

HELENA BICYCLE CLUB

HBC JULY-AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

JULY MEETING:

Tour de France Party

Tuesday
July 16, 2013
6:00 P.M.

Join us at Bert & Ernie's (Bleachers Sports Pub) to watch stage 16 of the 2013 Tour de France.

HBC provides appetizers, members may purchase their own dinner and/or beverages.

One Helena Hundred

Coming Soon!



**SUMMER IS HERE!
COME RIDE WITH US**

4th of July Ride

What started as a modest "show and go" ride a few years ago has now become an annual tradition. Meet at the Reber Park Cupola, and we will depart for Boulder at 9AM. Typically riders stop in Boulder and buy a snack or some ice cream at one of the local businesses. We then return to Helena as the Boulder 4th of July Parade is starting to take shape. Celebrate your independence by climbing (and descending) the Boulder Hill in both directions! Plan to join us for this great 60 mile round trip ride.

One Helena Hundred Century Ride

July 13th is the date of HBC's first major ride of the summer, the One Helena Hundred. Riders may choose the metric century (100 km = 62 miles) or a full century ride of 100 miles. The route begins in Cascade, MT and follows the beautiful and scenic Missouri river south to Wolf Creek, the turnaround point. Riders then bicycle back to Cascade and enjoy lunch. Those wanting to complete the full century then head north toward Ulm, before turning east onto Millegan Road. The turnaround point is about four miles east of Ulm, and the riders then return to Cascade.

Parking at the Cascade City Park is somewhat limited, so call your cycling friends and plan to carpool if you can. Check-in for the ride begins at 7 A.M. Complete details on the ride can be found on the Helena Bicycle Club website, and there is a link to the online registration page. Please note that online registration ends at 8PM Mountain Time on July 10th.

Tour de France Party

Remember to join us on Tuesday July 16th to watch the re-broadcast of stage 16 of the Tour de France. We will meet at Bleachers Sports Pub (Bert & Ernie's) at 6PM. The club will provide appetizers, and members may purchase their own dinner and / or beverages. It is an exciting 168km stage with three climbs and an exciting descent to the finish line. Come join us!

Double Divide Ride

HBC's second major ride of the summer is the Double Divide Ride, Scheduled for August 3-4. Cross the continental divide twice and enjoy spectacular scenery, food, and camaraderie. The ride departs the Broadwater Athletic Club on Saturday morning and crosses MacDonald Pass before heading north to Lincoln, where riders spend the night. Sunday is the return trip to Helena over Flesher Pass. Please see the HBC website for complete information and a weblink to online registration pages.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 4

Ride to Boulder. Leave at 9AM from Reber Park Cupola

July 13

One Helena Hundred

July 16

Tour de France Party

August 3—4

Double Divide Ride

Great Rides!

Helena to Virginia City Lariat Loop

Submitted by Rob Pсурny

Start & End Point: Reber Park Cupola (or your choice)

Map Link: ridewithgps.com/routes/2186037

Best Direction to Ride Lariat Loop: Counter-clockwise

Length: 238.6 miles (121.2 day one, 117.4 day two)

High Point: 6,913 feet at Virginia City Hill summit

Low Point: 4,059 feet at Reber Park Cupola

Cumulative Elevation Gained & Lost: 10,916 feet

Road Surface: Paved. Ample shoulder except MT 287 from Sheridan to Virginia City and portions of MT 359.

Best time to ride: SUMMER! Remember that Virginia City is above 5700 feet in elevation, so June through August is the best time for this ride. Also, as a typical summer resort town, most of Virginia City's shops and attractions close for the season by the end of September.

Cautions: The loop may be ridden in either direction, but it is much safer to ride counter-clockwise. While climbing the Virginia City Hill from west to east is steeper, it is also six miles shorter than climbing from the opposite direction, and there are several pull-outs and passing lanes on the west side which make it a much safer and more enjoyable climb. Note that summer traffic to Yellowstone can often be heavy on US 287 between Norris and Harrison.

Description: This was designed to be a two-day ride, with approximately equal mileage each day, but it could also be ridden over four 60-mile days. Or park in Whitehall and ride the 120 mile loop. The ride was also designed to be ridden with or without SAG support, with stores and facilities at reasonable distances for water. (Helena, Boulder, Whitehall, Twin Bridges, Virginia City, Ennis, Norris, Harrison, Cardwell, Boulder, Helena) There are some significant climbs along the way, (Boulder, Virginia City and Norris Hills) but most of the route is flat to rolling. There are also great scenic views of the Madison Valley.

