

Club Happenings

December 5 (Fri) Decorating Party

Help decorate the Merkner's for the Holiday Party, 5 pm, directions next item. The club will have pizza and sodas at dinner time.

December 13 (Sat) Holiday Party

See full details on page 4. Pot luck dinner at the Merkner's, 6 to 10 pm. The club will provide a couple of **turkeys!** 2401 NW 27th Lane. From Glen Springs Road (NW 23rd Blvd between NW 13th St and NW 34th St) take either 23rd Terr or 24th Terr south to 27th Lane.

December 26 (Fri) Bike Memorial Cleanup

9 am. See page 9 for details.

January 1 (Thur) New Year's Day Ride 10 AM

Meet at the NW Chevron, note the later starting time to allow more time for recovery from a late night.

January 10 (Sat) Tour de Felasco

Fifty mile off-road event (shorter options available). There is a registration limit (300) and deadline (December 31) so register now. See page 5 for more details.

January 17 (Sat) Oleno Chilly Chili Picnic and Rides

Is this event more about eating or riding? You'll just have to come out and see. See page 2 for details.

January 17 (Sat) 200 Kilometer Brevet

See page 7 for full details. Registration forms are on the web site.

February 29 (Sun) GCC Annual Meeting and Gala Brunch

Put this on your calendar. Brunch at the Hilton. Details next newsletter.

Elections

The GCC Board of Directors will elect new officers for 2004 at the January Board meeting. If you are interested in serving, contact George Edwards at 333-3184 or any other Board member (see next page).

There is at least one opening on the Board; the job description is open. Traditionally, the Board meets at a different member's home each month for dinner and a meeting.



GainesvilleCycling Club Inc.
Board of Directors

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gedwards@atlantic.net

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Chanbike@aol.com

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Membership Card Lamination

Diann Dimitri 378-7063
diann@piercepapes.com

GCC Web Page

www.floridabicycle.org/gcc

January Picnic Features the Famous "Chilly Chili" Contest

GCC will have its world famous "Chilly Chilli" picnic on Saturday, January 17 at Oleno State Park. Bike rides start at 9 a.m., food starts about noon.

The picnic features a Chili Cookoff, and everyone is invited to bring their best chili. For those who don't like spicy chili, The Club will provide the famous "Fowl Flesh Chili", a mild chili made with ground turkey, guaranteed to offend no one. On the other end of the spectrum, we expect the return of George Edwards' mouth watering "Five Alarm Chili" with its accompanying antidote.



All chilis are welcome, including vegetarian recipes, hot or mild chilis and other variations. Prizes and praise will be awarded to the best chili's including vegetarian chili, mammal flesh (cow, swine, squirrel) chili, and fowl flesh (chicken, turkey, ostrich) chili. Insect and seafood based chilis are also welcome.

The Club will provide soft drinks and a big pot of rice to accompany the chili. All picnic participants are asked to bring either a chili or a side dish, such as a salad or desert.

Bike rides will include both road rides and off-road rides. Road ride leaders may want to organize road rides for the Oleno area. the top half of the Santa Fe Century route is near Oleno.

Oleno has 13 miles of gentle off-road trails, including the historic Bellamy Road, Florida's first Federal road built in 1826. Chandler will lead a history ride to the Bellamy Road, which will include the Old Spanish Trace and Wire Road, which have been in use for more than 300 years.

Directions to Oleno State Park:

Oleno is 35 miles north of Gainesville on US 441. Take US 441 north through Alachua and High springs. Oleno is eight miles north of High springs on US 441. Riders and picnickers should meet at the picnic area in Oleno, which is next to the Santa Fe river.



President's Letter



Dear Friends:

The Palatka-Lake Butler Trail State Park is coming, but don't pack your pannier bags just yet. I was recently asked to serve on the Advisory Group for the Unit Management Plan for this new State Park, and learned a lot about its progress and future. This Trail has been on the State's target list since 1991, and is just now getting going.

The Trail is presently in the earliest stages of planning, and much remains to be done before paving starts. We understand from Park Manager Bob Rundle that contracts will soon be let for major clearing of brush and debris from the 46-mile right-of-way, and that engineering studies of extant bridges will follow. Design work will be done with some enhancement funds over the next couple of years.

As funds become available, paving should start in 2006 at the Palatka end. The first segment to be completed will be the eastern part, perhaps as far as Keystone Heights, with trailheads planned at Palatka, near Florahome, Putnam Hall, and in Keystone Heights.

