

### Pancakes Anyone?



Yvonne Cunkle, pictured here with helpers Jen Benson and Linda Shomin, has put on the Goodbye Summer Pancake Breakfast for 11 years now. It's happening this Sunday, Sept. 30 at the Single-track trailhead. Rides begin at 9:30 a.m. with breakfast from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Photo by Joane Mitchell.

## Breakfast is served this Sunday

Celebrate another fabulous season of cycling this Sunday, September 30 with the **Goodbye Summer Pancake Breakfast** at the Singletrack Trailhead, located at 5443 Supply Road.

The breakfast is a labor of love for **Yvonne Cunkle** and a team of volunteers, who serve up pancakes and other nutritious goodies from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

As you can imagine, cooking breakfast out in the woods for scores of Cherry Capital Cycling Club members is quite a feat.

"This will be my 11th year of putting on the breakfast," Yvonne says. "I mix up the

pancake batter and have a bunch of helpers on hand to make them fresh on a griddle provided by the club."

Breakfast includes pumpkin pancakes, blueberry pancakes, bacon, scrambled eggs, fruit, coffee, and juice. Yum!

"The Goodwill Inn cooks up the bacon for me in their big kitchen," Yvonne notes. "It's about 20 pounds of bacon that we pack up in aluminum pans."

How long has she been a Cycle Club member?

"Oh, it goes back years and years and years," she says with a laugh.

She notes that mountain bike rides on the singletrack will start at 9:30 a.m., with rides of 3, 10 or 13 miles. All age and skill levels are welcome to ride. See the club's Ride Calendar for details.

All are welcome to attend the breakfast, including CCCC members and non-members, other cycling groups, family and friends, riders, non-riders, all bike shop owners and staff. The breakfast will be held rain for shine, "because we can't return the food!"

Questions? Contact Yvonne at [ycunkle@gmail.com](mailto:ycunkle@gmail.com) or 231-631-2200. And be sure to give Yvonne and her volunteers a shout-out for a job well done!



## **President's Letter** Looking back on another great year

It's hard to imagine, but the Club's official 2018 riding season is drawing to a close. In a few days, we'll record our last miles for this season and enjoy the **Goodbye Summer Pancake Breakfast** on this Sunday the 30th.

There has been a lot of action at the Club this year. There have been more social events, two successful fund-raising rides, a just-concluded biking weekend near Boyne City, two Club race team events, and over 500 Club rides. We've also been working on our cycling safety and advocacy programs, with more safety information passed along to the members via our newsletter, and outreach to local government agencies and the state-wide League of Michigan Bicyclists.

It's been a lot of work at the Board level, and all Club Board members have contributed a lot of time and effort in organizing these events. For the RAT and LHT rides, we are also extremely lucky to have 60 Club volunteers make these events function smoothly. What's the upside?

- In 2018, we raised at least \$19,000 from the RAT & LHT, which will be donated back to the communities we live in and local trail and cycling organizations.

- We also get a lot of positive feedback. From one LHT rider; "My wife and I did the ride on 9/15, and every touch point of your event was fantastic. See you next year."

- Over the past 20 years, our Club has donated over \$300,000 to local trail and cycling organizations. That's a great record to be



proud of, and it's the result of hard work by a bunch of dedicated volunteers, over a long period of time.

This October newsletter is the last newsletter for this calendar year. Our esteemed newsletter editor/publisher **Bob Downes** is taking a well-deserved hiatus until our "mid-winter" edition early next year. Please thank Bob for cranking out great newsletters in 2018, and please let us know what you'd like to see next year. Also, keep emailing your cycling adventure photos to [bob@robertdownes.com](mailto:bob@robertdownes.com).

Another Board member who deserves a special call-out is our Treasurer for the past four years (!), **Tom Kirchner**. Keeping tabs of all the revenues and expenses over this period is a LOT of work, plus Tom has been the chief SAG for RAT & LHT the past few years. Our Club owes Tom our sincerest gratitude, and I'm sure we can find a few committees for him to join!

We have a full slate of Board candidates who have offered to run for the six open positions. We ask that you come to the annual membership meeting on Sunday, October 28th, bring a dish to pass, enjoy the friendship of your fellow Club members, and vote! Hope to see you soon.

**Ride safe! Bill Danly**



**MUFFIN RIDE ADVENTURE:** Club members cleared away a half-dozen fallen trees on the TART Trail last Friday in the wake of a howling wind storm. The ride included an encounter with a baby Mississauga rattlesnake, a vulture on a dead deer... and muffins to boot! Photo by Joane Mitchell.



### **ANNUAL MEETING!**

Don't miss it! Bring a dish to pass and your favorite beverage Sunday, Oct. 28 to the Blue Water Hall in Greilickville, with happy hour starting at 4 p.m.

