



# PACELINE

**Alta Alpina  
Cycling Club**

**Volume 5 Issue 3  
April 2007**

## **AACC Weekend Ride Schedule—April/May**

Tammy Lundquist, Weekend Ride Coordinator

There will be both fast and social pace versions of our weekend rides—just show up and join the group of your choice. Social pace riders should carry extra food and be prepared to help as a ride leader.

### **Sunday, April 15, 2007 — Smith Valley to Bridgeport and Return**

Meet at the Smith Valley Hall at 10 am ready to roll. 85 miles, which includes gentle but steady climbs. The ride is good preparation for the Chico Wildflower the next weekend. Ride leader John Seher.

### **Saturday, April 21, 2007 — Highway Cleanup and Ride**

Meet at Turtle Rock Park at 9:00am. See page 2.

### **Saturday, May 5, 2007 — Wine Country Century**

Another great spring century ride, with an option to head out to the coast to add more miles. Tour through miles of vineyards and redwood groves. The food is just as good as the scenery. For more info go to [www.srcc.com](http://www.srcc.com).

## **Spring Membership Party**

**CVIC Hall, Minden NV — Tuesday April 17, 6:00pm**

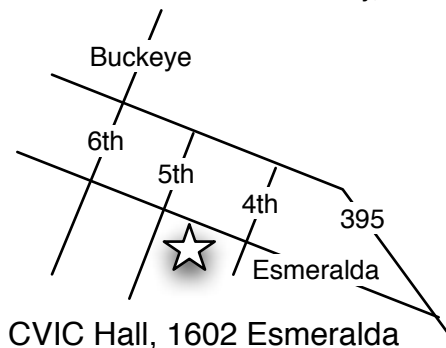
The annual spring membership party is a fun social event that is one of the many benefits of club membership. To avoid spending time in line outside the party, please renew your membership if you haven't already done so. Print, sign, initial, and return the form that was emailed to you by April 13.

Know any friends or neighbors just getting into cycling? Bring them along and we'll sign them up at the door!

Please try to carpool (or ride your bike) to the CVIC Hall.

Bring your raffle ticket (see page 3), your Ides of March contest entry, and spare water bottles to donate.

Things will get started at 6:00pm with plenty of food and great people to meet. We'll have the all new AACC sweatshirts for sale along with club Jerseys, shorts, and more. The presentations will start at 7:00 and conclude with the winners of the Ides of March contest. We'll send everyone home after 9:00 pm. See you there!



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## **The Pine Nut Cracker Sunday, May 6th**

Contact Jeff Ham at [jeff.ham@bently.com](mailto:jeff.ham@bently.com) if you will be able to volunteer with any of the following:

- Course Marking the week before the race.
- Course Marshals for the race
- Neutral water giver-outers
- Registration gurus
- Results posters
- Setup & clean up for the race
- Course sweep before & after



### Course Changes and Updates for Thursday Night Races

Di Bolton, Thursday Night Road Race Director

Courses: There are a couple of changes that have been made to the schedule; I am sorry for any confusion. Finding new courses has been rather challenging, to say the least.

Corey and I have spent many a mile scouting/driving them out. There are so many potential courses, but many have safety, surface conditions, parking, start, finish, and length issues.

With those issues in mind, I have decided that the Grover Hot Spring Time Trial, scheduled for the 23rd of August, will not happen. The ride is beautiful and has great conditions road wise, but the parking, turn around, and "run-off" areas are lacking and are not really practical. Also, the impact on the community traffic may not be well received. I do encourage you to take the ride on your own if you have not already. It just will not work for a large staged group.

In place of Grover, I have added the "Old 395 Time Trial." The info for this is posted on the AACC website.

The 2nd of August will be an Eagle Ridge Crit. This is a good replacement to Emigrant. It has a short steep climb, and I think you all are going to enjoy this course enough to do it again!!

POINTS: I have also decided to continue with the point's breakdown from the past: 1<sup>st</sup>: 20 points, 2<sup>nd</sup>: 17 points, 3<sup>rd</sup>: 14 points, 4<sup>th</sup>: 12 points, 5<sup>th</sup>: 10 points, 6<sup>th</sup>: 9 points, with points being reduced by 1 for each place on down to 14<sup>th</sup> with 1 point. 10 points are awarded for racing Club Challenges regardless of placement.

