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# 2024 EVENT CALENDARS INSIDE!

#### IN THIS ISSUE

•2024 EVENT CALENDARS!
•BIKEPACKING CUBA
•LONG LIVE XC BIKES
•BIKE ADVOCACY
•BICYCLE ART

CYCLING TRIVIA
MTB CORNERING
IRON HORSE HISTORY
NEW MEXICO BIKEPACKING
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### **BIKEPACKING Bikepacking Cuba**



Toward the top of the pavement on our way into Vinales. Bikepacking

white table in front of us. He's a con-

of his house.

The conversation has ranged and politics. Mauricio lived 2 years months traveling the country with

never know what someone is going to do. If you have a small argument, they might pull out a gun. Here, we just yell at each other and get over it."

Up to this point, our conversations with Cubans have been at best superficial and at worst, guarded. They tend to be conservative in their approach to foreigners, more likely to wave from a distance than to respond to a greeting. Few have

He leans in a little bit, maybe out genuine curiosity and simply asks,



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cave chested man in his early 20s. Fair skinned, thin and with hair that appears to be salt and peppered but not due to age. He is the grandson of Antonio Nunez, 4th discoverer of Cuba, and has just spent the past hour giving us a private tour of the

museum that is attached to the back

widely but mostly around family in the United States, spent several his dad as a long-haul trucker and then chose to return to Cuba. He stated plenty of reasons, the foremost of which was safety. He just never felt safe in the US. As he put it, "You

openly demonstrated any version of curiosity for the four gringos bicycling through their country. Even Mauricio has kept his distance. As our host, he made contact, ensured that we had the basic needs of our accommodations and attempted to help us procure things we needed, but our conversations were nothing more than that. Until now. of preoccupation, more likely out of

**Continued on page 12** 





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#### MECHANIC'S CORNER

### Long Live Cross-country Bikes!



Tom Jow proves the new cross country bikes are capable. Photo courtesy Tom Jow

country" bikes. Strange, I thought,

because many of the bikes were

clearly elite level cross-country race

bikes. While the race bikes were

equipped with just 100 mm travel

front and rear, some of the other test

bikes had up to 120 mm travel front

and rear. At first, I wondered why

it wasn't titled as a test for "race"

bikes. It took me a minute to figure

out that a downcountry bike is one

that rides up like a cross-country

bike but has a little more "down"

If you have watched a XC World

Cup race lately you will have seen

that all the race bikes need to have a

little more down built into them. The

World Cup courses are now defined

by not only steep climbs, but also

technical descents and jumps. Steep

narrow, rock gardens, drops and gap

built into it.

#### By Tom Jow

One of the things I like most about having the bike experience I do is helping friends with their questions. Recently a couple friends have asked about what new bike they should purchase. During the interview process, I discovered that each of them like the uphills as much as the downhill. They are ok with moderately rocky terrain but drops and jumps were something avoided. Smooth, fast flow trails got a thumbs up!

Normally I would recommend a 120- or 130-mm "trail" bike. A good mid-travel bike that climbs well and will be more than capable on the downhills. Now, however, I'm not so sure.

A few years ago, I read a comparison test of what they called "downcross-country race bike can now do it all. What makes these bikes worthy of a racer and non-racer as well?

The bikes are lightweight. One top of the line race bike I read about weighs twenty-four pounds. The base model of the same bike weighs in at twenty-seven and a half pounds. That is four pounds lighter than my 140 mm "trail" bike and two pounds lighter than the same company's 120 mm "trail" bike. What makes the bike so much lighter? A noticeably lightweight carbon fiber frame. The fork, with its shorter travel, is up to a half pound less. The wheels, designed as much for up as down are also a half pound lighter. Other parts such as the handlebar, stem, etc. will also be lighter. While this is not a bike to jump off small cliffs, they are capable of something more than a sidewalk curb.

The bikes are also designed for pedaling. The seat tube angle tends to be less steep for a more powerful position over the pedals in a greater variety of terrain. Angles in the 74-to-75 degree range rather than the steeper 76-to-77 degrees on longer travel bikes. In addition, the suspension is more efficient (read: stiffer?). Due to the nature of shorter travel, the suspension does need to be stiffer to support the rider. Also, the fork and shock will have a lever to lockout the shock to reduce or eliminate any energy absorbing motion. Lockout aside, the frames and suspension systems are designed to (and do) pedal well in the open

What really makes the modern cross-country bike better than before is the incorporation of downhill design elements of longer travel bikes. These elements are head tube angle, reach and stem length. A "slack" head tube angle is one reason downhill bikes excel in steep terrain. While on flat or uphill the slack head tube angle feels unstable, on steep downhills it begins to feel just right. Cross-country head tube angles, historically between 68 and 70 degrees, felt just right on everything from steep uphills to slight downhills. As the downhill steepness increased, so did a feeling of instability. By using a slacker head tube angle such as 67, or even 66 degrees, the downhill capability of the cross-country bike is greatly increased. The bikes also have a longer reach. Measured from the bottom bracket to the head tube. a longer reach moves the front wheel further out in front of the rider. To complement these changes in frame design, the stem length for ideal handling is now four to six centimeters. Combined, these factors do a couple of things. First, the bike is more stable at higher speeds, in steep descents and in the air. Second, the combination of a shorter stem and longer reach reduces the feeling of being "over" the front wheel on steep descents. Together these factors add up to increased rider confidence and control.

When deciding on what bike to recommend (or purchase) it is important to match it to the intended use of the rider. For my friends, it would seem like a 120 mm trail bike would be the perfect match. Personally, I felt like they are a little heavy for the way my friends ride. Previously however, lighter weight cross-country bikes seemed to be too specialized a tool with their long, low stems and racy handling. The current crop of cross-country bikes are much different. With a slightly more upright position, a calmer handling demeanor, and increased downhill capability the bikes are now well suited for a much wider range of riders. As for my friends, they followed my recommendation for cross-country bikes. Both responded with beaming praise. So positive they were, that I had to get one of my own.



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### **MOUNTAIN BIKING** The Ultimate MTB Cornering Drill



Gene Hamilton cornering in Moab, Utah on the Falcon Flow Trail. Photo by Corie Spruill Photography, <u>https://moabphotographer.com</u>

#### By Gene Hamilton

Do you want to master the art of cornering? If so, I'd like to share the ultimate on-trail drill to make you corner faster. This drill makes me so much faster that I often get PRs while doing it.

I have found that focusing only on the front brake keeps you centered (not creeping back over the rear wheel while braking) and frees up bandwidth by eliminating two things that you formerly had to pay attention to, namely your rear brake and rear wheel traction. The importance of "freeing up bandwidth" cannot be overstated!

#### What is bandwidth?

Think of bandwidth as the total amount of focus you have. You need 100% of your focus on where you are going to be in 5-7 seconds and how you are going to get there.

#### The ineffective way to use your bandwidth:

When I'm using both front and rear brakes as I'm slowing down before a corner, I'm "feeling" my rear tire for traction and listening to my rear tire to help me modulate the rear brake. This takes a lot of focus.

Volume Six

If I don't have enough bandwidth (focus) left over for my vision, the most important piece of cornering will suffer. If 50% of your focus is on what is happening behind you, you only have 50% for what is most important to you: figuring out and doing what you need to do over the next 5-7 seconds. What's behind you is done; what's in front of you is the only thing that matters.

#### The effective way to use your bandwidth:

By focusing on using your front brake aggressively and not worrying about the rear brake, your entire focus is on what is in front of you. This makes you feel like you are going slower, less rushed, and more in control. It's mind-blowing! That corner that always feels a little too tight? It seems gigantic now. Instead of "Oh, crap," your brain is laughing at how easy this is. It is that easy.

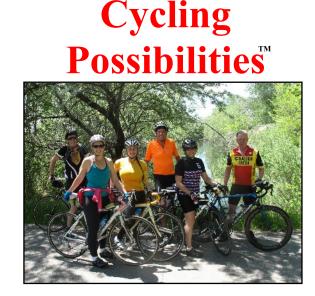
#### **Back to cornering:**

The most important pieces of cornering are, in order of importance:

1. Vision. Looking at the corner

and picking your line on the way to the corner (ride the corner with your eyes).

a. You should look through the corner past the exit as you start your



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turn. (Unless your vision is blocked, look as far into the corner as possible, and as soon as you can see further, do so.)

2. Understanding and being proficient at Counter pressure/steering.

a. Initiate a turn by pushing your inside grip forward away from your body (gently steering in the opposite direction).

3. Understanding and being proficient at finishing your braking to cut speed in a straight line (knowing how to get the most out of your front brake)

a. Never try to change direction and cut speed at the same time. This overloads your tires' ability to maintain traction, and it decreases your lean angle by making the bike stand up.

4. Here is Greg Minnaar's take on maintaining correct body position:

a. You need to stay hinged at the hips, elbows up and out, weightcentered, and above your bike.

#### More on Body Position:

Do you understand and are fairly proficient at those skills? Then you are going to love this drill! If not, please practice those skills and become good at them before attempting the following drill. This is best done on a trail where you can descend easily, but which gets much harder as you increase your speed.

My favorite trails in Moab for this drill are Eagle Eye, Falcon Flow, and Hazard. These are curvy blue trails and fast, but not steep, black trails.

#### **Finally – The Drill:**

Pretend you don't have a rear brake. Focus on only using your front brake (which does 70-100% of cutting your speed) all the way down the trail.

Like me, you may have gotten used to using your rear brake to try to save you when you enter corners too fast. Knowing that you won't be using the rear brake can be scary! That fear will help you slow down so you enter the corner at a speed that makes the corner feel easy at your current skill level. By forcing yourself to slow down to the correct entrance speed for the corner, you will corner with more control and less fear and achieve greater exit speed.

I have found that focusing only on the front brake keeps me centered (not creeping back over the rear wheel while braking) and frees up bandwidth by eliminating two things that you formerly had to pay attention to: your rear brake and rear wheel traction.

This makes it much easier to look through the corner.

I'm already centered and usually feel like I slowed down more than needed as I start the corner. This makes looking through the corner easier as I am confident and calm. Though it feels slow (because I'm looking further ahead and more relaxed), I can exit the corner with greater speed, which has led to quite a few PR's.

#### **Conclusion:**

This drill reminds me of when I ran into my former student Cody Kelley (US National Enduro

Champion) several years ago at Bootleg Canyon. He ran up to me, saying, "Gene, Gene, I'm so excited!" I asked him what he was excited about, and he said, "I'm wearing out two sets of front brake pads before wearing out one set of rear pads!"

I was so impressed! He asked, "Why are you impressed? You taught me this?" I replied that I might have taught him that, but I was still too in love with my rear brake. This was one of those "do as I say, not as I do" moments

The student had become the master. Have you watched Cody ride/ race? He reminds me of Minnaar. He is so smooth and calm in the corners that he's almost boring to watch. Thankfully, he has style for miles on the rest of the trail.

Go out and practice this drill/ technique and start riding safer, faster, and more efficiently today.

When Gene started Better-Ride in 1999, he had ten years of experience coaching snowboarding, giving him a total of over 33 years of coaching experience.

He spends his time studying how people learn physical skills, taking coaching courses, and working with the best riders in the world including World Champions Greg Minnaar, Sue Haywood, and Ross Schnell.

Read more of Gene's skills articles on www.betterride.net or send him an email at admin@ betterride.net

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### <u>CYCLING TRIVIA</u> *Remembering the Fabulous CoreStates and Liberty Classic Road Races held on the Streets of Philadelphia!*

#### By Dave Campbell

In 1981, the U.S. had just four men's professional road racers and women's professional cycling didn't even exist. Initial attempts to determine a US Pro National champion were scattered, random, and informal to put it mildly. By 1983, a big money criterium in Baltimore was held to determine a US Pro champion, but since there were so few American professionals, both amateurs and foreign pros were allowed to race. A US amateur (Davis Phinney) actually won the race and the \$25,000 first prize, our best pro Greg Lemond didn't attend, and John Eustice (15th placed overall finisher) was crowned US Pro champion. Not the ideal scenario for a newly developing professional scene in America! Following the 1984 Olympics, however, Phinney and

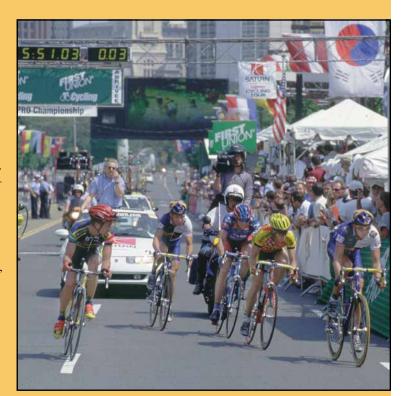
his contemporaries (Alexi Grewal, Andy Hampsten, Ron Kiefel, Doug Shapiro, etc.) turned professional and a true American professional field finally came into existence.

By 1985, Dave Chauner, Jack Simes, and Jerry Casale (the same guys that started the USPRO organization to sanction American professional riders) put together a true National Championship Road Race to determine a USPRO champion. Initially financially backed by the CoreStates bank, the 156-mile event was held on a circuit in Philadelphia in mid-June (at the same time as other nation's Championships and as per UCI regulations) which first became known first as the CoreStates USPRO Championship. Given the still reasonably small size of the American Pro peloton, the organizers invited European pros as well. This occasionally created a "race within a race" as the foreigners

could win the event (and big money as the race sported a \$250,000 purse) while the Americans fought for the Stars and Stripes jersey. The big American teams and pros, however, always wanted to win the race outright!

While just a few thousand fans saw 7-Eleven's Eric Heiden win the inaugural event, his celebrity helped generate loads of media interest (even a "Sports Illustrated" write-up!) and the event exploded in popularity among the public and prestige among the riders. The race quickly grew and by the early 90s over 100,000 fans regularly lined the streets of Center City, Fairmount Park, and the famous climb ("The Wall" which hit 17%) of Manayunk. The event ran as CoreStates through 1997, adding a women's event in 1994 (The Liberty Classic) serving as the men's US Pro Championship from 1985 through 2005. Different





Marty Jemison, third from right, helps power the winning break at US Pro Championships in Philadelphia in 1999. Jemison was first American and earned the USA stars and stripes jersey as US Pro champion. Photo by Daniel Afzal Courtesy U.S. Postal Service

banks came and went as title sponsors (First Union, Wachovia, Commerce Bank, TD Bank) but the final editions were owned by the city so from 2013 to 2016 both men's and women's events were known as The Philadelphia International Cycling Classic. Let's test your knowledge of a much loved and dearly missed June race that the riders simply knew as "PHILLY!"

Q1. Only one rider ever won the men's race outright for two years in a row. Can you name him and the years he accomplished this feat?

Q2. Who was the winningest woman over the years at the Liberty Classic?

Q3. Which American man won the most National titles on the Philly course?

Q4. Five-time Olympic Gold Medalist (Speed Skating) Eric Heiden won the inaugural edition of the men's event in 1985, but who was the first ever women's winner?

Q5. Who was the first foreign winner of the Men's race? What year



did this finally take place?

Q6. Under the banner of "The Liberty Classic", no American woman was ever the winner! It is worth noting that American riders claimed second no fewer than nine times! However, one North American did win the event! Can you name her?

Dave Campbell was born and raised in Lander, Wyoming and now resides in Bend, Oregon. A retired High School Science and Health teacher, Dave won four Wyoming state cycling championships before moving to Oregon to attend the U of O in Eugene. While there, Dave was a collegiate All American and went on to win six Oregon State Cycling Championships as well as a Masters National Road Title on the Tandem. He started writing Trivia in 1992 for Oregon Cycling News and continued the column with the Northwest Bicycle Paper. Dave also writes cycling history at "Clips and\_Straps" on Instagram and announces at cycling events throughout Oregon



### **COACHING**

### How to Incorporate Bicycle Commuting into Training



Sarah Kaufmann incorporating bike commuting with training. Photo by Sarah Kaufmann

#### By Sarah Kaufmann

Commuting by bike to school or work can be a great way to add riding time, offset vehicle pollution, avoid stressful traffic, and bookend your day with exercise and time outside. But it typically involves the same route daily, which, by design, minimizes the opportunity for a periodized, structured training plan, or the makeup of ride programming that we rely on to build bike fitness in the pursuit of performance.

That's not to say that a regular commuting program will not make you fit. Any form of regular exercise will generally improve your fitness, when compared with not exercising. But if you have performance goals, at a certain point, you will max out on adaptation from simply riding the same route every day. In seeking the physiological adaptations that come from a structured training program, we are generally looking for wider variance in the training - the hard days must be harder, and the easy days must be easier. When your commute route is the same, it becomes challenging to create those contrasts in intensity and load or the interplay of stress and rest that results in adaptation and improved fitness.

Let's back up. The way we build fitness is that exercise actually causes micro tears in the muscle fibers. When exercise is followed by rest, those microtears repair and the muscle rebuilds with healthier, denser fibers. You become more fit. You need both the strain of exercise, as well the subsequent rest to build ed to exercise, the stimulus required to continue to develop fitness grows. We define this paradigm as progressive overload, and it is required

on the path to fitness development. Further, as your capacity for harder work grows, your requirement for rest will grow as well. Which comes back to the earlier point - the requirements for progressive overload are such that the same repeated stimulus will cease to result in adaptation. Your same commute route will no longer provide the stimulus required for progressive overload and, as a result, for continued fitness building.

How do you overcome this? You will want to be a little strategic with planning your commute route. Your ability to do this will vary depending on your route. But start to think about a week of training as containing 3-4 key workout days (these are either especially intense or especially long). And the other 3-4 days should be lighter/easier days or rest days. If you commute 3-5 days per week and you do 1-2 long rides on the weekend, that likely means working in 1-2 days of intensity during your commute week. You could do this organically by simply riding your commute at a higher intensity/ pace. If you follow a more structured plan, you might find a spot along your commute to perform a set of intervals. You will want to plan ahead to determine whether it makes sense to do this intensity on your way into your job/school/destination, or on the way home. That's going to depend mainly on your specific timing, your access to a shower/ place to change, etc. Maybe you skip your bike commute on the days that you work in intensity and use your commuting days as easy rides, or what we often term active recovery.

Alternatively, maybe your commute is significant in terms of duration, and you get your long rides done as part of your commute. I would encourage you to limit the days you do your commute or find a way to shorten your commute on some days by either taking public transit or combining public transit with your commute. Doing a long commute each day will likely result in so much fatigue from the volume that you will not have the capacity to perform higher intensity work on non-commute days with sufficient quality to provide the required stimulus for adaptation. (Think of it this way: You need to be sufficiently rested to dig deep enough to train at high intensities).

To effectively work commuting fitness. As you become more adapt- into a periodized training program, you may need to modify, swap, or cut commute days. Key workouts require variance in load. The goal will be to make certain days sig-

nificant in load via intensity, certain days significant in load via volume, and the remaining days to be rest days or active recovery. That's how

to make a commute work for you toward your performance goals.

Sarah Kaufmann is the own-

raced XC and CX at the elite level for 15 years. She is based in Salt Lake City, UT and can be reached at kcyclingcoaching.

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### **BIKEPACKING**

### Honor Among Thieves: Bikepacking Around New Mexico's Sierra Ladrones



The bike. Bikepacking around Sierra Ladrones. Photo by Don Scheese

#### By Don Scheese

"If you want to know who you are, you must look at the mountain." -Charles Bowden

Is there a distant mountain on your horizon that intrigues and allures you? To the southwest of Albuquerque, some fifty miles distant, rises the jagged, isolated minirange known as Sierra Ladrones, or "Thieves Mountain," elevation 9210'. So named because of the frequent raids by Navajo and Apache warriors of Spanish settlements along the Rio Grande in the nineteenth century who retreated to and vanished in the reclusive canyons of this montano, Sierra Ladrones remains a seldom-visited area for recreationists. The mountain has been designated a Wilderness Study Area (WSA) by the Bureau of Land Management, but no official trails or campgrounds exist and climbing the peak involves a daunting, dangerous nine-mile roundtrip bushwhack and ridge scramble to reach the summit of its jagged crest. Generally ignored by passers-by in favor of more popular official wilderness areas such as the Manzanos, Sandias, and Sangre de Christos, Sierra Ladrones remains an obscure sanctuary for the wilderness aficionado. Exactly the reason I found it alluring.