The Management Plan as presented seems reasonable, and if the Trail gets built as now envisioned it will be a fine facility. The trailheads are planned for water and restrooms, as well as parking for automobiles and horse rigs. Cultural and environmental kiosks are planned along the Trail and at trailheads.

The Plan noted that there are no minerals of economic or cultural interest in the area of the Trail, so I couldn't resist pointing out that the Trail crosses and parallels the Trail Ridge, a world-famous source of titanium minerals, that element being rather well-regarded by many cyclists (not to mention house painters).

The Western section of the Trail on from Keystone Heights through Hampton to Lake Butler is going to

be more of an engineering challenge, and will take longer to complete. Much of this area is wetland, and the railroad berm is built up above the swamp. This makes the crest of the berm rather narrow when you want to include a 12-foot bike trail and an adequate equestrian trail beside it. Plus the bridge over the New River is history, so a costly replacement will be required.

I also got my name on the list for a support group to develop a trail from St. Augustine to Palatka, and from Lake Butler to Lake City, which will make for a truly long facility.

You can rest assured that I spoke out for a connection (somehow, some where) with the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail.

I will keep you posted as news comes to me.

Cheers,

George H. Edwards



New on the Website

<http://www.floridabicycle.org/gcc/>

There are new maps under the Maps directory on the web site. There are a variety of maps for starts at the NW Chevron, SW Citgo, and from Micanopy.

On the Rides menu, Cold Weather Riding Advice has been added. This article will help you plan your layers for a cold weather ride.

The main Destinations page has been spiffed up with new graphics.

Thanks To Gainesville Cycling Festival Volunteers!

Course

Course Marshall: George Edwards

Routing: Roger Pierce

Communications: Bud Jones

SAG Drivers

Paula Bedford

Doug Folkerth

Gwen Creel & Neal Adams

Ralph & Dottie Giro

Carol Glavin

Greg Grooms

Steve Grosteffon

George Hecht

Jon Keener

Jim Merkner

Bob Newman

Rhea & Leta Phelps

Jean Wonser & horse

Painting Crew

George Edwards

Ben Fein

Jon Keener

Bob Newman

Chandler Otis

Signing Crew

Paula Bedford

George Edwards

George Hecht

Bob Newman

An Nguyen

Chris Sanchez

Pace Vehicles

Sean Nickerson

Jerry Yermovsky

John Bonds

Dottie Dryer

Maria Fiedler

Elli Grosteffon

Karalisa Hartigan

Jane Houston

Bud & Clare Jones

Kirby Jordan

Carol Lavin

Raven Moondance

Bob & Suzanne Newman

Roger Sessler

Tom Stevens

John Stokes

Police Cadets, traffic control

Registration

Registrar: Roger Pierce

Lee Edwards

Mary Lou Merkner

Richard Colbert

Leslie Folkerth

Brian Hetz

Suzanne Newman

Fred Ross

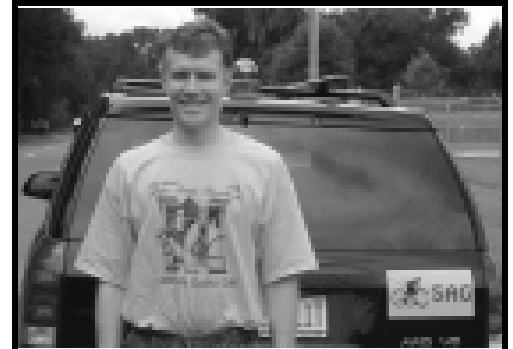
Vicki Santello

Photographers

Rob Wilt (did those on this page)

Richard Ritari

We apologize if we missed anyone!



