



# CHAINWHEEL CHATTER

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P.O. Box 22146 Lansing MI 48909-2146  
[www.biketcba.org](http://www.biketcba.org)  
Promoting safe, social bicycling since 1972

## Chainwheel Deadline

**January Newsletter:**  
**December 23** Send items to Sarynna Lopez Meza by the indicated deadline.  
[chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org](mailto:chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org)

## Stay in touch with us!

**Whether you are a beginner, casual or hardcore cyclist, the Tri-County Bicycle Association (TCBA) is here to help!**

The TCBA membership offers several perks, including access to the premier version of Ride with GPS (normally \$80/year; this app allows you to download and edit biking routes), as well as earning incentives when riding club miles (bike goodies, clothing, to name a few).

Feel free to join the various class rides we have:

- A - 17-19 mph
- B - 14 - 17 mph
- C - 12 - 14 mph
- D - Up to 12 mph
- Z - Longer rides at your own pace (~10 mph)

More information about the various rides and to confirm they are taking place, please look at [BikeTCBA.org](http://BikeTCBA.org).

**Find us and follow us on social media:**

**TCBA:** <https://www.facebook.com/biketcba>

**DALMAC:** <https://facebook.com/pg/tcba.dalmac/events>

**DALMAC Instagram:** @dalmac.epic

## A note from the editor

I was in Monterrey, Mexico visiting my parents for Thanksgiving last week. Near their condo, there is a park called Fundidora, one of my favorite places in the world to go run. It used to be a steel foundry and after the company went bankrupt, the city turned it into a public space. You can still see some of the stacks around, and it is a great place to be outside when living in the middle of a 4-million people city. Other than going for nice, early runs, my favorite thing while there is seeing the cyclists. The loop is about 3 miles, but in a city where it is unsafe to go cycling outside, this place provides a safe area to ride. As I was running in mid-60, low-70-degree weather in a tank top, I was noticing the cyclists in full winter gear. I remembered they are the hard-core "winter" riders, as most of them don't bike in that "cold" weather and mostly ride in the warm, 90/100-degree weather the rest of the year. Amazing what our bodies can do to adjust to where we live! I know that some of you will be riding through the winter on gravel roads - I'm in awe of you!!!

Thanks to the ones who wrote about their thoughts on commuting; look inside for continuing conversation.

Please don't hesitate to email me if you have comments and/or suggestions for the Chainwheel! Safe rides!

Sarynna López Meza - East Lansing, MI

## TCBA Membership

	1-Year	2-Year	3-Year	4-Year
<b>Individual</b>	\$15	\$16	\$24	\$32
<b>Family</b>	\$20	\$32	\$40	\$48

*Affiliated with the League of American Bicyclists and the  
League of Michigan Bicyclists*



## Summer Tour 2020 - Overview



This year's family-friendly five-day bicycle tour features routes on roads, the Pere Marquette Trail and the White Pine Trail and the Cadillac Pathway for dirt trail riding, all from the convenience of a single camping location, Veteran's Memorial Park Campground in Marion, MI.

SummerTour is three bicycling tours in one:

- Roads, routes and maps. Enjoy northern Michigan's rolling terrain.
- Drive and ride the paved White Pine and Pere Marquette rail/trails.
- Ride your own story. Grab your county maps and find your own adventure.

The tour begins on **Wednesday, July 15** and ends on **Sunday, July 19, 2020**. Camping will be available starting on Tuesday, July 14 **after 4 PM** at no additional charge.

Daily routes will vary between 25 and 75 miles, with various options. The Sunday rides will be a shorter variety to allow for returning to camp, shower and check-out by 2 PM.

This is **primarily a tent camping tour**, with provision for some RVs (for an extra fee). Be ready to "Ride Your Own Story." Take your bicycle anywhere. Do your own thing. We'll be back in the same campground at the end of the day.

Included in the basic fee are tent camping facilities, route maps, SAG service, and meals. Dinners are Wednesday through Saturday, and breakfasts are Thursday through Sunday at the campground. Campground Hosts will help with questions and provide you with snacks in the afternoons, group campfires with S'mores and munchies some evenings.

Marion is wonderful for bicycling. The roads are good. Traffic is light. A good vacation in the saddle. Bicycle Michigan's heartland.

Tri-County Bicycle Association (TCBA) of Lansing, MI sponsors SummerTour. It is open to all capable interested bicyclists. The first **150** entries will be accepted.

For more information or questions go to [BikeTCBA.org/SummerTour](https://BikeTCBA.org/SummerTour), email [SummerTour@biketcba.org](mailto:SummerTour@biketcba.org) or call 734-330-2283 (leave a message).

