

CALOOSA CHRONICLES

Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club of Lee County Florida
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2008 DUES ARE DUE

If you have not paid your dues for 2008, please send them in now. We do not send out statements. If you joined after October 1, 2007, your membership is extended to 2008. Fill out the application on page 5 and send it along with your check.

Indicate on the application your choice of newsletter delivery methods. You can choose between email and regular mail. Email not only saves your club postage, but we can save a tree or two.

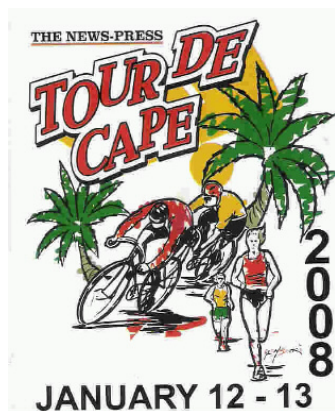
If you choose email it will be sent as a pdf attachment. You will also be able to link to the newsletter on our website www.caloosariders.com

NEW Officers and other volunteers

On the left are your officers and other volunteers who were either elected or otherwise coerced into serving for 2008. A thank you to those officers and other volunteers who helped make a successful 2007. We plan to make 2008 another great year with lots of rides and other activities.

The newsletter will be featuring rides near and far that our members have participated in. If you have been on an interesting ride send an article about your ride to the newsletter editor.

Tour De Cape January 12-13, 2008



On Saturday January 12th Cape Coral Parks and Recreation hosts the 17th Annual Tour De Cape 5K Run/Walk in the Tarpon Point area of Cape Coral. On Sunday January 13th the bike tour will offer 15, 30, 60 and 100 mile courses in the west and north sections of Cape Coral. Amenities of the tour include a t-shirt, a continental breakfast, rest stations every 15 miles with refreshments, support vehicles and a well mapped and marked route.

\$28 pre-registration by Jan 5th with lunch

\$25 Pre-registration without lunch

\$30 Registration day of event without lunch

The above prices are for the bike tour only contact the city at 239-573-3123 for more information. You can also register at www.active.com

Royal Palm Classic March 1, 2008 (Sat)

10th Annual Royal Palm Classic will start at Buckingham Park. There will be four different mileage rides 15, 30, 62 and 100. Starting times will vary. Enjoy the day on the road and the hospitality of our rest stops. Lunch beginning at 11:00AM, hamburgers, Boca burgers and brats will be served (included in registration fee). \$25 if registration received before Feb 28 or \$30 on the day of the event. Registration includes lunch, T-shirt and water bottle. Non-riders may purchase a meal for \$5. RoyalPalmClassic@gmail.com www.caloosariders.com

Ride Schedule and Meeting Dates

Saturday Rides: Buckingham Community Park on Buckingham Road East of SR 82 Start 8:00 a.m.

Jan-Mar 2008

Jan 5	Greenbrier	Jeff Brim 239-560-2746
Jan 12	Wheeler	Bill Garrison 239-275-7615
Jan 19	Old Milwaukee	Ron Cox 239-334-7580
Jan 26	Alva Special	JoAnne V. 239-936-1058
Feb 2	I Like Ike	Mike Swanson 239-896-6938
Feb 9	Greenbrier	Jeff Brim 239-560-2746
Feb 16	Wheeler	Bill Garrison 239-275-7615
Feb 23	Old Milwaukee	Ron Cox 239-334-7580
Mar 1	Royal Palm Classic	Dutch RoyalPalmClassic@gmail.com
Mar 8	I Like Ike	Mike Swanson 239-896-6938
Mar 15	Greenbrier	Jeff Brim 239-560-2746
Mar 22	Wheeler	Bill Garrison 239-275-7615
Mar 29	Old Milwaukee	Ron Cox 239-334-7580

Breakfast After Rides

Tuesday/Thursday

Annie's
814 SW 47th St, Cape Coral

Saturday

Frankie's
3701 Fowler St, Fort Myers



Tuesday & Thursday Rides

Cay West Parking Lot - Cape Coral Parkway west of Chiquita. 8:00 a.m. 30 miles

The group rides to Coral Oakes Golf course for a break and then returns. Some of the riders maintain a conversational pace (12 - 15 mph) while others ride much faster.

Wednesday Ride

Summerlin and Colonial in Ft. Myers 8:00 a.m.

