Club Happenings

February 22 (Sun) Adopt-A-Road Cleanup
Start arriving at 2:45 pm so that we can deploy by 3 pm. Because we are spread out all along CR 234 it is difficult to equip and assign late arrivals. Park along CR 234 just east of the Pearl station on US 441 in Micanopy. After our hunting expedition, we’ll adjourn to a local eatery (selected by popular vote).

February 29 (Sun) GCC Annual Meeting and Gala Brunch
Noon at the Hilton. Reservations and prepayment required! (Those wishing to only attend the meeting and not participate in the brunch do not need to send in reservations.) See full details on page 5

March 6 (Sat) 400 Kilometer Brevet
See our web site for details.

March 20 (Sat) Annual Spring Picnic at Boulware Springs
Meet at the trailhead in Boulware Springs park at 9 am for rides. Return by noon for the picnic. The club will provide the usual sodas and mystery meat; bring your offerings of culinary delight to complement the club fare.

April 3 (Sat) 600 Kilometer Brevet
See our web site for details.

April 17 (Sat) 2nd Annual NatureFest Bike Tour
See page 4 for full details.

LOSS

On Saturday morning, February 7, long time GCC member Gus Antonini and his stepson, Bill Cupples of Jupiter, were killed when struck by an apparently impaired driver while participating in the 300K Brevet.

They were riding on the paved shoulder on US 27/41 between Newberry and High Springs, near NW 46th Ave (Gatorback Road). The driver continued and shortly thereafter rolled his pickup. He is being held on $50,000 bond.
GAINESVILLE CYCLING CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2004 Election Results

At the regular meeting on January 4th 2004, the following Officers and Directors were elected for the calendar year 2004:

President: George Edwards
Vice President: Rob Wilt
Recording Secretary: Bob Newman
Membership Secretary: Roger Pierce
Treasurer: Lee Edwards
Adopt-A-Road Director: Diann Dimitri
Off-Road Director: Leslie Folkerth
Ride Leader Coordinator: George Hecht
Lantern Rouge: Chandler Otis
Regional Brevet Coordinator: Jim Wilson

by Bill Ingraham

I am announcing the creation of a new organization, to be known as the "Antique Bicycle Racing Association" ABRA. There are nineteen UMCA (Ultra Marathon Cycling Association) events on the 2004 calendar; the ABRA will piggyback (compete in) these events, and even if the UMCA does not set up a class specifically for pre 1918 machines, the ABRA will award medals to their members who ride these events. The 14th annual "Calvin's Challenge" 12 hour time trial (how many miles can you ride in 12 hours) will be held this coming May 1st, in Springfield Ohio. This will be the third year that highwheel bikes will compete as a recognized class. The field has steadily grown as the word has gotten out that competitive opportunities exist for ordinaries. In addition, for the first time this year (June 19th) the "National 24 hour Challenge" (Grand Rapids Mi) will accept entries from antiques (safeties only) ABRA riders will have to ride in their age groups this year but will be awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals from ABRA. We hope to eventually persuade the UMCA to recognize and set up a class for our machines. We want to take this opportunity to thank Ann & John McKinley (Calvin's organizers) for putting on the first long distance highwheel race in the United States in over one hundred years! Anyone interested in entering any of these UMCA/ABRA events please e-mail me at ingrabike@gis.net and I will snail mail you entry blanks and further information.

(Ann McKinley is our own Jan Brush’s twin sister! Ed.)
Dear Friends:

Two major events are coming up which are of interest to you. First is the Annual Meeting and Brunch on 29 February at the Hilton, and the second is the NatureFest Bike Tour on 17 April.

Instead of dinner with a fixed menu, this year we are going to take part (do I mean indulge ourselves?) in the Hilton's exceptionally lavish Sunday Brunch buffet as the focus for our Annual Meeting. This will be at Noon on Sunday 29 February at the Gainesville Hilton on SW 34th Street (see Reservation Form elsewhere in the Newsletter). If you haven't tried this Brunch yet, let me just say that the Hilton really goes all-out to put on a mammoth feast. The menu changes each week so we cannot be specific, but on recent Sundays it has included something like the following: scrambled eggs, hashed brown potatoes, sausages, crisp bacon, grits, oatmeal, an omelet bar where an affable gent will custom make you an omelet of you dreams, pancakes with blueberry sauce, French toast with strawberries, salad bar, luncheon dishes such as fish or chicken breasts in various sauces or stuffed pork loin or whatever, various vegetables and starches, a sandwich bar where you can make your own if the other offerings don't suit, two different soups, mountains of boiled shrimp, snow crab claws, stone crabs, raw oysters, either a rib roast or a London broil, or failing that a baked ham, various breads and sweetrolls, and a selection of pies and cakes. Soft drinks, tea, and coffee are included, and you get a mimosa if you wish to start it all off. It is pretty overwhelming.

