



Quick Release



A publication of 3 Rivers Velo Sport Inc. Founded in 1969, 3RVS is an LAB, ACA and IMBA affiliated club, & member of the IBC, USCF and NORBA. Quick Release contains current and planned club biking activities and is distributed to all members. Submissions are due by the 15th of each month.

July 2000

The Bicycle Bulletin Board

Issue 2000.07

In This Issue

July Program Preview

President's Message

Recumbents: How Safe?

Local / Area Ride Schedules

Extensive Rivergreenway Coverage

Festival Tour Update

July Cycling Quote:

"Cyclists have a right to the road too, you noisy, polluting, inconsiderate maniacs! I hope gas goes up to eight bucks a gallon!"

The dad of "Calvin & Hobbes"

Local Bike Shop Discounts

The Three Rivers Velo Sport Club is fortunate to have Koehlinger Cycling and Fitness and Summit City Bicycles as sponsors of our club!

As noted in these pages recently, they are official sponsors of the Festival Tour and Road Race this year, and have been kind enough to hand out Club brochures to interested customers, and are even signing up new members for the Club.

And, in case you don't know, Club members can receive a five percent discount on your purchase! To get the discount, you must present either a membership card for this year, or a newsletter with an address label showing an expiration date of January 2001.

You can pick up your membership cards at the monthly Club meetings.

Help support Koehlinger's and Summit City! They're doing a lot to support us.

THE RIVERGREENWAY CONTROVERSY

What does the future hold for the bike path?

The Rivergreenway has been the center of controversy recently, including a recommendation by the Journal-Gazette that a damaged portion of the recreational trail be closed. The history and current status of the Rivergreenway will be the subject of discussion at the next 3RVS meeting at 7:30 pm., Thursday, July 6, at First Wayne United Methodist Church.

Our guests for the discussion will be Katherine Pargmann, Marketing Specialist for the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department, and Allen County Surveyor Al Frisinger. Ms. Pargmann will present a short slide show on the Rivergreenway. Mr. Frisinger will speak about options for the damaged section of the County's part of the trail. Both presenters will answer questions after their presentations.

The County portion of the Rivergreenway is about four miles long and extends from the Pemberton Dike to North River Road along the Maumee River. This part of the path opened in 1992.

Since its construction, part of the County's trail just east of the Coliseum Boulevard Bridge has washed away. Making permanent repairs would be very expensive.

The Rivergreenway originally was built as part of a flood control project. Mr. Frisinger's office is responsible for drainage systems in Allen County, giving his office jurisdiction of the County part of the path.

In an editorial, The Journal-Gazette recommended closing the damaged section of the Rivergreenway because of the danger it poses to users. The Journal-Gazette suggested the County should explore options to keep the path open. However, The Journal-Gazette stated the viability of the options is doubtful.

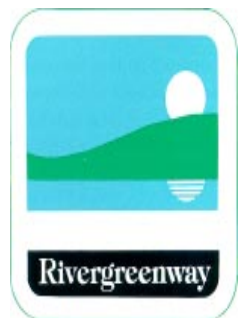
3RVS has adopted a section of the Rivergreenway owned by the County, which means our Club has a commitment to keep our adopted section of the path clean. Our portion of the path is near the part that is damaged, but does not include that section. Club members participated in a cleanup of the path in April. 3RVS also is a member of the Rivergreenway Consortium.

About 15 miles of the Rivergreenway is under the jurisdiction of the City Parks and Recreation Department. This includes the part of the path from Tillman Park on the South to Johnny Appleseed Park on the north and a small section extending to the Pemberton Dike on the east side of Fort Wayne.

The City path opened in stages beginning in 1979. It generally follows the St. Mary's and St. Joseph Rivers, although at some points the path ends and city streets must be used to get to the next section of the Rivergreenway.

