



PACELINE

**Alta Alpina
Cycling Club**

**Volume 8 Issue 1
January 2010**

Presidential Posting

Mel Maalouf, President

The first presidential posting of a first term is like an inaugural address. I suppose this is the inaugural posting, eh? How shall we proceed?

It is an exciting year to be leading. We have a new ride to promote that looks to have wheels, pun intended! There are many new faces that are popping in to rides, events and parties - I am looking forward to new opportunities to get to know more of you.

So what should you expect from me? I intend to facilitate what the club wants to do. We are a very diverse group of riders. There are some of us that race or just ride for the accomplishment. We have some ultra-endurance riders and many riders who ride for fitness and the social aspects. Many of us ride both mountain bikes and road bikes and we have events and rides that represent those interests. What will the club look like and do this year? I will say it will look like what the membership will make it this year. We can't rely on the board and select few to do most of the work.

There have been comments that we need a weekly standard ride. I say, yes, you should do that. There are many that want a mountain bike ride/race series, I say yes, we need someone to do that. We need someone to lead long rides. We need slower, casual rides that stop for coffee and chocolate; I may lead those, but would need some help.

Often we see many of the same faces (and some new faces) at most events. We need more people to make our rides and events successful. In an effort to see what you want, you should expect to see more communication, more surveys and other media opportunities to be a community. To start, we are on Facebook and aacc@yahoogroups.com as forums to communicate day to day with one another.

I see our club and our board serving the membership, but also the greater cycling community. I am proud to say that our advocacy has stepped up and we see opportunities for safe bike routes and other trails opening up before us. We serve Alpine County, South Lake Tahoe, Carson City and Carson Valley. When I see riders out on our roads I often ask myself why aren't they club members? Maybe they are and we don't recognize one another. Which means that we are not as close a community as we should be.

I look forward to seeing how we, the board, can serve you and our greater community.

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Want to get more involved with cycling? AACC has openings for the following:

Mountain Bike Race Series Director, for a short weekly, evening series in early summer. Contact Mel at president@AltaAlpina.org for more information.

Garth would like to share the fun of being Carson Valley Classic Race Director. If you can take on one portion of it (Promotions, Registration, Volunteer Coordination, or Permits), contact Garth at gjackson@gmail.com.

AACC Clothing Order

We'll be putting in an order for club clothing (jerseys and shorts) in February. If you want a special size or item - like no-sleeve jerseys, vests, skinsuits, bibs or knickers send email to: gjackson@gmail.com.



Past President Posting

Pete Costa, Past President

I would like to thank each and every person who has been a part of the Alta Alpina Cycling Club this past year. I really think 2009 was a success, maybe, because I survived to hand the ceremonial “wrench” over to the new president, Mel Maalouf. But, more likely because I had a front row seat in watching you ride in the Gardnerville 100, race on Thursday nights, volunteer for the Alta Alpina Challenge and the Pinenut Cracker and the Carson Valley Classic, attend meetings on behalf of other cyclists and the club, promote our sport and club, and wear the Alta Alpina jersey. By membership standards, this is a “small” club. But if you look at the diversity of our membership, the things we do, the events we produce

and our reputation in the western US, Alta Alpina Cycling Club is a “BIG” club. That can’t happen without great people. I have met and spoken to a lot of other club’s members and officers in the last year about AACC. Their reaction just reinforces why I joined and continue to support this club. Together we accomplished some great things and have set a foundation to build on for the future. Do you remember the buzz you heard and felt after the Alta Alpina Challenge? I do. Mel is eager to carry that feeling and momentum into 2010. 2010 could be a great year. Great people do great things. Our 2010 Spring Membership Party is April 19th, look for the location soon. Bring a friend. I’ll see you there.

