

Genesis: HCBBA

ROOTS OF THE HARRISON COUNTY BICYCLE ASSOCIATION
by Bill Foster

I was introduced to the wonderful world of adult bicycling by a friend where I worked in Midland, Michigan, a town of attractive, quiet, flat streets surrounded by flat farm and forrest country. When I returned to West Virginia in fall 1975, I feared I might have to give up biking ...all that traffic, bad roads, so many hills, no biking friends, etc. ...but not without trying. Much to my surprise, I soon discovered I'd been wrong on all counts: traffic in clarksburg was tolerable, there were many quiet back roads with good paving and long valleys, hills were manageable, sometimes even fun, and best of all I found the friends I didn't expect. Leaving Clarksburg east on Main Street one nippy day I spied a short, snappy pace line and I tagged on, surviving until they stopped in Bridgeport, and met Ron Jenkins, brother-in-laws J.P. and Greg Alonso and Dave Scott, who had all started biking together about two years earlier. We discovered we'd all gone to TOSRV'74 "together." (The Tour of the Scioto River Valley sends about 3,000 odd cyclists from Columbus, Ohio 104 miles south to Portsmouth on the Kentucky border on Saturday for an equal return on Mother's Day Sunday.)

The only Clarksburg bicyclist in the League of American Wheelmen (LAW) directory when I came, Alan Beirlein and I talked a mutual friend, Edgar Matthey into taking up biking at the age of 66, and we found others, Bruce Boomer, Ray Mills, Ron Turner and Jim Weaver. When Alan first suggested organizing a club, he was about to finish his residency at UHC, get married and move to Indiana, and I was too busy.

As West Virginia area rep. for the League, I'd developed contacts around the state, and in 1977 we got together for a weekend tour coinciding with the opening of the magnificent new bridge over the New River gorge. In 1978 the president of the League, Jim Kehew, whose mother lived in Glenville, came from Pennsylvania to join our second Gorgeous New River Tour. Meanwhile, we Harrison County cyclists did other riding and touring together including returns to TOSRV, a weekend tour to Blackwater Falls and several national League rallies. Over the winter of 1978 we decided it was time to organize.

In the spring of 1979, I circulated fliers and 14 people met April 17 at the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library and made it official. We let Ron Jenkins leave early, and then elected him President, followed by Edgar Matthey as our V.P./Road Captain and Bill Foster as our Secretary-Treasurer. Dues were set at \$5/7 family and we affiliated with the League of American Wheelmen.

RON JENKINS was/is a cable splicer for C&P/Bell Atlantic, involved in all the pioneering fiber optics work in this area. WILLIAM EDGAR MATTHEY was/is a retired Salem High School industrial arts teacher and Army 1st sgt. E-8 company administrator for 22½ years, active (Korea) and Guard. BILL FOSTER was/is an architect

MOST IMPRESSIVE ACCOMPLISHMENT
SUMMER, 1979 (rated G)
Sandy Weaver joined a group of local male chauvinist pigs on TOSRV in May (Ron Jenkins, Bill Foster, Bruce Boomer, Jack & Greg Schillace, J.P. Alonso and Jim Weaver) and astounded the gaggle of them by pushing Jim and their tandem the whole 200 miles + for the weekend.



Tuesday, April 17
7:00 p.m.

BICYCLE CLUB
organization meeting

at the
Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library

Now is the time to start
Biking again.



it's fun!