I had for some time considered a bikepacking excursion in the vicin-

April 2024 I found conditions to be ideal for a visit-70s for highs, 40s for lows, clear skies, light winds (at least until a cold front blew in late on the day I was to depart). From the village of Bernardo off I-25 (formerly named Picacho, or peak, because it lies in the shadow of the Ladrones massif), I planned to ride twenty-some miles on gravel county roads to the divide which separates the drainages of the Rio Puerco (dirty river) and the Rio Salado (salty river), and find a wild campsite far enough from the main road so as to be unnoticed by passing traffic. Not that there was much chance of that-the only habitation between Bernardo and the town of Magdalena, fifty miles distant, is the ghost town of Riley about halfway, another one of those tiny, isolated communities for which New Mexico is well known.

ity of the mountain, and in early

Around 10:30 on a gorgeous New Mexico morning I loaded up my trusty, bombproof steel Niner RLT with racks, panniers, bar bag, fork cages with water bottles, and Camelbak, and set off, carrying about seven liters of water and thirty pounds total (as far as I knew, no water sources existed along or near my route). What traveler is not familiar with the exhilarating first few steps (or in this case, wheel revolutions) of a journey, however long or short? "Of all the wonders of the world," once wrote traveler extraor-



The Sierra Ladrones Massif. Bikepacking around Sierra Ladrones. Photo by Don Scheese

dinaire Freya Stark, "the horizon is the greatest." Indeed.

And the horizons were indeed awesome: vast desert plains stretching in all directions, rising to the snow-capped ranges of the Magdalenas, Manzanos, Sandias, and even a bit of the Sangre de Christos, dim with distance, to the far north. Closer were the snowfilled crevices of *Sierra Ladrones* itself, beckoning me onward. It was going to be an exceptionally good day ...

... except for the first few miles of sandy washboard I had to negotiate on a heavily loaded bike. The going was hard, lending new and arduous meaning to the verb "to trundle," and more than once I almost had to put a foot down after getting mired in sand and slowed to a 2-mile-an-hour crawl because of bumpy washboard. But, as on all journeys, especially by bicycle, the road surface never stays the same for long, and soon I climbed out of the wide arroyo and creosote flats onto smoother, almost "champagne gravel." The gradient decreased, and I found myself moving at a comfortable 10 mph pace on mostly straight road with an occasional dip and climb into and out

imperceptibly ascending towards the divide.

The first and only vehicle I encountered was a pickup with two guys pulling a trailer loaded with gear and covered by a blue tarp. They were heading for a long weekend to their ranch near Riley and stopped to chat.

- "Taking a trip?"
- "Yeah."
- "Where to?"
- "Oh, I don't know, wherever I end up I guess."
  - "Well, have a good one."
- "You too."

The brief conversation reminded me of the opening scene from one of my favorite TV shows of all time, Then Came Bronson, which aired for one season in 1969-70. Bronson (played by Michael Parks) was a disillusioned journalist from the Bay Area of California who gave up his job after a friend committed suicide and set off on his Harley Davidson Sportster to "find himself" and visit friends all over the American West. He meets and spends time with astrologers and mystics, backto-the-landers, angry black militants, an Amish family, Hispanic migrant workers-a wide cross-section of

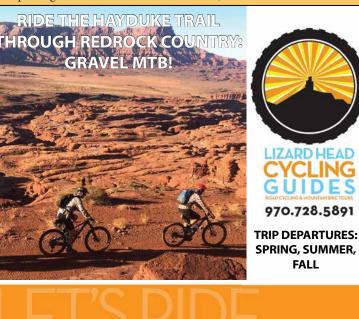
and learning all the way. I trace my sense of wanderlust to this TV show, which struck a fundamental chord in my psyche that has sounded ever since.

Onward, onto the next ecological zone—the cholla-grassland biome. LGBs (little gray birds) sprayed from the brush, as a nice tailwind pushed me higher on the plain. Ahead on the road I detected movement, and sure enough a herd of a dozen or so antelope pranced across the byway, white rumps flashing in the sunlight, trailed by a majestic pronghorn buck. They trotted off, then stopped out of curiosity to peer back at this strange figure moving along the road.

Counting the cattleguard crossings-was that five or six?-at last I began a steeper ascent around mile 15 as the road curved through a cleft between mesas, entering yet another ecological zone, the pinyon-juniper forest. Except that there weren't too many live pinyon trees around, casualties of the Mega-drought afflicting the Southwest for the past twenty-some years. I sadly noted the gray skeletons of numerous pinyon pines, testament to Climate Change. Foreboding warnings, for sure, of the fate of our current civilization. Ah, but cultures come and go-just ask the Anasazi.

Around mile 19 I encountered a sign, marking a fork in the road: Limited Travel, no motor vehicles allowed on the left, more primitive road.

The less-traveled path—that's the one I wanted, leading along the border of the WSA towards the mountain. It turned out to be a navigable two-track road with my 42mm gravel tires, and I gently climbed still higher almost onto the flanks of *Sierra Ladrones*, just about on the crest of the divide. In a mile or so I came to a small clearing between the junipers and a fire ring--an old cowboy camp, I reckoned. Here, mid-afternoon, is where I took my stand, and made camp. Elevation 6100'. I'd come a little over 20 miles, climbed 1600'. It had been a



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Antelope! Bikepacking around Sierra Ladrones. Photo by Don Scheese good day. "Coastal," "Jungle," or "Mountain."

The sun was unrelenting, one of those rare spring days with not a cloud in the sky, and I sought relief from it as well as the temperatures, which must have been near 70. Behind a tall wide juniper, I found shelter from both the sun and the wind, and set up my mini-Helinox chair, a luxury I can't afford not to take while bikepacking-the extra weight of two pounds well worth the comfort and back relief it provides while in camp. The rest of the afternoon I munched pistachios and sipped water, taking in the pleasing prospects in all directions. listening to the caress of the wind through the junipers, watching the occasional tumbleweed dance across the grassland, absorbing the Sounds of Silence. Inevitably I thought of some lines from Whitman:

"I inhale great draughts of space, The east and the west are mine,

And the north and the south are mine.

All seems beautiful to me."

Recently I read an article entitled 'Shhh. Travelers are on a quest for the quiet." The author writes that 'From serene nature retreats to silent walking, the quest for quietude has become one of modern travel's latest trends." She goes on to say that people pay big bucks for "transformative travel" to exotic locales around the globe, choosing from environmental options like "Polar," "Desert,"

For as long as the human species has existed, I believe, we have sought out quiet spots and experiences, in search of The Transcendent. And we need not spend thousands of our hard-earned dollars to find it.

I found myself looking again and again at The Mountain. In a way it reminded me of the isolated volcanoes of the Pacific Northwest, where I used to live. But *Sierra Ladrones* is a metamorphic, not volcanic, peak, its rocks squeezed and thrust upward during millions of years of compression, uplift, and erosion. Now that I was close to it, it mesmerized me even more, making me wonder who has visited it, where the Navajo and Apache hid in its recessive, rugged canyons, when and where hardrock miners probed its harsh niches for gold and silver. In this era of Environmental Apocalypse, we fear for the "End of Nature," but the truth is that The Mountain will be here far longer after humans disappear. Species come and go, but the earth, in some form or another, will endure.

Dinner: a cup of chicken noodle soup followed by cold black bean burritos. A dessert of hot chocolate laced with a splash of whiskey. As the sun began to set in the northwest and the wind died down, I set up my tent and watched the day come to a close. 7:28 pm: A mildly colorful sunset, enhanced by high cirrus clouds. It was followed by the slow



A reminder to stay on the trail. Bikepacking around Sierra Ladrones. Photo by Don Scheese appearance of stars and constellations, the blackest night sky I've seen in a while on this moon-less night. A cold camp-I made no campfire because it was too windy, and didn't want to risk a million-acre wildfire in these still brisk and dry conditions.

I emerged from the tent around 6:30 to witness the unfolding world as the sun slowly lightened the western horizon. High clouds stretched across the sky, helping to create a gory sunrise—and I thought of that old truism "Red sky in the morning, sailors take warning"-as I fired up the stove for coffee.

The sun peeked over the northwest ridge of Sierra Ladrones at 7:20 am, and unconsciously I engaged in one of the oldest of human traditions: marking well sunrise and sunset. Sipping coffee, munching on a chocolate croissant and a banana, relaxing in my chair, listening to the chittering birds, I thought of Emerson: "I enjoy a perfect exhilaration. I fear to think how glad I am."

Another age-old tradition followed: the breaking of camp. The wanderer must return home or continue traveling. The reward for my efforts yesterday was a marvelous 20-mile descent back to Bernardo today. The winds started to accelerate, and I got an alert on my Garmin: Wind Advisory, Red Flag Alert, starting around noon. With any luck I'd have a tailwind at least to start with the wind coming out of the southwest. So, I bade adieu to my camp and thanked the spot for allowing me to spend the night there in peace and safety. Then, reminded of that endearing bike traveler and Man-Child Ryan Van Duzer, I chanted: "No Crashies. No Flatties.



Sunrise! Bikepacking around Sierra Ladrones. Photo by Don Scheese



The long lonesome highway. Bikepacking around Sierra Ladrones. Photo by Don Scheese

No Whammies!" The mantra for the morning.

What a glorious descent it was, freewheeling back down the road at a steady 20-25 mph. About half way back I met up with a fellow bike traveler, Emmett, from Pittsburgh, PA, who'd been On the Road for 30-some days, mostly riding pavement on his old steel beater with balloon tires, fenders, racks, and Army surplus packs. A strapping 20-something, with double nose-ring and cheerful disposition, he seemed content with meeting whatever conditions arose, having trundled 2000 miles already. His final destination

was San Francisco. Having spent the previous night around Albuquerque, he was taking the southern route across the Southwest from Las Cruces, detouring on these backroads to avoid the interstate highway. As fellow travelers (he on a truly Epic Trip), we exchanged info and wished each other well. Es para el *Camino*: It is the Way of the Road.

Farther down I encountered a guy in a pickup who stopped to chat. Rich from the ABQ metro area owns 40 acres near Riley, another landowner in the Outback headed to his weekend retreat. He wished the county graded the road more often-Continued on page 11

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### **MOUNTAIN BIKING** Building a Huge Mountain Bike Park is Anything but Easy



Durango Mesa Park, Courtesy Durango Mesa Foundation

#### **By Dave Marston**

Marc Katz is a retired entrepreneur who lives part-time in Durango, Colorado, a town of 19,000 people who all seem to love the outdoors. You can't have too many parks, he believes, because the demand seems inexhaustible.

The way he tells it, when he bought the 1,680 acres adjacent to town, he thought it would be a fantastic place for a rural park that included biking and hiking trails and a centralized set of soccer fields. He quickly learned it was "naïve" to think park development would be uncomplicated or quick.

What he started in 2014 has now become a whopper of a park that someday may prepare mountain bikers for the Olympics. Katz, though, only had experience working in the private sector, as CEO of a credit card payments company.

The \$14 million parcel he bought once hosted a coal mine and gravel pit, and it sits atop a steep mesa above the town. Planning for the new park turned into a nine-year effort that involved countless meetings with city and county officials. Then there were road trips to innovative park projects, notably those around Bentonville, Arkansas.

As one of its goals, Katz's project includes an 80-acre "outdoor mountain bike stadium," a BMX track and community events center, which would make Durango the king of U.S. mountain biking.

"We anticipate the 2028 US Olympic Mountain bike team training at the park," said Gaige Sippy, a board member of the Durango Mesa Foundation that's carrying out Katz's vision.

Sippy knows cycling. He was the longtime director of the Iron Horse Bicycle Classic. Every Memorial Day weekend, the race pits a tourist train against several thousand bikers, who usually win.

Cycling is anchored deep in Durango, with a vigorous youth and adult program involving hundreds



Riders on Durango Mesa Park Demonstration trails, 2023, courtesy **Durango Mesa Foundation** 

of participants. Still, said Moira Compton, who runs Katz's foundation as executive director, "this is a big lift for Durango. But so was Purgatory Ski Resort and our local Chapman Ski Hill."

Sippy agreed. "Those same people who fought the rec center now say, 'It's too small.' This is the biggest philanthropic endeavor for Durango times-ten," Sippy said. "Sometimes I feel like a snake oil salesman, selling something that won't be fully realized for 20 years."

But the hard work isn't on his plate. "That's Moira's job," he said, as Compton wrangles meetings and talks to residents about what they want in the new park.

Compton said planning includes leaving "big open space" for what the community might want in 10-20 and even 40 years. "If you told me that the Klunker bikes we made in our garages in Crested Butte would become an Olympic sport, I'd have said, 'impossible.'

For today's users, Katz said, "We know we need adaptive sports trails (hand-bike trails), and we need a dozen ball fields in one place for state tournaments. We also need camping, from primitive to RV hook-ups to go with it."

"Don't forget frisbee golf," he added, and "dedicated walking trails" for the many locals who don't bike or find interactions with mountain bikers intimidating.

"They (bikers) just move so fast," agreed 77-year-old Dave Stiller, an avid walker.

To get things moving, Durango Mesa Park opened last fall with a series of demonstration trails with banked corners, table-top jumps and unlike other area trails, traffic goes in only one direction and e-bikes are

permitted.

The biking community was ecstatic. Sippy said. "We just had to get something going. It was time to get shovels in the ground."

If there's grumbling, it's about housing.

Durango, like many mountain towns, is housing constrained. 'Three developers put (Katz's) land under contract and then passed on developing. The infrastructure costs were over \$100 million," said Sippy.

"This, though, is a rural park," said Compton. "We don't have to build sidewalks or streetlights." Sippy added that if the town moved its ballfields and BMX track to the park and the county moved its fairground, "it would open up land in the town for housing."

But the county backed out of building their fairgrounds in the park. "It was a setback," Compton said. 'We're leaving the option open if they want to reconsider."

As Sippy put it, "Someone rarely hands you a huge chunk of land next to town and the money to build a giant park for the community. This is a big opportunity for Durango."

"And it's our job not to screw it up," said Compton.

Dave Marston lives in Durango and is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West.



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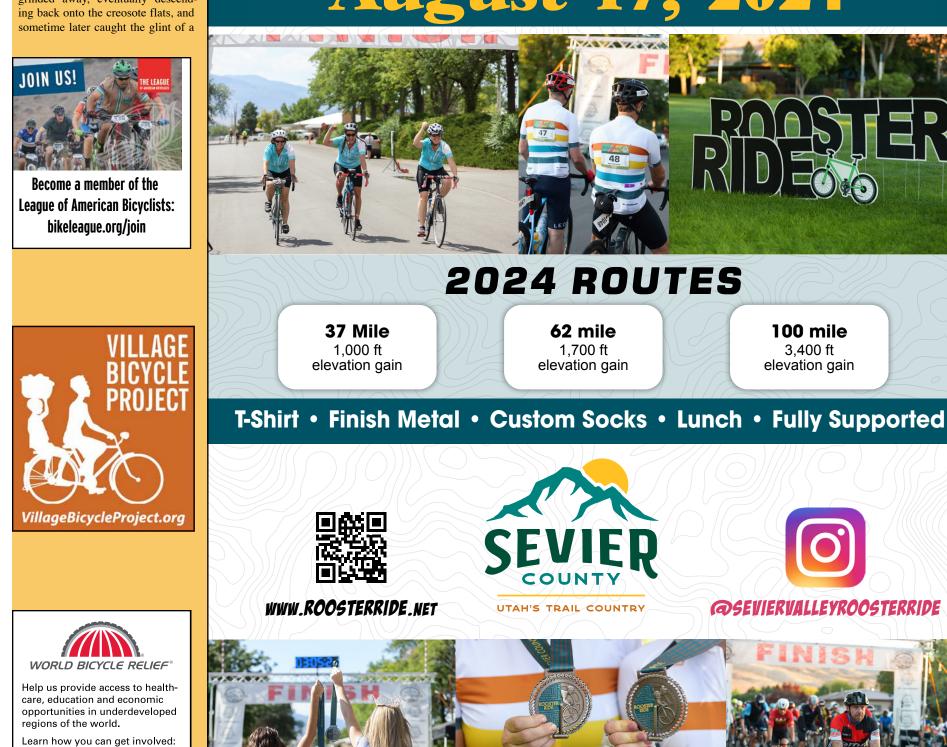
#### **Bikepacking around Sierra** Ladrones -**Continued from page 9**

'Those awful washboards down the road!"-and told me about the rattlesnakes he'd killed on his property that had bitten his and his neighbor's dogs. They come out in late May and stick around till September, he informed me. "What I like about out here is, no sirens or gunshots," he said. He has a conceal-and-carry permit for his 9mm but rarely needed it in these parts, only for shooting poisonous snakes (I resisted the urge to lecture him on the ecological importance of all wild creatures, including poisonous reptiles). Back in ABQ it was a different story. "What a world we now live in," I remarked, and he agreed, wholeheartedly. Oh, the trials and tribulations of what Ed Abbey referred to as "syphilization." Rich could have easily talked for another hour, but I told him I needed to move on before the winds got much stronger.

And they did. Around ten miles to go, I turned more towards the southsouthwest, into a headwind. And the uphills on the arroyo crossings reminded me that it's never really "all downhill" as we like to think. I grinded away, eventually descend-

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vehicle in the sunlight ahead. That was my car, still intact, ready to take me home. Without provocation, the theme song from Then Came Bronson came to mind:

"Goin' down that long lonesome

highway Bound for the mountains and the plains. Sure ain't nothin' here gonna tie me,

And I got some friends I'd like to see again.

One of these days I'm gonna settle down, Till I do I won't be hangin' 'round.

Goin' down that lone lonesome highway

Gonna live life my way.

Don Scheese is an avid cyclist and retired professor of American Studies who once taught, among other things, courses on Lance Armstrong and Sport in American Culture.



#### Bikepacking Cuba -Continued from page 3

"So what do you think of Cuba?" It's a question that has been occupying my mental powers since the 2nd day we were here and yet I still feel unprepared to answer.

I am soaking wet, kind of the default setting for this island. Today, it's not due to rain. It's the humidity, heat and exertion. Our route headed up a couple of hours earlier taking us from the South Coast inland through the mountains. Up to this point, it has been crazy steep, but paved making it rideable. As we take a hard left and head up a steep, rocky, dirt road, that all changes quickly.

We are about 1/3 the way up the first hike-a-bike when a man walks out from his house. He slows, taking a few moments to assess what he is seeing and then starts walking alongside us. He asks if we are headed to El Toro. We are. After informing us of the terrain ahead, he asks where we are going from there. We answer Entronque Los Palacios. His face turns incredulous, and he responds with words oft used to describe this route, Ruta Mala.

After finishing up the first push, we thank him for the beta and leave him as we are able to start pedaling. His words add some uncertainty to what we are about to attempt, but we chose to come here and are plenty familiar with hard things. After all, it's hard things that make life worth living.

The road continues as he had described. We have a few more hike-a-bikes, but the majority of it is rough but rideable. That is until we hit El Toro.



Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

El Toro probably shouldn't be described as a town. It's a dot on a map in the mountains. There are about seven houses clumped together in a little recess in the jungle. It is accessible in two ways. The most common, the way we just came, is a dirt road that is steep, rocky, loose, muddy, but navigable with four-wheel drive. The other, that from what we can tell is only used by horses and maybe the occasional foot traffic, is barely even a trail. In several places, it fades leaving faint options to push through the sharp, stabby plants.

The trail disappears almost immediately. John and I push forward, dragging our bikes through vines, over logs and around razor plants. Soon the sweat that has poured out of us for hours is mixed with blood and mud. The route options seem to all go somewhat in the same direction. We can hear each other, but visually we might as well be miles apart. There's a lot of vacillation. Which route? Does this even go? Push, pull, back track. The two trails we are simultaneously pursuing eventually converge and we push through to the top. We've progressed of a mile in an hour. Being at the top feels like things are about to improve, but like most things, good and bad are mere opposing faces of the same coin.

On the flipside of this coin, the vegetation is less dense. There is less moisture and there is mostly a trail. Although that trail is often a two-foot rut filled with loose rocks dropping precipitously down the side of the hill making it unrideable.

Now our bikes are dragging us down the mountain.

After two hours, more curse words than we can remember, maybe some tears, lots of sweat and blood, we finish up the 3 miles from El Toro and pop out on a small dirt road to the confused looks of the locals.

