

CCCCC NEWSLETTER

CHERRY CAPITAL CYCLING CLUB



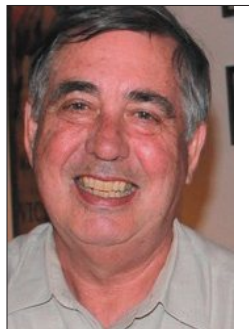
It's Harvest Time!

Gearing up for Indian Summer's final bike tour

Summer's last big bike tour is a major attraction of the Leelanau Harvest Tour (LHT) to be held Saturday, Sept. 16 with up to 500 riders expected to attend.

"The tour runs through the wine country and farms of Leelanau County and then along the Lake Michigan coastline and the Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore," says first-time LHT Director Dan Wittkopp. "For cyclists, it's a great way to wrap up the summer with one last bike tour while enjoying all that northern Michigan has to offer."

The tour starts and ends at Suttons Bay High School, with 20, 40, 65 and 100-mile routes. There are five food stops along the way this year and the tour wraps up with a buffet catered by Sparks BBQ.



This is Dan Wittkopp's first year as director of the Leelanau Harvest Tour and he's grateful for the support of club volunteers.

A VOLUNTEER EFFORT

"We have 50 club members volunteering to make LHT possible," Wittkopp says. "We love our volunteers. If you aren't volunteering this year, I encourage you to ride one of the routes. The routes through beautiful Leelanau county are well marked and the food at the rest stops and the post-ride lunch will be excellent."

"It's a bit quieter up north in the fall and the colors are just starting to show, so it's perfect for cycling," Wittkopp adds. "Plus, there are many wineries, restaurants and charming small towns in the area to explore

before or after the tour."

NEW THIS YEAR:

Held on Sundays in recent years, this year's tour returns to a Saturday slot to accommodate downstate riders who are making the long trip north. There's also been a push to attract more riders by circulating news of the tour to newspapers downstate. Last month, a news release about the LHT went out to 134 newspapers across Michigan.

Also new is the recent widening and improvement of highway M-22 and the welcoming of e-bikes. Locker rooms with showers are also available for riders.

"Net proceeds from the event are donated to TART Trails and other organizations to promote biking in the region," Wittkopp says. "See the club web page for registration details. We do accept registrations on the day of the event."

Check to see if t-shirts are still available on the day of the ride.

For more details and to register, see www.cherry-capitalcyclingclub.org



President's Message

Dear Members:

The Leelanau Harvest Tour (LHT) is right around the corner! Dan Wittkopp our newly elected LHT Director has been working diligently as we gear up for this signature cycling tour around Leelanau County that helps fund maintenance of the Leelanau Trail and various other trail building projects. Dan needs a few more volunteers; please contact him at LH TDirector@cherrycapitalcyclinclub.org if you can help.

I'm excited once again this year to take on the position of Food Stop Coordinator for the LHT. We have five food stops throughout Leelanau County with terrific volunteers ready and willing to serve riders.

I am thrilled that we have a community of local businesses who are donating food and various items for this tour. The list includes: **Centre Street Café, Cherry Republic, Deering's Market, Food for Thought, Gordon Food Service, Higher Ground Coffee, Mackinaw Brewing Company, Meijer, Naturally Nutty, Oryana Natural Foods Market, Pleasanton Bakery, and Pure Water Works.** Their generous donations allow us to provide more funding toward trail maintenance and trail building initiatives in this great community we call



home. Please take the time to thank these businesses for their donations.

Club membership continues to increase thanks to the efforts of Bill Danly, our Membership Director, Ride Leaders, and you! Please remember when you are riding that you represent the Cherry Capital Cycling Club. Check out the Safety and Education page on our website to find safety tips when riding.

Please stay as far to the right side when cycling, whether on trails or roadways. Ride single file when you see vehicles approaching and do not cross the double yellow line when going downhill or passing other cyclists.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Club's Annual Dinner Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 24 at The Corner Loft again this year. Last year members raved about the venue. Carrie Baic, our Social Director is busy making preparations for this yearly social event for our members. We will also be voting in new officers and directors so please plan to attend -- your vote is important.

It is also a time to gain feedback from our members as there are a number of good ideas floating around the cycling commu-

nity and we need to know what projects our members wish us to consider funding in the upcoming year.

Ride on Safely

- Darcie C. Pickren, President



CONGRATS to Club President Darcie for taking Second Place in her age group at the recent Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Epic. She also took First Place at the Traverse City Trails Festival last month.

cycle briefs

BIKING FOR VETERANS: The Rapid Wheelmen cycling club of Grand Rapids is planning several rides in cooperation with a "Landing Zone" event to "Remember, Honor, and Celebrate our community's veterans and their families," on Saturday, Sept. 23 at Fifth Third Ballpark in Comstock Park. Michigan veterans from all branches will be the focus of the event.

"Our club is planning to put on some introductory-level rides to the event, but we would be happy to help out-of-towners plan a local ride, or to simply welcome them along with us," says Wheelmen President **Evan Wilson**. Check out the following link for more info on

the event: <http://www.wgvu.org/lz-michigan/about/>

HELPING THE CAUSE: John Lindenmayer, executive director of the League of Michigan Bicyclists, has passed along his thanks to the CCCC for the club's donation of \$983 from the Ride Around Torch. The funds come from the club's \$1 Per Rider Program, "helping us make Michigan bicycling better," Lindenmayer says. Since 2006, more than \$100,000 has been raised through \$1 Per Rider donations across the state. The LMB uses the funds to promote policies safeguarding Michigan cyclists and to print and distribute booklets on cycling safety. Funds are also used for the Share MI Roads campaign to educate drivers and bicyclists on how to safely interact on the roads, and for the LMB's Michigan Ride Calendar, which pro-

motes cycle tourism in the state.