Thank you to those who sent your thoughts about commuting. I'll share some of the interesting tidbits you shared, starting with places that have community services and classes:

- **MSU Bikes Service Center** (<http://msu-bike-service-center.shoplightspeed.com>). Located at MSU, they seem to mostly focus on repairs but their "Brake Room" offers a place for people to talk about "sustainable non-motorized transportation".
- **Lansing Bike Co-Op** (<http://www.lansingbikecoop.org>). At 1715 East Kalamazoo Street, they offer classes on bike repair and commuting, and other special topics. Personally, I wasn't aware of this place, but according to their website, they have a grant from the League of Michigan Bicyclists so they can offer some scholarships on the classes as well.

I appreciated your comments, specifically, on how to transport things while biking. Some of you mentioned backpacks as the preferred method (personally, I think that's the way I would go just because it'd be easier to get started, I think), but the use of panniers was also mentioned, and preferred by some of you. When we lived in Germany, I remember seeing both backpacks and panniers, as well as trailers. I'll add that when I see people with panniers, I automatically think -usually with some admiration and jealousy, even more when it's raining- that they're serious bike folks and don't play around.

As mentioned in the last CC, I'm more of a "I bike to workout or have fun" person, and while it's true that biking is not something I normally think of as a form of actual "normal" transportation, I suppose I'll start giving this some thought. We only fear what we don't know, right? So maybe if I start commuting to work once a week (not in this weather, let's not get ahead of ourselves!), it'll start becoming normal. My list of excuses is long, but I can see the potential.

And with that, I can jump to the next topic: Bike Tours. I will say, Michigan has given me the gift of getting excited about going on biking tours. From the couple of times I've done DALMAC, to rides around Leslie, Kalamazoo, and Holland, I am excited every time I get to do one or learn about another one I hadn't heard of before. The most recent one to come to my attention was one held this past September, the "Great Lake-to-Lake Trails Route #1 Inaugural Ride" \*\*. Organized by the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, this tour went from South Haven on Lake Michigan to Port Huron on Lake Huron, traveling 275 miles in 6 days. Sounds like fun. I've also heard great things about the Kal-Haven one, which is on my bucket list, as is the Summer Tour, advertised above. My favorites are definitely DALMAC (few things compare to riding up the Wall or going over the Mackinaw Bridge on a beautiful sunny day!) and the Holland 100 tour. The Michigan Mountain Mayhem might be a close contender for 3rd spot... but the hills. The Five-Boro tour in New York City was amazing, and I imagine it would have been even better had I had been riding my actual road bike instead of the 20-year old townie with a loose basket I was able to score at the last minute...

What are your favorite bike tours in Michigan? Have you done out-of-state/country tours? Any favorites? What are your thoughts on carrying your own bike vs. renting one?

\*\* <https://www.secondwavemedia.com/southwest-michigan/features/Bike-ride-of-275-miles-from-Great-Lake-to-Great-Lake-draws-the-biking-faithful-0919.aspx>.

### Having trouble logging into the website?

Contact Membership lead, Ed Usewick at (810)922-6934 or via email at [membership@biketcba.org](mailto:membership@biketcba.org). Ed can help you unravel the mystery of getting logged in.

You may also contact Ed for member related questions too. If Ed can't answer your question, he'll get back to you with the right response.

### Bicycle Advocacy

To get all of the latest news and information regarding Bicycle Advocacy check out [BikeTCBA.org](http://BikeTCBA.org). You can find the latest minutes posted.

### Cross Town Maps

Please contact our map coordinate, Dave Mansfield, for any Cross Town map changes or updates. Dave can be reached at [webmaster@biketcba.org](mailto:webmaster@biketcba.org), and he can help with all map and route related questions.

### Other Updates

Does directing a bike tour sound fun to you? If so, we will need a new director for the 2021 T-Shirt ride. Interested people may contact any board member for information. Please refer to board members contact information on page 6 of the newsletter.

2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of DALMAC - Registration will open on January 1st, 2020!

### Don't forget! TCBA Holiday Party!

**WHAT** - TCBA Holiday Party

**WHERE** - Peacock Road Tree Farm

11854 Peacock Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848

**WHEN** - Wednesday December 4th , 6 pm

**COST** - \$10 for club members.

There will be appetizers served during the social hour (6-7 pm) followed by dinner. Please refer to the TCBA website for more details.



### TCBA Board and Member Meetings

Month	Board Meeting	Member Meeting
December	3	4, Holiday Party
January	7	30
February	4	TBD

Everyone is welcome to attend the Member meetings. These are at 7 pm at the Foster Community Center in Lansing.

If you are unable to attend the meetings you can always look at the minutes available at the [BikeTCBA.org](http://BikeTCBA.org) site.

## Classifieds

This section of the Chainwheel Chatter is published as a Service for TCBA members only, to advertise cycling equipment free of charge. To place an ad, send an email to [chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org](mailto:chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org). Ads will appear for 2 editions, unless otherwise notified.