Part of the Rivergreenway owned by the City is being reconstructed this Summer in conjunction with a diking project and is currently closed. The part of the trail the City is rebuilding is from Swinney Park to Lawton Park. The rebuilt part of the path is expected to reopen this Fall.

Please plan to attend the Club meeting Thursday, July 6, for an interesting discussion of a very timely topic. Time permitting, a social hour will follow the meeting. **Karen Walker**



President's Message



The cycling season is full swing now, and I hope your season is going great.

I rode on both Saturday and Sunday just before I wrote this article, and both rides were a blast. On Saturday, I rode from Homestead to South Whitley and back with a group of other Club members. We were discussing along the way what we had learned about group riding from Greg Duncan at the June Club meeting.

Chuck Bash suggested we carry what Greg had taught us one step further. Chuck urged us to try to ride in a rotating double peline. At least, I think that is what Chuck called it. Please understand that the group I ride with are mainly tourists and novices at doing something like this.

We decided to give it a try, and surprisingly we were very good students. With the help of Chuck and Jim Chandler, it wasn't long before we were rotating to the right and going back just like pros. Then, of course, we turned; and we had to learn how to rotate the other direction. We had some laughs about having to learn to rotate the other way, when we had just gotten the hang of rotating in the original direction.

We again mastered the rotation and had a great ride on the back from South Whitley. Thanks to Chuck and Jim for being patient teachers and to my fellow cyclists, Anne, Kent, Marilyn, Dan, Andy, Doug and Joel. I really enjoyed riding with you guys. Rides like that are what makes 3RVS such a great organization.

Another reason our Club is great is the volunteers who tirelessly contribute their time to the Club. I wanted to thank a few officers who do not always get the recognition they deserve.

Kit Conrad, our Club Secretary, does a super job taking minutes, getting them typed very timely, and sending them out to the other officers prior to Club meetings. In addition, Kit usually is the first to offer to help out when something needs to be done.

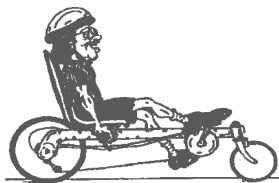
Our Club Treasurer, Kevin Truelove, is very efficient at paying bills, balancing our checkbook and keeping us solvent. His level head and input at Officers' meetings is invaluable. He regularly volunteers to help at Club events.

As Membership Chair, Leslie Melcher keeps the Club membership list straight and makes sure that list gets to Newsletter Editor, Michael Heyes. Leslie is another person who frequently volunteers to do projects for the Club and help at Club events.

A member who regularly volunteers time to our Club is Marilyn Bash. Marilyn did the Publicity for May Madness and did not get thanked in the last newsletter for working on that ride. Thanks, Marilyn, for all you do.

One of our members, Rob Nolot, crashed in early June on a Club ride and was seriously injured. I hope by the time you receive this newsletter, Rob is on his way to recovering. All of us who have enjoyed riding with you over the years, Rob, wish you well. **Karen**

The 11 Foot Chain Guy: *Recumbents - how safe are they?*



by Wendell Brane - Wbrane@ctlnet.com

I often hear folks ask, "How safe is that thing?" The unusual geometry of a recumbent bicycle leads one to wonder if it isn't a death trap on two wheels. Actually, they have several safety advantages.

In contrast to the top-heaviness of the traditional diamond-frame bikes, recumbents have a low center of gravity that provides for excellent handling. The short-wheel-base models are known for their exceptional ability to maneuver at slow speeds: while climbing in the Appalachian Mountains, I was down to 2 mph and still had no problem keeping the bike upright. Descending at 40+ mph proved to be equally stable. And, because one sits so low, any spill a rider might encounter would render a short fall, almost always on his/her side. In contrast, spills on normal bikes often result in being thrown over the handle bars, on your head!