We will have a private room off the main dining room, but close to the buffet. Business will be mercifully brief, and will consist largely of reports on our finances and various Club activities. Nothing to interrupt the after-Brunch doze.

The price of all this plenitude of food is $15 per person, with the Club subsidizing the rest of the bill (what a deal). We do have to have reservations and payment, and they must be in to us by February 24, so don't wait - use the Reservation Form found elsewhere, as noted above.

Some folks may want to organize a ride beforehand to work up an appetite - I warned the Hilton staff about sweaty cyclists in gaudy outfits, and they seemed bemused but accepting. I would start any ride at the Hilton, because I wouldn't want to bicycle anywhere with the load of groceries you will take on at the buffet.

The other big GCC event for the Spring is the 2nd Annual NatureFest Bike Tour, this year to be held on Saturday 17 April, which is the weekend before Earth Day. Starting at Fanning Springs State Park, this will be a low-pressure, family-oriented ride on one of our prettiest State rail-trails. The T-shaped trail rolls through rural landscapes with abundant wildflowers, and crosses the Suwanee River on a picturesque (and historically interesting) railway bridge. Riders will have a choice of several ride lengths, and will be free to select ride options as they go. Riding the entire trail is a Metric Century. Each community along the trail will have a rest stop, which will present the riders with small mementos of their visit.

The NatureFest itself is an outdoor carnival for nature lovers, with food booths, interpretive displays, and wild animals on display. Entry is free, and you can enjoy the exhibits after your ride. It's worth a trip in itself.

We will need a group of volunteers to work this event, including Registration and rest stop staff. If you can help out, please contact me at gedwards@atlantic.net or 352-333-3184 - we need your help to make this excellent event run smoothly.

Due to some limitations of staff and preparation requirements, we are limiting entry to 200 riders, so if you want to enter, better get your entry in soon. An entry form is on our website at www.floridabicycle.org/gcc. We have already received several entries, so don't wait.

George H. Edwards
2nd Annual NatureFest Bike Tour

Saturday, April 17
Fanning Springs State Park
Nature Coast Trail State Park
Part of the Suwannee River NatureFest: A Celebration of Earthday

Pre-Registration: Cyclists should Pre-Register because entry will be limited to 200 riders.

Entry Fee: $7 per rider up to day of event, children under 12 free if accompanied by adult.
$10 day of Event.
Entrance to the NatureFest is free to all.
Registration opens at 7:00 AM day of event.

Start Time: 8:00 to 9:00 AM (no mass start).


Trail: 34 miles of smoothly paved rail-trail through beautiful rural landscapes with lots of wildflowers.

Distance: The T-shaped trail plan allows a wide choice of rides, from a few miles to the old railroad bridge over the Suwannee River and back to the Park, up to a full-Trail Metric Century. Cyclists are encouraged to ride to as many communities on the Trail as they can, including Trenton, Cross City, and Chiefland. Each community will present a small memento to riders to show they have achieved that distance, and there will be a special button for those who complete the Metric Century. All riders must wear helmets, children and adults.

Rest Stops: At each town, will have water, sports drinks, snacks, and fruit. Cyclists should bring money on the ride for refreshments at trail-side establishments. SAG vehicles will be in attendance.

Please contact George Edwards at (352)333-3184 or gedwards@atlantic.net with questions or to volunteer.

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2nd Annual NatureFest Bike Tour Ride Registration

Registrations must be postmarked by 9 April. Please do not mail registrations after this date (email us instead). All registrants must sign a release on the day of the event at Registration before starting the ride. League of American Bicyclists insurance provisions will be in effect. Helmets mandatory.

