



# PACELINE

**Alta Alpina  
Cycling Club**

**Volume 3 Issue 8  
September 2005**

## August Club Rides

John Seher, Weekend Ride Coordinator

### Sonora Pass – Saturday, August 13

Post ride, we are relaxing in the meager shade of a scrawny tree in front of the CalTrans yard at Sonora Junction, downing some cold sodas and munching on salty chips. There are numerous expressions of fatigue and relief. You know, that exhale in a breathy whistle with wide-open eyes.

Everyone is rather quiet, tired, but satisfied that we met the beast, and while we didn't slay it, at least we battled it to a draw. Even the normally stoic Rick Miyashiro was impressed with the difficulty, and climber boy Micah Herman expressed his gratitude for the loan of a 12-28 cassette.

Oh yes, it was a tough one, and everyone agreed that the west side



**Sonora Pass**

is harder, especially that last kick up to teens percent gradient at the 9,000 foot sign.

Will we do it again? You bet your bippie we will. Why? Because it's a beautiful ride. You had to have been there.

### Heavenly Valley to Big Meadow Trailhead Mountain Bike Ride – Saturday, August 20

This one was sweet and sour. Sweet because I got to enjoy a rugged mountain bike ride with spectacular views and a photo op at our Adopt-a-Vista site. Sour because no one joined me!



**Freel Saddle Vista**

**AACC donated \$5000 to the Tahoe Rim Trail Association to "adopt" this vista, the highest point in the trail between Kingsbury and Luther**

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### King/Queen of the King Sunday, September 25

What's your best time climbing Kingsbury Grade? Never timed yourself? If you think you can get to the top in less than two hours, consider showing up for the third (sort-of) annual club-sponsored Kingsbury Time Trial. This event is for all club members, young and old, not just racers. See if you can beat your best time and find out which club members might be well matched ride partners.

Start: Base of Kingsbury,  
Carson Valley side.

Registration Time: 8:30am

First Rider Pedals: 9:00am

For more information, contact:

Mel Maalouf

[mel.maalouf@bently.com](mailto:mel.maalouf@bently.com),

775-782-9652.



**TAHOE RIM TRAIL**  
HIKING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, HORSEBACK RIDING

*"a trail like no other"*



### 521 Ellivrendrag, Sunday October 2nd, 8:00am

Jennie Hamiter, President



What do you get when a large group of AACC'ers start at Gardnerville early on a Fall morning, ride Kingsbury Grade and Luther Pass, then climb Monitor Pass over to Topaz, and return to Gardnerville, collecting playing cards along the way for a game of low-ball poker? It's the Gardnerville 125...backwards!

Just like the ride in the spring, we're going to start at Keith Hart's house on Fredricksburg Road, and end there with a post-ride barbeque. The ride is largely unsupported, but we are looking for SAG volunteers.

The ride is open to club members only. If you're bringing friends, please help them sign up for AACC membership online and bring their payment and waiver to the start of the ride. Out of respect for Keith's neighbors, there's an 80 rider limit so pre-registration is required and we ask everyone to carpool to the start.

To sign up or volunteer to be a SAG driver, contact Keith at (775)782-7077, or stop by Big Daddy's Bicycles in Gardnerville.

### BikeSPOKEsman

Tim Rowe, AACC Bicycle Advocacy and Nevada Bicycle Advisory Board Member

#### THANKS for SHOWING UP, GETTING INVOLVED, and SUPPORTING BICYCLING

I just wanted to add my THANKS to all Alta Alpina club members that showed up, got involved, and helped out with the Death Ride and the Carson Valley Classic. These are OUR club's main events and they would not have been at all successful without your involvement. Without our great volunteers we would not have the Death Ride, one of the best rides in the west, nor the Carson Valley Classic, one of the best races in the area. Without these successful events we would not have the club as we know it, nor could we support cycling in the area the way we do.

