



PACELINE

**Alta Alpina
Cycling Club**

**Volume 7 Issue 7
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Twain's Ride Guide—August

Twain Berg, Weekend Ride Coordinator

It has been good to see some new folks posting rides on the club's website rideboard (www.altaalpinacyclingclub.com/rides/). If you are new to the club it is the best way to find folks to ride with. The AACC rideboard is where you can post a ride anytime to invite anyone to join you. Just enter your AACC email address and the form will guide you. If you need to cancel or change your ride, just go back to the rideboard to do it.

Remember, we have an ongoing Ride Leader Rewards Contest. This is your chance to contribute to the club a bit and get rewarded with up to \$100 in Pearl izumi Gift Certificates at the end of the year party. It's great to have a good variety of club rides to choose from on the Weekend Ride Calendar but it only happens when members post a ride well in advance. Anytime you post a ride on the Ride Board two weeks or more in advance and check the AACC Weekend Ride box, you are entered to win. For contest details see the [contest page on the website](#). or call/email me and I'll do it for you! Only a few names are in the hat so there is a good chance of winning!

The **featured ride for this month** is Tim Rowe's August 22nd Yuba Pass/ Gold Lakes Loop starting in Sierraville along Hwy 89 north of Truckee. It is a little away from our home base but well worth the effort.

Saturday, August 22, 2009 — Yuba Pass/Gold Lakes Loop

Meeting at the USFS Station in Sierraville, CA 89/49. For a map see: tinyurl.com/YubaPassGoldLakes Meet at 8:30 am, ready to roll at 9 am. This is a beautiful ride on low traffic roads up into the mountains west of Sierraville, California. Moderate climbs, beautiful scenery. There will be food and water at Sierraville, Graeeagle, and Bassetts but bring plenty of each. A bite to eat at the end in Sierraville or lunch along the way. If you have never ventured up this way to ride, it will be a real treat. The route includes climbs over Yuba Pass and the Gold Lakes Road with about 4500 feet of moderate climbing in about 60 miles. For questions contact the Ride Leader: Tim Rowe, (775)267-9531.

Sunday, August 30, 2009 — Mormon Emigrant Loop

We'll start from the Iron Mountain Sno-Park parking lot, located on Mormon Emigrant Trail, about 0.5 mile off 88. Meet at 9 am, ready to roll at 9:15am. Most of the loop is on small, very lightly traveled Forest Service roads, most with very good pavement, but there's one stretch that definitely requires good tires. These are remote roads, so please be self-sufficient. We'll regroup at all intersections, and at Capps Crossing Campground, which is about halfway through and you can get water. In answer to a common question, this isn't the same as the Packsaddle Pass ride - this ride stays on the south/west side of Mormon Emigrant Trail.

Inside this issue:

<i>Carson Valley Classic</i>	2
<i>Membership Survey</i>	3
<i>Rim Trail Update</i>	4
<i>Bike-Ped Conference</i>	5
<i>Racing Update</i>	6
<i>Special Meeting Minutes</i>	6
<i>Board Meeting Minutes</i>	7

Junior Team Annual Labor Day Weekend Road Trip Mel Maalouf, Coach

The Alta Alpina Junior Team is planning the next Velodrome track weekend. The weekend starts by watching the exciting Friday Night racing at the track. Saturday marks the Team's try at the track for an introductory session. We usually head to the hotel pool for a cooling off before another training ride in the evening. Sunday marks a day for a longer training ride in the Bay Area and another relaxing session at the hotel. Monday, we head to the always exciting Giro di San Francisco.

This trip serves as a recruiting trip for riders for the next year. I like to think of it as a reward for all the hard work: training, racing and all the volunteering at club events throughout the year. Others are welcome to join the trip—just contact me at alpinajr@gmail.com.



