

# Pedal Press



The Newsletter of the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club, Inc.  
July, 1996

## President's Letter

During the next few weeks club members will be receiving the Flowerfest brochure and you will see the brochure displayed at local bike shops, libraries, museum and other gathering places. The KBC board and Flowerfest director will be striving for visibility for this event so any member who has an idea for advertising, or knows of an opportunity for getting the word out, is invaluable to us. Pay special attention to the sponsorship page of the brochure. These are the people who support the fest please remember to support them.

The club is in the process of reviving the old KBC patch. We have contacted a supplier and some club members have come forward with ideas and examples to share. The patches would be given to all club members and included in the new member packet. We would also like to include a cumulative mileage patch to be given out at the end of the year. The mileage would be tallied based on club rides attended. Any comments or questions please contact me.

As of June 3 we have a new secretary on the board of KBC. Joan Kramlich was voted in before the Monday night ride. Joan is replacing Teri Waldron who resigned in March due to time restrictions brought on by a job promotion and new responsibilities. I want to thank Teri for the hard work she did for us and her continued involvement. Please welcome Joan who is a regular Monday night rider.

There are two other changes within the KBC volunteer work force: John Brady and Dave Patrick will be co-captains for the race team as Brian Clissold takes on the responsibility for directing the Little Big Race. Jeanette Holm will be the database manager replacing Phil Caruso. Words cannot express my appreciation!

And finally, we are in the process of changing the way the newsletter is distributed. The post office will be bar-coding all pieces of mail and requiring 9 digit zips beginning July 1. With these changes on the horizon, the board began looking into various strategies for handling the club mailings and possibly eliminating volunteers from this job. We are still in the process of converting to a commercial mailer so your patience is appreciated.

Come out and ride!

## Upcoming Events...

### July

21 Flowerfest Tour, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, 7:00 am.

### August

10 Spring Valley Circuit Race, Spring Valley Park.

### September

8 The Little Big Race, Fort Custer Recreation Area.

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## New Members

Hal Brey  
Chris, Colt, Melanie, Chad & Tarrie Cunningham  
Jennifer Glover  
Kent, Carolyn, Kaitlyn & Kyle Kiser  
Erwin, Roxanne, Jessica & Matthew Maier  
Colette & Andrew McGucken  
Karen Kakabaker  
Wilma Tays  
Rod, Kris, Alex, Ted, Nate, & Katrina Walters

## July Birthdays

Steven Caudill  
Larry Fleischmann  
Pat Fuentes  
Harold Gleaves  
Sherry Gordon  
Lynn Gualdoni  
Colette Gushurst  
Tom Gushurst  
James Henderson  
Joan Kramlich  
Justin Machnik  
Connie Pardee  
Don Povendo  
Gary Schlender  
Kristen Schmidt  
Mary Ann Schwenk  
Bill Strome  
Janet Teel  
Steven Vonderfecht  
Michelle Wells  
Paul Wells  
John Winterburn  
Kris Walters

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## CLASSIFIED

**Bianchi road bike**; 48 cm; Campi derailleurs; Uttegra hubs. \$400. Call Dave at 324-0829.

**Yakima roof rack**, gutterless, bike & ski attachments, \$175. Call Bill at 349-9562.

# July Rides

The weather has finally warmed up. Hopefully the summer weather is here to stay. All evening rides will begin at 6:30 PM in July unless noted otherwise. The Monday night ride has been well attended the last couple of weeks with about 25 riders divided among the three groups. The attendance at the Wednesday night ride has been building and was about 25 riders the second week in June. The Friday night group has been smaller but no less enthusiastic.

## Saturday/Sunday

The impromptu Saturday and Sunday afternoon rides will continue in July at KVCC at 9:00 AM when the weather cooperates. The riders who show up can decide the route to take. If these rides prove successful, we will continue the rides throughout the riding season. Please feel free to call the ride line or me with any feedback concerning these rides.

The race team training ride will meet Sundays at 9:30 AM at the Water Street Coffee Joint. Race team members are encouraged to attend wearing their race team jerseys.

## Monday

There will be three ride leaders at the Monday Recovery Ride at Texas Drive Park. Maps will be available and the ride leaders will make sure that the groups stay together. Mike Higgins will lead a group for about 20 miles at 10-15 mph, Steve Vonderfecht plans to lead the 16-18 mph group 20 to 25 miles, and Jeff Wetters and Randy Putt will share ride leader duties for the 19+ mph group for 25 to 30 miles. Mike and Steve have agreed to lead this ride all season but will need substitutes.

