

OTHG Road Biking - 2015

As we get ready for another fun season of road biking with friends and new acquaintances and in response to numerous comments we received, we are setting up our biking a little differently this year. Among the changes are:

1) There will be only one road bike E-mail list. The list will include only OTHG members. Those of you on last year's road bike list will continue to receive information that relates to this season's OTHG road biking, which may or may not also be posted on the OTHG Web-site. Please let Jack Ferguson know by E-mail at StUllr@AOL.com if you want to be added or deleted from the road bike list or if there is a change in your E-mail address.

If you are not an OTHG member and would like to join us for a ride or two before joining the OTHG you are more than welcome to do so. Simply meet us at River Creek Park as discussed below. If you would like more information on one of the rides simply call the Ride Coordinator (RC) for the ride you are interested in. Membership applications are available on line at www.SSOTHG.org/membership if you would like to become a member.

2) All our scheduled road rides will start from River Creek Park (RCP) at 9 AM on Wednesdays. RCP is located in Steamboat at the corner of Lincoln Avenue (US 40) and Walton Creek Rd. If the accompanying bike schedule calls for us to drive to a parking area, we will caravan (SAG/drive) from River Creek Park (RCP) leaving at 9 AM and drive to the parking area where we will leave our vehicles, off load our bikes and begin and end our bike ride from. In regard to SAG/drive days you may want to car pool. If so, it is up to you to make your own arrangements. It is also perfectly acceptable to drive directly to the parking area without first going to RCP for our 9 AM departure if it is more convenient for you but working out the rendezvous time is your responsibility.

3) As stated above, all the scheduled road bike rides will be on Wednesdays. Based on our past experience, riders naturally sort themselves out based on their cycling styles, among other things. With this in mind the faster, more adventurous riders should roll out first followed by the more mellow and easy riders. As part of the roll outs we hope to have a RC with the lead group and a second RC riding sweep. In this way, should some of you want to modify the day's ride they can work with an RC and the RCs can coordinate the changes with each other as appropriate. In this way those of you wanting different levels of cycling can have them and still be part of the group. The riders wanting a more laid back day will probably cycle the scheduled rides or maybe a shortened version of them and at a slower, more leisurely pace.

4) Only the Wednesday rides will have Ride Coordinators (RC). All our other rides will be considered impromptu and be leaderless. In this regard, weather permitting as in the past, we expect there will be almost daily impromptu rides leaving RCP at 9 AM. The 9 AM roll out time may change for the impromptu rides. Any such time change will be sent to the folks on the road bike list. The impromptu riders who show up for a ride will determine the day's route, etc. before starting out. Further, even though there is a tentative ride scheduled for the Wednesday

rides they will be subject to change by their RC(s). The idea is that if the weather is nice and you want to do a road bike ride with some like-minded people meet at RCP for a scheduled 9 AM ride or an impromptu ride as noted above.

5) In order to enhance your biking experience and to lessen car/bike conflicts we would like to keep our cycling groups to about 10 riders or less. In order to do so we ask if more than 10 riders are planning on doing a ride at the same pace would you please break into smaller groups and start at slightly different times, i.e., at 2 or 3 minute intervals between groups or maybe ride different routes to spread things out.

Our rides will be unsupported as in the past. You will be responsible for:

- 1) getting to the ride and home again. In this regard if the plan is to carport/SAG from RCP to an out of town location where we will start cycling from, you need to make your own transportation arrangements from RCP to the cycling start point in addition to getting between your home and RCP. If someone else is doing the driving please consider helping them with gas money or the like.
- 2) for your own equipment including a bike helmet which we **STRONGLY** suggest you wear whenever you are cycling;
- 3) for riding within your ability and doing so safely;
- 4) for not putting yourself or other riders at risk;
- 5) for all your other actions including obeying all safety and bike related rules and regulations including not passing on the right and letting people know you are about to pass them. In short, we want our outings together to be fun adventures but if you choose to ride with us it is safety first. Your actions and your safety are your responsibility and no one else's. Further, if you choose to join us for any of our rides or any part of them do so solely and totally at your own risk and expense and no one else's. The idea is to have fun with friends and new acquaintances and do it in a safe, flexible way.

All rides are weather dependent. If the weather appears or is projected to be doubtful for a Wednesday ride you will be sent an E-mail canceling that Wednesday's ride by 8 AM on the morning of the ride.

Check out MapMyRide.com (MMR) for additional information on the tentatively scheduled road bike rides as well as other road rides of possible interest in the Steamboat area. MMR keeps changing how to access the ride information but if you spend a little time searching it is there. In the past to access the MMR information you could find it under Routes, the name of the ride, OTHG, StUllr and/or HLynnD

In prior years many of us lunched together following a ride and on most occasions were joined by some of our non-riding spouses and friends. We will plan on similar lunches this year. A lunch plan may be suggested in advance of the ride but like most things associated with these rides those present on the day of the ride can and do change things. Thanks to cell phones lunch, among other things, can be coordinated with the appropriate people, i.e., it is a good idea to carry a cell phone if you have one.

Helping make this years cycling program possible are - and a big thanks to: the Downings, Ann and Eph Holmes, Karen Pharris, Ralph Nultemeier, Gary Arentz, Kay Burch, Ann Clardy and Rosalie Summerill, Joe Caddell and Linda Fairchild. Their, along with my contact information and the Wednesday road bike rides we will be coordinating is set out below.