Bike Spokesman: Highway 395 Widening Project

Tim Rowe, Bike Advocacy

A public meeting was held on a cold December night to discuss the final design for the construction on Highway 395 from Jacks Valley Road to 0.11 miles north of Old Clear Creek Road in Douglas County/ Carson City. Most of the attendees were NDOT/FHWA employees or contractors, it seemed. The project will include addition of a third northbound lane in that reach. Also included are intersection improvements at Topsy Lane and Old Clear Creek & Lupin Drive. The added third northbound lane will provide a missing link that will complete the six-lane section of highway from Jacks Valley to Fairview Drive.

I represented the bicycle community along with Dan Allison of Carson City’s Muscle Powered group. I wanted to make sure the widening project did not reduce or eliminate the existing wide shoulders in this area. I stressed to the NDOT and FHWA staff present that this is a very important section to bicyclists as it is the ONLY paved link between Douglas County and Carson City. Many bicyclists, myself included, use this section for riding to work and for recreation. I found out that the widening project would still maintain a wide shoulder, just a little further to the east.

One problem with the construction starting this April is that, according to the detailed plans, the two northbound highway lanes would be moved over slightly and K-concrete barriers will be put along the right lane to make room for construction: it appeared

that the northbound shoulder would be eliminated and the northbound bike lane would not exist during the construction period. I stated that this was NOT at all acceptable to bicyclists and pedestrians, as there is no other route between Douglas County and Carson City. The NDOT Engineer agreed and said that they could possibly change the plans and move the K barrier over as far as possible, 4 feet, and give us a narrow lane. This will be limited and care will have to be used when riding or walking in this area, but this is better than nothing. I suggested that maybe they also lower the speed in the construction area and he stated that this normally already occurs.

The intersection at Lupin (east side) will be improved with this project as they will be adding a northbound right-turn lane. The project also will make improvements to the Lupin/Old Clear Creek offset intersection, which is needed. But they can only do so much as there is very limited right-of-way space available without taking homes. Retaining walls will have to be built between the road and trailer park. The road there will still have a limited bike lane as the Lupin Drive available road width is narrow. We just wanted to make sure they think of bicyclists and pedestrians as much as they can. Note that this portion of the project was originally designed for the long awaited phase 2B of the Carson Freeway (I-580) and was also discussed during the Carson Freeway meetings a few years ago.



Bicycle Friendly Community for Carson City

Tim Rowe, Bike Advocacy

Carson City Muscle Powered, Citizens for a Walkable and Bikeable Carson City, and other supporting bicycling groups, have formed a committee and embarked on a project to make Carson City a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC). A BFC is a designation awarded by the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) to communities that have proven to possess safe accommodations for cycling, and that encourage people to bike for transportation and recreation. A recent committee meeting was held on January 6, 2010 at Dopplegangers in Carson City. I represent Alta Alpina on this committee.

Currently, there are no official Bicycle Friendly Communities in Nevada. In fact, Nevada is one of the only western states that does not have a community with this designation! It is the committee's opinion that Carson City has what it takes to become Nevada's first official BFC. The BFC application will provide a comprehensive picture of the community by asking questions across five categories often referred to as the "Five E's": Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation & Planning. A community must demonstrate achievements in these areas in order to be considered for an award. The nearest BFC community is nearby South Lake Tahoe, which just won its 4-year renewal. Communities with more significant achievements in these areas receive superior awards, like Davis, California and Portland, Oregon.

More information about Bicycle Friendly Communities can be found on the League of American Bicyclists' (LAB) website at:

<http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicycelfriendlyamerica/>

AACC Member Profile:

Pike Reardon

AACC Member since: 1993 (I think)

Current Residence: Gardnerville the last 5 years, Lake Tahoe 14 years before that

Immigrant from: Across the pond—England

Bikes I ride: Kestrel KM 40
Felt B1
Cervelo P3

My cycling style is...: Push the Big Ring for as long and hard as I can!

Favorite Rides/Races:
Wildflower Triathlon Bike Course, 56 miles of fun.