Carson Valley Classic

Garth Jackson, CVC Race Director

Giving constructive criticism is a skill, but I doubt many people practice it. To make a race like the Carson Valley Classic we always look for ways to improve, but by and large all we have to work with are compliments. So with five people sending emails to say that the Diamond Valley Road Race is their favorite race of the year and three more people telling us that they are going to bring all their teammates next year, we will just have to go with our instincts. I'm thinking a top notch polka band playing live music and hot cocoa in the neutral water zone. Tell me what you think.

Moving right along, it is now my great pleasure to thank each and every person who helped out with the Diamond Valley Road Race and the Minden Park Criterium. The follow vehicles and motorbikes guiding the race groups around the course, while the registration desk signs in racers for the next wave of races, and the neutral water zone hands out hundreds of water bottles to toasty hot peletons under the midday sun. It's a poetic event, like an orchestra that cannot thrive without the artful touch of each of its members. Everyone in the club who already knew what needed to happen before I said a word or even had the thought come into my head, you all saved my bacon, and probably my sanity.

Let's do it all again next year, shall we?



Rick was the Minden Crit delivery man on Nate's "Rick-shaw"



Scott Herman, Mike Bioggi worked together in the crit, open class



Steve Cook hammers up the second hill at Diamond Valley



Some poor guy trying to keep up with Dave "the Blur" Gaskin at the Minden Crit.



Club Survey

Pete Costa, President

Please take a minute to let the board know how you feel about club fund raising activities. In 2008, the club expenses exceeded the revenue by about \$10,000 - \$12,000, even after 50% cuts to expenses. In 2009, additional cuts to expenses have been made, the race entry fees were raised a little, the club sponsorship program was started, and the Alta Alpina Challenge was rolled out as a potential major fund raiser. 225 riders participated in the Alta Alpina Challenge, and the feedback from volunteers and riders has been extraordinarily positive. The final financials for the Alta Alpina Challenge are not complete yet, but we are very close to break even. That's remarkable for our first year in this economy.

It does appear that the Alta Alpina Challenge has the potential of becoming a successful fund raiser, as well as a wonderful event that riders will look forward to every year. But, it is a large production that requires a major commitment of club volunteer resources and does not come without financial risk. In the past year, many opinions about what the club should and shouldn't be doing have been expressed, many indirectly. In an attempt to give everyone an opportunity to voice their opinion directly to the board, the simple questionnaire below was developed. You can send it in by snail mail or copy and paste it into an email. Please take a second to help us in our decision process.

Four Questions for the Future of Alta Alpina

Member Name: _____

Q #1. Did you attend the General Club Meeting on August 3rd? Yes No

Q #2. Did you participate in the Alta Alpina Challenge as a volunteer? Yes No

Q #3. Did you participate in the Alta Alpina Challenge as a rider? Yes No

Q #4. Should we continue to produce the Alta Alpina Challenge, or should we scrap it and find other forms of revenue to help support the club?

Keep It. To make it better I suggest we _____

Scrap It. Instead, I suggest, and will help the club _____

Thank You for your participation.

AACC Board Members Needed for 2010

Yes, it's only August, but the club elections are in the fall, and the current Treasurer and Weekend Ride Coordinator are stepping down. If you've ever wanted to get more involved with the club, please consider one of these positions. Job descriptions are on our website's Membership page, or contact Pete Costa at president@AltaAlpina.org.



Daggett Summit Trail System Update

Christine Dobrowolski

The Daggett Summit Project is a 13 mile trail system connecting the Tahoe Rim Trail (TRT) trailheads of Kingsbury North ("The Bench") and Kingsbury South (Stagecoach). The system also includes a trail through Van Sickle State Park to the Casino Corridor. Trail work started on June 6, National Trails Day, on the Van Sickle Connector trail.

The current Tahoe Rim Trail connection between the Kingsbury North trailhead and the Kingsbury South trailhead is along 3.8 miles of paved road, but a new trail will connect these two trailheads.

New Trails North of Kingsbury

The Kingsbury North Trailhead will remain in the same location, but there will be a new northwest segment of trail, which travels approximately two miles to Kingsbury Grade, incorporating two vista points along the way. There will also be a northeast segment of trail which travels east and south towards SR 207, but crosses No. Benjamin Rd to connect with the northwest segment. This will make a nice additional 6.5 mile loop.