Carrying points will only be available to the C's and D's. Same rules will apply as last year: If you race up you will carry full points, race down carry half points

It has been my goal to come up with some new ideas, courses and keep the tried and true ways, and have something for everyone. I am hoping to see a lot of new faces and our "regulars" too. Come out and join the fun and camaraderie.

Again, I am sorry for any confusion...See you at the races!

#### 2007 Race Schedule with New and Updated Courses

4/26	Genoa Time Trial	6/14	Club Challenge - AACC: Eagle Ridge Criterium	7/17	Club Challenge - WHEELMEN: Fernley
5/3	Diamond Valley Road Race				
5/10	East Valley Criterium	6/21	Fredricksburg Two-Up-Mix-Up Time Trial	7/26	Diamond Valley Road Race
5/15	Club Challenge - WHEELMEN: Air Center Criterium	6/28	Diamond Valley Road Race or Double Back (TBD)	8/2	Eagle Ridge Criterium
5/24	Diamond Valley Double Back			8/9	Blue Lakes Road Race
5/31	East Valley Time Trial	7/5	East Valley Criterium	8/16	Club Challenge - AACC: East Valley Criterium
6/7	East Valley Criterium	7/12	Blue Lakes Time Trial	8/23	Old 395 Time Trial
				8/30	Diamond Valley Short Race and Pizza Party



**Celebrate Earth Day**  
**Help Cleanup OUR section of Highway 89**  
Pete Costa, Highway Cleanup Coordinator

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21 at 9:00AM**  
**Meet At Turtle Rock Park**

Bring gloves and wear appropriate clothing for walking, and possibly foraging through weeds and brush. We will supply helmets, bags, pick-up sticks, safety vests, etc. Ride to follow...destination and length will be determined by participating volunteers.



## Presidential Persuasion

Jennie Hamiter, AACC President

It's April, and the Club is ramping up for another great year. The Club functions mostly from volunteer labor, and each year we have a lot of first-rate events that need your help.

A few years back, the Club "adopted" a stretch of Highway 89 between Woodfords and Turtle Rock Park, which means we have to hold at least four highway cleanups per year. Pete Costa has volunteered to talk trash this year, and he's scheduled the first 2007 cleanup for Saturday, April 21, 9am. This coincides with Earth Day this year, and we're going to try to recycle as much of the litter as possible. Meet at Turtle Rock Park, and bring your bike to ride afterward.

The Pinenut Cracker is set for Sunday, May 6. Jeff Ham is the director once more for this fun, local mountain bike race, and he can use help with registration (so you can help out AND still race); he also needs course marshals. Please let him know if you can assist: [jeff.ham@bently.com](mailto:jeff.ham@bently.com) or 775-783-3428.

The Gardnerville 100 is scheduled for Sunday, May 20. This has been a very popular ride now for several years running, and this year Keith Hart has the start/finish at Big Daddy's Bikes in Gardnerville. It's the day after the Davis Double. Those of you that double and won't be riding the G'ville 100, please consider driving SAG for it. Contact Keith at [BartHart99@aol.com](mailto:BartHart99@aol.com), or 775-782-7077.

But our Big Event, The Death Ride, is Saturday, July 14th. Our team of coordinators this year is Michael Bayer as Logistics Coordinator, Jim Strange as Safety Coordinator, John Seher as Parking Coordinator, Tim Rowe as Course Support Coordinator, and Brenda Giese as our (experienced!) Death Ride Volunteer Coordinator. To be a part of this year's Skeleton Squad sign up with her at: [volunteers@AltaAlpina.org](mailto:volunteers@AltaAlpina.org). Contact her today to get a good

**“The coordination of the Death Ride is a huge undertaking, and the sooner we have volunteers lined up for every position, the easier that coordination is.”**

job, before the best jobs are all gone! The coordination of the Death Ride is a huge undertaking, and the sooner we have volunteers lined up for every position, the easier that coordination is. Please don't delay; sign up with Brenda, then mark your calendar, show up, and help us run the best Death Ride ever.

Steve Thomsen has stepped up to be race director for the club's road race weekend, the Carson Valley Classic, July 28 & 29. Steve needs volunteers both days for registration, course marshals, follow vehicles, the water station, and more. Write to

[steve@ryderhomes.com](mailto:steve@ryderhomes.com) or call

Steve at (775) 745-6311 to volunteer.

