



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUEGRASS CYCLING CLUB

OUTSPOKEN

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Club Notes

1. The annual BCC banquet will be held on Sun., Nov. 17 (Happy Hour starts at 6 p.m.!). RSVP by Nov. 12.
2. Bill Daniels asks you to send photos of your 2002 bike rides and trips. Mail nonreturnable photos to "The Big 2002 PhotoFest," 3751 Appian Way #11, Lexington, KY 40517-5929. They just may "end up" in the banquet's collage.
3. Let's meet on Thurs., Nov. 7, 7 p.m. at the Beaumont Branch Library and take care of club business before the banquet.
4. Take time to vote in the election for our 2003 club officers.
5. As usual, the Red River Rally was "sunny, wonderful, and very invigorating!" Thanks for joining us!
6. No club meeting in December. Happy Holidays!
7. Don't forget about our New Year's Day Ride! It goes on despite the weather! Mileage will count!

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It's a Date! - Banquet 2002

Bill Daniels

If you like to socialize with your riding mates, sign up for the annual BCC banquet Sun., Nov. 17. It's going to be a great evening! Once again it's just \$15 per person. Please RSVP by Nov. 13.

The banquet will be at the Hilton (245 Lexington Green Circle), behind Lexington Green (Joseph-Beth's location) in Lexington. A social hour starts at 6 p.m., with a buffet dinner served about 6:45 p.m. The chef proposes two meat choices, plus vegetables, breads, salads and desserts will be offered. The lounge down the hall will be available for those who want an alcoholic beverage.

After dinner, there will be an awards ceremony and the announcement of the 2003 club officers. (Don't forget to vote!)

RSVP to Bill Daniels ((859) 271-6001 or wedaniels1@prodigy.net) by Wed., Nov. 13. You can either pre-pay, which is preferred, or pay at the door. Cost per person is \$15. Send a check made out to the BCC to "The Banquet," 3751 Appian Way #11, Lexington, KY 40517-5929.

It will be a great time! See you there!

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Bluegrass Cycling Club

OFFICERS

President	Bill Daniels	(859) 271-6001 wedaniels1@prodigy.net
Vice President	Doug Wagner	doug@delos.kcr.uky.edu
Secretary	Herb Goff	(502) 223-1474 hgoffs@aol.com
Treasurer	Clarissa Spawn	tandemcs@kih.net

COMMITTEES

Touring	Alan Mullins	(502) 695-2534 alanmull@bellsouth.net
Racing	Fred Steinbrecher	(502) 695-4468 fsteinb@mis.net
Horseyc Hundred	Doug Wagner	horseyc@bgcycling.org
Time Trials	Dan Morris	sbrldam@aol.com
Red River Rally	David Earle	
Statistician	Dave Scott	(859) 224-8967 david_scott@georgetowncollege.edu
Newsletter	Woodson Smith	(502) 418-4787 jwsmith@plangraphics.com

The Bluegrass Cycling Club is affiliated with the League of American Bicyclists, the United States Cycling Federation, the Rails to Trails Conservancy, the National Off-Road Bicycle Association, the Adventure Cycling Association, the International Mountain Bicycling Association and the Randonneurs Mondiaux.

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2003 New Year's Day Ride

Bill Daniels

It's not too early to start gathering warm clothing for our Annual New Year's Day Ride! You can plan for one cool ride, that is for sure! And here is something new for 2003-the mileage will count on this club ride!-for all you mile-counting fiends.

Our annual first-day-of-the-year ride, will more than likely start from Paul Sawyer Art Gallery, just southeast of Frankfort on U.S. 60. The ride will go on no matter what the weather is like, unless road conditions are truly nasty. Check the club's Web site, www.bgcycling.org, for updated info. Also, take note of what is being planned on the listserv.

(Instructions for logging onto the list-serve can be found on our web page under "Mailings.")

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One More BGSB Winner...

Woodson Smith

I omitted the name of one of our winners in the last issue. BCC's Susan Long took the gold medal in the citizen women's 30+ bicycle race at the Bluegrass State Games in Danville back in July.

