he bi-monthly newsletter of the Gainesville Cycling Club, Inc.

Club Happenings

Apr 4 (Sun) Daylight Savings Time Starts

Spring Forward! (If you don't, you'll be an hour late.)

Apr 6 (Tue) Tuesday-Thursday A Rides Begin

Meet at the GRU facility at NW 43rd St and 53rd Ave at 6:30 pm sharp. Expect a fast pace to get the full loop in before sunset.

April 10 (Sat) Hunters Crossing Pedalers - Evinston Ride

Meet at the Pearl Station in Micanopy at the intersection of 441 and 234 at 9 am for about a 30 mile ride followed by a visit to one of the local eateries. Should be a lot of wild flowers blooming on this ride, one of the most scenic Hunters Rides. For details contact Linda McMahon.

May 1 (Sat) Standard Ride Start Times Move to 8 am

But watch your email for renegade groups who may switch earlier or later!

May 15 (Sat) Trail Patrol Training

See full details on page 3.

May 31 (Mon) Memorial Day Picnic at Ichetucknee Springs State Park

Ride the back roads of Suwannee and Columbia counties to work up an appetite for Sonny's Barbeque and a need to jump in a cool spring.

To partake, you must be at the ride start **not later** than 9:15 am to place your order with the Grand Poobah; plan on arriving by 9 am. WARNING!! IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER 9 YOU CAN COUNT ON WAITING IN A LONG LINE OF TUBERS IN ORDER TO GET INTO **THE PARK!!** Depending on where you are coming from

in Gainesville, it can take up to an hour to drive to the north entrance to the Ichetucknee Springs State Park on CR 238 (from US 27 at Ft White take SR 47 north and turn left onto CR 238). It costs \$3.25 to get a car into the park (bikes \$1) so get some buddies together and carpool. Park

in the area past the little fence on the far end of the parking lot; the regular lot will see lots of coming and going by tubers, and your car could be damaged (tubers will be long gone by the time we finish riding).

You must be a club member to participate in the feast. We will sign you up on the spot if you're not a member (\$10, family members of members don't cost extra, they just must join). Bring deserts and salads to complement the Sonny's fare.





Gainesville Cycling Club Inc. 1999 Board of Directors

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Rob Wilt 380-0561 afn09010@afn.org

Vice President

Linda McMahon 331-4089 lindamcm@atlantic.net

Membership Secretary

Roger Pierce 378-7063 375-8930 fax RCPBIKE@aol.com

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Bill Cochran 371-4118 wdc26176@aol.com

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Off Road Director

Brian Raisler 338-4594 braisler@ufl.edu

Members At Large

Jan & Carl Brush 378-5003 janbikes@hotmail.com carlbikes@gator.net

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

President's Message

Don't shoot me, I'm just the ride leader

Remember when you're on that next ride that the person leading is a human being too. Consider that they don't get paid, that they have taken special pains to plan the ride before the fact, and that they have feelings just like you. Out of the goodness of their heart flows the seamless ride that takes you from here to there and back again. Their only reward is the pleasure of the ride and your pleasant company. In view of these facts consider your own behavior and try to be gracious.

There are no absolute rules that govern the behavior of ride leaders. They make their own rules, sometimes as they go along, as necessity dictates. Sometimes they find they have to change the way they lead when the way that they have led proves to be ineffective. Sometimes ride leaders find that they have to make decisions about things that they would rather not even think about. Sometimes a ride leader has to tell a ride member that they are no longer welcome to ride with the group.

If you ride with a particular ride leader and you don't like his style or the way she conducts the ride, you don't think that they push discipline or safety enough, or you think they make petty demands from the group in regard to safety or protocol, you have choices. One of those choices though, is not to complain to the President. I do not second guess ride leaders. I don't train ride leaders, nor do I tell them how to ride or where to ride. I don't define who can ride, what speed the ride takes place at, whether or not there will be pacelines or rest stops. I don't decide how long the rest stop will be, where it will be, how many can ride abreast, or what the average speed will be. I don't teach them to fix flat tires, don't require them to carry tools, don't demand they have cell phones or know CPR. I don't define the subject of the ride conversations nor specify whether the group must wait for people who need to fix a flat. These things are all up to the ride leaders themselves and their own proclivities. I can make suggestions, just like you can, as to what would be civil, but ultimately it is all up to the ride leader, because they assume responsibility for the ride and its outcome. If you don't like a ride leader's style then you need to find another ride leader and group whose style better suits your own. Whining won't change a thing, diplomacy might. If you wonder about a ride leader's style and requirements, ask them up front.