First, special THANKS go to Joe Marzocco, who took on the newly combined role of AACC Death Ride Coordinator and Event Director for Alpine County Chamber of Commerce. This was the first year we tried combining these two important jobs. All in all Joe did a great job! The 25th Death Ride was a success! We learned a few things along the way and everything wasn't exactly perfect, but it will be improved next year.

Second, I also wanted to THANK Jim Rhiner and Mel Maalouf for stepping up and organizing the Carson Valley Classic! They did a great job!

Third, THANKS to the AACC Board members who do their jobs all year and participate at monthly Board meetings, as it isn't just for the pizza!

Fourth, THANKS to the Death Ride Committee: three Alpine County Chamber of Commerce members—Teresa Burkeheuser, Brad Davis and Joe Marzocco; and two AACC members – John Seher and myself. Again, it isn't just for the pizza that we attend nearly monthly meetings all year long to keep the Death Ride on track.

Fifth, THANKS to Jennie Hamiter and Michael Bayer for taking their gallant turn at the plate and bringing the runs home. Jennie has been great as AACC President & DR Staff, and Michael as AACC Membership & DR Logistics guy.

Final THANKS go to the army of AACC members who routinely show up year after year to help at the Death Ride, Carson Valley

Classic, Hwy 89 Cleanup, and other events. They don't need to be called or e-mailed - they just show up! They don't just do the easy jobs – they do whatever needs to be done. These folks don't need to be told what to do, they just do it – anything from setting up signs, being road marshals, driving SAG, organizing registration or the store, picking up trash, cleaning coolers on Sunday, working a rest stop, delivering food, or working the parking lot (even at 3:30am!). These people don't just work one day, or the minimum 12 hours – they work more in two or three days than most people do all week. You know who you are and you can be proud of your efforts! You DO make the Death Ride, Carson Valley Classic, and The Club!

Subject for next month: How can we get to local communities and local bicyclists from large organized/promoted bicycle rides/ events in our area?





## Carson Valley Classic, July 30-31, 2005

Jim Rhiner, CVC Race Director

### Minden Criterium and Diamond Valley Road Race

The Carson Valley Classic weekend was a great success, because of the tremendous support from AACC volunteers. So first off: Thanks!

This annual event not only shows the cycling community how fortunate we are to live in the Carson Valley, but what an outstanding organization AACC is. The facts demonstrate this too, as the CVC attendance increased from 273 in 2004 to 523 in 2005. Many of the attendees drove in excess of four hours to race here. Moreover, with these numbers and good post event reports, I feel confident NCNCA will continue to allow AACC to put on the Masters District Championships again next year. We may even increase the prize money in 2006, as the 2005 CVC brought in more funds than expected.

The experience AACC gains from past CVC events has provided us with many ideas and suggestions for improvement. For one, we encourage volunteers to take on different roles each year to allow others the experience needed to continue staging successful events in the future. Another suggestion is to assign lead individuals in areas of permits, prizes, course marshals, volunteer assignments, and most importantly, safety. We have CVC 2006 to look forward to, and all club members should think about stepping up next year in a new CVC role.



Jeff's T-Shirt Design

*"Alta Alpina does a really nice job putting on this racing weekend. It's well organized, provides nice T-shirts to all entrants, uses good courses, has lots of volunteers, etc. Well worth attending."* Jim Turner, Alto Velo



Jim Crompton gives the pre-race briefing

Particular thanks to Jeff Ham for designing this year's CVC T-shirt artwork. Women got tank tops, men got T-shirts, and shirts for volunteers and racers were different colors. If you didn't volunteer, you missed out on a great addition to your wardrobe!

The black spot of the weekend occurred in the last race of the day on Saturday. Up-and-coming Reno Wheelmen junior racer Joe Trujillo crashed, hitting a tree. Joe is recuperating and continues to get better - he's up and about now, seeing and talking clearly. He's got a long road to a full recovery, but according to his dad, he "is already talking about cyclo cross and putting some miles on the trainer". Joe's a tough kid, and it sounds like he has the attitude to pull himself through this. We all wish Joe a complete and speedy recovery!