Sorry for the omission, and happy to correct it now!

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Ask Uncle Tutu

Uncle Tutu

"Uncle Tutu" is an anagram of "Clute Unu."

Uncle Tutu, could you give me some advice on what type of water bottle to use during these cold winter months. Should I purchase one of those thermal bottles?

So the weather's a little too nippy for you? Why then, sure, go right ahead and get a thermal bottle.

And while you're at it, pick up a pair of fuzzy bunny slippers and some of those mittens with the string that goes all the way through the sleeves of your jacket so you can't lose them. Then Uncle Tutu will go for a bike ride while you sip your hot chocolate with the little marshmallows, you whiner.

Dear Uncle Tutu, what is your opinion of the current crop of bikes that combine every different kind of tubing, all for the sake of the "perfect ride?"

Uncle Tutu can say this about that: It's a mercy Fausto Coppi didn't live to see the day. Actually, Uncle Tutu once knew a guy who quit riding to build the perfect bike. Every now and then he'd bring the bike out and ride a few miles, but he was essentially no longer a cyclist but a fetishist.

So ask, yourself, punk: Are you a cyclist or a fetishist? Then act accordingly.

Uncle Tutu, could you give me some winter training tips?

Awww, just get out and ride!

Uncle Tutu, what is your opinion of cyclocross racing?

Son, this is a family magazine, so Uncle Tutu will choose his words carefully. How to put this...let's just say that cyclocross is **WRONG**. It's **UNNATURAL** and **WEIRD**. So, hey, suit yourself.

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'Cross Season is Here

Woodson Smith

The racing season's not over, no sirree-cyclocross season is here. Check out www.kentuckycyclocross.com for the schedule of Kentucky races. Note that one of the races will be close to home in Versailles (Nov. 3), so come over and check it out-it's spectator-friendly!

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Winter Rides

Woodson Smith

Official club rides are over, but that doesn't mean you have to hang your bike up until March. If the weather's good on any given winter weekend, you can count on somebody to organize a ride.

If you're not on it already, be sure to get on the BCC listserv to stay informed about the "impromptu" winter rides.

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Red River Rally, 2002 Edition

David Earle

The law of averages worked in our favor this year, as we had not perfect, but at least bearable weather conditions for the 31st annual Red River Rally at Natural Bridge State Park and environs on October 13th, 2002.

Changing weather and overnight precipitation had me fretting another weather-related RRR disaster, but early that morning the rains ended in eastern Kentucky (excepting a brief shower in Beattyville), leaving us with a mostly cloudy, somewhat windy day with temperatures in the upper 50s.

Around 85 cyclists braved these elements to accept the challenge of the 38- and 65-mile hilly routes. I don't know if folks are riding longer distances, but we had an extraordinarily large group of about 30 riders that signed up for the longer ride. As far as I know, there were no major mishaps on the rides-the only injury I heard of was from a late-starting rider that bumped a wall in the darkness of Nada Tunnel and slightly cut his pinkie.

Also, I heard there were a few dogs along the routes to keep things interesting. The last rider in was a gentleman from Illinois who, after riding the hilly 65-mile route, pulled into the parking lot at around 3:45 p.m. Congratulations to him for sticking with it!

As an added feature, we put together a post-ride cookout for the cyclists as they returned after the rides. The fare included hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, and carrot cake. This cookout seemed to be appreciated for re-filling depleted energy stores, and as an opportunity for post-ride socializing. I would like to thank Cliffview Resort for providing the food for the cookout.

Most of all, I would like to thank the other volunteers that made this event possible. Mark Medley proved that he is truly a chef at the grill with the burgers and hot dogs; also appreciated is all his other help with various event preparations. Steve Royse and his son, Clay, manned the Sky Bridge Rest Stop to perfection. Bena Halecky helped with registration. Jerry Redden provided moral support as he rode the route with me the day before to mark the roads. Also, the ham radio guys from Winchester helped with traffic control at Nada Tunnel and other tricky locations on the tour routes.