### Thanks, Joe!

Thanks and good luck to Joe Marzocco. He was the sole Death Ride Coordinator for the last two years, responsible for every aspect of the ride, from clothing design to making it a safe, fun ride, and a zillion things in-between. He ran two successful rides with plenty of new and unique challenges each year. He's taken a new job now, but has agreed to not hang up on us when we call and ask for advice. We wish him luck in his new job.

### SPRING PARTY RAFFLE

Cut out the ticket below and enter the raffle at the spring party by volunteering to lead a ride this year.

### Spring Party Raffle Ticket

I agree to lead the following ride:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Weekend:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> April 28 <input type="checkbox"/> June 30 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 15 <input type="checkbox"/> April 29 <input type="checkbox"/> June 31 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 16 <input type="checkbox"/> May 12 <input type="checkbox"/> July 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 22 <input type="checkbox"/> May 13 <input type="checkbox"/> July 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 23 <input type="checkbox"/> May 27 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 29 <input type="checkbox"/> May 28 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 30 <input type="checkbox"/> June 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 6 <input type="checkbox"/> June 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 7 <input type="checkbox"/> June 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 18 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 13 <input type="checkbox"/> June 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 19 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 20 <input type="checkbox"/> June 16 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 20 <input type="checkbox"/> June 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 21 <input type="checkbox"/> June 23 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 27 <input type="checkbox"/> June 24 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 28	<b>Ride:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Markleeville to Lake Alpine <input type="checkbox"/> Packsaddle Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Rim Trail (MTB) <input type="checkbox"/> Hole in the Ground (MTB) <input type="checkbox"/> Sonora Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Heavenly to Luther (MTB) <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Lakes Loop <input type="checkbox"/> Donner Summit <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Carson Valley <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Carson City <input type="checkbox"/> Plymouth, Lone, and the Low Foothills <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia City and Lousetown <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia City and Reno Loop <input type="checkbox"/> Smith Valley to Bridgeport <input type="checkbox"/> Luther Pass and Blue Lakes Road <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Tunnels and Donner Summit (MTB) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<b>Pace:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Fast
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## Ride Review: El Tour de Tucson XXIV, 11/18/2006

Tim Rowe, Alta Alpina Cycling Club Bicycle Advocacy

This is a 109 mile timed event with 8,098 racers/riders, a new record. Registration and the Ride Expo (at the downtown convention center) were really good and there were about a hundred displayers and with many goody handouts! The route is a perimeter event, circling the Tucson metro area counterclockwise. Roads were in fairly good shape and there was some climbing, with a couple steep short bumps to get the heart going.

Most riders do the 109-mile event, while the rest do the 80, 67, 36, 4, or ¼ mile rides. The ride had a good mix of riders; young/old, male/females, and fast/normal/slow. The riders were for the most part friendly, and at least this year I did not get taken out by a guy trying to cut the inside of corner on a big intersection. Two AACers where there this year; me and Steve Cooke, although we didn't see each other till the end.

The event serves many charities in the Tucson area, raising \$220,998 for the main charity; Tu Nidito Children and Family Services. Other charities included; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (their numerous teams raised over \$2 million), American Parkinson Disease Association and Global Sports Alliance.

Since this is a timed event, you wear an ankle timing device and you have to go through the start/stop gate. The 109-mile start is at 6:30am in downtown Tucson. If you qualify for Platinum level (like Steve) you get a reserved spot. Others, like me, have to line up, with some starting at 3:00am! Oh Yes. I got there at 5:00am and was already way back in the Silver area. Then you stand and wait for 1.5 hours in the cold, well cold for Arizona. They play loud music and radio folks talk at you the whole time. Floyd Landis even stopped by to say hi by and amazingly nobody booed him. This wait is not the best part of the ride by any means. Then the mass start also keeps everyone wadded up almost the whole ride, which isn't much (to me) fun either and you

have to be very careful.

One benefit to a timed event is that ALL traffic lights are controlled by the police, so you can role on through each one! There are two river crossings too – one large (near the beginning) and one smaller (near the 2/3 point). They are dry so you carry your bike and walk through the sand/rocks and the dust cloud, which makes things interesting! Not sure what happens if there was water flowing? Rest stops are plentiful at 19, if you need to stop much. Supplies are only fair but they were sponsored by various friendly volunteer groups. There were 2,700 volunteers and 27,000 spectators this year, both new records. They were also 20 route sponsors along the way with photos of the kids being helped, which was nice. Everyone along the way was very friendly and cheered you on too.

