

October Youth Event

Saturday 18 October 2008
Chatfield State Park
Discovery Pavilion

This month we'll be doing a twist on the popular Chatfield Reservoir State Park ride. Our rendezvous point will be at the Discovery Pavilion, just south of Chatfield State Park and Reservoir. Head south on Wadsworth Blvd past the Reservoir. Take a left turn on Waterton Road, then an immediate left into the Lockheed Martin Discovery Pavilion parking lot.

About the Pavilion site: Fifty years ago this was a 5,000-acre ranch. Alfred Atchinson constructed the house nearby using sandstone quarried on the property and, in the late 1940's, the Verdos family raised cattle, chickens, corn and alfalfa. In 1955, with the advent of the space race and Cold War, the Glen L. Martin Company acquired the property. The sandstone house actually was the company's first headquarters. Later, Martin completed its present plant just west of here and on that site they built the Titan Intercontinental Ballistic Missile and launched the American Space program. This included construction of the Viking, the first spacecraft to land on Mars.

Where Chatfield's southwest corner meets Waterton Canyon, a unique mix of history, nature and modern technology converge. As a transitional zone between the mountain and the high plains ecosystems, the area is rich with stands of cottonwood, wetlands and ponds, not to mention gold medal trout fishing. Bicyclists, walkers, equestrians, joggers and anglers come to this area year round. A consolidated point of access was needed to serve the hundreds of thousands of people who visit Chatfield State Park, Waterton Canyon, the Kassler Center and the regional trails that converge here.

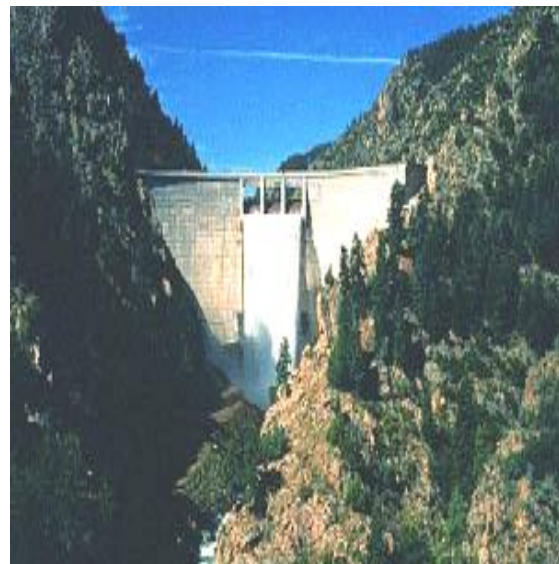
The Discovery Pavilion will be a focal point for trail user information as well as an interpretive center. Visitors will learn about trail safety and etiquette, the ecology of the local landscapes and the role of

the South Platte River and water in Colorado's development. The Pavilion will also provide a place for visitors to park, meet fellow trail users, rest and picnic. Amenities will include parking for more than 150 vehicles, an attractive sun/storm shelter, grass amphitheater, central plaza, restrooms and drinking water. Thousands of indigenous trees and shrubs are being planted as part of the landscaping effort. Overlooks will provide of Denver Water's historic Kassler Center, Waterton Canyon and the South Platte River.

Map to venue provided on next page.

Ride start location: Discovery Pavilion

9:00am	Youth Pick up
9:30am	Kids Arrive
9:35am	Bike and Helmet distribution
9:45am	Instructions to riders on routes
9:55am	Break into groups
10:00am	Ride in the State Park or up Waterton Canyon
12:00pm	Regroup at base (truck)
12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	Return kids home





Parking area is on the left (east side). The canyon ride starts just across the street. There are restroom facilities near the parking area. Look for the yellow Penske truck.

2008 Youth Ride Dates

Save these dates, join us in making a difference, participate with the Club.

Saturday November 15th: Wildlife Experience and end-of-season party. NOTE: as we'll be doing a catered lunch for this one (and paying per person, we'll need to get a good headcount approximately 1 week before the event) mark your calendar and make the commitment. Thanks!