SAG drive Steve Grosteffon



Julie & Karalisa serve lunch



Mary Lou counts the cash

Rest Stops

Aid Director: Roger Pierce

Diann Dimitri

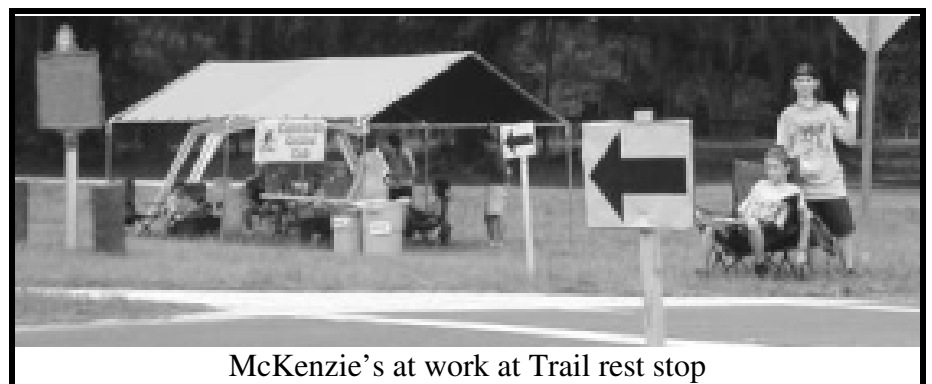
Danny & Cindy Dresdner

John Parker

Jerry & Bev Yermovsky

George & Dawn McKenzie and family

Julie Baker



McKenzie's at work at Trail rest stop

Off Road



by Leslie Folkerth

This month I wanted to take the opportunity to talk to you about trail etiquette. We all may know the basics when riding with other bikers, and if not, I will save that subject for another time. But this month I want to talk about the relationships between cyclists and horses.

Although the trails at San Felasco are separate, there are some cases where there is a common treadway or the trails run parallel for a short distance. And many times they cross each other. Horses are by nature prey animals, and although they might not be afraid of the bikes themselves, they can easily be frightened by anything that approaches them too quickly.

The best thing to do when you see a horse and rider, even if it is off on its own trail, is to slow down and prepare to stop if necessary. Be sure to call a greeting like "Good morning!" or "Hi there, horse!" so the horse realizes there is actually a human connected to that strange thing on two wheels. This is not only for your own safety, but that of the horse and other rider as well.

As cyclists, we also should encourage equestrians to let us pet and talk to their horses when appropriate. This helps keep the horses at ease, and more importantly, helps foster good relationships between these diverse trail user groups.

I actually had the opportunity a few weeks ago to serve as one of the ride guides for the Friends of San Felasco's annual horse benefit trail ride (and it was not as much work to power up those steep climbs!). Our group only encountered one bicycle rider coming out of the Tung Nut

Loop into the Powerbar Overlook clearing. I was midway in the pack, and as I approached, I saw the rider who was proceeding very slowly and coming to a stop to let the entire group go by. I called a greeting to him, let him know we just had a few more horses coming by, and then told him it was safe to cross. I thanked him, he thanked me, and everyone went on their merry way. What could have been a dangerous situation was avoided completely by the courtesy of this bike rider.

We all enjoy using these great trails, mountain bikers, horse riders, and hikers alike. Let's all do our part to keep the trails fun and safe for everyone!

Hope to see you on the trails soon – either on my bike or perhaps even a horse!

Leslie

PS - Don't forget our weekly rides, Sundays at 9:00 am at San Felasco Hammock State Preserve. All levels and abilities are welcome!



SAVE THE DATE!

The 2nd Annual Tour de Felasco will be held on January 10, 2004. Registration forms should be available by the time you read this, and you can download one at www.sanfelasco.net. Registration is limited to 300 riders, and I anticipate we will fill up quickly. Get your application in today! For questions about registration, feel free to call or email me!

Leslie
lesliefolkerth@hotmail.com
352-367-3856

Holiday Party Activities

Eating

The club will provide a couple of turkeys. Bring side dishes to complement the birds.

Food Contest

When you arrive you will be given a food label and a food ballot. The label will have a number on it. Write your name and a description of your dish on the label and make sure that it is placed so that everyone can tell that it goes with your dish. When you decide to vote for a dish as "best", write the number that is on it's label on your ballot, and place it in the ballot box. Prizes will be awarded for best dish and best desert.

Where Am I?

When you arrive at the Holiday Party, be sure and put your name on a name tag and stick it on your chest; with over 400 club members, there's bound to be someone who doesn't quite remember your name! While you are doing this, the greeter will place another name tag on your back with your location for the evening. It is your task to determine where you are. Now, of course, every one else will know, since they can see your back. But no one is allowed to actually tell you where you are. But they can answer questions that you pose to them about where you are. A sample dialog (for an easy one) follows:

Am I in Gainesville? NO

Am I in Florida? YES

Am I in a city? NO

Am I at a theme park? YES

Is the park in the Orlando area? NO

Am I at Weeki Watchi? NO

Am I at Parrot Jungle? NO

Am I at Silver Springs? YES

Costume Contest

We will award prizes in several costume categories, which may include: best dressed, most creatively dressed, and funniest or most entertaining costume.

