



May 2009

NEWSLETTER

If You Build It

The movie *Field of Dreams* came out in 1989. An American fantasy film, it starred Kevin Costner as Ray Kinsella, an Iowa farmer who plows under his cornfields to build a baseball park for the long gone 1919 Black Sox team. After waiting for a year, Ray finally encounters Shoeless Joe Jackson in the field, and eventually the rest of players banned in the 1919 Black Sox scandal. Stretching belief to its maximum, the remote baseball field becomes home to baseball teams of long ago, with headlights stretching off into the Iowa horizon. With Earl Ray Jones as Terrence Mann, and Burt Lancaster as Archibald Moonlight Graham, it is a timeless movie nominated for many awards. It is also a story about believing in what might be, making a change, and staying the course.

In February we had our Siskiyou Velo meeting at the Harley Davidson shop in Phoenix. Shoeless Joe was not present, but we did attract 40 some members to the meeting, many of whom would not ordinarily attend. We asked those present what they would like to see the club become, and received a number of good requests. We have been working on the most prominent of these: more rides, greater variety of rides, trainings, more fun at meetings, and other things. We had a first training of the year on April 18th. Dan Wooton and Bob Korfhage did a presentation for new ride leaders, with a social ride to Jacksonville for practice. It was informative, fun and well attended.

On Wednesday, May 13th we'll have another training at our club meeting. We plan on teaching those interested how to do minor maintenance on a bicycle, and strategies for being a better, safer bicycle rider. Dan and Bob will give a short presentation on smart, legal bike riding; after the presentation they will be available for questions. Following that, we'll have a number of tables set up where you can learn how to fix flats, change and inflate tires, clean and lubricate your chain, make minor adjustments to your shifters, and clean your bicycle of road film. Our plan is to have more experienced cyclists available to answer questions regarding bicycle maintenance as done at home. These skills are important in being self-reliant while riding, and will allow you to keep your bike in tip-top condition. This does not preclude periodic visits to the bike shop, but can save time and inconvenience between visits. This meeting will be held at the D&S Harley Davidson in Phoenix, 3846 S Pacific Hwy, at 7:00 PM. For more information, call Mike Smith at 855-1531.

On Saturday, May 9th you are invited to the Cinco de Mayo ride; an annual club ride put on by our very own Dan and Leslie Wooton. This is actually two rides. The first is a hilly fifty mile tour of the area around Wagner Creek Road, and includes five major creek climbs, totaling five thousand feet in elevation. The second ride is a flat fifty miles, moderately paced, out to Gold Hill, Sam Valley and back. Following the rides is a potluck party at the Wooton house. Please bring food or drink to share and a five dollar donation to help with expenses. The rides will begin at 9:00 AM, at Medford (also the site of the party following). This is a great good time; experienced or not, please plan on coming. For more information, contact Dan Wooton at 779-9248.

We're doing what we can to make this an rewarding club for all members. I hope to see you at our events.

Best regards,

Mike Smith, President, Siskiyou Velo Bicycle Club

NEW MEMBERS

Harry Fuhrman
Karl Schneck
Charles Carlson

RENEWING MEMBERS

Alfred Harrison
Marcia North & John Hoffstaed
Holly Johnson
John & Bonny Fertig
Bill Raupp
Chuck Thomas
Russ & Renee Rickert
Paul & Linda Lieberman
Charles & Cheryl French
Susan Dallas
Kent Clinkinbeard
Dan Bittick
Sue Hutchison
Jeremy Eisen
Gary Harden
Tom Sheets

TIME TO RENEW

Richard Fulton
Brent Smith
Jerry Rhoads
Paul Halleck
Marsha Fickert & Julie Knorr
Terrance Hawley
Azelle Coviare
Stuart Anderson
Phil & Ann Dollison
Wayne & Kay Breithaupt
Leslie Bullock
Hobart & David Marliave
Brad Dorken
Karen Basin & Wendyn Price

Why Do I Ride?

"Fills time between work."

Rick Berlet

Support Our Member Shops

The bike shops with ads in the newsletter are business members of the Siskiyou Velo. Show them your membership card and receive a 10% discount on parts and accessories.