New Trails South of Kingsbury

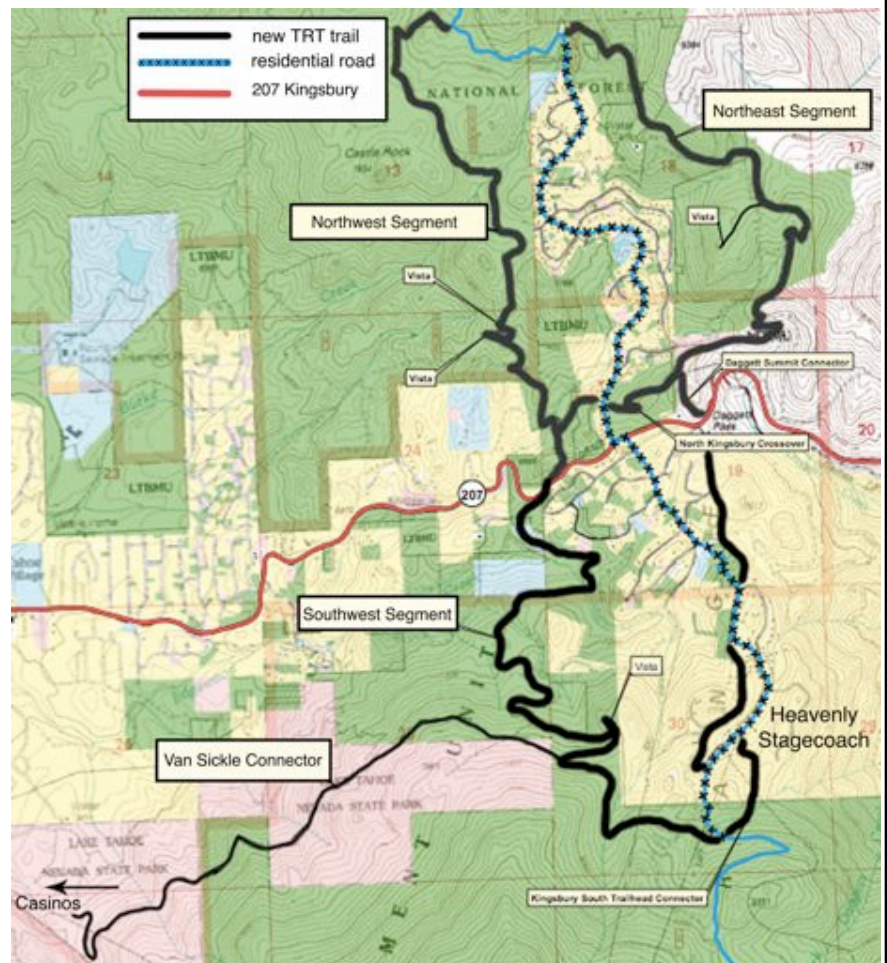
The northwest segment of trail will cross 207 near Buchanan Rd and join the southwest trail to course along the Edgewood Creek corridor, using some of the existing trails in the area. The southwest segment will intersect with the new Van Sickle Connector trail and rejoin the existing TRT south of Stagecoach parking lot. This segment will be about 3.5 miles. The existing trail from Stagecoach to the TRT is not ecologically sustainable and a 0.5 mile reroute will travel east of Stagecoach chairlift to the existing TRT.

The Van Sickle Connector trail will descend toward Stateline through the Nevada State Park land to connect with current Van Sickle State Park Trails. A bi-state park was recently approved and construction of a paved road, parking lot, bathrooms and more trails near the casino corridor is scheduled to start in July. The entire project is expected to take a number of years to build, but the goal is to

build useable segments of trail linking into existing trail each summer.

And You can Help Build these Trails!