- attending
GREG ALONSO
PAT ANDERSON
BILL FOSTER
LEE GUSTAFSON
TOM HUNT
SIDNEY JACKSON
RON JENKINS
EDGAR MATTHEY
BRAD MILLS
RAY MILLS
JACK SCHILLACE
RON TURNER
TED UNDERWOOD
JEAN WARNE

Growing Up with HCBA

HCBA ROOTS, INSTALLMENT #2 (#1 in issue #2-1996) by Bill Foster

The Harrison County Bicycle Association was organized in Clarksburg in 1979, with thirty members led by Ron Jenkins president, William Edgar Matthey vice-president/road captain and Bill Foster secretary/treasurer. They continued as the officer team for six years, during which time many features of the present club developed: Sunday recreational rides, picnics, a couple of multi-day tours, a September Century (100+ miles) and an annual fall meeting, with most business handled by the officers. Dues remained \$5/7 family, adding a \$2 (newsletter subscription) inactive category in 1981. Membership grew to 40, 45, 59, 66 & 70 in 1984.

In 1980 we co-sponsored a first statewide weekend rally/party at Jacksons Mill in June, called BEST Weekend (Bike, Eat, Sleep, Talk), bringing 62 cyclists and families together for a great time. We wrote letters supporting establishment of the Greenbrier River Bike and Hike Trail and helped the Junior Womens Club & AAA put on a bicycle rodeo in Clarksburg.

Walter Ezell, editor of "American Wheelmen" magazine, now "Bicycle USA," attended a May dinner meeting at Edgar's, Wandering Wheels brought 67 cyclists through on US 50 in July on their annual cross country tour, and our September Century went from Clarksburg through Weston to Burnsville and back. New members included Bill Baber II, Louis Cinci, Joe Leroy and Susan Pallotta.

Clarksburg Telegram,

Bike Tour Scheduled

The Italian Heritage Festival Bicycle Tour will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6, at the River Bend Park pool parking lot in Clarksburg.

Cyclists will have an option of a 32 kilometer (20 miles) visit to Lost Creek or continuing through a 65 kilometer loop past Buffalo Lake.

Adult bicyclists and their families are invited to join the festival through this Harrison County Bicycle Association-sponsored event.

HCBA president Ron Jenkins notes, "This tour is a casual ride, not a race. Again this year we have developed a route which is entirely downhill. As it was last year, however, only half of it is downhill in the direction of our tour. The remainder goes downhill in the opposite direction. We feel this adds additional interest to the tour." Preceding the tour, I Campagnoli will be performing at River Bend Park, emphasizing the Italian atmosphere of the afternoon.

In 1981 we did all of the above, while Bill Foster, Ray & Brad Mills and Jim Weaver biked to Myrtle Beach, S.C. Five year old Heath Jenkins did 28 miles on our century and Edgar did the full 104 at age 70. New members included Don & Elinor (Drane) Campbell, Robert E. Lee and Annebel Luebbe.

SUNDAY THE RABBI COULDN'T BIKE

Howard "Rusty" Mall won't be biking with us for several June weekends, due to his responsibilities as a rabbi. Such is his part in the Art Center's production of "Fiddler on the Roof" to be presented here June 17 through July 1, with Sunday performances at 2:00 (8:00 p.m. during the week).

In 1982 we got our first T-shirts, designed by Lee Gustafson, and we really got around: 11 at TOSRV in Ohio, 18 at BEST Weekend, 6 at GEAR in Shippensburg, Pa, 8 at GEARSouth in Charlotte, N.C. The Alonsos and Weavers appeared in "American Wheelmen" photos, club officers and T-shirt were pictured in an Exponent-Telegram "Images" article in October. Our September Century explored "Northwest Territories" to St. Marys and back, while the four day fall color tour southeast from Elkins "featured long flat valleys...seen from the tops of one mountain after another." Several ultra-marathons came through on US 50. New members included Bruce Summers (Morgantown Pathfinder) and Bob Strosnider (Kentucky Smokey Bear).

EXPONENT-TELEGRAM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1981

Camping Tour

Thirteen bicyclists participated in the fifth annual Blackwater Falls Weekend Bicycle Camping Tour, sponsored by the Harrison County Bicycle Association, Aug. 22 and 23.