As a ride leader myself I have a great appreciation for how people on a ride sometimes take the leader for granted. Sometimes I have had people who acted as though I was the over-paid tour guide on their expensive vacation.

Often people have the expectation that I will fix their flat for them. Wrong! I'll wait for them to fix it and even lead them through it, but I won't do it for them. Some ride leaders will, but that's up to the ride leader. I expect some self-reliance.

Some ride leaders don't require a helmet from riders. Wrong! No helmet, they aren't riding with me. I won't share any guilt for their busted head. I expect people to have some regard for their own safety.

If someone rides in a reckless manner that demonstrates a disregard for the safety and the welfare of the other riders in the group and ignores my warnings to desist, I will take them aside and expel them from the group. I expect some consideration for others.

But that's just me. If you can't find a group leader that suits you, there is always the final option, lead a group yourself; then you can have it your way.

A sincere thank you to all of you GCC ride leaders, for shouldering the burden.

Following winds, my friends

Rob Wilt



TRAIL PATROL TRAINING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 15

ainesville's "Trail Patrol" has begun riding the Depot Trail, Waldo Trail and Hawthorne Trail. The Trail Patrol, patterned after the neighborhood "Citizens on Patrol," rides the trails looking out for any injured riders, for physical problems on the trail such as glass or debris, and for any crime problems on the trail.

Fifteen citizens participated in the first training session in March. Each citizen Trail Patrol member is asked to do two four-hour shifts per month. Gainesville Police provide the Patrol with cellular phones and "Citizen on Patrol" vests to use during patrol.

The Patrol needs more members to help cover all shifts. What could be more fun than riding your bike along Gainesville's paved bike trail system and receiving credit for community service at the same time!

The next training session is Saturday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Main Fire Station at 501 South Main Street. The training class consists of two hours of classroom, in which first aid and community patrolling techniques are reviewed, followed by two hours of riding the trails we will be patrolling.

Please call or E-mail Chandler Otis if you would like to be a Trail Patrol or if you have any questions. The date and location of training may change, so please contact Chandler before May 15. Chandler can be reached at 377-1728 (home, answering machine) 376-6729 (work) or E-mail Chanbike@aol.com.

Annual Meeting

Over 50 members attended the GCC Annual Meeting and lasagna feed on Saturday at the Boys Club. Distended bellies marked us as fully fueled for the Sunday ride and/or Adopt-A-Road

cleanup. And a few odds and ends actually changed hands at the swap meet.

Bill Cochran, the Bee Line Group Captain, started the program for the evening by presenting the original artwork to Dave Wagner of the political cartoon of which he was the subject recently in the Gainesville Sun. Interestingly enough, one of our former members, Dave Newport, was also mentioned in that cartoon.

The current board was reelected, with the addition of a new Director At Large, Carl Brush. Finishing off the evening, Chandler handed out applications for the Lake Weir Kiwanis Tri-County Tour, and then informed the holders that three of them were marked as complementary entries (FREE).

Ride Reports

We've made a definite impact on Saturday mornings at the GRU facility. So far, there has been enough parking since many of us ride to the start; if we get too many more cars, though, we'll need to start overflow parking at Talbot Elementary.

Our riding groups are currently in a state of flux. On a recent faster ride, I looked up to see that the leader of the paceline was the Bee Line group captain, closely followed by the Glider group captain, and I thought I was on the A Ride! What's happening is that all of the faster groups are leaving together, and sometimes splitting into their components later into the ride. Be careful who you are riding with if you get into one of these rides; at least one rider has found himself at a rest stop with none of his group—they had regrouped and gone on a shorter route!

Bill Boyett continues to lead the Sliders group at a traditional Slider pace, and is looking for new recruits who haven't moved up to the faster rides.

There have been large Hunters Crossing Pedalers groups recently, doing the slower, most relaxed riding.

Positive Urban Riding Experiences by David Stotts, Tallahassee, Florida

All bicyclists have their horror stories of negative encounters with motorists. I had a pistol pointed at me by a pick-up truck driver who took umbrage at another rider's one-finger salute for passing too closely. This was in rural Arizona.