Favorite Post-Ride Food:
Frozen fruit protein smoothie followed by any food that includes cheese

Weakness:
Dark beers and chocolate chip cookies, but they don't go well with triathlons.



Other Sports & Pastimes:

Triathlon (not much time left after that). Camping. Traveling

Ambitions/Aspirations:

Live a long, healthy and happy life of which I have a really good start.

Qualify for the Ironman World Championships in Kona.

My Motto or Inspired Quote:

"The difference between 1st and 2nd: First goes harder and faster for just a little longer." - Lance Armstrong (Tour de France, 1999)

Grab Bag:

Traveled around the world with just a backpack for seven years. Competed in my first triathlon in 1992 (Worlds Toughest - Lake Tahoe) as a relay team. We finished 31st out of 32 teams. The following year I signed up myself and beat our relay teams time by nearly 1 hour. Been hooked ever since. This year I will compete in my 25th Ironman event.



2010 Officers



Mel Maalouf

President

- Set location, time, and agenda and preside over monthly and special board meetings, and membership meetings. Develop agendas by obtaining status reports from all officers and officials and tracking all financial and other requests made of the club.
- Serve as second signer on the AACC checking account.
- Hold storage shed key.
- Ensure that all activities are successfully planned and executed, by assigning or finding and appropriate individual or team to coordinate each, as appropriate.
- Ensure that club members are informed of everything going on with the club. ...via the newsletter, the website, and the club's hotline....
- Request and coordinate nominations for the next year's club officers.

- Attend local meetings regarding issues important to cyclists.
- Write a column for each edition of the newsletter.
- Keep the club members' best interests in mind. In all decisions, ensure that all club officers and officials represent and are accountable to all club members.



Curtis Fong

Vice-President

- Assist with organizing monthly and special board meetings, and membership meetings.
- Preside over monthly and special board meetings, and membership meetings if the President is unable to attend.
- Serve as alternate second signer on AACC checking account.
- Pick up club mail from Post Office box, if needed.
- Assume responsibilities of vacant officer and official positions.



Peter Costa

Treasurer

- Maintain financial accounts of the AACC including obtaining signatures for checking account, writing checks, making deposits, and providing the Board of Directors with a monthly statement of AACC finances.
- Ensure that all tax forms are prepared and filed on time
- Serve as primary signer on AACC checking account.
- Coordinate budget planning process with all officers and officials having budget responsibility
- Present annual budget to BoD for approval
- Process membership checks and updating database
- Process member reimbursements
- Process NCNCA & USCF memberships



Lauren Lindley

Secretary

- Manage and archive AACC records as required in bylaws
- Prepare minutes for all Board of Directors and membership meetings, distribute to all board members for ratification.
- Provide final minutes to newsletter editor for publication.
- Manage all elections including the printing and distribution of ballots, the counting of ballots, and the announcement of election results.



Robert Braun

Membership Director

- Manage and maintain membership database and system for sending to member email lists
- Provide current mailing list label data for newsletter and mailings.

- Update membership agreement as required and maintain archive of signed membership agreements
- Ensure membership webpage is current and provide updates to website coordinator
- Organize annual membership meetings
- Prepare mailings and forms to promote and process membership
- Recruit new club members and contact those with expired memberships.



Ellen Sherrill

Ride Director

- Organize weekend rides April through October
- Scout new ride locations and classify rides

- Recruit ride leaders as needed
- Devise ride schedule and send to newsletter editor and website coordinator
- Post weekend rides on rideboard
- Tabulate weekend ride mileage for awards
- Assist with Death Ride and other club events
- Promote participation in club events

2010 Officials

Michael Bayer

Newsletter Publisher

Produces newsletters including layout, printing, labeling, and mailing.

Wild Sierra Director

Produces the Alta Alpina Challenge: Riding the Wild Sierra event.

Database Coordinator

Maintains membership database system.

Robert Braun

PNC Coordinator

Produces the Pine Nut Cracker event.

