

# DERAILLEUR MAILLEUR

December 2008

## A Summer Midnight Ride

By Anne Alt

With winter coming on, memories of summer bike rides help to relieve the gray days. One of my favorite summer bike memories is the Alternative Late Ride in August.

I arrived at Buckingham Fountain a while before midnight, nervous about the possibility of rain on my first attempt at reviving Rob Sindelar's excellent ride idea. A few riders were already waiting by the darkened fountain. Tom Grose was the most visible, his bike festooned with old-style Christmas lights. We talked and watched the moon glide in and out of the clouds as more riders arrived. I turned on my LED Christmas lights, and we rolled onto Columbus 18 riders ready for fun.

Seeing the late night version of familiar landmarks without the distraction of traffic was a treat. The Museum of Contemporary Art was mostly dark. A warm breeze stirred leaves on the trees as we rode by the Chicago History Museum and through the underpass below North Ave. in Lincoln Park. We loved Stockton Dr. without the usual buses and parallel parkers.

Side streets in Old Town, Bucktown, Wicker Park and Ukrainian Village were quiet, except for the occasional party, where they cheered us on. We improvised a slight detour where police closed a street in the West Loop after an apparent fight in a nightclub, then rolled past Blommer Chocolate, a favorite landmark.



Hannah Bass performing a bike salute during a rest stop on Midnite Ride

We stopped on the Kinzie St. bridge to check out the stunning view and take a few pictures. It was a treat to cruise the Loop with so little traffic and actually enjoy the scenery.

We had a snack and rest stop at the South Loop Jewel, where Dubi Kaufmann broke out his camera for some bike salutes. We headed east on Roosevelt then through the museum campus to spectacular skyline views near the Adler Planetarium. A motorcycle group nearby had the same idea. Our next stop was Prairie Avenue. Glessner House and Café Society marked our route west on 18th St. We passed under the Orange line as we turned south onto State St. Archer was much quieter than normal through Chinatown, its bike lanes free of four buses.

Many riders had never seen Bridgeport, much less at 4 a.m. East Pilsen awaited us next, the old church spire on 19th St. offering a beacon. South Water Market's new posh style was a surprise to most in the group. A few riders welcomed an impromptu shower from a malfunctioning sprinkler. Some recognized an old landmark on Maxwell St., familiar from TV.

The doors at Manny's Deli opened at 5 a.m. as we arrived for our post-ride feast. We relaxed and ate ridiculous amounts of Jewish comfort food. Afterwards, we went our separate ways and agreed to do it again next year.



## Chicagoland Bicycle Federation is now the Active Transportation Alliance

CBF has expanded its mission to include pedestrian and transit advocacy. To reflect this change, the organization is now the Active Transportation Alliance.

This expanded mission will allow the organization to strengthen its bicycling work and grow to create a comprehensive, safe and sustainable transportation culture. CBF membership continues to support this work to make bicycling, walking and transit easy and fun for everyone in the region. The Active Transportation Alliance picks up where the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation left off. It continues to strive to reach its two primary goals seeing a region with 50 percent fewer crashes and where 50 percent of all trips are made by bike, foot or transit. Its new logo is shaped like a bicycle frame head badge, and its three elements represent community, pathways and green space.

Find out more about this exciting change at [www.activetrans.org](http://www.activetrans.org). If you have comments or questions, please send them to [new@activetrans.org](mailto:new@activetrans.org). Thank you for your support!





Ron Eash prepares for flat repair at Grinder House Museum



Grinder House plaque at the Lewis Monument

## Touring Natchez Trace Parkway Pt. 2

By Tom Grose

We managed to dry our duds the first night hoping day 2 would be a dry one. We headed out of Hohenwald, TN on Rt. 20, as Ron navigated a shorter path back to the Trace. This way we would have a chance to visit Meriwether Lewis National Monument. Rt. 20 took us on a flat 7 mile scoot to the Lewis Monument, which is on the Trace. The Monument commemorates the great explorer Meriwether Lewis' grave and the Grinder House, where he was killed or ended his life. The cause of his death is still a mystery. All that is left of the house is foundation rubble and a marker plaque. I conjured up a nasty, quick knife fight at the Grinder House that ended Lewis's life one night as I looked at the plaque.

As we approached the Grinder House Museum, Ron noticed his rear tire was going flat. We dispatched the flat quickly and pushed on Southward along the Trace. We were headed for Waynesboro, TN about 30 miles. About 8 miles South our hopes of a dry ride disappeared as a light rain began. Ron's 2nd flat of the day arrived about then so we pulled into a side road off the Trace. As we had not located the cause of the first flat I wasn't surprised to see flat 2. Ron had a spare tube left so he replaced the old tube. He used my full size frame pump to inflate his new setup because it was quicker.


When he tried to pop my pump off the Schrader stem I noticed my pump no longer had a pump head. It cracked right off the pump. I told Ron, "If we have another flat today my thumb was going to hitch us up with a truck ride to Waynesboro".