Our elation to having pushed through the nonsense is short lived.



Che is everywhere immortalized here in the main plaza in Havana. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

Upon hitting the junction, we find a small cafeteria. It is open, but unfortunately for us, the attendant has nothing to sell. She gives us some vague directions to a house that might rent rooms. We hop across the street and grab some beers and head toward what we are hoping is a place to stay. After passing a house that kind of fit the description but was on the wrong side of the road, we stop to ask again. A young man indicates that, yes, that was the house, but he also says that there is one more coming up that rents rooms as well. We push on only to find that house is a raucous party of toddlers and merrymakers.

Instead of a warm shower, we find ourselves rogue camping in a field getting swarmed by mosquitoes. We planned to build a small fire to cook the little bit of food we had



John, Shalena and Kathleen purchase supplies as we wait hoping the owner of a Casa Particular shows up to rent us a room. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

brought with us. After getting a nice fire pit and perch for the pot built and wood gathered, we discover that the one lighter among us has gone missing.

Half of a beer plus a swig of rum each will have to suffice. Merry Christmas to us.

As humans, we understand that an objective reality exists. There is a Truth. We just don't have access to it. Our reality is our perception of that Truth filtered through our experiences, contexts, prejudices, desires and senses. It feels like the Truth, but it is merely our truth. As much as we wish that our truth was the Truth, it's impossible for us to know if it is.

The Stoics took this a step further and taught that we should reserve judgement. By first accepting what is without assigning good or evil to it, we have the chance to work through it and see where it goes. Often the most trying situations are looked back upon as building blocks for something better. We might not see it in the moment, but when we see the result, we understand.

To assign good or evil to any situation is to believe that you have access either to the Truth or that you

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Kathleen Berglund and Shalena Taylor right before things got really bad. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

fully understand the end result. Both are shaky ground for humans.

We awake in a 2nd story apartment that I describe simply as "shit hole" in my journal.

Arriving in Bahia Onda the afternoon prior, we had set out like most other days looking for a place to rent. This turned into a goose chase with several plot twists that ended with us stoked to have anywhere to sleep even if it meant dragging loaded bikes up a flight of stairs that could have passed as a ladder to sleep on a mattress shaped like a hammock. At least the shower attempted to pretend to be warm.

This small industrial town isn't done with us yet. The power gets shut off just as we are looking for breakfast. We find a couple of cafecitos and some croquetas before realizing we just need to get the fuck out of this town.

We pedal out with hopes that we can find something to eat along our route.

About 10 miles later, we find just that. A restaurant that is open, has cold beer and food. It is still pretty early but we need something to eat, so we stop. It takes long enough to get the food that it turns into lunch, but we are stoked to have happened upon it and that they are willing to accommodate us.

Back on the road, we're headed for another industrial town, Mariel. Gaia shows a few Casas Particulares and we hope we can find something. We arrive early and immediately set out to see what there is. The first spot only has room for two of us. The next spot isn't open and we can hear the screams of pigs being slaughtered across the street. This town has a similar feel to the one we left in haste this morning.

Mariel is a hard no.

Then, a few miles farther down the road, Nuevo Mariel is also a no. Then Menalao Mora is a no.

At this point, we've been wandering around looking for a room to rent for close to two hours. At every no, we get new beta and push on with hopes that something will be there. Our last bet is placed on Playa Banes, a small road at the end of town that heads to the beach. Gaia shows nothing, but a man in Nuevo Mariel told us there are lots of places for rent on this road. We give it a shot.

There are no signs to suggest there are any Casas Particulares on this road. There is a lady painting her gate and I stop to ask. She says that there is a green house on the right side of the road that rents rooms. We need to ask for Juan Carlos and tell him that Mora sent us.

We feel elated, until there is no green house on the right side.

Stopping again, I ask a lady hanging her laundry. She says yes, two doors down on the left side of the street at a blue house is where we will find it. We ignore the color as the house is certainly not blue, but call anyway. Juan Carlos appears next door asking what we need. I tell him that we are looking for a spot and in incredibly fast Cuban Spanish he says that he might have something. He disappears only to pop out at the gate where we are standing.

He beckons us in and says the house is typically for rent but it might not be, but he might be able to do something. Normally, it's 6-8,000 pesos for 24 hours, but he has to talk to the owners. It's a lot of vacillation. I'm confused when he shows us the house. It's big, three rooms with a nice kitchen, individual bathrooms and plenty of space. I tell him we will take it if he can rent it to us. He leaves to call the owners.

We see him on the roof of the house next door trying to get cell service.

He comes back to us, says he can't get a hold of the owner, but for 10,000 (\$40ish USD) pesos it's ours for the night. He is acting like he has just asked for a fortune so I ask if that's per person or per room. He responds that it is for the whole house. Done deal!

He gives us the keys and disappears. We are then treated to the absolute master of Cuban showers, full pressure and incredibly hot water.

For every 3-5 Cuban no's, there seems to always be a yes that blows us away.

Humans have spent millions of years fighting back nature. We have been successful in this fight. We now enjoy motorized travel over smooth roads, refrigeration and air conditioning, overabundance of calories and a level of comfort never known. The downside to our success is that because we evolved to live in a world of scarcity, our brains are not capable of controlling our consumption in an environment of excess. This leads us to be almost completely immobile, to consuming more calories than we need and an obsession with just the right temperature. Our success is slowly killing us.

Cubans do not enjoy smooth roads. Most of the Carretera Nacional, or National Highway, is a two lane, pot-holed road that sees little traffic. It is slowly becoming unpaved. This slows down traffic. It was not uncommon for us to keep pace with a car that had just passed us as they were forced to slow down and maneuver around all the holes. The roads felt like they were built for cars but have been taken back by the Cuban people or nature or both. This included drying rice on the roads. Yes, you read that right. One lane, cleaned and then covered in rice and left to dry.

Refrigeration and air conditioning are surprisingly abundant on the island. Every Casa Particular in which we stayed had an AC and a refrigerator, the latter stocked with beer. The biggest difference in Cuba is that they can't leave their house via a temperature-controlled garage and then use an automobile to get



John Taylor climbing through the fog. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

to the next spot. Nope, they have to walk outside, wait for the bus in the rain, find a ride, jump on their bike. Cuban streets are not orderly affairs with cars whipping through the lanes, they are more of a street fair that allows vehicles to pass when they show up. Cuba is a place you are forced to be uncomfortable.

Junk food is not readily available in Cuba. Heavily, or super processed foods, are almost non-existent. We did see packs of cookies and the occasional bottle of soda, but these were usually expensive and based on what we saw, rare. Instead of packing our bags full of chips, cook-



One of our last stops on our way back to Havana, Playa Baracoa. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

ies and soda, we ate whatever food we could find in the towns that we passed. This was whole food processed locally. We often went without our morning coffee and ate breakfast when things actually opened. The idea of a schedule is a loose thing in Cuba. Even with this lack of food, I never felt hungry. It seemed that the island always provided just enough food when we needed it.

Cubans are still fighting against nature. Due to this, there are two things that we have come to expect in modern society but are in short supply, obese people and beggars. While there isn't an abundance of calories, it appears Cubans have enough to eat. And on the flipside, they don't have too much to eat and their system keeps them moving constantly throughout the day.

One thing that Cuba does lack is excess.

My eyes flit open. It's a little after 6 am and I think I can hear rain.

I get up, open the slats that pass as windows and flip off the AC. Yup, it's raining. I grab my phone and climb back into bed but stay seated. There is something romantic about sitting in a small house, listening to the rain and journaling in Cuba. Unfortunately, that's where the romance ends.

The four of us slowly emerge. We have high hopes for hot coffee. There is a range, a pot and spigot. We had all brought packets of micro

Continued on page 14



Bikepacking Cuba -Continued from page 13



John Taylor stoked that this intersection is leading to a much nicer road. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

ground coffee for these moments, we just need hot water. John grabs a pot and before he can even put water in it, we remember we don't have a lighter. A search of the kitchen shows that we have no way of lighting the stove. We then look closer to realize the gas range also has no gas.

Foiled. There is a moment of visible disappointment that is followed by a little ingenuity. The oven has electricity to it, maybe it's electric. It is. We fill up a couple pots of water and place them in the oven at 400



Unbeknownst to us, this meal was going to be crucial to getting through La Ruta Mala. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

degrees and wait. It takes 30ish minutes but once we start getting small bubbles we call it good and the water is divided up amongst the four of us.

The rain is still drizzling down as we sit on the back porch and begin enjoying our somewhat hot cup of joe. There is something just off and we soon realize that the water is salty. About halfway through his cup, John stands up and throws what is left into the garden in disgust. The rest of us follow suit and feeling a bit dejected begin to ready our gear for the final push back to Havana. The rain stops just as we are ready to go. We lock up the house leaving the keys in the door and head out across the yard. Three steps in and the wind kicks up accompanied by rain dumping sheets that quickly cover the lawn in a couple of inches of water. We retreat to the porch. A quick wardrobe change is in order as the wind has changed the temperature equation drastically. And then we wait.

Another 15-20 minutes and the rain stops. The wind is still ripping but we only have 20ish miles to

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A group of cyclists in Havana. These were the only recreational riders we saw during our trip. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff



Old cars cause new ones aren't available. These are almost all converted to diesel engines. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff

go to return to Havana. With our rain jackets in place, we head out again. Juan Carlos sees us leaving and stops us at the gate. We thank him for the place to stay and inform him the keys are in the door. He thanks us and disappears. We push our bikes out into the dirt road and begin to pedal.

The storm holds back for a bit, but soon we are pedaling into near horizontal rain. With our heads tucked down, we pedal the empty highway as it fills with water. The only vehicles to pass are a couple of large farm trucks used as busses. The Cubans in the back are exposed to the rain and the wind just like us. I'm not sure who is in better shape.

John pulls over at a bus stop that provides a semblance of protection from the elements. We have no water, our breakfast was a ProBar and a few left over snacks and we are now on the side of the highway waiting out another squall.

As the rain tapers, a couple of guys pop out of the bus stop as it doubles as a cafeteria. They seem confused at our presence but have some bottled water and juices that we promptly buy and consume. As we are sitting there rehydrating, a lady walks up. She is wearing a big black parka, black jeans and the cutest little shoes that leave the top of her feet exposed. She's visibly cold. I can tell that she walked into the rain as the front of her pants are soaked leaving them a dark black while the back is dry.

We thank the attendant and push back onto the highway. The rain has stopped but the pavement is still covered in water. The wind has slacked and we are able to make decent time. Playa Baraquoa, the first harbor of Cuba, is our next stop. We follow a small road down to the coast. The surf is pounding driven by the storm. There we rest and get some photos. There are a bunch of restaurants, but they are currently getting ready to open. We trudge on.

La Havana was within striking distance when we started and soon we are traversing through the city. With our heads down, we push through and end up in Miramar where Mauricio's house is well before noon. We drop down to the beach, find a restaurant that is open and plop ourselves down for a celebratory meal upon completion of our journey. We start with breakfast, move onto brunch beers and end



Our patio in Bahia Onda where John and Shalena are enjoying some ice cold beer. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff



This old man (80+) showed us the traditional way of making a Cuban cigar. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by Lukas Brinkerhoff



Kathleen and I dancing to some Cuban jazz in old town Havana. Bikepacking Cuba. Photo by John Taylor

with lunch. The whole time, the wind is driving the ocean, and we can hear and feel the weather as the seating is open air. Once we are all feeling fat and happy, we load up and head to the house.

"Cuba is Cuba," I respond to Mauricio's query in Spanish.

I came to Cuba because I knew that the Truth was twisted and I needed to see it for myself. I know my perceptions so it is easier to turn off those filters or at least recognize that they exist.

My perception is shaped by my connection to the natural world and it is my belief that most of the issues we experience in modern society are due to our disconnect from it. The Cuban people are in the thick of it. They are still pushing back against that natural world. Their daily efforts still revolve around food, transportation and community. From the outside looking in, it's easy for me to view their scarcity as a resource, as a way to keep a population healthy and engaged, to keep them more connected to the natural world.

I landed in Havana with the expectation of seeing something special and I did. We wandered around the Cuban country, interacted with the people in unfiltered exchanges and felt the island's warmth and humidity. What I didn't expect was the way their society's structure had given them many of the things I feel we need in the United States, unpaved roads, less access to food, the necessity to move under one's own power creating a connection to both community and nature. One could look at these things as a failure of the Socialist Revolution, and one could be right. I struggle to look at them and not see a system set up to question what can be and the answer is a completely different operating system.

It's like opening your laptop to find that you must now do everything in MS-DOS.

Lukas Brinkerhoff blogs about mountain biking and life at mooseknuckleralliance.org.

### BICYCLE HISTORY A Candy Bar Fueled the Iron Horse Bicycle Classic



Iron Horse cyclists racing the train in Durango, Colorado. Photo courtesy Iron Horse Classic

#### **By Dave Marston**

If you don't know much about the Iron Horse bike race that begins in the town of Durango in southwestern Colorado, know that it is brutal, pitting cyclists against a narrow-gauge train that takes an easy route up a valley.

Riders, though, must climb a curvy route of 47 miles over two passes, both more than 10,000 feet high, as the road threads its way through the rugged San Juan Mountains.

Winners finish about two and a half hours, the train chugs in an hour later.

An enduring race legacy belongs to one man, Ed Zink, who died five years ago. He spent decades running the race or being involved through its nonprofit board from 1972-2019. Though the race is now 52 years old, attracts 3,000 riders and has a big budget and staff, its beginnings were entirely local.

In 1971, two brothers named Mayer thought it would be fun to pit bicycles against the local train, where Jim Mayer worked as a brakeman for the Durango and Silverton Railroad. Jim's brother, Tom, bet his brother he could beat the train riding his bicycle. He did just that, winning a candy bar. The next year the brothers teamed

up with Zink, a born organizer, to start what became an annual race during the Memorial Day weekend.

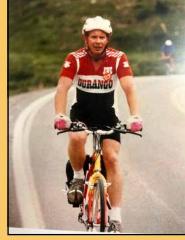
For the next 30 years, said Patty Zink, the race was a bootstrap operation. Her husband "and his kids and employees at our Mountain Bike Specialists store led the volunteering, food and cleanup. It's fabulous that it's thrived and now is the second oldest bike race in the United States."

"Zink worked so hard organizing the race, he didn't get to ride in it until 2006 when he was 59," said Gaige Sippy, who took over as director in 2007, until 2022.

Sippy said to this day, there has always been at least one Zink family member and often 10 volunteers helping out along the route of the race,

More recently, the race has featured the remarkable Mara Abbott, an Olympian biker who's also the winningest Iron Horse rider. She's beaten thousands of men six times.

In a TEDx Talk, she recounted almost winning an Olympic race until running out of gas with just a few hundred yards to the finish. At



Ed Zink, 1985, courtesy Patty Zink

that point, she said, three cyclists passed her, leaving her "with the privilege of a broken heart."

Sippy credits Abbott and local Durango legend Ned Overend, who owns the second most wins, with inspiring legions of riders to take on

LIZUM

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the mountain passes.

But before Abbott and Overend and the race's national reputation, there was Zink. He kept the race going until it became an institution that helped define Durango, a sportsloving town.

Many locals recall Zink as a man who loved to get good things going. An example was his founding of the easier Quarter Horse Bike Race, where riders only grind out 25 miles uphill to the Purgatory ski area. Once the shorter race was established, Zink let someone else lead the event.

Zink was also early to the idea of mountain biking having its own home. Sippy recalls him saying, "We're always trying to fit in, riding on trails sharing with other folks. It would be great if cycling had its own stadium."

Back in 1990, it was because of Zink's work that the Mountain Bike World Championships came

PLANET ULTRA

Always the last weekend in August

to Durango. It was early days for mountain biking—just a decade after riders on homemade Klunker bikes started traversing old mining trails.

15

Marc Katz, founder of a big park for mountain bikes and other sports that's underway close to town, said he deeply feels Zink's loss. "I had many chats with Ed Zink along the way. I am sad he isn't around to talk with now that we're getting this thing done."

Editor's Note: Ed Zink passed away in 2019. In addition to the Iron Horse, he was the founder of Durango's Mountain Bike Specialists bike shop.

Dave Marston is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit that seeks to spur lively conversation about the West. He lives in Durango, Colorado.

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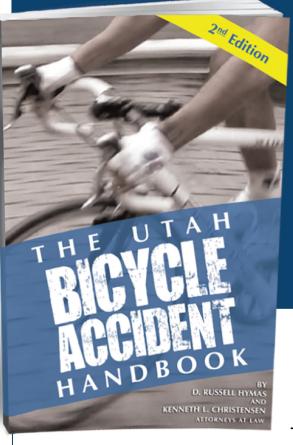
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and double track in the Gouldings and the Oljeto community. The route is entirely dirt road and includes some rolling terrain. The course will be among some beautiful rocks, with views of formations for which the area is well known. Tom Riggenbach, 928-429-0345, obustamen@vadnoc.com

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July 13, 2024 — Crooked Gravel, Winter Park, CO, Want to ride the high alpine gravel of Grand County? Check out Crooked Gravel in Winter Park. Choose between two sepa-rate courses, a 30 mile or a 67 mile ride, that tackle over 5,000 vertical feet on long and winding climbs, earning wide-open descents under the Colorado sky. New in 2022: The 67-mile long course will be a timed segment with a \$5,000 ccsh purse up for grabs, Scott Olmsted, 720-819-7306, support@theridecollective.com, theridecol-

lective.com July 13, 2024 — Lyons-Heart Gravel Classic, Mandan, ND, For those seeking a chal-lenging and scenic cycling adventure, the Lyons-Heart Gravel Classic is the utilimate test. Choose from different distance options, including a challenging century (100 miles) for the experienced riders. This event takes you through the stunning landscapes of the Lyon's Den, conquering hills that will have you questioning why they say North Dakota is flat and pushing your limits. It's an excellent opportunity to set ambitious goals, challenge yourself, and experience the satisfaction of overcoming obstacles. Competing for a \$7000 prize purse might help keep the off-season motivation going as welli, Melissa Marquardt, 701-221-9833, melissa@701 cycleandsport.com, 701 cycle-

July 13, 2024 — Cowboy Crusher Gravel Grinder, Glenrock, WY, Cowboy Crusher Gravel Grinder, Glenrock, WY, 121 -75 - 40 mile options and 9,500 - 6,500 - 3,200 eleva-tion gain, Gear Up and Get Out There, Tia Leschin, 307-235-6353, 406-930-2311, cow-

July 18-20, 2024 - Dirt de Utah, Soldier Hollow,

oy<u>crusher@yahoo.com</u>,

<u>idecollective.com, theric</u>

cycleandsport.com, 701cycle

cowboycrusher

and the mine of the something for everyone. The 25-mile route is something for everyone. The 25-mile route is e-bike friendly, Jay Petervary, 307-413-2248, <u>aypetervary@gmail.com</u>, tetonyallevaraye(.com)

<u>montanacyclocross@gmail.</u> acyclocross.com/events/, the-

@breakawaypro.com,

<u>com, navajoyes.org</u> /UT/MonumentValley/

info@bighorngravel.com

### WESTERN STATES

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **Calendar Guidelines:**

18

- Listings are free on a space available basis and at our discretion. Submit your event to:
- calendar@cyclingutah.com with date, name of event, website, phone number and contact person and other appropriate information.
- Let us know about any corrections to existing listings!