Overall, this year's RRR was a big success! The post-ride cookout was very well received, and I hope that next year's coordinator will carry on with this "tradition."

Thanks to all of you that came out in less-than-ideal conditions and made it a special day at Natural Bridge State Park, the Red River Gorge, and along the two cycling routes.

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Winter Reading Tips: Some New Books on Cycling

Woodson Smith

Tim Moore, *French Revolutions* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2002)

Tim Krabbé, trans. Sam Garrett, *The Rider* (New York: Bloomsbury, 2002)

Samuel Abt, *Off to the Races* (Boulder: VeloPress, 2002)

Henri Quiqueré and Arnaud Pauper, *Les Cent Ans du Paris-Roubaix* (Paris: Flammarion, 2002)

When it's cold, dark, and nasty outside, you can't face another trainer session, and your tape of Lance whipping Jan on the Alpe d'Huez has finally broken, head to your local bookstore for some good recent books about cycling.

Tim Moore's *French Revolutions* is a first-person account of its author's wild-hare expedition riding the route of the 2000 Tour de France. A cycling fan but a novice on a bike, Moore must first contend with challenges like clipless pedals and integrated brake/shifter levers (and the Société du Tour de France, which won't give him the details of the Tour stages because they're a really "beeeeeeeeg secret"), but soon progresses to bigger hurdles like the big climbs in the Pyrenees and the Alps.

Touring the "hexagon," Moore meets dictatorial hotel owners, eats at the pizzeria from Hell, and even figures out the hidden code of French toponymy: "Somewhere-sur-Something and Blah-du-Blah were always good news for the slothful cyclist, both implying a riverside location and consequently benign gradients; but well before

I got to Saint-Bertrand de Comminges I knew it would consist of a big old monastery surrounded by narrow alleys atop a small, brown mountain."

Moore has only the mildest delusions of grandeur, and all he really wants is someone to yell an admiring "chapeau," or "hats off," which he describes as "the traditional roadside hosanna for those who had achieved the memorable." By the end of this very funny book, he receives more than one "chapeau," as well as his own very small measure of fame. Most of us could ask for no more.

Tim Krabbé's *The Rider* is another first-person account, in this case a fictionalized version of the author's experience as an amateur racer in the 1977 Tour de Mont Aigoual, a one-day race in southern France (the novel was published in Holland in 1978 but has only now been translated into English).

Krabbé's serious, and he's probably not a guy you'd want to tangle with on a club ride. As he observes,

Tourists and locals are watching from sidewalk cafes. Non-racers. The emptiness of those lives shocks me.

But Krabbé the author is a student of bicycle-racing history as well as a serious chess enthusiast, and the book—which could teach James Joyce a thing or two about making stream-of-consciousness more reader-friendly—combines his sometimes crabby ruminations on cycling's greats with his chess-master's view of strategy and tactics as the race evolves. Like a good chess player, Krabbé is always thinking several moves ahead, and, well, I couldn't put the book down until, finally, I had to, because I was finished reading it and my arm was getting sore.

Samuel Abt, a long-time newspaper reporter for The New York Times and other papers, offers a very different perspective in *Off to the Races*, his collection of articles written over the last 25 years. Unlike, say, the racing articles in VeloNews, which tend to be chronological, blow-by-blow accounts, Abt's pieces, like good newspaper articles, are succinct and pointed. They make a point and call it done.

Abt covers the famous and the obscure, the winners and the losers.

Since the period of his book runs from the end of Eddie Merckx's career to the height of Lance Armstrong's, Abt has had a lot of great material with which to work, and if you're a cycling fan, you're apt to like this book a lot.

As an added bonus for your winter reading, *Les Cent Ans du Paris-Roubaix* tells you about as much as you're likely to need to know about the "queen of the classics." As its title suggests, it covers the first hundred years (well, actually, the first 99) of Paris-Roubaix, from Joseph Fischer, who won the first race in 1896, to Servais Knaben, who (with the help of the awesome Domo boys) blew away poor George Hincapie in 2001.

Yeah, the book's in French, but even if your French is rusty, the pictures are superlative.

