

# Letter From The President

I would like to personally thank several KBC members for their contributions to the tandem ride for the visually impaired. These dedicated cyclists weathered a rainy, cool day (May 4th) to give 10-15 visually impaired kids a ride on the campus of WMU. Doug Kirk, Paul Guimond, Paul Wells, Frank Machnik, and Jim Henderson deserve an accolade for their efforts in making this a very successful event. Thanks guys, these kids really appreciated your efforts! It is volunteers like these guys in the KBC that makes our activity in the community through events such as rides for the visually impaired such a success.

This month, on June 10th, there will be a time trial bike event at Spring Valley Park that is associated with the YMCA Corporate Games. We have been invited by them to provide a table with information about the Bicycle Club

and to promote cycling in the area. We need some volunteers to help with this task. If you know anyone who is interested or are willing to participate, please contact me as soon as you can. This will be set up in the vendor area and it is a perfect opportunity to help with building our membership.

Now that the weather is nice, I hope you are getting out and starting to enjoy it. If you haven't been on a club ride yet, our 6:30 pm Monday (Recovery) ride is a good starting point to become acquainted with the club members and begin riding with them. Keep in mind, there are three ride leaders, at Texas Drive Park on Mondays, to lead rides of different speeds. You should have no problem finding a ride that will suit you.

Bill Watt

## FLOWERFEST BICYCLE TOUR (FFBT) UPDATE

On May 10th, we had a FFBT meeting at Wayside West. The items discussed at the meeting were the following: Sponsors:

- Alfred E. Bike
- Breakaway Bicycles
- Bryer Patch
- Cardiology Care
- Cellular One
- Just Good Food
- MacKenzie's Bakery
- Milwood Schwinn
- Portage Schwinn
- Safety Cycle
- Village Cyclery

We have a new Flowerfest Bicycle Tour design which will appear on our tour application, water bottle and T-shirt. Our water bottles have been ordered through A/C International (the same company that supplied the California Springs bottles last year). We are ready to go to press with the printing of the tour application and the bulk mailing will be done by the time this month's newsletter is mailed.

Our registration personnel are in place and the tour will depart and arrive at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The tour departures will be between 7:00 am and 12:00 pm (as the Bryer Patch rest stop will close at 2:30 pm) and the course will be closed at 4:00 pm.

The **1995 Flowerfest Bicycle Tour** is scheduled to take place on **Sunday, July 23, 1995**. We will be publishing a Flowerfest Bicycle Tour application with the July newsletter, so keep this in mind.

We still need volunteers to help with the painting over the old direction markings and painting the new and improved direction markings on the three routes. Please contact Dave DeRight at 381-2678 or Bill Watt at 385-4585 if you can assist us.



## June Rides

### Monday (Recovery Ride)

There will be three ride leaders at the Monday Recovery Ride at Texas Drive Park. There should be a pace to suit all riding abilities, so come out and give it a try at 6:30 PM. Mike Higgins with assistance from Phil and Gini Caruso will lead a group for about 20 miles at 10-15 mph, Steve Vonderfecht plans to lead the 16-18 mph group for 20 to 25 miles, and Kathy Barrett will lead the 19+ mph group for 25 to 30 miles. These three ride leaders have agreed to lead this ride all season but will need substitutes once in awhile. We still need some volunteers to sub for Mike, Steve, and Kathy.

### Wednesday

The Wednesday ride meets at Kalamazoo Central HS and will start this month. This ride consisted of two groups, the race group at 20++ mph (to Bloomingdale and back) and a 16-18 mph group for 25 to 30 miles. Call Brian Clissold at 324-1153 for details concerning the race group. Harold Gleaves and others to be named will share duties in June for the 16-18 mph group beginning at 6:30 PM.

### Thursday

Brad Cosgrove is leading a ride on Thursdays from the Kalamazoo Valley Community College parking lot at 6:30 PM all summer. This ride will be approximately 25 miles at a pace of about 16 mph. So come on out and join Brad on Thursdays. If you have questions about this ride, call Brad at 372-9346.

### Friday

Come join us on Fridays in the parking lot behind Billy's Bike Shop in Galesburg at 6:30 PM in May for the Tour deGull Lake. The the pace will vary depending on who shows up. The route for this ride is well established, but maps are available.

### Saturday

The 2nd annual Old Car Festival Ride will take place on Saturday June 10. Join Randy Putt at the Vicksburg HS parking lot at 9:00 AM for a ride of 40 to 50 miles. Stay afterwards and enjoy the Old Car Festival in downtown Vicksburg. Call Randy at 649-1814 for details.