#### For the full year calendar, visit CyclingWest.com!

#### BMX

- RAD Canyon BMX South Jordan, UT, Indoor and outdoor BMX racing. Location: 5200 W, 9800 South, Practice Tuesday 6:30-8:30, Race Thursday, Registration, 6:00-7:00, Race at 7, May through September (practices starting in April with additional practices on Tuesdays through May), Dallas Edwards, 801-803-1900, radcanyonbmx@radcanyon-bmx.com, radcanyonbmx@radcanyon-
- Deseret Peak BMX Grantsville, UT, Outdoor Racing located on the SW corner of the Deseret Peak Complex. Racing every Monday and every other Wednesday, June through October. Registration 5-7pm, Danie Radford, 385-315-0349, <u>Strider2rider@gmail.</u> com, deseretpeakcomplex.com, <u>usabmx</u>. com/tracks/1518

#### Advocacy

- UT, Utah's Statewide Advocacy Bike Utah Group. They work on education and other bike related advocacy., Bike Utah , 406-498 9995, info@bikeutah.org, bikeutah.org
- Salt Lake City Bicycle Advisory Committee Salt Lake City, UT, Meetings are the 3rd Monday of the month from 5-7 pm in the SLC Transportation Division Conference room, Salt Lake City Transportation, 801-635 (40) billicated accurate billication, 801-535-6630, bikesic@sicgov.com, bikesic.com
- Salt Lake County Bicycle Advisory Committee Salt Lake City, UT, The SLCBAC committee works to improve cycling conditions in Salt Lake County and is an official committee. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7:30 pm and are held in Suite N-2800 of the Salt Lake County

- Government Center, 2001 S. State St., Salt Lake City, UT,, Helen Peters, 385-468-4860, <u>HPeters@slco.org</u>, <u>bicycle.slco.org</u>
- Trails Foundation of Northern Utah Oaden UT, Weber County's trails group. We are committed to the idea that a non-motorized network of public pathways significantly contribute to our community's economic vitality and quality of life., Aric Manning, 801-393-2304, <u>thnu@thnu.org</u>, <u>thnu.org</u>
- Mountain Trails Foundation Park City, UT, Park City's Trails Group, Charlie Sturgis, 435-649-6839, charlie@mountaintrails.org, moun-taintrails.org
- Bonneville Shoreline Trail Committee Salt Lake City, UT, Volunteer to help build the Bonneville Shoreline Irail. (801) 485-6974 or visit our web page. Dave Roth, 801-824-5339, bonnevilleshorelinetrail@gmail.com, 5339, <u>bonnevilleshorelinetrail@gmail.com</u>, <u>bonnevilleshorelinetrail.org</u>
- bonnevilleshorelinetrail.org
  Parley's Rails, Trails and Tunnels (PRATT) Salt Lake City, UT, PRATT is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, run by volunteers. The mission of the Parley's Rails, Irails and Tunnels (PRATT) Coalition is to assist city, county, state and federal agencies and other public and private partners in completing a multi-use trail along I-80 via Parley's Creek Corridor and the Sugar House Rail Spur to connect the Bonneville Shoreline Irail with the Provo/Jordan River Parkway, Juan Arce-Larreta, 801-694-8925, parleystrail@gmail.com, parleystrail.org
- Bike Provo Provo, UT, Please join us every first Thursday of the month at 6 pm in the Provo Public Library (550 N University Ave) to help make Provo a more active transporta-tion and transit friendly community., Bike Walk Provo, bikewalkprovo@gmail.com



# PEAK STATE FIT

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Salt Lake City, UT 84115

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#### Trails Alliance of Southern Utah — St. George, UT, TASU , info@tasutah.org, tasutah.org Southern Utah Bicycle Alliance - St. George, UT, Southern Utah's road advocacy group, Craig Shanklin, 435-674-1742, <u>southernutah-bicycle@gmail.com</u>, <u>southernutahbicycleal</u>

- WOBAC Weber Ogden Bicycle Advisory Committee Ogden, UT, Josh Jones, 801 629-8757, joshjones@ogdencity.com,
- Idaho Bike Walk Alliance Boise, ID, Idaho's Statewide bicycle advocacy organization, Cynthia Gibson, 208-345-1105, cynthia@ida-bowgliblie org. iddhowgliblie org. ike.org, idahowalki
- Greater Arizona Bicycling Association Tucson, AZ, Arizona's Statewide bicycle advocacy organization, Eric Post, presi-den@bikegaba.org, bikegaba.org
- Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists Phoenix, AZ, Statewide bicycle advocacy organization, Bob Beane, 623-252-0931, <u>cazbike@cazbike</u>. org, cazbike.org
- Wyoming Pathways Wilson, WY, Statewide bicycle advocacy organization, Tim Young, 307-413-8464, , <u>wyopath.org</u>

- org, tvtap.org, tetonbikefest.org Bike Orem Orem, UT, The Orem Bicycle Coalition exists to cultivate a more bicycle friendly community in Orem so that more residents will be able and excited to ride in our community. We do this by encourag-ing bicycle safety, accessibility, inclusivity, and infrastructure to the community and its residents. Come join us! Currently we are meeting on the second Wednesday of each month, from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at Mad Dog Cycles. The address is 350 North Orem Bidd, Orem, UT 84057, Randy Gibb, 801-222-9577, randy/@maddogcycles.com, facebook.com/BikeOrem

Sweet Streets — Salt Lake City, UT, SLC based advocacy group that works for safer streets, Taylor Anderson, <u>taylor@buildingsaltlake</u>. com, sweetstreetsslc.org

Cycling Salt Lake — Salt Lake City, UT, Advocates for better cycling of all types in Salt Lake City, County, and on the Wasatch Front. Reach out to join our email list serve., Dave Ittis, 801-574-3413, dave@cyclingutah. <u>com, cyclingutah.com</u>

- Southern Nevada Mountain Bike Association (SNMBA) NV, The SNMBA advocates for mountain biking across all of Southern Nevada, Alison Cormier, Info@snmba.org, <u>snmba.org</u>
- California Bicycle Coalition CA, CalBike advocates for equitable, inclusive, and pros-perous communities where bicycling helps to enable all Californians to lead healthy and joyful lives. Kevin Claxton, info@calbike. org.calbike.org oike.org org, c
- Bike East Bay Oakland, CA, The East Bay's Bicycle Advocacy organization. They strive for Education, Advocacy, and Community Engagement, Bike East Bay, 5108457433, events@bikeeastbay.org, bikeeastbay.org
- Walk Bike Berkeley Berkeley, CA, Walk Bike wal<u>kbikeberkeley.org</u>, <u>walk</u> Berkeley Berkeley, info@y bikeberkeley.org
- Mountain Bike the Tetons Driggs, ID, Mountain Bike Trails Advocacy in the Tetons, Chris Brule, 307-413-1998, info@mountainbik-etetons.org. mountainbiketetons.org s.org, mountainhik

#### Events, Swaps,Lectures

999 Ride — Salt Lake City, UT, Casual fun ride through the streets of Salt Lake City. Meet at 9 pm at 900 E and 900 S (999). The ride leaves about 10 pm. Every Thursday night, facebook com/990ride.

June 7-9, 2024 — Reno River Roll, Bike Month, Reno Bike Week, Reno, NV, A seven mile family-friendly slow roll along the Truckee River. Costumes welcome, Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance, 775-323-4488, info@bikewashoe.org, bikewashoe.org, renoriverstival.com/renor/wer.roll be<u>.org</u>,

#### **Gravel Races**

#### and Rides

June 8, 2024 — Moots Ranch Rally, Steamboat Springs, CO, 2 courses, either a 76 or 54 mile route, both are almost 100% gravel and will include a few competitive timed segments, Moots, 970-879-1676, 970-329-2563, info@

## June 8, 2024 — Pine Island Gravel Odyssey, Spearfish, South Dakota, 45, 70, 110, 210 mile gravel ride/race, Perry Jewett, 605-641-4963, ridgeriders@blackhills.com, dako-tafiveo.com

June 8, 2024 — Gas Field Gravel Grinder, Aztec, NM, This route is almost all dirt while starting and finishing on a few miles of pavement. You'll encounter breathtaking views on some of the most remote gas field roads north of Aztec, NM, 10 miles, 26 miles and 50 miles. These roads may be sandier on the 50 mile loop than the shorter courses, make sure your gravel bike is running fatter tries for the sandry roads NM has to offer. If you don't have a gravel bike a mountain bike is perfectly acceptable. MANDATORY navigation device with the route you are riding on the 50-mile distance. The course will be marked the best we can but if we use the combination, we should avoid lost riders. Neil Hannum, 970-759-2126, aztecad-ventures01@gmail.com, William Farmer, 505-402-3959, gatarner360@gmail.com, aztec-adventures.com
 June 8, 2024 — Over the Hill Gravel Grinder,

adventures.com June 8, 2024 — Over the Hill Gravel Grinder, Horseshoe Bend, ID, 3 routes for all abilities. Each route offers challenging terrain and scenic views of the Payette River valley. The Warhorse route is 84 miles with just over 8,500 feet of climbing. The My Little Pony loop is about 43 miles with an elevation gain of 4,200 feet. The Hobby Horse route, which is 17 miles with 1,200 feet of climbing. All routes will be fully supported with aid stations at key locations along the way. The ride will be followed by a fun after-party at the Locking. 208-331-9266, Dave.fotsch@gmail.com, bik-ereg.com/over-the-hill-gravel-grinder lune 15, 2024 — Beaver Dam Gravel Grider

June 15, 2024 — Beaver Dam Gravel Grinder, Beaver Dam State Park, NV, Ride the Rim and see the park from a different perspec-tive. Pedal down an old chaining road that runs along the Park's rim and winds you through Pinyon and juniper trees. Through the small town of Barclay where lunch is served at the one room schoolhouse. The course then swings ground back to the main course then swings around back to the main park road and down into Campground B where we end the ride with a BBQ. The course is subject to change based on weather conditions. 35 and 45 mile options., Dawn Andone, 775-728-8101, cathedral-gorge vc@lcturbonet.com, beaverdam-

June 15. 2024 — Lost and Found Gravel Grinder, Lost Sierra Triple Crown, Portola, CA, The perfect blend of pavement, dirt, and gravel roads over 35, 60, or 100 miles of epigrave roads over 33, 60, or 100 miles of epi-cally beautiful gravel riding in the Lost Sierra. Followed by live music, expo, beer, and awesome food with lots of good people. More than a ride, L&F is a whole weekend of Lost Sierra fun declicated to raising funds for the Lost Sierra Route., Greg Williams, sierratrails.org, Sierra Trails, info@sier org, lostandfoundbikeride.com

- org

- Gravel Fondol Lamoille, NV dill 117 mile loop on pavement, gravel and dirt roads. Ride it or race it!, Ruby Roubaix Event Director, 775-389-1862, info@rubyrou-
- June 22, 2024 Monument Valley Bike Race, Tour de Rez Cup, Monument Valley, UT, The 15-mile route travels along dirt roads

Jily 18-20, 2024 — Dirf de Utah, Soldier Hollow, UT, 2 courses: 1. approximately 30 miles with around 4000 feet of climbing and 2. a 70-mile loop with around 8000 feet of climb-ing. The event will take place at the stun-ning Soldier Hollow in Midway, Utah, which was the host of the 2002 Winter Olympics. and features a beautiful backdrop of Mt Timpanogos. Fat Tire Crit Thursday, MTB Race Friday, Gravel Race Saturday, Kari Preston, 801-209-3337, info@dirtdeutah.com, Kadence Preston, 435-395-8757, <u>info@dirtdeutah.com</u>, <u>deutah.com</u>, <u>dirtd</u>eutah.com July 19-21, 2024 — FoCo Fondo, Fort Collins, CO, Whether you're into racing bikes or all day bike parties in the open range of Colorado FoCo Fondo is your adventure. 12-mile to 118-mile options., Whitney Allison, whitney@bikesportsco.com, focofondo.

FORTHE

July 20, 2024 — Joe Cosley Pancake Ride Gravel Grinder, Whitefish, MT, Back to the Salish Mountain Range, sticking to the north end, featuring some hidden gems that are sure to turn your crank.The ride is limited to 50 individuals. Once the participant cap is reached, that's it. There will be no wait list, or substitutions., Brad Lamson, joe@pancak-eride.com, pancakeride.com eride.com, pancakeride.com

SUPPORTING BIKE ADVOCACY ACROSS THE COUNTRY SINCE 1996

na.org, bikewalkmor

### Bicycle Colorado - Denver, CO, Statewide bicycle advocacy organization, Dan Grunig, 303-417-1544, info@bicyclecolorado.org,

Bike Walk Montana — Helena, MT, Statewide bicycle advocacy organization, Taylor Lonsdale, <u>bznbybike@gmail.com</u>, Doug Haberman, <u>406-449-2787</u>, <u>info@bikewalk-</u> Teton Valley Trails and Pathways (TVTAP) — Jackson, WY, Promotes trails and pathways in the Wydaho area of Wyoming and Idaho., Dan Verbeten, 208-201-1622, <u>dan@tvtap.</u> org, tvtap.org, tetonbikefest.org

June 15, 2024 — The Angry Horse Gravel Grinder, Idaho Falls, ID, The course will be unmarked this year but a route file or cue sheet is mandatory. There will be primitive aid only with water and drop bag zones so prepare for a self-supported ridel Funds obtained will go toward local trail devel-opment within the Greater Teton/Eastern Idaho region., Ryan Edge, 208-932-1051, intolF@fltzgeraldsbicycles.com, ridethean-

June 15, 2024 — CHAFE 150 Gravel Grinder, Sandpoint, ID, Syringa Cyclery , 208-610-9990, syringacyclery@gmail.com, Jane Huang, chafe150@outlook.com, chafe150.

June 21-February 22, 2024 — Belgian Waffle Ride - Hendersonville, TRIPEL CROWN OF GRAVEL, Hendersonville, NC, Michael Marckx, 760-815-0927, mmx@ MonumentsofCycling.com, belgianwaffle-ride.blke

June 21-22, 2024 — GRODEO & Builder Round-up, Ogden, UT, óth Annual, the GRODEO and the Builder Round-Up create a two-day celebration of bicycles at ENVE HQ in Ogden, Utah. We'll combine the elegant bicycle designs of our handmade builder partners, and the adventure of gravel riding right outside our door. Total Distance: 92 miles, Gravel & Trails: 50 miles, Pavement: 42 miles, Feet of Climbing: 8,300 feet, Feed Zones: 4, enve.com/gradeo/

June 22, 2024 — Ruby Roubaix Gravel Gran the Ruby Mountains like you've never seen them before during this one-day bicycle ride or race beginning and ending in scenic Lamolile, Nevada. Choice of a 22, 38, 64, or

#### EARLY SUMMER 2024

#### CYCLINGWEST.COM

- July 20, 2024 The Riff Gravel Race Leeland, Hvolsvöllur, Iceland, The Riff is a 200 km (125 miles) off-road bike race through the dark lava fields in the highlands of Iceland. It traverses the continental rift between North America and Eurasia a rift that grows one inch every year. The growth is evident with vast lava fields all around creating a surreal landscape. A landscape that is remote, rug-ged and unpredictable!, The Rift, 011-354-626-3332, info@therift.bike.
- 020-3332, <u>Info@intentr.Dike</u>, melitt.Dike July 20, 2024 MCBC Dirt Fondo, Sausalito, CA, 45-mile journey from the Golden Gate to Mt. Tam and back. There is amazing scenery along the whole route and a good mix of trails, file roads, and tarmac! Friendly faces will greet you at 4 rest stops on the way out as well as on the return and wold-class support on course, including marshals, mechanics and SAG, Tom Boss, 415-456 3469, info@marinbike.org, marinbike.org
- July 28, 2024 The Last Best Ride Gravel Whitefish, MI, Big Horn Sheep Long Course 92 miles, 8,000 feet climbing. Mountain Goat Short Course 48 miles, 4,800 feet climbing Both courses offer stunning views, pristine Montana gravel, and an awesome finish line party in downtown Whitefishn. Jessica Cerra, 619-573-5176, tidewhitefish@gmail.
- August 3. 2024 Dirty Bear Gravel, Big Bear Lake, CA, 50 mile gravel ride, part of the Tour de Big Bear, Chris Barnes, 951-970-6720, 909-878-0707, bigbearcycling@gmail.com,
- August 3, 2024 Bear Howard Gravel Race, Flagstaff, AZ, 100 mile, 60 mile, and 30 mile Gravel Ride, prime gravel riding in the shad-ow of the "Peaks" of N. Arizona. Consider it a tour of Flagstaff, taking in views of Kendrick, Sitgreaves and of course the San Francisco Peaks. With 6,000 ft of elevation gain, this is no walk in the park., Dustin Phillips, sablemind1@gmail.com, sableevents.com nd1@gmail.com, sab
- Sablemind Tagmall.com, sableevents.com, sablevents.com, sab <u>xc.org</u>, <u>tahoexc.org</u>

August 3, 2024 — FLAG2GC, Flagstaff, AZ, An incredible 65-mile off-road journey through the tall pines and grasslands of Northern Arizona. The ride takes participants from the Nordic Village of Arizona, just north of Flagstaff, to (almost) the South Rim of the

Grand Canyon. The event is open to rid-ers of all skill levels and is designed to be a challenging but rewarding experience. Combine the joys of cycling AND do good. For over 25 years, the event has benefitted Marine League Charities of Northern Arizona with every pedal stroke., Shannon Lindher, 602-363-7725, shannon@aztrailrace.com, Jake Hernandez, 602-363-7725, Jake@aztrail-race.com, shendocatracing.com race.com, shendocatracing.co

August 4, 2024 — Stagecoach Gravel Tri, Steamboat Springs, CO, 0.5 mile swim, 16 mile gravel ride, 4 mile gravel run. Can substitute a SUP leg instead of the swim. Also Gravel Aquabike, Lance Panigutti, 303-408-1195, Jance@withoutlimits.com, withoutlimits.

- August 10, 2024 JayP's Backyard Fun Pursuit Gravel Ride, JayP's Backyard Series, Island Park/West Yellowstone, ID, Gravel ride near Yellowstone National Park on Forest Service roads. It's an incredible time of year to be in this area and visit YNP! 30, 60, 120 mile routes, Jay Petervary, 307-413-2248, jaypetervary@ gmail.com, gravelpursuit.com
- August 18, 2024 SBT GRVL Gravel Grinder, ugust 18, 2024 — SBT GRVL Gravel Grinder, Steamboat Springs, CO, 6:30 am on Yampa Street, Steamboat Springs, CO, Four distances: 37/64/104/142 miles with 2000/4000/6000/9000 feet of climbing, respectively. Mixed surface with the majority on hard packed gravel roads, Amy Charity, 970-215-4045, info@sbtgrvl.com, sbtgrvl.com
- 470-213-4043, Indessignicon, solgrincon, August 19-30, 2024 Big Sky Spectaculaire Gravel Race, Bozeman, MT, A 900+/- mile single-stage, mixed surface, self-supported competitive adventure bike ride around Southwest and Central Montana. Start and finish in Bozeman, MT. 450 miles of gravel and 2-track in 22 segments. Plenty of ser-vices along the route. Over 25 hours of time bonuses available., Big Sky Spectaculaire , bssheadquarters@gmail.com, bigskyspec-<u>com, bigskyspec</u>
- August 21-25, 2024 Garmin Gravel Worlds Lincoln, NE, Self-Supported, Grassoots Style Gravel Race, 50K, 75 mile, 150 mile, 300-mile options. New Run Options of 50k, 25k, or 10k. Options for Double doing run and bike events. Gravel Worlds Info, info@gravel-worlds.com, Jason Strohbehn, jason@grav-elwadds.com, gravel-worlds.com <u>om, gravel-worlds.co</u>
- erwonds.com/iii gituderwolfas.com/iii August 24, 2024 Salty Lizard Gravel Race, Wendover, UT, This race showcases the best of Wendover's amazing gravel roads with views of towering peaks and the Bonneville Salt Flats. Choose from 42, 75 or 104 mile courses. It will be hot, it will be salty, Breanne Nalder-Harward, 801-550-0434, breannee Nalder-Harward, 801-550-0434, breannee Nalder-Harwards, 801-55 utahgravelseries.com, utahgravelseries.com
- August 29-September 1, 2024 Rebecca's Private Idaho Gravel Grinder and Festival, Ketchum, ID, Lifestyle, mountain bike and outdoor festival over Labor Day Weekend. The cornerstone of the two-day event is a 100-mile Gravel Grinder (or 50-mile option) mountain bike race & idde in the scenic Pioneer Mountains of Central Idaho, with renown mountain bike champion and endurance athlete Rebecca Rusch. The weekend activities are centered around giving back to non-profit organizations that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in cycling. Join the Queen of Pain on this percentific and the table in on this





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home party with food, festivities, music, and libations., Rebecca Rusch, 254-541-9661, rusch.com, rebed

#### Mountain Bike Tours and Festivals

Lizard Head Bike Tours — Various, UT, CO, and More, Multiple dates - Texas, Utah, Canada, Colorado, Oregon, New Mexico,Montana, and tons of other locations! Road, MTB, Gravel Tours, John Humphries, 970-728-5891, Interestingthoodynou/Ingenuides com Lauran ardheadcyclingguides.com, 508-561-7580, lauren@lizard Lauren Lasky, dcy-

om, lizardheadcyclingguides.con

June 17-21, 2024 — Granite Ridge Girls Mountain Rike Camps. Chevenne, WY, Curt Jne 17-21, 2024 — Granne Kiage Gins Mountain Bike Camps, Cheyenne, WY, Curt Gowdy State Park. 2 1/2 day girls camp June 9-11, 4 1/2 day coed camp June 12-16, ages 12-18. Riching skills and educa-tion sessions, Richard Vincent, 307-760-1917, 307-777-6478, enduro.rv@gmail.com, wyom-tbcamps.org

cling.

