide Web:

<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~opcc/bc>  
This months samples:

- gnarly: BMX, freestyle, and occasionally mountain biking slang. A general term of approval used for a bicycle or component designed to stand up under extreme use, that is stylish, or a rider who is very good. Also used for a maneuver or terrain that is difficult or fun to negotiate
- granny: The lowest gear in a system; see gearing.
- Great American Bike Race: Original name of the Race Across America.
- Gutter bunny: A rider who habitually rides right next to the curb in the mistaken belief that it's safer. Actually, it is generally safer three to four feet from the curb since motor vehicles are more likely to see you, you leave yourself emergency maneuvering room, and there is less debris and fewer sewer covers to avoid.

# Horse Farm Hundred

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

**O**ur club limits itself to one big-time event a year, but doing only one, we want to do it right! The Gainesville Cycling Festival features not just one century, but two, the Saturn Santa Fe Century and our own Horse Farm Hundred. Lots of cyclists come from all over Florida, the southeast, and some from far away places (a couple even came from Knoxville the week after the Tennessee game last year!).

To successfully put on the Horse Farm Hundred (and contribute to the running of the Santa Fe Century, a benefit for the Boys and Girls Club of Alachua County), we need help from many club members. This event contributes significantly to our budget and helps keep our dues low.

You will receive an Entry Certificate soon that has entries on it for volunteers to fill in. CALL Roger Pierce (378-7063) to get a volunteer slot BEFORE sending in the Certificate to volunteer. The Certificate reserves your volunteer T-shirt and ensures that you are covered by our liability insurance. All volunteers will receive a ride T-shirt, and those working multiple or long shifts will also be eligible to ride the Horse Farm for free (or get a reduced rate on the Santa Fe if your shift is during the Horse Farm).

We have quite a few jobs that will need doing, but since we're buying T-shirts and giving away Horse Farm entries we cannot take unlimited volunteers. Volunteer early to get the job(s) you want!

*Rest Stops.* This is where you really get to meet other bicyclists! You'll be handing out soda pop, water, gatorade, cookies and sandwiches to ravenous cyclists, and grilling hot dogs for the finishers. Shift lengths vary from 3 to 5 hours. At Morningside Nature Center, shifts start at 6:30, 9, noon, and 2. At Irvine, shifts start at 6:30, 7, 10:30, and 11. At the lunch stop, be in place by 9. We also have a

shift at 6 pm on Saturday to load the trucks.

*Registration.* This is a vital job because it is where we come face to face with our guests and where we collect the money. Shifts start at 5 pm Friday at Saturn, 6:30 am and 3 pm Saturday at the Boys Club, 7 am Sunday at Morningside, and 7 am Sunday at Irvine. All new registration people will also need to attend a training session.

*Sag Drivers.* We need persons with a vehicle with bicycle carrying capacity to act as SAG drivers on both Saturday and Sunday. We pay for gas and you drive around an assigned area of the course looking for cyclists in distress. We also need a driver and a rider on Sunday for the Saturn pace vehicle.

*Course Workers.* We can use some people to help mark the courses, both driving for Chandler as he paints and placing signs on the courses just before the riders get to them.

Chandler Otis is this year's chairman of the Saturn Santa Fe Century.



Standard Ad

# TRAIL NEWS

by Chandler Otis

## Nature Coast Trail Update

The Nature Coast Trail is moving fast. The Trail, an old railroad, will connect Trenton and Cross City, with a spur that runs south to Fanning Springs and Manatee Springs.

Paving may be completed by next summer. The Trail crosses the Suwannee on a railroad bridge built in 1914.

This trail will be perfect for spring and summer picnic rides. The springs at both Fanning Springs and Manatee Springs are both state parks with picnic facilities and swimming.

## Connector from Hawthorne Rail trail to Downtown

No word yet on which route or when the Rail trail will be linked up to downtown, though various officials say it should happen in the next two years.

There are two proposed routes for the connector. Both routes follow the old rail line from Boulware Springs and cross over Waldo/Williston Road.

After crossing Waldo Road, one trail route will follow the old rail line and link up to the Depot Trail near Main Street. This route will need a somewhat expensive bridge over a creek near SE 4th Street.

The other route crosses Waldo Road and then heads north along SE 8<sup>th</sup> Street, a street along which most segments were never paved. This route will cross the Depot Trail at SE 7th Street and connect to the Mathison Greenway near downtown. This route will be cheaper to build, but will pass through some

industrial wasteland.