However, let me offer a counter-story, to all this fear and loathing. I do an 18 mile ride through town nearly every weekday morning. During the trip, I exchange good mornings and smiles with at least a half dozen people who are walking dogs, getting the paper, running, power walking, getting into their cars, working as crossing guards, or "yard men." Never once has anyone suggested that I get off the road, use the sidewalk or another street. No one has thrown anything at me. Occasionally a carload of teenagers might scream out the window as they drive by. I just wave back, wishing I was 16 again. I have ridden 3500 miles per year on the streets of Tallahassee for the last five years, mostly during peak traffic periods with very few unpleasantries.

A few weeks ago, while pedaling up a hill on Sharon Drive which parallels Tharpe St., I noticed an empty beer bottle on the road. A middle-aged fellow was walking toward me. We intersected at the beer bottle. "Thought I'd pick that up before it becomes a thousand flat tires," I said, smilingly.

"Here let me take it," he said, stooping for the bud bottle. "You know, I see you riding all the time. Every time I see you, it makes me happy. I'd be running today if it weren't for my bad knee. More people should ride bikes."

Needless to say, that encounter made my day. With more gusto than usual, I said, "Good Morning!" to the next person, a senior citizen getting her paper, and was rewarded with a bigger smile than usual.

Here is my advice: strive to harmonize, not antagonize. Smile a lot. Signal a lot. Be patient. Stop at all traffic lights and signs as the most law-abiding car would do. Make eye contact. Try not to compete for space with the motorists if possible. Try not to delay the motorists who are in a perpetual hurry. Be assertive, but not aggressive. Relax. Avoid high speed, high traffic, narrow roads

without shoulders or bike lanes. Be visible from the space shuttle. I have added an orange safety flag to my urban rig and notice wider motorist passing margins and more deference.

And yes, gasp! heresy! take the occasional sidewalk as a last resort. Survival over dogma.

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.

Wanted: Set of rear panniers. Call Diann Dimitri at 904-462-4580.

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

CYCLO-CROSS TIRES - AVOCET Cross 700c x 35c, \$15 for pair

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		s, \$5 each, 4 a	available	
	Standard	Ad			

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B I K	We appreciate your business please ask for your GCC member discount: 10% OFF: BICYCLES 15% OFF: ACCESSORIES If you haven't stopped by in a while, please check us out.	B I K			
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1702 W.UNIYERSITY AVE Phone 352-376-6729					

April - May Ride Schedule RIDING GROUPS

A Riders. (no Group Captain). Fast paced rides. The main group usually goes two to five hours. There is usually a group that will do a shorter ride, and sometimes one that will go longer. The ride may become very fast for some periods. Team Florida frequently joins the group on Sundays.

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.

Spinners. Larry Bowman, 495-2305, jjrider@hotmail.com. Rides in the mid B range (16-17 mph) on Saturdays.

Sliders. Bill Boyette, 338-2945, tteyob@aol.com. Rides in the lower B range (15-16 mph average) on Saturdays. Meeting times and places are sent to group members by email about a week before the ride.

Hunters Crossing Pedalers. Linda McMahon, 331-4089. Meets at the GRU facility on NW 43rd St just north of NW 53rd Ave, most Saturdays for a slower paced ride. 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.

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 Roaders. Brian Raisler, braisler@ufl.edu or 338-4594. Meeting times and places usually announced via email on the club list.

Feet First. Bruce Bush, bruce@musician.org. Recumbent bicyclists group. May do one or two rides a month, announced on the club email list.

Stray Cats. Rob Wilt, 380-0561, afn09010@afn.org. Slower paced rides at out of town locations, announced in the newsletter and via email.

Fireflys. Rob Wilt, 380-0561, afn09010@afn.org. Tuesday and Thursday rides out and back on Millhopper.

REGULAR STARTING TIMES AND PLACES

Always check your email for time and place updates.

GRU FACILITY RIDES

(On NW 53rd St, north side, just west of NW 43rd Ave)

SATURDAYS

All groups meet at 9 am until May, then at 8 am.

