

KBC PedalPress

www.angelfire.com/mi/kbc/ The Newsletter of the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

April 2003

President's Letter:

From time to time, I find myself involved with bicycle route planning with local governments. This sort of thing can be truly frustrating since nothing, and I mean nothing, happens as fast as it should, and because, to put it bluntly, non-motorized needs are just about always at the bottom of funding priorities.

Recently, I was contacted by three different folks asking for my support concerning a planned linear park (similar to the Celery Flats) in Portage which would generally follow a Consumers Energy Right-of-way from US - 131 to Crossroads Mall. As is generally the case when anything new is going to be built, people whose property abuts the right-of-way voiced loud objections. They raised enough fuss that fears arose the project might be scuttled, despite the fact that 60% of the money is coming from the federal government, and Consumers Energy is charging nothing for the use of the property.

I wrote a letter of support to the City Council on behalf of KBC, and I ventured out to the Council meeting on March 4 to listen and possibly speak if the need arose. After Bill Deming, Portage's Parks Manager, spent fifteen minutes addressing citizen concerns, a local real estate developer stated that this sort of development actually increased property values.

The Council then girded its loins and opened the floor to citizen comments. Surprisingly, most speakers favored the plan, though the naysayers were well represented. I am certain that I was not the only one to note that those who opposed the plan all looked like they could, to be polite about it, use a little exercise themselves.

By far the most educational words came from a man who owned property that was actually split in two by the construction of the Kal-Haven Trail twenty years ago. He had actively opposed the Trail, but became a big fan afterwards, and even took up bicycling and is now a member of the Paw Paw Pedalers. His message was very positive, and his personal experience spoke powerfully to the value of multi-use trails. No one voiced serious opposition after the man spoke, and the plan was approved unanimously by the Council.

While "serious" bicyclists tend to look down our noses at these trails, anything that gets more people on their bikes is a good thing, especially for kids and the elderly. I applaud the City of Portage for its efforts. Doug Kirk, KBC President

KBC Wish List

Next KBC meeting: Tuesday, April 8, 2003, 7 PM, at the YMCA on Maple Street, Kalamazoo.

KBC is still searching for a **Community Resource Coordinator**. Such a person would organize and coordinate KBC's contact with the community, primarily through bike give-away programs, the Portage Bikeway Tour, and similar events. This position is ideal for someone interested in periodic, short-term volunteer work. Contact any KBC Executive Board member if you're interested in learning more about how you could help KBC better interact with the community.

It's spring, and your bike club is planning a lot of events for the upcoming bicycling season. The FOG (**Flowerfest Organizing Group**) is already in high gear, working toward another successful Flowerfest Bike Tour.

Efforts are also underway to implement the 2003 version of the Tuesday Night Time Trial Series, with new TT Queen **Nicole Newman** running the show this year.

And **Rick Whaley** is wearing out his slide rule with the incredibly intricate, complex task of mapping out the ride route for the 4th annual "**W**" Ride, scheduled for April 27th.

(Actually, for those of you who have never done this ride before and might be unnerved by the prospect of negotiating a hard-to-follow route, we should point out that the aforementioned sentence was a joke; an exercise in hyperbole. The map of the "**W**" Ride is simply a straight line).

KBC Social Director **Emily Mattes** is hard at work finalizing details for the 2nd annual **New Member Ride/Party** on May 17th.

Consult the *PedalPress* for more details about these and other KBC events. **And won't you join us at a meeting soon to see how you can get involved in your bike club?**

Upcoming KBC Events

W Ride IV (The Sequel, Sequel, Sequel) Sunday, April 27th, 9AM, Vicksburg High School

If you're reading this, you probably think you can ride a bicycle. Well, that may be so, but do you have the skill, the stamina, and the tenacity to ride it in a straight line mile after mile after mile? If you think you've got what it takes, challenge yourself at the **4th annual W Ride!**

As usual, we'll meet at **Vicksburg High School, at 9:00 AM on Sunday, April 27, 2003.** We'll point our bicycles west and ride on W Avenue until we reach the Van Buren County line. Then, we'll try to remember how to turn our handlebars and ride east until we get back to Vicksburg. After a short break for essential nutrients and/or Twinkies, we'll continue our ride east on W Avenue until we reach the Calhoun County line. Then, we'll turn our handlebars again and ride back to Vicksburg - on W Avenue, of course.

