



# CALOOSA CHRONICLES

Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club of Southwest Florida  
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2008

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**May 17-21** Key West  
Self Contained

**May 26** Memorial Day  
Ride and Potluck

**Nov 16-20** Key West  
Adventure 5

**Jan 3-4, 2009** Cokoloskee Island #3

**Feb 7-8, 2009** Highlands Fling #2

*Details on pages 4 and 5*

## THE HIGHLANDS FLING Or the evolution of a really great ride

Chris Wells

I should start this story by mentioning a ride that didn't happen. On Thursday, December 27, Ron and Nancy Cox and Tracy and I drove (actually Ron drove) to Flamingo in Everglades National Park to see if this was a possible overnight camping and cookout ride area. The drive to Florida City is long, but the thirty eight mile ride in the park was pretty with marginal pavement and

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## Royal Palm Classic 2008

Dutch

It all started in December while on the Christmas night ride. I was approached by Ron Cox, asking me what I think about not having the next Royal Palm Classic. I did not agree. He said nobody wants to be in charge of it. So to make a long story short, I volunteered.

I got a few Caloosa riders together. The ones who always volunteer. We have a hand full of club members who always volunteer for everything. Its about time that we get more members involved. Please do your share of helping to keep the club going. Sign up to help whenever we are looking for volunteers. Believe me it is a lot of fun.

We had to move the ride back from Sunday to Saturday. On our planned Sunday they had a big soc-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

**4th Thursday of the month  
Dinner Meetings**

**May 22 Thursday 7:00 PM**

**June 26 Thursday 7:00 PM**

**Stevie Tomato's  
11491 S Cleveland Ave  
Fort Myers, FL**

# Ride Schedule and Meeting Dates

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

**Tuesday & Thursday Rides**

Cay West Parking Lot - Cape Coral Parkway west of Chiquita. 8:00 AM 30 miles  
The group rides to Coral Oaks Golf course for a break and then returns. Some of the riders maintain a conversational pace (12 - 15 mph) while others ride much faster.

**Tuesday Evening Ride 6:00 p.m.**

From Publix at Burnt Store Rd and Pine Island Rd Cape Coral confirm with Soloane 826-6161 or Soloane@yahoo.com

**Wednesday Ride**

Summerlin and Colonial in Ft. Myers 8:00 a.m. The ride follows the Summerlin Bike Path. Pace 17-20

**Sunday Rides**

**Bell Tower** - Daniels and US 41  
Meet at 7:30 AM Pace 20 mph for 30 to 60 miles. Not for beginners.

**Pelican/Cape Coral:** Meet at 8:00 AM 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.**

## MAY-JUNE 2008

May 3	Wheeler	Bill Garrison 239-275-7615
May 10	Old Milwaukee	Ron Cox 239-334-7580
May 17	Alva Special	JoAnne V. 239-936-1058
May 24	I Like Ike	Mike Swanson 239-896-6938
May 26	Memorial Day Ride	www.caloosariders.com
May 31	Greenbrier	Jeff Brim 239-560-2746
June 7	Wheeler	Bill Garrison 239-275-7615
June 14	Old Milwaukee	Ron Cox 239-334-7580
June 21	Alva Special	JoAnne V. 239-936-1058
June 28	I Like Ike	Mike Swanson 239-896-6938

### Breakfast After Rides

**Tuesday/Thursday**

Annie's  
814 SW 47th St, Cape Coral

**Saturday**

Frankie's  
3701 Fowler St, Fort Myers



**HELMETS REQUIRED FOR ALL RIDES !!!!!**

## OTHER RIDES

May 4	Rotary Scenic Hwy Tour	Flagler Beach FL	www.Flaglerbeachrotary.org/
May 4	Sharky's Ride The Beaches	Venice FL	www.sharkysonthepier.com/Bike_Race.html
May 17	A Ride To Remember	Gainesville FL	www.gcfla.org/rtr/
June 1	Gulf Coast Cycling Classic	Dunedin FL	check FBA calendar for link www.floridabicycle.org/fbtc/

## A VISIT TO THE TREK FACTORY

Michael Swanson

TREK has tours of the frame factory in Waterloo, WI on Wed and Fri at 10 AM. This facility also serves as the R&D and engineering headquarters.