In addition to ideal weather and country roads scenery between Bridgeport and Horseshoe Recreation Area in Monongahela National Forest, features of the two-day, 113-mile tour included a limestone mine formerly used as a civil defense shelter, Tygart River picnics and dinner at a popular Davis Restaurant.

While most bikers rode 10-speed bicycles, Heath Jenkins, five-year-old son of club president Ron Jenkins, rode 24 miles of the tour on his single gear BMX-type bicycle.

Other participating club members included Ray Mills of Bridgeport, Bill Foster, Anthony Leroy and Howard Mall, Clarksburg; Don Campbell and Susan Pallotta, Fairmont; Jim Weaver, Salem; and Joe Leroy, Stonewood. Guests included Eric Hopkins of Morgantown, Glenn Schilbert, New Martinsville, and Greg Alonso, Johnstown, Pa.

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS ...
HEATH HENKINS, six year old son of President Ron & Jane, came out for our March 28 Brushy Fork ride from Bridgeport. As usual, we stalled, hoping you might show. "Hey!" exclaimed Heath, "IS THIS A BIKING CLUB OR A TALKING CLUB?"

HARRISON
COUNTY
BICYCLE
ASSOCIATION

I SAID "THE USUAL HILLS," DIDN'T I

But a moment in Grafton A vignette of a record

By Bill Foster
Clarksburg, W. Va.
For the Statesman

Editor's note: Susan Nototangelo set a bicycling record July 13. She left Santa Monica, Calif. July 1 at 6 p.m. and arrived in New York City July 13 at 1:15 p.m., making the total trip in 11 days, 16 hours and 15 minutes. The day before her journey's end she passed through Grafton. Bill Foster accompanied her from Clarksburg to Backbone Mountain.

JULY 12— They glided softly, effortlessly along the riverside in a pool of light from the van. The hard part would come soon enough.

"Is that the town?" she inquired.

"Yes, that's Grafton," he responded.

"When they built the new road to by-pass it, they went over the hill behind those lights up there. Now turn here, cross the bridge and we're downtown. Our hill starts

from the second light."

He was just along for the morning, moral support, tips on the route. She was going for records. He'd soon turn back to Clarksburg, worn out by the hills and the pace. She would continue on for another day and a half for almost continuous cycling to New York City, setting a world record for a woman bicycling across the United States. Indeed, it would become the fastest time for any person, and would have beaten all records before last year. Along the way she would again become groggy, exhausted, unable to go on; but with a massage and an hour of sleep, she would be up and pushing on to her incredible goal— Santa Monica to New York City by bicycle in under 12 days.

Now it was just a delight: 5 a.m. in downtown Grafton, a cool and silent stage set, the empty street framed in softly lit facades, solemnly noting her passing in the dark of the night.

"Grafton used to be a dirty railroad

center, but it's a lot cleaner now." Diesels hummed in the freight yard below. None would get to New York so fast— too many yards and switches, always waiting for men and schedules. "Grafton's claim to fame is that it is the home of Anna Jarvis, who invented Mother's Day here. Her home church is a local shrine."

"I like it. It's a nice town. I'll remember it."

They approached the second light, which obligingly turned green as they passed and began to climb. Bicycling became work again. No one noticed, no one cheered, no one even knew she was there. She would soon forget Grafton in the clamor and excitement of the Big Apple and her ultimate victory, but later, relaxing at home in St. Louis, Susan Nototangelo would remember Grafton and smile with pleasure. It was a nice town, a mellow moment in a 3,000 mile kaleidoscope.

HCBA members had the opportunity to meet or ride with Susan Nototangelo as she passed through Clarksburg on her way to a Trans-America record.