The decision of the judges will be final!

Competitive Gift Exchange

Everyone coming to the party should bring a wrapped gift. You shouldn't spend a lot of dough on this gift, in fact something lying around the garage may do just fine. On the other hand, if you are well off and want to have some fun, go for it. If you have total imagination failure, throw a Power Bar or two into a shoe box and wrap it.

All of the gifts go under the tree. We will then call a location for the evening (see Where Am I?) and that person who is there will select a gift from under the tree and open it (quickly). Subsequent persons called will have a choice: select a gift from under the tree or take one that someone else already has. If your gift is taken, you have the choice of selecting one from under the tree, or taking one someone else has (you cannot take back the one you just lost). You are limited to three "takes" during the evening; after that, if you are the victim, you must select a gift from under the tree. The game ends when the last person selects a gift from under the tree.

Get Your GCC Shirt

Brand New GCC polo shirts: Quality Queensboro shirts (www.queensboro.com), featured logo is the sweaty pony on a penny farthing bike. One each:

Hunter green shirt with gold embroidery

Yellow with green text and red horse

Yellow with black embroidery

Red with gold embroidery

White with gold text and red horse



All shirts Men's size Large \$20 each. Contact Rob Wilt, 380-0561 (leave message) or email Klattu2051@aol.com.

Gainesville Cycling Club Brevet Series

2004 Event Schedule

Date	Time	Distance	Time Limit	Cost
Jan 17	7AM	200 km	13:30	\$20
Feb 7	6AM	300 km	20:00	\$25
Mar 6	4AM	400 km	27:00	\$30
Apr 3	2AM	600 km	40:00	\$40
Apr 10		Fleche	> 24H	\$10

GCC members take \$5 off the cost of each event.

Background

Brevets are longer, self-paced rides ridden by randonneurs (tr: ultratourists). A sequence of four brevets of increasing distance qualifies the rider to enter Paris-Brest-Paris, the oldest bicycling event on earth. In years when PBP is not held, various surrogates (e.g., Boston-Montreal-Boston) have similar qualification requirements.

Brevets are not races; published results traditionally list the finishers alphabetically and may not even include their times. But there is a time limit. This limit includes the minutes spent eating, fixing flats, and on the longer rides, sleeping. All but the shortest brevet (200 km/125 miles) require some night riding, and good lighting is essential.

Along the route, riders are required to stop at controls to get an authenticating stamp on their brevet cards. Each control has its own time window within which the authentication must occur to avoid disqualification. Riders should also anticipate one or more secret controls whose location will not be revealed in advance.

Unlike traditional century rides which may feature rest stops every 20 miles or so, the Gainesville Cycling Club brevets are unsagged and minimally supported. Controls are mostly convenience stores, and riders who abandon will likely need to provide their own transportation back to the start/finish.

The course is not marked. Finding one's way is part of the fun. Getting lost is sometimes part of the experience.

Requirements

Each rider must be covered by liability insurance, either by a group policy or by a personal policy. Each rider must sign a waiver of liability before the ride start.

Each rider must present their machine for bicycle inspection. Lights should be affixed, correctly aimed and working. Inspections and rider check in will be held from 6 PM to 8 PM the evening before the ride at the Quality Inn (See below) or after the ride start on the morning of the ride.

Randonneurs USA membership required before the ride to use the brevet as a qualifier (e.g. for BMB). RUSA rules apply.

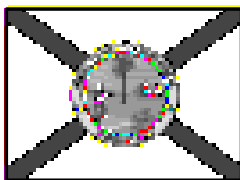
Membership in Gainesville Cycling Club is not required, but those who ride all four brevets will save money by joining.

Preregistration is not required, but riders will not be able to register or have their bike inspected on the day of the event until preregistered riders have departed, and the control windows must still be respected.

Registration/Accommodations

Obtain a registration form from the GCC web site.

Out of town riders: We have negotiated a discounted rate of \$52/night (+9% tax) at the Quality Inn for the nights before and after each ride start. Mention the Gainesville Cycling Club, and make your reservations as soon as possible to receive this rate. Phone (352) 378-2405. FAX (352) 381-8742. Located off I-75 at exit 382 (Williston Rd.)