I arrived a few minutes early at the modern building that serves as TREK headquarters in August 2007. I wandered around the lobby where they have displays of some early TREK frames, bikes and a bit of the company history.

TREK started in 1976 building steel touring frames and bikes in a red barn in Waterloo. Some of the TREK bicycles are produced overseas, but the high end bikes are still made here in the states.

The Waterloo facility produces frames in steel, aluminum and carbon fiber. Carbon fiber frames are very labor intensive to produce. The TREK method molds the frame in pieces and then they are assembled with epoxy. After the epoxy cures which may take as long as 24 hours depending on the frame type, they are hand sanded to remove any imperfections before they are painted.

The tour starts in the lobby and moves to an atrium where bikes and jerseys from various Lance Armstrong Tour de France wins are on display. They already had one of the bikes ridden by Alberto Contador in his 2007 Tour de France win.

The frames are shipped to the Whitewater, WI facility for final assembly. That factory can be toured Monday through Friday by appointment.

Here is a link to photos another person took of the tour: [www.chainreaction.com/trekfactory.htm](http://www.chainreaction.com/trekfactory.htm)

### IF YOU GO:

Visit the TREK web site:  
[www.trekbikes.com/us/en/company/factory\\_tour/](http://www.trekbikes.com/us/en/company/factory_tour/)  
for current tour information.



An early TREK touring frame



TREK ridden by Lance Armstrong on the Tour de France



Frames on the factory floor

### Royal Palm Classic 2008

(Continued from page 1)

cer tournament at Buckingham, and that would interfere with our ride. We were not happy having the ride on Saturday, instead of Sunday, because Saturday would be busier traffic, but it worked out fine.

After the first meeting , the work started. Tracy got the printing and the mailing of the registrations done. That was a major job. I assigned jobs to all the other volunteers, and they did an excellent job. We got a route painting crew together, 10 guys who painted the 15-30-62-and 100 mile routes. Great job guys.

Ron ordered the chairs and tables, Bill got the Permits, JoAnne was in charge of the T-shirts, Chris was in charge of signs, Dick and Bill were in charge of dishing out the food, Bob, George, and David were in charge of cooking. On the rest stops we had Paul and Mary Altiere, Dale VanNetta, Tracy Wells, Pat Peters, Karl and Rosemarie Franz , Bud Elder and Allan Byerly. On Sag we had: Chris Wells, Wayne VanNetta and Michael Grussemeier .Great job everyone, thank you.

Everything came together, and the last major job we had to do two days before the ride was to shop for all the food. Dale and myself did that real smooth. The night before the ride was a busy night at the Sterz residence. I was packing the boxes for the rest stops in the garage, and inside the house every one was crying. No, not because they felt sorry for me, but they were slicing onions to be used the next day on the grill. Yes, 10 pounds of the crying stuff.

We had about 300 riders. The weather was great. We had Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Boca Burgers, Potato Salad , Cole slaw, cookies, drinks etc,etc. Lots of food. Everyone ate as much as they wanted. Every one had a great ride, and a good time. The Royal palm Classic was a success. This was our 10th year, and I hope that someone steps up to the plate to run it next year.

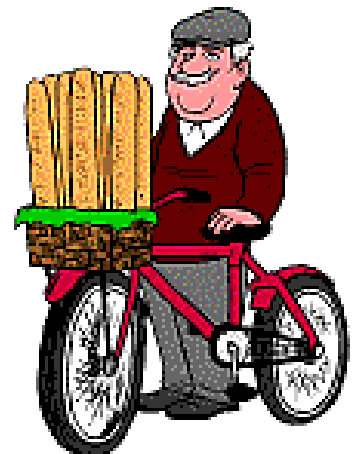
Thanks again to all the volunteers: Dale and Shirley Sterz, Tracy and Chris Wells, Ron Cox,

Bill Garrison, Paul and Mary Altiere, Bob Hale, Wayne and JoAnne Van Netta, Dale Van Netta, David and Norma Colver, Ray Putnam, John Morrison, Allan Byerly, George Sampson, Dick Bennett, Jackie Kampfert, Jim Reading, Carl and Rosemarie Franz, Barbara Venema, Michael Grussemeier. My apologies if I left someone out. Looking forward to the 11th annual RPC ride next year.