Mel Maalouf and Nick Ruana out in front at the homestretch of the 3/4/5 crit



Diamond Valley Road Race, out on the flats



Road Race climb to the finish





## Presidential Persuasion

Jennie Hamiter, President

GOOD JOB, JIM! Big thanks to Jim Rhiner for being race director of the CVC this year! Although he'd never done anything like organizing a race before, he grabbed the bull by the horns, got organized, and with some help from Mel Maalouf, saw to every detail of the race. He even got more than enough volunteers for the crit, which came in handy when one group of non-club members didn't show up for their scheduled duties. He also did a great job getting word out about the event, because we had a record number of participants.

Yes, being an Alta Alpina board member gives you a chance to shine. This is the time of year, when the club begins its annual planning process. I'd like to ask YOU to seriously consider taking on one of the club's leadership positions for next year. If you've ever wanted to get more involved with the bike club, or if you want to have some influence on club activities, policies, and expenditures, there's no better way than becoming a club officer or official. The board always needs new people and ideas; so please consider taking on one of the open positions (a computer and email account is required).

Open positions for 2006 are:

**Vice President** – Assists the president in various tasks including event planning and tracking club clothing.

**Secretary** – Primary tasks are preparing minutes for the monthly board meetings, and distributing the minutes for board review and publication.

**Webmaster** – Initially this will involve reorganizing the website so it accommodates all the information that we'd like to publish and updating the look and feel. Throughout the year, this person monitors the website daily, tracking down and posting new material, and maintaining the ride board system.

Benefits include:

- free club membership,
- free entry to Wednesday Night Races,
- free pizza once a month at the board meetings,
- and the satisfaction of helping to support and grow our cycling community.

We're looking for volunteers and nominees for each of these positions. The VP and Secretary are elected positions and the webmaster is appointed.

Almost all the current club officers are people with 40+ hour/week jobs, so don't let that stop you from participating. However, if you work only part-time, or you're retired, please consider contributing!

### Member Ride Reimbursements

I've gotten a few questions lately about how ride reimbursements are being handled this year. You can find this year's reimbursement policy and this year's reimbursement form on the AACC website. Please review the requirements before filling out the form. Submit a single form on or before December 5.

## Club Members in the CVC: Race Results

### Minden Criterium

#### Cat 3/4/5:

Mel Maalouf 1st!  
 Nick Ruana 2nd!  
 Troy Walters 11th  
 Jeff Ham 15th  
 Russ Petrosky 19th  
 Christine Anderson 20th  
 Shaundra Wisma 21st  
 Heath Medeiros 22nd

### Diamond Valley Road Race

**Masters 35+, 66 miles**  
 Mel Maalouf 7th

**Masters 45+, 55 miles**  
 Alan Biaggi 14th

**Masters 50+, 44 miles**  
 John Kelley 18th  
 Jim Rhiner 19th

**Masters 55+, 44 miles**  
 Tom Regan 4th

#### Masters 65+, 44 miles

Stan Knight 3rd

**Cat 3/4/5, 44 miles**  
 Nick Ruana 10th  
 Dave Bryant 13th  
 Peter Niday 16th  
 Ramon Martinez 26th  
 Heath Medeiros 30th  
 Steve Thomsen 34th  
 Rick Miyashiro 35th



Racers head out of the chicane at the criterium





## AACC Weekend Ride Schedule—September

John Seher, Weekend Ride Coordinator

### Labor Day Weekend September 3,4,5, 2005

The weekend rides take a break for the three day weekend. If you have something going and want some company, put it up on the good old ride board.

### Saturday 9/10/2005 —High Sierra Fall Century, Mammoth Lakes, CA

Good pavement, light traffic, stunning views, and not too far away; what more could we ask for? All this makes it a "must do" ride for AACC. Bring a mountain bike as well, stay over Saturday night and explore the trails around Mammoth on Sunday. Get the info at <http://www.monolake.org/century/>

### Sunday 9/18/2005 —Markleeville to Lake Alpine

We did this one earlier in the season and it was the best turnout for a weekend ride so far this year. That's a good reason to do it again. Lots of steep climbing, terrific views, and we should be getting some Fall color. Doesn't that make it an AACC ride? Meet at the County building in Markleeville at 9:00am. This one will help get your legs ready for the next two weekends.

