



June 2020

PRESIDENT'S LETTER: KBC RESUMING TIME TRIALS—YEE-HA!

Do you miss the camaraderie of KBC rides? We do too! So as Michiganders begin opening up our lives a bit at a time after months of isolation, KBC's Executive Committee has decided that time trials are the best way to safely begin club activities.

In case you don't know about time trials, riders start one-by-one at pre-determined intervals (usually 30 seconds apart). Riders do NOT ride together. Drafting is not allowed. So you ride at your own pace—as hard (or not-so-hard) as you want.

We plan to run the TTs every Tuesday for a few weeks (starting June 9th, 16th, and 23rd) to see how many folks are interested. Sign-up starts at 6:00, first rider departs at 6:30. Helmets are required. Any bike—TT, road, gravel, even e-bike is okay.

We've moved the start to the Vicksburg High School parking lot. We have a good, flat 11.5-mile course in mind. You can look at a map of it on Ride With GPS by searching "KBC Vicksburg Time Trial June 2020" on the Ride with GPW website. And this link will take you there also if you have downloaded ride With GPS: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/32775190> The map should be available through KBC's website by the time you read this. We will also paint arrows on the course.

Whether you wear a mask while preparing to ride is up to you, BUT, and this is a big BUT, **we expect everyone to maintain serious social distancing—at least 15 feet at all times.** Not just for everyone's safety, but also because we truly want to be genuinely conscious of the image we present to the community as a whole.

We all hope that normal group riding will be able to resume yet this summer, but in the meantime come on out, give our new TT course a try and catch up with your riding buddies.



APPEAL FOR PHOTOS

As the stay home orders continue to be extended, more and more cycling events are cancelled.

However, I still see many cyclists at the trails and riding on roads. Since we aren't meeting in groups we are missing each other more often than not.

Please take a selfie or a shot of a friend on a ride.

Help us remain a connected community through the magic of smart phone images! You can send them along to:

editor@kalamazooBicycle Club.org

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KBC Membership Stats – Look for your name here

Total Memberships: 297 -- Total Individuals: 510

New or Renewed Members: Mike Boersma; Michael Conway & Family; Thomas Dewhirst; Charlie Grdina & Family; Collin Greenop; Kathryn & Norman Hamann; Jim Hemenway; Daryl Horton; Rick & Faith Huyser; Stephen Phelps; Shannon & Adam Potgiesser; Sharon Powell; Paul Rehkopf; Paul Runnels; Greg Strader & Family; William Surna; Doug Wales & Family; Cindy Workman

June Expiring Members: David Anderson; John Austin & Family; Keith Boneburg; Paul Bushnell; Anthony Callaway; Carol Collins; Neil & Holly Cowan; Frank Foley; Tyson Gilmore; George Granger III; Paul Guthrie; Jillian Howland; Pete Huver; Annette Isom & Family; Jane Johnson; Julie Knowlton & Family; Linda Kozacki & Family; Kerri Langdon; Diane Laliberte; Val Litznerski; Sabrina Luke; Doug Martin; Jenn Omo; Joan Orman; Paul & Anne Pancella; Jeremy Sikkema; Pam & Paul Sotherland; Mike St. Clair; Janet Stensland; Darci Stevens; Annie Swier; Jan Utter; Gordy Vader; Angie Veneklase; Peggy Warlick; Bruce Withers; Nancy Wyman; Janice Yelton

Kal-Tour Will Return in 2021

Due to the COVID 19 virus and the current social distancing guidelines, the next KalTour will take place in 2021. KalTour will return with our traditional road routes from 15 to 100 miles and the gravel routes that were initiated in 2019 as well as plenty to eat.

The 2019 KalTour routes are available on RideWithGPS at the following link:

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/93974-kaltour-2019>

Planning for KalTour 2021 will start in the fall, please contact me kaltour@kalamazoobicycleclub.org if you would like to be involved.

Mike Krischer, KalTour Director

NEXT KBC CLUB MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR . . . ?

WATCH THE KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB DISCUSSION GROUP ON FACEBOOK AND THE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.

KBC Business

Due to COVID-19 and the Stay Home order, there was no KBC membership meeting in May. There was an ad-hoc meeting May 21, appropriately distanced in the cul-de-sac in front of the Kirks' home at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Stacie Ballard, Thom Brennan, Charlie Eaton, Doug Kirk, Renee Mitchell, Pam Sotherland, Paul Sotherland

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) REPORTS & BUSINESS:

President: Doug Kirk (Officially back from Florida!)