Ride fee is $7 per person ($10 day of ride) Make checks payable to: Gainesville Cycling Club, Inc. TOTAL ENCLOSED $________

(Please Print)

Name(s)___________________________________________________________________________________

Address:__________________________________________________________________________________

City:____________________________State:______Zip:_______________

Phone________________________Email_______________________________________________________

Date of Birth___________________

Emergency Contact and Phone_________________________________________________________________

Mail this form to:
Gainesville Cycling Club, 6706 NW 18th Avenue, Gainesville FL 32605
The Annual Meeting of the Gainesville Cycling Club will be held at the Gainesville Hilton Hotel, 1714 SW 34th Street on Sunday February 29th at Noon. We will indulge in the Hilton's lavish Sunday Brunch, with more different dishes than anyone can possibly try. This is Gainesville's most extensive and varied Sunday Brunch buffet (see President's Message for more details), and has to be seen to be believed. A superabundance of food for only $15 per Member (with the Club paying the rest of the cost).

Send Reservations to:

Gainesville Cycling Club
6706 NW 18th Avenue
Gainesville FL 32605

Reservations must be received by Tuesday February 24th.
Two years ago I went to the Sebring Brevet and couldn’t finish. The brevet guys worked out a makeup for me and two other guys that also needed a second chance. As it turned out I was to do the ride with Gus Antonini and Bill Cupples. Jim Wilson pieced together a route for us to follow, gave us a start location, starting time, and a route sheet with the check points. I arrived at the agreed meeting point and it is cold and damp and very dark!

Right on time two guys appear out of the darkness and the first thing I notice that one guy is 6 foot plus and the other 5 foot minus. And most important! I remember the smile wrapped across both their faces - didn’t these two know how miserable this ride was going to be. The little guy (Gus) had this beautiful Serrota with more stuff hanging off it than the bike weighed and strapped to his back must have been another 25 to 30lbs. of everything. Between the backpack and the extras on his bike Gus probably doubled his body weight.

Well off we start - me wondering what I had gotten into and those two just grinning and laughing and talking up a storm. It was really dark and the darkness just soaked up what lights we had. The cold damp early morning was affecting my bladder. "I need to stop and pee." I called out. "Me too." Twice I heard from over my shoulder. So in the darkness, somewhere, here we three are standing, along the side of this deserted country road, in a row, peeing on this fence, laughing and talking and getting to know each other (must have been a guy thing). Suddenly I realize that I am in very special company!

By the time we had reached the first check point, we had watered quite a few fences. As we rested and watched the sun come up; I looking at my watch and realized this wasn’t going to be one of my faster rides. While we were stopped Bill told me that Gus had a pretty serve saddle sore and wasn’t sure Gus could go the distance. Gus never said a thing - just keep on smiling!

The miles pass and you know Gus is struggling to hang on, but whenever I look into the mirror, all I see is two very big smiles. By midday, Bill's devotion to Gus is very apparent. These two love each other very much and are having the best time just riding together. Don't misunderstand - they really want to complete the ride in the given time. But truthfully they just wanted to spend the day together doing what they loved.

We completed the ride just under the time limit. Most people would be embarrassed to tell how long we took. Certainly, nothing of notable athletic accomplishment happened that day. Just three guys spending over 19 hours on their bikes getting to know each other. Gus was so happy to finish he had tears in his eyes. Bill was jumping around and slapping Gus on the back, congratulating him, telling him how much fun he had, and what a great day it had been. At the end of the ride, watching the two of them; I realized just how special the day and the company had been.

The next day, Gus invited my wife and me to lunch with his family. We dined and talked for hours recounting the previous day. The company was great! As the time past, I realized how much pleasure cycling brought to Gus's family and how they all rallied behind Bill and Gus's adventures.

Some of us have experienced that special ride. Maybe it was the effort, or the time, or maybe it was the company. Well, that was one of those rides for me - no great effort on my part - no great times - just great company! Thank you Gus and Bill for the memory, I will always remember your smile and your devotion for one another.

See the complete calendar on the World Wide Web at http://www.floridabicycle.org/fbtc/

An abridged version of the calendar will return in the April addition of The Gainesville Cyclist.
BUSINESS SPONSORS

These businesses provide discounts to club members who present their yellow membership card or the back page of their newsletter (with expiration date):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Discount</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bike Route</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>374-4550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bikes &amp; More</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>373-6574</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chain Reaction</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>373-4052</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gator Cycle</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>373-3962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ominski Massage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recycled Bicycles</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>372-4890</td>
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<td>Spin Cycle</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>373-3355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strett's Schwinn Cyclery</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>377-2453</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water World</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>377-2822</td>
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Some restrictions apply, ask for details at the store.

