



PACELINE

**Alta Alpina
Cycling Club**

**Volume 13 Issue 10
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Bijou Bike Park - Not Just For Kids!

Jennie Hamiter

Before the snow flew and after a mountain bike ride up to Star Lake, I stopped by Bijou Bike Park in South Lake Tahoe one Sunday to see what Bijou Bike Park Association, TAMBA, and the City of SLT had built.

I wondered if I'd feel out of place there on a geared mountain bike and wearing lycra, but the vibe is fun and friendly. No one else wore lycra, but about half the riders were adults, and most of them were on geared mountain bikes, though some had BMX bikes.

There are three slopestyle lines: beginner, intermediate, and holy cow.

I spent my time on the small slopestyle line, which is a series of dirt and wood rollers, berms, table top jumps, and some small wood ramps that end in small drops. The highest wood-slat roller looks much steeper from the rider's viewpoint than it looks from the side; it's fun to watch kids new to it almost stall out at the top - this teaches the onlooker to maintain momentum riding over it. The line ends with the world's easiest teeter-totter, and a log ride on the return "loop trail" is the least intimidating log you'll ever ride.

A few different dirt pump tracks will test your "pumping" skills around a series of rollers. Riders doing it well it make it look really easy, as they go round and round without pedaling. I had to pedal more than I care to admit, especially on the uphill halves of the loops. One guy was pumping an old cyclocross bike.

There's also a fun BMX track whose high starting gate lets you gain speed quickly for the big rollers and very steep banked berms to come.

Go to <http://bijoubikepark.org> for more info and lots of great photos. And thanks to Alta Alpina for contributing to the construction of this bike park

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This roller looks WAY steeper from the rider's point of view



Start of the BMX track



BikeSpokesman

Tim Rowe, AACC Bicycle Advocacy Coordinator

Transportation Bill

Yes - a new Transportation Bill comes out of Congress!! – Good news on the bicycle funding side, as last Friday afternoon, December 4th, President Obama signed a five-year U.S. transportation bill called "Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act" or for short - FAST Act. It passed both houses on Congress by wide margins. FAST offers some good news on the bicycle front as funding has been preserved for bicycling and walking programs. Also a few policy improvements were included, like adding in Complete Streets. Local programs such as Safe Routes to School have also been retained. A small increase in funding for bicycling was raised slightly to \$835 million annually the first two years and then to \$850 million annually the last three years. Most of the bicycle funding resides in the old Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) which now is renamed Surface Transportation Program (STP) 'Set-aside'. One positive change is that nonprofits are now eligible to apply for STP Set-aside funding. The successful TAP competitive structure with shared decision-making between state departments of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations was also maintained under that STP Set-aside. Not a total perfect bill but at least we now have a long term transportation bill and bicycling did not take a hit.

Acronyms are great aren't they – first we had SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) in 2005, then MAP-21 (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century) in 2012 and now FAST. Note that earlier versions of FAST included GROW AMERICA and DRIVE.

AMGEN Tour 2016

AMGEN-Tour of California returns to Lake Tahoe in 2016 – In case you have not heard - The men will race from Lodi, CA up Hwy 88 and Hwy 89 to Heavenly in South Lake Tahoe on Thursday May 19 on stage 5. Men will continue with Stage 6 Time Trial in Folsom and Stage 7 in Santa Rosa with Stage 8 and the finish in Sacramento.

The Women will also race at the same time - around Lake Tahoe the same day on stage 1. Stage 2 Women is also a Time Trial in Folsom, Stage 3 in Santa Rosa and Stage 4 in Sacramento. Should be a great and exciting period of racing in our area – please come out and support the sport and in our back yard. We also hope it does not snow that day, like we all remember the first time. Even though we want an El Nino year – let's have a clear day May 18th! For more information check - <http://amgentourofcalifornia.com/host-cities>

**Mark Your 2016
Calendars Now!!**

2016 Pine Nut Cracker – May 21
2016 Alta Alpina Challenge – June 25

Presidential Posting

Christine Rhiner, President

Well this certainly wasn't the year we were expecting for our club. The cancellation of our signature "Challenge" ride due to fire was extremely disappointing for everyone who had worked so hard either to produce the event or to train for it. The bike races on Thursday nights experienced unprecedented weather causing some cancellations and last minute venue changes. Turnout for the Pine Nut Cracker was disappointing. But tomorrow is a brighter day!. This (El Nino) winter we will have Mel Maalouf running a 16 week indoor roller class for our juniors and we invite members to post their indoor cycling plans (e.g. on trainers at local gyms).