Siskiyou Velo Club Officers 2009

P. O. Box 974 Ashland, OR 97520

Officers

President:	Mike Smith 855-1531	michaelmail@earthlink.net
Advocacy:	Edgar Hee 734-4872	ejhee@juno.com
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Touring/Rides:	Dan Wooton 779-9248	touring@siskiyouvelo.org
Racing:	Glen Gann 779-6986	ggann9@charter.net
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Secretary:	James Williams 857-9037	jbsequoia27@msn.com
Treasurer:	Dave Oliver	treasurer@siskiyouvelo.org
Newsletter:	Jodi Weber 897-0243	newsletter@siskiyouvelo.org

Webmaster Spencer Gray 621-3743 webmaster@siskiyouvelo.org

Visit us on the Internet: <http://www.siskiyouvelo.org>

Newsletter contributions accepted until the 15th of the month. Contact the editor for further information. **Members are welcome submit letters, stories, opinions, cartoons, recipes, tips or other notices of interest to the club.**

Next Club Meeting

Join us at 7:00 May 13
at D&S Motorcycles in Phoenix

Siskiyou Velo club meetings are open to all members. Meetings are held each month at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.



Quote of the Month

"At that age, it's one of the worst things in the world to wake up and not see your bike where you left it."

- Hip-hop star 50 Cent, real name Curtis Jackson, on the theft of his childhood bike

Members' Ads

FOR SALE: Cannondale RT2000 Tandem 23 x21 inches \$300; Call Matt 897-0243

FOR SALE: Specialized Langster fixie 56cm \$300; Call Matt 897-0243



Phil Gagnon's ride to the Chinese Mine near Applegate Dam in early April; photo by Jack Buster

Cinco de Mayo Ride
Your choice of flat or hilly
Saturday, May 9 at 9:00
With a great meal afterwards!

Letter to the Editor: Do bike riders cheat?

This question was posed in a letter to the editor, Medford Tribune, April 19.

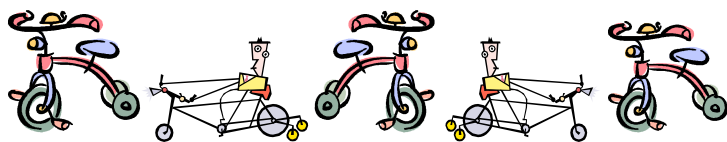
The article spoke of how bike riders on Talent Avenue rarely stop for the stop signs. Yet, it goes on to say, bicyclists are the ones who whine about having the same road rights as a car.

The article concludes by asking, "Does someone have to run over one of these people before something is done?" Does the complaint have merit? From my standpoint as a member of this club, I say it certainly does. Haven't I, myself, blown through stop signs on Talent Avenue? Yup! Am I still doing it? Nope.

Why the change? A few weeks ago, Tom Cushman, one of our members, expressed his view on this matter by saying that if we want respect from car drivers; we've got to earn it. One way to do that is by obeying the law. Further, he imagined a youngster watching us with admiration only to see us blast past stop signs. What do you think he's going to do when he gets on his bike? Tom asked.

I now do an arresting stop at stop signs. I unclip and touch pavement before going forward. If all club members did that, we would likely earn credibility with motorists. Yes we would.

By Phil Gagnon



Why Do I Ride?

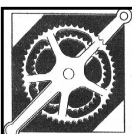
"I ride because of the wonderful friends I meet
who encourage me to get out on my bicycle and
share exercise, coffee and bonding."

Dave Oliver

Recumbents and Trikes

Let's have an occasional get-together for a ride, tagged with lunch somewhere. To begin, let's average our pace at 12 mph--except on downgrades—for 20 miles +/- . Let's see how that works out. If you're interested, please contact Phil Gagnon. star@mind.net.

A ride date will be set. We can give it a zing and see how this idea works.



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Cycle Sport, Inc.**

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Bicycle Street Smarts

By Nancy Keeley

I've been biking since childhood, but last Spring I brought my riding to a new level when I became a bike commuter. I have logged hundred of hours on my commute from Ashland to Medford, most of them completely enjoyable and mellow. Every once in a while however, there have been those "close calls": near dodges of debris on the path, cars where I didn't expect them, people moving randomly, an amazing variety of pets. I'm an experienced rider but I still the need to learn more about how to ride really well. So, when I saw in the Ashland Parks and Recreation class bulletin the "Bicycle Street Smarts" class I signed up right away. I figured I might get some tips that would help me to be a safer and more savvy rider.

One mid April Saturday I spent the day with instructor, Kat Smith and four other cyclist-students. What a diverse group we were! There was one other woman, about my age (*ahem*, mature), new to cycling after a lapse since childhood. The other three, all men and all younger (I'll call them "the kids") were in class for "diversion". Yes, you can get a very expensive ticket for a bicycle infraction and the judge was allowing attendance at class as an option to redeem the fine-a good idea, in my opinion.