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

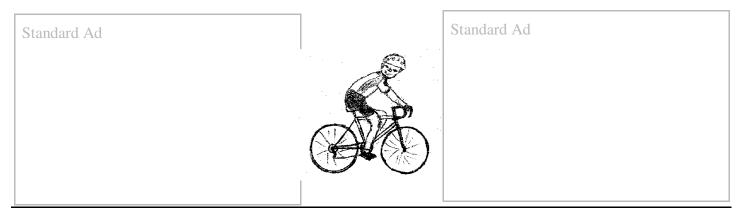
A Riders and Fireflys meet at 6:30 pm.

PLAZA OF THE AMERICAS RIDES

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

SUNDAY

All groups meet at 9 am until May, then at 8 am



April 1999 The Gainesville Cyclist 5

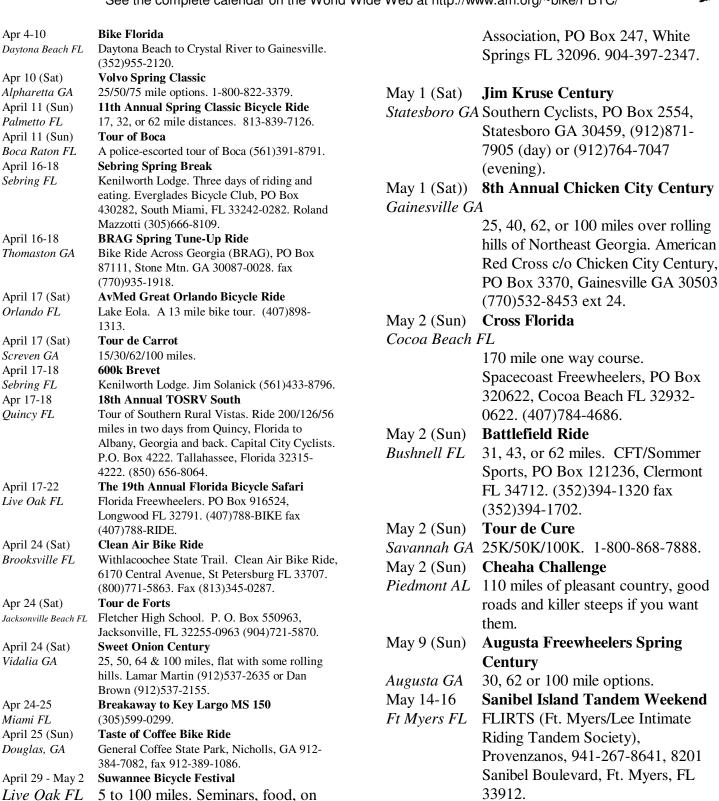


Florida

Bicycle Touring Calendar

(VERY ABRIDGED)

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



and off road. Suwanee Bicycle

May 14-16

Georgia Tandem Rally

Madison GA Roger Strauss at 770-565-4150.

May 15 (Sat) Up the Creek Without A Pedal

Rome GA 15/30/60/100 miles. Coosa Valley
Cycling Association PO Box 2764,
Rome, GA 30164-2764. Day 706291-1501 evening 706-234-9787.

May 16 (Sun) Spirit of Cycling Ride

Ormond Beach FL

8:30 am. 432 Airport Road. Feast and festivities. 15/38/52/100 miles. Daytona Bicycle Club, P.O. Box 250283, Holly Hill, FL 32125.

May 16 (Sun) Seventh Annual Tour de Cure

Savannah GA (800)868-7888

May 22 (Sat) **24th Annual Assault on Mt Mitchell**

Spartanburg SC

Spartanburg Freewheelers, PO Box 6171, Spartanburg SC 29304.

May 22 (Sat) **Pine Mountain - Covered Bridge Century**

Blount County AL

Pine Mountain Volunteer Fire & Rescue, 932 Valley Grove Road, Remlap AL 35133-3160, (800)393-7856 (Ronnie)

June 13 (Sun) West Georgia 100

Carrolton GA 12/25/50/66/100 miles. (770)834-3278.

June 13-19 **BAMA**

Aliceville AL Bicycle Across Magnificent Alabama. P.O. Box 2286, Anniston, AL 36202-2286.

June 19-26 **Bike Ride Across Georgia (BRAG)**

LaGrange GA To Savannah. BRAG, PO Box 87111, Stone Mtn. GA 30087-0028. (770)921-6166.

