

Crank Mail

October 2011



Cycle the Oregon Coast

The Yaquina Wheels Bicycle Club Newsletter

Newport Loyalty Days Parade—2011 with thanks to Bob Brazel for the loan of his vintage truck.



Thanks go out to Gale Matsumoto, Danielle Emerick and all of the volunteers that put together a bike club entrant for this year's parade. We should have taken home a prize for the way Bob's truck was decorated. My guess is that about 30 bicyclists rode with us this year.

From Newport to Sault Ste. Marie, MI—2011

This trip was the brainchild of Ken Dennis and Jim Colbert to celebrate retirement. Ken retired in November 2010 and Jim retired a couple of years earlier. It was supposed to end on the Atlantic Ocean but due to circumstances beyond our control we only made it about 3000 miles. We're not too ashamed of our effort considering that we went unsupported with me pulling a trailer and gear weighing 70# and Jim was loaded down about the same. If you're interested in our route with pictures and brief description of where we stayed you can go to Track My Tour at: <http://trackmytour.com/4757>.

The first picture was taken by Gale the morning we left. She rode with us to Philomath where she cut off to meet with her son that was graduating from OSU the next day. The next picture was taken after departing Montana by someone in a group of young riders on a supported cross country trip. The last one was on the North Shore of Lake Superior on our 2nd to the last day (94 miles).



Crank Mail continued

2011 Yaquina Lighthouse Rides Report

This report is a repeat of last year's write-up that Skip Harrison did. The courses remained the same but I've added some of the current details for 2011. Last year's ride was coordinated by Jim Colbert and this year Lisa Kern coordinated the event while Jim and I were on our cross country trip.



After a short ride out to the Yaquina Head Lighthouse, all routes headed south from the Yaquina Head area towards Newport via Highway 101 and Oceanview Drive, then through the Nye Beach district of Newport and along Elizabeth Street where they entered the Yaquina Bay State Park, traveling past the historic Yaquina Bay Lighthouse.

From there, the routes proceeded east along the scenic and historic Newport Bay Front, and followed the Yaquina Bay and River inland.

At about mile 12, there was a rest stop at River Bend Marina manned by Mary Hill and friends, with hot coffee and numerous and varied snacks. This was basically the turn-around point for riders doing the 25 mile ride, where they headed back to Newport via the same route they had ridden up the bay and through Newport, returning to the lighthouse. Some riders also continued up the bay to get in more miles, but did not ride the 70 or 103 mile routes.

The more 'hard core' riders continued on up the Yaquina River to Toledo, and then on north on Highway 229 to Siletz, where there was another rest stop manned by Conrad Willett with more food, the special at this stop was Spam and a fruit cup of bananas, hazelnuts and cream. Both were very popular.

At Siletz, the 70 mile riders continued north along the Siletz River, following Highway 229 to a new rest stop at Ichwit County Park manned by Richard Giles. The 103 mile riders headed east on Logsdan road for a 24 mile loop out and back to Moonshine Park, and returned to the rest stop in Siletz for more food before heading north on Highway 229 to the rest stop at the county park.

From Kernville, the 70 mile riders turned south to follow Highway 101 back to Newport, using the Oregon Coast Bike route over Cape Foulweather, enjoying the fantastic view from the "Lookout" at the top of a 1.6 mile climb of almost 450' elevation gain. From there, it was 'all downhill' back to the start area at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.

As for the 100 mile riders, they turned north at Kernville to ride a loop on Drift Creek, Anderson Creek and Schooner Creek roads into the south end of Taft to pick up enough extra distance to get up to 103 miles.

From Taft, the 103 mile riders also followed Highway 101 south, over Cape Foulweather and back to the start at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Area.

The weather was generally good for the ride, with full sun by the afternoon and a nice northwest wind along the ocean to give the riders nice tailwind for the last 20 miles or so, and provided for outstanding views of the Pacific Ocean, especially from the top of Cape Foulweather.

The total turn-out for all routes was approximately 150 riders with sag support by Rick Hill, Skip Harrison and Bruce Warne. Mechanical support was provided by Bike Newport with Elliott and Darin. The after ride get together was hosted at Bike Newport by several club volunteers too numerous to mention. Special thanks go to Daniella.