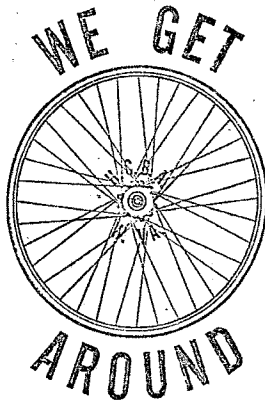
Bill Foster, Robert E. Lee and Jim Weaver on his recumbent all rode with her, and Sandy Weaver, William Edgar Matthey, Howard Mall, Joe Leroy and Don, Paula and Jill Campbell also came to the TowneHouse Motel Sunday evening (after our West Union Buffet Ride), where WBOY-TV 12 Sports Director Don Graye taped an interview for the Monday evening news.

When we left at 10:30 p.m., we knew she was done in by the hills, but who was this singing as she rode through Clarksburg just after 3 a.m., heading east into the mountains, fresh and strong? As for Bill, Don, Ron & Jim, the glory of heroes is short. Biking from Clarksburg to Shippensburg, Pa. in five days had sounded impressive until Lon Haldeman, Susan's coach, said, "If she is on the road by 3 a.m., we should get to Shippensburg by 9 p.m." Considering she got to New York in 34 hours, we may have to reconsider our weekend tours.

In a phone conversation the following week, Susan noted that they did, indeed get to Shippensburg by sundown; that her masseuse told her an hour of massage was worth five hours sleep (that explains our five days - Now if we had a masseuse...) she didn't lose a pound on the trip, that except for a nap on the Staten Island Ferry she didn't get any sleep until 10 p.m. - too much excitement, and that she appreciated our interest.

She was interviewed last week by ABC-TV for an unknown date on "Wide World of Sports," and hopes to see us again in August, coming through in support of Lon Haldeman in the "Great American Bike Race." Oh, yes...she said she really enjoyed the West Virginia hills.

Sixty-Eight bicyclists attended Thrive BEST Weekend, June 26 & 27 at Jackson's Mill, cosponsored by the Harrison County Bicycle Association and the Mountain State Wheelers Bicycle Club. Weather was again favorable, in spite of dire predictions. It only rained a bit Saturday evening at program time. Praise was heard and appreciated for the Mill's food and facilities and the excellent biking roads. Dan Tabler, Jackson's Mill Coordinator, enlivened the evening program with an autoharp performance and sing-along. Slides, discussion and the usual promise of patches were also in the program.



STEADY NOW, BOYS — Harrison County Bicycle Association members (left to right) William Foster, Ronald L. Jenkins and William E. Mathey, ride slowly (and a bit precariously) down Linden Avenue in

Clarksburg as Edwin Propst of the Images staff photographs them in their bicycling garb, with the exception of Jenkins (middle) who left his shorts and helmet at home.

ASTOUNDING RESULTS OF THE "GREAT AMERICAN BIKE RACE" 1982 Santa Monica, California - 2976 miles - New York City, New York

Lon Haldeman	9 days, 20 hours, 2 minutes
John Howard	10 days, 10 hours, 59 minutes
Michael Shermer	10 days, 19 hours, 54 minutes
John Marino	12 days, 7 hours, 37 minutes

They began at 10 A.M. August 4th, and came through our area starting with Lon Haldeman slipping through the afternoon of August 12th. Ron Jenkins, J.P. Alonso and Bill Foster gave auto chase, took a few pictures and welcomed Lon and Susan back to our "Wild, Wonderful West Virginia." John Howard passed completely undiscovered on Friday, then Michael Shermer was found the same afternoon and joined by club officers for short rides through here. John Marino came Saturday evening, with Edgar Matthey and Joe Leroy sharing a few miles with him.



In 1983 we brought back a popular Morgantown ride, the Appalachian Spring Spectacular, so 39 bikers (12 HCBA) could ride in smow flurries. We took 13 to TOSRV. Susan Notorangelo and Lon Haldeman were married in June and came through Clarksburg biking to a 10 day 20:23 tandem transcontinental record for their honeymoon. Club members chipped in for a wedding gift. Lon won the reorganized "Race Across America" in August and ten of us escaped the 104°F city heat on our Blackwater Falls Tour into the cool? mountains. Edgar Matthey and Bill Foster were on the September "American Wheelmen" cover fixing a tire for a friend at GEAR Slippery Rock. Fly by Bike became our new September Century route and six Fall Color Toured the Eastern Panhandle. New members included Philip Calise (Salem) and Dr. Wade Stoughton (Morgantown).