Here's the slate of Board candidates for the 2019/2020 two-year term to be voted on at the meeting:

- Secretary, Pat Bearup (incumbent)
- Treasurer, Dan Wittkopp
- Leelanau Harvest Tour Director, Skip Miller
- Safety & Education Director, Steve Mitton
- Ride Director, Mark Esper (incumbent)
- Website Director, Jeff Dillingham (incumbent)



# They're going the distance...

## Inspiring cyclists Bud & Ann Huber

When it comes to totaling up days in the saddle this summer it's hard to beat Bud and Ann Huber, who ride virtually every day of the week on their Trek tandem bike. If Bud opts for a day off, chances are you'll find Ann out riding solo, making her the perennial club mileage champ. This year she has more than 8,000 miles under her belt, with Bud being not far behind. The most she's ever ridden in a season was more than 9,000 miles.

Bud and Ann have gone the distance in more ways than just biking. They met as college students at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Bud went on to become the finance director and controller for Dura Automotive in Mancelona, while Ann worked the circulation desk at Rochester



**You'll find Bud and Ann Huber rocketing down the road on their tandem most every day of the week on club rides. In the winter they switch to cross-country skiing.**

Hills Public Library and then at the library in Traverse City.

"We got into biking when we moved up north in the late '80s," Bud says. He adds that for years they rode single bikes until an unexpected turn of events.

"In 2001 Bud had a cancerous growth on his arm that made it hard to ride," Ann explains. "Mike Aja (radiation oncologist) said we should get a tandem and try that, so we bought a bottom-of-the-line Burley tandem and have been riding one ever since."

That was in 2002 and the Hubers have been club regulars for years now.

But summer is just a warm-up for the XC ski season for the couple, who hit the Vasa trail every day -- and sometimes twice a day -- in the wintertime.

"Exercise is the focus for us and the reason we ride so much," Bud says. "We realize that if you don't stay active all summer, the winter comes and cross-country skiing kicks your butt! That, and we love the social aspects of being in the club and riding with friends."

Their commitment to skiing and fitness also extends to community service, with Bud serving as treasurer of the North American Vasa organization.

Favorite routes?

"We love riding around Torch Lake," Ann says. "And also riding up to Ellsworth and then back along Torch Lake."

Clearly Bud and Ann are on a roll with a lifestyle that keeps them super fit and a familiar sight at umpteen Club rides!

## New Members

Here's a big CCCC howdy to these new riders!

Name	Hometown
Leslie Winegar	Caledonia, MI
Neal Johnson	Ovid, MI

## In the Mail:

-- Club volunteers: watch for your email invite to the annual Volunteer Dinner, to be held Sunday, Oct. 14 at the Taproot Cider House in downtown TC.

-- Also, look for a forthcoming email and order form for club members who wish to opt for merchandise other than a baseball cap for mileage completed.



# Safe Passing FAQs

The September issue of the CCCC Newsletter highlighted the passage of Michigan's safe passing laws. The League of Michigan Bicyclists created the following FAQs to help cyclists better understand the laws.

## Why are there two safe passing laws?

PA 280 of 2018 deals with passing a bicyclist to their left while PA 279 of 2018 deals with passing a bicyclist on their right. Passing a cyclist on their left is the more common scenario. Under Michigan law, however, bicyclists are allowed to travel as far to the left as practicable on one-way roads. Drivers may also find themselves to the right of a bicyclist on multi-lane roads when that cyclist moves away from the right-hand edge of the road to make a turn. This new law does not give drivers the right to pass bicyclists on the right by using the shoulder of the road. This remains illegal and extremely dangerous.

## I heard there is an exception to the three-foot law. Can you explain that?

Yes, "if it is impracticable to pass the bicycle at a distance of 3 feet to the left, at a safe distance to the left of that bicycle at a safe speed, and when safely clear of the overtaken bicycle shall take up a position as near the right-hand edge of the main traveled portion of the highway as is practicable." LMB fought to have this exception removed.

## What happened to five feet?

The legislation was originally introduced as a five-foot passing standard. LMB advocated to retain the wider distance, but as with most legislation, considerable compromise was required in order to advance it through the legislative process. Going from a five-foot requirement to a three-foot one, as well as the addition of the "at a safe distance" language, came after a difficult battle. There is still room for improvement on these issues and LMB looks forward to continuing to work with our membership to push for strong bicycle-friendly policies.

## Can a motorist pass a bicyclist in a no-passing zone?

Yes, as long as it is safe to do so. While drivers are allowed to straddle the centerline as they pass a bicyclist, LMB recommends a complete lane change whenever it is possible and reminds drivers that it is their responsibility to ensure the oncoming



## Safety Corner

By Skip Miller

**The new Safe Passing laws have options for virtually every situation when it comes to vehicles overtaking cyclists.**

lane is free of traffic, including bicyclists traveling in the opposite direction.