Florida

Bicycle Touring Calendar

(VERY ABRIDGED)



See the complete calendar on the World Wide Web at <http://www.floridabicycle.org/fbtc/>

- December 7 (Sat) **Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida Century**
Sanford FL 8:00 AM Fort Mellon Park at Lake Monroe. CENTURY RIDE, BGCCF, P. O. Box 2987, Orlando, Florida 32802
- December 7 (Sat) **Kid's In Distress Inlet Challenge**
Ft Lauderdale FL 6 am. South Beach Picnic Area on A1A across from Bahia Mar. 100, 62.5, 31, 20 miles.
- December 13-14 **Secret Santa Weekend**
White Springs FL Suwannee Bicycle Association, PO Box 247, White Springs FL 32096. 386-454-3304.
- December 12-14 **Highlands Bicycle Festival**
Sebring FL Daily 62, 30 and 12 mile rides, plus Highlands County Century on Saturday. (561)683-2851.
- December 13 (Sat) **A Bicycle Ride Through Christmas Fantasy Land**
Casselberry FL 15 miles. Registration closes at 5:45 PM. Don Pablos restaurant on SR. 436.
- January 9-11 **13th Annual News-Press Tour de Cape**
Cape Coral FL Sat 100, 62, 31, 15 miles. Wendie Hauck (239) 573-3122.
- January 10 (Sat) **Tour de Felasco**
Alachua FL 50-mile Off-Road Ecotour!
- January 11 (Sun) **Brevet Series: 200 km**
Satellite Beach FL 124 miles. Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- January 17 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 200 km**
Gainesville FL 124 miles. Jim Wilson (352)373-0023.
- January 17-18 **Sebring Tandem Weekend**
Sebring FL 12, 30 and 60 miles. Linda Leeds 561-683-2851.
- January 24 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 200 km / 100 km**
Bonifay FL 124/62 miles. Joe Arnold (850)547-5196.
- January 24 (Sat) **IDIDARIDE**
White Springs FL Suwanee Bicycle Association, PO Box 247, White Springs FL 32096. 352-367-4512.
- January 31 (Sat) **Populaire: 100/150 km**
Satellite Beach FL Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- February 1 (Sun) **Orlando Road Club Pace-Led Century**
Clermont FL ORC race teams will lead groups at different average speeds to accommodate most riders.
- February 7 (Sat) **Celebrate Florida Century**
Windermere FL 7:30 am. (407)616-3543.
- February 7 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 300 km**
Gainesville FL 186 miles. Jim Wilson (352)373-0023.
- February 14 (Sat) **The Great Valentine Tour 2004**
Sanford FL 100, 62, 36 miles.
- February 14 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 300 km**
Satellite Beach FL 186 miles. Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- February 21 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 200 km / 100 km**
Bonifay FL 186/62 miles. Joe Arnold (850)547-5196.
- February 22 (Sun) **Snowbird Century**
Miami FL 30, 62, and 100 miles. Everglades Bicycle Club, PO Box 430282, South Miami FL 33243-0282.
- February 28 (Sat) **Populaire: 100/150 km**
Satellite Beach FL Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- February 28 (Sat) **Biking Bleckley**
Bleckley GA 15,30 or 50 miles. Cochran-Bleckley Chamber of Commerce 478-934-2965.
- February 28-29 **Bike Sebring 12/24 Hours**
Sebring FL Mark Andrews (863)385-3936.
- March 6 (Sat) **Clean Air Bike Ride**
Brooksville FL 12, 20, 48, and 100 miles. Clean Air Bike Ride, 110 N. Carillon Parkway, St Petersburg FL 33716. (800)771-5863.