### Coming Attractions for October: [drum roll, trumpet fanfare...]

The Donner Summit Train Tunnel MTB Ride, Foxy's Fall Century, maybe a cyclocross race in Genoa, and, after we go on daylight wasting time, MTB night riding in the Pine Nuts. The road goes on forever, and the party never ends...

### Sunday 9/25/2005 —King of the King

It's the y'all come, run whatcha brung Kingsbury Grade Time Trial. Come out and test your legs and your fitness from riding through the summer months. For those who are doing MTB Nationals at Mammoth the week before, this will be your redemption. Prizes and Licorice at the top! Some may continue for a ride down to the beach or Luther afterwards. Signups at 8:30am; first racer goes off at 9:00am. You can blame Mel for this one.

### Sunday 10/2/2005 —521 Ellivrendrag

What the? Oh, that's the Gardnerville 125 backwards. Same deal as we did in May, except it's lowball poker, and we do the loop counterclockwise. Oh boy, is that climb out of Topaz going to hurt, but it will make the barbeque at Keith Hart's house taste all the better. Roll out from Keith's by 08:00 if you intend to do the whole enchilada. Any injured cyclists out there who can drive SAG and hand out poker cards? Let me know at [ridedirector@AltaAlpina.org](mailto:ridedirector@AltaAlpina.org).

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## Ride Preview: Tahoe Sierra Century, September 24th

Les Speckert

This is the 3rd year for a very good local ride benefiting the music program at North Tahoe Middle and High Schools. The clearly marked and well supported routes are 30, 60, or 100 miles, starting from the Olympic Village in Squaw Valley. The 100 mile route takes riders through Tahoe City, up and over the Brockway Summit to Truckee, north to Prosser Creek on Hwy 89, back to Donner Lake, then does an out-and-back over

Hwy 40 to Cisco Grove. The descent back to Donner Lake is "Ebbetts descent" fast. The last two years has been very cold from the start to Tahoe City, as you are in the shade. I would suggest a vest, long fingered gloves, and arm and leg warmers. Great food at the end, an overall excellent ride and soooooo close! For all the details visit: [tahoesierracentury.com](http://tahoesierracentury.com)

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## Ride Preview: Everest Challenge, September 24th and 25th

John Axtel

Two day stage race out of Bishop CA, with 30,000 feet of elevation gain, great route, adequate support. Definitely worth doing: great views, little traffic, and not far away. Several climbs end at over 10,000 feet,

including one that goes to the top of the highest paved road in the Sierras. Several of the climbs have approximately 6,000 feet of elevation gain, 3 climbs each day, two are easy and four are respectable.





## Ride Preview: Knoxville Double

Michael Bayer

The Knoxville Fall Classic Double Century is among the best in California. It starts just off I-80 between Fairfield and Vacaville. The course is a figure eight that takes you to Napa Valley, Pope Valley, Lake Berryessa, Lower Lake, and back via Putah Creek and Pleasant Valley. With just 11500 feet of climbing over quiet remote roads, this is a ride not to be missed. It can get hot so carry lots of water. The Quack Cyclists do a fabulous job and their post-ride meal is top notch.