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The President's Corner

I'd like to use this space to pass along information I've received via emails, etc.

This is directly from LAB:

Dear League Member Organizations:

First of all, I'd like to extend a special offer on League membership to your members -- your members who wish to join can enter the code TOGETHER11 on the payment page and get a 25% discount on League membership at any level. Benefits include *Bicycling* magazine and *American Bicyclist*, as well as discounts from retailers, tour operators, hotels, and others, and the knowledge that you're helping build a bicycle friendly America.

You can direct your members to <http://www.bikeleague.org/join>. This offer is good through October 31, 2011.

If you haven't been there yet, check out the League's website and the members link.



The club board met on September 22nd discuss donations from the funds we have available and voted unanimously to give to The Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses, The Bicycle Transportation Alliance, The League of American Bicyclists, the Seashore Family Literacy Program in Waldport and the Bier One/Bike Newport racing team. We have also paid for the templates that the City of Newport will use to continue with the sharrow roadway markings (the caveat being that other municipalities will be able to borrow it).

We've had a comment on our website that the calendar is way out of date and the recommendation by our webmaster, Jim Colbert, that we post a link to Bike Newport's website calendar because it's kept up to date more often. What do you think?

I have another suggestion concerning club rides: There are several different levels of riders out there and it's tough finding a single ride that suits everyone. We basically have several "groups" now but no single place or time set up for different rides with ride leaders that will remain with and lead each ride. How can we schedule more rides of varying degrees of difficulty. Can we set up different email groups to do this?

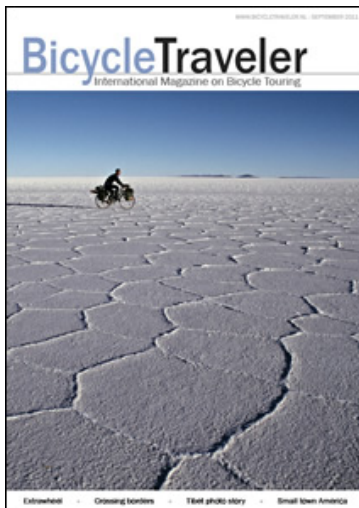
The club sponsored 2 time trials this year. The Col de Beaver Creek hill climb was done again and a 10 mile Yaquina Bay Road time trial was new this year to give riders an opportunity to do a flat TT. We've had excellent participation for both. They're open to riders of all abilities and provide an opportunity to gauge and improve your fitness. The proceeds go towards an awards dinner, membership drive and renewals.

Crank Mail continued

Here's another email that may be of interest to the club:

Hello editor of Yaquina wheels bicycle club newsletter,

My name is Grace Johnson and withers and photographers I have launched the Bicycle Traveler magazine on September 21, non-commercial magazine full of interesting cycling stories and photos which I'm sure that a number of your club cyclists would be interested in reading. I see that your bicycle club puts out a regular newsletter and I thought that you might be interested in publishing a short blurb over the magazine in your newsletter.



the help of some top cycling writers and photographers I have launched the Bicycle Traveler 2011. It's a digital, free, and inspiring cycling stories and photos which club cyclists would be interested in publishing a short blurb over

About Bicycle Traveler magazine: Bicycle Traveler is a free international magazine full of entertaining stories and inspiring photography which will have you dreaming over new destinations, as well as information over cycling gear.

magazine on bicycle touring. It's inspiring photography which will have as well as information over cycling gear.

The magazine contains no advertisements and can be downloaded for free at: www.bicycletraveler.nl

I'm sure everyone is aware of the Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan that Lincoln City is currently working on. Here is a link to a website that is soliciting input from the public:

www.lincolncitypedbike.org.

Any questions can be answered if you go to this website.

The City of Newport will no doubt be involved with another Bike To Work Month again in 2012—stay tuned.

The Yaquina Wheels Bike Club's, Yaquina Lighthouse Rides, will move into it's 10th year in 2012. Tentative dates are August 18 or 19th depending on whether we feel that Saturday is still a good day to put the ride on.

Let's continue to support Bike Newport. One of the ways you can do this is by bringing your bikes in for their annual maintenance this winter. Don't wait until spring when the shop may be too busy to spend a little extra time with you and your bike. Winter is the slack time for riding and a notoriously slow time for bike shops.



Get Out And Ride