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### MEMORIAL DAY Ride and Potluck May 26

The annual Memorial Day ride will be held on May 26 at Camelot Park in Cape Coral. We will leave from the park at 8:00 a.m. and ride about 30 miles. We will return for a potluck at the park. Family is invited. The club will provide plastic utensils, plates and sodas. Bring a dish to share. Check the web site for any changes.



Directions:

From Cape Coral Parkway head south on Chiquita Blvd S, right on SW 51st St, left on SW 17th Pl, the park is three blocks down on the left.

Questions:

Dale Sterz  
239-540-1260  
Dsterz@hotmail.com

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## LONG RANGE PLANNING FOR THE LONG RIDES

Ron Cox and Tracy Wells

The following rides include one or more camping nights and sag support to haul your gear .

### **Key West Adventure No. 5 November 16th--20th, 2008**

We will take the Key West Express to Key West. camp at Boyd's camp ground, Long Key and John Pennekamp State Parks.

Return to Key West and catch the Key West Express back to Ft. Myers.

The ride will be about 225 miles.

We will have a sag to carry your equipment.

Cost approximately \$205.00 per person (includes camping, sag and boat trip). Restaurants are at your expense. Sharing a tent will reduce the cost.

### **Chokoloskee Island Ride No. 3 January 3rd & 4th, 2009**

We will ride from Immokalee to Chokoloskee Island along lightly traveled SR #29 on the west edge of the Everglades.

Camp in tents or rent a cabin.

The ride is about 48 miles each way.

We will have a sag to carry your equipment.

Cost approximately \$35.00 per person. Restaurants are at your expense. Sharing a tent will reduce the cost.

### **Highlands Fling No. 2 February 7th & 8th, 2009**

We will ride from Arcadia to Highlands Hammock State Park along lightly traveled (most of the time) back roads.

The ride is about 48 miles each way.

We will have a sag to carry your equipment.

Cost approximately \$55.00 per person, including dinner & breakfast . Sharing a tent will reduce the cost.

**All of the above rides are available to club members only.**

***We have reservations at all the camp grounds for only 20 tents.***

If you intend to go on one or all of these rides, please sign up as soon as you can. We realize that the rides are along ways off. There is no obligation on your part. Early sign up really helps us to reserve the camp sites and plan these rides.

There will be more information provided on each ride you sign up for.

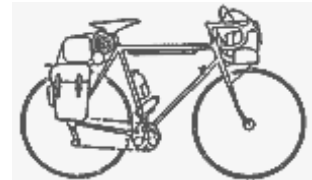
If anyone would like to plan a ride, Tracy and I would be happy to help.

E-mail or call.  
Ron Cox  
rcox1@comcast.net  
239-334 7580

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### **KEY WEST SELF CONTAINED MAY 17-21, 2008**

Jeff Brim



We are organizing a ride from Fort Myers to Key West. This will be a self contained ride. You will need to carry your own camping gear, water and snacks. We will eat in restaurants along the way.

Camping at Everglades City, Florida City, Long Key and Key West. We will return on the Key West Express unless you wish to ride back.

Email as soon as possible if you want to go so that camping reservations can be made.

E-mail  
Jeff Brim  
jeffbrim@yahoo.com

## THE HIGHLANDS FLING

*(continued from page 1)*

not a building in sight. Flamingo offered great scenery, good camping and plenty of recreation. However, the rangers were not very enthusiastic and the whole trip was pretty far away. What seemed to have some potential simply had more problems the more we pursued it. It was a nice but long day trip, and we decided it was a no go.

