

# OUTSPOKEN

Newsletter of Santiam Slow Spokes, Inc. • Volume 12, No. 10 • July 2004

## Notes from the Saddle

*Tim Mangan, President*

The 12th annual Strawberry Century is now in the history book. With made to order cycling weather and the pastoral scenery of east Linn County, all 646 cyclists had a beautiful ride.

Many of the comments were superlatives such as “Wow, what a great ride”, “This is gorgeous country for a bike ride”, “Your club puts on one of the best rides in Oregon”. All comments appreciated the many volunteers who make the Strawberry Century come together.

This was the first year for Marlene and me to man the Holley water stop; it was much fun to see everyone

enjoying themselves, in spite of the climb before the stop, and munching on the snacks (cookies) provided.

I now have a profound appreciation for all cycling clubs that organize a sanctioned ride for hundreds of cyclists. The amount of volunteer time and attention to detail is truly phenomenal.

Once again I extend my sincere and heartiest thank you to the many who helped in making the tour a success. Special thanks to Dian Gerstner, this year's chairwoman, Sally Skaggs who provided the snacks and food, Bill Pintard, Wanda Knight and Larry Fratkin who handled registration, Roger Gaither for his work on the brochure, shirts and the great socks. And,

all of you who helped in so many ways, I cannot list all of you and all the tasks you took care of. A special thanks to our friends from the Mid-Valley club for coming early and offering their assistance with registration. Our sponsors who donated goods, cash, and services are to be thanked individually by me and all of our club members. When it comes time to part with your consumer dollars remember our sponsors from Lebanon, Albany, Corvallis and Eugene.

The money raised from our 12th annual tour will be allocated to bicycling advocacy groups locally as well as nationally. All with intentions of promoting cycling as a safe form of alternate transportation and recreation, from the bike tourist to

the youngster pedaling to school.

Never resting on one's laurels, our 13th annual Strawberry Century tour was being discussed on Saturday afternoon and ideas on how to improve an already very successful and wonderful event.

I don't want those of you who were unable to make the McKenzie weekend ride to become overly envious, but we sure had delicious food, the best company, and the rides were great also. Be sure to read Wanda's article and plan to come next year. Looking forward, the club tour for July, looping Canyonville and Crater Lake, will be a ride not to be missed. I hope to see you on the next weekend ride.

Wishing you the best of tail winds.



There were many beautiful and eye-catching bicycles and riders in the Century, but none more so than this way-cool triple with smiling riders.

Photo by Roger Gaither

## S. S. Spokes

is a recreational bicycling club for cyclists of all ages & abilities (don't let the name mislead you). The Willamette Valley offers wonderful roads through beautiful farmland with plenty of hills nearby. We ride weekly Saturday year-around plus other times during the dryer months. Club meetings are normally each month the first Thursday at 7:00 PM at the conference center of Lebanon Community Hospital. See Outsspoken for specifics. The public is invited to the rides & meetings. 2003/4 Officers are: membership information > Mary Ellen Lind, 541-738-8600. Tim Mangan - President, 541-258-6310; Roger Gaither - VP & Newsletter, 503/394-3696; Kari Kropf - Secretary, 541-451-4446; Dennis Murphy - Treasurer, 541-738-8600; Bill Pintard, 541-967-3295 & Marlene Mangan, 541-258-6310 - Ride Captains; Craig Eucken - Historian & Publicity, 503-394-2384; Larry Fratkin - Web Master, 503-526-3977. Membership information and form are posted on our web site ([santiamslowspokes.org](http://santiamslowspokes.org)), or call any of the officers.

# Black Butte Ranch/ Sisters Rides

May 28-31, 2004

By Wanda Knight

I left home about 3:00 to meet Susan at the Lebanon hospital. After following her home, we loaded her bike and bags onto my car and headed for the mountains. We encountered rain crossing the mountains and I was having doubts about our Saturday ride. Traffic was heavy and we didn't reach our weekend home until around 5:30. Tim and Marlene had already arrived and helped us with unloading the car and getting situated in our room. While the spaghetti sauce simmered, we relaxed with a glass of wine and compared travel stories. Soon Roger and May drove up and, after they were situated, we continued. Susan received a call that Dennis and Mary Ellen had been delayed and would be very late, so we decided to eat as soon as possible.

