



## President's Letter

The Kalamazoo Bicycle Club had a very good Flowerfest Tour this year, making a substantial profit. It is now time to decide what to do with that profit. Several ideas come quickly to mind, and perhaps you have others.

One of the benefits of belonging to a cycling club is it gives everyone access to many things that by oneself may be unavailable. The Club could buy a piece of specialized equipment that would be helpful to a number of riders, and loan it out as needed. Perhaps there is a speaker that sounds interesting for a meeting.

Another thought is a donation of cycling related books and videos to the Kalamazoo and Portage Public Libraries. Earlier this year we did a presentation at the Portage Library as a fund raiser. We could build on that by donating books and videos with a cycling theme that would be suitable for all ages. Bicycle repair manuals, cross-country touring how-to books and the like would be nice.

How about a copy of the upcoming Lance Armstrong autobiography (you know there has to be one in work).

In June we supported a bike-a-thon setup by the Portage Department of Public Safety. The Ameritech Pioneers donated a pile of helmets to needy children. Every one of these kids was ecstatic about receiving a brand new helmet. Next year I would love to be able to say that KBC also bought helmets and brought smiles to the faces of needy children. I am sure there are other community support groups who could use our help also.

If you know of, work for, or support any charities that you feel could use a donation from the KBC please let me know. I ask though that the charity or organization be located in the Kalamazoo or Portage areas, and that the money be spent on cycling related events or equipment. Maybe there is a group of kids we could buy some new bikes for. Please let me know your ideas.

- Richard Walter

## Coming Events

**September 12** Vineyard Classic, Paw Paw. Register after 7:00 am. 20, 40 & 60 mile routes in rural Van Buren County. Call 657-5672 See page 6.

**September 14** KBC Board meeting 6:30 pm, Portage Public Library. Page 6.

**September 26** Apple Cider Century. Three Oaks, MI. Page 6.

## KBC Elections in November

Elections for the KBC Board of Directors are coming up in November. In September we will be taking nominations for the positions of President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer. **Contact any current Board member (see back page) to nominate yourself—or anyone else.**

The nominations will be posted in the October Pedal Press. The elections will take place at the November board meeting and the new Board will take over in December. If you are interested in any one of these positions let someone on the board know so that we can place your name into nomination.

If you are interested in helping out KBC, a seat on the Board of directors is a great way to do it. Being on the Board gives you a chance to guide KBC in the direction you would like to see it go. No more sitting back and complaining, you actually get a chance to change what you don't like. Give it a try. It can be a great learning experience that can be applied to a real job.

## KBC Meets With KCRC

Seven members of KBC (including your Editor) met with Ron Reid, the Managing Director of the Kalamazoo County Road Commission, for an hour on Wednesday, August 11, 1999. The meeting was planned well in advance and took place at the Fetzer Center. We are grateful to Dave Sluyter for arranging for the use of this fine facility.

The primary purpose in planning the meeting was to discuss the amount of growth the last few years southwest of Kalamazoo, in the Texas Corners/KVCC/12th St. area and its effect on biking. KBC members ride lots of miles out this way, and road improvements haven't kept up with the increase in traffic flow, making bicycling in this area more hazardous, particularly around rush hour. Our meeting dealt with this problem, and a good deal more.

First, it's important to understand what roads KCRC does and does not take care of. They do NOT build or maintain any roads in the City of Kalamazoo or Portage or many of the smaller towns. KCRC does NOT maintain any state highways or freeways. KCRC IS responsible for nearly all other roads in Kalamazoo County

KCRC, along with other road commissions, separates roads into two classes—primary and local. We learned that as KCRC rebuilds or upgrades any primary roads, it has been (and will continue to) widen the road, typically 3-4 feet beyond the existing width, which generally is 22-24 feet. This gives enough room for a white stripe on the right side of the lane, thereby creating a paved shoulder outside the traffic lane for folks like us. KCRC plans to do exactly this to 12th St. north of Milham next summer, where there's a shoulder, but not much.

I think it's safe to say that the KBC members present felt that wider lanes with a stripe on the right side of the lane represents the best, most cost effective solution to keeping county roads safe for bicycling. As traffic becomes heavier or goes faster, the wider this paved shoulder will need to become. There's not much we can do to lower the amount of traffic, and except in very unusual situations, there no need (or money) for separate non-motorized paths.