- March 6 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 400 km**
Gainesville FL 248 miles. Jim Wilson (352)373-0023.
- March 6 (Sat) **The Bandanna Ride**
Reidsville GA 20, 47, and 62 miles. Pegi Boatwright (912)764-2482.
- March 7 (Sun) **6th Annual Royal Palm Classic**
Ft Myers FL 30, 45 and 54 miles plus combinations.
- March 13 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 400 km**
Tavares FL 248 miles. Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- March 13 (Sat) **Wheels O'Fire**
Hamilton GA 100, 68, 45, 26 miles. (800)381-4381.
- March 13 (Sat) **The Southern Pride Ag Ride**
Screven GA 20, 47, 62 and 100 miles.
- March 19-20 **Take Stock In Children Tour**
Ocala FL 200 miles to Tallahassee. (352)955-7246.
- March 20 (Sat) **Woodland-Calhoun Century Challenge**
Anniston, AL 25, 50, and 100 miles. City of Anniston Parks and Recreation Department, PO Box 2168, Anniston AL 36202. (256)236-8221
- March 21 (Sun) **Tour De Pike**
Concord GA 8, 18, 34, 64, 100 miles. Don Collins (770)567-3033.
- March 27 (Sat) **Populaire: 100/150 km**
Satellite Beach FL Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- March 28 (Sun) **Strawberry Century**
Plant City FL 100/63/37/21 miles. Richard Johnson (813)238-2464
- April 3 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 600 km**
Gainesville FL 372 miles. Jim Wilson (352)373-0023.
- April 3-9 **Bike Florida 2004: Springs Fever**
Gainesville FL The ride will be a loop ride starting and ending in Gainesville. BIKE FLORIDA, P.O. Box 621626, Oviedo, Florida 32762-1626. (407)971-8153..
- April 10 (Sat) **Brevet Series: Fleche**
Gainesville FL 24 hour ride. Jim Wilson (352)373-0023.
- April 10 (Sat) **Brevet Series: Fleche**
to Sebring FL 24 hour ride. Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- April 16-18 **BRAG Spring Tune-Up Ride**
Milledgeville GA Bike Ride Across Georgia (BRAG), PO Box 87111, Stone Mtn. GA 30087-0028. (770)921-6166.
- April 17 (Sat) **The Cocoa Beach Comber Ride**
Cocoa Beach FL 65 and 35 miles. Axel Schlem (407)903-0660.
- April 17 (Sat) **NatureFest Bike Tour**
Fanning Springs FL On the NatureCoast Trail. (352)333-3184.
- April 17 (Sat) **Populaire: 100/150 km**
Satellite Beach FL Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- April 17-18 **23rd Annual TOSRV South**
Quincy FL 200 miles or 126 miles in two days. Limit 500. Capital City Cyclists. Larry Pushor, Coordinator, 974 Park View Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32311.
- April 17-22 **24th Annual Florida Bicycle Safari**
Live Oak FL Florida Freewheelers. PO Box 916524, Longwood FL 32791. (407)788-BIKE.
- April 18 (Sun) **Bike Across Florida (BAF)**
Cocoa Beach FL 167 miles to Crystal River.
- April 18 (Sun) **Halfway Across Florida**
Cocoa Beach FL 85 miles to Apopka.
- April 24 (Sat) **Brevet Series: 600 km**
Satellite Beach FL 372 miles. Peter Noris (321)779-8601.
- April 24 (Sat) **Twilight Gambler**
Athens GA 50 or 100 kilometers.
- April 24-25 **18th Anl Maroon MS 150 "Breakaway to Key Largo"**
Miami FL 50, 75,100 or 150 miles over two days. Cris Vidal (954)731-4224.
- May 2 (Sun) **Cross Florida**
Cocoa Beach FL 170 miles. Peter Noris (321)779-8601.