Insurance Coordinator

Manages all club insurance policies and requirements.

Di Bolton

Road Race Director

Propose schedule for 16-18 week race series with road races, time trials, and criteriums. Produce and manage each race. Promptly distribute race schedules, reminders, and results via the membership mailing system.

Peter Costa

Road Cleanup Coordinator

Coordinates road cleanup program with Caltrans.

Jennie Hamiter

Newsletter Editor

Gather end edit all articles, photographs, graphics, and captions for each newsletter.

Mel Maalouf

Junior Coach

Recruit and coach junior riders, and organize and run junior team events.

Joe Marzocco

Website Coordinator

Ensure that contents of webpages, and the home page in particular, remain up to date. Participate in board meeting and coordinate with other board members to ensure timely submission of content.

Dennis Pederson

Website Programmer

Designs, develops, and maintains rideboard and other web server software.

Tim Rowe

Bicycle Advocacy Coordinator

Attend bicycle advocacy meetings and events on behalf of the club

Garth Jackson

CVC Coordinator

Produces the Carson Valley Classic event.

Clothing Coordinator

Propose design changes and clothing purchases to BoD then tracks and manages clothing sales.

TBD

Genoa CX Coordinator

Produces the Genoa Cyclocross event.

Mountain Bike Race Director

See Road Race Director



Board Meeting Minutes—December 14, 2010

Secretary: Peter Costa; Other Board Members: Twain Berg, David Gaskin, Jennie Hamiter, Garth Jackson, Mel Maalouf, Joe Marzocco

1. **Review of End of Year Meeting and Election**

Results: President Pete reviewed the events of the gala and the election results. 2010 officers are President Mel Maalouf, Vice President Curtis Fong, Secretary Lauren Lindley, Treasurer Peter Costa, Membership Chair Robert Braun and Ride Coordinator Ellen Sherrel.

2. **Spring Membership Party:** Membership Chair elect Robert Braun proposed and the board approved April 19th, 2010 as the date for the Spring Membership party. Robert will investigate venues, availability, and cost.

3. **Alta Alpina Challenge 2010:** \$1,014 premium approved and check sent to HCM Event Insurance Services for a \$2 million liability insurance policy.

4. **BePro Conference:** Michael Bayer and Garth Jackson will be attending the BePro conference in January. BePro conference is for organizers of cycling events.

5. **Monthly Status Reports:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** 11/17/09 bank balance = \$45,572.88. In addition the club has approximately a \$3,000 PayPal balance. Dave Gaskin is turning the books over to Peter Costa tonight.
- **Weekend Rides:** Twain Berg would like to move pictures from his web page to the ride board. Joe Marzocco will assist.

- **Newsletter:** There will not be a December newsletter. Plan on a January 2010 issue.
 - **Website:** Paid for website hosting. Because of past virus issues, we may need to move website/build a new one. Peter will talk to Dennis Peterson about this.
 - **Junior Team:** Mel reports that Timari is leaving the area. Mel is looking for a new assistant coach. Interested people are encouraged to contact Mel.
 - **Pinenut Cracker:** Robert Braun proposed May 2nd, 2010 as the date for the PNC and the board approved.
 - **Carson Valley Classic:** Garth is working on the flier. We are waiting to hear from NCNCA as to the status of the Criterium. NCNCA may move it to another venue in northern California.
 - **Bike Advocacy:** The Douglas County Manager, Mike Brown, is looking into increasing the numbers of bike lanes and paths. Apparently there has been "a change" within Douglas County administration to move forward with implementing the "Trails Plan" part of the Master Plan. He will be looking for help from AACC and it's members.
6. **Next Meeting:** Monday, March 1, 2010, 6 pm, Pizza Factory in Gardnerville.

Local Merchant Discount Program

Visit the merchant, peruse their shops and find out what you can buy as a benefit of being an AACC member. Details about local merchant offers is listed under "Merchant Discounts" on our website at www.AltaAlpina.org.