June 24-28, 2024 - Stone Temple Co-Ed Ine 24-28, 2024 — Stone lemple Co-ta Mountain Bike Camps, Cheyenne, WY, Curt Gowdy State Park. 2 1/2 day girls camp June 9-11, 4 1/2 day coed camp June 12-16, ages 12-18. Riching skills and educa-tion sessions., Richard Vincent, 307-760-1917, 307-777-6478, enduro.rv@gmail.com, wyom-thcamps.org

June 28-30, 2024 — BetterRide MTB Camp, Park City, UT, Take your skills to the next level by investing in yourself! Learn the skills to greatly improve your riding and drills to master those skills. Increase your confidence, skill and efficiently with the most experienced (20 years), effective and sought after coach in the sport, Gene Hamilton!, Ilse Harms, admin@betterride.net, betterride.net

admin@betteriide.net, betteriide.net June 28-30, 2024 — Boise Mountain Bike Festival, Boise, ID, Held at Eagle Bike Park and Bogus Basin Resort, Group rides (XC, Irail, DH, Gravel); Meet and greet local bike shops and learn about their week-ly rides and community involvement; Skill Demonstrations: Watch the pros along with QandA; Coaching: Day-of sign up for small group coaching sessions; Whip-Off Jam Big Air by pro riders; Raw Slalom Challenge; Fundraiser/Raffle: Bike giveaway, swag giveaway. Over 13k in giveaways; Food and Beer vendors; Be active in the Boise moun-tain bike community, Boise MIB Festival , boisemtnbikefestival@gmail.com, boisemtnamail.com, boisemtn-

July 12-14, 2024 — BetterRide MTB Camp, Durango, CO, Take your skills to the next level by investing in yourself! Learn the skills - BetterRide MTB Camp, to greatly improve your iding and dills to master those skills. Increase your confidence, skill and efficiently with the most experi-enced (20 years), effective and sought after coach in the sport, Gene Hamilton, Ilse Harms, admin@betterride.net, betterride.net

July 13, 2024 — Watermelon Beat Down, New Mexico Endurance Series, Cedar Crest, NM, Unsupported epic mtb ride, nm-es.weebly.

August 16-18, 2024 — Jurassic Classic Mountain Bike Festival, Lander, WY, Mountain bike Festival in Lander, WY . Demos, shuttles, clinics, group rides, parties, live music, film fest, beer, food trucks, and raffles! All skill levels welcome., Gwen Robson, 307-330-3002, fremontarearoadtour@gmail.com, 3002, <u>tremontarearoadt</u> Ami McAlpin, 970-394-4423, m, Mike Dicken, 307-332-2926, juras @gmail.com, jura

August 16-18, 2024 — Outerbike Crested Butte, TENTATVIVE, Crested Butte, CO, An oppor-tunity to ride next year's bikes and gears on world class trails. Participants get bike demos,shuttles, lunch, beer, and admis-sion to parties and films, at Crested Butte Mountain Resort, Mark Sevenoff, 800-845-2453, 435-259-8732, outerbike@westernspirit. com, outerbike.com <u>com, c</u>

com, outerbike.com
August 30-September 1, 2024 — Wydaho Rendezvous Techon Mountain Bike Festival, Techon Valley, WY/ID, Ride epic cross country and lift-access downhill trails, improve your mountain biking skills with clinics hosted by professional coaches at a great price, join group rides, enjoy discounted lift pass access and meet people who love bikes just like you. Don't forget that Wydaho also hosts the largest adaptive bike festival component in North America, with support of two great local adaptive organizations! Wydaho is celebrating 12 years as a family-

friendly, grassroots gathering right here in the Tetons., TVTAP, 208-201-1622, info@ tetonbikefest.org, Tony Ferlis, 208-201-1622, tetrobikefest.org, Tony Ferlis, 208-201-1622, org, tetonbik

#### Utah Weekly MTB **Race Series**

April 10-July 31, 2024 — Weekly Race Series, WRS, Sundance, Wasatch County, UT, Wednesday nights, April-August. Venue alter-nates between Wasatch County sites and Sundance, 5:30 pm Racer check-in and 6:30 pm prompt start time. Pros/Experts 1hr race time, Sports 50mins, Beginners 30-40mins, WRS Races, 435.565.4602(Wasatch), 801-223-4849 (Sundance), races@weeklyrace-series.com, weeklyraceseiles.com series.com, weeklyrace

May 14-August 14, 2024 — Mid-Week Mountain Bike Race Series, Wasatch Front, Wasatch Back, Salt Lake Valley, Utah Valley, UT, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. Locations TBD. Fun, competitive mountain bike racing for all ages and abili-ties. XC races and Mini Enduro races, Bike Utah , 406-498-9995, info@bikeutah.org, mid-

### Regional Weekly

#### MTB Race Series

May 8-June 26, 2024 — Missoula MTB League Missoula, MT, Various courses. May 8, 15, 22, 29 June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024, Eight weeks of 29 June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024, Eight weeks of mountain biking in the evenings. Free moun-tain bike race series. Fun divisions for all abili-ties. Top 3 pick from the prize table. Relaxed and fun. Potluck post race., Shaun Radley, 406-219-1318, montanacyclocross@gmail.

Com, moniandacyclocioss.com/events/
May 29-June 26, 2024 — Session Series Weekly Enduro Series, Floyd Hill, CO, A weeknight series ending in a weekend finale, riders check their better judgment at the start for a timed downhill run on the infamous Sluice Trail at Floyd Hill on June 19, 26. So close to Denver, but miles away in drops, jumps, and technical downhill features. Also held at Maryland Mountain May 29, June 6., Jennifer Bartour, 303-503-4616, jen@ teamevergreen.org, Caprice Bass, 303-720-4509, caprice@teamevergreen.org, , ses-sionseries.org

May 29-July 17, 2024 — Sturgis Music On Main Mountain Bike Series, Sturgis, SD, Experience the warm summer evenings out on the local bike trails by participating in the 7th Annual Music on Main Mountain Bike Race Series each Wednesday evening starting at 6:00 PM at Harley Davidson Rally Point, no entry fee, Joe Etxorn, 605-720-4046, <u>xtremeda-kotabiccles@outlook.com</u>, officialsturaisey-

June 19-September 11, 2024 — Teton Dirt Series, Wydaho, ID, Cache Creek XC Race, Grand Targhee Mini Enduro, Grand Targhee XC Race, Mike Harris Mini Enduro, Jackson, Driggs, Wydaho region, Chris Brule, 307-413-1998, info@mountainbiketetons.org

#### Utah Mountain

#### Bike Racing

June 8, 2024 — Wasatch 50, Intermountain Cup ance cross country mtb race, Margaret Gibson, 435-229-6251, margaret@redrockbicycle.com, intermountaincup.com

June 22, 2024 — Fast Times at Richfield ICUP. Intermountain Cup, Richfield, UT, Check back for complete details., Margaret Gibson, 435-229-6251, margaret@redrockbi-

July 13-14, 2024 — Big Mountain Enduro, Big Mountain Enduro Series, Brian Head, UT, BME Stop #5: Revered for its incredible gravity fed descents, technical single track, and access to hundreds of miles of scenic back country trails beyond the resort boundaries, Brian Head's lift served terrain is accessible to beginner through advanced level riders, Robert Herber, robert@bigmountainenduro.com

July 13, 2024 — Battle at SoHo ICUP, Intermountain Cup, Midway, UT, Margaret Gibson, 435-229-6251, margaret@redrockbi-cycle.com, intermountaincup.com

July 20, 2024 — Odyssey at Brian Head Endurance, Intermountain Cup Endurance Series, Brian Head, UT, The Odyssey takes what was the idea of the Brian Head Epic and twists it into a crazy hard day that will have you giggling on the flowy descents and cursing on the climbs. It will challenge you both technically, physically and men-tally. It's 47 miles with 6900 feet of elevation gain incorporating the ripper descents of Dark Hollow and Bunker Creek, the rugged Lowder Ponds trail and plenty of climbing in between all above 8500 feet. It will most likely be one of the most challenging and most fun days you've ever had., Margaret Gibson, 435-229-6251, margaret@redrockbi-cycle.com, intermountaincup.com m, intermour

July 27, 2024 — Eden Epic, Eden, UT, On the trails above beautiful Ogden Valley, the Eden Epic is a truly "epic" mountain bike adventure. With a focus more on the adven-ture than the finishing times, this is an epic adventure that has a place for those look-ing to push themselves., Clay Christensen, 801-234-0399, info@enduranceutah.com, edeneoic.com edenepic.com

August 10, 2024 — The Rage at Snowbird ICUP Jugust 10, 2024 — The kage of showhife Lovr, Intermountain Cup, Snowblird, UT, XC race. Snowbird has done a great job with some new trails and creating trails for real MIB racing with a great mix of fast flowy single track, service roads, and a few short techni-cal sections to keep you on your toos, 5-25 miles, 570' elevation gain per lap. Beginning just above the Tram Plaza at Snowbird Center on the dirt road, this 5.1 mile course offers up approximately 570ft of climbing per lap., Margaret Gibson, 435-229-6251, ockbicycle.com, inter

August 11, 2024 — Flyin' Brian Downhill, Go-Ride Gravity Series, Brian Head, UT, Ron Lindley, 801-375-3231, info@utahdh.org, go-ride.com, utahdh.org

Regional Mountain
Bike Racing
ID, WY, MT, NV, AZ,
NM, CO, MT, OR, WA,
CA and Beyond

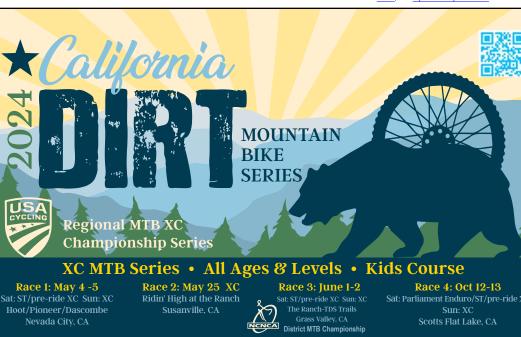
June 6-9, 2024 — Missoula XC, US Pro XCT, Missoula, MT, UCI racing short track, cross country racing along with full amateur age group racing. Thursday is the clinic. Friday is the short track racing. Saturday is UCI and Elite XC racing. Sunday is age group XC rac-ing. Shaun Radley, 406-219-1318, montana-cyclocross@gmail.com gmail.

June 8, 2024 — Fears, Tears, and Beers Enduro, Ely, NV, Enduro mountain bike event. Timed sections mostly downhill, combined time wins. Men's and women's events for all classes. Fun run, beginner, sport, and expert classes. The first and longest running enduro mountain bike race in America. Beginner to Pro categories. Be a part of MTB history, Kent Robertson, 775-289-6042, 775-296-2162, krobeg@mwpower.net, Kyle Horvath, 775-289-3720, kyle.horvath@elynevada.net, elyxropeg@mwpc 289-3720, kvle. vada.net, elynevada.

June 8, 2024 — Salida Big Friggin Loop, Colorado Endurance Series, Salida, CO, This self-supported endurance ride is mixed with gravel and singletrack. There will be the base loop and long loop to chose from with the long loop parties through the opert the long loop passing through the ghost town of Futurity with a brief hike-a-bike., col oradoes.wordpress.com/swes-event-list/sb

June 8-9, 2024 — Big Mountain Enduro, Big Mountain Enduro Series, Sunrise Park, AZ, BME Stop #3:, Robert Herber, robert/@big-mountainenduro.com, bigmountainenduro.

June 8. 2024 — Otter Creek MTB Race, Harmon Lake, ND, The 10th year of the Otter Creek MIB Race is coming at you, will you be there? This race provides a distance and experience for everyone as it follows the contours of the beautiful Harmon Lake. The contours of the beautiful Harmon Lake. Ihe trail provides everything from canopy cov-ered technical to wide-open, fast and flowy, singletrack. We will be capping the race at 200 participants for 2024, so get registered early! Set a goal, challenge your friends and family, and compete for more than \$4200 in cash prizes. Melissa Marquardt, 701-221-9833, melissa@701cycleandsport. com 701 evcleandsort.com <u>\_\_</u>\_\_\_21-9833, m <u>\_\_\_\_\_</u>\_\_\_\_





Sat: Parliament Enduro/ST/pre-ride XC Sun: XC Scotts Flat Lake, CA

Series details & on-line reg: ybonc.org/events/dirt-classic/ NO on-site, race day registration

- June 13-16, 2024 Leadville Training Camp, Leadville Race Series, Leadville, CO, Ride with past champions and experience every inch of the LT 100 MTB course in Leadville. A question and answer session will offer insight question and answer session will offer insight into proper training, diet and race strategy Camp riders will get tons of camp swag great food and amazing, unforgettable experience, Paul Anderson, 719-219-9304 panderson/dilfatimettables.com leadville. <u>fetimefitness.com, leadville</u>
- USA Cycling Marathon MTB June 15, 2024 -National Championships, Auburn, AL, Chuck Hodge, 719-434-4200, <u>chodge@usacycling</u> org, usacycling.org
- June 15-16, 2024 Silver Mountain Enduro North American Enduro Cup, Montana Enduro Series, Idaho Enduro Series, North American Enduro Cup, Kellogg, ID, Held at Silver Mountain Ski Resort, EWS qualifier world class trails, national caliber competition, New trails, race categories to include e-bikes\* and more amateur age categories cut-off times, full on finish line festivities and MORE!, Scott Tucker, 360-797-4288, scott@ ORE!, Scott Tucker, 360-797-4288, <u>scott@</u> wcup.com, North American Enduro Cup ontact@naenduro.com, naenduro.com
- June 15, 2024 The Bailey Hundo, Buffalo Creek, CO, 10th year for the race. The HUNDO is 100 miles with 10,000 vertical feet, the HUNDItO is 50 miles with 6,000 vertical feet, in the Buffalo Creek trail system per-mitted by the USFS., Jennifer Barbour, 303-502 401 band compared and carded nevergreen.org, Caprice caprice@teamever ndo.ora 503-4616 303-720-4509, Bass.
- green.org, balleyhundo.org June 15, 2024 Terrible Two, Sebastopol, CA, The Terrible Two is our region's version of an epic, and has been running since 1976. There are two challenging routes, neither for the faint of heart. The first, starting at 121 miles is considered a tough century, and a gateway ride to the more formidable Terrible Two 200 mile course. It is a slightly abbreviated version of the Terrible Two and excludes Napa County. It also starts two hours later. Both are equally supported throughout., Lorenzo Freschet, 707-483-6965, . there course the balance of the transformation of the tare. Both are equally supported throughout., Lorenzo Freschet, 707-483-6965, . there 21-23, 2024 NW Cun Downhill Series
- , <u>ft@srcc.com</u>, <u>srcct.webnow.ac</u>, <u>srcct.com</u> June 21-23, 2024 NW Cup Downhill Series (Tamarack), Northwest Cup Downhill Series, Tamarack, ID, Downhill race. Held at Tamarack Bike Park. Friday will be open practice. Saturday will be opilt practice by category. Pro/JuniorX seeding Saturday evening. Sunday racing all categories, PRO evening. Sunday racing all categories, PRO GRT too, Scott Tucker, 360-797-4288, <u>scott@</u> om, <u>nwcup.com</u>
- June 21, 2024 Mullet Cycling Classic, Missoula, MT, Business in the front. Party in the back. There's no better way to kick off the racing season than to play to our strengths. That's why in 2020 we're starting things off with a two-rider relay race: one person goes up, the other person comes down., Ben Horan, 312-502-5997, <u>bthoran@</u> amail.com, mtbmissoula.org gmail.com, mtbmissoula.org
- June 22, 2024 9 to 5, Knobby Tire Series McCall, ID, High speed rolling double-track. Tight, technical sagebrush single-track, water crossings, quick steep drops, nasty little granny gear climbs. Single speeders' dream. Alex Phipps, 208-841-4120, <u>alex-01phipps@gmail.com</u>, <u>twistedturtleracing</u>.
- June 22. 2024 Lake Tahoe Mountain Bike Race, Tahoe City, CA, Sweet trails and singletrack. Juniors and all NICA riders wel-come.Race in the cross country race, 4 hour come.Race in the cross country race, 4 hour or 8 hour race as a solo or on a team of 2, 3 or 4 (teams of 3 and 4 apply to the 8hr race only). The course is approximately 12.8 miles. Fast lap times are around 50 minutes. Cross country race is two laps. The course is a mix of single track and fire-road. It is a fast and smooth course with few technical sections. The most laps wins. Approximately 1350 feet ascending and descending per 1350 feet ascending and descending per lap, Todd Jackson, 530-546-1019, todd@big-bueadventure.com, Kley McInroy, Kley@ bigblueadventure.com, bigblueadventure.
- June 23, 2024 Send It at Jug Mountain Ranch Enduro, Wild Rockies Series, McCall, ID, Enduro MTB race, Alex Phipps, 208-841-4120, alex01phipps@gmail.com, twistedturf-lancebea.com
- June 23, 2024 Purgatory Enduro, Revolution Enduro Series, Purgatory, CO, David Scully, 970-846-5012, <u>david@revolutionenduro.com</u>, revolutionenduro.com
- Mid Week Melee, Morrison, June 26, 2024 -CO, Three distances to choose from includ-ing: the Eilte Mini Course (1.9 miles), Short Course (4.3 miles), and Long Course (4.8 miles), Dave Muscianisi, 303-817-6523,
- miles)., Dave Muscianisi, 303-817-6523 events@rattlerracing.com, rattlerracing com NEW! DINNER SERVICE 7 DAYS A WEEK: SMALL PLATES, ENTREES, & SALADS GREAT SELECTION OF WINE AND BEER!
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  - (of the
  - Purchase a Share The Road license plate! Visit bikeutah.org/sharetheroad

