



Word Links

OUTSPOKEN

Newsletter of Santiam Slow Spokes, Inc. • Volume 11, Number 6 • March 2003

TransAmerica Tour

Tim Mangan

We are now organizing a TransAmerica tour from Williamsburg VA. to Florence OR. Average 65 miles per day. Tentative Departure 1st week of May 2003; return about July 1st. Support for gear transport available. Limit 8 riders. If interested contact Tim or Marlene Mangan. 541-258-6310 or E-Mail: tmangan@proaxis.com

Outspoken Input

For the April issue the inbox is open for you to submit information, news, articles, jokes, observations, and/or pictures to:

Sally Skaggs
1644 Cooper St.
Lebanon, OR 97355
541-258-5337
sskaggs@samhealth.com

Rain Ride

Ed Wright

On Feb 15, Marge and I put our tandem recumbent on the car and headed for Lebanon. While discussing with Bill Pintard the merits of riding in a light rain, Mary Ellen Lind and Dennis Murphy drove up ready to ride.

We made it to the high school before it really started to rain and it continued the entire trip to Brownsville. Marge discovered that even with fenders, the stoker gets a bath riding in rain. :(We had a soup lunch at the corner café and sort of drip-dried a bit.

On the way back to Lebanon we had the benefit of a light tailwind and no rain. Mary Ellen had a flat (front tire) about halfway back and Marge and I also had a flat when we got back to the Boys and Girls club, also a front tire.

We rode 36.5 miles averaging 13.5 miles per hour. Not bad for February.

Freedom

Roger Gaither

Bicycling is an expression of the freedom we have come to assume in our nation; I wonder if it will ever seem so freeing again.

Pedaling across the nation in 1991, I was amazed and comforted that virtually everyone we met looked at us with a little incredulity that changed into smiles; folks with whom we chatted approached freely with friendly and interested questions about our trek; frequently they asked if there was anything we needed.

We waved at approaching drivers from front and back; they waved back and smiled. Even on busy roads we felt secure that most drivers were looking out for us and only rarely were drivers (maybe three) openly antagonistic to our presence. Children shouted hellos from their yards and sometimes rode out to pace us through their little towns. I marveled at the spirit of freedom and open acceptance that seemed to pervade people and communities all across the nation.

I looked for that spirit when again pedaling across the nation in summer of 2001. It was still there (sort of), but the attitude seemed muted, subdued and changed somehow. Fewer people seemed to be out in their yards or on the streets. There was a noticeable increase in number of cars and the drivers seldom looked with incredulity or smiled; too quickly they seemed to grow impatient that we were slowing their commute or errand or job. We waved and smiled, but it seemed fewer bothered even to return the gestures. We did see two girls with a lemonade stand who waved and smiled as well as two barefoot boys at a country store in Kentucky who were full of questions, but kids seemed just to not be out as much.

It's difficult to pin down anything as nebulous as attitude when there are so many factors involved.

First, I was ten years older the second crossing and maybe I wasn't projecting as much friendliness. But upon reflection, I was feeling good and having a fine time; so my attitude seems a neutral factor. Second the weather was comparable both trips so people could be out and friendly if they chose. Third was the factor that we were on the Trans-America route and maybe people had grown accustomed to bicyclists and no longer viewed us as odd.

It did seem those with whom we spoke rather quickly said that they would never try such a journey; whereas before people frequently wondered aloud if they could do such a thing. Maybe the idea itself was more ordinary.

We did have offers of help and friendly conversations, but no one invited us into their homes as before and few suggested ways to get a good shower or find a cold beer. People seemed to be busy with their lives and less interested in us. Drivers remained courteous and careful; only a few (maybe three) were openly antagonistic, but they were doozies because they mounted overt attempts to menace us with their cars. Overall it seemed different.

Then September 11 occurred soon after our finish and tension rightfully seized everyone nationwide; however, the rhetoric and actions of our administration have only heightened fears and uncertainties since that tragic day. Air and surface travel have reeled under the tsunami of terrorism and our daily lives may never be the same. Can cultural pluralism ever return?

So as I anticipate a tour along the Lewis & Clark route this summer, how will the tenor of the nation impact me as a bicyclist pedaling the open roads in rural America. Will I feel welcome and safe? Will freedom by bicycle ever seem the same again?

March Meeting

7:00 PM • Thursday • March 6, 2003 • Lebanon Community Hospital

We'll have no program this evening - just the pleasure of visiting followed by a short business meeting. Topics will include: minutes, treasurer's report, ride report / scheduling, Strawberry Century report / address sticking, Discovering Bicycling class, bicycle rodeo, and new business. It will be a fine evening, please come.