Thanks to all who attended our End of Season annual meeting and party. I thought it was just great and hope everyone enjoyed themselves. We hope that our guest speakers, from team "Ride Like a Girl" who participated in one of a few all girl teams in Race Across America (RAAM) will be able to join us again at our 2016 Spring Party. Happy Holidays and see you next year as your president.



Annual Meeting and Fall Party

Thanks to Frank Dixon for finding the venue and caterer for this year's fall party. The room was cozy and comfortable and the food supplied by Sonny's BBQ was delicious.

Chris Rhiner lead the formal portion of the meeting and Di Bolton announced the winners of this year's evening race series.

After dinner, Michelle Faurot and her husband Duane Lodrige, representing "Ride Like a Girl", entertained the group with a presentation of the Ride Like a Girl RAAM (Race Across America) team's record setting winning performance in June, 2015

Annual General Meeting Minutes— November 13, 2015

Secretary: Jim Sadilek; Other Board Members in attendance: Chris Rhiner, President; Tammy Lundquist, Vice President; Frank Dixon, Treasurer; Michael Bayer, Alta Alpina Challenge Ride Director/ Newsletter Publisher/Membership Coordinator; Di Bolton, Thursday Road Race Director; Tammy DeGiovanni, Road Cleanup Coordinator; Mel Maalouf, Junior Team Coach / Race Team Director; Lori Piccini, Clothing Coordinator; Dave Scarborough, Spring Century Coordinator; Other Attendees: This being the Annual General Meeting, there were a total of 55 AACC members and guests in attendance.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Venue: Large banquet room above Dart Beverage – Stateline NV

- Welcome:** Chris Rhiner welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all the 2015 board members for their service to the club this year..
- Election of Officers for 2016:** Election of the Board of Directors: All incumbent officers and directors were re-elected with substantial majorities. President: Christine Rhiner, Vice President: Tammy Lundquist, Treasurer: Frank Dixon, Secretary: Jim Sadilek, Membership Director: Michael Bayer, Ride Director: Garth Jackson.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm



Chris presides over the AGM



Di hands out trophies for the 2015 race season



The venue was nicely decorated, organized, and cozy



Davis Creek Cyclocross

Jennie Hamiter, Event Photographer

November 14, 2015

Alta Alpina hosted the Davis Creek Cyclocross Race again this year, at Davis Creek Regional Park in Washoe Valley.

The roughly one mile course winds through the forest, and is part pavement, part dirt, part pine needle-covered hillsides, one small flight of stairs, a serpentine, rideable log jumps, and a few obstacles everyone had to dismount for and run over. This year the course was in especially great shape from the rains the day before, so the dirt sections were about as fast as they'll ever be. We also had record turnout, though it's hard to say if that's because racers knew about the perfect conditions.

Thanks to Robert Braun for being the race director again, and to Kevin Joell for being the race official.





Local Merchant Discount Program

For discounts from these local merchants, please visit the AACC website at www.AtaAlpina.org





Board Meeting Minutes— November 13, 2015

Secretary: Jim Sadilek; Other Board Members: Chris Rhiner, President; Tammy Lundquist, Vice President; Frank Dixon, Treasurer; Michael Bayer, Alta Alpina Challenge Ride Director/ Newsletter Publisher/Membership Coordinator

Meeting called to order at 10:00 p.m

Venue: Large banquet room above Dart Beverage – Stateline NV. Minutes of the October meeting approved as circulated.

1. Monthly Status Reports:

(Note: Reports were submitted to the Board of Directors by email prior to the meeting.)