We pushed on to Waynesboro without much more than a serious soaking. Ron & I lunched at a little country store on Rt. 64 just off the Trace. The owner made us some great handmade hamburgers which filled the bill. We pedaled another 10 miles to our motel stopping by a hardware store to grab some spare tubes and a mini pump to replace my dead soldier. Day 2 ended with a trip to Bradley's Restaurant in the Waynesboro Square for dinner. All I can say is the food wasn't worth the 45 minute wait. We looked forward to better meals and adventures on the Trace.

To be continued



## CCC January Meeting

The Chicago Cycling Club will hold its annual brainstorming meeting Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at REI Chicago, 1466 North Halsted Street, Chicago. Bring your ideas for how to improve the club in 2009 and we'll talk them over. Also, Rob Sadowsky will discuss and answer your questions about Active Transportation Alliance. REI is 1 block south of the North/Clybourn red line el stop. Ample bike parking and limited curbside car parking is available. 

## CCC Holiday Party

The Cycling Club's 2008 holiday party is Sunday, December 7, 4-7 p.m., at the Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 North Lincoln Avenue, Chicago. Join old friends and new for this potluck celebration. This year, all ride leaders will be entered in a raffle, prizes include gift certificates to Johnny Sprockets and Kozy's bike shops. RSVP to Kathy at kangarookathy@yahoo.com and let her know what dish you're planning to bring.



## Holiday Oatmeal Cookies

- 2/3 cup canola oil
- 1 tbsp water
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cup old fashion oats
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp corn syrup
- 1 1/2 cup flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp orange zest
- 4 oz. dried cranberries
- 2 oz. green candied cherries
- 2/3 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 375°. Beat together oil, water, sugar. Add eggs & c.syrup, beat until blended. Combine flour, oats, b.soda, salt, spices & zest in separate bowl. Add flour mixture to egg mix just enough to moisten. Stir in dried fruit & nuts. Drop by teasponfuls on cookie sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake 10-12 minutes until brown. Cool on wire rack. Enjoy, makes about 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

**About the Club**

**Mission**

To facilitate recreational bicycling in a non-competitive environment in and around the Chicago area; to promote safe bicycling habits and proper bicycling etiquette; to provide bicyclists an opportunity to network with other bicyclists; to encourage bicycling as a safe and viable alternative to other modes of transportation.

**Contact**

Snailmail: P O Box 1178, Chicago, IL 60690-1178

Website:

www.chicagocyclingclub.org

General:

info@chicagocyclingclub.org

Newsletter:

editor@chicagocyclingclub.org

Rides:

rides@chicagocyclingclub.org

Telephone: 773.509.8093

**Officers**

President: Michael Wasserman

Vice President: James Adgate

Treasurer: Alice Kroman

Secretary: Jennifer Richards

Member at Large: Frances Austin,  
Steve Grossman

Education: Kathy Schubert

Newsletter: Justin Sondak,

Tom Grose

# STYLE YOUR RIDE

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**JERSEYS**

Sleeveless .....\$50  
(Men: S - XL)(Women: S - 2X)

Shortsleeves .....\$55  
(Men: S - 3X)(Women: S - 2X)

Longsleeves ..... \$60  
(Men: M - 3X)(Women: M - XL)

WINDBREAKER - \$60  
(Men: M - 3X)(Women: S - 2X)

GLOVES - \$10  
(XS-2X)

SOCKS - \$6  
(S-XL)

BOTTLE - \$3

**CLUB MEMBERS ONLY**  
may purchase these items by contacting Duane O'Laughlin  
merchandise@chicagocyclingclub.org  
773-612-8157

May not be shipped  
We will meet you at a club event or ride or you may pick up items by making arrangements to do so in advance.

**BECOME A MEMBER FILL OUT THE FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR CHECK TO CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB**

I, for myself and for any other minor on whose behalf I sign this membership application, agree that 1) bicycling is a potentially hazardous activity and that accidents can occur from negligence or carelessness; 2) ride leaders' maps and/or written directions are provided for my convenience only and not to guarantee a safe route or trip; and 3) I voluntarily participate in club events and assume all risks associated with participation therein, including but not limited to injury, falls, contact with other participants, weather, traffic, and road conditions, all such risks being known and appreciated by me.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Primary

phone \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact/phone \_\_\_\_\_

I obtained this membership application from \_\_\_\_\_

I want to receive a paper copy of the members' directory  Yes  No the club newsletter  Yes  No

I would like to help with the following:  ride planning  newsletter  publicity  meetings  social events

Annual dues:  Individual (\$20)  Family (multiple individuals at one address \$25)

Do not share my contact information:  within the Chicago Cycling Club  with other bike-related organizations

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Chicago Cycling Club Newsletter December 2008



Riders on the Weather Be Damned Ride New Year's Day

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB  
**DERAILLEUR**  
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P. O. Box 1178  
Chicago, IL 60690 - 1178