The TRTA has taken some big strides towards adopting more bike friendly trails and incorporating IMBA sustainable trail design into their new trails. They are always interested to hear what cyclists have to say about the trails and it would be great to have more cyclists involved in trail building. Scheduled trail days are Tuesdays and Saturdays throughout the summer. Tuesday trail work will be on the Van Sickle Connector and Saturday Trailwork will be up on Daggett Summit. You can find more information and sign up for a work party on the TRT website, tahoerimtrail.org - go to "Volunteer", then "Join a Work Party". For more information, contact Clay Grubb at the Tahoe Rim Trail Association at wcgrubbjr@aol.com. Happy riding!





2009 Nevada Bicycle and Pedestrian Conference

Lauren Lindley, Secretary

On May 20-21, I had the good fortune to attend the 2009 Nevada Bicycle and Pedestrian Conference here in South Lake Tahoe under a scholarship program for representatives of local cycling clubs. Truthfully, I expected to not take much out of it but surprisingly had a really enjoyable and educational time.

Of particular interest to cyclists everywhere is the upcoming September 30th deadline for the new transportation bill. Jim Sayer, the head of the Adventure Cycling Association, America's largest cycling group, spoke about the bill along with a number of cyclist-and-pedestrian interest groups who we should all take note of. From 2005-2009, the transportation bill dedicated \$4.5 billion for enhancement projects, non-motorized pilot projects, and safe routes to schools. There are other funds that these projects are able to draw from as well, but rarely do. The new bill will set the distribution amounts for upcoming transportation projects, which include bike and pedestrian infrastructure. This is a landmark bill that is inviting lots of discussion regarding the federal gas tax (fixed at 18% for over a decade now), whether we should create a carbon tax and use 10% of it to fund cycling/pedestrian projects and to what percentage of the new funding allotment cycling and pedestrian projects should take. Apparently we cyclists have quite a few allies in Congressmen Oberstar (MN), Blumenauer (OR), and DeFazio (OR).

Congressman Oberstar is the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman and sits on the board of NACTO – the National Association of City Transportation Officials. They are pressing with the new bill for more money to go directly to MPOs (metropolitan planning organizations) instead of being funneled as they currently are through state governments. This way a portion of the funding could be specifically designated to go towards bike/ped programs.

There are a number of agencies lobbying in our favor regarding the bill that we should all take note of. "Transportation 4 America" is committed to cycling and pedestrian projects: "This year's reauthorization of the federal transportation bill is our country's best chance

"This year's reauthorization of the federal transportation bill is our country's best chance to create a system where cyclists and pedestrians are safe..."

to create a system where cyclists and pedestrians are safe, trains are faster and run cleaner, public transportation is widely available and efficient, roads and bridges are in good repair, and Americans everywhere benefit from a smarter network of transportation alternatives. Our new platform shows

our leaders how to use this extraordinary opportunity to create the 21st Century infrastructure we need." You can go to their site and sign an open letter to Congress and I would encourage all Alta Alpina members to do so. They are also focused on: greenhouse gas

reduction, program restructuring for better metropolitan mobility, world class transit systems in major metro areas, more money for MPOs, addressing climate change, creation of National Rail Initiatives, Health and Safety target initiatives, and "Smart Growth" incentives.

"America Bikes" is a coalition of leaders from the bicycle community advocating for positive outcomes for bicycling in the federal transportation bill. They are interested in a National Policy for "Complete Streets" to create livable communities by supporting the new Complete Streets Bill. In addition, they are focused on the creation of a new Transportation Initiative Fund, a cohesive US Bicycle Route System, a funding boost dedicated to Bike/Ped projects, the creation of recreational multi-use trails and aligning the National Transportation and Climate policy.

America Bikes is also focused on safety. 13% of our nation's fatalities on roads involved bikers and walkers, yet only 1% of federal funding is appropriated to combating this. Their platform "Fair Share for Safety" is focused on increased federal funding to combat bike/ped fatalities involving our roadways. They would like to elevate the promotion of cycling and pedestrian transportations with in state departments of transportation, invest in education, and secure cycling's place in our nation as an "official mode of transportation" (it currently is not designated as one).