The distance is 48 miles. The pace will depend on who shows up; more than one pace group is likely. And just to make the ride even more special than it already is, as if that is humanly possible, commemorative 2003 W Ride maps will be given to all participants.

So, if you're man enough (generically speaking) to accept this challenge, I'll see you on the 27th. If not, I won't.

Rick W(haley) Ride Leader

Phone (Home): 329-1285

E-mail: fredrick.s.whaley@pharmacia.com

New Member Ride/Party, May 17th.

Do you have a friend who might be interested in joining KBC and riding with the club? This event is a good opportunity for you to show that person what KBC is all about.

We'll do some rides (varying lengths, varying paces), eat some food at the end, and do quite a bit of talking throughout. Mark your calendars now to reserve this date. Last year's New Member Ride/Party was snowed and "colder" out. This year will be different.

Look in this space next month for more details about this event. And let's see how many new members we can recruit!

April Birthdays

Christopher Barnes
Matt Berner
Rhonda Cross
Thomas Cross
Rachel Gauthier
Ronald Gauthier
Cindy Gippert
Greg Jensen
Kathy Kirk
Nikole Lahaie
Barbara Lalonde
Kerry Miller
John Mulac
Thomas Noverr
Erin Paske
Scott Powers
Rollin Richman
Alexandra Steurer
Rick Updike
Karen Watt
W. Sargeant White

New Members

April Robison
Tracey Wade

April Expiring Memberships

Jamie Clark
Tom Cochran
Denise Dickerhoof
Cathy Doan
Languey Gibson Family
Martin Horn
Michael Krischer
Dale & Ruth Krueger
Michael McKee
Denny Morrison
Paul & Anne Pancella
Gary Piwko
Christine Raible
Rick Schmalzried
John Spaulding Family
Gordon Vader
Donald & Marcia Visker
W. Sargeant White
Ken Wolff
Norm Woodin

If you're moving!

Please let KBC database manager Kathy Kirk know if you're moving. We've been getting quite a few *PedalPresses* back in the mail because people have moved and haven't informed us as to where they're going! It costs the club money to not only get the newsletters back, but also to resend them.

So if you're moving, please tell Kathy! That way we can provide you with uninterrupted service, and you'll save the club money that could otherwise be used to support and promote the great sport of bicycling.

March, 2003, KBC Meeting Minutes

KBC's regular monthly meeting was held Tuesday, March 11th, 2003 at 7:00 pm at the Kalamazoo YMCA located on Maple Street. KBC president Doug Kirk led the meeting. Present were Doug Kirk, Kathy Kirk, Jeff Newman, Brad Fry, David Newman, Matt Siebert, Zolton Cohen, Terry O'Connor, Marian Barnes, Randy Putt, and Rick Whaley.

The March meeting opened with a continuation of the discussion from last month concerning the club re-adopting the Wednesday night **Hammerfest** rides. During the past few years, the club has distanced itself from these rides due to safety concerns. However, club members in attendance remarked that this ride was currently advertised in club media, had many club members who were active participants, and had fewer safety concerns than many of the other club rides. In addition, by sanctioning this ride, club members who participate in the Hammerfest ride would be protected by the club insurance. For these reasons, a motion was unanimously passed to re-adopt the Hammerfest ride as an official KBC ride. **Matt Siebert** volunteered to act as the ride leader.

Following this discussion, additional KBC ride calendar changes and proposals were addressed. **Nancy Summers** has volunteered to lead a weekly Wednesday night group ride on the Kal-Haven trail. **Matt Siebert** announced plans for a weekly Thursday night recovery ride leaving from Lakeview Park in Portage. Details of both of these rides will be announced in the *PedalPress*.

Jeff Newman reported that planning continues for this year's Tuesday Night Time Trial series, and possible new courses are being explored. **Nicole Newman** has graciously agreed to help manage this year's time trials. The series will start in May, although if favorable weather arrives sooner, the series could begin as early as April.