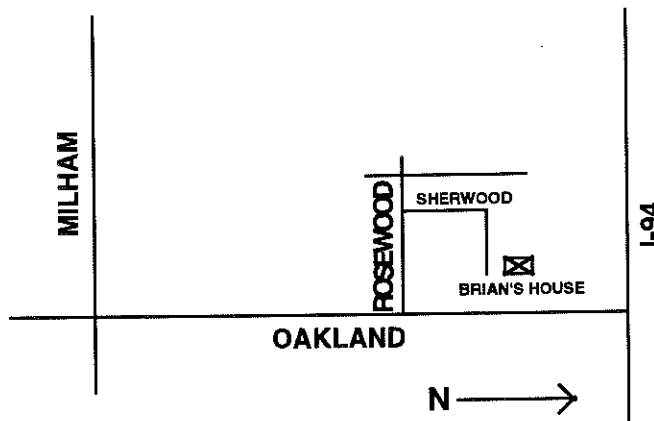
### Sunday

Family oriented rides are planned from Schoolcraft on Sunday, June 11 and Sunday, June 25. These rides are not intended to be a "slow roll around the neighborhood" type ride, but are a chance for parents and kids of all ages to get out and become more comfortable riding on the road and enjoy the camaraderie of other bicyclists. Safety and smart riding are priorities. The flat country and good roads with low traffic around Schoolcraft are ideal for this. There will be at least two, maybe three, 5-7 mile loops that will end near McDonalds or the ice cream place in Schoolcraft, so adults and kids can be "refueled". Riders have agreed to ride "sweep" so that no one is left on the road with mechanical or other problems. The rides will begin and end at Schoolcraft high school. Take Hwy-131 south to Schoolcraft. At the stoplight by McDonalds, turn left and go to 14th street. The school is on your right. Turn right on 14th street and right into the parking lot. Scheduled departure time on both days is 2:00 PM. These rides will go only if the weather is good. If in doubt, call Steve Vonderfecht 329-0540.

# RACE TEAM NEWS



Race team jerseys are in ...ARE YOU? Nice Jersey! "Excuse me sir there is a scorpion on you butt ..." Sample Castilli shorts will be at the next meeting to try on for members in "good standing." These are \$70.00 bib shorts being offered for \$45.00. Bring your checkbook. These are cool. The Spring Valley Circuit Race and Ft. Custer Race will be discussed. Please if you have any extra time, contact Dave Patrick, Brian Clissold or Rob Turner, they will find you something to do!



### Directions to Brian's

From Kalamazoo Take Oakland Drive South past the I-94 overpass. Turn Right on first road (Rosewood), Go to Sherwood Turn Right. Follow Sherwood around to the Right to Abbot Ave. Go to the End. Turn Left after the row of 6 mailboxes. Brian's is 2308

### KBC RACE TEAM GENERAL MEETINGS

June 6	6:30p.m	Brian Clissold's house
July 11	6:30p.m.	Brian Clissold's house
Aug. 1	6:30p.m.	Brian Clissold's house
Sept. 6	6:30p.m.	Brian Clissold's house

### June Race Information



	Road		
Ann arbor Velo Club Road Race	Sat. June	3	8:30 am
Ann Arbor Festival of Cycling	Sat. June	30	8:30 am



## WELCOME SPONSORS!

Most of you have picked up your new KBC race team jersey, or have seen one. I'd like to take a little time to introduce you to our sponsors.



I spoke to a very enthusiastic "Crazy Rick" co-owner of Big Burrito. Rick was very happy to be one of our sponsors. Recently, they had some students from Hackett High School who had seen our jerseys flying around town. The students were quite impressed and complimented Rick on his involvement with the race team.

Big Burrito is self-touted as "the newest, most authentic joint in town." They are located on the corner of Drake and KL avenue and are open until an amazing 4 a.m.! The best way to say thank you to Crazy Rick and Marty is grab some friends and stop in for a bite. Please take some time to personally thank these great guys and all of our sponsors.



I wouldn't say that getting Parkstone Mutual Funds as a sponsor was easy, but it sure helps if the National Sales Director is an avid cyclist. Brian Barker had no questions when I asked him to pitch in, he just said "send me a bill." Parkstone has been very

active in the community, sponsoring many events. Parkstone and Brian even went a little further when he accepted the financial responsibility of title sponsor for the Spring Valley race.

Parkstone Mutual Funds is currently a provider of 15 different mutual funds, as well as variable and fixed annuities. If you would like more information about investing with Parkstone, call 1 800 451-8377.

## FIRST OF AMERICA<sup>®</sup> SECURITIES, INC.

First of America Securities lends an air of sophistication to traditionally easy going sponsors. Have one of the largest companies in town as one of our sponsors is a real treat. Peter Carey, V.P., at FSI came to me before I knew of the plans to resurrect the race team. He suggested that we sponsor a race or team this year, and I agreed. Little did he know that a few weeks later, I would take him up on *his* idea. As you may know, First of America has been very active in the community. They have sponsored a boat and car racing team, as well as the popular First of America Classic Golf Tournament.

