

Between Controls: RUSA e-news & updates



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THE STATE OF GRAVEL

Just some gravel updates:

- Some Regional Brevet Administrators (RBA's) are adding gravel events to their roster of rides, as they are able. Check with your respective RBA and region's calendar to see what s/he might have planned. Find your RBA [here](#).
- At this moment, gravel rides are RUSA Events only, meaning they are not a part of the permanent program and team events. So members will not receive gravel credit or extra time for team event routes and permanents.
- Members will get credit for gravel on Randonneurs Mondiaux (RM), Audax Club Parisien (ACP), and Union des Audax Francais (UAF) events and SR600K, but no extra time.
- The Gravel Committee is still hammering out some other details and awards. Questions for the team? Reach out [here](#).

Additionally, we would love to see some photos of recent RUSA gravel events, email us at enews@rusa.org and share away!

RANDONNEURING MOMENTS: A VIEW FROM...

Gary Cruce (#12568)

Location: Overlooking the Pacific Ocean at Florence, Oregon

Details: Crater Lake 1200k Day 3 pre-ride on September 20, 2021

SAFETY AND SMART CYCLING

In the previous edition of Between Controls, we shared twenty-three tips on how to ride more defensively from author, cyclist and coach John Hughes and his article in a 2020 roadbikerider.com link [here](#).

The League of American Bicyclists has a series of videos on Smart Cycling. Check them out below:

Smart Cycling Videos

Additionally, the League of American Bicyclists recently shared their 2022 Bicycle Friendly States report. Roll into the rankings [here](#) and see how your state ranks in actions to make our roadways safer and bicycling easier.

CALENDAR/ COMPARISON OF RANDONNEURS USA 1200 GRAND RANDONNEES

Glance at the [RUSA website for the latest schedule](#) and adventures available to you.

Interested to see a breakdown of all of our 2022 1200k Grand Randonnees, take a look [here](#).



Photo Credit: Shab Memarbashi (#4501)

Details: North Virginia Randonneurs Treasure Cove 1,200K Pre-Ride team on 5/5/22 includes (left to right): Georgi Stoychev, Art Fuoco, Brian Burke, Dave Thompson, Mark



Thomas, Robert Newcomer, Hamid Akbarian, Luke Heller, Charlie Martin, Thai Nguyen, Vincent Muoneke

RUSA STORE

Lots of other sweet swag & trinkets available... [take a glance](#) to see what bling-bling is available.

ON THE HORIZON

Stay tuned for an Awards Survey to gauge your input and the value you place on current awards. We would like to get your pulse on this. Additionally, we would like to get input on some untapped areas for potential awards that may interest you.

got a favorite randonneuring photo?

We would love to see it and possibly include it in a future edition! Criteria includes: taken by member on any RUSA/ACP event, permanent, populaire, team event, and/or grand randonnee; all photos now accepted to include both landscape and/or participants; provide location, event and names. **NOTE: If participants are included, please make sure to get consent from all individuals to be used and delineate this in the email when sent.**

Email photos to enews@rusa.org

CELEBRATE NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

Don't forget to share your May Randonneurs USA adventure with those outside our community by sharing with [#Nationalbikemonth](#) the entire month of May via Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

BEHIND THE SCENES: BOARD MEETING MINUTES STRATEGIC GOALS

Interested in seeing what is going on behind the scenes? Archived board of directors meeting minutes [here](#), view our 2022 strategic goals [here](#).

AUDAX CLUB PARISIEN 300k CENTENARY

June 2022 marks the 100th anniversary of the first Audax Club Parisien *allure libre* 300km brevet in 1922.

Be a part of this special anniversary celebration around the world by riding an Audax Club Parisien 300k brevet; commemorative medals from Audax Club Parisien will be available for purchase. Details will be shared once finalized.

Thirty regions have Audax Club Parisien 300K brevets on their calendar, find the location for [rides in your region](#) and contact your [Regional Brevet Administrator](#) for more details.

STORIES FROM THE RANDO ROAD

Last month we asked about one of your most memorable adventures in randonneuring. We would love to hear yours too, share away [here](#). Eric Norris (#3971) with San Francisco Randonneurs shared:

"While not exactly a RUSA event, one of my most memorable events was a training ride ahead of PBP 2007. My

friend, Peter, and I decided to do a two-day ride starting in Napa, CA, looping up the coast almost to Ft Bragg and heading back inland.

We had planned to make a brief overnight stop in Cloverdale, and had a hotel room waiting for us, but it became apparent midway through the first day that we weren't going to make it to Cloverdale. I had underestimated the length and difficulty of the ride up the coast, and we were way behind schedule.

Around 1 am, we were heading through Boonville, a small town about 40 miles from our hotel room, with the prospect of several hours of uphill riding in the dark. Somebody in the area was apparently having a huge event, and every hotel in the area (there aren't many) was fully booked.

We needed to stop, and as we passed through Boonville we saw the County fairgrounds. Closed, of course, but the gate leading to the buildings in back was open, so we carefully rode in. Somehow, we found a large building that was unlocked. We carefully pushed our bikes inside, and found a cavernous structure that was empty except for a few platforms. It even had a working restroom. No alarms went off, so we were good.

Looking around, we spotted a few wooden pallets, which we pushed together to make a couple of small beds. Some discarded plastic sheeting became "blankets," and we bedded down for the night. I used my jacket as a pillow, and quickly fell fast asleep.

In the morning, we used the restroom, quietly departed the fairgrounds and found breakfast at a local coffee shop. We rode on, and a few hours later reached the hotel room in Cloverdale, which we used to get cleaned up a bit before continuing on back to the finish.

Not a ditch nap, perhaps, but certainly a very "rando" solution to the need for sleep, and a night on road that I still remember."

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