## Wednesday

The Wednesday ride meets at Kalamazoo Central HS and will continue this month. This ride consists of two groups. Rose McKenna plans to lead a fitness ride at 10-15 mph (the riders present will decide the pace each week) for 15 to 20 miles. Come on out and give it try. The 16-18 mph group will ride for 25 to 30 miles and Charlie Fuentes will ride this with assistance from Jim Wyrick and Don Povendo. Maps will be available and the ride leaders will make sure that the groups stay together. The riders in each of the above groups will start and finish the ride together. These rides can be

quite hilly in the north western part of Kalamazoo county.

A fast group also rides from Kalamazoo Central on Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:00 PM. The pace of the ride is typically greater than 20++ mph and the route goes to Bloomingdale and back (about 46 miles). Since the route is well known to most of the riders, no maps are available for this ride. This group is typically large and consists of racers and other experienced riders. There is no designated ride leader. The group typically fragments into smaller groups and the riders often times do not finish together. This ride is hard and is not suitable for inexperienced riders. Some riders can be expected to be dropped from the main group. The ride is a loop and those riders who get dropped meet up with the main group on the return part of the loop.

Mountain bikers, new members Mike Claffey and his 15 year old son Darryl have volunteered to lead a mountain bike ride Wednesday evenings in July at Fort Custer. Meet at the Rec area near the trail head at 6:30 PM. They plan to lead the ride over all the trails, about 12 miles. Mountain bikers of all experience levels are welcome. Call Mike at 385-2325 for more information.

## 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 de Gull Lake. The route for this 18-21 mph ride is well established, but maps are available. Richard Walter and Randy Putt will share ride leader duties in June with the assistance of Jeff Wetters. Even though this ride can split into more than one group the ride leaders will make sure that all riders finish the ride.

Think about being a ride leader. We can always use more help. No previous experience is necessary to become a ride leader. Please give Randy Putt a call at 649-1814 to volunteer or to get more information on being a ride leader. Hope to see you on the road this month.

- Randy Putt

# July Ride Calendar

1996

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p>Sunday Ride KVCC 9:00</p> <p>Race Team Ride Water Street Coffee 9:30 20++mph</p>	<p><b>1</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park</p> <p>6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph 6:30 19+mph</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> Wed Night Ride Kazoo Central HS</p> <p>6:00 20++mph 6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph</p> <p>Mtn Ride-Ft Custer 6:30 All abilities</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop</p> <p>6:30 18-21mph</p>	<p><b>6</b> Saturday Ride KVCC 9:00</p>
<p><b>7</b> Sunday Ride KVCC 9:00</p> <p>Race Team Ride Water Street Coffee 9:30 20++mph</p>	<p><b>8</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park</p> <p>6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph 6:30 19+mph</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b> Wed Night Ride Kazoo Central HS</p> <p>6:00 20++mph 6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph</p> <p>Mtn Ride-Ft Custer 6:30 All abilities</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop</p> <p>6:30 18-21mph</p>	<p><b>13</b> Saturday Ride KVCC 9:00</p>
<p><b>14</b> Sunday Ride KVCC 9:00</p> <p>Race Team Ride Water Street Coffee 9:30 20++mph</p>	<p><b>15</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park</p> <p>6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph 6:30 19+mph</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> Wed Night Ride Kazoo Central HS</p> <p>6:00 20++mph 6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph</p> <p>Mtn Ride-Ft Custer 6:30 All abilities</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop</p> <p>6:30 18-21mph</p>	<p><b>20</b> Saturday Ride KVCC 9:00</p>
<p><b>21</b> Sunday Ride KVCC 9:00</p> <p>Race Team Ride Water Street Coffee 9:30 20++mph</p>	<p><b>22</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park</p> <p>6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph 6:30 19+mph</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b> Wed Night Ride Kazoo Central HS</p> <p>6:00 20++mph 6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph</p> <p>Mtn Ride-Ft Custer 6:30 All abilities</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop</p> <p>6:30 18-21mph</p>	<p><b>27</b> Saturday Ride KVCC 9:00</p>
<p><b>28</b> Sunday Ride KVCC 9:00</p> <p>Race Team Ride Water Street Coffee 9:30 20++mph</p>	<p><b>29</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park</p> <p>6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph 6:30 19+mph</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> Wed Night Ride Kazoo Central HS</p> <p>6:00 20++mph 6:30 10-15mph 6:30 16-18mph</p> <p>Mtn Ride-Ft Custer 6:30 All abilities</p>			

# It's About Time

by Axel Kleat

**T**he other day I rode to the starting point for a group ride. It's a ten minute ride over there but I didn't get out of the house until the ride was supposed to leave.