## Sixth Street Trail

CSX Railroad has abandoned the rail line along West Sixth Street from near SW 16th Ave out to NW 23rd ave. Currently, there are negotiations between the railroad and either the city or the FDOT to acquire this rail line. This could make an excellent addition to the bike path network.

See page 10 for an article on the Branford Greenway.

# CLASSIFIED

Club members, call, mail, email, or fax your stuff that you no longer need to the editor for inclusion in this column. Priority will be given to bicycling items; the number of items per member may be limited due to space considerations.

Green Tyres. Cannot be flatted. Many sizes. Best offer. Call Roger Pierce, 378-7063.

All of the following items are offered by Rob Wilt, 380-0561.

CYCLO-CROSS TIRES - AVOCET Cross 700c x 35c, \$ 30 for pair

WET SUIT - BAILEY nitrogen blown neoprene, 5 mm, black and red, long sleeve. Plush nylon inside & out. Spine pad, key pocket, clean, medium, fits man or woman \$ 60

FLOOR FAN. Duracraft. 18" triple blade. Adjustable height. Two speed, very powerful. Good shop fan. \$20. Excellent shape.

Ortofon CARTRIDGE (Dual TKS 55E with DN 155E biradial stylus). Provided as original equipment on Dual CS 627 turntable. Has only a dozen or so playings on the stylus. Was displaced by a Shure V15 type 5. This model originally sold for \$115. Excellent overall characteristics, low tracking weight. Will sell for \$50.

INDUCTIVE AMPLIFIER - Progressive Electronics Inc. Model 200B. Hand held model with speaker. \$ 25.

RAM, 30 pin SIMMs 1mb x 9, 80ns, \$5 each, 4 available



# August-September Ride Schedule

FOR CURRENT INFO, Call The GCC RIDELINE 538-8100 (courtesy of ALLTEL Mobile)

## RIDING GROUPS

**A Riders.** (no Group Captain). Fast paced rides. The main group usually goes two to three hours this time of year. There is frequently a small group that will go longer. The ride may become very fast for some periods. Team Florida may begin to show up again and push up speeds.

**Gliders.** Andrew Gill, 338-9205, apgill@gnv.fdt.net. Rides in the upper B range (18-19 mph average). Rides will normally be around 50 miles in length.

**Sliders.** Bill Boyette, 338-2945, tteyob@aol.com. Rides in the lower B range (16-17 mph average) on Saturdays. Meeting times and places are sent to group members by email about a week before the ride. Call Bill or email to join the group.

**Hunters Crossing Pedalers.** Linda McMahon, 331-4089. Meets at the GRU facility on NW 43<sup>rd</sup> St just north of NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave, most Saturdays for a slower paced ride. On one Saturday of most months some members of the group meet at an out-of-town starting location--see newsletter articles announcing locations or call the RideLine. This group also meets at the Plaza of the Americas on some Sundays.

**Newnans Lake Riders.** Chandler Otis, 377-1728 (leave a message). A family and beginners group that meets Sundays at the Plaza of the Americas to do a 15 to 35 mile ride.

**Centurians.** Roger Pierce, 378-7063. Hundred mile rides and up. We do many out-of-town invitational centuries. Group members usually ride with the A Riders on weekends.

**Bee Line.** Bill Cochran, 371-4118 or Dave Wagner, 375-4496. Meets at various locations and times on weekends and weekdays, usually starting very early. Civil rides at a good pace with rest stops.

**off road group.** Brian Raisler, braisler@ufl.edu or 338-4594.

## REGULAR STARTING TIMES AND PLACES

### GRU FACILITY RIDES

(On NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave, west side, just north of NW 53<sup>rd</sup> St)

#### **SATURDAYS**

Hunters Crossing Pedalers meet at 8 am.

Sliders and Gliders depart at 8 am (but check email for time and place updates).

#### **TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS**

A Riders depart at 6:30 pm.

### PLAZA OF THE AMERICAS RIDES

(University of Florida campus in front of Library West under the walkway)

#### **TUESDAY**

off road group meets at 5:30 pm.

#### **SATURDAY**



A Riders meet at 8 am.

off road group meets at 9 am (check email)

#### **SUNDAY**

Gliders meet at 7 am until it gets too dark, then 8

A Riders and Newnans Lake Riders meet at 8 am.