After sating our hunger, May brought out a game to play while waiting for Mary



Ellen and Dennis. The object of the game was to guess subjects of categories that were printed on cards. Each category had 10 "correct answers." For example, if the category was "two-worded American cities," you could guess Junction City, but you would be wrong because it is not listed on the game card. Los Angeles, Las Vegas and St. Louis all are. While all the guessing is going on, a little egg

timer is running. We formed two teams and had a great time. There were some hilarious categories and responses by the players.

The couples wanted to start getting settled in their rooms, so Tim, Roger and Susan (acting for Mary Ellen and Dennis) cut cards to determine 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice. Susan won and selected the

King size upstairs bed. Although Roger got the least desirable upstairs bed, he and Tim moved the mattress downstairs to the day room and everyone was happy.

About 9:30 the final weary travelers arrived. After about two hours visiting I went to bed.

Saturday morning, everyone was to meet at Sisters High School before heading up the

road to Mackenzie Pass. Most of us rode our bikes the 12+ miles to the school

where we were joined by Craig, Ace & Jo, Kari and Bev. Also joining us was Tim's brother, Joe.

At this point there had been no precipitation, but there was a fairly strong wind which we would be riding directly into. The first few miles were a gentle up slope with light auto traffic. The

*Snow capped mountains flanked the west and south of Black Butte resort for our annual McKenzie Pass assault ride over Memorial Day weekend. While a little cool, the weather was beautiful and conducive to great bicycling. Our house sported a terrific open ceiling and second story loft. The group craned their heads for this view after a delicious meal. From lower left clockwise: Kari Kropf, Marlene & Tim Mangan, Susan Greenup, May Garland, Mary Ellen Lind, Dennis Murphy, Bev Henderson, and Wanda Knight. Not shown: Roger (making pix), Craig Eucken (came just for the Saturday ride up to McKenzie Pass) and Ace & Jo Johnson at home in their camper at downtown Sisters.*

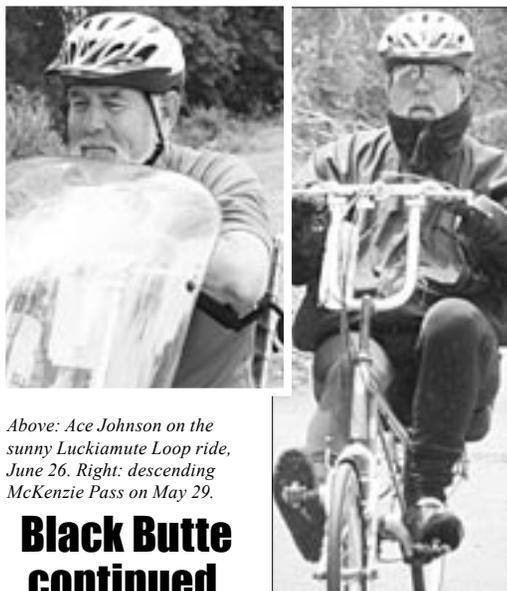
next few miles were much steeper and, as we progressed, the traffic became more light. We then reached a gate barring automobile traffic. There is forest on both sides of the highway. We all took our bikes on the pathway bypassing the gate and after the usual water and chat break, continued our ascent. And still there have been no downhills.

I found that not having to be concerned about vehicle traffic made the ride a little easier, but still very physically demanding for me. After about 3 and a half miles, I reached a place where there were very few trees. I heard it referred to as Windy Point and boy was it! As soon as I stopped and found a nice rock to sit on, it began raining. The landscape to the North of the road looked to be mostly lava with large patches of snow. I had a feeling we were near the end, so I pressed

on. Surprisingly, I soon found that I could coast! The first downhill since leaving the school. Only a few minutes later, I rounded a curve to find the group ahead of me parked in the highway. The road was covered with 1-2 inches of snow. Nobody wanted to try riding in that. Mary Ellen and Dennis began walking their bikes through the snow after they arrived, but the rest of us began the return trip to Sisters.

The descent was great fun! I wanted to savor the moment as much as possible, so braked frequently. Also, there were some fairly sharp bends in the road and I was reaching a speed of 35 MPH very quickly. We soon reached the gate and stopped to count noses. We accounted for all except Mary Ellen and Dennis. We ate lunch while waiting, but eventually left without them. I believe I coasted to within a

*continued next page*



Above: Ace Johnson on the sunny Luckiamute Loop ride, June 26. Right: descending McKenzie Pass on May 29.