The greatest advantage, however, is visibility. Because of the large wide seat, recumbents are easily spotted by cars. But there is more than just getting noticed – the unusual, exotic shape of the recumbent inspires extra caution from passing motorists. When I ride a road bike, cars zoom by me at 80 mph giving me a whopping 8 inches of clearance; they have simply learned that they can do this with bicycles. But from behind, the recumbent looks *boxy*, like a one-wheeled wheelchair, and the reaction is quite different. "Herbert! Slow down! What is that thing up ahead?!" (No doubt some drivers think they are specially-made bikes for the handicapped.) The difference is night and day: almost every car offers a generous amount of room when passing. This fact alone makes recumbents a distinct safety advantage. Drivers haven't developed the bad habit of blowing by us as close as they can...at least not yet.

Recumbents, however, do suffer a couple safety trade-offs. The small front tire makes them unacceptable for loose gravel – actually, it can be terrifying! Also, the high bottom bracket requires clipless pedals to keep one's feet from slipping off, which can result in a sudden spill. But the one that all recumbent riders fear the most is the attack dog. Because you sit lower, an approaching dog seems to be at eye level with you. Suffice it to say that he isn't just interested in a leg! Pepper spray is the first accessory your recumbent will need.

July Touring Schedule - Rides start at 8:00*

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Location/Ride To</u>	<u>Map</u>	<u>Distance</u>
Saturday	July 1	Arcola/C.City/Wolf Lake/N.Webster	ARC-2	24/40/55/63/75
Sunday	July 2	Dana/Churubusco/Wolf Lake	DCU-4	20/36/67
Tuesday	July 4	Carroll/ Festival Pre-Tour	Special	19/40/62/100
Saturday	July 8	Wayne/Ossian/Bluffton	WHS-7	25/50
Sunday	July 9	A.C. Fairgnds *2000 Festival Tour *	Special	19/40/62/100
Saturday	July 15	N.Haven/Woodburn/Hicksville	NHB-5	17/36/59
Sunday	July 16	Leo/Auburn/Kendallville	LHS-9	25/37/50
Saturday	July 22	Huntertown/'Busco/Chain 'O Lakes	HTN-10	22/33/50
Sunday	July 23	Wayne/Decatur/Berne	WHS-2	37/65
Saturday	July 29	Carroll/Laotto/Avilla	CHS-4	19/31/39/50
Sunday	July 30	Homestead/Roanoke/N.Manchester	HHS-6	21/37/65

* NOTE: The 2000 3RVS Festival Tour on July 9th starts at 7:00 *

Thanks to Phil Snider and family for a
GREAT Hicksville Hundred!



Weeknight Rides

Tuesday evenings, 6:00 pm, Carroll High School. These rides average between 17-20 mph and are 20+ miles in length. Bring a tail light for your safety.

Wednesday evenings, 6:00 pm, Saturn Christian Church, CR 800S. Averaging 15 to 17 mph, these rides are a quick touring pace but not so fast you can't talk with other riders. Call Susan for more info at 424-2030 or smhunt@concentric.net.

The Sociables Schedule

The Sociables are a new group of riders that all stay together, where no one is left behind. Their rides are between 30-40 miles long, and ridden between 10-15 mph. They ride to have fun and enjoy the ride and riders. Most rides include a food stop.

July 1: 3RVS Club breakfast ride. See Touring Schedule

July 8: Barbara Pontius will lead a tour of NE Fort Wayne neighborhoods, stop and smell the roses at the Rose Gardens and lunch at El Azteca. Easy, high carbo ride to prepare body and spirit for the Festival Tour on Sunday. Meet at Arlington Elementary School on St. Joe Center Rd. at 10:00 AM.

July 15: 3RVS Club breakfast ride. See Touring schedule.