Spend Labor Day Weekend In Historic Savannah! Ride Some of the Most Scenic Areas in the South!

Sunday, September 6, 8 am

(912)351-7798 fax (912)651-9008 email  
[deanhorst@aol.com](mailto:deanhorst@aol.com)  
Coastal Bicycle Touring Club, PO Box 14531, Savannah GA 31416  
<http://www.cbtc.org>  
Call Andrew 338-9205 to join the GCC group going to the ride

## □□ Road Watch □□

□ Avenue A near McIntosh has had its potholes patched.





FLORIDA

# Florida Bicycle Touring Calendar (VERY ABRIDGED)



See the complete calendar on the World Wide Web at <http://www.afn.org/~bike/FBTC>

- Aug 7 (Fri) **Dog Days Lunar Century IV**  
*Rome GA* Mount Berry Square Mall, US 27 North. 10 PM. Coosa Valley Cycling Association, PO Box 2764, Rome GA 30164. Larry Madden (706)234-9787.
- August 14-17 **L.A.B. GEAR North & National Rally 1998**  
*Wellesley MA* (410) 539-3399 ext. 211.
- Aug 15 (Sat) **Lakeshore Schwinn Pizza Ride**  
*Jacksonville FL* Leaves FCCJ (Kent Campus) at 8 am, for a 52, or 66 mile tour of western Duval county. (904)260-1126, Lakeshore Schwinn Pizza Ride, 10661 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville FL 32257.
- Sep 5-7 (Labor Day weekend) **Tour of Sebring**  
*Sebring FL* Tour of Sebring, 913 Sumpter Rd E, West Palm Beach FL 33415. Linda Leeds (561)683-2851.
- Sep 6 (Sun) **16th Annual Historic Savannah Century**  
*Savannah GA* 25, 50, 100 miles. Coastal Bicycle Touring Club, PO Box 14531, Savannah GA 31416.
- Sep 12??? (Sat) **Osceola Swamp Man Classic**  
*Glen-St Mary FL* (PROJECTED DATE--NOT ANNOUNCED) 13/32/63/100 miles hard road at Baker County High School. Pat Wagoner (904)259-6129. Baker County Chamber of Commerce, 20 East Macclenny Ave, Macclenny FL 32063.
- Sep 12 (Sat) **25th Ann'l Birmingham Bicycle Club Century**  
*Birmingham, AL* 31, 50, 62, 75, 100, & 124 mi. BBC, PO Box 55283, Birmingham AL 35255, (205)991-6154, or (205)664-3669
- Sep 13 (Sun) **9th Ann'l Endless Summer Watermelon Ride**  
*Baldwin FL* 27/49/73/100 miles. North Florida Bicycle Club, PO Box 550963, Jacksonville FL 32255-0963. (904)721-5870
- Sep 13 (Sun) **South Broward Wheelers 14th Ann'l Century**  
*Cooper City FL* 25/62/100 miles. South Broward Wheelers, POB 290723, Davie FL 33329. Annette Bria, (305)653-9857
- Sep 13 (Sun) **Annual Assault on Sugarloaf**  
*Clermont FL* 112/56/31 miles. CFT/Sommer Sports, PO Box 121236, Clermont FL 34712. (352)394-1320
- Sep 13 (Sun) **Wilson 100**  
*Fayetteville GA* 30, 60, 100, 124 miles (770)594-8350
- Sep 19-20 **Georgia MS 150**  
*Conyers GA* National MS Society/Georgia Chapter, 1100 Circle 75 Parkway, Suite 630, Atlanta GA 30039. Kim Rakestraw (770)984-9080, (800)822-3379.
- Sep 20 (Sun) **Freewheeling Hilly 100**  
*Dade City FL* 18, 34, 62 and 100 miles. Kevin Timons (813)627-0079 or Belinda Carlson (813)985-5933
- Sep 20 (Sun) **3 States 100**  
*Dothan AL* 25, 50, 100 miles, rolling terrain. Circle City Cycling People, Jeff Coleman (334)792-1011, Richard Stuhmer (334)774-4783.
- Sep 26-27 **MS 150 Gulf Coast**  
*Tampa FL* David Stephens (813)287-2939.
- Sep 27 (Sun) **Six Gap Century**  
*Dahlonega GA* 100 miles with over 10,300 feet of vertical climbing. Dahlonega-Lumpkin Co. Chamber of Commerce, c/o Six Gap Century, 13 Park Street South, Dahlonega GA 30533. (706)864-3711.
- Gainesville Cycling Festival**  
Oct 3 (Sat) **6th Annual Saturn Santa Fe Century**  
*Gainesville FL*  
Oct 4 (Sun) **18th Annual Horse Farm Hundred**  
*Gainesville FL*  
Gainesville Cycling Festival, 5015 NW 19<sup>th</sup> Pl., Gainesville FL 32605. RCPBIKE@aol.com
- Oct 3 (Sat) **Diabetes Challenge**  
*Tampa FL* 100k, 50k, 25k. 813-781-CYCL  
Oct 3-4 **12th Annual MS 150 Bike Tour**  
*Jacksonville FL* Emily Wilchek (904)725-6800  
Oct 4 (Sun) **3rd Annual Rails to Trails Bike Ride**  
*Inverness FL* (352)726-2251. Rails to Trails of the Withlacoochee, PO Box 807, Inverness FL 34451-0807.
- Oct 9-11 **BRAG Georgia Bikefest**  
*Metter GA* Bike Ride Across Georgia (BRAG), PO Box 87111, Stone Mtn. GA 30087-0028. Phone (770)921-6166.
- Oct 16-18 **Mt Dora Bicycle Festival**  
*Mt Dora FL* Mt Dora Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 196, Mt Dora FL 32757. (352)383-2165
- Oct 24 (Sat) **15th Annual Spaghetti 100**  
*Miccosukee FL* 100 mile, 100 kilometer, 50 kilometer. Jim Mann (850)422-0302.
- Oct 25 (Sun) **Intracoastal Century**  
*Cocoa Beach FL* 100/50 miles. Spacecoast Freewheelers, PO Box 320622, Cocoa Beach FL 32932-0622. (407)784-4686.
- Nov 1 (Sun) **Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club's Annual Gulf Coast Cycle Fest**  
*Sarasota FL* 15, 31, 62, and 100 miles. Ken Bachman (941)349-0184 Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club, PO Box 15053, Sarasota, FL 34277-1053.
- Nov 6-8 **Florida Fat-Tire Festival**  
*White Springs FL* Suwanee Bicycle Association, PO Box 247, White Springs FL 32096. 904-397-2347.
- Nov 8 (Sun) **Bob Mohr's 10th Annl Lake Okeechobee Lark**  
*Belle Glade FL* West Palm Beach Bicycle Club, PO Box 6581, West Palm Beach FL 33405-0581.
- Nov 14 (Sat) **HarvesTime Pasta Bash**  
*North Port FL* 64, 32, 16 miles. Ed Logan (941)966-2334.
- Nov 14 (Sat) **Cruisin' In the Country Century**  
*Claxton GA* Pegi Boatwright at Gailey Trophy Company (912)739-3359 or (800)262-9607
- Nov 15 (Sun) **19th Annual Horrible Hundred**  
*Clermont FL* 31/71/102 miles. Florida Freewheelers, PO Box 916524, Longwood FL 32791. (407)788-2453
- Nov 15 (Sun) **Ocean To Lake**  
*Stuart FL* 14, 30, 51, & 78 miles. Treasure Coast Cycling