Meeting participants also discussed the KBC Monday night and Friday night rides. No changes will be made to either of these rides at this time. However, concerns surfaced regarding the large turnout for the Friday night ride. Proposals to split the large group into smaller groups may be addressed as needed.

Zolton Cohen announced that **Emily Mattes**, KBC Social Director, is planning a **New Member Recruitment Ride/Party** to be held on **May 17th** at the Kal-Haven trailhead. Details will be published in a future *PedalPress*.

In the past, the club has volunteered to repair bicycles at the Lakeside Treatment and Learning Center. **Marian Barnes** reported that the bikes were not used very frequently last year, and may not need repairs until

later this year. A date for club members to help repair bikes has been tentatively scheduled for late summer.

Finally, **David Newman** noted that plans for the **2003 Flowerfest** are progressing, sponsors are being lined up, and minor route changes are being planned.

With no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. Following the meeting, club members in attendance updated the KBC constitution. The proposed changes to the constitution will be posted on the KBC website. Club members will have an opportunity to vote on the proposed changes at the April meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Fry, KBC Secretary

KBC Insurance Information

A portion of the dues you pay each year to be a KBC member gets handed over to the American Specialty Insurance Company. They provide the club's insurance needs.

What does this insurance cover? Well, here's the bad news. It doesn't cover repairs to your beloved velo, your helmet, gloves, water bottles, or any other biking related gear. If it did, would there be a certain contingent of riders deliberately crashing their year-old bikes in order to cash out and send away for the latest and greatest model? We needn't get into that...

But this insurance does, in a limited way, protect two very valuable things: your health and your bike club.

The *PedalPress* recently called American Specialty and spoke with our agent there. She was able to give us a few "for instance" cases to make it clear how this insurance works.

For instance: we're riding along on the Friday night ride in a large, unruly group (sound familiar, and likely?). One or more riders crash into a pedestrian walking her dog. The dog dies, the woman is hurt, and she decides to sue the club.

In this case, our **General Liability** coverage would come into play. Your club, and your Executive Board, would not be held liable for any damages awarded as a result of such a lawsuit.

The **Participant Protection** aspect of the insurance would take over if, for instance, you were involved in a bike crash during a club ride or club-sponsored event. Your own health insurance would be the primary provider of your coverage. But if it didn't cover certain medical bills, the club insurance would pick up the tab for some of the rest, subject to a \$500 deductible. The club would have to file a claim on your behalf to access this coverage.

BE A RIDE LEADER

The weather is becoming more spring-like finally, unless the weatherman is teasing us. They say it may reach 50 this weekend. It's been a long time. It is now time to think about KBC rides for the year 2003 ride season.

As always, KBC had a great although small group of ride leaders last year, and the 2002 ride season was another good one. We're off to a good start this year with more members volunteering to become ride leaders. As attendance at the rides continues to increase we need more rider leaders for the 2003 season to accommodate the larger groups. We need your input in the rides. Being a ride leader is a great way to get to know other riders. The more ride leaders we have the better. Please volunteer to lead some rides. It's fun. The routes are well established for the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday rides. Give it a shot. The club will be happy to help get you started.

There was significant rider participation in the 16+ mph ride groups last year and these groups are well established for the three weekly ride nights. Although there was a good 10-15 mph ride group on Monday evenings, participation on other nights has been limited for riders at this pace. In order to make additional 10-15 mph ride groups a part of the KBC ride calendar, KBC needs you 10-15 mph riders to participate in and to help lead the rides. So far this year we have 2 leaders in the 16 mph and under group. Let's keep it going. Once a group gets started it feeds on itself.

If anyone is interested in leading rides this year, please give me a call at 649-1814 or send me an email at sterling.r.putt@pharmacia.com. I will be more than happy to discuss how to lead rides with you. In fact, most any experienced KBC rider would be happy to discuss ride leader responsibilities with you. You do not have to wait to be asked. No experience is necessary. You just need the willingness to ride with a great group of people who enjoy riding their bikes. See the March Newsletter for information about how to lead a ride.