The Gainesville Cyclist

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The Gainesville Cyclist is published bi-monthly with cover dates of even-numbered months. All submissions are welcome.

Classified ads will be run free-of-charge for club members; email or mail to the editor.

Ads are $20 for a standard size ad, $40 for a quarter page ad, and $80 for a half page ad. A one year (six issue) subscription for standard size ads is $100.

APRIL DEADLINES
Ad copy needing setup work  Mar 8
Articles and classifieds  Mar 15
Ads in GIF or TIFF format  Mar 18

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CLASSIFIED

Club members, call, mail, email, or fax your stuff that you no longer need to the editor for inclusion in this column. Priority will be given to bicycling items; the number of items per member may be limited due to space considerations.

JERSEY: Women’s sleeveless size medium, new syle. $45 Diann Dimitri 378-7063.

FOR SALE:

♦ Trek 1000 aluminum frame, 54 cm, white. Excellent condition. Less than 400 miles on an entirely new drive train: Shimano Sora front & rear derailleurs, free wheel, front triple crank, rear free wheel; Shimano RSX front & rear shifters (index), Shimano chain. $350.
♦ Classic 70’s bike! 1971 Peugeot 10 speed, 27 X 1 1/4” wheels; blue, original owner. Comes with original frame mounted pump & tool kit. $95
♦ Sears woman’s bicycle. 3 speed. Fits women with height of 5’4”-5’8”; front basket. $25.
♦ Weight & dumb bell set. 110 lbs. $20.
Lewis Sussman, home: call 376-1652 & leave message, or office: 392-2075 x 268. email: sussman@ufl.edu

FOR SALE: Vintage (60s-70s?) VAR Bicycle Workstand (could be considered an ancestor to the modern day Park workstand found in most shops), This is iron & quite heavy in Good Condition. Has 2 adjustable bike clamps and one each small and medium sized trays, It has always functioned fine freestanding but has holes for bolting to the floor, $100 OBO within a couple of weeks. Sparks @ 317-5652 (G’ville)

Road Touring Bike Wanted Used, not abused and ready to roll. Small-medium frame (50-52 cm) for 5’6” adult. Reasonably priced. Please contact Gary 352-373-6597 or email gswolfson@aol.com

ROB WILT T380-0561 (leave message) or email at Klattu2051@aol.com:

Teac V2-RX cassette tape deck, 3-heads, In excellent condition. $100

35 MM Flash - Compact Zoom Strobe with Thyristor Flash. Adjustable flash head for close and wide angle shots. Head changes angles for non-direct lighting shots. Active hot shoe type for 35mm. With carrying bag. $20

Airwalk Chaos casual shoes. Black, dark gray and light gray. Virtually new. Worn a couple of times, were a bit too small. Very clean. Would fit a 9D well. $20

Books on tape, many titles, murder mysteries, historical, comedy. In excellent condition with original packaging. Most used only once. For a list of titles and prices please contact Gary 352-373-6597 or email gswolfson@aol.com

Panasonic KX-P1123, 24 pin dot matrix printer. In good shape, with stand, manual, and extra ribbons. $25

Brand New GCC polo shirts: Quality Queensboro shirts (www.queensboro.com), featured logo is the sweaty pony on a penny farthing bike. One each: Hunter green shirt with gold embroidery, Yellow with green text and red horse, Yellow with black embroidery, White with gold text and red horse. All shirts Men’s size Large $20 each.
Welcome new members Chris Brew, Mary Christopher, Erik DeKold, Debra Harris, Matthew Harris, Tootie Richey, Ryan Saylor, Jerry Splichal, Paul Tolson, Paula Tyner, Kris Williams, and Theresa Wilson of Gainesville, Brenda Boland of Stuart, Kendal Broad of McIntosh, Carla & Jay Copp of Seminole, Mark Freyman of Jacksonville, Michael Grusseymeyer of Cape Coral, Mary Rhodes of Melrose, Joe Suarez of Alachua, Kelli Young of Orlando, David Buzzee of Dublin, Ohio, Richard Elliott of Macon, Georgia, and Todd Harmanson of Atlanta, Georgia.

We have been having quite a bit of trouble getting GCCMail to members with University of Florida addresses over the past few months. If you are not getting regular GCCMail, you may be a victim. Currently, hp and vpha addresses are causing problems. Contact your administrator to make arrangements to allow Topica opt-in lists to send mail to your domains.