The ride follows the Summerlin Bike Path. This is a fairly intense ride with average speeds being above a conversational pace.

Sunday Rides

Bell Tower - Daniels and US 41

Meet at 7:30 a.m. Pace: 20 mph for 30 to 60 miles. Not for beginners.

Pelican/Cape Coral: Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Pelican Park on Pelican Blvd, north of Cape Coral Parkway. Pace: 12 to 20+ for 26 to 35 miles.

Check the website for changes to the ride schedule and maps.

www.caloosariders.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS

NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

Thursday, Jan 17

Thursday, Feb 28

Lee Memorial Hospital

MED2 (not the auditorium)

Meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 13	Tour De Cape	Cape Coral 239-573-3123 or www.active.com
Feb 24	Tour de Cure	Orlando www.diabetes.org/tour
Mar 1	Royal Palm Classic	See Article page 1
Mar 9	Tour de Cure	Sarasota/Venice www.diabetes.org/tour
Mar 30-Apr 4	Bike Florida	Trail Link 2008 www.bikeflorida.org/
Apr 19-24	FL Bicycle Safari	Live Oak www.floridafreewheelers.com/
Apr or May	Key West Ride	Details coming at www.caloosariders.com and next issue

MEMBER UPDATE—DUTCH

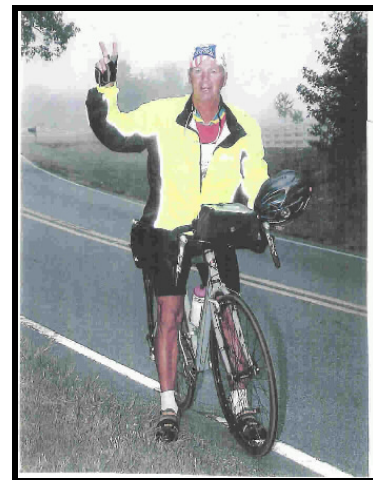
As many of you know, Chad Folden has been ill with Cancer. He was in the Hospital for a number of weeks after his chemo and radiation treatments, and was feeling pretty bad. I am happy to inform you all that he is now resting at home, and is getting stronger by the day. He is upbeat, and is looking forward to the day that he can once again be on his bike. We all wish him a speedy recovery.



CYCLE NORTH CAROLINA

JAY GRAY

Jay Gray was diagnosed with prostate cancer six months before the ride. That did not prevent him from participating in his 6th cross state bike ride, Cycle North Carolina, September 29 to October 6, 2007. 470 miles from the Carolina Mountains to the Outer Banks. The following is Jay's account of his adventure:



I drove 952 miles from Ft. Myers Beach to the finish town on the Outer Banks, where I parked my truck for the week. There were four buses there to drive 200 of us nine hours to the starting point in West Jefferson, located near the Virginia border in the mountains.

Saturday night, after seeing many friends from past rides, I set up a tent on the local school grounds. Even though I wore 2 pairs of socks, sweat pants and a hat, I froze my butt off that night as the temperature dropped to 30 degrees. I had ice on the tent when I got up! The twenty-year-old sleeping bag did not help much, either.

First riding day was a 55-mile downhill riding adventure of crossing the Continental Divide and speeding down the Blue Ridge Mountains. I braked at 30 mph, while the young riders were hitting 40+ mph. One stretch was posted as 6 miles of downhill grade, and I worried about my old brake cables, tires and pads and my 70-year-old body. Naturally, what goes down goes up, and there were some mean climbs where the 'Granny Gear' got a good workout.

The second day was a 75-mile ride in the same mountains, but with more turns.... a rough day. Weather continued to be good, but morning fog and low temperatures were a problem. I started off with flashing red brake lights, four layers of shirts, and a dream of being back home.

The third day was a 50-mile ride with rolling,

long foothills which offered us long climbs. Oh yes... North Carolina does not have a dog leash law, and dogs and bikes don't match.

Days four, five and six were 60-mile rides. In Louisburg, we camped at the college and enjoyed the college dining and social areas. I used the library to get my emails and write home.

There were two major accidents on the ride. One rider was hit by a car as he went through a stop street. He took some bumps and lost his bike. The other accident was a dog hitting a bike on a downhill run. The rider was banged up and his bike was also totaled.

On the seventh day, we rode to the Outer Banks - a 70-mile flat ride. The finish was at the courthouse, and we camped our last night on the lighthouse grounds.