In 1984 eight year old Heath Jenkins, Ron & Jane's firstborn, biked with us to Towson/Baltimore for a GEAR rally and 20 members attended the Fifth BEST Weekend (70 total). We conducted 10 mile time trials on Big Flint Road. Several members participated in the first Lake Floyd Triathlon, which was sponsored by Lake Floyd Club. Our Third Fall Color Tour went southeast again with Don Campbell, Bill Foster, Ron & Heath Jenkins, Bob Lee and (part way) J. P. Alonso. Our October picnic meeting, again at Ron & Jean Turner's at Lake Floyd, elected some new officers: J. P. Alonso president, Don Campbell v.p./road captain, and Bill Foster again secretary/treasurer. New members included Joe & Donna Cocalis, Al & Fern Dieffenbach, Marcel Huet and the Paul Moses family.

Leroy Places In Marathon

Joe Leroy of Stone-wood finished with a 2:38.21 clocking to place 502nd in the Boston Marathon Monday.

It was the fastest timing ever in the race for Leroy, 32, who works for a local insurance firm. A total of 7,000 runners participated in the race.

It was the sixth time in which Leroy has run in the marathon.

"SPOKIN' WORDS
 HARRISON COUNTY BICYCLE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

1984 #3
 page 5

WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER by HEATH JENKINS (told to Bill Foster)

ACTUALLY, I'm not writing this, because I'm only eight years old, and my fourth grade teacher won't expect me to do it, (I hope.) Bill and Dad asked me these questions. While I'm proud of what I did, I don't go around talking much about it.

JIM WEAVER, DON CAMPBELL, BILL FOSTER DAD (Ron Jenkins) AND I biked about 420 miles to a big rally of bikers (at Towson, Maryland) near Baltimore. It took a week because some of these guys were a bit slow, and we wanted to see some interesting places in Pennsylvania. We stopped to eat a lot, too, and that was pretty good.

ANYBODY COULD DO IT if they get in shape. I rode a lot after school and went to some club rides, so I didn't worry much about being able to do it. The first mountain was the hardest; after that, sometimes it was too hot and I got tired, and one day my legs were sore, but it wasn't so hard, and lots of things were interesting. The only time it was difficult keeping up with the big guys was when we were flying down the mountains. Carrying bags and stuff was okay; I only noticed it some starting out. Luckily, I didn't have any flat tires like Dad and Jim, or broken spokes like Don.

AT NIGHT WE CAMPED. Dad's tent was okay except the night it rained, when it seemed to close in on us. The best place we camped had a swimming pool, much nicer than the Potomac River, which was cold, with a stony bottom. Otherwise, I liked the C & O Canal Towpath too, and would like to do more biking there. It was the only place I didn't wear my helmet.

IN PENNSYLVANIA, we went through some places I'd seen recently, (Gettysburg and Hanover, and then went to the Amish country where I remember several interesting things, like where we were climbing a long hill in the woods, and met a boy going downhill on a scooter. It was also fun following and passing a horse and buggy once, and riding an old steam train (in Strasburg.)

AT THE RALLY, we took a ride downtown to the new aquarium, which has a forest on top of the fish tanks, and the fort (McHenry, where the Star Spangled Banner was flown), and an open-air market, and they were all great. I also went to a workshop for fixing bikes, though I'd rather let Dad do it, and saw another about biking in Europe. We also saw a bike which had two people riding sid-by-side, and a lot of great antique bikes, including some in a race.

NEXT YEAR, maybe I'll get to go on TOSRV with Dad and Uncle J.P.. Then, maybe we can go to another GEAR in Lexington, Kentucky.

