

DERAILLEUR MAILLEUR

August 2010



Trip to Canada

By Joe Dickstein

What do you do when one of your good cycling buddies decides to go on a two week camping/biking vacation in Quebec? Go there yourself to sample the cycling opportunities offered by our neighbors to the north. So this June, Dave Skogley, Rebecca Tung, Tom Grose, my wife Phyllis and I left for Canada. Due to conflicting schedules, the five of us drove in three separate vehicles. (How's that for being environmental?) Phyllis and I left on a Saturday and drove to Toronto. Situated on Lake Ontario, that fair city has a remarkable similarity to Chicago and indeed, our hotel was right across the street from their lakefront bike path. We took a short ride that evening as far as the downtown area where the path ends.

The next day we met up with a local bike club who had at least three rides leaving from a North Toronto neighborhood. We chose to go on a 40 kilometer (24 mile) dim sum ride. Amazingly there were only about 15 turns on the entire ride. (Where are you when we need you Art?) After the ride we drove on to Montreal where we spent the rest of the trip. We were able to meet up with Dave just east of Toronto and Rebecca and Tom in Cornwall, Ontario so we were able to all arrive together.

The latter is right on the border with New York state and within reach of an US cell tower, saving us roaming charges.

In Montreal, we stayed at a McGill University college dormitory. While reasonable and close to the center of everything, the amenities were basic and reminded me why I was glad to graduate college. After our breakfast we all mounted our steel/aluminum steeds and went on the first of several rides around Montreal. We went first to the old port area and then followed a bike along the Lachine Canal to the Atwater Market where after a late morning snack we returned to the central city and toured the Old Montreal area. We were told by more than one source that a Montreal must is a smoked meat (similar to corned beef) sandwich at Schwartz's Deli: renamed Chacuterie Hebarique by the Quebec language police. Sadly these were not nearly as good as our own Manny's. Our final destination was the top of Mount Royal. Now a public park, this triple peak which gives the city its name is about 700 feet above sea level and offers spectacular views of the entire area. The distance to the summit actually ridden by each of us as opposed to walked will remain a secret.

On our second day we headed east to the Botanic Garden/Olympic Park. We spent several hours visiting the gardens which are huge. Just to the south is the Olympic Stadium built for the 1976 Olympics and for many years the home of the Montreal Expos but now primarily a spectacular white elephant. After a late lunch at an local pizzeria in the Italian section we visited Marche Jean-Talon, another large public market in the north end of town specializing in fresh produce with a great gelato stand.



On Wednesday we said goodbye to Dave, who left on his camping trip, and the four of us visited the sites of the Bell Centre, where the Canadiens now play, and the Forum, where they formerly were located. The latter has been rehabbed as a shopping mall but has multiple reminders inside of their former occupants. We returned to the Atwater Market and loaded up on supplies for lunch, returned to the Lachine Canal trail and picnicked at the end of the trail. We then followed another bike path along the main channel of the St. Lawrence River eventually returning to the market for our gelato reward.

Thursday, our final full day in Montreal, we rode out to the Islands that were the site of the 1967 World's Fair. Now mostly public park, we visited the Biosphere, a huge Buckminster Fuller geodesic dome which contains an environmental museum but which housed the US Pavilion during Expo 67. On another part of the Islands now officially called Parc Jean Drapeau after the former Montreal mayor who was instrumental in obtaining both the world's fair and the Olympics for his city, the course for the upcoming Montreal Grand Prix auto race was being set up and was available for cycling. A quick trip to the market for more supplies and we were ready for another picnic this time in the courtyard of our dorm.

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PREZ SEZ

By Anne Alt



Volunteers are critically important to everything Chicago Cycling Club does from leading rides to editing the newsletter, from hosting mailing parties to balancing the books. To everyone who volunteers, I offer a big THANK YOU! CCC would not be what it is without you. This is equally true of larger events in which we participate.

CCC will be partnering again with the Active Transportation Alliance to present the Boulevard Lakefront Tour (BLT) on August 29. This is a year of big changes for the event, with a new start/finish location and all new routes (15, 35 and 62 miles). The informative ride guide includes details about neighborhoods, Chicago history and sites along each route. If you're new to Chicago or haven't done this ride in a while, you'll see a wide variety of neighborhoods, beautiful parks, and grand homes on a fully supported ride with a post-ride festival.

If you put in enough volunteer hours before the ride, you can earn a free registration. Contact Margaret at 312-427-3325 x297 to volunteer and tell her you're with CCC. Whether you want to sign up to ride or volunteer, we encourage you to check it out at www.boulevardtour.org Use discount code CCC5 for \$5 off when you register online.