The class started with several hours of classroom instruction, reviewing basic bike handling, rules of the road and safety tips. Kat did a great job of engaging the students and the discussion was lively, open and heartwarming. As we heard each other's stories we developed a friendship based on our common bond. Age melted away as we admired the struggles of our fellow students.

After the classroom portion we went to the parking lot to practice bicycle skills: the rock dodge, quick turn and quick stop. I'm lousy at all three. The "kids" were great at those skills.

Then we headed out to the road for a short tour to practice what we'd learned: merging in traffic, changing lanes, claiming your lane, being visible and following the rules of the road. We really turned heads as the six of us cruised through town. I can only describe us as a "motley crew". Definitely diverse: age, bicycle style, riding skills. I'm sure people were wondering what the heck kind of parade we were. This was my favorite part of the class.

So, was it helpful to take the class? For me, yes. Will I ride differently? Yes. I have a better sense of where to be on the road in order to be visible, if nothing else. I still can't turn very quickly but at least I have the concept to work on. I believe that even with things that we do well and do a lot there are always "blanks" to fill in and there's always something new to learn.

Now if I could just use my certificate as a "get out jail free" card in case I ever get a ticket.....

ASHLAND BIKE POLO


Who: Rogue Valleys Cycling Community
What: Polo On Bicycle
When: Every Sunday At 12PM Rain Or Shine
Where: Briscoe Elementary School Basketball Courts 265 N. Main St. In Ashland (Across from The Minute Market)
Why: Because Its The Most Fun Youll Have On A Bike

All bike types and skill levels encouraged
Mallets provided
Contact ashlandbikepolo@gmail.com with questions or concerns

Sites to visit:
www.myspace.com/ashlandbikepoloner
www.bikepolo.ca
www.hardcourtbikepolo.com

Attorney: Carlyle F. Stout III	Secretary: Remedy Hovermale
LAW OFFICES OF CARLYLE F. STOUT III	
Real Estate Law Business Law	
Contracts of Sale	Corporations
Foreclosures	Limited Liability
Earnest Money Agreements	Companies (LLC)
Trust Deeds	Partnerships
Promissory Notes	Sales & Purchases
Boundary Disputes	Contracts
Easements	
Landlord/Tenant Law	
Residential Rental Contracts & Leases	
Commercial Rental Contracts & Leases	
Mobile Home Park Contracts & Leases	
HUD/Subsidized Housing Contracts & Leases	
Eviction Notices	
Evictions/FEDs	
Landlord/Tenant Disputes	
	
541-776-2020 .	
E-mail: carlyle.stout@gmail.com	
215 Laurel Street, Medford FAX: 541-776-9841	

YEARS IN THE TALKING, MONTHS IN PLANNING

Elizabeth and Ron Zell met on Match.com because of a mutual interest in bike touring. The initial chatter about cross-country trips and the like led to face to face conversations that always seemed to revolve around the bike. So, it was not surprising that early in the relationship, talk about going across the country together became a plan. Both had done transcontinental crossings, but they had never done one together. That became a goal. Years passed, retirements happened, home towns changed and a year ago, the plan took on a date, and the detailed planning started. On May 11, Ron and Elizabeth will take the first pedal stroke of a journey that will take them across the USA.

Starting from Fairfax, CA, they will be following the Western Express Route (San Francisco, through Nevada, Utah and Colorado) designed and vetted by the Adventure Cycling Association. In Pueblo, CO, that route joins the TransAm (also an Adventure Cycling route) route to Yorktown, VA via Kansas, Missouri, Southern Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia – about 3500 miles and over 100,000 feet of elevation gain. The route is pretty much a straight line, west to east, across the heartland of the country.

The plan is to arrive on the East Coast around mid-July, and return home by mid-August. The return trip will be less labor intensive, and the travel will be a lot faster. Airplanes are like that. There will be a drive from Virginia to New Hampshire to visit Ron's son, a trip to NYC to visit Elizabeth's daughter and a stop in Chicago to visit Ron's daughter. There will be a lot of stories to tell the family.

If you would like to follow a couple of vintage cyclists out to have the time of their lives, Ron will be Tweeting on Twitter.com most days, and will do e-mails when there is convenient access to a computer. That will likely be on rest days, as those will be spent in motels rather than camping – the default choice for lodging. If you would like to receive an e-mail, contact Ron and Elizabeth at ronaldzell@yahoo.com by May 6.