First of America Securities is a wholly-owned subsidiary of First of America Bank Corporation, and provides its customers with the ability to purchase stocks, bonds and mutual funds, as well as underwriting corporate and municipal debt. First of America Securities is located downtown in the Mall Plaza Building. If you find yourself in the market for investment vehicles, you can contact a representative of the firm at 1800 933-3787.

Please thank all of our sponsors, past and present by patronizing their business when you have the opportunity.

## 120 Mile Century

by Axel Kleat

The old road between Chillicothe and Waverly winds sensually through the Scioto River Valley. It's a rolling sinewy smooth ride with river vistas, lush hillsides, dense woods and open farmlands. A new highway that parallels the scenic route syphons off most all the cars.

It's the sort of ride one dreams of, and the fact that maybe 6000 other cyclists have the same dream today, all doing the first half of a double century creates a ride ambience so fine that the off-and-on drizzle is no big deal.

On the other hand, splitting a rim open and blowing out both tire and tube negatively impacts the finest ride even if one does keep the rubber side down. Three hundred miles is a long way to expect even Franco to drive for a bail-out. Besides, this is the wrong road for a D.N.F.

Few riders carry spare rims, so the stopping deputy sheriff was nice, as was his promise to radio in the location. Nicer still was the trucker and amateur radio buff who showed up shortly with a bike rack and an offer of transport back to Chillicothe.

Chillicothe is an old town in south central Ohio with beautiful homes from the 1800's and ornate old storefronts. It looks pretty sleepy when pedalling through on Saturday morning in mid-May, but the city park nestled by the river on the south side of town is teeming with every variety of bike and cyclist brave enough to tackle a century. It's the main food stop of the ride and it's jammed. Jammed when cycling through earlier, and jammed when trucked back two hours later.

The trucker, no fool he, drops us off at the fringe and beats a hasty retreat. Bless the man. A quick check of the repair facilities turns up no rims at all, much less for a tandem; and the outlook for the home team looks bleak. Just exactly where is the Chillicothe Cycling Shop located and what is their rim department inventory?

Ah, but the sky is darkest before the dawn. One is reminded that cycling depends on the camaraderie of cyclists. The most harried individual in the town of Chillicothe had to be Scott, working the back of the Trek van surrounded by bikes in various states of disrepair. This energetic, earringed fellow grimaces mightily at our rim-beyond-repair but nonetheless manages to shout "wait a few minutes" over the Peter Gabriel blasting from the van.

Between flat tires and broken spokes, Superman Scott bounds to van's roof with a grace that gives away past practice, returning shortly with a wheel.

Not just any wheel, mind you, but a wheel that fits a tandem. A wheel he loans on the spot for the rest of the weekend. The tire rubs the chain stays, but seeing that hub slide sublimely between those wide dropouts banished all doleful thoughts of unfinished tours and sag wagons. A quick tire swap, brake adjustment and derailleur diddle had us rollable if a bit slackjawed.

And so it was for the second time that morning the opportunity was presented to glide over the lush hills and curves north of Waverly on the way to Portsmouth. Few things in life are better the second time, and I thank Superman for the opportunity to ride those hills and that valley again.

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I did happen to talk to Don Reed, the LMB's legislative liaison, today about the Gov's transportation package. It doesn't sound like the LMB is doing much on it--yet. If you have the time, a quick note to our members that we want Act 51, section 10k money (1% of gas tax proceeds) used for non-motorized purposes only--as it is written in the law--and not for paving gravel roads, or paving substandard shoulder widths (we need 4ft min on high traffic rural roads) as is currently being done in many cases. If that requires M-DOT's non-motorized staff reviewing it and holding the purse strings, as rumor has it will be proposed, so be it. However, some assurances need to be made so that that money is properly spent for the much needed non-motorized improvements, not for other purposes. Having a bicycle coordinator, or at least some staff time budgeted, in each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) would be a wise use of funds also, to help oversee and develop non-motorized program spending, including 10k funds, if it wouldn't be done in Lansing by M-DOT's non-motorized staff. Letters requesting this would be helpful directed to the Governor with copies sent to our Representatives.

Regards,  
Dave D

## "Members, Make Your Voices Heard on the Gas Tax Increase!"

As you probably know, Governor Engler is proposing a long overdue and paltry gas tax increase to help rebuild the shakey Michigan road system. And in his usual, heavy handed "conservative" style; he has been keeping the details of this proposal quiet. So, should we be concerned? Yep. Perhaps we should even take this as a threat!