Time Trials (TT)

It was consensus at the meeting riding in groups more than 3-4 could not only provide safety concerns, but also portray a negative image to others in the community. However, starting Tuesday Night Time Trials is on the horizon. Having individuals ride at a staggered start, while being intentional with distancing, wearing masks, etc. in the parking area before and after the time trial would be crucial. Details are still being worked out, but the idea to have a paved and/or gravel option is in the works. The gravel route idea was to park at LaGrange Hall, specific route to be determined. The paved course would consist of the old KBC TT course at 29th & Q, realizing depending on how many riders show up to participate parking could be an issue. It would be ideal to start this in June, the first Tuesday being June 2. Depending on interest, an idea was discussed to host Tuesday and Thursday TT rides. Stay tuned for more information!

Next KBC Meeting

Doug mentioned having the entire Executive Committee and Board of Directors meet in June (possibly June 11) more details on time, location, etc. coming soon!

Kal-Tour, AMBUCs and Team Clark Logic

Doug motioned to approve the treasurer's report and it was seconded by Thom Brennan. Financial discussions were had regarding with the cancellation of KalTour, specifically donations to Ambucs. Any individuals in the club wishing to make an individual donation to Ambucs are more than welcome to do so. Another item that could allow the club to overspend in 2020 would be moving forward with the Portage Road bicycle repair stand purchase/installment. Pam will reach out to the Mayor of Portage letting her know the repair stand is on hold and it is the club's hope to move forward with the project in 2021. Lastly, the question was posed to the group regarding how the money from KBC to Team Clark Logic was being used this year since several events have been canceled, the answer was undetermined and may be revisited.

Finance report, Pam Sotherland:

KBC FINANCIALS as of 5/11/2020

PREVIOUS BALANCE CASH (PNC Checking + PayPal) ACCOUNTS: \$10,073

Monthly RECEIPTS (Cash In): \$1,156

Monthly EXPENSES: \$217

CURRENT BALANCE CASH ACCOUNTS: \$11,012

3 TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS: \$6,850

Education Fund: \$6,290

Jeremy Smith Fund: \$560

TOTAL ENCUMBERED EXPENSES: \$2,890

KRVT Pledge: \$1,000

Race Team: 2021 Pledge: \$1,000

Repair/Air Station for Portage: \$890

(\$1,450 less Jeremy Smith Fund)

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT: \$6,184

HUGE THANKS TO KBC FOR ITS SUPPORT OF BIKE WEEK 2020!

Paul Selden, KBW 2020 Chair

By the time you read this article the 9th Annual Kalamazoo (Area) Bike Week (KBW) and National Bike Month will be in the rear view mirror. The Kalamazoo Bicycle Club and its members played a huge role in organizing, volunteering for and participating in the events on the KBW 2020 calendar. All showed an ability to make Bike Week a meaningful recognition of the role bicycling plays in our greater community in spite of the tremendous difficulties and hardships posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

By way of letting KBC members know how involved KBC was in making Bike Week as successful as possible this year, here's a quick recap of current KBC members who deserve extra thanks and recognition. (Please accept my apology if I leave someone out. Though I'm a KBC member myself, I just don't know which of all the other great Bike Week organizers, sponsors and supporters might also be current KBC members.)

Paul Wells was the event organizer of record for all the KBC-sponsored events listed on the KBW calendar. He could not have done so without the support of **KBC's top leadership**. **John Knowlton** was the Event Organizer of record for the Introduction to Dirt Road Riding event. **Thom Brennan, Paul Guthrie, Rene Mitchell, Paul Runnels** and **Paul Wells** were special guests during the series of WKZO Morning Show interviews. **Tim Krone** would have led the Ride of Silence as a group event prior to its going virtual/solo. **Shaun Ballard** made sure that KBW was featured on the Discover Kalamazoo community-wide calendar of events. **Gordy Vader** worked with a number of KBC members to create and publicize The Lucky 13 KBC Solo Rides.

This year KBC's Bike Camp was postponed until next year, but Bike Week 2020 provided a tremendous opportunity to educate the general public about the need for bicyclists and motorists alike to drive and bike safely. Throughout Bike Week, the educational message that **everyone must follow the rules of the road** was delivered repeatedly via a variety of media channels to an audience numbering in the hundreds of thousands.

Please join me when you can in thanking all the event organizers, event sponsors, civic participants, in-kind supporters and generous donors whose names are listed on the www.kalamazoobikeweek.org website. Here's hoping that our 10th Annual Bike Week in 2021 will be the best ever.



Member Photos!