For more information, go to:

- www.t4america.org
- www.AmericaBikes.org
- www.livablestreets.com





Road Race Series End-of-Season Pizza Party

Di Bolton, Race Director

Thursday, August 27, Diamond Valley serves as our season finale for the Twilight Road Race Series. C's and D's race one lap that night, and A's and B's race two. That leaves time for a post-race pizza party, at the Pizza Factory in the Gardnerville Ranchos (at Kimmerling and Short Court). Come join us!



General Club Meeting Comments: August 6th, 2009

Secretary: Lauren Lindley

Jim Sacherman: "Unbelievable what he [Michael] put on and pulled off." Tried to solicit a big group of friends but received negative responses. Seems to him that there are many cyclists more interested in racing. Regardless of the Challenge we need to maximize the potential of our road races. Kirkwood wants a long term contract to work with us on races.

Leon Malmed: The Challenge was like "climbing the Death Ride...the obstacles!" Also a member of the Sacramento Wheelmen and they depend on a number of events for revenue each year. Sees the Challenge as a "very good venue" to showcase the club. We need to "detune from a certain audience and tune to a different one" [as the number of 200 milers we can capture is finite, but century riders are not]. On previous membership: "it is too easy not to pay" our club dues.

Ray Rickard: A lot of people might have been members for the "wrong reasons". Thinks we should "own whatever we do." Not too many people could have "done what Michael did." If we do this ride again we need to "step up and step up early." Focus on the people who like the Challenge: we do not need to babysit riders quite so much. Put out a schedule of passes and stick to it [vs. the choose-your-own-adventure.] Those who are serious riders are our audience and they are the ones who will return again and again to complete the Challenge. Thinks the Kirkwood idea is a good one. Thinks that the "ride should go on."

Curtis Fong: "You can count on me in again for next year." Our marketing needs more focus. Put the 200 miler out there, but we should take a similar approach with other options. There will always be the double century riders but we need to appeal to the century route mass market. That is "the mark" that most riders are looking to complete. Suggests a metric and century course for those riders. Agrees to set a limit that does not require a CalTrans permit and stick to it. Club is on a good path judging from the responses. Curtis would prefer the event not be held on June 26th as that is the same day as the Ice Cream Social.

Bob Beretta: Bob was pulled in because of the "ambition" of the ride. He volunteered only because it was such a challenge and was so "grand." Agrees with Curtis on our need to focus the marketing and routes on standard distances like a century.

Mel Maalouf: Concerned about the volunteer requirements and the strain it puts on the club to hold so many events a year. We need to make sure that we properly balance promoting cycling and doing the ride.

Corey Bolton: We should "prioritize" and "really focus down" events.

Additional email responses sent to Pete Costa.



Board Meeting Minutes— August 6th, 2009

Secretary: Lauren Lindley; Other Board Members: Michael Bayer, Di Bolton, Pete Costa, Dave Gaskin, Jennie Hamiter, Garth Jackson, Mel Maalouf, Dennis Pederson; Other Attendees: Corey Bolton, Joe Marzocco