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BCC's 2003 Brevet Series Schedule

Johnny Bertrand

02/23/03: 200 km

03/08/03: 300 km (200 km)

04/05/03: 400 km (200/300 km)

04/19/03: 600 km (200/300/400 km)

Note that there are 4 events, three having different distance options. The primary distance is listed first.

The 400 and 600 KM will almost certainly involve night riding for most/all riders. Lights, reflective vests, etc. are required and are verified via bike inspection prior to the start of the event.

I would like to see more people riding these events but realistically, I would expect approximately: 25, 15, 10, 10 participants for the 200, 300, 400, and 600 respectively.

Put these dates on your calendar if you are interested in participating in the brevets of 2003. More information and announcements will come as time nears.

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Michigan's Bow Tie Tour, 2002

David Earle

In mid-summer, I was a bit tired of riding in 90+ heat and humidity, and maybe a little bored with the familiar routes we all ride. It was time for a cycling vacation a quick surf on the Web brought me to the League of Michigan Bicyclists' Bow Tie Tour. This tour was advertised as 313 miles, 6 days on the bike, 1 day layover, maximum of 300 riders, and cost of \$320. The route's geographical shape accounts for its name, with two loops of the "bow tie" joining at the Straits of Mackinac in northern Michigan. This was the first large week-long tour I've done so I didn't really know what to expect, and was glad when I found out that fellow BCCers Jeff and Wanda McGuffey were also going to be participating.

It was a great trip. The tour provided breakfast and dinner, campsites with shower facilities, sags, gear-hauling, tour booklet, mechanic service, T-shirt, an evening cruise to the Mackinac Bridge, and ferries in both directions across the Mackinac Straits, including a day on Mackinac Island. The food was good and usually "all you can eat." Campsites varied from a beautiful commercial campground on the shore of Lake Huron, to the lawn of a college campus, and to a high school football field. The weather was mostly excellent - except for a downpour on the first morning going north out of Gaylord, Mich., and a brutal headwind for the final 18 miles on the second day as the group straggled into historic Sault Ste. Marie.

The tour visited the shores of three of the Great Lakes: Huron, Superior, and Michigan. Interesting sites along the way included the Mackinac Straits, Island, and Bridge also the river locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Les Cheneaux Islands, the "Tunnel of Trees" on bluffs overlooking Lake Michigan, and several charming villages and beaches on the Great Lakes and other inland lakes. Most cyclists on this tour were enjoying a leisurely trek at moderate speeds, but there

were a few fast dudes and an occasional pace line as well. The terrain was flatter than central Kentucky, with few hills. My distance for the week, with a couple spins around and over Mackinac Island and a few other side-trips added in, totaled 380 miles.

If you're interested in a fun cycling vacation in 2003, I would recommend this tour or the League of Michigan Bicyclists' other two Shoreline Tours. Their web site is at <http://www.lmb.org>. In my discussions with riders from Michigan and other states, they talked of other bike tours throughout the Midwest and were very complimentary of the Horsey Hundred, and they always asked if there was a week-long tour in Kentucky. It got me to wondering if such a tour is a future possibility in Kentucky?

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Support Your Members by Voting

Bill Daniels

It is November and you know what that means-the weather is changing and so are the BCC officers. "It's all good," as they say, as it encourages revitalization and incubates growth. We can't affect the weather much, but we can have a direct influence on the changeover of our club officers. How, you ask? By participating in our annual election for club officers. So please, when the ballot for the 2003 officers arrives in the mail, show your support for the incoming officers and vote for the person of your choice. (Ballots will be mailed to each member and will be available at the Nov. 7 general club meeting.)

This year, the BCC will see three of the four current officers retire. The fourth, Herb Goff, will voluntarily carry on his duties as secretary. But those who are leaving office (Bill Daniels, Doug Wagner, and Clarissa Spawn*) are only doing so to be in accordance with the BCC's constitution. It's true, ya know-it actually states that officers can only serve two consecutive years in the same office. (Seriously, from my experience, I've enjoyed the time...really!) Our constitution also states that any member in good standing can run for office whether he or she is listed on the ballot or not. That is why we provide a space for write-ins on the ballot, just in case someone wants to make a personal campaign for office.