- June 26-30, 2024 Junior Bike Week, Crested Butte, CO, Since 2016, we've had one goal-to host the biggest kids' bike party right here, the birthplace of mountain biking. Junior Bike Week is the only multi-day mountain bike festival that exclusively celebrates get-ting more kids on bikes; and we would love to have you join us for both non-competitive festive events as well as competitive racing, Amy Nolan, 970-596-4085, <u>director@junior-bikeweek.com</u>\_Uniorbikeweek.com
- <u>om, juniorbikewe</u> June 28-30, 2024 — NW Cup Downhill Series (Whitefish). Northwest Cup Downhill Series, Whitefish, MT, Downhill race. Held at Whitefish Bike Park. Friday will be open practice. Saturday will be split practice by category. Pro/JuniorX seeding Saturday evening Sunday varian all categories Sott evening. Sunday racing all categories, Scott Tucker, 360-797-4288, <u>scott@nwcup.com</u>, Tucker, nwcup.com
- June 29, 2024 Helenduro, Montana Enduro Series, Helena, MT, Montana Enduro Series contact@montanaenduro.com, Eric eric@montanabicycleguild.org, montanaenduro.com, montanabicycleguild.org
- June 29. 2024 La Tierra Torture Mountain Bike Race, New Mexico Off Road Series Santa Fe, NM, fast and flowy course, Jan Bear, 505-670-4665, janbea@gmail.com
- June 29-30, 2024 Big Mountain Enduro, Big une 29-30, 2024 — Big Mountain Enduro, Big Mountain Enduro Series, Angel Fire, NM, BME Stop #4: a two-day race entailing upwards of 12'000 feet of long technical descents throughout the weekend. Racers can expect 3 to 4 stages per day on some of the most legit trails in the country. Robert Herber, robert@bigmountainenduro.com, bigmountainenduro.com
- June 29, 2024 Lutsen 99er, Leadville Race Series, Lutsen, MN, This race offers 99, 69, 49, 25, and kid distances combined with a weekend packed with fun, adventure and "killer" mountain biking for everyone... Paul Anderson, 719-219-9364, panderson400 lifetimethane page language approximate a
- CO, 50 mile mtb race, Ride some of the best single track trails we have to offer. Jeff Westcott, 970-390-4760, west/@mavsports. com, Vince Hutton, 970-547-4321, 970-453-1734, racebreck@townofbreckentideo.com July 4, 2024 -

racker-50, mavsports.com

July 6, 2024 — Whit Henry's Galena Grinder knobby Tire Series, Galena Lodge, ID, XC/ Marathon, 40 mile loop; Pro/Expert/SS, 25 mile loop; Sport/Clydedale, 20 mile loop; Beginner, 10.5 mile loop; and Youth with a 5 mile loop. Alex Phipps, 208-841-4120, ex01phipps@gmail.com, twistedturtler

grams/rac

- July 6, 2024 Colorado State MTB Championship, Copper Mountain, CO, , Dave Muscianisi, 303-817-6523, events@rat-tlerracing.com, rattlerracing.com/event/ ng.com, rattlerro cing.
- July 7, 2024 Silver Rush 50, Leadville Race Series, Leadville, CO, At 10,000-12,500 feet above sea level, this challenging 50 mile out-and-back course takes racers through the historic mining district on Leadville's East side. This race is known for its long, lung-burning climbs and rocky, steep terrain. Solo or Tandem 50m. Leadville Trail 100 Qualifier., Paul Anderson, 719-219-9364, panderson4@ lifetimefitness.com, leadvilleraceseries.com
- July 13-14, 2024 Downieville Classic, Lost Sierra Triple Crown, Downieville, CA, Race or uly 13-14, 2024 — Downieville Casic, Loss Sierra Tiple Crown, Downieville, CA, Race or ride the epic 26.5 mile point-to-point cross-country to the Sierra Creat and back to town, or take in a double dose with 15 miles of the Downieville Downhill in the All Mountain World Championships, followed by an epic party. Named one of the top 10 mountain bike festivals by Outside magazine., Greg Williams, wille@sierratralis.org, downievilleclassic.com classic.com
- July 17-21, 2024 USA Cycling Cross-Country Mountain Bike National Championships, Macungle, PA, Mountain bike national championships and high school cycling fes-tival, Chuck Hodge, 719-434-4200, chodge@ urgevellere org. urgevellere org. usacycling.org, usacycling.org
- July 20, 2024 Butte 100, Butte, MT, Continental Divide Trail, Single Track, Big Sky Country, 100 and 50 mile options, and a Sorini 25 mile option. 14th Annual, Stephanie Sorini, 406-490-7632, <mark>stephaniesorini@</mark> butte100.com, butte100.com Sorini,
- July 20-21, 2024 Pomerelle Pounder Downhill Go-Ride Gravity Series, Albion, ID, Two USAC sanctioned downhill races in two days., Ron Lindley, 801-375-3231, info@utahdh.org, go

July 20, 2024 — Tahoe Trail 100, Leadville Race Series, Northstar, CA, Ride 50K or 100K of

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rocky summits, breathtaking pine forests and beautiful Lake Tahoe views. 100K rid-ers can qualify for the Leadville Trail 100 MTB, Josh Colley, 719-219-9357, <u>youpho-riacontact@gmail.com</u>, Todd Jackson, 530-246-1012 \_ todd@ibablueqdventure.com 546-1019, todd nture ahoetrailmtb.com, vouphoriar ons

- July 20-21, 2024 -– 24 Hours in the Enchanted uly 20-21, 2024 — 24 Hours in the Enchanted Forest, N24, Albuquerque, NM, Everything that you want from a 24 Hour Race. We have an amazing course with epic sin-gletrack winding through meadows, pines and aspens. The Zuni Mountains outside of Gallup, NM are a great place to ride. We have an awesome venue in the ponderosa pines with plenty of space to hang out with friends and family and hang your hammock, great party atmosphere with vendors, mov-ies, food, kids activities, and fun for every-one., Seth Bush, 505-554-0059, ElCapitan@ ZlaRides.com, zlarides.com ZiaRides.com, ziarides.com
- July 20, 2024 Tahoe Trail, Leadville Race Series, Northstar Village, CA, Leadville Qualifier. The Tahoe Trail 100 offers athletes a 2-loop, 50 kilometer course filled with beau tiful views of Lake Tahoe., Paul Anderson, 719-219-9364, panderson4@lifetimefitaces 719-219-9364, panderson4@lifetimefitness. com, leadvilleraceseries.com
- July 24, 2024 Mid Week Melee Morrison CO Three distances to choose from including the Elite Mini Course (1,3 miles), Short Course (4.3 miles), and Long Course (4.8 miles). Dave Muscianisi, 303-817-6523, events@rat
- July 24. 2024 Mid Week Melee, Morrison, CO Three distances to choose from including: the Elite Mini Course (1.3 miles), Short Course (4.3 miles), and Long Course (4.8 miles), Dave Muscianisi, 303-817-6523, <u>events@rat</u> flerracing
- July 26-28, 2024 Leadville Stage Race, Leadville Race Series, Leadville, CO, 100M (100 miles over three days), Team Option. Experience the legendary Leadville Trail 100 course over three days. Push the pace to see what you're made of, or use the stages to prepare or qualify for the Leadville Trail 100 in August. This is one amazing party, with daily stage prizes, raffles, unmatched swag, food, beer and live music., Paul Anderson, 719-219-9364, panderson4@litetime/itness. com, leadvilleraceseries.com
- July 27, 2024 Laramie Range Epic, Laramie, WY, The Laramie Range Epic (Formerly the Laramie Enduro) will have two course options, 30/60ish miles. 80% singletrack from options, 30/601sh miles. 80% singletrack from smooth and flowy to steep and technical. Choose the One & Done to do one lap, or, the Laramie Range Epic to do two laps. Aid stations with fresh food, water and perfor-mance nutrition. Legendary after-party with live music, awards, cash pay-outs, raffle, free refreshments and warm, fresh food! Limited on-course camping and room spe-cials, Dewey Gallegos, 307-742-5533, trea-cedirect/agamail.com, Jaramierangeepolc director@gmail.com, laramierangeepic
- July 27, 2024 Purgatory Enduro, Revolution Enduro Series, Purgatory, CO, David Scully, 970-846-5012, david@revolutionenduro.com,
- July 27, 2024 East Idaho XC, Knobby Tire Series, Eastern, ID, XC/Endurance (NICA Fundraiser), Alex Phipps, 208-841-4120, alextwiste gmail.com,
- July 31-August 4, 2024 USA Cycling Gravity MTB National Championships Handeror Justional Championships, Henderson NC, Chuck Hodge, 719-434-4200, Qusacycling.org, usacycling.org
- August 2-4, 2024 Brundage MTB Races Knobby Tire Series, McCall, ID, STXC, XC Endurance, NICA, Downhill races, Alex Phipps, 208-841-4120, alex01phipps@gmail area twisted twitterale means x01phipps@gmail.
- August 2-4, 2024 NW Cup Downhill Series (Silver Mountain), Northwest Cup Downhill Series, Kellogg, ID, Downhill race. Held at Silver Mountain Bike Park. Friday will be open practice. Saturday will be split practice by category. Pro/JuniorX seeding Saturday evening. Sunday racing all categories, Scott Tucker, 360-797-4288, scott@nwcup.com, nwcup.com nwcup.com
- Pierre's Hole MTB Race August 3, 2024 Ultra Endurance Series, Alta, National Ultra Endurance Series, Alta, Wr, The 100 K category will be capped at 250 racers and the 50 K category at 300 rac-ers. There will not be a 100-mile race this year. The racecourse is on an IMBA Epic trails at Grand Targhee. The 100 k is a part of the NUT concrete and concerning the category. of the NUE marathon series race, Tony Ferlisi, 307-690-3952, <u>tferlisi11@gmail.com</u>, <u>nuemtb</u>. com/pierres-hole-2
- August 3-4, 2024 Emerald Mountain Epic, Mountain Town Challenge Series, Steamboat Springs, CO, A mountain bike race/trail running race over 26 miles of beautiful Routt County singletrack with a total of roughly 3,500ft elevation gain. Solo (two laps) and duo team (one lap per rider) options available., Sarah Glassmeyer, 712-898-6571, racedirector@emeraldmtnepic. org.emeraldmtnepic.org
- org, ei
- August 3, 2024 Snowmass 50, Snowmass, CO, This race will highlight a 25 mile sin-gletrack loop ascending 5000 feet. Solo competitors will have the option of 1 or 2 laps while teams of 2 can race 1 lap each., Aspen Snowmass, 970-923-1227, contact@ aspensnowmass.com, aspensnowmass.
- August 3-4, 2024 Maah Daah Hey 100, Medora, ND, The Maah Daah Hey 100 race course takes you across one of the most majoritic stude tack advantures in race course takes you across one of the most majestic single-track adventures in the world, with miles of uninterrupted trail through the heart of the rugged Badlands. Make no mistake, this event will push com-petitive riders to their limits while giving every participant an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives. Nick Ybara, 701.570.9138, <u>nick@experienceland</u>. org, experie nceland.a
- August 9-11, 2024 NW Cup Downhill Series (TBA), Northwest Cup Downhill Series, TBA, TBA, Downhill race. Held at Whitefish Bike Park. Friday will be open practice. Saturday will be spilt practice by category. Pro/ JuniorX seeding Saturday evening. Sunday racing all categories, Scott Tucker, 360-797-4288, scott@nwcup.com
- August 10, 2024 Leadville Trail 100, Leadville Race Series, Leadville, CO, One of the most notorious and challenging bike races in the world. 100 mile out-and-back, Paul Anderson, 719-219-9364, <u>panderson4@life-</u> timefitness.com, leadvillerace

- August 10, 2024 Enduro Pescado Whitefish Enduro, Montana Enduro Series, Whitefish, MT, Montana Enduro Series, contactemon-tangenduro, com, Eric Sivers, eric@mon-tangenduro.com, Eric Sivers, eric@mon-tangenduro.com
- <u>org, montana</u> August 10-11, 2024 — Keystone Enduro, Revolution Enduro Series, Keystone, CO, David Scully, 970-846-5012, <u>david@revolu-</u> tionenduro.com, revolutionenduro.com
- August 10-11, 2024 Big Mountain Enduro, Big Mountain Enduro Series, Tamarack Resc ID, BME Stop #6:, Robert Herber, robert Tamarack Resort igmountainenduro.com, bigmountainen
- August 11, 2024 Colorado Trail Race, Durango, CO, Group Start 4 AM, Jefe Branham, <u>JWOOKIEONE@HOTMAIL.COM</u>,
- wookleone.com
  August 16-18, 2024 Oak Flats MTB Race, New Mexico Off Road Series, Albequerque, NM, Well marked course with a separate kids course and equal pay. Family oriented, spectator friendly, with unique hand made trophies, a positive atmosphere and more. Fast, flowy course with a little bit of every-thing for everybody. Event Saturday: Cat 3, Cat 2 & Short track for Pro and Cat 1; Sunday:Juniors, Kids, Pro & Cat 1, Jan Bear, 505-670-4665, janbea@mail.com, Par , 505-730-2615, parmenides.orpinel@gmail.com, nmors.org, oakllatsmib.com nmors.org, oakf
- August 17, 2024 Big Sky Biggie, Big Sky, MT, Starting in Big Sky's Town Center (Meadow Village) and climbing into the scenic views from Lone Peak and Buck Ridge, riders will ride some of the area's most exhilarating (and challenging) pieces of single-track, double-track, gravel roads and the occa-sional paved segment, Natalle Osborne, 907-223-0858, natalle@bigskybiggie.com, bigskybiggie.com bigskybiggie.co
- August 17, 2024 York 38 Special, York, MT, Ride 38 or 76 miles on single track, gravel, and Forest Service roads through breathtak-ing scenery in the Helena National Forest gaining 3000 vertical feet! Benefit for York Fire Rescue, York Fire Rescue, york38spe-cialmt@gmail.com, york38special.org
- August 17, 2024 The Carriboo Jack, Teton Valley, ID, 1 day, 3-4 stage, blind-format, backcountry enduro race through the mountain wild of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest that will leave you with a good story., Chris Brule, 307-413-1998, info untainbiketetons.org, mountaink tons.or
- Highlands Ranch, CO, Get your crew together and play in the dirt with us! 7.6 miles of beautiful singletrack with double-track segments thrown in to allow for easy passing. How many laps can you ride in 6 hours? Duo Teams, Trio Teams, and Solo Rider categories are offered, Darrin or Jill , 303-642-7917, darrin@racingunderground com, rumbleatthergent August 17, 2024 — Rumble at the Ranch.
- August 18, 2024 Idaho Senior Games, Ea ID, Held at Eagle Cycle Park, Cross Country and Hill Climb events, Mike Thornton, 208-861-8000 iddposeniorgamesinfo@agadi 861-8000 Katie Hedrich, 951-733-5198. com, kalle realicn, yo1-/33-5198, <u>katle@</u> omnigoevents.com, Stewart Hindman, 208-461-8877, idahosg.cycling@gmail.com, ida-
- August 24, 2024 Lake City Alpine 50, Lake City, CO, This lung-busting race will take you by the iconic Lake San Cristobal before climbing through the alpine tundra to the two of the highest passes in Colorado: Cinnamon Pass (12,640 feet) and Engineer Pass (12,800) feet. The race will feature over 7,500 feet of climbing through some of the most incredible sections of the San Juan Mountains. This is a USA Cycling sanctioned event. benefit the Town of Lake City and the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy, Michael Fleishman, <u>mike@lakecityalpine60.com</u>, leishman, mike@n s50.com lakecityalp oU.com, lakecityalpine
- August 30-September 1, 2024 GloriDays MTB Camp Weekend, Glorietta, NM, Bike Campl bike races, live music, food trucks, games and activities for the kids hosted by our NICA NM friends, Revolution Enduro races too, Seth Bush, 505-554-0059, ElContidan@IdRItes com zuidles com

#### Utah Weekly

- **Road Race Series**
- Salt Air Time Trial Series Utah Crit Series, Salt Lake City, UT, Every other Thursday Salt Lake City, UT, Every other Thursday April - September, I-80 Frontage Road West of the International Center, Marek Shon, of the International Center, Marek anon, 801-209-2479, <u>utcritseries@gmail.com</u>, <u>utah</u>
- DLD (DMV) Criterium Utah Crit Series, West Valley CHY, UT, Weekly Training Crit at the Driver's Training Center, 47005. 2780W., A filte - 6 pm, B filte between 6:45 and 7:05, Call for information regarding C filte. Wednesdays April - August, Marek Shon, 801-209-2479, utcritseries@gmail.com, utah-critseries.com
- Emigration Canyon Hillelimb Series Utah Crit Series, Salt Lake City, UT, Starts north of Zoo 7.4 miles to top of Emigration. First rider off at 6:30. Every other Thursday April through August, Marek Shon, 801-209-2479, utartisetasagardi.com utabethadres com <u>com, utc</u>
- Logan Race Club Thursday Night Time Trial Series – Logan, UT, Thursdays, TI series con-sisting of 18 races on five difference courses, with weekly and end-of-series prizes. Check the website for the location of the weekly course, Stephen Clyde, 435-750-8785, swc@ mdsc.com, Ben Kofeod, benkko@hotmail. com, Travis Dunn, travis.dunn@usu.edu,
- Utah Road Race Series Utah Crit Series, Salt Lake City, UT, Fridays, Marek Shon, 801-209-2479, <u>utcritseries@gmail.com</u>, <u>race2wheels.</u>

#### Utah Road Racing

- June 7-8, 2024 Kokopelli Moab to St. George Relay, Moab, UT, Moab to St. George Relay, Road race with 4 rider teams and three legs per rider, covering 528 miles. Multiple start times at Swanny Park in Moab finishing at Unity Park in Ivins., Clay Christensen, 801-234-0399, info@enduranceutah.com, kokopel irelay.con
- June 22, 2024 Utah Hill Climb Snowbird, UCA Series, Snowbird, UT, Dirk Cowley, 801-699-5126, dcowley@comcast.net, utahcy-clingevents.com

- July 6-7, 2024 Salt Lake Criterium, American Criterium Cup, Salt Lake City, UT, Professional and amateur categories, expo and more! Benefits the Utah Food Bank. Saturday: Industry, Granary District, Salt Lake City. Sunday: Sugarhouse Park, Dirk Cowley, 801-699-5126, dcowley@comcast.newl.ey, 801-699-5126, dcowley@comcast.newl.ey, Boltage.ett.com.saltakecrit@gmail. com.saltakecriterium.com com, so
- com, saltlakecritterium.com July 13, 2024 Cache Gran Fondo, UCI Gran Fondo World Series, USA AND Gran Fondo National Series, Logan, UT, Qualifying event in the Western US for the GFNS (USA Cycling Gran Fondo National Championship), and a true Gran Fondo where riders of all abili-ties are invited to participate. Chose from distances of 35, 53, 76 and 104-mile courses on Saturday through a fun, low-traffic, and scenic route in Cache Valley, UT. The finish is a festival for all riders, with race prizes, recreational rider prizes, Troy Oldham, 435-764-2979, oldhamtroy@gmail.com, cache-grantondo.com
- July 27, 2024 Mirror Lake Highway Road Race, UCA Series, Kamas, UT, 150 miles across some amazing country roads and up Mirror Lake Hwy thru beautiful pine and aspen forest, across the highest paved pass in Utah at 10,700 feet, and back on country roads in wide open country. It is a road race a gran fondo (for those who only want to (ide) and can be done as 2 or 3 person relay. Fully supported. Start and finish in Kamas. Troy Huebner, 801-427-0852, troy.huebner@ tealdrones.com, cyclingpointseries.com
- August 3, 2024 Utah State Championship Criterium, UCA Series, Sandy, UT, Utah State Championship Criterium, 10000 South, Centennial Pkwy, Sandy, UT 84070, the course is ~ 0.6 mile per lap, counterclock-wise on a 4-corner crit course where the top and bottom corners (turn 1 & 2, turn 3 & 4) are close and wide road to be ridden more as a single sweeping curve. The straight are close and wide road to be flagen more as a single sweeping curve. The straight sections are long enough for attacks and strategic moves with enough ramp time and run out for the final sprint, TJ Stone, 801-916-5769, utahcx@gmail.com, Troy Huebner, 801-427-0852, troy.huebner@tealdrones.
- August 23-26, 2024 Hoodoo 500, Planet Ultra ugust 23-26, 2024 — Hoodoo 500, Planet Ultra Grand Slam Endurance Series, St. George, UT, 500 mile loop race through Southern Utah. Non-stop or stage race, solo and relay team divisions. 300 mile option as well, Deborah Bowling, 818-889-2453, embassy@ planet.utra.com.Ukordes500.exp

#### **Regional Weekly**

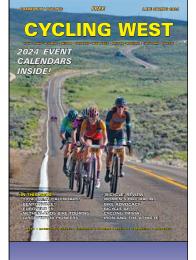
#### Road Race Series

- May 14-July 16, 2024 SWICA Fairground Criterium Series, SWICA Criterium Series Bolse, ID, Local training crit series at Expo-Idaho West lot (Glenwood Street south of Hawks Stadium). Every Tuesday, John Rogers, 208-284-9671, obccwebdesign@
- **Regional Road Racing** ID, WY, MT, NV, AZ, NM, CO, MT, OR, WA,

CA and Beyond

- June 7-9, 2024 Pike's Peak APEX, Colorado Springs, CO, Choose to race one day, two days, or all three days! The Pikes Peak Apex features exhilarating, exceptionally crafted routes through dir toads, jeep trails, and the amazing alpine singletrack that is quintessential Pikes Peak. The terrain will be challenging, but not overly technical. This Rocky Mountain trail experience through the aspens in Colorado's backcountry will draw not only professional riders, but also amateur cyclists looking for a bucket list endurance experience., Cycling , 719-634-7333, info@hesportscorp.org, Jeff Mosher, 719-634-7333 Et 1005, Jeff dirthesportscorp. org, pikespeakapex.com, coloradospring-ssports.org
- June 9, 2024 Emmett-Roubaix Road Race, Emmett, ID, Justin Ward, 208-322-8042, sales@bobs-bicycles.com, idahobikeracing

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June 16, 2024 — Excel Sports Sunshine Pass Hill Climb, Boulder, CO, 3000 feet in 9.8 miles including 3 miles of hard pack dirt. Barry Lee, 720-244-8228, 720-409-7048, blee1216@ <u>d.com, bicyc</u> colorado.org

June 21-23, 2024 — Baker City Cycling Classic Baker City, OR, Three days and four stages in beautiful eastern Oregon, with great sup-port and unparalleled scenery. Over 8,000 ft of climbing over the three days in one of the country's most beautiful cycling regions Pros and amateurs race the same courses and the women's and men's prize purses are matched by sponsor BELLA Main St. Market, Ace Bollinger, 509-679-5003, acebol-linger@nwl.net, Brian Cimmiyotti, 541-371linger@nwi.net, Brian Cimmiyotti, 541-371-3303, 509-374-8424, scottscycleandsports@ gmail.com, bakercitycyclingclassic.com

June 29, 2024 — Boise Twilight Criterium, American Criterium Cup, Boise, ID, 36th Annual, Pro Road Tour, races for all cat-egories, and race under the lights for the pros., Mike Cooley, 208-371-5175, mike, cooley1958@gmail.com, boisetwilightcrite-tium.com

June 30, 2024 — Bogus Basin Hill Climb, Gran Fondo National Series, Boise, ID, 51st Annual, 24km/15 miles of uphili, 1000 meters of ele-vation gain. Starts at 2600 N Bogus Basin Rd at 9am, Linda Lloyd, 208-343-3782, linda@ georgescycles.com, bogusbasinhiliclimb.