(No equipment freak, Heath had to look when I asked, "What color is your bike?" He rides a red, 16" frame Gitane with about 22" wheels. He didn't pay much attention to the admiring glances from two girls at a Pennsylvania Dairy Queen, either, but otherwise he is a perfectly normal, careful, steady biker who waits patiently at the top of the mountains for his friends on a 75 mile day and cleans up his end of the dinner table.)

GOOD FOR ONE STANDARD
 LUNCH BAG PREPARATION
 and
 POST-RIDE MASSAGE
 for one long day ride with
 HARRISON COUNTY BICYCLE ASSOCIATION
 signed
 special options and rates available
 expires 1/11/85 hoba

HCBA TEN MILE TIME TRIAL RESULTS	RESULTS	
	July	August
DON CAMPBELL	30:55	
BILL FOSTER	28:44	
DANNY JACKSON	27:15	
HEATH JENKINS	34:40	34:48
RON JENKINS	29:10	29:08
JOE LEROY	33:57*	24:39
EDGAR MATTHEY	39:00	
Eric Vaughn	32:57*	
JIM WEAVER	31:16	
Mike Wright		24:37

*extra miles, missed turnaround
 Heath is 8 and Edgar is 73. Why not come try your time in September?

THE FIRST LAKE FLOYD TRIATHALON in July had sixty participants competing in swimming, biking and running. The winning time was 37:30, with the following HCBA members and their placements:

	min:sec
12 GEORGE MOSES	44:24
33 DAVE SEAMAN	49:46
53 ELLINOR CAMPBELL	56:07

(third of seven women)

HCBA: The Spice of Life

A History, Installment #3 (#1 & 2 were in 1996) by Bill Foster

TransAmerican records owned by tandems

1984

Women's TransAmerican tandem record set and still held by Cheryl Marek and Estelle Gray who rode from Santa Monica, CA to New York City in 10 days, 22 hours, 48 minutes.

1986 Mixed team

TransAmerican tandem record set and still held by Lon Haldeman and Susan Notorangelo riding from Huntington Beach, CA to Virginia Beach, VA in 9 days, 20 hours, 7 minutes.

1987

Men's TransAmerican record set and still held by Lon Haldeman and Pete Penseyres, riding from Huntington Beach, CA to Atlantic City, NJ in 7 days, 14 hours, 55 minutes.

Organized in 1979, The Harrison County Bicycle Association grew from 30 to 70 members in its first six years with the same three officers. In 1985, new president J.P. Alonso, new road captain-vice-president Don Campbell and returning secretary/treasurer Bill Foster began three years as a team. Spring events included a party at Martha & Lee Gustafson's in Clarksburg, a maintenance workshop at Holy Moses Cycles and a ten mile time trial on Big Flint Road. Don developed the "Bicycle Safety Checklist" we still use. We rode from Thornton to Kingwood to meet the Monongalia Bicycle Club for lunch, and from Hodgesville to Audra State Park to picnic with the Upshur Wheelers. We returned to Jacksons Mill for the sixth BEST Weekend and small group biked to Georgetown, Kentucky for GEAR South and we biked the C & O Canal Towpath from Cumberland to Washington, D.C. a month before the big flood. (C&O: Don Campbell, Cal Carstensen, Bill Foster, Howard Mall, Jim & Sandy Weaver, Mary Kay White) Other weekend camping tours went to Tea Creek on the Williams River and Leadmine/"Blackwater Falls."

At the request of Lake Floyd Club, we conducted the second Lake Floyd Triathlon, with 82 participants raising \$217.80 for the Harrison County Special Olympics. Buckhannon member Steve Anderson set a West Virginia 24 hour cycling record by biking 386.2 miles up and down the eastern Potomac valleys. New among our 77 members were Calvin Carstensen, Hoa & Ly Dang family, and Gary Winters.