Association, PO Box 2559, Stuart FL 34995-2559.  
Don Roseman (561)220-7597.

# Vignette on Power

by Dan Burden

There are five forms of power. One of the most powerful of all, is punishment, or the threat of punishment. It is reserved for rare occasions....but it must be used, when appropriate.

I used that power when I started my position in Florida. About 60 days after taking the position as Florida State Bike Coordinator (July, 1980) the following issue came up. As background, I had been given assurance by the Secretary of Transportation that he had an open door policy, and wanted my program to work. The Governor himself had to approve my appointment because he and his staff knew his folks were heels dug in asphalt guys (no gals back then). The Secretary had taken me across the street to meet the Governor, and I felt that I had solid backing for change. The Governor's staff, in creating my position said that the person hired to fill the bicycle coordinator position would be "creative, aggressive and serve as an agent for change".

One day I came across a letter written by our state highway design engineer. The letter was a response to AASHTO on a survey of how each state was addressing bicycling issues.

The letter the chief engineer wrote back was quite negative, making it clear that Florida had no time for such nonsense. I had met the official earlier and knew that he was pure old guard.

I drafted a letter for this engineer's response. In the letter I had him point out my new position, explain that Florida was taking bicycling seriously, apologized for the earlier remarks, stated that this earlier letter was sent as a mistake, and that times had changed.