So I hurried on over on cold, creaky legs hoping the group would wait. When I pulled in, my heart sank—no riders in sight. But a minute later they began trickling in. Ten minutes late, I was the first arrival.

I'd hammered to get there close to the appointed hour, and as it turned out, I had time to do an easy spin *and* stop for a nice, hot cappuccino at the coffee joint on the way.

Does anyone doubt that no group ride ever leaves on time?

As far as I can tell, your typical bike ride leaves fifteen or twenty minutes late. Generally, the more riders show up, the later it gets.

There seem to be lots of reasons. The most common is waiting for phantom riders. You know, the ones who said they'd be there when they called earlier. But it's time to go and no sign of 'em. How long will the group wait? Too long!

The next most common is showing up late, a sometimes unavoidable fate to which we all fall prey on occasion. This irksome situation is compounded by the fact that the late arrivals generally aren't dressed for the ride, or their bike is in pieces, or both.

Having been late once or twice myself, I know that I didn't dress before leaving home for fear that this might delay my arrival to the point that the ride leaves without me.

Of course, all those gentle folks would feel guilty leaving while I'm changing, so everyone fidgets while they wait on me.

Truly punctuality-impaired riders often take things one step further—they manage to call someone who'll be on time and plead with them to implore the group to wait. Of course, the group waits, and of course the latecomer shows up just as everyone has given up and is pedaling out of the parking lot.

And of course, he (no sexism here—it's probably Paul) is still in street clothes.

Adding to the problem is that no one wants to wait very long. Being first to the ride is akin to being the first at a party. Bad form. Ideally, you show up for a ride five minutes before it leaves. Just enough time for those last minute adjustments to your attire when you see how many layers the others are wearing.

Besides the time wasted, the fact is that the right clothing for a ride is rarely what you'd choose to wear for standing around. So unless it's really nice out, you cool off—or get really cold—waiting for whoever's late this time.

So I propose a Ten Minute Rule. All rides leave no more than ten minutes after the chosen time. Some allowances must be made for that last minute call, or the odd funereal procession or slow-moving freight, but let's face it—ten minutes is long enough.

And what about the clods who show up in time but still aren't ready when it's time? I say leave 'em. Make 'em time-trial up to catch the group. That'll teach 'em.

Unless it's me. *Hey—I'll be ready in no time! Anybody got a tire pump? How about a helmet?*



**KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB**  
 P.O. Box 50527  
 Kalamazoo, MI 49005

BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

Phil & Jini Caruso  
 2301 Fairfield Ave.  
 Parchment, MI 49004

**KBC OFFICERS**

President: Rose McKenna ..... 382-4318  
 Vice President: John Mathieson ..... 329-0692  
 Treasurer: Mike Higgins ..... 327-0387  
 Secretary: Joan Kramlich ..... 323-5343  
 Race Team Representative: John Brady ..... 382-5272

**OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Database Manager: Jeanette Holm ..... 385-5052  
 Newsletter Distribution: Clayton Gallup ..... 375-0265  
 Newsletter Editor: Kathy Barrett ..... 388-5045  
     E-Mail ..... barrettki@aol.com  
 Ride Captain: Randy Putt ..... 649-1814  
 Resident Curmudgeon: Axel Kleat ..... Unlisted  
 Ride Line: Ann Johnson ..... 327-7767  
 Weather Line: ..... 385-2121

**KALAMAZOO AREA BIKE SHOPS**

Alfred E. Bike ..... 349-9423  
 Billy's Bike Shop ..... 665-5202  
 Breakaway Bicycles ..... 324-5555  
 Cycle Works & Sports ..... 353-7615  
 Milwood Schwinn ..... 349-6384  
 Parchment Bicycle ..... 343-8118  
 Portage Schwinn ..... 327-3393  
 Pro Sport ..... 381-7233  
 Team III Schwinn ..... 962-7688  
 Village Cyclery ..... 679-4242  
 Vorncamp Bike ..... 344-3599

**KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**Dues (Check One)**

Adult Membership ..... \$15.00  
 Family ..... \$17.00  
 Senior (60+) ..... \$13.00  
 Youth (17 or younger) ..... \$13.00

**Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Family Member Names**

**Birthdates**

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's Signature (if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in working on KBC Events?  Yes  No  
 Registered Racer:  USCF  NORBA

SEND TO: KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB, PO BOX 50527, KALAMAZOO MI 49005