Mr. Reid says that in general, the road commission has a 66 foot right-of-way. This is in sharp contrast to the rights-of-way in an older city, such as Kalamazoo, where roads can't be widened because there simply isn't room unless the City acquires the land—which can be very expensive.

As far as KCRC roads are concerned, however, the 66 foot right-of-way is a very good thing because a typical two-lane road is less than 30 feet across. So KCRC owns enough land to widen the road almost everywhere. It's a matter of convincing KCRC where we need wider roads (which often means getting the roads re-designated as "primary" rather than "local," and getting the project worked into their schedule—which apparently runs out 3 or 4 years ahead.

Believe it or not, KCRC has a webpage: [www.kcrc-roads.com](http://www.kcrc-roads.com). They post their construction schedule on the web. What's more, they even post the schedule for chip-and-sealing (tar & graveling) roads. Mr Reid says that KCRC welcomes questions and comments from us. Call them at 381-3171. They even have really nice maps.

- Doug Kirk

## September Birthdays

Lee Anderson  
Laurie Anderson  
Robert Bell  
Gerald Blohm  
Mary Cohen  
Carl Degen  
William Fries  
Peter Gaff  
John Looman  
Spencer Mack  
George Mack  
Lily Robertson  
Jim VanBuren  
Richard Walter  
Mike White  
James Wyrick

## New Members

Claudia Cap  
Debra Carlson  
Alex Clevenson  
Jerry Clevenson  
Lisa Clevenson  
Todd Clevenson  
Joshua Daudert  
Pamala Daudert  
Charles Daudert  
William Fries  
Allen Halley  
Rene' Hess  
Chris Kline  
Nancy Reynhout  
Scott Reynhout  
Phil Reynhout  
Kurt Sherwood  
Robin Warden  
Dan Wytko

## Expiring Members

*Remember, friends don't let friends expire! Remind them to send in their dues!*

Clayton Gallap  
J. S. McNutt  
Jack Bley  
Jeff, Libbie and Tyler Wetters

## Flowerfest 1999

Last year storms moved through Kalamazoo just as Flowerfest registration was opening. This year the day started out bright, sunny, and warm and stayed that way until late in the afternoon. People enjoyed the great weather by coming by the hundreds. 425 riders, to be exact.

Pre-registration topped 200 riders this year. You had to pre-register to have a shot at winning one of the many door prizes, the grand prize being two airline tickets to anywhere in the continental US courtesy of United Express. Kim Kolter, a first time Flowerfest rider, was the lucky winner of the airline tickets. We also gave away gift certificates for Voler shorts, a Sears gift certificate, a Kalamazoo Bicycle Club jersey, other good stuff, and lots and lots of KBC water bottles. Water bottles were a big hit, especially with the kids.

Saturn was a major sponsor again this year, donating money to help offset our costs. They also brought us two of their team riders; Chris Wherry and Tana Stone. Like last year, Chris and Tana rode the 62 mile route and gave a strong bunch of local riders a small sample of what it feels like to be a professional racer. Chris and Tana were great, talking with people, signing autographs, giving away calendars and bottles, and just being good ambassadors of the sport. Our many thanks go out to Saturn.

We had lots of other sponsors. The Amateur Radio Club provided sag support and communications. The Kalamazoo Center for the Healing Arts provided a little relaxation after a tough ride with a massage for anyone who wanted one. Mechanical support was provided by our local bike shops; Breakaway, Milham and Portage Schwinn, and Village Cyclery.

New to the Flowerfest this year was the addition of a full 100 mile century route. This gave the experienced long distance rider another option. A full century is a right of passage for cyclists and adding the century really opens our ride to another class of rider. We added 38 miles to the north on the first loop of the 62 mile route to give the full 100 miles. This year we had 39 riders do the whole route, including the 6th Street hill. We figured a century should have some challenges and the 6th Street hill seemed like a good challenge. Sixth Street hill came at about mile 37, just after the rest stop on DE Avenue (thanks to the Alamo Little League for letting us use their park) or at least that was the way most people did it. One rider made a wrong turn early on and did the southern loops first and saved the new northern loop for last. We figured he came to the 6th Street hill after about 85 miles, poor guy!

The attendance on the escorted family ride was lower than expected. The family ride is a good way for the family with small children to experience what it is like to ride as part of a large tour but with the security of having an experienced cyclist along. Phil and Jini Caruso handled the job of tour guide. All the parents and kids had a great time. Expect to see all these families on a longer route next year.