Seated for lunch at Ixtapa in Stayton on the February 1 ride led by Ken. Beautiful day going switching to light drizzle coming. Nice ride! Not all of group shown.

Minutes

Board Meeting

January 30, 2003. 7:00

by Tim McDowell

7 P.M. Meeting called to order. Ken Fullen said the new carrier of insurance for the club is McKay Ins. Agency, Inc. The policy was in effect at the time of the board meeting.

The Albany Democrat-Herald has requested a meeting to discuss the type of advertising that the Strawberry Century will have with them this year. Roger said that he would follow up and meet with the ad salesperson.

The board decided to have the first Strawberry committee meeting at 5:30 prior to the February general meeting.

The Multnomah County Library requested that we send them copies of *Outspoken*. In addition, the board decided that the mailing list should include the mid-valley newspapers and bicycle clubs. Roger will take care of these.

The board decided we continue the club's membership in Adventure Cycling, the League of American Cyclists and the BTA. Additionally the BTA is looking for donations for the Alice B. Toeclips auction they are planning. If you have some bicycling related items to donate, contact the BTA.

To show the club appreciation to Joy in the Development Office the board authorized a gift of flowers for her. In the past, Joy took

care of making the copies of the newsletter and the mailing. The Hospital, in a reorganization, has eliminated her job and she is no longer with LCH. To Joy: Thanks for your generous help in the past and good luck in your future.

Roger and May are volunteers with the Scio Girls and Boys Club and the club has inquired as to the possibility of R&M putting on a bike rodeo. Roger asked if SSS would be willing to assist in that activity if he and May decide to accept. The task is to stage a rodeo similar to what the club does for Lebanon with the fire & police departments. State Farm Ins. has an organizational kit that can be used to help structure the event. The board responded with a strong yes.

Bill Pintard told the board that Willie Weir (writer for Adventure Cycling) would be giving a lecture in Corvallis on Feb. 17, 2003, to be held at the LaSalle Stewart Center on the OSU campus. Finally, there was some discussion about Roger's proposed summer tour and finding ride leaders for the March and April rides. Both items were forwarded to the February general meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Strawberry Committee Meeting

February 6, 2003. 5:30

The date of the ride was confirmed as June 14, 2003, the second Saturday in June.

A possible change in the 100-mile course was

discussed. The old route has a 30-mile loop from/to the Brownsville SAG stop. The proposed change would replace this with an out / back from the Sunnyside SAG to Dogwood CG via Quartzville rd to Green Peter Dam. March 29, 2003, the

club is scheduled to ride this route from Sweet Home to check out the proposed change to the Strawberry route.

Whichever route is chosen, the main SAG stops will be Sunny Side Park, above Foster Reservoir in Sweet Home and at the City Park in Brownsville. Water stops will be at the Pleasant Valley and Holley Schools and possibly at Waterloo Park as well. The water stop for the 100-mile loop will be either at Diamond Hill or at Dogwood CG. We understand that both schools have closed so we will be checking with the school district to see about their availability. It may be necessary to rent Porta-Pottys for these two locations.

Tim and Marlene Magan have mailed the initial letters to possible sponsors. Our sponsor committee will be following up on these letters with personal phone calls and contacts. Last year the club net earnings from the ride was equivalent to these donations, so sponsors are very important to the success of the century.

The theme of the ride this year will be the generic *11th Strawberry Century*. Roger will produce a design and the brochure / promo materials - perhaps reworking an old design.

Sheryl Seymour has offered to do the maps again for this year's ride. She did an excellent job last year.

After much discussion, the committee decided to revise the price schedule for the ride. This is what

they approved for submission to the general membership meeting:

	PreR	DOC
Single rider	\$15	\$20
Family (3/plus)	25	30
Youth (under13)	13	15
Senior (65 plus)	13	15

PreR = preregistered by 6/2

DOC = day of century

Meeting was adjourned.

General meeting

February 6, 2003. 7:00

PROG: Maps & Map Skills

Roger Gaither was the presenter. What is not a map includes: • Cue lists which are very useful, but not maps. • General directions on how to get somewhere. • Diagrams such as a general drawing of a route. and • Illustrations which may be very pretty and entertaining, but they may not be accurate.

A map usually has these features: • It is an accurate vertical projection of land features (Maps can be made of ocean bottoms, etc., but our concern is land.) • It is rendered to scale and the scale is included. • The map is oriented to North and North is shown on the map. • It has a legend showing the features included on the map such as types of roads, cities/towns, terrain, rivers/streams, etc. • Maps are produced to different scales and include different features when made for motorists vs bicyclists vs hikers, etc. Use maps made for the kind of activity you will do.