APRIL RIDE SCHEDULE

Wear the appropriate clothing and let's go for a ride. If anyone would like to lead a weekend ride in April, give me a call or send me a description of the ride via e-mail or KBC-general@yahoo.groups.com. If the roads are dry, there will be riders ready to ride. I have a lengthy e-mail list of riders, so the ride information can be transferred quickly and on short notice. If any of you would like to be added to the e-mail list, send your e-mail address to me, sterling.r.putt@pharmacia.com.

We plan to continue the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday rides for the 2003 season, as well as six special weekend rides. KBC is open to other ideas for weekend rides as well. Send your ideas to any KBC officer or the Ride Captain.

ALL WEEKDAY RIDES START AT 6 PM IN APRIL.

There are likely to be fewer riders in April, so there may not be enough riders for all the groups. Hey, it is time to put on some base miles, so speed is not important, right? Ride leaders are needed for all the ride groups. The more volunteers the better. Ride leaders make every attempt at keeping each group together, although the 20+ mph groups may not stay together.

The Monday Ride at Texas Drive Park will consist of three ride groups in April:

- 15-20 mile group at 10-12 mph leaders TBD (will start in May or June)
- 15-20 mile group at 12-15 mph leaders led by **Cliff Muller** (will start in May)
- 25-30 mile **Recovery Ride group** at 15-17 mph (**new group**) led by **Randy Putt** and **Zolton Cohen**
- 25-30 mile group at 16-18 mph leaders led by **Terry O'Connor** and **Fred James**
- 25-30 mile group at 19-20 mph leaders TBD
- 25-30 mile group at 20+ mph leaders TBD

The 10-15 mile groups will generally ride the same route. The 10-15 mph groups are recommended to new riders who are not certain where they fit in. These groups typically ride to Schoolcraft and take a break for ice cream. For more experienced riders who are new to the club the 15-18 mph groups are recommended.

As noted above there is a new 15-17 mph group being formed. This group is for riders who are interested in a steady, recovery ride pace with lots of conversation. Riders joining this group may be new to group riding, or may be a bit nervous about riding in a group. The leaders hope to help teach some group riding techniques and help riders feel more comfortable riding in a group. No one will be left behind in this group.

The 16 - 18 mph group is for riders who are interested in improving their skills and speed, enabling them to move into a faster group. The leaders plan to promote pace line skills and improving bike handling skills.

The two faster groups are for more experienced riders. The 19-20 mph group typically stays together, while the 20+ mph group can splinter into smaller groups. These groups may often be combined depending on the number of riders.

The Tuesday Ride starts at Breakaway Bicycles on Romence Rd in Portage. The ride is led by Paul Wells and consists of one group that rides 25-30 miles at 16-18 mph. Check this ride out. **This ride will start in May.**

The Wednesday ride meets at the Kal-Haven Trail Parking lot. KBC plans to offer four ride groups:

- 10-15 mile fitness group at 10-15 mph on the Kal-Haven Trail led by **Nancy Summers (to start April 30)**
- 25-30 mile group at 16-18 mph led by **Bill Strome**
- 30 mile group at 20+ mph led by **Zolton Cohen** (the Half-Fast Ride)
- 46 mile Hammerfest at 20++ led by **Doug Kirk** and **Matt Seibert**.

The fitness ride at 10-15 mph on the Kal-Haven Trail is a new ride and will start April 30. Nancy plans to ride for 1 hour so that return ride can be completed in 1.25 hrs (total of 2.25 hrs. She emphasizes the speed as 10-15 mph or as easy/hard as you're able. **HELMETS, of course, ARE A MUST!** Riders may contact Nancy via email for more information: NANCYLSUMMERS@yahoo.com. Nancy indicates that she plans to ride most every Wednesday evening, so we encourage you 10-15 mph fitness riders to get out there and help make this ride succeed.

Bill Strome, we need a name for your group. Bill works hard at keeping this group together. It is a great ride in the hills NW of Kalamazoo.

Zolton's Half-Fast Ride is back by popular demand. It is one of KBC's most popular rides. Zolton does a great job keeping this group together. Its success is due to his efforts in making this a fun and fast ride.