Now what? Ron called and asked if we wanted to take another recon trip to Highlands Hammock State Park near Sebring and look at a route for a new ride. On one of the coldest mornings of the winter the intrepid four set out again, this time for Arcadia. The first order of business was to find a place to park the cars and start the ride. We asked at the state troopers' office if we could leave vehicles there, but they advised in all seriousness that the cars would be safer at Wal-Mart. So we found the ever present box store and a great bike path to get the riders safely out of town.

Route 17 goes north toward Zolfo Springs and would have worked for most of the ride, but instead we checked out every back road on the map, some which went somewhere and some which didn't, and some whose names were the same as the map and some that weren't. We finally got to the park with a route in mind, had lunch by a large roaring fireplace, talked to some great rangers, perused campsites, hiked the park trails, and imagined a bike ride.

Let's jump forward to the beautiful morning of February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Wal-Mart in Arcadia and the gathering of cyclists (including from Punta Gorda, Earl Lang of the Acme Bicycle Shop and his friends Charley and Court who along with Tom Hauser had ridden up from Punta Gorda) ready for a new adventure, especially one with no restaurants for dinner. It had become apparent to Tracy and me that our van full of food and cooking supplies was not going to fit into the van full of tenting supplies and the easy decision was made to take two vans. The entire caravan departed on time under sunny skies.

The first section followed Route 17 to

rest stop one and some very enthusiastic eating. After a few more miles we turned right on to one of the back roads which provided some of the most pleasant cycling I can remember. Good pavement, little traffic, and great scenery always make an enjoyable day. At a crossroads near the park, the decision was made to stay on the smaller road and enter the park the back way on a dirt road. Tent sites and cooking areas were selected and the tents went up like mushrooms. Showers, good conversation, sleep, hiking, and the usual shenanigans were the order of the day.

With the right combination of dusk and hunger the charcoal was set ablaze and the great experiment was on! Snacks and dips preceded a blinding array of barbecued wonders as the dark came on and appetites were satisfied. Everyone pitched in to help chef David Colver with the banquet. Good talk and merriment continued into the night as others fell asleep to the sounds of the woods. The morning began as the evening had with the decision to start the cooking again. Tents were struck as the leftovers from supper were diced and tossed into pots full of scrambled eggs and served with coffee and all the fixin's.

The return ride began on the alternate route out of the park on larger roads with shoulders. It was good to try both ways near the park and we can take a vote for the next time. The ride back was aided somewhat by a tail wind and the miles melted away. Soon the group was back at Arcadia and another ride was in the books. The trial run for a cookout ride was a great success .

**See page 5 for information on the next Highlands Fling. Sign up early — space is limited.**

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**DO NOT FORGET**



# 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 NEGLIGENCE 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**

Soloane Jackson  
Lisa Hare  
Michael and Maureen  
Murphy Boyd  
Jane Cheffy  
Dena Baker  
Don and Judy Clucas  
Dale Pero  
Joe and Linda Howard  
Mike Green

**CLUB MEMBER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT THESE FINE STORES**

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

**A.J. Barnes Bicycle Emporium**

15248 S. Tamiami Trail, FM  
239-437-0373

**The BikeRoute**

8595 College Parkway at  
Winkler FM  
239-481-3376

**Ft. Myers Schwinn**

3630 Cleveland, FM  
239-939-2899

**Wooley's Bikeland**

4391 Colonial Blvd, FM  
239-939-0511

**Trikes & Bikes**

3451 Fowler St, FM  
239-936-1851

**Naples Cyclery**

813 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Naples  
239-566-0600

**Clint's Bicycle Shoppe of Naples**

8789 Tamiami Tr N  
(Marketplace at Pelican Bay)  
239-566-3646

**Cape Coral Bicycles**

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

**Acme Bicycle Shop**

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

**Paradise Bicycles**

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

**Trek Bicycle Store of Estero**

8001 Plaza Del Lago Ste 101,  
Estero  
239-390-9909

**Trek Bicycle Store of Naples**

9051 Tamiami Trl  
Naples  
239-591-8735

**NEW**