To use a map: • Locate your present position on the map. • Locate North on the map and in your real world. Orient the map to the real North. • Locate your next turn and remember it. • Make the turn and stop to locate the next turn. Continue this pattern.

If you suspect that you're lost, STOP right away. Reorient yourself with the map; find out where you are and how best to get back on track. Frequently this is simply backtracking.

Good map reading skills can save lots of grief on a bicycle tour.

General Meeting

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was deferred because Dennis was absent.

The new proposed price structure for this year's Strawberry Century was presented (see the Strawberry Committee report to the left for details). It was moved and seconded that this schedule be adopted for the 2003 Strawberry Century. Motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that the club adopt Roger's proposed Silver Falls - Coast Loop ride for our club's tour this year. After discussion the motion passed. For more information about this tour see the insert in the February newsletter or contact Roger. The tour map is also posted on the club web site.

The new membership brochures were distributed to volunteers who will place them in the various bike shops and stores in the area.

Bill Pintard led a discussion and showed the sample Tyvek jackets which the club can have made with a custom design either for the club or the century. Minimum order is 50 jackets and the cost to the club would be a minimum of \$25 each. Due to costs and after discussion, the jackets will not be ordered.

Membership Report. At the time of the meeting, we have 60 memberships representing approximately 90 members.

Susan Greenup will check with LBCC to see if the club can have the Discovering Bicycling class through continuing education division as in 2002. It may be to late to get into spring, but we can get into the summer schedule. If you would like to help by leading one of the sessions, contact Susan.

The Ride Committee is looking for folks to lead Saturday rides. If you are willing, contact Bill Pintard or Mary Ellen Lind. The meeting adjourned.

March Rides

For more information contact the ride leader or Bill @541/967-3295 or Mary Ellen @541/738-8600

March 1, 10 am • Jefferson to Ankeny

From Jefferson Middle School. Visit Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge. Circle the Refuge and return to Jefferson. Bring a sack lunch or eat in Jefferson. Hills. 25 mi. Ken Fullen, 541-327-2084.

March 8, 10 am • Lebanon to Sweet Home

Start at LCH and ride to Sweet Home for lunch at La Casita. Some hills. 44 miles. Bill Pintard, 541-967-3295.

March 15, 10 am • Daffodil Ride

Start at the Harrisburg Riverfront Park. Travel along roads lined with daffodils to Long Tom Grange. Bring a sack lunch or eat in Harrisburg. Some hills. 38 miles. Marilyn Smith, 541-926-6415.

March 22, 10 am • Head For Shedd Ride

Start at S Albany HS pool. Ride South to Shedd. Lunch at the Shedd Cafe. Flat. 33 miles. Leader needed.

March 29, 10 am • The Quartzville Run

Start at Wiley Creek Center in Sweet Home and ride the Quartzville Road to Dogwood campground. Beautiful river scenery on the way. Bring a sack lunch. Hilly. 40 miles. Mary Ellen Lind, 541-738-8600.

Ride With Us

SS Spokes is a recreational bicycling club for cyclists of all ages and abilities (don't let our name mislead you). The Lebanon area and Willamette Valley offer wonderful roads through beautiful farmland with plenty of hills nearby. We ride weekly Saturday year-around plus other times during the dryer months. Short rides are 5-20 miles and standard rides in season are 30 - 70 miles.

Generally we're pretty low-key. We like to ride, but we don't race or particularly hurry unless some wild tailwind catches us. We look after each other on rides and try to be sure that everyone is having fun.

We occasionally have special rides that take us to wineries or on ferries or overnight camping or week-long tours. We do some fast rides that are strenuous and challenging.

Each June we produce the Strawberry Century tour, a premier 50/70/100 mile event to initiate summer. We also help the community by conducting bicycling clinics for children and other activities to further the practice of responsible bicycling.

Our club meetings are at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month at the hospital. We enjoy bicycling and each other; there's plenty of room! Ride with us.

Membership Application In Santiam Slow Spokes, Inc.

Release Waiver

I waive any and all claims against the Santiam Slow Spokes, inc. and its sponsor Lebanon Community Hospital and any other group associated with them in their programs. I agree not to hold them responsible for any accidents or injuries that I may experience as a participant in any of their activities. Further, I agree not to hold them responsible for damage to any property or equipment while participating in any of their activities. I agree to release them from any and all liability of any kind or nature, and by so doing I am allowed to participate in Santiam Slow Spokes, inc. activities and programs.

I agree to wear an A.N.S.I. or Snell approved helmet while participating in any and all Santiam Slow Spokes rides.

I agree to practice safe and courteous riding procedures and techniques and will obey all traffic regulations while participating in any and all Santiam Slow Spokes rides.