2015
ROAD BIKE RIDES
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
All rides leave RCP at 9 AM

Date	Ride Ride Coordinators (RC)	Approximate Distance	Comments
6/3/15	Core Trail/13th St/River Road/Bartholomew Lane/CO 131 Loop RC - Gary & Ann C	21 miles	Possible flood waters will determine the Core Trail route through Steamboat (SB)
6/10/15	Sidney Peak Ranch Loop Optional Extension: Dakota Ridge (one way) RC - Rosalie & Linda	15 miles 3 miles	Out via RC 14 (River Road), back via CO 131. To avoid cycling CO 131 consider doubling back @ RC 14/CO 131 jt - riders choice Shortens Ranch Loop by about 1 mile
6/17/15	Hilton Gultch to end of pavement at Red School House Optional Extension: Dakota Ridge (one way) RC - Karen & TBD	19 miles 3 miles	Out & back via RC 14, RC 35 (Deer Park Rd) & RC 41 (Hilton Gultch Rd) Shortens Hilton Gultch ride by about 1 mile
6/24/15	Saddleback Pass Summit RC - Jack & TBD	25 miles	Out & back via RC 14, Core Trail & RC 33 (20 Mile Road)
7/1/15	Strawberry Park Loop to end of pavement through the Sanctuary and SBS * Optional Extension: Fish Creek Falls RC - Gary & Ann C	19 miles 3.5 miles	Out & back via RC 32 (Fish Creek Falls Rd) - going out to the parking lot/turn around - it's a climb

7/8/15	To the end of the newly paved section of CO 131 near CO 131 -MM 57 which about 5 miles this side of Oak Creek) via Sidney Peak Ranch RC - Rosalie & TBD	26 miles	Out & back via RC 14 & CO 131. As an option consider returning via RC 35 (Deer Park Road) if it is in good condition & RC 14. RC 35 is about 3.5 miles of gravel that is usually road bikeable - riders choice
7/15/15	Glenwood Canyon RC- Karen & Joe	32 miles	NOTE: 8 AM departure Caravan from RCP to the Dotsero Trailhead (DT), park, cycle to Glenwood Springs, have lunch, cycle back to DT, rack our bikes and drive home
7/22/15	West summit Rabbit Ears to Muddy Pass Optional Extension: W. Summit descent to River Creek Park RC - Jack, Eph & Ann H	22 miles 12 miles	Drive to West Summit, park and ride to the junction of US 40/CO 14 - out & back
7/29/15	20 Mile Park (RC 33) from below the switchbacks to RC 27 & then towards Oak Creek over 1 or more of the 3 Witches RC - Linda & TBD	Maximum about 30 miles	Out and back via RC 33 & 27 Both RC 33 & 27 are named 20 Mile Park
8/5/15	Pleasant Valley to end of pavement Optional extension: Dakota Ridge (one way) RC - Gary & Ann C	27 miles 3 miles	Out & back via RC 14, CO 131 & RC 18 (Pleasant Valley Rd) Shortens Pleasant Valley ride by about 1 mile
8/12/15	All of RC 14 including Yellowjacket Pass RC - Rosalie & TBD	40 miles	RCP over Yellowjacket Pass and on to the junction of RC 14/CO131 between Phippsburg and Oak Creek. Consider doubling back or coming back to RCP via Oak Creek (lunch?) On CO 131 - riders choice

8/19/15	Yampa/Phippsburg Optional Extension: RC 7 (Gateway to the Flattops) to end of pavement & back RC -	18 miles 13 miles	Drive from RCP to Yampa, park and ride to Phippsburg & back via RC 17 & RC 15 - out & back Lunch at Lupids or Katie's in Oak Creek since Antlers is not open on Wednesday
8/26/15	RCP over Saddleback to the Switchbacks Optional Extensions: The Switchbacks 20 Mile Park RC - Jack & TBD	31 miles 2.5 miles 14.5 miles	Out & back via RC 14, Core Trail & RC 33 (20 Mile Road) A fast descent & 1+ mile climb back up Cycle all the way to the junction of RC 33/27 near 20 Mile Mine & back. The 14.5 miles includes the 2.5 mile switchback descent & climb
9/2/15	Toponas/Gore Pass Summit RC - Gary & Ann C	33 miles	Drive from RCP to Toponas, park by the General Store on CO 131 and ride out & back to the Summit & back via CO 131 & CO 134
9/9/15	Clark/Seed House Road/Hahns Peak Village Loop ** RC -	27 miles	Drive from RCP to Clark, park at the General Store, off load bikes and ride various legs of the ride via RC 129 (Elk River Rd) & RC 64 (Seedhouse Rd)
TBD	N/A Event Coordinator - Kay	N/A	End of season dinner or something

Possible substitutions or additional rides:

* An easy Strawberry Park Loop that avoids the Sanctuary is by going through SBS both out and back. This could be a separate ride from the scheduled 7/1 ride.

** Clark Store/Hahn's Peak - 15 miles out and back; the paved section of Seedhouse Road (RC 64) out and back from the RC 129/RC64 junction adds about 12 miles. The RC 129/RC64 junction is just over a mile from the Clark Store. Consider adding Columbine to the ride or substituting it for Seedhouse Road. Hahn's Peak to Columbine is about 5 miles (10 miles round trip).

Ride Coordinators (RC) contact information:

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