

## Make Your Banquet Reservations Now

Look on page 3 to find the reservation form for the January 30 Annual Banquet. The annual OCC Banquet will be hosted at the Glen Loch restaurant in Jamesville, NY. Cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 with dinner starting at 7:00. A buffet dinner will be served, and will include Chicken Cordon Bleu, Roast Prime Rib of Beef au Jus, Peel n' Eat Shrimp, Scottish Meat Balls, Penne Pasta with peppers and mushrooms, Waldorf salad, fruit bowls, various salads, homemade bread and more. Cost is \$25 per person. Reservations including name, number of attendees, and a check for \$25 per person should be mailed to the OCC P.O. Box address. The main dinner program will feature "Where Have all the Cyclists Gone?", a presentation by author Dennis Savoie of Cooperstown, NY. The presentation questions (and tries to answer) why more people in the USA don't participate in our sport. "It was my desire to be part of the solution to this problem that led me to write Cranks from Cooperstown: 50 Bike Rides in Upstate New York." The dinner will also include awards presentations, short programs, an auction, door prizes, the board meeting, raffle drawings, and the introduction of next year's board members.

## Win Stuff!

OCC is holding an ongoing raffle for a couple great prizes. A single dollar buys you a chance to win an autographed Lance Armstrong jersey or a Softride mountain bike donated by **Bicycle Alley** in Nottingham Plaza. Five dollars gets you six chances. The drawings are tentatively planned to be held during the club banquet in January. If you wish to buy tickets, send a check to the club PO box and we'll reserve tickets for you. At press time, there is a plan to include tickets with this mailing. Look for them, fill out the stub and send it with a check for \$1.00 to the OCC P.O. Box to be entered in the raffle.

## Call for Auction Donations

In addition to the drawing for the Bicycle Alley Mountain Bike and the Lance Armstrong Jersey raffles, there will also be an auction at the banquet again this year. Individuals and businesses are invited to donate merchandise and/or services for this year's auction to benefit the Onondaga Cycling Club. Interested parties are asked to contact Chuck Dominick at 423-4321.

## Pomco Signs on for 1999 Syracuse Criterium

Pomco has once again pledged to be a major sponsor of the **Syracuse Criterium and Kids Race**. This growing event attracts racers from international professionals to three-year-old rookies. Many thanks to Pomco for their continued support in the Syracuse community and the sport of cycling.

## Dealer's Row Run/Walk

The automobile dealers of West Genesee and Hiawatha Boulevard and Niagara Mohawk are sponsoring the Historic Automobile Dealers' Row Kickoff Run in late January or early February. It will be a Run/Walk event, with prizes for runners and walkers, and in case of snowy weather, cross country skiers, showshoers, and dog sledgers! For more information about the event or becoming a sponsor, contact Chuck Dominick at 423-4321.

## Be Part of the OCC Image

Are you an artist or do you have one hiding inside you? OCC is accepting proposals of new designs for the next line of official Onondaga Cycling Club clothing. Write down ideas, suggestions, and draw, paint, and sketch some design ideas and send them to the OCC P.O. Box address.

## Next Board of Directors Meeting

The next BOD meeting will occur on Sunday, January 10 at 7:00pm at Bill Johnson's. Call Bill at 422-7570 for details. Any member wishing to attend is invited.



## Board of Directors

President: William Johnson  
 Vice President: Bob Spear  
 Secretary: Deb Virgo  
 Treasurer: Erik Wennberg  
 Newsletter Editor, Contact to USCF: Tim Bingham  
 Bicycle Advocacy, Contact to LAB, SMTc: Chad Bradshaw  
 Media Relations: Mary Ellen Johnson  
 Time Trial Director: William Kocher  
 Cartographer: Ed Luban  
 Membership Director: Robert Ruth  
 Mailing Coordinator: Kathy Same  
 Century Director: Bob Swizdor  
 Director: Gianfranco Vidali  
 Director: Russ Zaczekewycz

## The Spoke 'n Word Newsletter

The Spoke 'n Word is distributed to households of OCC club members free of charge. This newsletter is an open forum for club announcements, activities, and for articles by club members. Members are invited to submit items for publication to the club address or editor address before the deadline dates below. Electronic format is preferred. Photos submitted will be made available for pick-up or returned via SASE. Club members may submit cycling-related classified ads free of charge.

*Tim Bingham*  
 126 Jamesville Ave Apt E4  
 Syracuse, NY 13210  
 315.478.7750  
 binghamt@hscsy.edu

## Advertise in the Spoke 'n Word

OCC invites individuals and businesses to advertise in The Spoke 'n Word. We offer competitive rates for ad sizes from business card to full page. Discounts are available for larger ads and for half-year (6 issues) and full-year (12 issues) runs. Please contact the editor for information.

## Spoke 'n Word Submission Deadlines

March Issue, arriving in late February - Friday, February 5  
 April Issue, arriving in late March - Friday, March 5  
 May Issue, arriving in late April - Friday, April 9

## OCC on the Internet

Our home page is [www.cny.com/OCC/](http://www.cny.com/OCC/). The OCC email discussion list address is [occ@list.hscsy.edu](mailto:occ@list.hscsy.edu). To subscribe to the list, send email to [majordomo@list.hscsy.edu](mailto:majordomo@list.hscsy.edu) with the line **subscribe occ John Doe** in the body of the email message.