We met and rode with most of the RAAM and tandem record cyclists in the mid-80's including these.

Publicity director Calvin Carstensen reported of an unexpected "spectator" at the event — the appearance of a full-grown copperhead snake in the middle of the biking course.

Contestant Lee Gustafson was among the first to witness the snake's presence, Carstensen said. "I couldn't believe it," said Gustafson. "I was racing up Hall's Run and there he was — coiled and striking.

"I kept on going and shouted warnings behind me," continued Gustafson. "I don't know if anybody heard... Two or three minutes later, I had to pass the snake on the return leg of the course, and he was still holding his ground.

"By that time, bikers were passing him in both directions yelling 'snake' at each other," Gustafson added.

Fortunately, the snake never connected on any of its strikes.

In 1986, good groups attended the Monongalia Bicycle Club's Appalachian Spring Spectacular (12), an unusually mild TOSRV (15) and the seventh (last) BEST Weekend (15) Our big camping tour went to GEAR in Buffalo, N.Y. and other tours included a ninth Blackwater Falls camping weekend, a three day September Escape to the Potomac Valleys and a four day Fall Color Tour through the eastern panhandle.

Unable to have a triathlon at Lake Floyd due to installation of a sewer system, we conducted our first mountain bike race, the White Oak Challenge at Watters Smith State Park, raising \$150 for Harrison Co. Catholic Schools. We repeated our spring party at the Gustafson's, had summer picnics at Lake Floyd and Maple Lake, returning to the latter with 43 at our fall annual dinner meeting. Steve Anderson went to California with high hopes in July, but had to drop out of the Race Across AMerica in Albuquerque with physical problems. Jack Schillace became our first member lost to mortality in September. New members included Bud Coffindaffer, Tom & Linda Jones family and Arthur Sayre, bringing us up to 81.

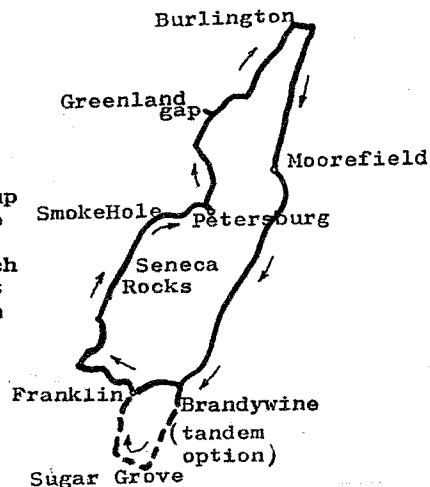
Fifteen members attended and completed a mild TOSRV: PAUL MOSES, JOE LEROY, JIM & SANDY WEAVER, RON & HEATH JENKINS, DON CAMPBELL, J.P. ALONSO, CALVIN CARSTENSEN, BILL MCGIVERN, GARY WINTERS, CUONG DANG, BOB STROSNIDER, JANIE GABLE and BILL FOSTER.

Twelve bikers completed the HCBA FLY BY BIKE September Century, with a good lunch at Fly, Ohio and comfortable cycling weather. PHIL CALISE, DON CAMPBELL, CALVIN CARSTENSEN, AL DIEFFENBACH, BILL FOSTER, JANIE GABLE, CARL & BILL HOLYFIELD, BOB LEE, JOE LEROY, EDGAR MATTHEY, & GARY WINTERS



THE SEPTEMBER SUMMER ESCAPE

NINE MEMBERS of the Harrison County Bicycle Association recently completed a bicycle tour of West Virginia's Potomac Highland. The tour began Friday morning, September 12, in Petersburg, where the group was off for a ride through scenic valleys, stopping at a swimming hole in Greenland Gap, where a few braved the cold water. After picture taking, it was on to Burlington for lunch and then to Moorefield, which this member considered the highlight of the tour. The group stayed at McMechen House Inn, a three story brick Federal style house. Built in 1853 and furnished in antiques of the period, the Inn proved to be interesting as well as comfortable. Innkeepers Art and Evelyn Valotto were more than hospitable and served cold lemonade and snacks to the bikers, who next took a short walk to visit an old log home which was being brought back to life. After freshening up, the group went to dinner at the Stone House Inn and Ice Cream Parlor, another quaint establishment in historic Moorefield.