Thanks have to go out to a large number of people who made the event possible. Your Flowerfest committee did a great job. These people put in many hours lining up sponsors, making arrangements, and getting food, paint, and so on. Credit for the poster you saw in the bike shops goes to Zolton Cohen. Thanks to everyone who showed up to paint road markings on Tuesday before the Tour. We had lots of compliments on the marking, saying it was the best they had ever seen. Jim Wyrick did a great job on the maps. Richard Walter and Jeanette Holm ran the DE Avenue rest stop. Bruce Dedee, John Mathieson, Gerry Blohm and Bryan Lewis (with his son Nick) take credit for the Briar Patch rest stop. Terry O'Connor, Dale Krueger, Rosie Grzebyk., Pat Frye, Paul Stevens, Rick Whaley, Doug and Angie Jonas, and Victor and Judy VanFleet kept things moving at registration. Bill Strome took many fine pictures for posterity.

So what's in store for next year? First is that the Flowerfest organizing committee has some new people for next year. Having more people will make it much easier to get things going and we can really concentrate on the details. We are sure the new people will bring new ideas with them. One of the riders had suggested a small commemorative pin for the century riders. That might be a cute giveaway. We might expand our lunch menu a bit. Plus, expect to see more displays from the local bike shops. Breakaway brought out a couple of recumbents for people to try. Lots of riders gave them a try just to see what they are all about.

If you couldn't make the ride you still have the chance to follow the routes. The road markings should still be there. Following the arrows simplifies your ride in that you don't have to plan a route or worry about getting lost. If you want maps check out our website. Maps for each route are posted. We recommend the first and second parts of the 100 mile route, about 57 miles, which go north of town. Also, try the loop out toward Lawton from Vankal and Q Ave. The scenery is great and so are the smells, especially if you like grape jelly.

- Richard Walter

## September Ride Calendar

By Ride Captain Randy

It has been another great riding season and some of the best tours of the year are yet to come this Fall: DALMAC over the Labor Day weekend, the Vineyard Classic in Paw Paw on Sept 12, the Apple Cider Century on Sept 26. For you hard core riders who like a challenge try the Columbus Fall Challenge on Oct 2 and 3 in Lancaster, Ohio just south of Columbus. The Turning Leaves Century in Dowagiac is typically nice (Oct 3). The Hilly 100 in Bloomington, IN on Oct 16 and 17 is a great way to end the touring season.

**Note that all weekday rides leave at 6:00 PM for September. This only changes the Friday Tour deGull ride, from 6:30 to 6:00, since all other rides were already at 6:00.**

There are five ride groups at the Monday Night Ride at Texas Drive Park, 10-12 mph, 13-15 mph, 16-18 mph, 19-20 mph, and 20+ mph. There should be a pace to suit all riding abilities and styles, so come out and give it a try at 6:00 PM. Maps will be available. For the following groups the ride leaders will make sure that the groups stay together and ride as a group. Lee Anderson and other members of the Portage Pedalers lead a group at 10-12 mph for about 20 miles, and Mike Higgins leads a group for about 20 miles at 13-15 mph. The 10-12 mph group and the 13-15 mph group plan to follow the same route.

Also on Monday, the following three groups will typically follow the same route. Both the 16-18 mph and 19-20 mph groups plan to stay together and not drop riders. Both groups plan work on group riding techniques and pace lining in order to improve group riding skills. Terry O'Connor, Dale Krueger, and Steve Vonderfecht plan to lead the 16-18 mph group for 25 to 35 miles. Larry Kissinger and Randy Putt plan to lead the 19-20 mph group for 25 to 35 miles. The 20+ mph group will do their thing without a designated ride leader. The 20+ mph group can fragment into smaller groups and all the riders may not finish together. Some riders may be dropped from the main group. The ride generally follows the same route as the 16-18 mph and 19-20 mph groups so any riders who get dropped can wait for 19-20 mph group.

The Tuesday ride from Breakaway Bicycles on Romence Rd near S. Westnedge in Portage leaves the parking lot at 6:00 PM. Paul Wells leads the group for 25 to 30 miles at about 17-19 mph. Give this ride a try.

Three Wednesday rides begin at the Kal-Haven Trail parking lot on 10th St between H Ave and G Ave at 6 PM.