The route could also be altered by stopping at Boulder and Norris Hot Springs (Both are on the route), or by choosing to spend a full rest day exploring in Nevada City or Virginia City, Montana's second Territorial Capital. Historical sites abound, from a gold dredge, to log cabins, and shops on main street in Virginia City, which look much the same as they did in the 1860s. You will find museums, tours, restaurants, taverns, antique shops, art galleries, live entertainment, stagecoach rides, and more. Virginia City does levy a 3% Resort Tax from May 1 to October 1 each year, and those funds are used to maintain the infrastructure of this 1860s town.

For overnight accommodations, there are hotels, boarding houses, and B&B's in Virginia City and Nevada City. It would be best to have a reservation in the busy summer season. If you prefer to camp, there is a KOA in Alder, or you can seek out a tent or RV spot at the Virginia City Campground, about a mile east of town. You may also tent camp for free at the city park in Virginia City.

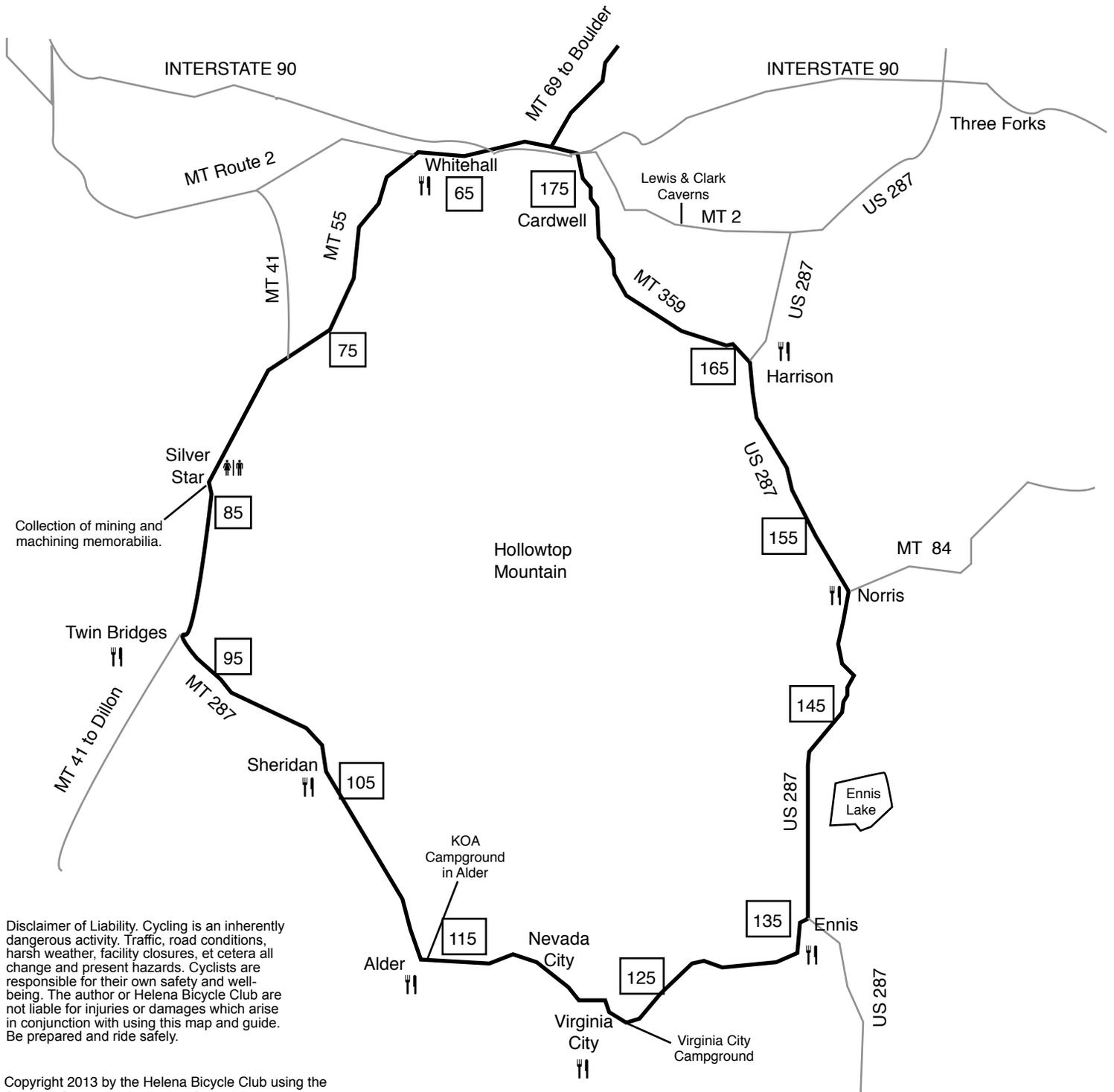
Two notes on directions. Be sure to turn left (North) at Ennis, where MONTANA 287 meets US 287. (There is a large sculpture of a fisherman at this junction) Continuing straight will route you to Hebgen Lake toward West Yellowstone. Lastly, for a water stop near Cardwell, you must travel EAST a half mile or so on MT 2 to reach a gas station & convenience store.