## Black Butte continued

couple of miles of the school. After assembling in the parking lot, we discussed plans for Sunday, the weather and what to do for the rest of the day. Joe and Craig went their separate ways and Ace & Jo were staying in their camper in Sisters. Susan wanted to explore a possible route for Monday, so I decided to ride with her. The rest of the group headed for BBR.

Susan and I returned to Highway 20 and crossed at the West side of town. After about a half a mile, we reached the road she was seeking. She wanted to do a short loop ride (about 20 miles) if we had time

on Monday. We were supposed to be out of the house by 1:00 PM.

Susan suggested I turn around to look at the mountains behind us. It was a beautiful sight. There were a few wispy clouds, but it was mostly blue sky, outlining snow-capped peaks of Three Sisters and others. Truly a magnificent view. After a moment, we decided to return to BBR. After a wonderful dinner, most of us relaxed and/or went off to bed.

Sunday morning dawned just as beautiful as the previous day. A group of us elected to ride into Sisters; Roger and May decided to go on a separate ride and

the rest drove into town. We all, including Ace and Jo; met at a small park near downtown. After a short visitation period, our group of ten headed out in an Eastern direction, away from town. We were riding directly toward the mountains. There were only a few puffy clouds, which allowed the occasional spectacular view of the Three Sisters. We progressed against a constant, but gentle incline for a few miles. At that point, the road started a rapid ascent. Immediately, I found I needed to be in my lowest gear. Soon my thighs were burning. I turned around and began coasting back to town. I stopped once for about 15 minutes thinking someone else would join me, but that was not to be. I loitered around the park for a couple of hours, people watching. When the group arrived, I found that the climb had been at least as rigorous as the previous day and I was not sorry that I had quit.

Most of the group piled into cars and drove back to BBR. Susan and I decided to stay in town and do a little shopping. Susan shopped; I tagged

along. I did manage to crash my bike and got another skinned knee for my effort. We pedaled back (against the wind) to BBR. I think this was the afternoon that Susan, Mary Ellen and Dennis went to the pool area and used the hot tub. The pool was packed with people enjoying our fine weather.

Sunday evening we had planned to dine out in Sisters and so assembled at Bronco Billy's at 6PM. There were 11 of us; Kari having returned to Lebanon. We were escorted upstairs to Room #4 and seated at one long table. Soon our waitress arrived and introduced herself as Heather. Tall Heather; not to be confused with Short Heather, who works downstairs. Tall Heather has a great personality and we had a lot of fun with her. I think most of us ordered ribs and I enjoyed mine very much. We had a great time, although Clint Eastwood was not there.

After dinner, Ace and Jo said goodbye as they continued their trip to Idaho. Bev also left, leaving only 8 of us back at BBR. We had another test of wits (we had played Friday evening) with the game

Tim suiting up for the ride Sunday.



May had brought with her before retiring for the evening. I believe Marlene, Tim, Susan and I won.

Monday was another glorious morning! How lucky can we get? Roger and May had ridden the route we were planning, so decided to depart early. Because the ride would return us to BBR via an alternate route, we all rode our bikes into Sisters. From the West side of town, we turned North onto a lightly traveled highway. The ride was fairly easy, compared to our recent experiences and the view was nearly unbelievable. I can't remember a more spectacular panorama of mountain peaks. I don't know the names of all of them, but there were at least 7 snow-capped mountains. It was captivating. We arrived back at the house at about noon. Since we were supposed to be out by 1 PM, we quickly loaded our cars and headed for home. I think we all had a wonderful time. I did!



## Minutes

### Minutes of the June 3, 2004 Club Meeting

By Kari Kropf

Tim Mangan called the meeting to order at 7:00. The May minutes were seconded and approved, and Dennis Murphy gave the treasurer's report.

The Strawberry Century was discussed next. There were many last minute details to go over. Bill Pintard reported that 281 had signed up for the century so far, and predicted that we could get as many as 700 riders.

After the break (strawberries and ice cream) Mary Ellen Lind gave the membership report. There were

some new members and old members who didn't renew. Club membership is now 101. Reminders are being sent out to a few members who are due to renew.

Bill Pintard gave the Ride Report. Rides are planned through August with a few fun rides already for September. Ken Orwick brought information on the MS bike tour, and Martha Stiffler mentioned that she is doing some week-day evening rides.