Bike Rides in Indiana and Surrounding Areas

<http://www.cris.com/~mheyes/bikeIN/bikeIN.shtml>

<u>Ride Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Further Info.</u>
Sunstroke 74	July 4	74	Kokomo, Indiana	765-452-7110
Ride Across Indiana (RAIN)	July 8	162	Terre Haute, Indiana	812-988-8720
Brownstown Round Barn Ride	July 8	21/62	Brownstown, Indiana	812-358-5040
Circus City Metric Century	July 15	15/32/62	Peru, Indiana	765-473-3848
Holland Hundred Tour	July 15	36/67/100	Holland, Michigan	616-738-3163
Tour of Two States	July 15	20/35/62	Union City, Indiana	765-964-5866
FlowerFest Bicycle Tour	July 16	15/31/62/100	Kalamazoo, Michigan	616-343-2288
Smoothest Bike Ride in the World	July 22	up to you	Indianapolis, Indiana	317-352-9226
RAGBRAI XXVIII	July 23-29	468	Des Moines, Iowa	800-474-3342

July Training Schedule

Tues	7-4	6pm	Monson	Circuit Race
Weds	7-5	6pm	Carroll HS	Easy
Thur	7-6	7:30pm	Club Meeting	Mellow
Tues	7-11	6pm	Wayne HS	Circuit Race
Weds	7-12	6pm	Wayne HS	Easy
Thur	7-13	6pm	Homestead HS	S. Whitley R.R.
Tues	7-18	6pm	Flaugh Rd	Circuit Race
Weds	7-19	6pm	Jefferson MS	Easy
Thur	7-20	6pm	Wayne HS	Decatur R.R.
Tues	7-25	6pm	Harding HS	Circuit Race
Weds	7-26	6pm	Homestead HS	Easy
Thur	7-27	6pm	Flaugh Rd	Circuit Sprints
Tues	7-31	6pm	Monson	Circuit Race

1999 Tour de France Statistics

With this year's Tour beginning this month, I thought it would be interesting to review a few of last year's statistics.

- Lance Armstrong's final average speed of 25.025 mph was the fastest in Tour history. The previous fastest was Marco Pantani's 39.983 kph in 1998.
- Armstrong's winning margin of 7:37 was the fourth largest of the previous 20 years.
- 1999's Tour was the first since 1926 that no French rider won a stage.
- Mario Chipollini . . . well, I'll write about him when he finishes a Tour
- The 1999 Tour de France had only two overall leaders, Armstrong and Jaan Kirsipuu.
- Erik Zabel became the first rider to win four consecutive points titles, joining Sean Kelly as a four-time green jersey winner.
- Well, ok. Chipollini won the fastest road stage in Tour history, taking the 194.5 km stage from Laval to Blois at 50.355 kph - oh, that's just 31.29 mph, AVERAGE!

July Area Racing Schedule

7/1	Olney Bicycle Classic, Olney, IL, 618-392-2054	pnoverr@msn.com
7/2	Al Stern Road Race, Herscher, IL, 312-322-6952	scwpgl@netzero.net
7/8-7/23	Superweek, throughout Wisconsin, 414-784-1732,	www.internationalcycling.com
7/8	Rumvillage 2000, South Bend, IN	roaddogs99@yahoo.com
7/8	Utica TT, Utica, IL	www.ambikerace.org
7/9	Festival 2000, 100mi RR, Fort Wayne, IN	www.3rvs.com
7/15	G.S. Blauwkamp Criterium, Jamestown, MI, 616-457-6692	mavicedog@aol.com
7/16	IN/KY TT Championship, Kokomo, IN, 765-883-5082	rivella@juno.com
7/16	Bob Jordan Memorial, Crane NAD, IN	www.ambikerace.org
7/22	AAVC Kensington CR, Ann Arbor, MI, 734-761-1603	paul@quickrelease.com
7/22	12 Hours of Boyne, Boyne Mountain, MI	www.funpromotions.com
7/29	Evansville Criterium, Evansville, IN	
7/29	Indianapolis Airport RR, Indianapolis, IN	www.ambikerace.org
7/30	Saturn Capitol City Criterium, Springfield, IL	
7/30	Monrovia TT #3, Monrovia, IN	www.ambikerace.org

July Master's Championship Races

The dates, times, and locations for the RR and track are from the USCF website:

www.usacycling.org. The TT and Crit was from the Race Director:

If you're interested in this, call 317-327-8356.