The committee chairs are chosen (or accepted) by the incoming officers and have no term limitations. The committee chairs who are keeping their position should receive our thanks and gratitude for providing such a valuable service to the club. In fact, a couple of the chairs will be returning after several years of service. Without these dedicated people, I'd say we would be in "a spot of bother," if I may quote a familiar voice from the Tour de France coverage.

So please, show your support with a VOTE and SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION TO THOSE RETURNING FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF SERVICE.

[* Footnote: The three retiring officers have done one helluva job throughout their two, one-year terms. They should be honored, praised, and exalted to the highest level of admiration for accepting their positions with dignity, for ecstatically volunteering for that second year and for carrying out their duties with honor. (Oh be quiet! I can hear ya from here.)]

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Tax Story

Bill Daniels and Clarissa Spawn

In keeping with our promise in keeping you, the club membership informed about the club's tax filing review, we would like to present a brief summary of what we know at this time. Our accountant has reviewed the tax year of 1999 and we have submitted the form. He's hopeful that we won't be penalized, but we'll deal with that if it occurs.

We have gathered the necessary information and have completed the necessary form for 1999. We (or rather "he") is now working on 2000's filing while setting up a system of filing, which we (as in "we the officers") can pass on to the next club officers to make this reporting process easier.

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Insurance Woes

Herb Goff

Earlier this year, we learned that our liability insurance company had gone out of business and the club was no longer covered for ride events. Our insurance agency worked diligently to provide new coverage for us, and other clubs throughout the United States. Unfortunately, time passed and they were unable to provide alternate coverage.

As it happened, we belong to the League of American Bicyclists, which is able to offer coverage through another company. We contacted them, and a few weeks ago once again became "fully covered." Our new insurance company has provided a "preferred" sign up sheet which is in Microsoft Word and available to ride leaders. If you are leading a ride, please make sure the sign up sheet you are using has "League of American Bicyclists" on the first line. I will be glad to email a copy to anyone interested.

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New and renewing members

Herb Goff

NEW MEMBERS

Mt. Sterling: Dorain Adkins, Jr.

Richmond: Reavis & Dianne Gibb, Dorain & Steila Adkins, Sr, Mark Alsip

Lexington: David & Leslee Moore, Bradley Monton, Erik Von Fischer, Katie Ticknor & Stephen Jett, Diana Lynn Brown, Bob Douglas, Shannon Hensley, Mark Fielder

Georgetown: Gary & Marti Hobbs

Frankfort: Tim McCauley

RENEWING MEMBERS

Lexington: Karen Hudson, Kevin Dalton, Randy Lisk, Donald Crowe, Richard Fern, Jeffery Rulis, Larry & Peggy Wheeler, John Skillman, Bernie Miller, Jennifer Redmond, Scott Emerson, Brian Pelletier, Mark Schuler

Stanton: Esther Rule

Frankfort: Alan & Jeanna Mullins, Nancy Moore

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If You Move...

Be sure to let club secretary Herb Goff know your new address so you'll get your newsletter; they **are not** forwarded by the post office, and if BCC forwards them, it costs us extra postage.

Contact Herb via e-mail at: hgooffs@aol.com or send a change of address card to the club address: BCC, P.O. Box 1397, Lexington, KY 40588-1397.

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Copy Due Dates

- Jan-Feb. Issue: Dec. 1.
- March-April Issue: Feb. 1, 2003.

Submit copy to: Woodson Smith, 224 W. 4th St., Frankfort, KY 40601, (502) 418-4787, or jwsmith@plangraphics.com

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Racing Info

Check the [racing pages](#) on the BCC web site for up-to-date race information, schedules, and results. Also check out area racing at <http://www.ohiovalleyracing.org/> or <http://www.truesport.com/>

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Check your label!

Look at your mailing label **RIGHT NOW** and see if your membership is about to expire. If so, renew it now with the form included in this newsletter, or with the form on the Web site.

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