

waypoints

ROLL 'EM

Billed by its organizers as the "largest bicycle-related cultural event in the country," the 2006 Bicycle Film Festival (BFF) will screen its films in ten cities around the world this year, including five in the United States: New York (May 10 through 14), Los Angeles (June), Minneapolis (July), Chicago (July), and San Francisco (October). Replete with bicycle valet parking, the festival will include rock 'n' roll shows, parties, and bicycle-themed short and feature films chosen from hundreds of submissions from around the world. During the daylight hours, festival goers can take in the likes of bicycle-related parades, block parties, and art shows.

Launched in 2001, the BFF focuses largely on films with an urban edge. This year's roster includes the Peter Sutherland-directed *Pedal*, described as a "fast-paced documentary film about surviving in the streets of New York City as a bicycle messenger," and *B.I.K.E.*, directed by Jacob Septimus and Anthony Howard. This film tells the story of New York City's chapter of the Black Label Bicycle Club, which is as much a lifestyle as it is a bike club.

For more information, visit www.bicyclefilmfestival.com.

LEGENDS IN THEIR OWN TIME

Montana bike shop owners thrive along the TransAm Trail

Kelli Sanders and Melissa Alder are the proprietors of Freeheel and Wheel in West Yellowstone, Montana. A first-class Nordic ski shop during the community's long and snowy winters, come summertime the business transforms into the only full-service bike shop on the TransAmerica Trail between Hamilton, Montana, and Lander, Wyoming, a distance of more than 500 miles (this discounts the thirty-mile off-route spur into Jackson, Wyoming, which has several good shops). The enterprise also

features the Mocha Mamas' Espresso Bar.

"They serve the best coffee of any bike shop I've ever been in," says Adventure Cycling cartographer Tom Robertson, a locally renowned bike racer and caffeine connoisseur. "And Kelli and Melissa are just so helpful to everyone who stops in."

"Last March, after the Yellowstone Rendezvous Nordic ski race," Tom adds, "I was chatting with Brenda at the coffee bar [Brenda and Brandy are twins who work at the shop]. She was saying that

all of the cyclists who have come in over the years have inspired them to do a trip of their own. So, in the summer of 2007, they are going to ride from their hometown of Dothan, Alabama, back to West Yellowstone."

Kelli, Melissa, and company celebrate their tenth anniversary in business this June. If you're traveling through West Yellowstone by car or by bicycle, be sure to stop in. Or, you can send them your greetings online by visiting their website, www.freeheelandwheel.com.



Melissa and Kelli.

A MAN OF MANY WORDS

Adventure Cycling member does it his way, and shares his knowledge

Adventure Cycling member Norman D. Ford has authored sixty books on travel, health, and retirement during his fifty-year career as a freelance writer, two of which have sold more than a million copies each. Norman has also put down a huge amount of text at his website, www.tourvelo.org, making it a treasure trove for cyclists planning tours in various parts of the United States and Europe (plus Costa Rica and, of all places, Bali). Among the items posted is an article Norman wrote for the New York Times on November 21, 1967, detailing what, to this day, he considers his greatest cycling adventure: Istanbul to London, via Kosovo. His philosophy of touring, distilled in this passage, is one that many Adventure Cycling members can relate to: "This website describes how I do it on my own . . . how I stay at comfortable hotels or motels as I enjoy a fitness vacation exploring some of the world's most beautiful countries — and United



States — by bicycle. By describing [my] tested itineraries . . . I hope to encourage more cyclists to tour America

and other countries on their own — at one-half to one-fourth the cost of most commercial bike tours."

HIGH WHEELERS

Colorado day-ride lends support to Parkinson's research

Of the hundreds of organized day rides taking place in North America this summer, few, if any, will feature a mean elevation higher than the Colorado Cyclist Copper Triangle Alpine Classic. Slated for August 5, the fully-supported ride begins and ends at the Copper Mountain Resort after making a seventy-eight mile loop, which includes three mountain

passes: Fremont (11,318 feet), Tennessee (10,424 feet), and Vail (10,666 feet). Riders will also skirt the site of Camp Hale, where the legendary 10th Mountain Division soldiers trained, and visit historic Leadville, which, at an altitude of 10,152 feet, is the loftiest incorporated city in America (and where the superlative National Mining Hall of Fame

should not be missed). A share of the funds raised by the ride will go to the Davis Phinney Foundation, created in 2004 to support Parkinson's disease research. Organizers are capping the event at two thousand participants this year. For registration information call (303) 282-9020 or visit www.coppertriangle.com.

BALI BY BIKE

Ever wonder who the first person known to bicycle tour on Bali was? How 'bout a Dutchman named W. Nieuwenkamp, also known as "The Wanderer," an artist who pedaled around Bali on a visit in 1904 to study the island's art and culture. Today's visitor to the Pura Meduwe Karang temple, according to www.hid-denbali.com, can view a carving of a cyclist thought to represent Nieuwenkamp, who is "wearing floral shorts with a rat about to go under the back wheel, apparently being chased by a dog." The temple is located in north Bali, in the Kubutambahan village, about twelve kilometers east of Singaraja.

Andrew Bain, a former editor at Lonely Planet Publications (check out www.abc.net.au/perth/stories/s1143443.htm and www.travelintelligence.net/wsd/articles/art_1000192.html) planned his trip based on a pilgrimage to the Buddhist temple featuring the carving of Nieuwenkamp, as Bain's trip took place exactly a century after the Dutchman's. "It was great to get there and see the respect they showed this guy." He also observed that Bali was the first place he'd bicycled where the dogs were afraid of bicyclists, and that bicycle touring there is very inexpensive. An eight-day economy, independent cycling trip on Bali, he estimated, would cost in the vicinity of \$100 to \$200 Australian. That's cheap by any measure, but even less in American currency — from \$75 to \$150. www.balicycling.com.