CLUB SOCIAL DIRECTOR Carrie Baic is planning a second Social Saturday picnic and ride on Sept. 9 as a follow-up to last month's event in Elk Rapids. Look for details on the event in a forthcoming club email.

HEADING EAST: Membership Director **Bill Danly** is looking forward to a month in the saddle this fall. He's planning to ride from Fort Erie, Ontario (near Buffalo) to Mount Desert, Maine on a four-week trip beginning Sept. 9.

NEW HATS are in the works for CCCC members. Ride Director **Mark Esper** is working with the club board on style options, possibly to be available at the annual meeting.



Rocking the Roubaix!

Riders from the Cherry Capital Cycling Club brought back a touch of bygone glory to the Cherry Roubaix Gran Fondo race in early August, resurrecting the club's racing tradition, which dates back at least to the 1980s.

Two teams competed in the event with the CCCC male team taking 4th place in the 60 mile race and the Velo Veterans taking 9th.

The Velo Vets (below) included Merry

Vander Linden, Ben Laird, Michael Corcoran, Darcie Picken and Michael Stimac. Feeling hammered but happy, the male team (above) included Tom Haug, Jon Delboy, Bradly Terrill, Bryce Dreeszen, Michael Stivvani, Jeremiah Edson and Gar Watson.

Congratulations to all of the riders for giving it your very best! **Photos by Paula Dreeszen.**





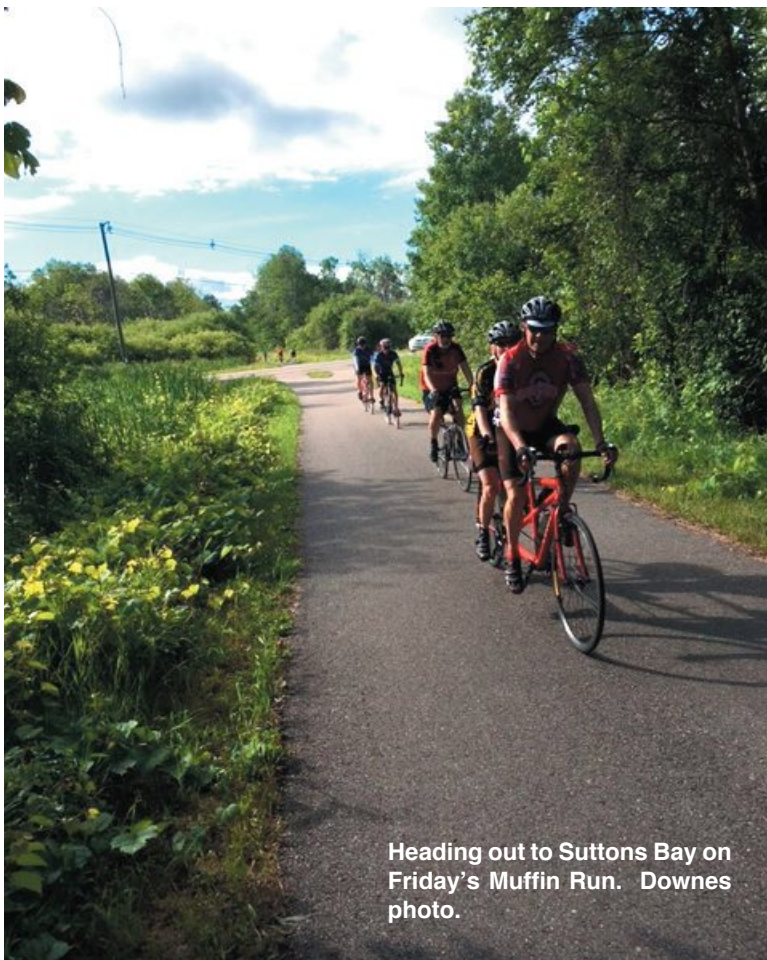
Tom Haug was first up the hill on the final climb at the Cherry Roubaix Gran Fondo. Photo by Paula Dreeszen.



Mike Stivani and Bradley Terrill raised \$400 to fight Juvenile Diabetes in the One Day Ride Across Michigan (ODRAM) from Montague to Bay City. Not pictured is Gar Watson. They made the ride in a blistering 7 hours and 20 minutes!

Here's Lookin' at You

Send photos to:
communicationsdirector@cherrycapitalcyclingclub.org



Heading out to Suttons Bay on Friday's Muffin Run. Downes photo.

BikeRight Cycling Safety Tips



Go with the flow.

Ride in the direction of traffic. Riding against traffic is dangerous and illegal. Motorists and pedestrians are not looking for cyclists going the wrong direction.

Take the lane.

Operate as a vehicle when turning. If you can't change lanes to turn left, walk the bike to turn left as a pedestrian at the crosswalk.

Use the bike lane.

Where available, ride to the left in designated bike lanes, adjacent to parked cars.

See and be seen.

Use mirrors to see what is around you. Wear bright colors. Use daytime running lights.

Ride on the right.

Cyclists should ride as close to the right side of the road as practical, except in right or left turn lanes, where cyclists should take a more visible position. Do not ride in the gutter or hug the edge of the pavement.

Ride straight.

If you weave in and out between parked cars motorists won't know what to expect. Ride in a straight line, at least 3 feet from parked cars.

Don't get dinged

Avoid the "door ding" zone. Parked cars opening doors can seriously injure cyclists. Ride 3 - 4 feet from the left side of parked cars.



The CCCC "Bike Right" safety campaign is underway thanks to the efforts of Safety Director Skip Miller, with art by Joane Mitchell. The aim of the poster and web campaign is to educate both drivers and cyclists. Above, a first look at the messaging.