- **Treasurer:** The current checking account balance is: \$44,818.45. The PayPal account balance is: \$2047.01.
- **Membership:** Current paid membership is comprised of 3 Students, 106 Individuals, and 38 families for a total of 185 voting members.
- **Weekend Rides:** No report.
- **Newsletter:** The final 2016 newsletter will be completed and mailed out immediately after the December board meeting. It will include minutes from the Annual meeting, November Board Meeting, and December Board Meeting. There will be coverage of the Davis Creek Cyclocross and the fall party. Additional content is needed-- please submit articles and pictures to Michael.
- **Website:** Organization of the new Alta Alpina site has been planned but content is needed and members are asked to submit paragraphs about what they like and advice for first-time riders of each of the eight Challenge passes. The plan is to rebuild club website and new Challenge site on a new platform while continuing to use existing web host for ride board and registration systems. Platforms being evaluated are: Squarespace, Weebly, and Wordpress. Rewrite of the Membership and Events management databases is ongoing but the two hard drives on the club server that died must be replaced.
- **Weekly Road Races:** The races will begin again in April of 2016. Date TBA.

- **Mountain Bike Races:** The position of Mountain Bike Coordinator is open. The Board of Directors would be most grateful for a volunteer to step forward and fill the position. Contact President Chris Rhiner.
 - **Junior Team:** No Report.
 - **Spring Century:** Eric Reuter has generously consented to host the Spring Century BBQ.
 - **Pinenut Cracker:** No Report.
 - **King of Kingsbury Time Trial:** Allen Biaggi has volunteered to be coordinator. Date TBA.
 - **Cyclocross Race:** No Report.
 - **Bike Advocacy:** No Report.
 - **Adopt A Highway:** No Report.
 - **Clothing:** No Report.
 - **Public Relations/Publicity:** We really need one or more members to take on social media coordination, PR, and Marketing.
 - **Challenge:** The 2016 event takes place on June 25 as previously announced. Budgeting and plans for marketing are in progress.
2. **Be-Pro Conference:** Motion 11/01: Approve \$98 expense for Michael Bayer to attend the annual Be-Pro conference of ride organizers that is held by Cycle California will be on January 8 and 9, 2016. Chris Rhiner/Tammy Lundquist -- Carried unanimously.
 3. **Challenge Marketing:** Motion 11/02: Approve marketing budget expenditure in the amount of \$2500 for the 2016 Alta Alpina Challenge. Chris Rhiner/Tammy Lundquist -- Carried unanimously. This amount represents a \$1000 reduction from last year's budget of \$3500.
 4. **Next Meeting:** Monday December 7, 2015, 6 pm at Jethro's in the Gardnerville Ranchos, NV.
Meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm



Board Meeting Minutes— December 7, 2015

Secretary: Jim Sadilek; Other Board Members: Chris Rhiner; Tammy Lundquist; Frank Dixon; Michael Bayer; Di Bolton; Robert Braun; Garth Jackson; Tim Rowe