Enjoy the rolling hills of northwest Kalamazoo County for a ride of 25 to 35 miles in one of two groups. The 16-18 mph group is lead by Bill Strome. The 20+ mph group is lead by Zolton Cohen. Both Bill and Zolton do a great job in keeping the groups together. These are good rides to learn how to ride in a group.

The Hammerfest ride also seems to be starting at the Kal-Haven Trailhead nowadays Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. The pace of the ride is typically 22-25 mph and the route goes to Bloomingdale and back (about 46 miles). The route is well known to most of the riders, and no maps are available. This group consists of racers and other experienced riders. There is no designated ride leader. The group can fragment 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.

Kathy Barrett is leading a WOMEN'S RIDE on Thursdays at 6:00 PM from the west end of the KVCC parking lot (by the gym). Please spread the word. Those who show up determine the pace each week. This is just the sort of ride that we need more of. Thanks to Marion Barnes, Rose McKenna, Sally Niermann for leading some of the rides.

Come join us on Fridays in the parking lot behind Billy's Bike Shop in Galesburg at 6:00 PM for the Tour deGull Lake. **Note that the ride time for September has changed to 6 PM.** The route for this ride is a loop around Gull Lake with a number of rolling hills. The route is well established, is 26 miles in length, and maps are available. On occasion a 32 mile southerly route from Galesburg through Climax and Scotts is ridden. The ride consists of two groups. Rose McKenna leads a group at about 17 mph. This group finishes together. Rose can only lead occasionally, so additional leaders are needed. Richard Walter and Randy Putt lead the 20+ mph group. The pace for this group is typically greater than 21 mph at this time of year. Even though this ride can split into more than one group the ride leaders will make sure that all riders finish the ride.

Call Randy at 649-1814 for more information about any of the rides described above.

There is always room for a special weekend ride. Anyone can organize one. Just send me a description by the 10th of the month prior to the month of ride and we will get it into the newsletter.

# September

1999

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>29 Aug</b>	<b>30 Aug</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park  6:00 10-12mph 6:00 13-15mph 6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19-20mph 6:00 20+mph	<b>31 Aug</b> Breakaway Ride Breakaway Bicycles 6:00 17-19mph	<b>1</b> 6:00 20+mph Kazoo Central HS  6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19+ mph Kal Haven Trail- head, N. 10th St.	<b>2</b> Women's Ride KVCC parking lot 6:00 pm Moderate pace	<b>3</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop  6:00 18-21mph	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park  6:00 10-12mph 6:00 13-15mph 6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19-20mph 6:00 20+mph	<b>7</b> Breakaway Ride Breakaway Bicycles 6:00 17-19mph	<b>8</b> 6:00 20+mph Kazoo Central HS  6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19+ mph Kal Haven Trail- head, N. 10th St.	<b>9</b> Women's Ride KVCC parking lot 6:00 pm Moderate pace	<b>10</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop  6:00 18-21mph	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Vineyard Classic Hazen St. Paw Paw 657-5672 See story within	<b>13</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park  6:00 10-12mph 6:00 13-15mph 6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19-20mph 6:00 20+mph	<b>14</b> Breakaway Ride Breakaway Bicycles  6:00 17-19mph	<b>15</b> 6:00 20+mph Kazoo Central HS  6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19+ mph Kal Haven Trail- head, N. 10th St.	<b>16</b> Women's Ride KVCC parking lot 6:00 pm Moderate pace	<b>17</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop  6:00 18-21mph	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park  6:00 10-12mph 6:00 13-15mph 6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19-20mph 6:00 20+mph	<b>21</b> Breakaway Ride Breakaway Bicycles  6:00 17-19mph	<b>22</b> 6:00 20+mph Kazoo Central HS  6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19+ mph Kal Haven Trail- head, N. 10th St.	<b>23</b> Women's Ride KVCC Parking Lot 6:00 pm Moderate pace	<b>24</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop  6:00 18-21mph	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Apple Cider Century Three Oaks, MI See story within	<b>27</b> Recovery Ride Texas Drive Park  6:00 10-12mph 6:00 13-15mph 6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19-20mph 6:00 20mph	<b>28</b> Breakaway Ride Breakaway Bicycles  6:00 17-19mph	<b>29</b> 6:00 20+mph Kazoo Central HS  6:00 16-18mph 6:00 19+ mph Kal Haven Trail- head, N. 10th St.	<b>30</b> Women's Ride KVCC Parking Lot 6:00 pm Moderate Pace	<b>1 October</b> Tour de Gull Lake Billy's Bike Shop  6:00 18-21mph	<b>2 October</b>

**KBC Ride Calendar**

## KBC Board Meeting Notice

There will be a KBC Board meeting on Tuesday, September 14, at 6:30 pm. at the Portage Public Library. The Portage Library is on the east side of West-nedge Blvd, just north of Centre Street, across from City Hall and the fire station.