7/20-7/24	USCF Master's National Track Championships, Indianapolis, IN
7/26	USCF Master's National TT Championships, Indianapolis, IN
7/27-7/28	USCF Master's Criterium Championships, Indianapolis, IN
7/29-7/30	USCF Master National RR Championships, Linton-Greene, IN

Race Results

May 16 - June 8

May 20 Eagle Creek Crit

Cat 3	Joe Bartels	4th
Cat 4	K.Rekeweg	2nd
Mst.45+	R.Kingsbery	7th

May 21 Monrovia 25mi TT

Cat 4	K.Rekeweg	68min
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May 28 Great Race Crit

Mst35+	R.Norwalk	4th
Mst45+	R.Kingsbery	3rd

May 29 Great Race RR

Cat1/2/3	E.Messer	field
	R.Myers	field
	J.Bartels	field
Mst50+	R.Kingsbery	5th
Citzn	E.Williamson	field
	J.Cron	field

June 3 Tour De Hall RR

Cat 1/2/3	J.Bartels	field
	E.Messer	field
Cat 4	R.Kingsbery	field
	K.Rekeweg	field

I end this month's race page with a quote from Jim Cron that all racer types should think about:

"Don't let your best performance be in a practice."

Joe

Coast-to-Coast Ride,
Coming Soon to a State Near You

by Kern Trembath

One of the direct consequences of ISTEA and its successor, TEA-21 (federal funding sources for alternative-transportation projects) is the growing number of well-planned and -maintained bike paths all around the country.

This year's ride will depart from several west-coast cities early in June. The projected time to be near us in the upper Midwest is early August. The ride will officially end with a rally in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, 20 August.

You can read more about the NBG on the web at www.bikeroute.com/NBG2000. Press the link to "Suggested Routes" to see how close you are to a segment. If at all possible, please ride! Even a short segment or two will help to make cycling a more visible and natural part of the transportation infrastructure of the country.

You can read more about TEA-21 on the Web at www.istea.org.

Kern Trembath, of South Bend, Indiana, is the Bicycling Representative to the Indiana Trails Advisory Board. He has been a longtime advocate for the bicycling community.

Fat Tired Rides In July

Monday, July 3 -- For those fortunate folks who are off work the day before Independence Day, we've planned an outing to a favorite off road spot: Fort Custer. Meet at Bob Evans, I-69 and Dupont Road for carpool or caravan to the park.

Sunday, July 9 - GRRR -- That stands for the gravel road ride route option for the Three Rivers Festival Tour. This is a great opportunity to try out gravel road riding with a marked route, distance options and a provisioned rest stop. Start from the Allen County Fairgrounds after 7 AM.

Sunday, July 23 - Urban Exploring -- No monthly fat tired agenda is complete without at least one foray into the urban wilderness. Join us at Lawton Park at 3 PM and we'll make a concerted attempt to boldly go someplace NEW.

For more info contact Phil at 419-542-8971 or bikenphil@aol.com.

Who Uses The Rivergreenway?

The Parks and Recreation Department took a survey of usage of the Rivergreenway for the months of June, July and August, 1997.

The survey results indicated that over the summer months, an estimated 120,000 to 125,000 persons, approximately twice the estimated 60,000 to 65,000 users recorded in a 1989 survey, used the recreational trail. The 1997 survey also recorded the favorite activities, most popular times, age and sex of Rivergreenway users.

The survey found that the favorite trail activity was bicycling (41%). Also popular were walking (33%) and jogging (17%). Other activities, including in-line skating, fishing and walking dogs, accounted for 9% of the use.

According to the survey, the Rivergreenway is used about equally throughout the daytime. The trail is most popular from 5 to 7 pm. (20%), 1 to 3 pm. (19%) and 9 to 11 am. (16%). The usage from 3 to 5 pm. was 15% and 7 to 9 am. was 14%.