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Need variety in your life? Try one of the mountain bike rides on the schedule this month!

Trivia of the Month

Bike messengers or couriers are not a recent fad. Early history of the bicycle contains several references to bicycle messengers working during the late 19th century, including a description of couriers employed by the Paris stock exchange in the 1870s. During the bicycle boom of the 1890s in the United States, Western Union employed a number of bicycle messengers in New York City and other large population centers.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bicycle_messenger

Mountain Bike Ride to the Historic Chinese Railroad Tunnels

If you're interested in exploring some Southern Oregon history, you need to do the proposed ride on May 23 to the Buck Rock Tunnels. Years before the existing Tunnel 13 was built, the ONC Railroad was owned by a different company and they decided to build a tunnel through Buck Rock. During the 1880's, Chinese laborers were brought in to dig the tunnel from opposite sides and they worked for about 6 months until the railroad changed hands. The site was abandoned, lost and forgotten until a man and his son, after examining aerial photos, rediscovered the diggings in 1961.

While the ride is decidedly uphill to the tunnels, this will be a casual pace and many may be more comfortable walking in some parts. No worries because we'll all regroup before going into the deeper tunnel. Flashlights would be a good thing but a lantern will light up the interior of the tunnel to reveal the size, big enough for a locomotive. Pack a lunch to eat outside the tunnel and hope for good weather. Call James Williams if you need further details: 857-9037.

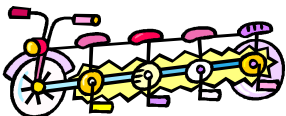


19th Annual
Ashland Community Bike Swap



Saturday, May 9
Noon-2pm
The Grove
1195 E Main St
Ashland

Buy & Sell New and Used Bicycles, Parts and Accessories
Drop off your bikes and gear to sell: Fri, May 8, 5—7pm or Sat, May 9, 7—10am
Sale open to the public noon—2pm
Admission \$1/person or \$3/family, includes one raffle ticket per person
More information call Ashland Parks & Recreation at 541-488-5340 or visit www.RVTD.org/bikeswap



Remember to Check Out the Ashland Community Bike Swap

Ashland Parks & Recreation Department and Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD) present the 19th Annual Bike Swap. If you are interested in selling your bicycle, and it is in working condition, bring it to the Grove on Friday, May 8, between 5pm and 7pm, or Saturday May 9, between 7am and 10am.

If you are interested in buying a bicycle, the swap is open to the public from noon to 2pm on Saturday, May 9. The Ashland Community Bike Swap will have hundreds of bicycles available.

Admission price is \$1 per person or \$3 per family and includes one raffle ticket per person. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Please contact the Ashland Parks and Recreation Office at 488-5340 or

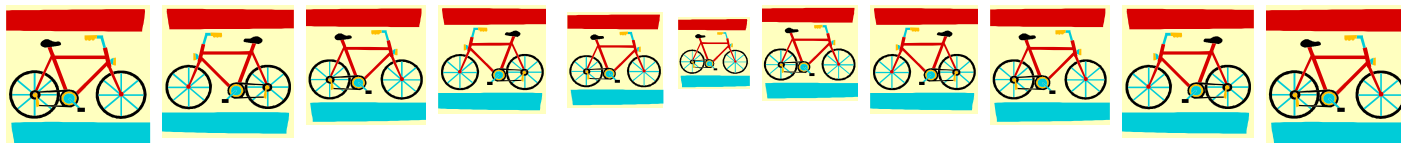
http://rvtd.org/bike_swap.php for more information