The Wednesday night Hammerfest is back as a KBC sponsored ride. This ride starts at the Kal-Haven Trail Parking lot at 6 PM in April and for the rest of the season. The pace of the ride is typically greater than 23 mph and the route goes to Bloomingdale and back (about 46 miles). Since the route is well known to most of the regular riders, no maps are available for this ride. This group is typically large (more than 15 riders) and consists of racers and other experienced riders. 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 expect to be dropped from the main group.

Thursday night is "Coed Night" at Texas Drive Park. This is a nice and easy social ride, and generally will have a pace of 13 – 16 mph. There were several dedicated riders who made this ride successful over the past couple of years. Steve and Carolyn Vonderfekt, slv1952@netscape.net, plan to lead this group. **This ride will start in May.**

The Friday Tour de Gull meets at Billy's Bike Shop in Galesburg for a ride around Gull Lake (27 miles). This ride typically consists of two groups. Additional ride groups are welcome. It is a great route of rolling hills and curvy roads, and a fast and furious finish for the 20+mph group.

- 16-18 mph group leaders TBD
- 20+ mph group led by **Randy Putt** and others TBD

The route for this ride is well established so the ride leader job is easy. Give it a try. There has been some interest from club members in establishing a 13-15 mph group for this ride. If you are interested, please contact the Ride Captain. We would love to have you.

Mark your long-range calendars for some special weekend rides this summer. These rides are being planned for the summer months.

- **The 4th annual W Ave Ride** (48 miles) from Vicksburg HS on April 27 led by **Rick Whaley**
- **The New Member Ride/Party** from the Kal-Haven Trailhead parking lot on Saturday, May 17th, (distances TBD) led by **Emily Mattes**
- **The 5th annual Old Car Festival Ride** (about 60 miles) from Vicksburg HS on the second weekend in June, led by **Randy Putt**
- **The 6th annual ride to South Haven** with a stop at the beach (100 miles) in mid-July
- **The 6th annual Ride Around Kalamazoo County** (100 miles) in mid-August
- **The 32nd KBC Anniversary Ride**; distance, date, and route TBD

The dates and pace for some of these rides are not yet firmly established. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for further details. If you have comments about the above-mentioned rides or have suggestions for other rides, contact **KBC Ride Captain Randy Putt** by phone or e-mail (listed on the back page of the *PedalPress*). And check out the KBC web page (www.angelfire.com/mi/kbc/) for the ride calendar and for any last minute changes.

Editor's Letter:

I need to do a little editorial "house cleaning" in my allotted space in the *PedalPress* this month.

First, going back to the KBC Recovery Party on January 18th, **Terry O'Connor** and **Jenni Martin** won awards for being "**Most Improved KBC Riders of the 2002 Season.**" These are prestigious awards, primarily nominated by ride leaders who observe all of KBC's riders in action during the season. Congratulations to these two "most improved" riders!

While we haven't yet seen Jenni on any club rides this year, Terry claimed at the March KBC meeting to have over 800 miles under his belt in 2003, many of them on rollers. It sounds like many of us will be seeing the back of Terry's bike during the upcoming season.

Young **Steve Barnes** picked off "The Acorn Doesn't Fall Too Far From the Tree" award at the Recovery Party. Steve, or Steve-Oh, as many like to call him, the progeny of dedicated KBC riders **Chris and Marian Barnes**, is a top-shelf BMX rider in this area. We hope to see a lot more of the Barnes family on club rides this year.

Flowerfest news:

Dave Newman asked me to remind KBC members that the **FOG** (Flowerfest Organizing Group) is in full swing even at this early date. They're putting together plans for the **2003 Flowerfest Tour**, and they could use some help.

He writes: "*We need to remind everyone that the date of Flowerfest will be July 20, 2003, and that KBC members should contact me if they are willing to volunteer. We will need people to help paint the route on July 15 (we have had 4 groups the past two years, and I think we need 5 or 6, which means we need about 12 people and six cars). The rain date for route painting is July 17.*

"We will need people to drive sag vehicles on the day of the Tour. Last year we had enough, but some folks drove two shifts. If we could get a few more this year, it would be nice if no one had to do two shifts.