Bike Memorial Cleanup on December 26 to Remember Our Friends

December 26 is the seventh anniversary of the tragic accident in which a pick-up truck hit six GCC riders. Two riders, Margaret Raynal and Doug Hill, were killed and the other four were seriously injured.

The Bike Memorial, just south of downtown Gainesville on Depot Road, is in memory of our friends. The six sculptures, representing the six cyclists, contain the actual bicycles they were riding at the time of the crash.

To remember our friends, there will be a clean-up of the Memorial on Friday, December 26 starting at 9 a.m. Bring gloves, pic-sticks, rakes and if you are ambitious, a lawn mower. Chandler will be there with tools and refreshments, so just show up and spend an hour picking up litter or raking leaves. Following the clean-up, we will find some local establishment to get snacks and tell stories.

Ride leaders may want to route their rides past the Memorial and pause for a moment of silence. You could even start your ride from the Memorial.

The Bike Memorial is on Depot Road and SE 3rd Street, just east of South Main Street.

If you have questions, please E-mail me, Chandler Otis at: Chanbike@aol.com

The Tour de Santa Fe By Jonathon Keener

It was 8:30 on a Saturday morning when the first rider came up, the air was fresh and cool. Then all of a sudden rides started to appear like love bugs in the summer. After the rides paid their small fee they began to load up on the free food and talk about how beautiful the morning was. At 9:00 everyone got a safety briefing and the Tour De Santa Fe was off. The riders consisted of all kinds of people from all age groups, but all seemed to be thoroughly enjoying the ride. The tour went through Northwest Gainesville and made a loop beginning and ending at Santa Fe Community College. The route was only 10 miles, so to the novice rides it would not seem that bad while still

entertaining the advanced riders. The cool morning air was just starting to get warm when the first rider came in across the finish line; it was Dr. Jackson Sassar, president of Santa Fe Community College. Then riders came in like cats to a fish market and seemed to hit the snack table in the same way.

Over all the Tour De Santa Fe was a lot of fun and I hope to see more riders next year and more free food. I would like to thank the Gainesville Cycling Club members that worked so hard to make this tour a reality. Next years tour will be in early November and I hope to see you out there in the fresh morning air.

Christmas Bike Fix-up Gives Bikes to Needy Children

For more than 15 years the GCC has helped the Gainesville police Department and the Florida Department of Corrections with the final touches on bikes given to kids at Christmas. Each year the Gainesville Police give 60-70 bikes to kids in need.

If you recall the excellent police protection we receive during the Gainesville Cycling Festival, that is the result of GCC's efforts with the Christmas bike fix-up.

This year, for logistical reasons, the bikes will be picked up at the prison by the Police, so GCC

members won't have an opportunity to fix bikes, but we can still help.

Bikes Needed

We need bikes, especially kid's bikes. If you have a bike to donate, let Chandler know and he will come pick it up, or take it to Bikes and More on NW 6th Street, with a tag on it "for Christmas Bikes."

Another donation idea, purchase a bike at a yard sale or a thrift store for the Christmas Bike program. Goodwill always has a bunch of children's bikes for \$2-5.

If you have questions or bikes to donate, please E-mail me, Chandler Otis at: Chanbike@aol.com

Take Stock In Children Tour

Take Stock In Children is a statewide scholarship incentive program. In Alachua County, the program is run through the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation. We select low-income 7th graders that attend our public schools and give them the support of a mentor and the incentive of a 4-year college scholarship if they stay drug-and-crime-free, keep up their grades and stay in school. Currently, there are 110 Alachua County students in this program and 37 students that have graduated and are now in college.

The Marion County organization is coordinating a 200 mile bike ride from Ocala to Tallahassee to raise scholarship money and program awareness. Participating riders will have their funds sponsor the scholarship of a local student in their county.

The ride is March 19th-20th, 2004 (Friday and Saturday). There is a lunch at the University of Florida, an overnight in Lake City, lunch in Madison, and the ride ends with a dinner in Tallahassee. There will be SAG wagons following the riders. Riders can choose to ride the whole way or do portions of the ride (like Ocala to Gainesville).

Former State Representative Perry McGriff and Gainesville Sun Publisher Jim Doughton have agreed to participate in this event and we would love to have many more riders join them. Each rider will be required to raise \$100 to participate in the ride.

For more information or to sign-up call:

Jodi Fidelman
Program Coordinator
Take Stock In Children
352-955-7246



Festival Report

by Roger Pierce

2003 saw the most successful Gainesville Cycling Festival in history. We had 675 registrants, which easily beat the old record of 587 set in 1996. For the second straight year, the Horse Farm Hundred broke it's all time rider record, with 465 riders on the road (370 last year).

As usual, club members volunteered in good numbers to support the rides on the Festival weekend. We cannot put on an event of this magnitude without plenty of help!

We did have a problem with front end managerial support. I wound up being both the Registrar and Horse Farm Hundred Aid Director. These are both significant jobs, and as a result a few details that should have been attended to dropped through the cracks. We will need a few people with managerial experience to step forward next spring as we organize next year's ride. Concentrating too much work on too few people is a recipe for disaster.

I would like to thank other members of this year's pre-event management team: George Edwards spent a lot of time driving crews around to paint the routes and in organizing many of the details needed to get signs and SAGs out and working; Lee Edwards spent many hours typing registrations into the computer; Bud Jones rounded up everyone's cell phone number for the communications list; Chandler Otis arranged for Police support and notified police departments along our routes; Diann Dimitri organized everything needed for the Horse Farm rest stops; Clare Jones was on the food buying team, and cut up all of the onions. Our Horse Farm Hundred rest stop directors, Jerry & Bev Yermovsky, John Parker, and Danny Dresdner, also put in up front time planning for the big day.