Begin the ride at Reber Park Cupola, or your choice of locations in Helena. Ride south on Colonial Lane to the I-15 Frontage Road. Then follow the cue sheet:

Mile	Turn	Note
15.9	R	Cross over I-15 at Jefferson City
16.0	L	Merge onto I-15 South
26.9	R	Exit 164 (MT 69) toward Boulder
27.1	L	Turn onto Main Street (MT 69)
59.4	R	Take MT 2 toward Whitehall
65.9	L	Take Rt. 55 toward Twin Bridges
77.8	S	Straight--becomes MT 41 South
92.4	S	Straight on MT 287
121.2		Arrive Virginia City
135.2	L	North on US 287 at Ennis
151.5	S	Straight on US 287 North
163.3	L	Take MT 359 toward Cardwell
178.1	S	Continue onto MT 2 West
179.3	R	Take MT 69 North to Boulder
211.5	R	Take I-15 North toward Helena
222.4	R	Take Exit 176 (Jefferson City)
222.7	R-L	Take Frontage Road to Helena

HELENA TO VIRGINIA CITY LARIAT LOOP

Because of the length of the ride, only the southern lariat loop is shown on the map below. For a map of the complete route, please go to: ridewithgps.com/routes/2186037 where you can find much more detail. Mile markers on this map are approximate and are shown as numbers within boxes. Note that the miles shown are cumulative from the beginning of the ride in Helena. (Whitehall is Mile 65) Complete mileage details are available on the map URL referenced above.



Disclaimer of Liability. Cycling is an inherently dangerous activity. Traffic, road conditions, harsh weather, facility closures, et cetera all change and present hazards. Cyclists are responsible for their own safety and well-being. The author or Helena Bicycle Club are not liable for injuries or damages which arise in conjunction with using this map and guide. Be prepared and ride safely.

HBC Membership Benefits

Here's another great reason to become a member of HBC: discounts at Helena bike shops. All HBC members as of July 15, 2013 will receive a 5% discount from local bike shops from July 22 until December 31, 2013. Big Sky Cycling and Fitness (801 N. Last Chance Gulch) provides 5% discount on all purchases except bicycles and sale items. Great Divide Cyclery (336 N. Jackson) provides 5% discounts on purchases of tires, tubes and Hammer Nutrition products. To become a member, go to the HBC website, click on "membership" and print out the membership form. Fill it out and return it with your payment. HBC will be providing the bike shops with a list of members. If you wish to opt out of this program, please notify our treasurer Dave Risley at drisley98@gmail.com by July 15, 2013.

HBC Pursuing Tax Exempt Status

Although HBC is currently registered as a nonprofit organization in the state of Montana, we do not yet hold tax-exempt status. The HBC Board is currently working at applying for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, and is revising club Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to aid in this application process. When we receive 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt status, all DONATIONS to the club (but not membership dues)

will be tax deductible! We hope to be able to have revised documents prepared for reading before our annual meeting in October.

Bike Walk Montana Memberships

As a member of the Helena Bicycle Club, you may also join Bike Walk Montana for just \$10. By becoming a member of Bike Walk Montana, you are voicing your support for a safer Montana for biking and walking. This includes safer laws, better roadways, and more facilities for biking and walking. It takes everyone in Montana coming together to make these changes happen. Lend your support by becoming a member at www.bikewalkmontana.org.

HBC Board Positions Available for 2014

Because of term limits in our club Bylaws, the Helena Bicycle Club will need to fill two positions on the Board beginning in 2014. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Peggy Stringer at strpb@q.com or (406)-443-6628.

HBC 2013 Board
Peggy Stringer, President
Rob Purny, Vice President
Dave Risley, Treasurer
Theresa Green, Secretary
Bruce Newell, Newsletter
Bill Schneider, Governmental Affairs
Don Harris, Outreach & Education
Heather Lambott, One Helena Hundred
Pete Carparelli, Double Divide Ride
Josh Quarles, Double Divide Ride

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