## The Extended Vineyard Classic Ride

On September 12 plan to meet at the KVCC parking lot (SW corner) to extend the metric century route on the Vineyard Classic (Wine & Harvest Ride) to a century. This ride will leave promptly at 8 AM from KVCC and the pace will be 18-20 mph. Riders at other paces are welcome. Ride leaders at the other paces will be needed. Contact Randy Putt if interested.

If you prefer to do only the metric century, feel free to meet this group at 9:00 am at the starting point of the Vineyard Classic Ride in Paw Paw, the Van Buren County Human Services Building on Hazen St about a quarter of a mile north of Red Arrow Highway.

## A Special Thanks To The 1999 Ride Leaders

Another great riding season is winding down. Attendance at all the regular weekly rides has been the best ever. We have also had several successful special weekend rides. There have been several tandem rides, the Old Car Festival Ride in Vicksburg, the ride to South Haven, and the Ride Around Kalamazoo County. We couldn't ask for better weather. The ride leaders and all of you riders have been doing a great job. Thanks a lot.

Special thanks go out to Lee Anderson, Kathy Barrett, Zolton Cohen, Mike and Sherry Higgins, Doug Kirk, Larry Kissinger, Dale Krueger, Rose McKenna, Terry O'Connor, Randy Putt, Rollin Richman, Paul Stevens, Bill Strome, Harriet Swanson, Steve Vonderfecht, Richard Walter, and Paul Wells. All these members led rides during the 1999 ride season.  
- Randy Putt

## Ride Leaders Needed For Year 2000

We have had great turnouts for the rides this year. Since the groups have been so large, up to 40 riders at times, it is difficult for one ride leader to handle. We often could use more than one ride leader per ride group.

I encourage you riders who have participated in the rides this year to volunteer to lead rides next year. This can be either regular rides, or special/ocasional rides you decide to do, like the tandem-only rides, the ride around Kalamazoo County, or anything else you want to put together.

We could use some additional leaders. Many of the 1999 season ride leaders have been leading for several years and often lead the rides all season. A few KBC members end up doing all the ride leading, but there's just no reason for this. Ride leading is easy and fun.

Although we all enjoy leading rides, it is nice to show up and just ride sometimes. If people would take turns leading, it would be a big improvement. Routes for most of the ride nights are well established, so making up maps is a snap. If you want to have a ride of your own, just get us the information and we'll publish the information.

We do need your help. No previous experience is necessary to become a ride leader. Please give Randy Putt a call at 649-1814 or send an e-mail to [sterling.r.putt@am.pnu.com](mailto:sterling.r.putt@am.pnu.com) to volunteer or to get more information n being a ride leader. Hope to see you on the road this month.

## Apple Cider Century

The biggest one-day ride in the midwest each year is the Apple Cider Century, always the last Sunday in September, this year the 26th. The ride starts/ends at Three Oaks High School. Three Oaks is in Berrien County, around exit 13 on I-94.

Take my word for it, you've never seen so many bikes and riders in one place. It's a zoo, and it's worth the trip even if you forget your bike! I've seen genuine high-wheelers, triples and quads, and every other kind of bike you can imagine.

It's probably officially sold out, but just drive over, bring your own food, find some place to park, and get on the route. Call 756-3361 to learn more.

- Doug Kirk

## Strap It On, Now Baby

by Axel Kleat

I subscribe to a list serve—one of those email setups that allows people to send email to an entire group. The group I'm hooked up with is through the League of Michigan Bicyclists

This is a staid group of people, seemingly made up of tourists and commuters, rather than racers and mountain bikers. In fact, I've yet to see a word about a race of any kind. These people are interested in various tours, the best routes, bicyclist's rights and bicycle safety—especially relative to motor vehicles.