## Does the three-foot rule apply when bicyclists ride two abreast?

Yes, bicyclists can lawfully ride two abreast: Drivers should give three feet of space between them and the bicyclist furthest in the lane. Bicyclists should not ride more than two abreast.

## Does the three-foot rule apply if a bicyclist is traveling in a bike lane?

Yes, drivers must give three feet of space regardless of if the bicyclist is in the roadway, shoulder, or in a bike lane.

## What is the punishment for passing with less than three feet of space?

An improper passing ticket is a three-point violation and is a civil infraction under MCL 257.636. There is no jail sentence for civil infractions. Civil infraction fees are set by local jurisdictions, but the range, based on the Supreme Court Recommended Range of Civil Fines and Costs for First-Time Civil Infractions for an improper passing ticket is \$99-\$117.

## Is this law enforceable?

Yes. An officer that witnesses an unsafe pass can issue a ticket or warning. A driver who actually hits a bicyclist during a pass

could be issued a citation, in addition to other moving violations.

## Can a cyclist make a complaint against a driver who passes too close?

Yes. However, because law enforcement did not witness the infraction, the driver will not necessarily be issued a ticket. Regardless, LMB recommends recording the driver's license plate and filling out an incident report against drivers who pass dangerously close. Doing this establishes a pattern of behavior against these motorists. In the event law enforcement does witness a close pass, having a recorded history of violating the law could result in more severe consequences. Additionally, reporting close passers puts law enforcement on notice to take proactive efforts to educate the public and enforce the law.

## What if the bicyclist loses control because they get buzzed by a driver?

A crash that occurs due to a motorist passing too closely is clearly a violation of the law, meaning it is subject to the penalties associated with that infraction on top of any penalties resulting from other factors contributing to the crash.

## Is the distance measured three feet from the bicycle's handlebar to the vehicle's side-view mirror?

The distance is measured from the widest part of the vehicle and the bicycle.





The weather was splendid, the turnout great, and praise for the volunteers was over the top for the Leelanau Harvest Tour.

Here's the lowdown from Tour Director **Dan Wittkopp**:

"The 2018 Leelanau Harvest Tour was a complete success. For the second year in a row we had perfect weather. We had over 500 participants registered and nearly 500 riders.

"I had the chance to talk to numerous riders after they finished and 100% of their comments were very positive. The 60 volunteers can be proud that their efforts resulted in a terrific Leelanau Harvest Tour. I am also happy to report the SAG drivers had a slow day. There were no incidents or accidents and all riders made it back to Suttons Bay High School safe and sound."



Cycle Club riders turned out in force for the Leelanau Harvest Tour, with smiles all around for a picture-perfect day on the roads. Downes photos.







# Camp Out!

## The Young State Park Biking Weekend

The Cycling Club had over 30 members show up at Young State Park this past weekend for a great time picnicking and riding the roads around Charlevoix and Emmet counties.

**Carrie Baic, Vince Festa and Tawnia Festa** were the site hosts from Friday's dinner through Sunday's breakfast, providing four great meals, bike route maps, stand-up paddle boarding, great sunsets, s'mores, and great company.

After the high winds of Friday diminished, the cycling was excellent on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday's long routes took riders clockwise around Lake Charlevoix, either via East Jordan or the Ironton cable ferry. The cruisers rode the Little Traverse Wheelway from Petoskey to Charlevoix. Everyone stopped in Charlevoix for a snack or meal, with some visiting a local art gallery. On Sunday, the long route was from Young State Park to Petoskey via the "rollers" on Camp Daggett road. The cruisers rode the Wheelway from Petoskey to Harbor Springs, with a nice stop at Turkey's restaurant.

Many thanks to Carrie for organizing this great outing, with Vince and Tawnia cooking and hosting the event. Please give us your thoughts for next year's camping trip!



Top: Intrepid campers ready to rock the roads around Boyne City.

- Dinner is served.
- What's a campout without s'mores?
- Good times with friends hanging 'round the campsite.

-- Photos by Sara Cockrell.







Mary Peterson, Merry VanderLinden and Darcie Pickren were Cycle Club standouts at the Cherry Roubaix in July. They placed fourth, eighth and fifth respectively in the Women's 60-mile race, finishing within three minutes of each other, with Mary and Darcie finishing together at 03:23:57!

Here's  
Lookin'  
at You

Send photos to:  
communicationsdirector@cherrycapitalcyclingclub.org



Pat and Randy Kopf joined the CCCC this summer and had a blast riding in the Midwest Tandem Rally in Grand Rapids with a number of other club members.



'Twas a l-o-n-g line of riders cruising along Lake Charlevoix at last week-end's campout in Boyne City.



The next generation: Young riders turned out for the 65-mile course on the Leelanau Harvest Tour. Although they're not Cycle Club members yet, we can only hope!