1. **General Club Meeting:** See additional report for general club comments.
2. **Carson Valley Classic Recap:** Club needs to focus on creating a Paypal system for all events next year instead of using Sports Base Online. CVC participation: 194 at road race; 258 at Crit. \$1,043 in profit. Garth suggests next year to combine men's 30+ with 35+ field and separate the men's 50+ into a second 55+ category. Garth is willing to come back as Race Director provided that he has three key volunteers to help split up the work. Club should join the Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce to help promote the ride and obtain sponsors. Park already reserved for 2010. Neighbors commented that this year was "better than last year" and that spectators and racers seemed better behaved. We need to do a more thorough job policing spectators and interacting with the neighbors next year.
3. **End of Year Party:** Lauren to check on using the Board Room at the LTCC library and Garth will check on the Eagle Nest at the top of Kingsbury.
4. **Alta Alpina Challenge:** Pete motions to approve Lauren's budget of \$45-55 for 15 sponsor thank you plaques. Motion passes.
5. **Everest Challenge:** The Everest Challenge (Sept 12-13, 2009) has offered Alta Alpina members a registration discount. Discount code coming via your email.
6. **Board Positions for Next Year:** Dave Gaskin would like to step down as treasurer.
7. **Genoa Cyclocross:** Todd DeGiovanni and Corey Bolton have volunteered to run the cyclocross event for the year. They will look into holding event at Kirkwood instead of Genoa.
8. **Monthly Status Reports:**
 - **Treasurer's Report:** As of 7/17/09: \$51,109.16.
 - **Memberships:** Patti not in attendance. Lauren noted that our "local merchants" need a list of members to verify for discounts.
 - **Weekend Rides:** Twain not in attendance.
 - **Newsletter:** Jennie needs CVC write-up for August newsletter.
 - **Website:** Joe Marzocco offers to take over as webmaster from Dennis, handling the frontline web changes. Denis will stay on call to do the large changes and coding needed for the Challenge and the site.
 - **Weekly Road Races:** 4 weeks left.
 - **Weekly MTB Races:** Tahoe Mountain Bike Race to be held Friday, September 4th, starting at Wattabike in Myers.
 - **Junior Team:** No update.
 - **Kingsbury Time Trial:** No update necessary.
 - **Adopt-A-Highway:** Pete needs to set a date.
 - **Clothing:** No update.
9. **Next Meeting:** Monday, September 14th, 2009, 6:00 pm, Pizza Factory in Gardnerville. Club members are welcome (as always) to attend and give their comments if unable to make the general club meeting in August.

Local Merchant Discount Program

Visit the merchant, peruse their shops and find out what you can buy as a benefit of being an AACC member. Details about local merchant offers is listed under "Merchant Discounts" on our website at www.AtaAlpina.org.

Show your AACC Membership Card at time of purchase. [If are an active AACC member, the mailing label on the first Paceline you received upon renewal has the club logo and note indicating that it is your membership card.]





Alta Alpina Cycling Club

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 www.AltaAlpina.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Yuba Pass RideAugust 22
 Mormon Emigrant RideAugust 30
 Last Thursday Night Race ..August 27 @6:15
 and Pizza Party

MOVED? GOT NEW CONTACT INFO?
 Have you moved? Has your e-mail address changed?
 Don't miss out on the latest AACC happenings!
 Update your info at www.AltaAlpina.org; click on "Membership"

Alta Alpina Cycling Club Board Members

Pete Costa	President	president@AltaAlpina.org	775-782-8493
Mel Maalouf	Vice President	alpinajr@gmail.com	775-782-9652
Lauren Lindley	Secretary	llindley@pearlizumi.com	
David Gaskin	Treasurer	dlgaskin@earthlink.net	530-541-6472
Patti Towns	Membership Coordinator	membership@AltaAlpina.org	
Twain Berg	Weekend Ride Coordinator	ridedirector@AltaAlpina.org	775-901-6043
Michael Bayer	Alta Alpina Challenge Ride Director	challenge@AltaAlpina.org	877-845-2453
Di Bolton	Thursday Road Race Director	di.bolton@charter.net	775 782-4729
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Mel Maalouf	Junior Team Coach / Race Team Director	alpinajr@gmail.com	775-782-9652
Dennis Pederson	Website Coordinator	webmaster@altaalpina.org	775-883-2390
Tim Rowe	Bicycle Advocacy Coordinator	Trowebikes@aol.com	775-267-9531

Newsletter Editor:
 Jennie Hamiter
 Newsletter Publisher:
 Michael Bayer

The club is about and for you! All AACC members are welcomed to participate in our **Board Meetings** held the **first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm.** The location alternates between the Carson Valley and South Lake Tahoe.. Join us on **Sept 14** at the **Pizza Factory** in the **Gardnerville Ranchos.**