If you're bored or just want to make sure you've always "got mail," get on a list serve. This one is good for between 2 and 10 emails most days. It doesn't take long to figure out that there are lots of people out there truly obsessed with some aspect of bicycling, to the point that I decided that I'm not as crazy as I'd thought.

I really believe ease and rapidity of communication is the true currency of our times, but there sure is such a thing as going overboard. Lately, some of these bicyclists have been spouting off about a wonderfully stupid idea: passing a law requiring bicyclists (including kids, I guess) to wear helmets.

The way these motor-mouths run on demonstrates pretty clearly why we cyclists have so much trouble getting anywhere lobbying the government over our real needs—we're too busy beating up on ourselves.

Yes, I wear my helmet. It's saved my noggin at least once beyond any doubt. But I sure object to being told to wear it. Especially if I'm just going to the store, or the pool, or for a short hop down the Kal-Haven Trail. I object to being subject to some sort of ticket or fine if I just plain forget, or if I feel foolish and brave. I've lost enough freedom in the rest of my life, thank you very much.

The only reason motorcyclists suffer with a helmet law is that the guys who really objected to the idea came across as pretty objectionable themselves, especially back in the Hell's Angels days around 1970, when the motorcycle helmet law was passed. Still, they have my sympathy, and their slogan, "Let those who ride decide" sure sounds good to me. People on mopeds don't

have to wear helmets, and neither do sky-divers or cowboys.

Can you imagine the Marlboro Man riding into a gorgeous sunset in a helmet? Then again, why should he bother? He's chosen to smoke himself to death, legally. So why worry about his head?

I personally guarantee you that many more motor vehicle occupants suffer serious head injuries each year than bicyclists—despite seat belts and air bags. Why not make everyone in a motor vehicle wear a helmet too?

Next they'll want a law that a helmet must fit right—not too loose, not too far back on the head, and God help you if it's the wrong size. Why not have semi-annual inspections?

It didn't take me long to get disgusted with bean brain bicyclists bent on protecting me from myself, so I wrote in suggesting these folks might keep spare helmets for everyone in the car. One guy replied (to the whole group, mind you) that he actually does wear his bike helmet when he drives "in dangerous areas." I figure anywhere this guy is driving is dangerous by definition.

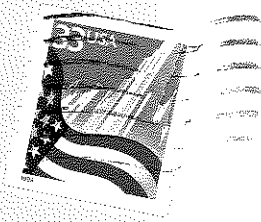
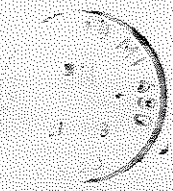
Enough ranting. I'm going on the record here—educate people, use billboards, TV spots, peer pressure, you name it. Then let them decide for themselves. People ought to convince people to wear helmets, not require them to.

Meanwhile, I'm offering the best safety advice you can get one more time, folks. Here it is, and it's free. A helmet is a great idea, but if you actually need to use the protection it offers, you already screwed up bad. Maybe, just maybe, that helmet will give you another chance. Safe bicycling means knowing how to ride so your helmet rots of old age. Practice effective bicycling—fitting into traffic, knowing how to fall and when and where to ride. Know your bike and its capabilities. Watch your fellow riders closely. Think about your escape routes when you ride.

But I know also from personal knowledge that even a very experienced rider can end up smacking his head too fast to have any chance to react at all. That helmet might protect you, like it did me. Then again, it might not.



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



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

Expires 2000/02  
**Phil & Jini Caruso**  
 313 Horseshoe Court  
 Plainwell, MI 49080

**KBC OFFICERS**

President: Richard Walter ..... 649-1944  
 Treasurer: Paul Stevens ..... 324-9024  
 E-mail: 73372.1732@compuserve.com  
 Secretary: Barb Miller ..... 349-1826

**OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Database Manager: Jeanette Holm ..... 385-5052  
 E-mail: jsholm1@aol.com  
 Info Line: ..... 343-2288  
 Newsletter Distribution: Barb Miller ..... 349-1826  
 Newsletter Editor: Doug Kirk ..... 388-5045  
 E-Mail ..... Kirkdoug@aol.com  
 Ride Captain: Randy Putt ..... 649-1814  
 E-mail ..... SRBike@aol.com

**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 Active 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**


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

Interested in working on KBC Events?  Yes  No

Rider Category: Fitness  Casual  Competitive

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