

The Whooly Good News

THUNDER BAY CYCLING CLUB

FALL 2002

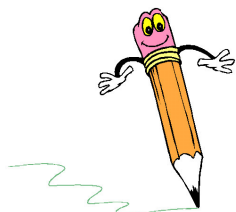
TBCC Annual General Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7:00 pm

At Confederation College

In Room C-212

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



First of all I hope everyone had a great year of cycling, I know I sure did. We had some pretty incredible weather to get out there on the roads and put some mileage on our saddles. The only problem the weather created for us this year was the disruption of our hilly time trials. Both Dawson Road events had to be cancelled due to rain. The hilly series was still in effect though, with the use of Hwy 130 only.

I would also like to welcome our new members at this time, before I get rambling on with another thought. Offhand I think we have at least 10 or 11 newbies for the 2002 season. I hope all your expectations were met. If you have any ideas to improve any part of TBCC make sure you come out to the AGM. (see above)

I noticed quite a few of our members were sporting some new machines this year. There's no better way to enjoy the miles more than feeling comfortable on a new acquisition. These newer designs nowadays are so much lighter and soak up the road shock far better than the older bikes. I hope to be one of these lucky people within the next few years, that is if my wife lets me.

I would like to thank everyone who helped me in one way or another this



Da 'Prez'

year. I greatly appreciated it. You just don't know how

much work there is to do for the Club until you get into that position. I think I'm going to delegate a little more next year. Now this doesn't mean for anyone to be scared to come to the AGM either.

Don't forget the fall MTB events, as these are a fantastic way to get out there and finish the season off with some very relaxed off-road touring and to hike in some of the beautiful areas we have around us. Come on out and enjoy the colour while it lasts.

Eugene Vandal

Come out and enjoy yourselves at the



TBCC Annual Awards Banquet and Social

Date: Friday, November 1st, 2002

Time: 6:00 p.m. Symposium

Where: Slovak Legion - 801 Atlantic Ave. - Solarium Room

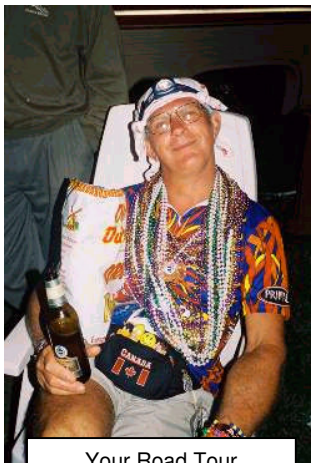
Tickets: \$20.00 at the door
Call Gene (473-8142) to reserve your tickets.

Music: by Dennis

ROAD TOURING

Weather

NO CANCELLATIONS! What more can I say? Although the weather was "less than ideal" at times, we never cancelled a ride. Graham Saunders, weather guru for the *Chronicle Journal*, declared that it was a cooler, wetter spring than normal. However, those of us who, at times, went to rides "in spite of the weather", would like to pass on some advice: "It always turns out better than you thought it would." Every



Your Road Tour

ride was memorable, whatever the weather! Next time don't question . . . just go!

Sign-In / Attendance Sheets

This was the second year and it really seemed to catch on. People would show up at the ride start and ask, "Where's the sheet; I have to sign in." The sign-in sheet has allowed me to compile some interesting statistics to compare to future seasons (I'd say past seasons, but no statistics exist, so that's academic). This year, for example,

- 457 (riders) divided by 18 (rides) = 25.4 riders per ride
- Most Well Attended Ride ... #7, "Cheese Farm" - 44 riders
- Least Well Attended Ride ... #2 "Neebing/Stanley Loop" - 12 riders

My opinion: Keep the Sign-In Sheets for next season. If you have a contrary opinion, let us know via the AGM, email or phone.

Tour Reports

I diligently wrote reports for the first 12 rides, and they are posted on the web page under the Tour Reports icon at the top. Fabio provided mountain bike reviews as well, so, all in all, a successful start to the idea of tour reports. The questions I have: Are they read by anyone? Are they entertaining/informative? Should they be continued? --let us know via the AGM, email or phone.