Active Trans' new Crash Support Hotline is an example of the programs supported by this fundraising event. If you've had a bike crash and have questions, you can call 312-869-4357 anytime. You'll get a call back within 24 hours to find out your rights, how to get a police report, how to find an attorney who handles bike cases if you need one, etc. They also have a monthly Crash Support Group meeting free, confidential, and facilitated by a trained professional. You can find info on these programs and others at www.activetrans.org.

I hope to see lots of you out at the BLT the best place to be on 8/29. See you on the road!



Trip to Canada

(continued from page 1)

That afternoon we made another trip to the observation area of Mount Royal Park, this time by foot, and had our final picnic. Included in this repast were Montreal bagels, a unique variation cooked in Montreal in wood burning ovens.

Overall we found Montreal a very bike friendly city. In addition to the dedicated bike paths both in the city and rural areas we found many miles of bike lanes on city streets. For the most part these lanes are two ways on one side of the street with a physical separation from the bike lanes. Parking, if allowed, is outside of the bike lanes. I look forward to returning to ride in this area.



THE BOULEVARD LAKEFRONT TOUR RETURNS AGAIN THIS YEAR WITH A COUPLE TWISTS.

The **Active Transportation Alliance** proudly announces the **2010 Boulevard Lakefront Tour** will start and finish on the beautiful grounds of the University of Illinois-Chicago campus at Morgan and Taylor streets on Sunday August 29, 2010. The new location is centrally located and very convenient to CTA trains and expressways. Active Trans will again provide three enchanting routes for all types of cyclists: a 15-mile family-friendly route, the famous 35-mile Boulevard Tour and the Chicago Cycling Club-designed 62-mile route.

The new start/finish location means more neighborhoods, more parks and more of Chicago and the suburbs to take in, truly the ultimate neighborhood ride. This year's **15-mile family-friendly route** will feature Downtown Chicago, South Loop, West Loop, Fulton Market and Ukrainian Village. The famous **35-mile Boulevard Tour** will treat you to the impressive mansions of Drexel Boulevard, the unique Chicago flavor of Bridgeport and Pilsen, as well as the lakefront. The **Chicago Cycling Club-designed 62-mile route** will treat you to almost all of the 35 mile tour plus the sights and sounds of Little Village, the landmarked community of Riverside, the magnificent homes of Oak Park and River Forest and four additional suburbs.

Your registration fee includes:

- * Event T-shirt
- * Volunteer support and rest/water stops along the routes
- * A wonderfully informative ride guide with information about the many points of interest on our new routes.
- * Post-ride festival with live entertainment

Rest and water stops will be evenly placed along the route to keep you going strong; they'll include washroom facilities, water, snacks (at rest stops only) and a good cup of joe available along the family route. Volunteer course marshals and ride marshals will be available to guide you and help out if you get a flat or need a quick bike adjustment.

To sign up and get all the ride details, please visit www.boulevardtour.org or call the Active Trans at 312-427-3325. Please use the Chicago Cycling Club's discount code of **CCC5** to save \$5 with online registration.

The Boulevard Lakefront Tour is a fundraiser for Active Transportation Alliance, Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking and transit.



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

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Officers

President: Anne Alt
 Vice President: Julie Sherman
 Treasurer: Brian Bird
 Secretary: Jim Adgate
 Member at Large: Justin Sondak,
 Julie Hochstadter
 Education: TBD
 Newsletter: Justin Sondak,
 Tom Grose
 Rides: Jim Adgate

August Club Meeting

The Chicago Cycling Club's next meeting rides into the Danger Zone. Our traditional August movie night moves to the Chicago History Museum grounds, Clark and North Avenues, for a screening of "Top Gun." Meet up at the Clark Street museum entrance Tuesday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m. Bring something to sit on and insect repellent. If you're arriving later, walk to the east side of the grounds and look for the cyclists in club jerseys. You can also contact Anne Alt at (312) 520-1641. Screening begins at dusk.



CCC Financials for period of 06/16/2010 through 07/15/2010

Balance as of 06/16/2010:
\$10,835.85

Total Income: \$551.00
 Total Expenses: \$192.48

Balance as of 07/15/2010:
\$11,194.37

STYLE YOUR RIDE



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)

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 August 2010



Riders on the 2009 Boulevard Lakefront Tour
Photo by Bob Kessler

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB
DERAILLEUR
MAILLEUR August 2010

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