I went to the Secretary of Transportation with my draft, presented it to him with the earlier letter, said "I came all the way from Montana, moved my family here under the assurances that you made a personal commitment to me that times have changed. Do I have your personal commitment to back me on this letter.....I want the chief engineer to send it out this

draft response under his signature with an apology. He said "yes".

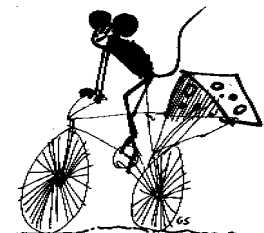
I went upstairs to the chief engineers office, started a conversation with he and two of his chief lieutenants, mentioned to him that I had received a copy of his AASHTO letter and that it must have been sent out as a mistake.

He said "that is not a mistake", that is how we do business here". I assured him that, as stated in my appointment letter and as further stated in the department newsletter announcing my new position, that times had changed. "I have been hired to put Florida on a proper course for accommodating bicycles, and your letter suggests that we are to do things in a manner that overlooks bicycling".

He said, "I am in charge here, the letter stands". He was firm. I took out my draft letter. I presented it to him. I gave copies to his staff. I said, this letter will go out under your signature. The Secretary has already given his approval. He turned beet red.

I went on, "From now on I look forward to working with you and your staff to build roads for all people". I asked him that if he had any questions to call the Secretary for a confirmation. "Times have changed", I assured him. The letter was sent. He retired six months later. Everyone throughout the design section, as well as planning, and many people throughout the districts heard this story from the key staff. Times had changed. I walked the halls proudly that day. The giant FDOT ship began shifting its course. The rest, they say, is history.

Teddy Roosevelt was right, "speak softly, but carry a big stick".



-ADVENTURE CYCLING

# **Branford Greenway**

Adapted from an article in the Lake City Reporter, June 17, 1998, as posted on the internet

**W**ork is expected to begin soon on the first link of a biking path that, as envisioned, will wind through several North Florida towns, Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) officials said this week.

Paving of the Branford Greenway - the first link in the planned series of trails through Fort White, High Springs, Jasper and Live Oak - is expected to be complete in time for a July 4 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The trail will begin in downtown Branford and provide riders with options to head off in two different directions. The eastern branch of the bike trail will go toward Fort White for about two miles, then cyclists can continue on existing backroads for another 14 miles to Ichetucknee Springs State Park (north entrance) and High Springs (17 miles more - passing O'Leno State Park enroute). The other branch of the bike trail goes three miles north to Little River Springs Road, which leads to Little River Springs Park, two miles west.

Paving work will be done by Anderson-Columbia of Lake City. The project is being funded through federal funds provided through the Florida Department of Transportation and administered by the water management district.

Little River Springs is one of many blue-water springs along the Suwannee River near Branford. The area has been dubbed the "Cave Diving Capital of the World." Water flow from the spring is plentiful right now with standing waves on the spring run creating a fun tube ride. Along the bike trail and near downtown Branford at the Suwannee River bridge, Branford Spring at Ivey Memorial Park has a unique, semi-circular deck and clear, cool water... the new trail will provide great opportunities for spring hopping by bicycle.

# **Sharing the Road With Bicycles**

## **Rules for Motorists**

by Galen Evans

1. Leave at least 3 feet of passing space between the right side of your vehicle (including the right side mirror!) and a bicyclist.
2. Be aware that when the road is too narrow for cars and bikes to ride safely side by side, bicyclists should "take the lane," which means riding in or near the center of the lane.
3. Reduce your speed when passing a cyclist, especially if the roadway is narrow.
4. When turning left at an intersection, yield to oncoming bicyclists just as you would to oncoming motorists.
5. After passing a cyclist on your right, check over your shoulder to make sure you have allowed adequate distance before merging back in. Experienced bicyclists often ride 25-30 MPH and may be closer than you think.
6. Don't blow your horn when approaching bicyclists - you could startle them and cause an accident.
7. In inclement weather give bicyclists extra room just as you would other motorists.
8. Learn to recognize situations and obstacles which may be hazardous to cyclists, such as potholes, debris, and glass - then give them room to maneuver.
9. Look for bicyclists before opening your car door.
10. Don't pull up and partially obstruct the right side of the cross street when waiting to make a right turn or pulling out from a driveway. Bicyclists travel on the right and you may be blocking their right of way without leaving maneuvering room.