FRCC Contacts

President: Tim Crossen timc@baderburke.com
303.918.1847
Vice Pres: Dave Webb dwebb93@comcast.net
Secretary: Bryce Lawson, bryce@brycelawson.org
Treasurer: Jim Levy, jaguar.56@comcast.net
Communications: Sharon Bair,
Sharon.Bair@Lockton.com 303.690.5960
Newsletter: Jim Levy, jaguar.56@comcast.net
303.220.5050

Bald Guy Missive

Hey!! It's me again. The angry little bald guy. You know, I'm not really angry. There are a lot of people out there though, that are intimidated by passion, and I am passionate. No doubt about that. And the more time I have spent with OUR KIDS this year, the more passionate I have become about serving them. And it's that time again. Time for us to serve. Have you ever thought about what it means to serve? Webster defines it a number of ways. To render assistance; be of use; help. To have definite use. To answer the purpose. In my mind, all of these apply to us, and by performing them, you offset your selfishness. Now don't get upset so quickly. I'm just thinking like a politician, or a fundraiser. "By contributing \$100 to my special little cause over here, you offset your carbon footprint." Sound familiar? So by serving these kids through the act of riding bikes, you offset all the guilty pleasure you derive when you ride just for you! And a side benefit is you aren't even leaving a carbon footprint. Bonus!! (AI would be proud) But enough of my rambling. Think about how good it feels to "be of definite use", "to answer the purpose". And we're talking about how good that makes you feel! Now think about the times when somebody told you that you were special. You were important enough to them, that they went out of their way just to be with you. You can make our kids feel that on October 18th.

And it just keeps getting better. You can get on your bike again on October 24th and "be of use" by joining Fred Mahe on his annual ride to celebrate his birthday and raise money for FRCC. See the details in this newsletter and plan on a day long celebration of what cycling can do. For you, for the club and for the planet.

Happy Fall by the way. It just doesn't get any better than this, does it?

TC

Funeral to be held....

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend by the name of Common Sense who has been with us for many years.

No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valued lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge). His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place.

Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Finally, Common sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, spilled it in her lap and was awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is

survived by two stepbrothers; My Rights and Ima Whiner.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

If you still know him pass this on, if not you can give him a second death.

September Ride Recap

It was a GLORIOUS fall day in the mountains, a bit crisp in the morning but warming pretty quickly. We as drivers even made sure all the kids had an extra jacket; As we know, its much easier planning ahead for the cold and then removing a layer. Clearly, our preparations were correct, as I missed the 'complaining' about the cold. Not that it was cold, but when one is only wearing a t-shirt it would be cold. We had a few groups going in all directions – to the Dillon Reservoir, to Breckenridge, and even a few of our older kids tackling the ride to Vail Pass. Very fulfilling that the kids were basically out later then our 'scheduled' time; having a great time in the trees, in the water, and on the trail. We were 'late' for our planned time at McDonalds again this year – a good thing as a good time was being had by all. The restaurant handled us expediently and courteously, and our group was exceptionally behaved. I love watching the group making their menu selections, based on their allotted money allowance. This group really knows how to stretch a \$5 bill! Everyone left satisfied and full, a happy day in the mountains and memories to share with their friends and family. Thanks to all that participated, and to those that missed out-plan on joining us next year in September!

Editor's Rant

Since I was 14 years old, I've been riding my bicycle on the roads – yes, side-by-side with those cars. I've been all over the states, and bicycled throughout the world. I feel comfortable sharing the road; even though I've had my share of run-ins, altercations,

and even a head-on collision with a car. Lucky to be alive!

Lately I've been discovering another way to enjoy my road bike – on the great trail system here in our metro area. These trails provide a relatively safer experience without the headaches of dealing with or worrying about cars. I am typically able to travel without having to stop at every intersection, and meet some amazing people along the way enjoying the great outdoors. In a sense, it's back to the future. Many of these trails take me through older parts of town, adorned with mature trees and creeks. Some of the trails are in areas being rehabilitated, and I'm able to experience the decline and re-birth of a habitat. We've used some of these trails for our monthly youth rides, and I'm realizing there are many more opportunities for our kids to explore. As a club, our biggest challenge in using these trails will be to educate about trail etiquette – how to pass safely and share a trail. The Fred Mahe ride this month will take full advantage of the metro trail system, and was probably my first inspiration (last year) to venture off the roads and experience a bit more tranquil ride. Now I'm hooked. Hopefully trail designation and building will continue as a safe healthy alternative to building more roads. You can help by letting your city mothers and fathers that bike trails are important when new developments are being considered. Give it a go; you'll be delightfully surprised.

Fred Mahe Ride

Friday 24 October

Mark your calendar now to join Fred and Friends celebrate Fred's 69th birthday with a 65-mile tour of Denver's best bike trails. This has become an annual club ride, and Fred uses the ride to raise money in support of the FRCC. We meet at 8:30 AM at the Carson Nature Center, off of Santa Fe and Mineral, behind Aspen Grove Shopping Center in Littleton, head east to Parker along the C-470 Trail, then north along the Cherry Creek Trail to Confluence Park, and finally south along the Platte River Trail back to Littleton. Join us! It's a wonderful ride and quite the inspiration riding with Fred.