**For Sale:** Road bike - Men's Fuji - \$300. If you want it all , but have a limited budget the Finest-Al has lots to offer. Lightweight Altair 2 butted frame with a surprising compliant ride, 24-speed Shimano Sora drivetrain and sturdy, double wall rims with CNC sidewalls. Includes Cateye cyclometer, two water bottle cages and a rear Travelrack. Contact Robert Ford 517.290.3416

**For Sale:** Bike - Women's Fuji - \$300. Not a road bike, not a hybrid. The Silhouette is best of both, the speed of a road bike with more comfortable position of a hybrid. It is equipped with Altair 2 lite butted aluminium frame, Shimano Tiagra 27 speed drivetrain with slick shifting RapidFire shifters, fast rolling Richey Aero wheels and linear pull brakes with modulator on front for secure stopping. Includes a Cateye cyclometer, clip-in pedals and non-clip-in and a Senas dual density cushioned saddle. Contact Robert Ford 517.290.3416

**For Sale:** 2008 Giant OCR3 XS (#666773) Road bike, XS, color red & silver, in almost new condition (was bought as a back-up bike), 24 gears, included are Owners Manual, X-pedo pedals (Shimano compatible), pump, tool bag with tools, bike computer, bell, mirror, rechargeable head light with USB charger. Asking \$400. 00. Contact Edie Belcher 517-242-4122.

## Member Specials

This section is for TCBA members who own a business to advertise at a cost of \$30 per 6 months for business card ad. To place ad, submit your copy-ready jpg business card to [chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org](mailto:chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org) and mail payment to TCBA - Classifieds - Patricia Mead 10655 Ballinalee Lane Grand Ledge, MI 48837



**Sew Much More**  
Sewing Classes ages 8 to adult  
Custom Cycling Wear

Susan A. Schrock  
517-627-1411

1092 W. Colonial Park Dr.  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
e-mail: [sewmuchmorebiz@gmail.com](mailto:sewmuchmorebiz@gmail.com)  
web: [sewmuchmore.biz](http://sewmuchmore.biz)



Exp. 1017

**Michael A Wells**

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## TCBA - MEMBER CONTACT

**Your respect is requested when using any of the numbers on this page.  
Phone calls during family time and at late hours can be intrusive.**

### TCBA OFFICERS:

#### President:

Patrick Kelley (517) 242-6940  
email: president@biketcba.org

#### Vice President:

Patricia Mead (248) 210-0337  
email: vp@biketcba.org

**Treasurer:** Harry Levins 517-627-9763  
email: treasurer@biketcba.org

**Secretary:** Deb Traxinger  
email: secretary@biketcba.org

**Events Director:** Steve Leiby  
email: director@biketcba.org

#### Board at Large:

Bob Noble (517) 925-8028  
Cell (517) 290-7271  
email: boardatlarge1@biketcba.org  
Ken Schwartz (517) 332-7322  
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### OTHER GOOD NUMBERS:

#### Advocacy Committee Chairman:

Dale Flores Freeman 517-974-6542  
email: advocacy@biketcba.org

#### Bike Travel Case Use Coordinator

Phil Wells (517) 420-0125  
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#### DALMAC

email: dalmac@biketcba.org

#### DALMAC FUND:

Steve Leiby (517) 881-4137  
email: DALMACFund@biketcba.org

#### DALMAC Treasurer:

Lou Cravotta  
email: dalmactreasurer@biketcba.org

#### Data Protection Officer:

Dave Mansfield  
email: webmaster@biketcba.org

#### LMB Office

email: office@lmb.org

#### Membership Coordinator:

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email: membership@biketcba.org

#### Chainwheel Editor:

Sarynna Lopez Meza (803) 840-2277  
email: chainwheelchatter@biketcba.org

#### Northwest Tour:

Jeff Dillingham (231) 357-8330  
email: nwtour@biketcba.org  
Website: www.biketcba.org/nwtour

#### Ride Coordinator:

Colleen Kelley  
email: ridecoordinator@biketcba.org

#### Routes & Maps:

Dave Mansfield  
email: routesandmaps@biketcba.org

#### SummerTour:

Ginger Royston  
email: summertour@biketcba.org

#### T-Shirt Ride:

Bob Noble (517) 925-8028  
Cell (517) 290-7271  
email: t-shirt@biketcba.org

#### Weather:

(517) 321-7576

#### Webmaster:

Dave Mansfield:  
email: webmaster@biketcba.org

### TRI-COUNTY BICYCLE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

<http://www.biketcba.org/>

Select Member Signup and follow the prompts!

Select options:

- Create a profile
- Renew membership online

- Select interests
- Volunteer opportunities
- Select electronic version of Chainwheel Chatter
- And much more