Sally Skaggs went over Strawberry Century details...food, stops, estimates of when riders may show up at the various stops. Meeting adjourned at 9:00



Photo by Kari Kropf

Other photos by Roger Gaither



*UL clockwise: Jakey Ross. Lad rode a full 50. A sleek recumbent at Pleasant Hill. Tandem family. K.M. Kennedy went the whole way! Riders near Brownsville. Lloyd sold almost all the shirts & socks.*



## Strawberry Century • June 12, 2004



# July, & August Rides

## July 3, 9 AM Lebanon to Scio via Lcomb.

Start at LCH and travel over a covered bridge to Scio for lunch. Beautiful ride. Some hills. Distance is 45 miles. Contact Bill Pintard, 967-3295

## July 10 - 16 Blue Skies / Blue Waters Tour

Starts in Canyonville; circles Crater Lake & returns. 7 days.

## July 10, 9 AM Jefferson to Independence Ride.

Start at Jefferson Middle School and ride rural roads to Independence for lunch. Some rolling hills. Distance is 46 miles. Contact Ken Fullen, 541-327-2084

## July 17, 9 AM. Da Vinci Days Ride

Start at the Albany Lyons St. Bridge parking lot and ride to Corvallis via Tangent Dr for the Kinetic Sculpture Race and parade. Return via N. Albany. Some hills. Distance is 40 miles. Dwayne Hoover

## July 24, 9 AM Lebanon/Brownsville via Fern Ridge.

The ride begins at LCH and travels to Brownsville via Fern Ridge. There are some good hills. Lunch in Brownsville. 50 miles. Ride leader needed

## July 31, 9 AM Wheatland Ferry Loop

The ride begins at Maude Williamson Park, on Hwy 221 North of Keizer, and crosses the river on the Wheatland Ferry. We will then ride through Salem, Brush College and Hopewell before returning on the ferry. There are some hills. Lunch will be in Salem. Distance is 38 miles. Contact Dennis Murphy, 541-738-8600

## Aug. 7, 9 AM Head for Shedd Ride

The ride begins at LCH and travels through grass fields to Shedd. Mostly flat. Lunch in Shedd at the Shedd Cafe. Distance is 40 mi. Contact Martha Stiffler, 541-258-5974.

## Aug. 14, 9 AM Covered Bridge Ride

The ride begins at Timber Linn Park on Price Rd in Albany and follows the short route of the Mid Valley

Bicycle Club (MVBC) Covered Bridge Century. There is an entry fee for those not helping with registration for the MVBC ride. There are several hills. 40 miles. Ride leader needed.

## Aug. 21, 9 AM Summit Summer Festival Ride

The ride starts at the home of Dennis Murphy and Mary Ellen Lind, 2851 Linda St in Corvallis.

The ride will travel Hwy 20 to Blodgett and then make a long climb up to Summit where riders will have an opportunity to take part in the Summit Summer Festival. This was the first leg of the Newport ride. Hilly. Distance is 55 miles. Contact Dennis Murphy, 541-738-8600.

## Aug. 28, 9 AM Scio to Ore. Gardens.

The ride starts at the bank in Scio and ride to Oregon Gardens, near Silverton. There is a fee of \$8 to enter the gardens. Buy lunch there or bring a sack lunch. There are a number of hills. Distance is 49 miles. Contact Craig Eucken, 503-394-2384. 

## 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 To The Left

•••••••• 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)

# July 2004 Cycling • Santiam Slow Spokes

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thr

(Fri)

Sat

*Our Club works because everyone is a volunteer. Things happen because we care and try things ~ rides, parties, rodeos, Century, newsletter, web site, meetings, minutes, and on & on. We've tried and accumulated a lot that works! Every one started with a volunteer who did something for the fun or benefit of others. We take turns developing rides, leading, following, refreshments, helping in some way. This Club is about giving~ of our*

*ideas, our energy, our caring, and oh yes, sharing the enjoyment of bicycling. We can ride all alone, but it's just not as much fun. So when somebody does something, anything ~ notice and say thanks. The wheels of the Club keep rolling that way. The biggest danger we face is indifference; things stop happening and without things happening, there's not much Club left. Let's notice, care, and show it when good things are volunteered.*

## Club Meeting

7 PM • LCH

• We'll review and debrief our wildly successful 12th Strawberry Century and attend to club business. Please come!

July 3, 9 AM.

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**Please! Please!**  
Submit material for the August Outspoken by today to Roger Gaiter: gaiter@smt-net.com or POBox 129, Scio 97374 503-394-3696

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