

❖ SPOKE'N'WORD ❖

The official newsletter of the Fairbanks Cycle Club
P.O. Box 83424, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Volume 4 Issue 1

March 1999

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Each year spent racing is a year full of memories. Fond memories which blend together over the miles; criterium courses become an amalgam of throbbing legs, burning lungs, corners twisting and turning; time trials you have pledged never to remember. Each season a race or two stand out from the blur of summer activities. Maybe a victory when all seemed lost, or a ride full of effortless miles in a scenic wonderland.

As the last season of the century begins, I think back to my 1998 season. I have had better performances, lighter spirits, and better health, but one race will never fade. One day in the month of August will not slip through the cracks of the curb drain of my mind. I was fortunate to travel down to the Mid-west for a good friend's wedding. Whenever I have a chance to travel, I think about race opportunities. This was an opportunity to race in the U.S. Pro Criterium Championships Pro/Am Warm-up in Downers Grove, Illinois. I have not had the pleasure of a pro field around me for some time. I was nervous, excited, and far from serious about competing. Wearing my FCC jersey, I warmed up on a course suited for the best riders in the U.S. and some of the best riders from around the world. At the end, an American would be in the stars and stripes - who would it be?

Everyone looked sharp, tanned and strong. Race vehicles at every corner were full of equipment. The small cars looked as though someone had exploded a bicycle shop grenade in the back seat; wheels everywhere with barely room for a mechanic. The small winding streets were full of spectators, music, and sponsor tents - just like a pro race should look. The road was crowded with riders

warming up, colors, gear shifts overpowered the chatter from the crowd, and the hum of the mic at the finish line.

During my warm-up laps, I could not wipe the smile off my face. The course was a dream full of left and right turns. Short, steep climbs curved into open windswept straight-aways and break-neck fast descents. A grueling up-hill finish through a tunnel of spectators felt death defying. The speeds make me shiver today.

I rode past a couple of Saturn riders; none less than the North American hour record holder, Norm Alvis, as well as Frank McCormack and Mike McCarthy. Then the U.S. Postal boys, fresh from Europe, lined up before the end of the warm-up.

I was not alone in this professional warm-up race, for I had planned on meeting with former FCC rider and Alaska State Criterium Champion, Rick Denicke. Rick and I had been keeping in touch since he left Alaska two years ago. Even Rick had the downtown Manhattan cyclist look: shiny jersey, classy shoes, helmet and glasses. At the start line we shared race stories. What a great day! As for the race, I sat on to the

SPRING MEETING & potluck

Sun. April 10th
Time: 5:00 PM

Location: IABA office
1503 Washington Dr.
(green building behind K-Mart)

Check the **HOTLINE** &
Mark Your Calendar Now!

NEW '98 FCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Mark Knowles (479-2494)

Vice President

Shawn Stratton (479-6966)

Treasurer

Brenda Wynne (479-5631)

Secretary

Gail Koepf (455-6837)

Historian

Liam Wescott (479-6745)

Newsletter:

Gail Koepf (455-6837)

Articles or items for the Spoke'n'Word are welcome. We hope to go to press 7 times a year with issues in March, April, May, June, July, August and October. Editor will pay \$5 for short pieces published and \$15 for feature articles published.

**HOTLINE #
459-8008**

Call Shawn at 479-6966 to update.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT (cont.)

train of riders for as long as it took, never saw the front, never got an autograph, never stopped smiling.

Who knows what this year may bring. I have set my goals early. I will have more memories and take the good with the bad. I do hope to see you out riding or racing this year. We have so many great events planned this season. Each rider makes the event special.

Enjoy the last season this century riding with the Fairbanks Cycle Club. We hope our schedule of fun rides and tough races will fit into your busy summer schedule. Many dedicated FCC members have put together a schedule with a variety of events. If you have any ideas, or would like to devote valuable time and energy to the club, don't hesitate to speak up. Partake in as many events as you can. Coming out to ride and enjoy is our best support.

Here's to a great season!
Your FCC President,
Mark Knowles

Treasurer's

As the new club treasurer, I thought I'd write a line or two about the club's financial status, what the expectations are for this season, and a little bit about memberships and how they help the club.

So far this year, we have collected \$245.00 in memberships and \$355.00 in sales (jackets and jerseys), totaling \$600.00. Not a bad start! We are expecting to take in approximately \$2100.00 in memberships, \$2800.00 in contributions and about \$10,900 total for the year 1999. Our expected expenditures for this year, based on what was spent last year will total \$13,110.00. Now, it doesn't take a math wiz to see the \$2,000.00+ deficit. That is why paying up your membership is so important.

Club memberships continue to be just \$15.00 per person and \$35.00 per family. The memberships can help us achieve our club's goals of providing opportunities for club members and the community by putting on events. That is an instant return on your money.

When you fill out the form included in this newsletter, please be sure that everyone that the membership covers is listed. This helps us keep our records straight. Also, remember to mark what type of membership you are intending to pay for. Sometimes we get a check that doesn't match the form and tracking people down is time consuming.

Memberships can be dropped off at a couple of convenient locations (Beaver Sports and All Weather Sports), or you can mail-in your form and check to the post office box listed.

Another easy way to help the club's financial status is to support our sponsors. Wear your jerseys to events, ride in the parades, buy an ice cream cone, or tell a friend. These local businesses like to see the return on their investment with exposure and, of course, more business. Hopefully, this will make them eager to contribute to the club in the future.

If you have questions about memberships of anything else 'club financial' please feel free to contact me. Until school is out for the summer, I am most available through e-mail at fsblw2@uaf.edu. Otherwise, give me a call. Have a great season and I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Brenda Wynne

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FCC BOARD MEETINGS

All club members are welcome to attend board meetings and bring their interests to the attention of the board members. Call the HOTLINE for location and time.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

Call Shawn Stratton at 479-6966 if you can volunteer to put on or help at a race. **All races need directors and will be canceled without them!**

FCC JERSEYS & JACKETS STILL AVAILABLE!

Call Mark Knowles at Beaver Sports.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE:

- ◆ **Litespeed Tellico 6/4 Titanium mtn. bike frame, 17", brand new, \$1995** OBO. Rocky at 455-6837.
- ◆ **Klein Team Super 53 cm road frame, fork, bottom bracket, seat post, \$600** OBO. 455-6837.
- ◆ **Litespeed Tellico 6/4 Titanium mtn. bike, 17", Shimano XT/XTR, Ringle components, \$2,400, OBO.** 455-6837

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FAIRBANKS CYCLE CLUB

P.O. BOX 83424

FAIRBANKS, AK 99708

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1999 FCC EVENT SCHEDULE

1998 POINT SERIES FINAL

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