Adopt-A-Road Report

he March 7th cleanup of CR 234 (or Angle Road as it's known to some) had a great crew of people show up and wonderful weather to boot. We didn't come across anything particularly bizarre or noteworthy, except I now have a new (to me) sawhorse. Yipee! We never know what treasures we're going to come upon. In the past we've found a full gallon jug of wine, unusual hupcaps, tools, minor appliances such as sinks, toilets, etc. So if I've caught your interest, feel free to show up for the next cleanup which will be June 6th at 4 pm. Kudos to the following folks who showed up to help: Julie Baker, Purvis Bedenbaugh, Chuck Broward, Edie Broward-Jensen, Michael Cochran, Diann Dimitri, Lee & George Edward, Kim & Rich Heiss, Joyce Kelly, Marty Tod and Rob Wilt.

Afterward we tried out a different eating spot, the Chuck Wagon on Williston Rd. It was generally agreed upon that this was the place to go in order for all of us to sit together and be able to socialize one of the pleasures of our fair biking club.

See you on the side of the road, Diann Dimitri



There are currently about a dozen persons on the jersey list.



Pearl Izumi has raised their prices this year, so we are looking at other possibilities with other companies. Our objectives, in addition to finding a decent price, is to find a fabric more suited to Florida, availability of sleeve, nosleeve, and lightweight long sleeve jerseys as part of the same minimum order, and possibly the availability of matching shorts. We'll be using the same artwork, but of course without all of the Pearl Izumi advertising.





YOU ONLY GET ONE HEAD! THERE IS NO OTHER REAL SUBSTITUTE

DON'T BE A CABBAGE HEAD!

wear a helmet!

Charles Pelletreau Touring Club of North Jersey

DAYTONA BICYCLE CLUB'S



SPÍR-ÍT OF CYCLÍNG R-ÍÐE

Sunday

MAY 16

15, 38, 50, & 100 MILES

TOSRV

April 17-18, 1999

200/126/56 miles in two days from Quincy FL to Albany GA along gentle rolling hills through pecan groves and farmland

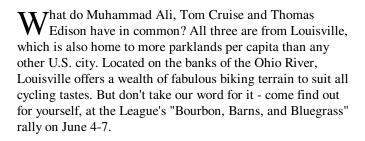
(850)656-8064 juliesmith66@hotmail.com Group discounts for five people

League of American Bicyclists

A Glimpse at the Rallies

Compiled by Ernesto Yermoli





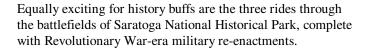
The planned rides for this rally are as diverse as the city's landscape. One such ride is the Lockport Century, which will pass through the hamlets of local farm country before sloping down into the Kentucky River Valley, only to sweep back up again. If all the riding leaves you with a hankering for some down-home grub, be sure to check out the 60-mile Ride to Eminence. A favorite of the Louisville Bicycle Club, this ride will lead you to the charming town of Eminence and will include a stop at the Chat n' Nibble Café, where you should make sure to stock up on the famously delicious home fries.

There are a ton of other rides, too, each offering at least a glimpse at Louisville's proud history, from the Falls of the Ohio fossil beds to the legendary Churchill Downs (home of the Kentucky Derby). And don't miss the myriad of workshops, which will include such intriguing presentations as The Nuts & Bolts of Club Management, Cycling for Women and a special look back at the League of American Wheelmen's 1897 Rally in Louisville.

"Springs, Spokes, & Saddles" Saratoga Springs, New York June 18-21, 1999

Though it is perhaps best known for thoroughbred racing, Revolutionary War battle sites and restorative mineral baths, Saratoga Springs will no doubt soon add "flawless cycling conditions" to its list of tourist attractions. Whether you dream of gliding along the Hudson River Valley at a horse's trot, battling the steep foothills of the Adirondacks or simply basking in the serenity of the idyllic environs, Saratoga Springs is an ideal place for pedaling.

Highlights of the rally include a 46-mile flat ride to the world-renowned Serotta bicycle factory for an open house and a unique opportunity to meet the minds behind bicycle fit.



Other rides include a 52-mile trip to the Sacandaga River for whitewater rafting and a fascinating "Petrified Sea Gardens" ride, which will bring you face to face with an ancient sea floor. Riders on the Tomhannock Reservoir and Mighty Mohawk Meander rides, meanwhile, may witness the dedication of a trail under the Route 9 Crescent Bridge that will enable bicyclists to safely cross this four-lane highway.