Weather was good (clear and sunny) and not too warm (only low 80's) nor too not much wind. This was lucky as later in the week it turned cold (only in the 40/30's), rained a lot and it was very windy.

By the way Steve Cook finished at 4 hrs 50 min 34 sec - #226 (out of 3,925 109-mile finishers) and in the gold. I finished at 6 hrs 25 min 16sec - #1,637 for in the silver. My total riding time was just under 6 hours, which is good for me. I also improved my place and time from the year before (6 hr 41 min 01 sec -#1937 out of 4,018 finishers). I felt good finishing in the top 41% and way ahead of the slowest 109-mile guy who took 12 hrs 22min 21 sec!

Next year's will be the 25th El Tour and will be held in conjunction with the LAB's National Bicycle Rally and it will again be the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Check out the website – [www.perimeterbicycling.com](http://www.perimeterbicycling.com). All in all this is a pretty good ride, but don't come if you do not like large numbers, mass starts, long wait at the start, and dusty river crossings.

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### Race Team Results

#### San Bruno Hill Climb

Garth Jackson, 13th, Cat5

#### Cantua

Garth Jackson, 3rd,, Cat5

Kevin Willitts, 3rd, 45+ 4/5

Randy Volkmar, 7th, 45+ 4/5

#### Merco Grand Prix Crit

Mark Hotchkin, 64th, Cat 3

#### Merco McLane Pacific

Kevin Willitts, 3rd, 35+ 4

#### Land Park Crit

Mark Hotchkin, 50th

#### Zamora

Kevin Willitts, 11th, 45+ open

Randy Volkmar, 17th, 45+ open

Mark Hotchkin, 55<sup>th</sup>





## AACC and Pine Nut Mountain Trails Association Join Up to Clean Up

Nate Litrell, PNMTA

On a beautiful Saturday in March, cyclists and other OHV enthusiasts got together to fix up the parking lot at the Tree. The Tree is a popular staging area for mountain bike rides in the Pine Nuts area, and is the location for the popular AACC mountain bike race series. Over the years, the parking area has gotten quite large. Nate Littrell, of the Pine Nut Mountains Trails Association (and an Alta Alpina family member), decided that it was time to do something. Litrell presented a plan for grading the parking area and installing railroad ties to the AACC board. The board approved funding for the cost of the railroad ties.

Litrell coordinated the event with the two groups and the BLM. The actual workday was a tremendous success. Fifty railroad ties were unloaded, drilled, and staked into the ground with lengths of rebar in under two hours. It was a gorgeous day and folks quickly saddled up for a ride in the Pine Nuts, sweetened with the knowledge that they are participating in improving the experience for other outdoor enthusiasts. The improvements at the tree are approved by the BLM, and help strengthen and validate the use of public land for recreation. Thanks to AACC, PNMTA, and all the people that showed up to help!



Fifty railroad ties were unloaded, drilled, and staked into the ground

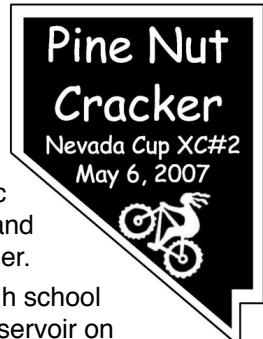
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## Pine Nut Cracker

Jeff Ham, Pine Nut Cracker Race Director

Race day will be here in no time. Don't miss your chance to do a fun local race, and at a discounted price for members. Abundant sunshine, a cool breeze (maybe I'm optimistic), terrific single track, and good folks will make this another excellent event. Registration opens at 9am and races start at 10:30am. I can still use some help on race day, so let me know if you can volunteer.

Even before the Pine Nut Cracker, there is Rainbow Ridge in Fallon on April 22. And for the high school mountain bikers, you should definitely try to race the NorCal HS MTB race at New Melones Reservoir on April 22. It's only 2-1/2 hrs away. Check out their website or email me if you are interested.




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## Wednesday Mountain Bike Races

Mike Beam, Wednesday Race Director

The first Wednesday night mountain bike race will be on May 2nd. The races are tentatively schedule to start at 6:00 PM. The classes are men's A, B, and C and women's. The course start will be at the big tree in the Pine Nuts. The length will range in distance from 8-15 miles.