Next year will be a new adventure as we move to a later date, October 23-24, 2004 (the Gators have a long homestand through our normal dates).

BUSINESS SPONSORS

These businesses provide discounts to club members who present their yellow membership card or the back page of their newsletter (with expiration date):

Bike Route	15%	374-4550
Bikes & More	10%	373-6574
Chain Reaction	20%	373-4052
Gator Cycle	10%	373-3962
Ominski Massage	\$10 off	
Recycled Bicycles	10%	372-4890
Spin Cycle	22%	373-3355
Streit's Schwinn Cyclery	10%	377-2453
Water World	5%	377-2822

Some restrictions apply, ask for details at the store.

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.

JERSEY: Women's sleeveless size medium, new syle. \$45 Diann Dimitri 378-7063.

TOM KERKHOFF (352)336-7294:

Bicycle: Cherry Custom Touring, 59 cm frame, titanium satin finish, 21 speed, shifters - Sachs, brakes - Shimano Deore XT on front, Suntour on rear, derailleurs - Shimano Deore XT, pedals - Shimano SPD, seat - Serfas, purchased 1992, excellent condition, selling price: \$1200.

ROB WILT 380-0561 (leave message) or email at Klattu2051@aol.com:

Teac V2-RX cassette tape deck, 3-heads, In excellent condition, \$100

35 MM Flash - Compact Zoom Strobe with Thyristor Flash. Adjustable flash head for close and wide angle shots. Head changes angles for non-direct lighting shots. Active hot shoe type for 35mm. With carrying bag. \$20

Airwalk Chaos casual shoes. Black, dark gray and light gray. Virtually new. Worn a couple of times, were a bit too small. Very clean. Would fit a 9D well. \$20

Books on tape, many titles, murder mysteries, historical, comedy. In excellent condition with original packaging. Most used only once. For a list of titles and prices email me and I will forward you the complete listing of available tapes.

Panasonic KX-P1123, 24 pin dot matrix printer. In good shape, with stand, manual, and extra ribbons. \$25

The Gainesville Cyclist

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The Gainesville Cyclist is published bi-monthly with cover dates of even-numbered months. All submissions are welcome.

Classified ads will be run free-of-charge for club members; email or mail to the editor.

Ads are \$20 for a standard size ad, \$40 for a quarter page ad, and \$80 for a half page ad. A one year (six issue) subscription for standard size ads is \$100.

FEBRUARY DEADLINES

Ad copy needing setup work Jan 12
Articles and classifieds Jan 14
Ads in GIF or TIFF format Jan 19

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Road I Course

Planning is underway to offer the League of American Bicyclist's Road I Course in Gainesville. This basic 9 hour course is perfect as a primer for those cyclists who wish to gain a full understanding of how to safely operate a bicycle in a variety of situations. The 9 hour class includes learning how to perform a bicycle safety check, fixing a flat, interactive discussion, on-bike skills practice and student manual. Students will gain confidence knowing that they are riding legally and safely. Crash avoidance techniques and crash types will be discussed. Recommended for adults and children above 14. Look for details in the next newsletter.



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DECEMBER 2003 ISSUE Mailing label with expiration date identifies current member.

2004 Gainesville Cycling Festival - 23-24 Oct - Santa Fe Century - Horse Farm Hundred

Cycling Shorts



 Welcome new members James E. Birdsall, Kristen Bowers, Joe Brew, Courtney Dehon, Deb DiPietro, Christina Flake, Mike Giampola, Dennis Guttman, Sherry Johnson, Justin Kristan, Wenceslao Maesa, Tonya Mitchell, Veronica Pecnik, Clair Ringger, Michael Robinson, Robin Sansom, Nicole Strong, Ellen Tolson, Paul Tolson, Amanda Tracy, and Kaydie Vistelle of Gainesville; Lisa Atkinson, Jeff Dofing, and Bonnie Weekes of Ocala; Jessica & Jo Ann Brady and Scott Brandenburg of High Springs; Jim Gross of Hollister; and Cheryl Lindgren of Keystone Heights.

 Congratulations to Brian Hetz for taking two gold medals at the Gainesville Senior games, winning both the 5k and 10k time trials in his age class.

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Hawthorne, FL
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Owners: John & Lois

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