The ride was well supported with rest stops and repair help every fifteen miles. The seven-day ride was \$195.00, plus I purchased the breakfast/dinner meal plan for \$160. Hope to see you all in Key West where it's flat!

*The 2008 Cycle North Carolina will be September 27 to October 4
Details at <http://www.ncsports.org/ncyclemain.php>*

CHOKOLOSKEE 2007

TRACY WELLS

Once again, the Chokoloskee Ride was a great success. On December 8th at 7:30 we all assembled in Immokolee at the Florida Community Bank to begin our weekend ride to Everglades City and Chokoloskee Island. Participants included Paul and Mary Ann Altieri, Bob Hale, Dutch Van der Kuyp, Chris and Tracy Wells, Dale Sterz, Dick Bennett, Carol Flores, Shelly Erion, Martha Cole, Leslie Paris, Dale Van Netta, Wayne Van Netta, John Morrison, Jay Gray, George Sampson, Bud Elder, Alan Byerly, Ron Cox- our ride organizer- and Joanne Van Netta – our gracious and terrific sag driver. It was a beautiful day and after stuffing the van with all the camping gear and the sag supplies we headed out on Route 29 South. This year we managed to get past the McDonald's, which was a mile away, without stopping. It's not a good sign when the first rest stop is within a mile of the starting point. The road has very little traffic and a wide shoulder. We broke into a few groups based on riding speed and after 11 miles we pulled into a convenience store parking lot for the first official stop. Joanne had laughter, water, Gatorade, cookies, fruit and all sorts of great sustenance for us. She managed to find great stopping places about every 12 miles. There were always good photo ops and clusters of riders having their picture taken. We ambled into Everglades City which was abuzz with a local festival. A few people decided to try out a roadside / riverside grill which was nearby and apparently very good and the rest of the group continued following the river to the Rod and Gun Club. Ron had called ahead to warn them, so to speak, about our group. They gave us a wonderful room overlooking the river on one side and the swimming pool with a waterfall on the other. Jay was the last to arrive as he decided to go to the nearby festival. He bought a painted coconut for Joanne. She enjoyed her "original" artwork – Jay definitely gets the Mr. Nice Guy Award. It was lots of fun and the food was good. There was a creative menu which included among its local fare a crab cake reuben and a grouper reuben. Leslie got the Key Lime Pie and passed it around so we could all have a bite of dessert. Very tasty. Entertainment after lunch was provided by Dick Bennett who did his own rendition of the Wikki-Wachi mermaids in the club's pool resplendent in full bike attire.

After all the fun and games we traveled on to Chokoloskee Island, going 3 miles over the causeway to our campground. The total mileage was just under 50 miles. The Chokoloskee Island Park campground is on Chokoloskee Bay and is comprised of sites for rv's and mobile homes. A few people rented trailers as opposed to camping. We unpacked the van, set up tents, showered and changed clothes. It was a restful afternoon of napping, sitting on the "dock of the bay" looking at the mangrove islands and the sunset, watching returning fisherman with their daily catch and porpoises that swam by. Tom Hauser arrived having taken a dif-



ferent route than we did since he started riding from his home. At dusk we rode back to Everglades City to have dinner at The Oyster House Restaurant. While crossing the causeway we were pelted with tons of bugs hitting the helmet which was sort of odd since we hadn't had any bugs at the campsite nor did we have them on the ride back after dinner. The food was good and there was no lack of lively conversation. Back at the campground we sat around picnic tables swapping stories before the group slowly broke up and meandered back to their tents.

A rooster helped get things moving the next morning, as did the diesel trucks since some campsites were adjacent to the launching ramp. We were packed up and ready to leave at 8. We headed back to Everglades City for breakfast. Everglades City offers kayaking and airboat rides and Chokoloskee Island has the Smallwood Store and Museum and a funky coffee shop (that wasn't open when we were there) and probably many other attractions.

A few people ate at an ice cream shop which offered breakfast and everyone else found the Roadkill Restaurant, an unqualified success serving up big portions for a good value. The ride back to Immokolee was fun with periodic stops for gator spotting in the canal alongside. Route 29 is bordered on the East by the Big Cypress Swamp and on the West by the Fakahatchee Strand, which has hiking trails and a scenic drive through it. Everglades City is the northern coastal edge of the Everglades National Park. Joanne gave us 3 rest stops and more munchies and water. We all got back to the bank parking lot in the early afternoon.