## Local Merchant Discount Program



For discounts from these local merchants, please visit the AACC website at [www.AltaAlpina.org](http://www.AltaAlpina.org)

## Board Meeting Minutes—July 2005

Secretary: Rick Miyashiro; Other Board Members: Michael Bayer, Jennie Hamiter, Jeff Ham, Mel Maalouf, Jim Rhiner, Tim Rowe, John Seher; Other Attendees: Oscar Marzocco, Christopher Rowe

### 1. Monthly Status Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Storage unit fees were paid for the next year until 08/31/06.
- **Weekend Rides:** Good participation in the month of July. Tough rides are coming up for August both on the road and in the dirt.
- **Wednesday Night Races:** No news.
- **Memberships:** We received one more paid membership since last meeting.
- **Newsletter:** Temporarily, Jennie is the editor and Michael is the publisher.
- **Carson Valley Classic:** Over 500 racers participated during that weekend. The race officials still need to be paid. The shirts cost \$2554.30. There were some unclaimed prizes. The Board passed a motion to send Joe Trujillo a gift of \$200.00 value.
- **Death Ride:** The Volunteer Appreciation Picnic will be on September 8, 2005 at 6 pm at Turtle Rock Park. Please RSVP by 8/29/05 by calling (530) 694-2475. Most of the response to the DR were positive. The complaints were primarily about the long lines at the registration and store booths. There were concerns regarding the parking organization and orderly starts for the riders onto the course.

2. **Junior Race Team:** The Board passed a motion to fund \$1200.00 for a new bike for the team. The rider of the bike will be responsible for repairs and wear and tear parts replacement.

3. **King/Queen of the King:** Details still need to be ironed out if this race is to be a club race. Proposed dates for the event are: 9/18 or 9/24.
4. **Genoa Cyclocross:** Mel is still working on the details based on a future meeting with the Genoa Town Board.
5. **Regional Junior Race Team:** Mike Hernandez has volunteered to coach and help organize a traveling, competitive, regional junior race team.
6. **521 Ellivrendrag:** This popular club ride is scheduled for 10/02/05. Keith Hart has volunteered to host this backward event.
7. **End of the Year Party:** John Seher will discuss with Mike Damon of the Reno Wheelmen about a possible combined party involving a significant keynote speaker.
8. **Club Officers for the next year:** Officers and officials present agreed to stay on for another season except for Rick.
9. **New Business:** The Board is considering purchasing club hats/caps for all AACC members for next season.
10. **Next Meeting:** 09/12/05 Gardnerville Ranchos Pizza Factory at 6PM

### Junior Race Team Achievements

Congratulations to:

Trevor Thompson on taking 2nd and Nick Ruana who placed 4th at the Fort Ord Regional Championships in the 17-18s category. Good job, guys!



## Alta Alpina Cycling Club

P.O. Box 2032                    877-845-2453  
 Minden, NV 89423            877-845-BIKE  
     www.AltAlpina.org

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Death Ride Volunteer Dinner   .... September 8  
 High Sierra Fall Century   ... September 10  
 Markleeville to Lake Alpine   ... September 18  
 King/Queen of the King   ... September 25  
 521 Ellivrendrag   ..... October 2

**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.AltAlpina.org](http://www.AltAlpina.org); click on "Membership"

### Alta Alpina Cycling Club Board Members

Jennie Hamiter	President	<a href="mailto:president@AltAlpina.org">president@AltAlpina.org</a>	775-782-4848
Chris McMillen	Vice President	<a href="mailto:chris.mcmillen@bently.com">chris.mcmillen@bently.com</a>	
Rich Miyashiro	Secretary	<a href="mailto:davelynrick@aol.com">davelynrick@aol.com</a>	775-265-6764
Jeff Ham	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:jeff.ham@bently.com">jeff.ham@bently.com</a>	
Michael Bayer	Membership Coordinator	<a href="mailto:membership@AltAlpina.org">membership@AltAlpina.org</a>	
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Troy Walters	Wednesday Race Director	<a href="mailto:racedirector@AltAlpina.org">racedirector@AltAlpina.org</a>	

September Newsletter Editor:  
 Jennie Hamiter  
 September Newsletter Publisher:  
 Michael Bayer

All AACC members are welcomed to participate in our **Board Meetings** held the **first Monday of each month, 6:00 pm** at the Pizza Factory in the Gardnerville Ranchos. The club is about and for you, so help us plan your cycling opportunities. Join us on **October 3.**