June 30, 2024 — Leesville Gap Road Race, Williams, CA, 62 miles for everyone up and over storied Leesville Grade and Grapevine Gap in California's Colusa County. mostly paved, some gravel stretches. Watermeion Feed at the finish. USAC licensed., Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, velopro1@gmail.com, velopronc.com velopromo.com

July 6, 2024 — Watsonville Criterium , Watsonville, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354 velopro1@gmail.com, velopromo.

Com July 7 — Sand City Criterium, Sand City, CA, Short, at just over 1-km in length, the Crit course creatively features an astonishing 10 corners, which makes it incredibly dra-matic and dynamic. The sinuous loop in and around the art district carves past dozens of art murals and boisterous fans, a colorful pageantry, and rewards those riders who have mastered The Art of Cornering with a unique chance to show off their talents. Fundraiser for Montage's Ohana Adolescent Health Services., Tom McCollough, 408-375-3011, tom.mccullough82@gmail.com, mbrt. bike/sand-city-crit

July 20, 2024 — Bob Cook Memorial Mount Blue Sky Hill Climb, Colorado Summit Cycling Series, Idaho Springs, CO, 56th annual, CO State Championship Hill Climb, 27.4 mile bicycle race and Gran Fondo, that ends on the highest paved road in the United States, Mount Blue Sky, at 14,130', 6000 feet elevation gain., Jennifer Barbour, 303-503-4616, jendeamevergreen.org, Kim Nordquist, 303-249-6168, kimpordquist@msn., com, Captice Bass, 303-720-4509, captice@ feamevergreen.org, blcyclerace.com,

evergreen.org, <u>bicyclerace.com</u>, evergreen.org

July 27, 2024 — Ascarj Bike Race, Tour de Rez Cup, Ascarj Lake Tribal Park, NM, 20.6 mile paved course from the Ascarj Jot to Hwy 12 just north of Navajo, on to Crystal Jot and finally on NM Hwy 134 to Narbona Pass. The first portion of the route is scenic, among the red rock buttes and towers of the area, and the final climb to the tom finishes at one and the final climb to the top finishes at one of the iconic spots on the Nation! 5K bike road race for youth ages 12 and under, Tom Riggenbach, 928-429-0345, <u>chuskaman@</u> chuskamar bikesigni <u>m, navajo</u> e/NM/Nava

August 3, 2024 — Warnerville Time Trial, Knights Ferry, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, <u>vel-</u> opro1@gmail.com, <u>velopromo.com</u>

August 4, 2024 — Patterson Road Race, Tracy, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, <u>velo-pro1@gmail.com</u>, <u>velopromo.com</u>

August 10, 2024 — The Broadmoor Cycle to the Summit Race and Gran Fondo, Colorado Springs, CO, This is an epic hill climb on Pikes Peak, America's Moundain, starting at 9,390 feet and finishing 12.42 miles later at 14,115 feet with an elevation gain of 4725 feet. There is a timed race and Gran Fondo, with waves starting at 6:13 am., Cycling , 719-634-7333, info@thesportscorp.org, Jeff Mosher, 719-634-7333 Ext 1005, jeff@thesportscorp. org PikesPeckCyclingHillClinghe.go.colorga yclingHillClimb.org org,

August 10, 2024 — Dunnigan Hills Road Race, Dunnigan, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, mail.com. velopromo.co

August 11, 2024 — Suisun Harbor Criterium, Suisun City, CA, 2021 Northern California/ Nevada District Criterium Championships. A fast paced four cornered downtown crite-rium on a short loop. USAC licensed, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, <u>velopro1@gmail.com</u>,

velopromo.com August 17, 2024 — Idaho Senior Games, Kuna, ID, 5k and 10k Time Trials both at 9 a.m. date cooresponds to order of listing, 20 K Aug 5 and 40 K Aug 4 Road Races at 10 a.m., qualifying year for National Senior Games. Held at S. Cole Road & Hubbard/10 Mile Creek Rd., Mike Thornton, 208-861-8000, Idahoseniorgamesinf@gmail.com, Stewart Hindman, 208-461-8877, Idahosg.cycling@ amail.com. Idahoseniorgames.org gmail.com, idahoseniorgames.org

August 17, 2024 — San Ardo Road Race, San Ardo, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, velopro1@amail.com. velopromo.com

August 18, 2024 — University Road Race, Santa Cruz, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, <u>velo-</u>

August 25, 2024 — Winters Road Race, Winters, CA, Robert Leibold, 209-604-1354, <u>velo-pro1@gmail.com</u>, <u>velopromo.com</u>

#### Utah Road Touring and Gran Fondos

June 8, 2024 — Huntsman SportsFest - Run. Ride. Play. Support Cancer Research, Utah Triple Crank, Salt Lake City, UT, An epic ride supporting Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI). Distances: 15, 53, 75, 102, 135 & 140-miles. 100% of all funds support the mission of HCL, Jen Murano-Tucker, 801-584-5815, jmurano@ huntsmanfoundation.org. huntsmansports-<u>undation.org</u>, <u>huntsm</u>

June 14, 2024 — Raspberry Ramble, Salt Lake Randonneurs Brevet Series, Logan, UT, Self. supported brevet 188, 250 or 375-mile in Cache Valley and southern Idaho, 5AM start June 15, 2024 — RAW (Ride Around the Wellsvilles), Logan, VI, The Logan Rotary Wellsvilles), Logan, VI, The Logan Rotary Club's Ride Around the Wellsvilles will begin at 129 North Main, The Sportsman, 65 mile ride. Benefits local youth with new bikes and helmets, and internationally, provides clean drinking water. Bike Rodeo too!, Gary Saxton, 435-752-2161, 435-374-8076, logan-

downtown@gmail.com, rotaryraw.com

in Logan, Richard Stum, 435-462-2266, rich-ard@eogear.com, Ken Moss, 801-833-2782,

os.org, saltlakerandos.org

June 15, 2024 — The Longest Day - Ride for Alzheimers, Tremonton, UT, Raise funds for Alzheimers, Tremonton, UT, Raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association, Starting at 7 am at Schuman Park in Tremonton, we will am a schuman Park in Tiernonton, we will stage our 3rd annual 100 mile route (shorter distances available) with rest rooms and aid stations throughout Box Elder County., Kirk Johnson, 801-513-9728, kirk/78@gmail. com, Tiffany Schultz, 435-257-1171, Tiffany, Schultzgedwardhoes com, act alz and act.alz.org/

goto/spencerdow2024 June 22-23, 2024 — Bike MS: Harmons Best Dam Bike Ride, Bike MS, Logan, UT, Join hundreds of cyclists from around the region and celebrate 37 years of Bike MS: the premier fundralising cycling series in the nation raising funds for a world free of MS. The Bike MS experience offers route options ranging from 20 to 150 miles over two days and is friendly to all abilities with rest stops every 8-12 miles. Camping, meals, and entertainment based out of Cache Valley Fairgrounds (400 S 500 W) in Logan, Mellssa Matthews, 801-424-0112, Mellssa. Mathews@ nmss.org, Sara Alisuag, 774-254-2668, sara. alisuag@nmss.org, bikemsutah.org July 13, 2024 — Cache Gran Fondo, UCI Gran

July 13, 2024 — Cache Gran Fondo, UCI Gran Fondo World Series, USA and Gran Fondo National Series, Logan, UT, Qualifying event in the Western US for the GFNS (USACycling Gran Fondo National Championship), and a true Gran Fondo where riders of all abili-tics are invited to participate Championship). ties are invited to participate. Chose from distances of 35, 53, 76 and 104-mile courses on Saturda y through a fun, low-traffic, and scenic route in Cache Valley, UT. The finish is a festival for all riders, with race prizes, recreational rider prizes, Troy Oldham, 435-764-2979, oldhamtroy@gmail.com, cache-granfondo.com

July 19, 2024 — Antelope by Moonlight Bike Ride, Antelope Island, UT, 10:00 pm. Open to participants of all ages, Antelope Island Marina to Fielding Garr Ranch and back. Experience Antelope Island after-hours under the full moon, Antelope by Moonlight , 801-451-3237, anteloperide@daviscountyutah.gov/moonlight.

July 20, 2024 — Iron Lung Ride, Utah Triple Crank, Huntsville, UT, 40, 80, or 100 mile options out and back starting in Huntsville with a solid climb up Old Snowbasin Road, down Trappers Loop, through Morgan and out to the top of Big Mountain. Challenging climbing, with plenty of rollers and flats to recover. Utah Triple Crank qualifier, along with LOTOJA and Huntsman 140, Michelle Lyman, 801-941-5526, info@ironlungride. com, ironlungride.com

July 27, 2024 — Mirror Lake Highway Gran Fondo, UCA Series, Kamas, UT, 150 miles across some amazing country roads and up Mirror Lake Hwy thru beautiful pine and aspen forest, across the highest paved pass in Utah at 10,700 feet, and back on country roads in wide one country. It is a road race rads in wide open country. It is a road race, a gran fondo (for those who only want to ride) and can be done as 2 or 3 person relay. Fully supported. Start and finish in Kamas., Troy Huebner, 801-427-0852, troy.huebner@ tealdrones.com, cyclingpointseries.com

August 10, 2024 — To the Moon and Back ugust 10, 2024 — To the Moon and Back Century Ride, Tabiona, UT, Located in the High Uintas, four ride options: 150 miles, Century, 75, 50, and 25. Ride back roads of Duchesne County, very minimal traffic. Free overnight camping. Elevations from 6,522 to 8,150. Fully Supported Ride. 100% of pro-ceeds go to Rapha International, Kandice Einerson, 208-206-4953, moon.andback. ride@gmail.com, tothemoonandback-

August 17, 2024 — CF Cycle For Life, Henefer, UT, One of Utah's best supported char-ity rides. A healthy multi-length challenge, not race, for all level of riders, beautiful ride with five route options - 24, 36, 55, 80, 100 Miles. Supporting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in its mission to find a cure for CF., Laura Hadley, 801-532-2335, 801-558-8310, Ihadley@cff.org, fightcf.cff.org/site/ IR?tr.id=8753&ba=entry. TR?fr &pg=entry

August 17, 2024 — Sevier Valley Rooster Ride, Richfield, UT, Sevier County's Rooster Ride tours scenic central Utah. The chipped event includes fully stocked rest stops, med-als, tee shirts, and custom DNA cycling socks. Riders of all skill levels can find something to enjoy between the 37 mile, 62 mile, or 100 mile rides. Elevation gains vary from 100 mile rides. Elevation gains vary from 1,015 - 4,287 feet., Amy Myers, 435-893-0457, 844-469-8724, <u>amymyers@sevier.utah.gov</u>, roosterride.net

August 17, 2024 — Mi Duole Canyons Challenge, Sandy, UT, One of the most daunting and beautiful cycling challenges in the country, ascend-ing more than 14,000 feet over 116 miles through all five of Satt Lake City's pictur-esque riding canyons before finishing at the Utah Capitol building. Comprising three HC climbs and two Category 2 climbs, the

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ride has more vert than almost any other ride in America and certainly the steepest average gradient. Participants may elect to ride one, two, three, four or all five of the canyons, Spencer Chipping, 801-597-1111, spencerchipping@gmail.com, Stuart Anderson, miduole@gmail.com, miduole. com/canyons-challenge.event com/canyc s-challenge-eve

August 24, 2024 — Cache Valley Century, Richmond, UT, 35, 60, or 100 mile options. The ride contributes to Common Ground, a Logan, Utah non-profit. Funds support their adaptive cycling program. Richmond to Preston, Idaho and back through scenic ter-rain. Great last century before LoToJal, Troy Oldham, 435-764-2979, oldhamtroy@gmail. com. CacheValleyCentury.com Oldham, 435-764-2979, oldhamtroy@gmail. com, CacheValleyCentury.com

August 24, 2024 — Summit Challenge, Park City, UT, Riders of all ages and abilities will hit the pavement for a 100, 80, 50, 25, or 16-mile road ride event in support of the National Ability Center's mission. All routes are fully supported and follow paved roads in and around the beautiful Park City mountainside. This exciting event promises to serve up a challenge for a wide range of cycling levels and abilities. And don't forget all Summit Challenge riders who have a disability can register and ride for free! The 100 ride goes through the prestigious Wolf Creek Ranch property which is usually closed off to road bikers. Enjava, a ride longth of your choice. bibles. Enjoy a ride length of your choice and end up back at the National Ability Center for food, drinks and music., Madisor Lambdin, 435-649-3991, 435-200-0990, mad rg, <u>summ</u>

**Regional Road Touring** 

and Gran Fondos ID, WY, MT, NV, AZ, NM, CO, MT, OR, WA,

**CA** and Beyond

Lizard Head Bike Tours — Various, UT, CO, and More, Multiple dates - Texas, Utah, Canada, Colorado, Oregon, New Mexico,Montana, and tons of other locations! Road, MTB, Gravel Tours, John Humphries, 970-728-5891, info@lizardheadcyclingguides.com, Lauren Lasky, 508-561-7580, lauren@lizardheadcy-cling.com, lizardheadcyclingguides.com

June 9, 2024 — Richard Heddeycin (guides.com) June 9, 2024 — Richard to End Alzheimers. Fort Collins, CO, Come help fuel cutting edge research by fundraising and riding to help in the discovery of treatment and preven-tion methods for Alzheimer's. Ride options are available for 20, 50, 70, and 100 mile distances., Sara Prevost, 833-239-7433, ride@ dt.acm.dt.act. alz.org, alz.org/ride

June 15. 2024 — Spinderella, Pocatello, ID. ladies-only ride featuring five scenic routes, from 10 to 100 miles. Roll-out begins at 6:00 am at Ross Park in Pocatello, ID., DaNae Young, 208-221-9300, spinderella33@gmail. spinderellaride.co

June 15. 2024 — CHAFE 150 Gran Fondo, Idaha une 15, 2024 — CHAFE 150 Gran Fondo, Idaho Panhandle Gravel Series, Sandpoint, ID, The 150 mile route is a grand loop around the Cabinet Mountains through gorgeous lake and river valleys, encompassing one upriver leg, two downriver legs and one huge lakel In addition, CHAFE offers magnificent 100, 80, 40, and 25 mile routes for riders of any level, Syringa Cyclery, 208-610-9990, syringacyclery@gmail.com, Jane Huang, chafe150@outlook.com, chafe150.org

Cinder Conductor. Comp. Circle Conductors June 15-22, 2024 — Sierra to the Sea Bicycle Tour, Placerville, CA, 45th Annual, Starts/ ends at Gilroy HS between 7-10am. Four sce-nic Bay Area routes 30m/1718th, 50m/1860ft, 74m/3713ft, and 101m/7182ft. Free ACTC Introductory membership. Multiple food stops with a finish line party. SAG supported. Register by 4/27 to receive jersey at start of event., Peter Greene, 407-474-1128, tierra-bella2024@gmail.com, tierrabella.org

June 22, 2024 — RATPOD (Ride Around the Pioneers in One Day), Dillon, MT, Now a vir-tual ride: RATPOD is now RATPOD Unlimited - Your RATPOD, Your way. You can ride any distance you choose, from anywhere you are located all in support of Camp Mak-A-Dream. An oncology camp dedicated to ensuring those affected by cancer can live with and beyond their diagnosis. With ust a small donation you can be part of just a small donation you can be part of this now notional event all to honor those affected by cancer. RATPOD is usually a 130-mile one-day charity ride for Camp Make-A-Dream (a cost free cancer camp). The ride takes place in the beautiful Big Hole Valley of SW Montana., Courtney Imhoff, 406-549-5987, info@ratpod.org, ratpod.org, campdream.org

June 22, 2024 — Chevenne Superday Tour de Prairie, Cheyenne, WY, This long-distance, 100-mile, course route heads out and back IOU-mile, course route heads out and back from Cheyenne through the open, rolling prairie into the town of Chugwater for a uniquely Wyoming tour. Features 25, 50, 75-and 100-mile rest stations/turn around points. Breakfast and lunch are included., Alled Ednle, 307-757-7166, <u>aednle@cheyennecity</u>.

June 29, 2024 — Alta Alpina Challenge, Markleeville, CA, Experience the breathtak-ing scenic beauty of classic Sierra roadways. Metric and Century options and more or pick one or more of the famous Alta Alpina



## **MORE BIKES**

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#### **CoreStates and Liberty Classic Trivia Answers**

A1. Kiel Reijnen in 2013 and 2014. Of note, for the final four editions the race ended atop the Manavunk Wall!

A2. German Petra Rossner, an Olympic and World Champion, "owned" this race for most of her career! She won it SEVEN times: 1996, 1998-2002 (!), and finally in 2004.

A3. "Fast Freddie" Fred Rodriguez! Fred won in 2000, 2001 (Overall and USPRO Champ), and 2004. He cemented his legend by winning another US Pro title (no longer held in Philly) in 2013 at nearly forty years of age!

A4. The first women's race in

1994 also had a winner of legendary status: 1983 World Road Race Champion and 2x Olympian Marianne Berglund of Sweden.

A5. Italian Roberto Gaggioli won the race in 1988 ahead of Norwegian Dag-Otto Lauritzen. Third placed Ron Kiefel (7-Eleven) took the National Champion's jersey. Prior to Gaggioli's win all the CoreStates winners had been Americans: Eric Heiden, Thomas Prehn, and Tom Schuler. It is worth noting that beginning in 1987, Italian Gaggioli was based primarily in the United States.

A6. 2x Olympian Lyne Bessette of Canada triumphed here in 2003! -Dave Campbell

#### **Report: Bike Turnout Lanes on Curves Help**

A bend in a narrow two-lane road with limited visibility creates a unique safety hazard for cyclists. But a solution may be found: an auxiliary bike lane or "turnout" around the bend according to Safety and User Perceptions of Auxiliary Bike Lanes, a study done at the University of Oregon (https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Programs/ResearchDocuments/ SPR869\_AuxiliaryBikeLanes.pdf).

Researchers surveyed 612 Oregon cyclists and motorists and almost all members of both groups liked the idea.

In such situations, traffic can back up if drivers slow down to accommodate a cyclist. Or they can try to pass the bike with insufficient space and-or visibility. Some roads even lack a shoulder.

