

The Whooly Good News

THUNDER BAY CYCLING CLUB

SPRING 2002

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



After a season of very little snow and below par skiing conditions, I hope that this summer fares better than our winter did. This season we have some new rides planned that were done by numerous hardy members of the Club during the fall last year, headed by our MTB Tour chairperson, Fabio Zorzes. These were the Bike 'N Hikes. Most of them will be taking place during the fall after the summer road-touring season is over. Also we plan to have a few alternative MTB rides along with the regular road tours throughout the summer. Hopefully this will add a bit of variety for those people who have the need for something different every once and a while. If this works, we will continue with this idea again next year.

Our executive has basically remained the same as last year, except for Margaret Myslicki who is now doing the newsletters only, Pam Dawes who has taken over the HOTLINE and Robert Boileau who is taking over the Promotions chair. Also, Graham Stewart is still looking after the clothing for the Club.

Regrettably we have had to up the membership fees again this year. This is due to an increase of \$5.00 per person in the insurance rates from a new broker the Ontario Cycling Association has signed with. Also, you'll notice, there is no discount for family memberships.

The schedule and membership form is included with this newsletter, as usual. Due to some roads already being torn up this year, I advise everyone to check the HOTLINE or webpage for last minute schedule/route changes. I will also try to have these notices on the website, listed on the "Schedule Changes" page that is accessible from the HOME page.

If anyone knows of someone wanting to join the Club, let them know about the spring meeting and that they are welcome to attend.

Eugene Vandal



SPRING GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2002.

7:30p.m in Rm. C239. at Confederation College

ROAD RACING

This year we will be discussing the future of the road race events during the Spring Meeting. If you have any input or suggestions regarding the races, be sure to attend.

In the Time Trials this year, we are excluding Onion Lake Road from the series, as the road is getting too narrow to safely ride on. This makes it hazardous to ride with the vehicles using this road. In its place we are designating Hwy. 130 as the new hilly course 15 km. TT.



MTB TOURING



Greetings fellow cyclists:

By the time you read this message, the birds should be chirping, the snow melting and those brightly-coloured, spandex-clad harbingers of spring should be seen cycling the local roadways. With the phenomenal winter we've had, the backwood areas surrounding Thunder Bay should be dry and cycle-friendly very early this year and if the weather continues to co-operate, this could be the best cycling year ever. Let's get those dormant bikes out of storage, cleaned, lubed and ready to roll early. We have put together a wonderful array of 'must do' mountain bike tours which will take us from the majestic cliffs of Carp River, to the awesome panorama of Sturgeon Bay, to the thrilling, 'high pucker' factor downhills of Falling Snows and Loch Lomond. As a counter-point to these adventures, we also have included more sedate, leisurely tours through Rosslyn, Paipoonge and the Kam R. valley. Besides great cycling and comraderie, these rides provide wonderful photo ops. - just check out last year's photos on our website and see the smiles of satisfaction from our contented riders. Read for

yourself what previous riders have said about our tours: "Best #!**) ride I've ever had!" (Billy Graham) "More fun than a pet loon!" (Uncle Amos) "Better than duct tape!" (Red Green) "It blew my %#&**) mind!" (Adam Sandler) What better testimonials could one ask for? At any rate, I hope to see you all on the trails soon. Remember, your club is what you make it - let's make it great!

Carpe Diem
Fabio Zorzes
MTB Touring Director

ROAD TOURING

The 2002 Touring Schedule . . . "same old, same old." Wait a minute, not quite. Another look reveals that some of the rides have new dates and/or destinations and/or start locations. Let's face it, no new roads have been constructed in the Thunder Bay area, so there are limits to changes that can be made to the schedule. Perhaps the biggest change is the date of the last ride: September 1st.

We end the touring schedule with Bayou Boogie with its myriad of ride options, so that we can begin a full Mountain Bike touring schedule in the fall.

We also want to welcome Robert Boileau who has offered to help with the tours this year to accommodate differing needs and abilities among our growing number of riders. Hopefully, we can get a better start weather-wise to the season than last year. If you remember, many of the early rides had to be canceled, so keep wishing for snow and maybe the reverse psychology will work better than what transpired this winter.

Most importantly, whatever Mother Nature, irate truckers, finger shaking red-faced drivers . . . etc., throw at us . . . keep a positive attitude and we'll HAVE FUN!!! See you March 30th for our first ride (a Saturday, please note).

Guy Latimer Road Touring Director



OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

Tour of Lakes -Brainerd, Mn hosted by Paul Bunyan Cyclists

The 13th annual Tour of Lakes will be held on Saturday June 1, 2002. The tour will begin at the Crow Wing County fairgrounds. Check-in time will be from 6-8 a.m. The ride registration closes at 1200 riders or May 1st, whichever comes first. More detailed information and a printable registration form are available via the links page located on the TBCC website.

National 24-Hour Challenge

The annual 24-hour event takes place on the June 15-16 weekend south of Grand Rapids Michigan. This is a personal challenge ride, not a race. For anyone doing GRABAAWR, this ride is great preparation for it. More information is available at <http://N24HC.org>.

G.R.A.B.A.A.W.R.

The **GR**eat **A**nual **B**icycle **A**dventure **A**long the **W**isconsin **R**iver is a week long bicycle tour starting near the headwaters of the Wisconsin River (Upper Michigan border) and following the river to its end at the junction with the Mississippi River (Iowa border). The Year 2002 ride will cover about 490 miles with daily distances ranging from 55 to 80 miles. The terrain varies from flat to rolling, with a few hilly stretches. The route generally follows the Wisconsin River, but changes each year.

TBCC clothing



Last fall we received a new shipment of clothing for the 2002 season, so a large variety of sizes are available. Prices remain the same as the last few years. Jerseys are still \$55.00 and jackets are \$100.00 including taxes.

Call Graham at 475-8095.

2002 Thunder Bay Cycling Club Executive Information

President	Eugene Vandal	473-8142
Treasurer	Fabio Zorzes	577-8835
Secretary	David Curtis	623-0486
Touring	Guy Latimer	767-5921
HOTINE	Pam Dawes	935-2751
Newsletter	Margaret Myslicki	476-0909
Promotions	Robert Boileau	343-2610
Clothing	Graham Stewart	475-8095

REMEMBER ...Helmets are mandatory during all club rides.