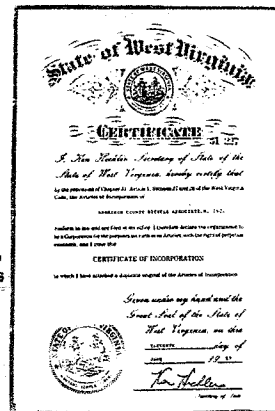
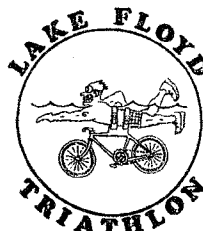
SATURDAY MORNING began with a complimentary breakfast of fresh fruit, juice, french toast, ham and coffee and tea, all served on antique china in a beautiful dining room. Reluctant to leave, the group eventually took off, setting their sights this time on Franklin. Low traffic, backroads and excellent weather made for more delightful biking, with a picnic lunch at Brandywine, then a climb over the mountain into Franklin for ice cream and a night's lodging at Thompson's Motel.

AFTER SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST, some serious pedal power was used to get to the top of North Fork Mountain. Cruising down the other side, a brief stop was made to view Germany Valley and then on through Riverton and the Valley to Seneca Rocks. After watching some climbers and visiting the Visitors' Center, it was back on the road for the most magnificent sightseeing one can imagine. Atour was taken at Smoke Hole Caverns, the final stop before the trek back to Petersburg.

EVERYONE AGREED it was an outstanding tour. The comraderie, the weather, the scenery and the enthusiasm all combined for a memory that would like to be relived in the not too distant future.

You are expected to wear your helmet on club rides. You are required to wear a helmet on all overnight tours. Effective as of September 1, 1986 as approved by HCBA officers.

Susan Pallotta
 for the group:
 Don Campbell, Calvin Carstensen,
 Alwin & Fern Dieffenbach, Bill Foster,
 Janie Gable, Bill McGivern & Ray Mills



In 1987, dues became \$7.50/10/5 and membership dropped back to 70 with new members including Gary Abbate, Mike Holt, Paula Johnston(Huet), Paul Lynch and Ken Sappington. We became incorporated in June and insured through a state liability policy. Don Campbell taught us some "Effective Cycling." Again, fifteen members did TOSRV, we had a week long camping tour in the Potomac and Shenandoah valleys and returned to the Potomac valleys for our four day fall color tour. We sponsored Time Station #74 at Bridgeport McDonalds for the Race Across AMERICA, conducted a race and tour at the Bridgeport Sports Festival to benefit the Special Olympics, and a second White Oak Challenge. Our big event was the Third Lake Floyd Triathlon (swim 1/4 mile, bike 7 1/2 miles, run 2.2 miles) which drew 113 participants including nine HCBA members - finishing in order: Rick McAllister, Gary Abbate, Terry Howell, Gary Winters, Eric Howell, Lee Gustafson, Jim Weaver (who designed our t-shirt logo), Ron Turner and Martha Gustafson. Repeat winners Kyle Norris and Rebecca Jones, both from Maryland, praised our event highly and we raised \$465 for the Harrison County Sheltered Workshop. Our fall picnic meeting at Ron & Jean Turner's elected a new president, Paul Moses.

CACTUS JACKS
 Holy Moses



1987
 WHITE OAK
 MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE
 OCTOBER 4 - 1:00 PM
 WATTERS SMITH STATE PARK

PRESENTED BY HARRISON COUNTY BICYCLE ASSOCIATION