After being shown a video, both cyclists and motorists said they felt better if such a lane would exist for cyclists. Findings also indicated that it would help to alert motorists via signs that such a lane was coming so they wouldn't feel the need to quickly overtake a cyclist. -Charles Pekow

**Event Organizers!** 

com

#### passes for a personalized ride (30 miles and up). Fundraiser for the Alta Alpina Cycling Club, Gregg Westerbeck, 877-845-2453, social@dtoaipina.org, Michael Bayer, bedroeced. alpina.org, altaalpina.org/ challenge

June 29-30, 2024 — Bike MS: Colorado, Bike MS, Westminster, CO, With breathtaking mountain views and crisp mountain air, take in the views of Longs Peak, Colorado's most famous 14er, in an area known as one of famous 14er, in an area known as one of Colorado's most scenic outdoor paradises. This Bike MS experience offers route options ranging from 32 to 103 miles over two days and is friendly to all abilities with rest stops every 10-12 miles. Lodging, meals, and entertainment based out of Colorado State University in Ft. Collins., Sara Alisuag, 774-254-2668, sara.alisuag@nmss.org, Brittany Rondello, 425-647-6846, brittany.rondelloo, mss.org, Erika Barnum, 303-698-6127, Erika. ansono, 420-047-0640, <u>prittany.rondello@</u> 1<u>mss.org</u>, Erika Barnum, 303-698-6127, <u>Erika.</u> 3<u>arnum@nmss.org</u>, <u>bikemscolorado.org</u>

July 6, 2024 — Aspen Gran Fondo, Aspen, CO, The route encompasses some of the Roaring Fork Valley's most iconic climbs. Choose 36 miles, 62 miles, or 103 miles, with aid stations at the top of each climb and finish line BBQ. Each distance option will build on the previous, so if you are feeling great, keep refere visition. going, Kristen , info@aspencyclingclub.org ncyclingclub.org

July 13, 2024 — The Triple Bypass, Evergreen uly 13, 2024 — The Triple Bypass, Evergreen, CO, The legendary Triple Bypass is 118 miles with 10,800° of climbing and travels over 3 beaufilul mountain passes(Juniper, Loveland, Vail) from Evergreen to Avon, CO, Jennifer Barbour, 303-503-4616, Jena teamevergreen.org, Kim Nordquist, 303-249-5168, Kimnordquist@msn.com, Caprice Bass, 303-720-4509, caprice@teamevergreen.org, triplebypass.org

303-720-4509, <u>c</u> triplebypass.org

July 13, 2024 — Tour de Steamboat, Steamboat Springs, CO, Annual bicycle event that brings together 1,200 cyclists for a one-day ride through beautiful Northwest Colorado, taking in Rabbit Ears Pass, Gore Pass, Yellow Jacket Pass, Stagecoach, Yampa and Oak Creek, Four different road ride routes: 26, 46, 66, 116 miles, and a 100 mile gravel route., Katle Lindquist, 970-846-9206, info@ tourdesteamboat.com, tourdesteamboat

July 13, 2024 - Death Ride - Tour of the **California Alps**, Markleeville, CA, Challenge yourself to the premier cycling event in California. With 103 miles, over 14,000' of climbing, and up to six (6) HC climbs through the stunning Sierra Nevada mountains, this ride is sure to challenge and inspire you Melissa Edwards, 530-694-2475, info@death ride.com. doctbrido.com

July 13-14, 2024 — Seattle to Portland (STP), Seattle, WA, The Kaiser Permanente Seattle to Portland (STP) Bicycle Classic present-ed by Alaska Airlines is in its 45th year. Heading south from Seattle and ending in Portland, Oregon, STP is a thrilling back-to-back double-century ride through Western Washington that brings 6,000 people togeth-et to experience the loy of cycling Bicycling er to experience the joy of cycling. Bicycling Magazine calls STP "one of the best cycling events in the nation.", Sarah Mantey, 206-620-0465, sarahm@cascade.org, cascade. org (cth. org/stp

July 14-19, 2024 — Tour de Wyoming, Buffalo, WY, Bike tour through Wyoming with daily WY, Bike four through Wyoming, Buffalo distances from 55 to 70 miles, Amber Travky 307-742-5840, atravsky/awyoming. cyclewyoming.org,

July 20, 2024 — 719 Ride, Gran Fondo National Series, Colorado Springs, CO, 5 laps of The Course That Cannot Be Defeated is the signature ride (71.9 miles and 9,190' of elevation gain), but you can ride as many or as few laps as your mind can handle and your legs will allow, Offering several course options all on peinthorhood trads, and all on neighborhood roads donating a portion of each registration to

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June 8, 2024 — Ironman 70.3 Boulder, Boulder, CO, 70.3 mile course, Ironman , boulder70.3@ironman.com, ironman.com

June 8, 2024 — South Valley Super Sprint Triathlon, Salt Lake Triathlon Series, Riverton UT, South County outdoor pool, sprint and super sprint, Perry Hacker, 801-613-2116 contact@ustrisports.com, ustrisports.com

contact@ustrisports.com, ustrisports.com
June 15, 2024 — XTERA Lory, XTERA America Tour, Bellvue, CO, 1/2 mile swim in the clear waters of Horsetooth Reservoir (Eltuk Bay), then a 2-Lap (beginner friend-iy) 12.2 mile single-track bike over rolling terrain, and across valley bridges at Lory State Park. Finish things off with a fun and challenging 4.8 mile (8k) run through the clouds on single-track trailst, Lance Panigutti, 303-408-1195, Jance@withoutlimtis.com, withoutlimtis.com/#1\_xterra-lory

June 22, 2024 — Jordanelle Triathlon, TriUtah

Ine 22, 2024 — Jordafhelle Indifion, Inluidh Points Series, Park City, UT, 22nd annual, Enjoy everything from the wildlife and boardwalks on the river bottoms in Rock Cliff Recreation Area at Jordanelle to the local country backdrop of the towns of Francis and Woodland., Dan Aamodt, 385-228-3454, <u>race@thiutah.com</u>, <u>triutah.</u> com

June 23, 2024 — Boulder Sunrise Triathlon

une 23, 2024 — Boulder Sunrise Triathlon, Boulder, CO, Join us in celebrating the start of summer in the triathlon capital of the country, Boulder, CO. An athlete favorite with its breath-taking sunrise swim, fast bike and smooth run course, all with the flatirons painted in the back-ground. Includes olympic, sprint, Relay, duathlon, Aquabike, 10k, and 5k., Craig Towler, 318-518-7303, Info@bbsctfi.com, bbsctfi.com/bouldersunrise

June 23, 2024 — Ironman 70.3 Coeur D'Alene

Coeur D'Alene, ID, Begins with a 1.2 mile swim in Lake Coeur d'Alene. A 56-mile winding bike course follows with the run loop along the shores of the lake to fin-ish. 303-444-4316, cda70.3@ironman.com, ironman.com/im703-coeur-dalene

ironman.com/im/03-coeur-dalene June 29, 2024 — Lake Tahoe Off-Road Triathion, Tahoe City, CA, The swim occurs in one of the clearest, cleanest, and deepest lakes in North America, Lake Tahoe. Tahoe City is also home to some of the area's most treasured mountain biking trails. The bike course features single track and double track, fields of wildflowers, and breathtaking Sierra views. The races start and finish is at Commons Beach on the shore of Lake Tahoe... Todd Jackson, 530-546-1019, todd@bigblueadventure.com, bigblueadventure.com, bigblueadventure.com, adven-ture.com, bigblueadventure.com, adven-ture.com bigblueadventure.com adven-ture.com/sigblueadventure.com/compete/ tahoe-off-road-triathlon/

July 6, 2024 — Rigby Lake Rumble Triathlon

TRI Peaks Events, Rigby, ID, Held at Jefferson County Lake in Rigby, Sprint, Olympic, and triathlon This race is the second in a 3 race series happening in Eastern Idaho, Mike Taylor, 208-201-6269, TriPeaksEpicEvents@ gmail.com, Brian Magleby, 208-520-9400, TriPeaksEpicEvents@gmail.com, tripeak-sevents.com

July 13, 2024 — Echo Triathlon, TriUtah Points

July 13, 2024 — Ecno Indimion, Informa Points Series, Coalville, UT, 20th Annual. Warm July temperatures, a scenic ride in Utah's unique Echo Canyon, and a run on the Historic Rail Irail makes for the perfect event for both seasoned athletes and beginners. 600 rider cap., Dan Aamodt, 385-228-3454, race@thutah.com, triutah. com

July 13, 2024 — Logan Tri, Logan, UT, Sprint and Olympic, Joe Coles, 801-335-4940, and Olympic, Joe Coles, 801-335-4 joe@onhillevents.com, onhillevents.com

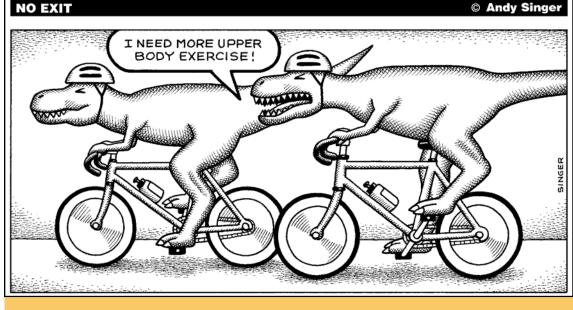
July 14, 2024 — Boulder Peak Triathlon, Boulder, CO, Sprint and Olympic distances, at Boulder Reservoir, Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquabike, Lance Panigutti, 303-408-1195, lance@withoutlimits.com, withoutlimits.co

July 20, 2024 — Tri Boulder, BBSC Twin Tri Series, Boulder, CO, Sprint, Olympic, and Half distances., Craig Towler, 318-518 7303, info@bbsctri.com, bbsctri.com, bbsctri.com/tri Doulder

July 21, 2024 — Ironman 70.3 Salem, Salem

July 27, 2024 — Burley Idaho Lions Spudman Triathlon, Burley, ID, Starts at 7 am with the world's fastest 1.5K swim (current-aid-ed) then a 40K Bike and 10K run., Cade Richman, Info@spudman.org, spudman. org

OR, 70.3 mile course, Ironman , boul-der70.3@ironman.com, ironman.com



#### Report: Bike Theft Reduces Cycling for Many Victims

As communities become increasingly bicycle-friendly in many ways, the perennial issue of theft remains. A new study reminds us that "bicycle theft remains a significant deterrent for potential riders, and also influences the behaviors of existing cyclists."

22

The theft plague needs to be addressed in new and more comprehensive ways, suggests "The Impact of Bicycle Theft on Ridership Behavior", an article published in the International Journal of Sustainable Transportation (https:// doi.org/10.1080/15568318.2024.23 <u>50946</u>).

The researchers gathered 1,821 survey responses in North America and found that nearly half stated that they stopped riding or biked less after a theft, with 15 percent saying

they gave up cycling. But about two-thirds of theft victims reported replacing their bikes after having one stolen. Those who continued to bike tended to be those who biked regularly.

Only 13 percent said they stopped making trips normally made by cycle as most found other ways to get where they were going if they stopped biking. Of those who obtained a new bike, only onethird opted for a cheaper vehicle. Of those who considered themselves "frequent bicyclists," only four percent gave up riding after losing their bike. But more than a quarter either stopped biking or reduced riding even if they recovered their bike.

"Our results demonstrated that individuals who were unable to recover their stolen bicycles experienced more disruptions in their

bicycling behavior; individuals who successfully retrieve their stolen bicycles typically have fewer negative changes in their bicycling activity and a less tendency to invest in a new bicycle compared to those who fail to recover theirs," the study says.

Naturally, those who owned multiple bicycles were less likely to give up or reduce riding.

So, the authors conclude, encouraging people to bike more will reduce the negative impact, as will programs like registration, which makes bike recovery more likely. They also suggest that since lower-income people tend to get more discouraged when they lose their bike, efforts should be made to help them, such as temporary bike replacement or secure parking. -Charles Pekow

#### Study: Self-Braking Cars Designed to Prevent Collisions Not Tested Well With Bicycles

Brakes should automatically slam when a "light vehicle" is nearing a crash on new cars in a few years. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) issued final rules requiring sensors for them (https://www. govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-05-09/html/2024-09054.htm).

The rules take effect for vehicles built starting in September 2029, with a year's grace period for some, such as small manufacturers.

The devices should save a lot of bicyclists from getting hit. But cycling advocates and even some auto makers aren't completely happy. The problem they cited in the public comment period is that the crash testing used to promulgate the rule focused on collisions with other autos and pedestrians but not bicycles.

NHTSA responded that it is conducting more research into how well

sensors will detect bicycles in day and night conditions. But it stated, "the state of knowledge is not at the point where NHTSA can proceed with including bicycle and motorcycle surrogates in the new standard at this time." Designs simply aren't good enough yet on detecting size, reflectivity and color of mannequins for child and adult bikers, NHTSA

#### Study: Protected Bike Lanes Preferred

As you might expect, one reason some people don't bicycle is that their local infrastructure isn't built for bicycles. In other words, infrastructure, ranging from bike lanes to parking, needs to not only be built but to be designed to consider the needs of differing types of cyclists, reports a study in the Journal of Transport & Health that used a rather small sample - a sur-

Which bicyclists are more likely

to engage in unsafe riding behavior?

A study in France tried to answer

that and observed 2,778 riders of

varying demographics at two inter-

sections of downtown Lille, a city

Men, tandem users, and younger

in northern France.

vey of 40 people in the Melbourne region of Australia. Participants said they'd feel better with separated bike lanes, but that unprotected and painted lanes and symbols on the road wouldn't have much impact on them.

They also wanted safe bike parking, such as in high-traffic areas or secure ones if out of the way. And if parking is placed in shopping centers, it should be near the entrance.

riders were more likely not to wear

helmets and run red lights. "This

highlights the importance of further

investigating whether shared bike

users are more likely to take differ-

ent types of risk on the road," the

themselves - those with a child seat

Parents took more caution for

report suggests.

number of men and women but most were between 54 and 74 years old. See "Designing for the Interested

The surveyed included an equal

but Concerned: A Qualitative Study of the Needs of Potential Bike Riders" at https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/ S2214140524000161

-Charles Pekow

org

on the bike were more likely to wear helmets

Find "Do Risk-Taking Cyclists Have Different Sociodemographic Characteristics? An Observational Study at Intersections in a French City' at https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/ abs/10.1177/03611981241236469 -Charles Pekow

#### Study: How Do Collisions Impact Cyclists' **Behavior?**

If you get in a bike crash - or even witness one or lose a loved one via one - would it change your riding behavior? The Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California said the question hasn't been studied much, so it interviewed eight experts from different fields (medicine, advocacy, etc.) and got different perspectives.

A collision or those caregiving for collision victims could led to changing modes of transportation, taking a new route, or riding on the sidewalk instead of the street. But the results indicated that few people gave up cycling permanently though

some did for a while. The main reason for giving up cycling completely seemed to be the need to recover from injuries rather than newfound fear. Near misses didn't seem to scare bikers from continuing.

The project declined to interview victims or witnesses because the researchers felt that the state of the art of questioning them about such incidents isn't reliable enough.

See "Effects of Road Collisions on the Travel Behavior of Vulnerable Groups: Expert Interview Findings" at https://escholarship.org/uc/ item/2gf1409z

-Charles Pekow

Study: Risk Taking Cyclists - Who are they?

# August 3, 2024 — Tour de Big Bear, Big Bear Lake, CA, Southern California's favor-ite ridel Features legendary aid stations, beautiful mountain scenery and spectac-ular summer weather. With 25, 50, 70, 106 and 109 mile courses, there's a route for every cycling enthusiasti, Chris Barnes, 951-970-6720, 909-878-0707, bigbearcycling@ amail.com, bigbearcycling.com/four-de-big-bear-cycling-west/, bigbearcycling.com August 3, 2024 — Copper Triangle Alpine Cycling Classic, Copper Mountain, CO, Cycling Classic, Copper Mountain, CO, There's never a bad time to train for a true alpine cycling classic like Copper Triangle. Start high in the Rocky Mountains

and only go up from there on the 79-mile loop creating three Colorado mountain passes – totaling 6,500 feet in elevation gain. New in 2022: A friendly QOM & KOM of Vail Pass, with podium presentations for the top 3 men & women, Scott Olmsted, 720-819-7306, support@theridecollective. 720-819-7306, support@theridecollective. com, theridecollective.com

Calendar from page 21

Chipeta Elementary School and Kids on Bikes, 719ers , <u>719@719ride.com</u>, 719<u>ride.</u> com

August 3, 2024 — Marin Century, Novato, CA, Take on the west coast's most scenic and challenging rides, the Marin Century. The ride starts in the beautiful Stafford Lake State Park in Novark of California. Riders navigate to the summits or through the foothills of Mount Tamalpals and the near-by coast of beautiful Tomales Bay, Marin Cyclists , 415-823-5047, info@marincyclists. com, marincyclists.com

August 10, 2024 – Stonewall Century Bicycle Ride, La Veta, CO, 21st Annual. This out-and-back ride offers cyclists stunning beauty and small-town vibe. Colorado's scenic Highway of Legends (State Hwy 12) between La Veta and Segundo is the backdrop for 25-, 50- and 102-mile routes, featuring up to 8000-feet of climb-ing.. Kent Hay, Info@spc.vcling.org, Kertie Meyler, kertie@meyler.net, spc.vcling.org

Meyler, <u>kernegarneyler, nerf</u>, <u>spcvcing, org</u> **August 10**, 2024 — 4 Peaks Gran Fondo, Poctello, ID, One Day: 82 miles, Four Peaks: 7800ft total elevation gain. Climb the 4 peaks of the Portneuf Valley; Crystal, Scout Mountain, Pebble Creek, Buckskin. The hill climb portions are timed with tim-ing chips. Downhill portions are not timed. Cumulative climb times will be combined to determine rank. Ride 1-4 peaks as you wish, Jeff Tingey, 208-232-8996, jeff. <u>tingey,13@gmail.com</u>, <u>Attle Cox</u>, 208-851-0009, <u>info@4pgf.com</u>, <u>4PGF.com</u>

UUU9, Into(appg).com, 4PG-Lcom
August 10, 2024 — Enchanted Circle, Red River, NM, The Enchanted Circle Bicycle Tour is a scenic, southwest cycling experi-ence with rolling hills, fast descents and rewarding climbs. Choose between an 85-mile ride or the iconic 100-mile century along the Enchanted Circle Scenic Byway, this New Mexico, course travels through some of the most spectacular peaks in New Mexico, Scott Olmsted, 720-819-7306, support@theridecollective.com, therideupport@theridecollective.com, theride-

August 19-23, 2024 — Colorado's Ride, Durango, CO, Colorado's Ride showcases one of the most scenic areas of Colorado through the lens of two amazing over-night towns, Durango and Pagesa Springs, Colorado's Ride, info@coloradosride.com, www.coloradosride.com

August 24, 2024 — Venus de Miles, Lyons, CO, Venus de Miles is Colorado's original and largest all-women's road ride and fin-ish festival. In its 17th year, Venus de Miles welcomes all skill levels and is a strong supweicomes all skill levels and is a strong sup-porter of sisterhood and women's cycling. Choose from a 30-mile, 64-mile, or 100-mile course throughout beautiful nothern Colorado. The event is a fundraiser for Greenhouse Scholars., Mariel McCown, 720-769-9998, info@venusdemiles.com, venusdemiles.com

#### Multisport Races

June 8, 2024 — Sand Hollow Triathlon, BBSC une 8, 2024 — Sand Hollow Triathlon, BBSC Tri Series, Hurricane, UT, The first race of the Twin Tri series at Sand Hollow State Park, with Sprint, Olympic, Du, Aquabike, 10k, and 5k distances. Bike along scenic sand dunes, and run around a gorgeous, reflective lake., Craig Towler, 318-518-7303, info@bbsctri.com, bisctri.com/sand-hollow

concluded. -Charles Pekow

### **BICYCLE ART**

### **Bikepacking Cathedral Valley - The Bicycle Art of Seth Bradley**



Name of artist: Seth Bradley

About the artist: I graduated from the U of U with BFA specializing in illustration. I spend my days as a graphic designer so I have to challenge myself to make art just for me. For no other reason than the Title of piece: BikePacking

mediums as I can get my hands on. I experiment in printmaking, painting, drawing, digital and sculpture. Bike art is a way to combine two of my greatest loves.

love of creating. I work in as many

About the piece: This art was created to celebrate a bikepacking trip through Cathedral Valley last year.

Cathedral Valley

Medium and size: Digital Procreate/ iPad pro

Social media for your art: Instagram @sethpaints



# Park City Connections

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