"We also need people to help with registration and the rest stops. Last year we had enough people to cover the rest stops, but we needed a few more people to help tear everything down at the end of the day when the FOG was pooped.

"Lastly, we need a couple of people to lead the family ride, and one person with a cell phone to be the official club representative for the Saturn ride."

Contact Dave at davidvnewman@earthlink.net or 375-8105 if you can lend a hand. Flowerfest for the last several years has largely been organized by a very small group of people. As the event gets larger in

size the complexities of putting it on mount. This is a great opportunity for some of you who would like to help out on a one-time event to pitch in.

It is possible to ride Flowerfest, say early in the morning, and then come back in the afternoon to help tear things down after everyone has finished.

Constitutionality:

A hard core of dedicated KBC members stayed late after the March meeting to update and modernize the club constitution.

While there were no dramatic changes proposed, several things are now different. For instance, the position of Race Team Director has been eliminated. Why? Because KBC has had no race team for many years.

Aside from that, most of the other changes were fairly minor. But don't take my word for it! Go online to KBC's website at www.angelfire.com/mi/kbc and check it out for yourself. This important document should be of interest to every club member.

Please contact KBC President **Doug Kirk** or any other member of the Executive Board (contact information is on the back page of the *PedalPress*) if you have any suggestions concerning the proposed changes to the constitution. And try to find time to attend the next KBC meeting (**April 8th, 7 PM, YMCA on Maple Street**), to vote on adopting these changes.

Borgess Run for the Health of It:

KBC's **Rob Nicey** (who is looking particularly trim and fit these days in training for an Ironman Triathlon) contacted the *PedalPress* requesting volunteers to help staff a water station in this year's Borgess Run for the Health of It. The event takes place on **Saturday, April 26th**. KBC supplied several volunteers last year, and we all had a good time handing out water and sports drinks to suffering runners in the Half Marathon. Haven't these people ever heard of bicycles? You just feel sorry for them...

If you're interested in lending a hand for a couple of hours during this fun event, contact Rob at 668-4834 or rnicey@mercbank.com. The water station will again be located in Mayor's Riverfront Park. Ride your bike down, hand out water, and ride back home again. Not a bad way to spend a Saturday morning.

I think that's about it for this month. Whew! The season is upon us, and activity increases dramatically in KBC. If you have any suggestions as to how we can make the club (and in particular this newsletter) better, please contact me at zcohen@ameritech.net. And don't forget that if you have something you'd like to have included in the *PedalPress*, the deadline is the 15th of each month. Zolton Cohen, *PedalPress* editor

The Real Thing

By Axel Kleat

Rode around the top of Lake Superior a long time ago. I recall great scenery and long, steady climbs for three hundred miles north from the Soo, and an incredible number of semis scaring the bejesus out of me as they roared past on the skinny two-laner. There aren't a lot of roads up there in the north woods, and no four-laners at all, so everyone—including all the loggers—has to share. On the whole, multiple near-death experiences out-weighed the natural beauty, and I haven't been in a hurry to get back to Canada. Until now.

Now I'm geeked. This year's World Road Cycling Championships are in Hamilton, Ontario the first full week in October. Hamilton's an hour west of Toronto, about 6 or seven hours east of here by car. The World Road Championships haven't been held in North America since 1984, and then it was in Colorado—at least four times as far away.

This, my friends, is the real Magilla. You've seen people like Lance, Mario, and Lemond with those rainbow-striped jerseys? This race is where they won 'em. This is the real pro peloton—men and women—giving it all they've got for maybe the most prestigious one-day race in the world.

The world's finest bicyclists will be congregating six hours from right here for road races and time trials. Men, Women, Juniors; the whole shebang. They'll be staying in hotels and eating in restaurants, just like regular folks. They'll be riding their bikes on back roads to stay loose. Before long, word's likely to leak out which teams are staying where—shaking hands with and begging autographs from and maybe, just maybe, riding a few miles with the best in the world is not entirely out of the question.

The main course is a 12-mile loop with a couple of climbs 'way bigger than anything around here, over a geologic formation called the Niagara Escarpment. The races will go around and around, the senior men circling about 15 times. So, unlike most stages races where the racers go by once and they're gone, you can sit in one spot all day, and they'll come by every half-hour or so.