Out-of-town Contacts

- 50 + riders attended Tour of Lakes in Brainerd
- 16 TBCC riders attended GRABAAWR (Wisconsin)
- 7 TBCC riders attended Bicycle Tour of Colorado
- 1 TBCC rider attended RAGBRAI (Iowa)
- 9 USA riders attended Thunder Country Ramble
- 9 USA riders attended Bayou Boogie (Grand Portage weekend)

- New venues? Hopefully, we can have a Devon Road ride next year since it has finally been repaved.
- Different apres ride restaurants/pubs?
- Keep in mind that the club is an emergent property . . ."greater than the sum of its parts, but fundamentally dependent on same."

Guy Latimer

Miscellaneous

We seemed to have fewer crashes and or mishaps this season . . . That's a good thing!

We seemed to have more negative press and or comments concerning our riding habits

(e.g. three abreast) . . . That's a bad thing!!

I received the most favourable comments after rides when we rode as a group with group riding instruction and consideration. . . . Take note you 'Bike Nazis'.

- Most popular new ride . . . Roadway Ramble route (i.e. Barrie Road).
- Most popular new apres ride venue - Kakabeka Hotel.

So, that's it; the final touring report for 2002. Let's hope the 2003 season can be as successful. Of course, you can help. Bring your ideas to the AGM or let me know if you can't attend. Some categories to consider:

- The Touring Season started March 30th this year and ended Labour Day weekend with the Bayou Boogie at Grand Portage. At last year's AGM, we decided to emphasize the bike and hikes (back road touring) in the fall (Sept. and Oct.) And discontinue road touring after the long weekend. Did that work for you?
- What about ½ Saturday rides and ½ Sunday rides?

MOUNTAIN BIKE TOURING



As I sit down to write these few paragraphs I become acutely aware of the

relentless passing of time. Has a year already gone by since my last fall report in the TBCC newsletter? It seems just yesterday that we were skiing, anxiously awaiting the spring weather to commence our cycling season. Actually, this year we didn't even wait for spring to dig our bikes out of storage - the first ride was held on Jan. 1st in minus 27 degree weather! It was a hoot and is sure to be repeated this coming year. Since then many successful mountain bike rides have been held in the most picturesque areas of this region, among them Candy Mountain, Carp River, the Chimney, Molly's Mountain and Falling Snows Lake. Still to come are Silver Falls, Boy Scout Rd. and the Hazelwood Lake area - all fine rides in their own right. A recap of each ride this year appears on the TBCC website under Tour Reports along with photos under the Rides and Photos

section. Check them out. If the weather holds there may still be time to host other rides on an impromptu basis - there is still a lot of countryside to cover! If the demand is there, I will be pleased to lead other rides to any areas of interest - the more unusual the better. As an example, the areas around Ouimette Canyon, Mountain Lake, Boreal Rd., Dorion and Nipigon are



begging to be explored and enjoyed. Let your ideas be known - we welcome your input. Remember, above all this is **YOUR** club.

The more we put into it, the more we'll get out of it. This has been a great year of cycling both on and off road. Let's keep the momentum going and with your participation, ideas and input, our club will be vibrant and strong for a long time yet.

Fabio Zorzes

"I've really had it with my dog: he'll chase anyone on a bicycle."

"So what are you going to do - leave him at the dog's home? Give him away? Sell him?"

"No, nothing that drastic. I think I'll just confiscate his bike."

FYI

The Club has 105 members this year

HOTLINE

I would like to thank our sponsors, Reid Carter and CRC Communications the Clubs years of uninterrupted service of the Thunder Bay Cycling Club Hotline.

TBCC CLOTHING

We have recently received a new shipment of cycling jerseys and jackets at \$55.00 and \$100.00 respectively. We also have a limited quantity of non-logo jackets at a reduced price. Call Graham at 475-8095 for your clothing needs.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE ADDICTED TO CYCLING IF....