Show your AACC Membership Card at time of purchase. [If are an active AACC member, the mailing label on the first Paceline you received upon renewal has the club logo and note indicating that it is your membership card.]



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



Board Meeting Minutes—January 11, 2010

Secretary: Mel Maalouf. Other Board Members: Michael Bayer, Robert Braun, Peter Costa, Curtis Fong, Jennie Hamiter, Garth Jackson, Tim Rowe, Ellen Sherrill. Other Attendees: Twain Berg, Pike Reardon, Christopher Rowe

1. **Welcome New Board Members:** Curtis Fong as Vice President, and Ellen Sherrill as Weekend Ride Coordinator.
2. **Monthly Status Reports:**
 - **Treasurer's Report:** \$43,670 balance on 31 Dec 09. We need to get 1099 form info to accountant. We have 12 entries for almost \$1500 for the Alta Alpina Challenge (AAC).
 - **Memberships:** 30 April grace period for members voted in for 2010.
 - **Weekend Rides:** Reference to weekend ride portion of rides part will be deleted or referenced to the ride board since it appears redundant.
 - **Newsletter:** Dec/Jan newsletter to come soon.
 - **Website:** The web teams are working to secure our membership and other visitors to our site from more and more sophisticated and malicious threats. We are looking for a more secure web server.
 - **Weekly Road Races:** We may have to look into worker's comp insurance for race director, as she is our one employee. Robert Braun to investigate.
 - **MTB Race Series:** Looking for a director. Tahoe, Kirkwood, Pinenuts.
 - **Junior Team:** is smoking fast.
 - **Gardnerville 100:** Looking for a date. Likely to be mid May again. Mel will contact past hosts to see if they are interested.
 - **Pinenut Cracker MTB Race:** 22 May tentative date. \$305 deposit for pavilion paid. Possibly looking to add a short track. Takers on promoting this part?
 - **Carson Valley Classic:** 24-25 July. Looking into keeping crit as a championship event. Provincial flyer presented.
 - **Kingsbury Time Trial:** Club is looking for a new volunteer.
 - **Genoa Cyclocross:** No news.
 - **Bike Advocacy:** I-580 to open soon, and Tim Rowe is looking to have a bike/walk event similar to when the last section of 395 opened. Tim and others fought to keep bike access on the proposed construction on 395 between Jacks Valley and Clear Creek, and also after construction. Still working to keep bike lane on Lupine and Clear Creek.
- **Adopt-A-Highway:** We will have same section on Highway 89 by Turtle Rock Park. 3 cleanings to be scheduled.
- **Clothing:** Need artwork and re-order quantities 15 Feb. Club members need to put special order in if you like. 6 April Ship date.
3. **Next Meeting:** TRPA Building, Market Street, Stateline, Nevada, 6 pm, Monday 1 Feb.
4. **Bike Friendly Community:** Status to be sought for Carson City. Tim Rowe to submit letter for club to sign.
5. **Yahoo Groups as a Discussion Forum for the Club and those Interested in the Club:** To facilitate better communication to the club and between club members: AACC@yahoogroups.com has been created for club members and others interested in the club to join and discuss - to join just send email and follow instructions. Mel to manage. We will test effectiveness and see what happens.
6. **Budget:** Request for budgets. New treasurer going to report out expenses, income and net gains/losses for each event as a matter of course. For those with budgeted events/programs in 2010, please prepare budget for Feb 2010 meeting.
7. **Comments about direction of club for 2010:** Comments regarding involving bike shops better. Comment regarding riding, flat fixing, racing clinics would benefit members and community. See president comments in Jan 2010 newsletter.
8. **Alta Alpina Challenge:** Michael reported that ride will essentially be a clone of 2009 with refinements and improvements per rider and volunteer comments. We are looking to expand cutoff times. Marketing: market shorter easier routes of the AAC. Also will spend marketing budget wiser.