According to Ron Reid, of the Kalamazoo County Road Commission, a joint protest rally is currently being planned for June 6th, at the Capitol in Lansing, by several troubled organizations. A bicycle contingent may also be helpful, to get our message across. Will Engler axe bicycle transportation funding as an "unnecessary diversion" of scarce resources, as is being rumored on the National level regarding the ISTEA reauthorization? We hope not, as that would be contrary to several recent National surveys that overwhelmingly document the citizens wish to actually increase bicycle transportation funding, not decrease it--nor even make it the same. Citizens want, and need, a safe and economical alternative solution to their transportation needs, and wise bicycle transportation spending has a "big bang" for the buck--when spent wisely.

So what can we do? Well, currently in this State we already have 1%, or a "reasonable" amount greater (but, not likely), of all gas tax proceeds committed to section 10k of Act 51, amended in '82, for non-motorized transportation expenditures.

Sounds nice huh? Well that money, as we've discovered, is currently being tapped for uses hardly in our best interest. These funds are typically being used for the paving of gravel roads and the paving of sub-standard width shoulders primarily for maintenance reasons. This is a poor priority for improving the conditions for bicyclists, don't you think? Instead, how about a few well placed bike racks, or a more comprehensive education and awareness program? Ann Arbor, the exception to this waste, wisely uses part of their section 10k money for their "Bicycle Program" which amounts to only around \$40,000 per year. And with it, they've done a lot--even with this relatively paltry sum. With the help of this program they've acquired further ISTEA funding to boot. ISTEA money that was actually spent on

bicycle transportation improvements, not just for planting flowers. (Copies of their budget are available to anyone who wishes to see it, just contact us.) We suggest that you contact the Governor expressing your concern via letter, and, or phone call, and copy your Representative. You could simply request that these current funds be used for higher priority spending directly of benefit and improvement to non-motorized transportation. Or, better yet, ask for an increase in spending equal to the increase in the proposed gas tax.

It is rumored that the M-DOT "non-motorized program staff" may control a large share of these 10k funds, as proposed, and that would be to our benefit unless there is an unlikely increase in local non-motorized staffing. A staffing increase of which would be of great help--as witnessed in Ann Arbor.

So, put your ink to paper, folks, and let's a difference. Contact Dave DeRight, at 381-2678, for questions answered.

Dave DeRight

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### Phyllis Harmon Award

I was advised today (May15) via a letter from Donald Tighe, Director of Communications for the LAB, that I have been selected to receive the prestigious Phyllis Harmon Volunteer of the Year Award from the League of American Cyclists. I am quite honored, and would like to personally thank June for nominating me, and members of the Board of Directors of The League of Michigan Bicyclists for allowing me to fulfill many of my ideas over the past few years. Before the Fall, our PSAs, and The Law is for All, as well as the partial repeal of Michigan's mandatory sidepath law has been especially rewarding for me, but I certainly would not have been able to accomplish what I have without the generosity of the LMB, The Cherry Capital Cycling Club, and the LAB. I will be at the National Rally in Asheville in July, and you can be certain the LMB will be mentioned when I receive this treasured award.

Thank you all and see you on the road soon.  
Don Reed

**KBC Phone Numbers**

**President**  
 Bill Watt ..... 385-4585

**Vice President**  
 Mary Rass .....

**Secretary**  
 Michele Cudahy ... 731-2739

**Treasurer**  
 Dan Smith ..... 388-5247

**Race Team**  
 Brian Clissold ..... 324-1153  
 Jim Wyrick ..... 349-1744

**Ride Captain**  
 Randy Putt ..... 649-1814

**Database**  
 Phil Caruso ..... 381-0135

**Ride Line**  
 Ann Johnson ..... 327-7767

**Newsletter**  
 Terry Scahill ..... 381-7676  
 X90scahill@piglet.wmich.edu

**New Members**

Larry Badger  
 Kelly Delaney-Klinger  
 Carie Engman  
 Sherry Gorden  
 Marilyn Ladd  
 Rose McKenna  
 Leigh Smith  
 Kent Wabel

**Birthdays In June**

Joe Canton  
 Joe Carpenter  
 Mike Higgins  
 June Marlett  
 Vince Odenwaller  
 Leigh Smith  
 Rob Turner  
 Jeff Wetters

**Frequently-Called Numbers**

Alfred E. Bike ..... 349-9423

Billy's Bike Shop ..... 665-5202

Breakaway Bicycles ..... 349-5555

Millwood Schwinn ..... 349-6384

Parchment Bicycle ..... 343-8118

Portage Schwinn ..... 327-3393

Safety Cycle ..... 381-7233

Scooter's Malt Shop ..... 626-8860

Team III Schwinn ..... 962-7688

Village Cyclery ..... 679-4242

Vorncamp Bike ..... 344-3599

Weather Line ..... 382-8585 (3333)

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**BICYCLE CLUB**  
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 Kalamazoo, MI 49005

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