## To Become an OCC Member

Fill out this application form and send it to the OCC with the appropriate fee. Make checks payable to: Onondaga Cycling Club, Inc.

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Name: _____                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Single \$20.00       |
| BirthDate: ____/____/____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30.00       |
| Phone: _____                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth \$5.00         |
| Address: _____                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$10.00 |
| _____ Apt _____                   |   |
| City: _____ State _____ Zip _____ |   |
| Email: _____                      |   |
| Occupation: _____                 |   |
| Bus Phone (opt): _____            |   |
| Other Family Members:             |   |
| Name: _____ DOB: _____            |   |
| Name: _____ DOB: _____            |   |
| Name: _____ DOB: _____            |   |
| Name: _____ DOB: _____            |   |

## Waiver:

**In consideration of my membership in the Onondaga Cycling Club, Inc., I do hereby waive myself, my heirs, executors, administrator and assigns all rights and claims for damages I might have against the Onondaga Cycling Club, Inc., its officers or members and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me while participating in any scheduled activity of the Onondaga Cycling Club, Inc. I will be completely responsible for any minor that I may bring to a scheduled activity. This waiver pertains equally to traveling to and from any scheduled activity.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Consent for Individual Youth member:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Ride of the Mucklands

Gianfranco Vidali

*[For those of you not lucky enough to be on the OCC email list and to be treated to Gian's ride reports, I've included a copy of a recent one here. Enjoy. - ed.]*

The ride was around the countryside surrounding Minoa, once a powerful railroad center, as attested by the dozens of rail tracks still visible from a bridge on Freemont Road. Before that it was, on the Aegean Sea, an epicenter of a sophisticated civilization in the 2500 to 1500 BC era.

Minoa takes the name from Minos, who, according to the myth, was the ruler of Crete. Poseidon, the God of the Sea, sent a bull to Minos for sacrifice; Minos, instead, kept it, and, in revenge, Poseidon made Minos' wife give birth to a creature with the body of a man and the head of a bull, the Minotaur. The Minotaur was then confined to the center of a labyrinth built by Daedalus. To avenge his son's death at the hands of the Athenians, Minos requested the Athenians to send, every year, seven boys and seven girls to the labyrinth to be sacrificed. The rest is well known: Theseus, a young Athenian, using a thread given to him by Ariadne, went into the labyrinth, killed the monster and was able to retrace his steps back to the entrance.

Minoa, N.Y., is now at the center of a web of railroad tracks and roads. We had to negotiate this labyrinth as we moved first north to North Manlius, where we missed a turn, and then west to Lakeport Rd. Coming back and heading west, we took Kinderhook Rd., where we had wonderful views of the ridges of Madison County, and still vivid memories of hills climbed in the heart of summer.

Back at the outskirts of Minoa, we decided to take a shortcut via South Main St. But the Minotaur was waiting for us, in the form of a "no outlet" sign and a choice of either retracing our route or going up on a steep metal footbridge over the railroad tracks, which we did, with some difficulty for the rider who had "Look" cleats.

We didn't see much muck and didn't get (much) wet, but we immersed ourselves in Greek myths and labyrinths. I think we should rename this ride "The Minotaur Ride".

It was a pleasant ride, except for the traffic that was heavy at times. I thought one should schedule rides earlier in the day when traffic is light, since the temperature doesn't climb much in the early afternoon anyway; but then I remembered that the schedule meister had put noon departure times in November to give the snowplows a chance to go through at least once.

## OCC Annual Banquet Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees \_\_\_\_\_

Price per Attendee    x \$25.00

Total Included \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form and a check or money order made out to Onondaga Cycling Club, Inc. to:

Onondaga Cycling Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6307 Teall Station  
Syracuse, NY 13217-6307

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**Edward Luban*****Attorney at Law***

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General civil practice, with an emphasis on education and immigration law

**317 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, New York 13202  
(315) 472-1935**

## **OCC Clothing For Sale**

The OCC clothing inventory is buldging with some items that are now available at a reduced price. If you want to place an order for something in stock, contact Tim Bingham at 478-7750 or send the order with a check or money order to the OCC PO box. Include an additional \$5 for shipping if you need the clothing sent to you.

| <b>Size</b> | <b>Item</b>                        | <b>Qty</b> | <b>Price</b> |
|-------------|------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| XS          | Pre-94 Shorts                      | 2          | \$20         |
| S           | 97 Jersey short sleeve w/ sponsors | 2          | \$30         |
| S           | 94-97 Jersey shrt slv w/o sponsors | 3          | \$30         |
| M           | 94-97 Jersey shrt slv w/o sponsors | 3          | \$30         |
| M           | Pre-94 Jacket                      | 5          | \$25         |
| M           | Pre-94 Jersey shrt slv, no logos   | 1          | \$15         |
| M           | 98 Jersey short sleeve             | 1          | \$50         |
| L           | 98 Jersey short sleeve             | 1          | \$50         |
| XL          | Pre-94 Shorts                      | 2          | \$20         |
| XL          | Pre-94 Jacket                      | 1          | \$25         |
| XL          | Pre-94 Jersey lng slv w/o sponsors | 1          | \$20         |
| XXL         | 94-97 Jersey lng slv w/o sponsors  | 3          | \$35         |

## **Adirondack Ski Weekends**

February 5-7, 1999 in North Creek. March 5-7, 1999 in Keene Valley. Contact Dawn Bennett at 437-7464.

# Happy Holidays!