Adults between the ages of 18 and 54 are the most frequent users of the path at 62%. They are followed by youths ages 12 to 17 (14%), children ages 0 to 11 (13%) and adults ages 55+ (11%).

The survey determined that 63% of Rivergreenway users are males and 37% are females.

From information supplied by Katherine Pargmann, Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department.

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Quick Release
This is a publication of 3 Rivers Velo Sport, Inc., as the astute reader would have learned from the top of page 1. It is published 12 or so times a year, and is distributed to all club members free of charge. Well, you do have to pay your dues to receive Quick Release, but beside that small detail, it's free of charge to members.
3 Rivers Velo Sport
3RVS Inc. is a bicycling organization based in Fort Wayne, Indiana which promotes bicycling as a healthy, fun, energy efficient, lifelong activity for persons of all ages. The club sponsors a range of activities offering the benefits of group cycling to riders interested in touring, racing and off-road riding. Special thanks to the following:
Webmaster Michael Heyes
mheyese@concentric.net
Membership Leslie Melcher
lvmelcher@msn.com

The Festival Tour: Crunch Time

3RF 2000... It's coming. We're probably not as anxious about it as Y2K, but I'm starting to worry a little. I came into this event with a lot of laurels and bragging rights. Now comes my next challenge. I truly want to make this one **THE ride of Indiana** and **THE ride to do in July**. We've got a lot going for us.

There's the festival nearby for all the non-riders or athletic supporters as my wife calls herself. There's the scenic route that throws out as diverse a terrain as you can have in this area. There's the multitude of options now that we've added a gravel road route and a USCF sanctioned road race. There's the great food and drink that Susan will be cookin' up. There's the popularity of club invitationals or century rides in the Great Lakes area. There's the great bargain in the fees we ask. And there's that good ol' Hoosier hospitality!

To assure this hospitality, we can always use some more Hoosiers. I've added some incentives to appreciate our dedicated volunteers: a water bottle for 4 hour volunteers and a T-shirt for 8 hour volunteers. It's just something to say thanks for not riding on **Sunday, July 9**. There's never enough volunteers to go around, and people love a ride when there's always a helpful host close by. Has anyone every heard of a rider complain about there being too many support vehicles or the registration line that just went by too fast? That's the reputation I want the Three Rivers Festival Tour to have.

This bike ride has always been a great tour, and I just want everyone to know about it and come to Fort Wayne to partake. You can be proud of the fact that we've done this ride for 29 years, and we are the oldest event in the Three Rivers Festival. Get on the phone or computer and personally invite your long distant biking friends to come by and check this one out. They won't be disappointed. I guarantee it!

keep ridin', Indiana Jim

Sign-up for the Pokagon Overnighter

Get away from the big city (Fort Wayne?) for a relaxing bicycle ride and evening of fellowship at Pokagon State Park. This Overnighter tour will leave from the Leo High School tennis courts at 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 9th for Pokagon State Park. The distance to the park is about 45 miles, but if you'd like to add a few more you can; actually, you can add 20 more for a total of 65 miles.

The ride has sag stops, or you can buy your own lunch along the route and then enjoy a wonderful dinner buffet at the New and Improved Potawatomi Inn at 5:00 PM.

Camping is available at Pokagon State Park, or you can call and make your own arrangements at the Park's Potawatomi Inn toll free: 1-877-768-2928.

Sunday morning there will be a breakfast buffet at the Inn, followed by a leisurely ride back to Leo High School, with a stop at the city of Auburn for some great pie and drink.

The Basic cost of this fun filled, yet relaxing weekend is only \$35 each plus a campsite fee of \$10 per tent if you're camping. Children's fee is \$5 each plus \$2 times age.

The Basic rate includes maps, a SAG vehicle to carry baggage to and from the Park, sag stops, dinner buffet, breakfast buffet, pie and drinks in Auburn, and the Park entrance fee.