Individual - \$10/yr. Family - \$15/yr.

Signature of 1st member _____ date _____

Signature of 2nd member (if family app) _____ date _____

Signature of 3rd member (if family app) _____ date _____

Signature of 4th member (if family app) _____ date _____

Complete both sections of this form and mail it with your check to:

Santiam Slow Spokes, Inc.
c/o Lebanon Community Hospital
P.O.Box 739, Lebanon, OR 97355

Consider yourself a member. We will send you membership materials and this newsletter. Come to the next meeting and take part in the rides. Get involved in all club activities. The Club is what we make it collectively.

•••Please Print Clearly•••

name of first member _____

name of second member, if family application _____

name of third member, if family application _____

name of fourth member, if family application _____

mailing address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

() _____ () _____
home phone (important) work phone (if avail)

e-mail address (important) _____

Sign Liability Release on Reverse Side

•••••••• Optional Information Below ••••••••

age 1st member age 2nd member

age 3rd member age 4th member

occupation of any applicant _____

I am a member of the League of American Bicyclists.

I am a member of Adventure Cycling.

I belong to other bicycling clubs as listed below:

Ride Preferences (i.e. enjoy most, do most)

Easy (3 - 15 mi.) Sport (20 - 50 mi.)

Tour (30 - 80 mi.) Competitive (40 - 100 mi. fast)

Off-road (i.e. mountain biking)

March 2003 Cycling • Santiam Slow Spokes

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thr Fri Sat

30 MARCH	31	<p>Short newsletter this month, but keep in mind: April 5, 10 am • Corvallis to Peoria Loop: 44 miles. Mary Ellen Lind, 738-8600. Apr 12, 9 am • Blueberry Pancake Ride: 25/35/50 mi from Champoeg Park. Louie & Becky / blueberryrides.com April 19, 10 am • Lebanon to Albany: Some hills. 42 miles. Bill Pintard, 967-3295. April 26&27, 9 am • The Newport Tour: Corvallis to Newport overnight w/rented house. 60 mi daily. Mary Ellen Lind, 738-8600.</p>			<p>10:00 AM • Mar 1 Jefferson to Ankeny From Jefferson Middle School. Circle Ankeny Refuge & return to Jefferson. Bring sack lunch or eat in Jefferson. Hills. 25 miles. Ken Fullen, 541-327-2084.</p>	
2	3	4	<p>Wed. Wanderers 10:00 AM • Flagpole at Linn County Fairgrounds • Info. call Bill Pintard @ 541-967-3295 or Ken Fullen @ 541-327-2084.</p>	<p>7:00 PM • LCH Club Meeting - We'll take care of business and have a good time.</p>	7	<p>10:00 AM • Mar 8 Lebanon to Sweet Home Start at LCH and ride to Sweet Home for lunch at La Casita. Some hills. 44 miles. Bill Pintard, 541-967-3295.</p>
9	10	11	<p>Wed. Wanderers 10:00 AM • Flagpole at Linn County Fairgrounds • Info. call Bill Pintard @ 541-967-3295 or Ken Fullen @ 541-327-2084.</p>	<p>Submit April Input for Outspoken TOMORROW to sskaggs @samhealth.org</p>	14	<p>10:00 AM • Mar 15 Daffodil Ride Start at Harrisburg Riverfront Park travel roads lined w/daffodils to Long Tom Grange. Sack lunch or eat in Harrisburg. Some hills. 38 mi. Marilyn Smith, 541-926-6415.</p>
16	17	18	<p>Wed. Wanderers 10:00 AM • Flagpole at Linn County Fairgrounds • Info. call Bill Pintard @ 541-967-3295 or Ken Fullen @ 541-327-2084.</p>	20	21	<p>10:00 AM • Mar 22 Head For Shedd Ride Start at LCH. Ride South to Shedd. Lunch at the Shedd Cafe. Flat. 33 miles. Louie & Becky / blueberryrides.com. 503-282-4967.</p>
23	24	25	<p>Wed. Wanderers 10:00 AM • Flagpole at Linn County Fairgrounds • Info. call Bill Pintard @ 541-967-3295 or Ken Fullen @ 541-327-2084.</p>	27	28	<p>10:00 AM • Mar 29 Quartzville Start at Wiley Creek Center in Sweet Home & ride Quartzville Road to Dogwood CG. Sack lunch. Hilly. 40 miles. Mary Ellen Lind, 541-738-8600.</p>

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Santiam Slow Spokes, Inc.
 c/o Lebanon Community Hospital
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 Lebanon, Oregon 97355
 www.santiamslowspokes.org