Jillian Howland after a Gravel TT

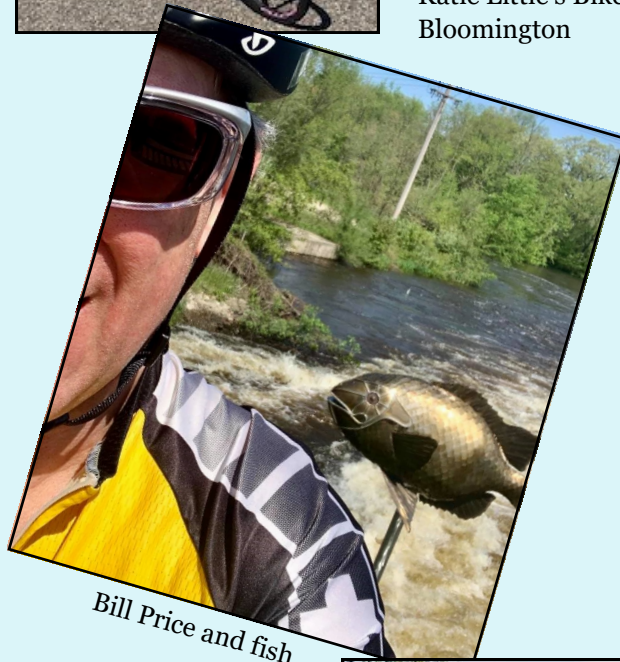
Molly Yokishawa



Katie Little's Bike @
Bloomington



Curtis Dawson



Bill Price and fish



Stopped by a train: Julie Knowlton



Barb Hart saved a turtle

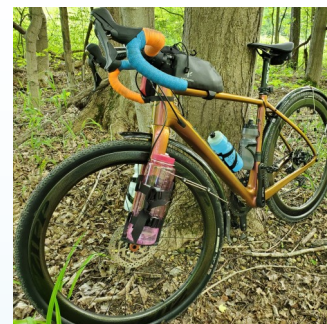


Bike and Barn: Teri Olbrot

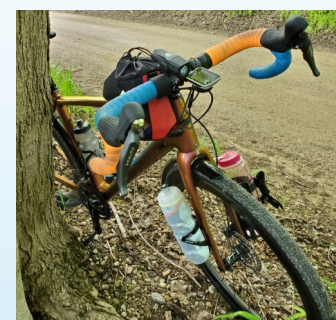
Self-Supported? — John Knowlton

Riding solo has become the new way to ride safely. With COVID 19 has come less traffic which has been nice for cyclists. But we have seen group rides and cycling events of all kinds cancelled. This has led to a lot more solo riding to limit exposure to other people in an attempt to stop the spread of the virus.

One of the reasons I like to participate in organized events is for the logistical support. We can complete a big ride or ride in a new area without having to worry about finding fuel, hydration, and plumbing. The ride organizers do that for us. And it turns out that even during a pandemic, I want to do big rides and find new roads. So that has caused me to become self-supported. I have increased hydration and food capacity so that I can carry everything with me that I might need. In the pictures you can see my gravel bike outfitted for a 5 hour day.



In addition to the normal two bottle cages there are now Topeak Versamounts on the forks. These are really cool mounts which allow you to strap larger objects to your bike. The weight limit is 3 Kg (6.6 lbs) per cage. I found Nalgene bottles in the “silo” design hold about 50 oz. of water, so two Versamounts carry 100 oz. plus about 40 oz. in the two bottles within the main triangle. Since I drink about 20 oz. per hour that gives me 6 hours of fluid plus a spare hour.



For flats and tools I have a Specialized mountain bandit under the saddle. The bandit is also available in a road version with a shorter strap for smaller tubes. It is a slick Velcro strap which securely holds a tube, CO2 cartridge and inflator head, tire lever and I manage to include a very small multi-tool. It mounts with screws to the underside of most Specialized saddles. I had never noticed the threaded holes under my seats, but this is why they are there!

Food, sunscreen and chapstick go in a top tube (bento) bag from Apidura and a Revelate feed bag. Both can be opened and closed one-handed and are easy to install or remove. The Apidura bag is (nearly) waterproof and has a neat port for a charging cable to slide out the front in case a phone or GPS device need more juice.

It feels like a neat adventure to go out for a few hours or longer on your own. There is a sense of accomplishment that comes with designing a route, assembling the right gear, nutrition and hydration, and completing the ride. However, as we approach the fourth month of life dealing with COVID, a truth is revealing itself to me: Self-supported is fun for a day, but is a rotten lifestyle. We need each other. Not just for company, though that is important. Not just for safety in numbers. Not only for a broader knowledge base when dealing with mechanical issues on the bike. No, we need each other for the simple fact that we are human. We need each other as recipients and sources of generosity. We need each other for correction and validation. We need each other as friends and competitors. We need to support and be supported. So I'll see you at the Tuesday night time trials. Self-supported? I don't think so.

Want to come outside for a ride? editor@kalamazoobicycleclub.org