Galen Evans, Pembroke Pines, Florida, USA,

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# Bicycling In Traffic

by Galen Evans

**A**s a bicycle rider, you are recognized legally as a driver of a vehicle in all states. Therefore, drive your bicycle as you would any vehicle. Obey all traffic laws. The fact that a bicycle is very maneuverable does not mean that the cyclist can violate traffic laws with impunity. Be confident and assertive, but never reckless or endangering. Believe in your rights - the cyclist is a legitimate user of the roadways. Observe your responsibilities as a roadway user - signal, position and travel correctly.

## Lane Position Rule

Ride just to the right of the motorized traffic when the lane is wide enough to safely share. When the lane is too narrow to safely share, ride in the center of the lane or just to the right of center (in the right hand tire track).

If the bicyclist can keep up with traffic, use the entire lane ("take the lane").

## Intersections - Turn Lane Rule

Ride in the right most lane that goes to your destination. In single destination lanes, ride on the right hand side of the lane. In multiple-destination lanes ride the side of the lane appropriate for your destination and current traffic conditions.

## Intentions - Hand Signal Rule

A large part of being predictable in your actions on the roadway is letting others know what you plan to do before you do it. Hand signals are a vital communication tool.

**Left turn** - Left arm and hand outstretched.

**Right turn** - Right arm and hand outstretched. (It may be difficult for motorists to see cyclists using the traditional motorist hand signal of left arm outstretched and bent upward at the elbow. *Because of your position on the bike, you are probably pointing your arm ahead—not a known signal.*

*Ed.)*

**Stop** - Either arm extended out with elbow bent down at right angle and hand open with palm facing rearward. (Most cyclists use their dominant hand for braking and the other one for signaling.)

## Changing Lanes Safely

Plan ahead. Look behind without swerving, perhaps several times. Signal your intention. Act carefully, smoothly, and deliberately. Negotiate with other drivers through eye contact and signals. Never move in front of another vehicle so close as to constitute a hazard.

## Passing Vehicles

Although cyclists are generally required to travel on the right, cyclists are allowed to pass other vehicles on the left (or the right) side of the lane. It can be extremely dangerous to pass slowly moving vehicles in the right lane on the right, since a motorist suddenly turning right could leave the cyclist with no escape route. On multi-lane roads, it is usually much safer for a cyclist to pass a line of stopped or slowly moving cars on the left side of the lane - between the two right-most lanes of cars.

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# Pro Bike/Pro Walk 98

by Ralph Fertig, Director, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition

This conference, important to the future of bicycling, will be held in Santa Barbara, California, this September. The biennial "Pro Bike" conference is organized by the Bicycle Federation of America (BFA) in Washington DC. This is the tenth conference and the first time ever for California. The Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition worked hard to attract it and its experienced participants to our area. The last two Pro Bikes had 425 attendees, but because this one is in California -- and bike-friendly Santa Barbara -- we expect to have 600 participants.

Pro Bike takes place September 8-11, just after Labor Day. It is important to have representatives from your region attend for several reasons:

- \* The new TEA-21 (US Federal transportation act) will provide more potential bicycling dollars than ever before
- \* We will have to compete harder with other alternative transportation groups (like those championing light rail, buses, or van-pooling) who are becoming more vocal and organized
- \* TEA-21 will now fund bicyclist education programs, so learn how to get one for your area
- \* There will be over 60 sessions on all topics vital to our continued success in funding bicycle improvements like racks on buses, bike lockers, wide outside lanes, and more offroad opportunities.
- \* Learn from experts what has succeeded for them throughout the US and world
- \* There will be "mobile workshops" (on bike or foot), inspiring speakers, an informal off-site dinner, and special interest group meetings
- \* Earth Force, an organization that involves youth in local environmental issues, will launch a new 2-year bicycling advocacy program that will need help from local cyclists.

Many more details and an application form are available at the SB Bicycle Coalition's web site <[www.sbbike.org](http://www.sbbike.org)> and at that of the BFA <[www.bikefed.org](http://www.bikefed.org)>. For a descriptive application

package, phone the BFA 202-463-6622 or email them at [pbpw98@aol.com](mailto:pbpw98@aol.com) for one.

If you have questions, I can be reached by email ([rhfertig@sb.net](mailto:rhfertig@sb.net)) or phone (805-962-1479 evenings). And bring your bikes so you can join us on the many extra rides around our area before, during and after Pro Bike.