SISKIYOU VELO RIDE SCHEDULE – May 2009

🚲 **Approved helmets required on all club**

🚲 **Unless otherwise noted, rain/wet pavement cancels ride**

Date	Time	Start Location	Route	Pace	Miles	Contact
Sat. May 2	9:30AM	Colver Park in Phoenix	Meadows-Antioch Loop	Brisk	70	No Leader
Sun. May 3	10:00AM	Colver Park in Phoenix	Brownsboro Loop	Moderate	45	Jodi Weber 301-6880
Sat. May 9	9:00AM	2095 Terrel Drive	Cinco de Mayo		50	Dan Wooton 779-9248
Sat. May 23	9:30AM	Bi-Mart	Mt Bike ride to Buck Rock	Moderate		James Williams
Sat. May 30	9:00AM	Taco Bell	Lost Ck. Lake Loop [Mtn bike]	Moderate	20	Matt Varnum 897-0243
Every Sunday	9am	Bike Path behind Bad Ass Coffee	TBD	Race Pace	Varies >20	Glen Gann 779-6986
Every Monday	9:30am	Colver Park	Jacksonville coffee ride	Group B4	25	No Ride Leader
Every Monday	10am	Varies	TBD	Moderate	TBD	Fran Eastman 261-4145
Every Tuesday	10:30am	Public Library	TBD	Moderate	25	Jack Buster 664-2870
Every Tuesday	5:30pm	2200 Hull Rd	TBD	TBD	TBD	John & Tish 245-8598
Every Tuesday	6pm	Varies	TBD	Moderate	20-40	Jonathan Williams 488-0330
Every Wednesday	10am	The Roasting Company	Show N Go	Regroup C4	25-40	No Ride Leader
Every Thursday	5:30pm	2200 Hull Rd	TBD	TBD	TBD	John & Tish 245-8598
Every Thursday	10am	Varies	TBD	Moderate	TBD	Fran Eastman 261-4145
Every Saturday	10am	Cycle Sport	TBD	Race Pace	Varies >20	Alex Hayes 857-0819
Every Saturday	10am	Varies	TBD	Mellow	20+/-	Phil Gagnon 488-4289



Ride Rating:

- A- Basically flat with no steep hills.
- B- Gently rolling terrain with one or two short steep hills
- C- Moderate terrain, with rolling short, steep hills or moderate sustained climbs.
- D- Difficult terrain with longer, steeper hills.
- E- Extreme terrain with steep sustained climbs.

Ride Pace: (average range on level ground)

- 1- Slow < 10 mph
- 2-Leisurely 10—12 mph
- 3-Moderate 12- 15 mph
- 4-Brisk 15 -17 mph
- 5-Hammer 18+ MPH

Group - Riders will stay together.

Regroup - Riders will spread out and regroup along the route.

Exercise the Mind

A bicycle geek is building a set of custom wheels and he (or perhaps she) has come to choosing the nipples: six black brass nipples and four colored anodized ones cost 88 cents. But six colored anodized and four black brass cost 92 cents. How much are ten of each?

Answer? See next month.

April's Q&A — The top of the line cycling gloves were on sale. You could buy 6 pair of road gloves and 2 pair of mountain gloves for \$152, or you could buy 2 pair of road gloves and 6 pairs of mountain gloves for \$200. How much were the road and mountain gloves? *Road \$16, Mountain \$28*

Minutes Siskiyou Velo Meeting

April 8, 2009

11 members attending

The minutes were approved by vote.

Financial: David Oliver reported that \$1000 had been donated to BTA and the insurance was paid leaving us with a balance of \$7,165.00

Membership: Don Parker said there had been no complaints during the transition from paper to online newsletters. He said membership was at 294.

Advocacy: Edgar reported that, former club member Bob Budes, was interested in soliciting volunteers and money for a weed abatement program. After a discussion it was decided that an article would be placed in the newsletter. Edgar also said that Jackson County, Medford Bike Patrol, the City of Medford, Grants Pass, Ashland and other state holders met. Jenna Stanke will send a report of that meeting.

Touring: Dan Wooton discussed the April 18 New Riders Ride. He said the first half hour will be training at Hawthorne Park followed a by a ride to Jacksonville and beyond for those interested. He also said the Cinco de Mayo Ride would be held on May 9.

Racing: It was reported that Thursday night racing was being held at the raceway at 6:00 PM throughout the Spring and Summer.

Old Business: Bob Korfhage volunteered to be the Public Relations spokesperson for the Velo. There was a long discussion involving rider skills classes and whether it should be done in house or in contract with the League of American Bicyclists. Nancy Keeley, who attended one of the LAM classes, will write an article discussing her experience. There was also discussion of making club events self sustaining by charging a fee at the door for each of them. \$5.00 was suggested for the Cinco de Mayo Ride and fees for other events would be charged as well.

New Business: Mike Smith talked about the May meeting to be held at D&S Harley Davidson Building. He would like all club members to participate as greeters at the door for any new faces. The theme will be Basic Bike Maintenance and 3 bike stands will be needed for various demos held.

Mike brought up the idea of having the option to pay dues through Paypal as well as by conventional means. Don said Spencer would need permission to make this change. A motion was made and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

May 2009 Newsletter
Ashland OR 97520
P.O. Box 974
Siskiyou Velo