Among the many workshops at the rally will be a presentation by Saratoga Springs native Jeff Olson, program director for the national Millennium Trails Project, which hopes to develop 2,000 trails throughout the country in the next few

"Wines, Vines & Valleys" Sonoma County, California July 23-26, 1999

Tpon visiting Sonoma County in 1833, General M. G. Vallejo pronounced that he'd "made a visit to paradise . . . the fairest land in all the world." While other communities may quibble with the General's assertion, you'd be hard-pressed to find a place with more bike-friendly natural splendor, from the redwood forests to world-famous vineyards to stunning views of the coast. No wonder this is one of the top cycling destinations in the world, with more pay-to-ride events per year than any other region in the country.

You'll certainly have a lot of scenic rides to choose from at the League's July 23-26 rally, including a winding 81-mile trip through California's most prestigious and beautiful vineyards. Serious cyclists will get a thrill out of the 46-mile trek to the factories of three of Sonoma County's own bicycle manufacturers: Ibis, Salsa and Bruce Gordon. If challenging climbs and rushing descents are your cup of tea, you'll love the steep wooded flanks of the 16-mile Sonoma Mountain Loop. Yet another ride will lead you to the home of a fellow adventurer - Jack London - in the quaint little town of Glen Ellen.

In addition to the rides, there will be a number of captivating workshops at the rally, on topics ranging from proper bike fit techniques to the ins and outs of cooperative touring. And don't miss biking bard Willie Weir's presentation, where he will entrance you with tales of his cycling adventures through Cuba.

So what are you waiting for? Whether you want to race through 1776 in Saratoga, float like a butterfly in Louisville, or sweep through the vineyards of Sonoma County, our rallies can make it happen. For more information, be sure to call 202-822-1333, email

bikeleague@bikeleague.org or write 1612 K St., Suite 401, Washington, D.C. 20006. You can also check out our web page at www.bikeleague.org.

BUSINESS SPONSORS

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

Bike Route Campus Cycle Works Chain Reaction Gator Cycle Gator Frame Painting Ominski Massage Primo Bicycle Works Recycled Bicycles	15% 15% 10% 10% 10% \$10 off 10%
	10% 10% 5%

Some restrictions apply, ask for details at the store.



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The Gainesville Cyclist

5015 NW 19th Place Gainesville FL 32605-3435

EDITOR

Roger Pierce 378-7063 fax 375-8930 RCPBIKE@aol.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

Gary Kirkland Tim Malles

BIKE SHOP LIAISON

Jim Merkner 372-6379 jmerk@juno.com

AD GRAPHICS

Craig Lee 475-1825 craig@barrsys.com

The Gainesville Cyclist is published bi-monthly with cover dates of even-numbered months. The deadline for new copy is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions are welcome.

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 ½" narrower than a business card).

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Standard Ad



Standard Ad

Standard Ad

Standard Ad



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APRIL 1999 ISSUE

Mailing label with expiration date identifies current member.

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

Cycling Shorts



1 Welcome new members Karen Anei ro, Louis Barnes, Teri Barnes, Bruce Biddle, K. Susan Brown, George Hecht, Beth Henry, Clo Huyghues-Despointes, Chet Justice, Leo D. Sandgren, Michael South, Colleen Thompson, Mike Warren, Ronnie Wilmink, Jim Wilson, Meegan Wilson, Nancy Zalatimo, Bonnie Zimmerman, Frank C. Amatea of Ocala, Bryan Christian of Bronson, Jorge Milanes or Hawthorne, and Melanie & Mitchell Booth of Ormond Beach.

1 Ted Richard is expected in town April 10-19.

1 There is a new installment on the Dan Burden page on our website entitled "NIMBYs." Get to it through Publications (or for now Breaking News).

1 Jim & Kathi Twomey are in the process of moving

to Las Vegas. We wish them well in the land of dry heat and neon.

1 Neil Crandell is recovering from a "high speed dismount" that left him with broken ribs and a punctured lung. He still hopes to ride TOSRV!

1 Linda Dixon is returning to Gainesville to be our new Bicycle/Pedestrian coordinator.

Standard Ad