## Kayak Trip August 23<sup>rd</sup>

by Roger Pierce

I checked out the kayak trip Brasington's Trail Shop advertised in the last newsletter, and heartily recommend it as an alternative activity that you should consider doing at least once during the summer.

A group of ten of us, mostly newbies, and three staff, shoved off into the Santa Fe River near US 441, and enjoyed a beautiful two and one half hour trip to Poe Springs. We stopped enroute at the US 27 boat ramp for a rest and a quick dip in the river to cool off.

At Poe Springs, a sumptuous brunch awaited us. The appetizers were lightly fried plantains and homemade salsa with chips. The main course consisted of scrambled eggs (made with mushrooms, cheese, and rosemary), french toast with powdered sugar and strawberry topping, and turkey sausage.

They have a limit of ten on these trips, so if you would like to join a GCC group, make a reservation now for August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cost is \$40 plus tax. See the ad:

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# PEE WEE'S BIG ADVENTURE

## The Mark Fuller Story

*Selected passages from three emails. See the whole thing, with color pictures, on the web page.*

**W**ell, the big day is finally here. For those of you that I haven't communicated with in a while, this summer I'm going to be riding my bicycle across the country from Seattle, WA to Bar Harbor, ME. Its something that I've dreamt about for a long time and it's a little hard to believe that it's going to happen.

A few details about the trip: Its organized by a nonprofit group called Adventure Cycling Association that has been doing similar long-distance rides since the mid-1970's. There will be 12 of us (including trip leader) and we'll all be carrying our gear on our bikes. I have 4 panniers (saddlebags), a handlebar bag, tent, sleeping bag, and ground pad. I'm carrying clothes for all kinds of weather, tools for repairs, and spare parts (like a tire, tubes, spokes). The total weight of my bike and gear will be about 75-80 lbs. Total mileage is around 4300-4500 miles, with an average of 55 miles per day and a range of between 30 to 80 miles per day depending on the terrain.

I'm writing this in Libby, Montana after a relatively easy 50 mile day of riding alongside of the Cabinet Mountains and the Kootenai River, exhausted but happy after getting my weekly cooking duties out of the way. Tonight was red beans and rice with smoked sausage, spinach salad, and blueberry shortcake.

The group is an eclectic bunch, 6 guys and 6 gals ranging in age from 22 to 71 years old. A typical day for me starts at around 6:00am by getting a quick breakfast and making the day's lunch. After breakfast we break camp (no hotels or hostels yet), pack our panniers (saddlebags) and load our bikes with our gear.

Climbing Boulder Pass was, without a doubt, the hardest day of riding I've had. Ever. I was almost to the bargaining-with-god stage when I finally crested the summit. But, as they say, what goes up must

come down and the descents are fantastic. Forty-plus mph downhill were common in WA. The bike actually handles like a motorcycle going downhill because of the weight (come to think of it, it kinda feels like pedaling a motorcycle uphill, too).



**G**reetings from the wild, wild west. We are presently in Glasgow, MT (yes, still Montana . . . it's a BIG state) enjoying another day off the bikes. We came in feeling like hammered horse poop after a 94 mile day and a 73 mile day in the hottest temps we've seen so far. Spoiled by the cooler temps in the mountains, we now know that summer is here to stay. ...we had around 2-3 days of tailwinds. After the Rainy, Washington, and Logan Passes, these were the most memorable Days of riding so far. Crystal clear days with a 15-20 mph tailwind made for bike speeds averaging 20-25 mph with minimal effort.

I'm actually completing this in Minot, ND at my usual snail's pace typing speed. So, that's life on the dusty road these days. Just completed one month and 1442 miles and still having a blast.





## PAC Tour

# ***Ridge of the Rockies***

by Roger Pierce

If you want to experience the outer limits of bicycle touring, Lon Haldeman and Susan Notorangelo's PAC Tours will deliver. Lon and Sue were the first winners of the Race Across America, and they have turned their passion for long distance riding into a long standing business. While they are most famous for their ocean to ocean tours, in the last few years they have offered several other routes, one of which is the Ridge of the Rockies, from El Paso, Texas, to Calgary, Alberta. The route covers around 2250 miles in 19 days, with over 92,000 feet of climbing.