This ride is so popular that it is limited to 50 riders. **WE HAD TO CLOSE REGISTRATION LAST YEAR, SO REGISTER NOW!**

Need an application? Questions? Call Marilyn Bash at 219-749-2095 or email mbcbandem@aol.com. Overnighters wanting to ride one day and drive the other should call Marilyn to discuss this option. See you there!

Marilyn Bash

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	3 Rivers Velo Sport 2000 Membership Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Touring <input type="checkbox"/> Off-Road <input type="checkbox"/> Racing <input type="checkbox"/> Commuting
Name _____ Age _____ Date _____ Address _____ Email _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ City _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Check to receive newsletter by email <input type="checkbox"/> Check to not be included on membership roster available to other bike related groups		
Signature(s) (Parent or guardian if under 18) _____		
Fees: \$10 Individual, \$15 Family. In signing this form, I acknowledge the inherent danger of bicycling and agree on behalf of myself, my heirs, devisees or estate to hold 3RVS, Inc. and its members harmless for loss, damage, injury/death to myself or dependents as a consequence of participating in activities of 3RVS, Inc. Make check payable to 3RVS. Return to 3RVS, PO Box 11391, Ft. Wayne, IN 46857-1391		

Delaware Bay

by Jim Schroeder, Festival Tour Director

Delaware Bay?

You may remember a clip from Wayne's World. When Wayne and Garth have submitted to high tech TV production, they are in front of a simulated screen, and a Delaware scene is put up. They both look at each other and look very puzzled. But, I'm here to convince you otherwise.

I have this quest for states and over the winter I realized that the only states east of the Mississippi I haven't done were Delaware and New Jersey. Klaus and I traveled 11 hours out to Wilmington; I was a little more gung-ho on this trip while Klaus just wanted to do miles, and I wouldn't let him back out. The plan was to ride the Delaware Coast on Saturday and back up the New Jersey coast on Sunday. Unfortunately, the only precipitation in the USA that weekend was exactly where we were.

Actually of the entire 215 miles of riding, the weather was 20% raining, 30% drizzle, 50% cloudy skies, and I don't think we ever saw 60 degrees F.

These states are very populated, but all the well-driven bumper to bumper auto traffic stays on the highways, and when we had to ride on the highways, there was always a very well paved 15 foot shoulder. We never felt "at risk" while riding the entire two days! Delaware has a very nice bicycling route network, as we traveled many miles on Bicycle Hwy 1, and we also came upon at least 25 "Share the Road with Bicycle Signs", and that is no exaggeration". Southern New Jersey is actually sparsely populated, but it seemed that we were in an economically depressed area as industry has moved away.

We tried to hug the coast as much as possible, so we were riding primarily in the "wetlands". This is prime area for birding and we saw many egrets and herons, along with many red wings and other small birds. I saw my first guinea hens and I spied a couple of deer frolicking in a freshly sown cornfield. Coming around Dover we went beside the Air Force Base and another bird came on top of us - the largest transport jet came down upon us and landed nearby.

The people throughout the trip are very common but very friendly and inquisitive. You'd think we were in Indiana by the way the farmers talk and the crops they grow. I did learn what scrapple was - a breakfast dish described as "pig parts" that I did not partake of.

The terrain is very flat, and we passed through many quaint villages. This area is very old in America's standards as this area was first settled in the 1600's and 1700's. There was a lot of history and these residents are very proud of that fact and have kept the majority of those houses in good condition and utilize them for historical tours. In fact, Cape May where we started our Sunday trip is the oldest seaside resort town in America, and the Victorian houses were bountiful and quite colorful. Unfortunately, Cape May was our wettest and darkest part of the tour, so we could not appreciate it fully. Fort Mott and Fort Delaware were last on our trip, and these were Forts built for USA's defense back in the 1800's, and Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island was used to house thousands of Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.