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm

Venue: Jethro's – Gardnerville Ranchos

1. Monthly Status Reports:

- **Treasurer:** The current checking account balance is: \$43,425.29. The PayPal account balance is \$2047.01.
- **Membership:** Michael reported no changes from previous membership levels.
- **Weekend Rides:** Garth reported the ride kit has been returned to the shed.
- **Newsletter:** Newsletter is anticipated to be distributed on Wednesday (Dec. 9) pm.
- **Website:** Existing web site is being updated. Dennis Pederson is updating the Challenge registration portion of the site. Options continue to be explored for finding another web host and to develop a site coded in Square Space, Word Press, or a similar type of coding program, which will allow directors to individually edit their pages. For example, the Road Race directly would have the ability to update the road race portion of the web site directly.
- **Weekly Road Races:** Di asks for suggestions of possible new venues for Thursday night road races. Directors offered suggestions, but the membership is encouraged to participate as well.
- **Mountain Bike Races:** The position of Mountain Bike Coordinator is open. The Board of Directors would be most grateful for a volunteer to step forward and fill the position. Contact President Chris Rhiner.
- **Junior Team:** Mel is planning 16 weekly indoor sessions with the juniors on rollers.
- **Spring Century:** No report.
- **Pinenut Cracker:** The 2016 event is tentatively scheduled for May 21st (a Saturday). The event will be USAC sanctioned. Robert reported that 51 riders participated in this year's event. The Douglas County Fairgrounds Pavilion will not be rented for the 2016 event.
- **Cyclocross Race:** The Davis Creek Cyclocross race was a success with a record turnout of participants. Robert reported proceeds of \$411 which were spent on prizes.
- **Bike Advocacy:** Congress has passed a five year transportation bill named the FAST Act (Fixing America's Surface Transportation). Bicycle/pedestrian programs received a slight increase in funding. A recent meeting was held regarding bicycle events at Lake Tahoe. There were 23 people in attendance including representatives from various bicycle groups, NHP, CHP, CalTrans, and NDOT discussing methods of improving safety and the issue of riders not obeying traffic laws.
- **Adopt A Highway:** No report
- **Clothing:** Voler has had a personnel change. Apparently the Voler database of Alta Alpina jerseys was purged. Michael is working with Voler to have the designs restored. There was discussion of having a package membership renewal/jersey purchase, which would result in a substantial discount on the price of a new jersey.
- **PR/Publicity:** Laura is still doing a few things to help until we find one or more volunteers to help with marketing, publicity, and social media..
- **Challenge:** An advertising contract has been finalized with Cycle California to run five black and white advertisements for the Challenge starting in January. Challenge posters for 2016 will be delivered from the printer in January. Registration pricing will remain the same as last year. Early bird pricing will be honored until the end of January—possibly longer—TBD.

2. **2015 Donations:** Discussion regarding AACC funding of local non-profit organizations related to cycling that have been funded in the past. Considering that 2015 club income was substantially affected by the cancellation of this year's Challenge event, the funding amount was reduced in comparison to previous years. Motion 12/01: Approve donations to the following organizations: TAMBA, \$1000; Alpine County Trails, \$500; Carson Valley Trails \$500. Chris Rhiner/Frank Dixon -- Carried unanimously.

3. **Next Meeting:** Monday January 11, 2016 by teleconference at 5pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm



Alta Alpina Cycling Club

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 www.AltaAlpina.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Pine Nut Cracker Sat. May 21
 Alta Alpina Challenge Sat. June 25

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.AltaAlpina.org; click on "Membership"

Alta Alpina Cycling Club Board Members

Chris Rhiner	President	president@AltaAlpina.org	775-790-6373
Tammy Lundquist	Vice President	tahoe.tammy@gmail.com	530-545-3155
Jim Sadilek	Secretary	ccwatchmaker@gmail.com	775-220-2713
Frank Dixon	Treasurer	ozatlake@gmail.com	530-318-1574
Michael Bayer	Membership Coordinator	membership@AltaAlpina.org	
Garth Jackson	Weekend Ride Coordinator	ridedirector@AltaAlpina.org	
Michael Bayer	Alta Alpina Challenge Ride Director	challenge@AltaAlpina.org	877-845-2453
Di Bolton	Thursday Road Race Director	dibolton@frontier.com	775-781-4660
Robert Braun	Pinenut Cracker Mountain Bike Race	robertingville@yahoo.com	
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Michael Bayer	Paceline Editor	paceline@AltaAlpina.org	
David Scarborough	Spring Century Coordinator	dave_scar@hotmail.com	530-318-7878
Mel Maalouf	Junior Team Coach / Race Team Director	alpinajr@gmail.com	775-782-9652
Joe Marzocco	Website Coordinator	j_marzocco@yahoo.com	
Tim Rowe	Bicycle Advocacy Coordinator	Trowebikes@aol.com	775-267-9531

The club is about and for you! All AACC members are welcomed to participate in our **Board Meetings** which are normally held the **first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm...**
 Join us on **Jan 11** by teleconference.

Newsletter Publisher:
 Michael Bayer