I ramped up my training miles big time immediately after tax season ended, putting in a monthly record total of 1747 miles in May, including ten century or better rides. It was then off to El Paso to meet the other 61 people involved in the endeavor. Only 12 of us were "rookies", the rest having done as many as five previous tours. Some were doing their second tour after a layoff of five years; the group I hung out with had done the Northern Transcontinental in 1993. There were riders from Australia, Canada, and a large group from Europe.

If you would like a day by day account of the ride, go to the web site and look under the Publications, 1998 page. My roommate, Mike Ingram, a professional writer, did most of the writeups, and I proofed them when he finished before bedtime. On a typical day, breakfast was served in the parking lot at 6 or 6:30, and most riders were on the road in under a half hour after that. Rest stops were provided about every couple of hours, with lunch set up so we hit it around

noon. On the two easy days, lunch was at our destination. Other days, arrival ranged from around 2 pm to as late as 7 pm. Being a first class tour, we stayed in motels



every night. The daily challenge was to see if we could find an all-you-can-eat buffet to devastate.

The most spectacular riding day was a 109 miler from Durango to Montrose, Colorado. We started straight up, climbing 5500' to the top of Coal Bank Pass (el 10640') and then after a little dip we were on Molas Pass (el 10910'). After lunch in Silverton (watching the steam train arrive) it was on up to Red Mountain Pass (el 11118'), the high point of the tour, followed by a spectacular descent into Ouray.



The weather on the trip started out cool to luke warm, and soon turned cool to cold (to appreciate this, I listened to the news from Florida about 100+ degree temps and wildfires devouring Waldo). They actually have real winds out west; riding in a 20 to 30 mph cross wind is not fun, as we had to do on several days. Then there was the day of riding into a 25 to 40 mph head wind, with gusts to 60! But all this was balanced with stunning scenery, ranging from desert vistas to jagged Rocky Mountain peaks, and days where the riding was almost all down hill. In northern Colorado we hit our first really cold riding going over Grand Mesa mountain. The next day, snow forced us to go over Douglas pass in the vehicles. The coldest part of the trip was the descent from Logan pass in Glacier National Park in Montana, with temps in the low 30s and us wet from drizzle on the ascent.

Every inch we rode in Canada was into a stiff headwind or in rain, or both. Don't think I'll go back there again. The tour finished with a gala banquet where everyone was presented with a finishing plaque; the next day we were off to all points of the globe.

## BUSINESS SPONSORS

These businesses provide discounts to club members who present their yellow membership card:

Bike Route	15%
Campus Cycle Works	15%
Chain Reaction	10%
Gator Cycle	10%
Ominski Massage	\$10 off
Primo Bicycle Works	10%
Recycled Bicycles	10%
Streit's Schwinn Cyclery	10%
Water World	5%

Some restrictions apply, ask for details at the store.

## The Gainesville Cyclist

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Classified ads will be run free-of-charge for club members; call the editor.

Ads are \$5 per column inch or \$25 for six column inches (which may be broken into multiple ads in different issues); the standard ad is two column inches (2" x 3", a 1/2" narrower than a business card).

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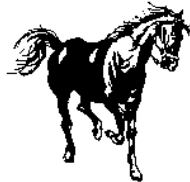
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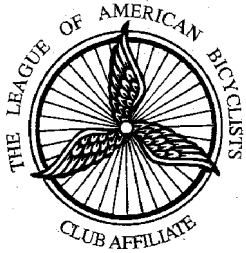




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**1999 Gainesville Cycling Festival - 9-10 October - Santa Fe Century - *Horse Farm***

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*Hundred*

## Cycling horts



1 Welcome new members Gustavo Antonini, Victorina Basavri, Kim Davidson, Johathan Engelstad, James Gardner, David Gill, John Graham, Nancy Groome, Louise Menashe, Rebecca Quandt, Catherine Tarbox, Debbie Treise, and Glen Zimmerman of Gainesville, and Valerie Lee of Lake City.

1 Skip Choate almost completed Mt Mitchell in May, but his small cog was a 23!

1 Jim & Mary Lou Merkner, Linda McMahon, and Dave Wagner did BAMA in June. Dave's wife Barbara drove sag.

1 Better late than never to report that Burt Silverstein, Mary LaPlante, Barbara Bergin, Roger Pierce, Ralph Schlieff, and Shannon Woodruff rode Cross Florida the first Sunday in May.

1 Ralph Schlieff, Centurian, A Rider, and Hunter is leaving us for graduate school in New York (brrrr).

1 Janis Mara has left us to return to California, but not before donating a desk, chair, and filing cabinet to the club!

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