Just imagine the scene—picnicking on a hillside near the top of the main climb with a few dozen other banzai bicycling fans who've found the same spot. We spot the humungous group 'way down the climb on oh, their tenth lap, maybe with ten of fifteen guys applying plenty of hurt as they build a gap off the front. We cheer like Banshees as they zoom past at a maybe twice the speed we rode the same climb just one time the day before, we stare wide-eyed as the stragglers pant past, still at unbelievable speed, then sit down in a state of total amazement to tell stories and eat and drink some more till they come around again. Cool!

I've done a little checking. I'm told up to 200,000 people will attend, and a goodly percentage of them will bring their bikes. And unlike the wilds north of Lake Superior, there are lots of good country roads in the area. I am told the biking over there is just great and there will be all sorts of group rides and tours going on daily along with maps of good biking routes. What's more, American dollars go lots further in Canada. It all sounds like bicycling Utopia to me. I figure I'd have to be crazy not to have a look-see, just as up close and personal as I can get.

The World Road Cycling Championships run all week, October 6th through the 12th, but the biggest races are the last four days, and the women's and men's pro road races are Saturday and Sunday, respectively. Feed any web search engine "Hamilton cycling world championships" and you'll soon be getting all the details; schedule of events, maps, and everything. Then start marking off days on the calendar. Folks, this is something you do NOT want to miss.

Think of it this way—come next winter you can look at your autographed pictures, remember seeing all the dozens of pros who until then only existed on Outdoor Life Network, think back to the crucial moments of the races as well as your own rides with people you met from all over the world. Or you can open your newsletter and read whatever drivel I come up with about it, trying to express the energy and vitality of the whole thing.

Take my advice and tell the boss first thing tomorrow you'll be taking some time off in October.

KBC Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

P.O. Box 50527
Kalamazoo, MI 49005

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #36
KALAMAZOO, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*****3-DIGIT 490
2005/02
PHIL CARUSO
313 HORSESHOE CT
PLAINWELL, MI 49080-9111

2003 KBC Officers

President: Doug Kirk-----388-5045
e-mail: kirkdoug@aol.com
Vice President: Jeff Newman-----488-2516
e-mail: jeff@newmanit.com
Secretary: Brad Fry-----383-8047
e-mail: bafry@netonecom.net
Treasurer: Terry O'Connor-----342-4608
e-mail: Terry.OConnor@Davenport.edu

Other Important KBC Folks

Database Manager: Kathy Kirk-----388-5045
e-mail: kkkirk@ameritech.net
Newsletter Editor: Zolton Cohen-----344-0200
e-mail: zcohen@ameritech.net
Ride Captain: Randy Putt-----649-1814
e-mail: SRBike@aol.com
Social Director: Emily Mattes-----388-9861
e-mail: jedi_tri_girl@hotmail.com

Kalamazoo Area Bike Shops

- Alfred E. Bike-----349-9423
- Billy's Bike Shop-----665-5202
- Breakaway Bicycles-----324-5555
- Freedom Recreation-----381-7233
- Instant Replay Sports-----345-9040
- Milwood Schwinn-----349-6384
- Parchment Bicycle-----343-8118
- Portage Schwinn-----327-3393
- Team Active-----962-7688
- Village Cyclery-----679-4242

Kalamazoo Bicycle Club Membership Application

- Yearly Adult Membership-----\$15.00
 3 Year Adult Membership-----\$40.00
 Yearly Family Membership-----\$17.00
 3 Year Family Membership-----\$45.00
 Yearly Senior (60+) Membership-----\$13.00
 3 Year Senior (60+) Membership-----\$35.00

Renewal? Yes No

Please Print:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Birthdate _____
 E-Mail _____

Permission to register your name with the KBC
 groupserve list and receive all the group's email messages?
 Yes No

Family Member Names

Birthdates

Signature _____

Parent's Signature (If under 18) _____

Interested in working on KBC Events? Yes No

Ride Category: Fitness Casual Competitive

Send to: Kalamazoo Bicycle Club P.O.

50527, Kalamazoo MI 49005