- You see nothing wrong with discussing the connection between hydration and urine colour.
 - You have more money invested in your bike clothes than in the rest of your combined wardrobe.
 - Your bike has more miles on its computer than your car's odometer.
 - You view crashes as an opportunity to upgrade components.
-

CHECK OUT THE FOR SALE ITEMS WE HAVE LISTED ONLINE
AT: tbcc.baynet.net

THUNDER BAY FAST FORWARD, QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE

The Thunder Bay Cycling Club represents a really great group of cyclists. We provide many riding opportunities and always manage to have a lot of fun together! Our members represent a varied group of people of all ages and abilities. How



can we increase this membership and enhance our role as a voice for local cyclists? A proposal is being presented at the next week's AGM to form an Advocacy Committee. This would allow the cycling club to more actively represent the interests of bicyclists on a variety of issues and programs related to alternative transportation. Not only do we have a role in developing a healthier community, but also we can help make Thunder Bay the Silent Sports Capital of Canada!

Heidi Strobl

THUNDER COUNTRY RAMBLE

Our 3rd annual Thunder Country Ramble took place on an extremely blustery August 17th, 2002. The event this year took a newer scenic route through country back roads and on out to Hymers. The morning skies threatened to cancel the event, but by noon everyone was sighing a breath of relief as the weather finally broke.



This year saw numerous Americans join us on our tour around the Kam

River. The Chronicle Journal had a very good write-up on the event with interviews with some of the American



participants. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the ride and the new route. The only questionable items was the wind, which made everyone glad to get back to the fine meal the Kakabeka Legion had prepared for us.

We had very good comments from the form that Anne-Marie and Roger Maillette had made up for the supper and gift presentations, which were supplied by 20 donors gathered by some of the TCR chair people.

Hopefully this event will only get better year after year.

ROAD RACE SERIES

Due to the fact that no individual participated in all four road race events this year, no trophies will be awarded.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE ADDICTED TO CYCLING IF....

- You put your bike in your car and the value of the total package increases by a factor of 4 (or better).

TROPHY WINNERS TIME TRIAL SERIES

MALE JUNIORS		
FIELD, GREG	01:47:03	1st
MALE SENIORS		
JOWETT, NATHAN	01:33:16	1st
HAY, DARRELL	01:44:37	2nd
QUINN, THOMAS	01:56:27	3rd
MALE VETERANS		
WILBERFORCE, KEVIN	01:40:57	1st
PANTRY, DOUG	01:41:29	2nd
CORCORAN, EDAN	01:42:41	3rd
FEMALE SENIOR		
MOUSTGAARD, AMY	01:51:55	1st
KENDRICK, JODI	1:52:11:60	2nd
SILLEN-HOLLMANN, CRISTINE	1:52:11:72	3rd
FEMALE VETERAN		
LESLIE, LAURIE	01:49:20	1st
FABIUS, SUSAN	02:06:09	2nd
TEAMS		
THOMAS QUINN & LEN TUHKANEN	01:06:57	1st
LIZ SALMON & SARAH LOPONEN	01:19:51	2 nd

TROPHY WINNERS HILLY TT SERIES

MALE SENIORS		
HAY, DARRELL	51:39:00	1st
MALE VETERANS		
WILBERFORCE, KEVIN	48:05:00	1st

SOKOLOWSKI, MARK	56:43:00	2nd
ZORZES, FABIO	58:00:00	3rd
FEMALE SENIOR		
HAY, SUSAN	57:28:00	1st
FEMALE VETERAN		
LESLIE, LAURIE	53:18:00	1st

Come out to the 'AWARDS BANQUET' to receive your trophies.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Thunder Bay Nordic Trials will be holding their 11th Annual Ski Swap from Oct. 24th to Oct 27th at the TBNT chalet. Also, the season ticket discount cut-off day is Oct 31st.

TBCC WEBPAGE

If anyone feels there can be improvements made to the TBCC webpage, be sure to contact me this winter when I have plenty of time to do any editing/changing. You can use the handy 'EMAIL' link on any of our main pages or contact us at tbccinfo@yahoo.ca.

NEW TO THE WEBPAGE THIS YEAR

- Message board
- Touring reports
- Latest news/info page
- Stats page
- Schedule changes pop-up window
- Highway Traffic Act (as HTML doc)
- Tourists page with routes & maps