This was a great ride, once again, for many reasons. We had 4 new members on the ride, we had 'old' members that we hadn't seen for awhile, and one person wasn't sure they'd be able to pedal 100 miles in 2 days and had a big grin at the end of the ride. It was fun to see new geography, and in the end we all met new friends who, like us, love to ride their bicycles and although I sometimes think we're a rag tag collection of people we sure have a lot of fun when we are together

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print Clearly and Read Completely



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Home: _____ Work: _____

E-Mail _____ (must enter if you want newsletter via email)

Deliver my newsletter via ♦ E-mail ♦ Postal mail

♦ New Member ♦ Renewing Member

Single Membership: \$15 Family Membership: \$20 Spouse's Name: _____

Membership is for the calendar year. Membership applications dated through September remain in effect until the end of the year. Applications dated October thru December remain in effect through the following year.

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to participate in any way in Caloosa Riders (Club) sponsored Bicycling Activities (Activity) I myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of Bicycling Activities and that I am qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in such Activity. I further acknowledge that the Activity will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the activity and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I further agree and warrant that if at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in Activity.

2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that: (a) BICYCLING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISK AND DANGERS OF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING PERMANENT DISABILITY, PARALYSIS AND DEATH (RISKS); (b) these Risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions, or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Activity, the condition in which the Activity takes place, or THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES NAMED BELOW; (c) there may be OTHER RISKS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LOSSES either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES I incur as a result of my participation in the Activity.

3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Club, the League of American Bicyclists, their respective administrators, directors, agents, officers, volunteers, and employees, and other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the Activity takes place, (each considered one of the releasees herein) FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES ON MY ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY NEGLIGENCE OF THE releasees OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS; AND I FURTHER AGREE that if, despite this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the Releasees, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE RELEASEES from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such a claim.

I HAVE READ THIS AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTANDING ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE OF ANY NATURE AND INTEND IT TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW AND AGREE THAT IF ANY PORTION OF THIS AGREEMENT IS HELD TO BE INVALID THE BALANCE, NOTWITHSTANDING, SHALL CONTINUE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

Member's Signature _____

If Family Membership, Spouse's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail application with check to: Caloosa Riders
P.O. Box 870
Fort Myers, FL 33902

Benefits of membership

- ♦ Newsletter ♦ Discounts ♦ Club Meetings ♦ Rides ♦ Free Classifieds ♦ Website ♦



Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club
PO BOX 870
Fort Myers FL 33902

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Gary and Karen Clark
Brian Green
LG and Chris Friedrichs
Sarah Chadha
Carol Flores
Ed Biehl
Matt Sederquist
Tom Pear
Cora Mooney-Graves
Leslie Paris
Martha Cole
Tom Zych
John Adler
Barbara Landis and Stan Mickelson
Brad and Melissa Shipley

CLUB MEMBER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT THESE FINE STORES

These businesses offer members a **10%** discount on non-sale items. Bicycles Excluded. Present your membership

A.J. Barnes Bicycle Emporium
15248 S. Tamiami Trail, FM
239-437-0373

Trikes & Bikes
3451 Fowler St, FM
239-936-1851

Mother Earth Natural Foods
Cape Coral & Ft. Myers
239-454-8009

The BikeRoute
8595 College Parkway at Winkler FM
239-481-3376

The Naples Cyclery
813 Vanderbilt Rd. Naples
239-566-0600

Acme Bicycle Shop
615 Cross St (US 41 S), P.Gorda
941-639-3029

Ft. Myers Schwinn
3630 Cleveland, FM
239-939-2899

The Naples Cyclery
27820 S. Tamiami Tr, B.Spr
239-949-0026

Paradise Bicycles
1712 Del Prado Blvd S, CC
239-772-2453

Wooley's Bikeland
Colonial Parkway, FM
239-939-0511

Clint's Bicycle Shoppe of Naples
8789 Tamiami Tr N
(Marketplace at Pelican Bay)
239-566-3646

Hearing Aid Services
MacGregor Pt SC, B.Spr
239-947-2222

Cape Coral Bicycles
8 Del Prado Blvd S., CC
239-242-2453

The UPS Store
3015 SW Pine Island Rd, CC
239-282-0380

Trek Bicycle Store of Estero
8001 Plaza Del Lago Ste 101,
Estero
239-390-9909