We ferried 11 miles from Lewes Beach, Delaware to Cape May, NJ via the biggest and nicest ferry I've been in, and then ferried back to Delaware on the Fort Ferry. There was another ferry, but that was a private job. After travelling to Bower's Beach in the rain, we had lunch at a nice seafood restaurant, but then realized that there was no bridge over this little creek. We found out that the houses not even a stone's throw away were 18 miles away by car! With a little financial coaxing, we were in a fishin' boat going over the crick.

One tense moment was the two of us getting separated due to bikers having to find restroom facilities if you know what I mean. Klaus ended up way ahead on another road without a map, and then I'm trying to chase him down thinking he was on the route. I flagged some locals, and they even had a guy ride his bike around trying to find Klaus. After backtracking, Klaus got back on the route and we got back together just before all hope was lost. We both have cell phones but they were left in Indiana!

Saturday - 113 miles, Sunday - 102 miles. Another adventure to remember.

keep ridin', *Indiana Jim*

Quick Release by Email

The June newsletter was sent electronically to **millions** of club members! If you would like to receive a full color newsletter by email in the Acrobat Reader format **instead** of by regular mail, please email Leslie at lvmelcher@msn.com, or check the appropriate box on the 3RVS membership application.

Welcome to 3RVS' New Members:

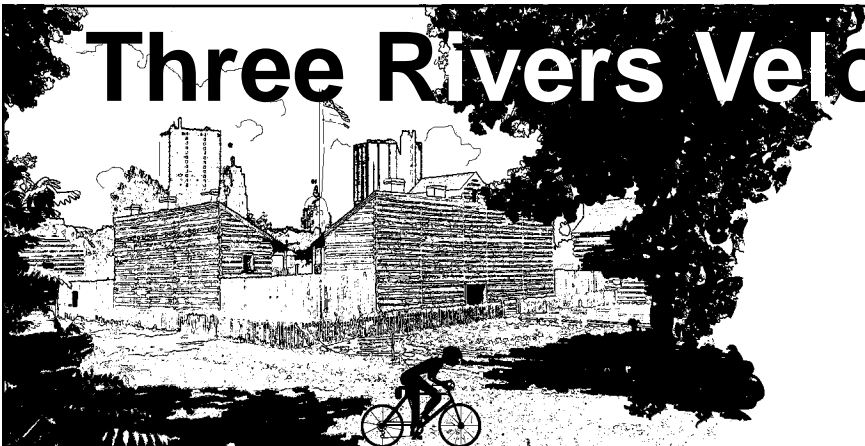
Ryan Myers
Matthew Flaherty
Tim Gudakunst



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3 RIVERS VELO SPORT, INC.
P.O. BOX 11391
FORT WAYNE, IN 46875-1391



Three Rivers Velo Sport, Inc.

July 2000 Newsletter

A FORT WAYNE, INDIANA
BICYCLE ORGANIZATION

Next 3RVS Club Meeting

When: Thursday, July 6, at 7:30 pm

Where: First Wayne St. United Methodist
Church, 300 E. Wayne St.

July Meeting Program

Meet with Park Dept.'s Katherine Pargmann
and Allen County Surveyor Al Frisinger to
learn about the history of the Rivergreen-
way and plans for it's future.

3RVS Club Officers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone (219)</u>	<u>Email</u>
President	Karen Walker	747-2420	cougargalkw@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Kevin Truelove	432-6219	KTrue@aol.com
Secretary	Kit Conrad	422-6332	teacher@tk7.net
Racing	Joe Bartels	744-1675	AXNJoe@aol.com
Touring	Kathy Boling	432-5526	bikemom@ctlnet.com
Off-Road	Phil Snider	419-542-8971	Bikenphil@aol.com
Publicity	Your Name		Please volunteer to help!
Newsletter	Michael Heyes	489-7040	mheyes@concentric.net
	website	www.3rvs.com	
	email	mail@3rvs.com	
Membership	Leslie Melcher	486-9808	lvmelcher@msn.com