## Zamora Road Race Sun. March 18,07

Scott Herman

I was really excited about racing Zamora this year because I knew it was going to be hot, temperature wise. I was really excited about racing Zamora this year because I was in a new category (55+), and would be racing with the "old dudes." I knew I wouldn't be contesting, but it still would be fun riding with some "geezers". I was really excited about racing Zamora this year because it would be the first race of the year that Micah and I both rode. We would have fun spending who knows how much time sharing war stories on the drive home. I was really excited about racing Zamora this year... until that morning. For some reason, I was down on myself and was convinced I should just forfeit the entry fee and call it a day.

The day before, our trainer apparently had been stolen from the Land Park crit and the cell phone looked like it had been left behind at the Motel 6. I just wasn't feeling it. But I, we, didn't come all this way to pack it in before it even started. So, as I was standing in the registration line looking around at some of the competition I'm thinking, "Geeze, some of these guys look really old and some are really overweight and I just might have a chance of finishing ahead of some of them." So with newfound enthusiasm I pinned my number on, got all the necessary stuff in order, and went for a leisurely warm up.

At the line up I was able to wish Kevin Willets and Randy Volkmar "Good Luck" and took my place towards the back. Off we go. Nice pace, typical surges that keep you alert, and the usual flats that have

riders traversing across the path of oncoming cyclists. We are on a bit of a roller and the pace is picking up a bit, and I like it because there's no problem staying in, and all of a sudden there's this big void in the middle of the group, sort of a Black Hole. It kind of looked like the eye of a hurricane. This could only mean one thing-CRASH! I was not looking forward to being any part of this black hole.

**"...and all of a sudden there's this big void in the middle of the group, sort of a Black Hole. It kind of looked like the eye of a hurricane. This could only mean one thing-CRASH!"**

Oy! Off into the weeds, keeping the bike upright, all the while listening to the sounds of metal fusing with pavement, guys cursing, shouting, SCREAMING, taking in the fragrance of burnt rubber from brakes locking up, looking at bodies in the middle of the road covered in blood, some having great difficulty getting out of the middle of the road. I'm not sure, but it looked like they were all younger guys involved. Probably were, because they haven't had that age thing yet to remind them of how long it takes to heal the older you get.

All this no more than two miles into the first lap! Great, just great.

Back up on the tarmac and look at that! There goes the pack rather furiously up the rest of that little kicker. Looks to be the fastest they've gone all day. Here we go again. Realizing I wasn't going to catch back up by myself, I sat up and waited for the rest of the group, and we started to chase together. After finishing my first or second pull, I realized the chase

group was down to three. No sooner did I finish my next pull, did I realize we were two. Ahh, nothing like a two man chase, eh? I told my new mate to just pretend we were off the front but he was from parts unknown (I later found out he was Phillipino) and I couldn't understand a word he was saying. It took awhile just to get things together.

The best part, my newfound friend and I were unexpectedly caught by the Masters 35+1-2-3 guys, who were, without a doubt, the fastest group out there. All of a sudden, we were swept up by this freight train and we're moving along much faster than we had been. Once I realized what was up, I signaled for them to come around on my left side whilst I slowly drifted to the far right, leaving them plenty of room. "I'm ridin' with the big boys!" I shouted, garnishing some quizzical looks and a smile or two. My mate, on the other hand, refused to budge, and insisted on staying in for the free ride as long as possible.

They were not too pleased with that, but they did let him stay upright and eventually shelled him, leaving him at least 200 meters up the road from me. In all of this, I caught a 45+ guy who had been dropped, and we worked to bring back my earlier companion. From there, we worked the last two laps and my earlier companion took the sprint. I did not contest because they had towed me around most of the third lap, and I felt they might not like me sitting on for 10 miles and then sprinting. Besides, I may need them to tow me around another time!



## Board Meeting Minutes—April 2, 2007

Secretary: John Seher; Other Board Members: Michael Bayer, Di Bolton, Pete Costa, David Gaskin, Jennie Hamiter, Jeff Ham, Mel Maalouf, Darla Mazzoni, Libby Oakden, Dennis Pederson, Tim Rowe, Steve Thomsen; Other Attendees: Corey Bolton

### 1. Monthly Status Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Dave Gaskin reports a bank balance of \$37,037.90.
- **Memberships:** Michael Bayer reports 42 members have renewed so far this year. The revised and improved Internet membership renewal feature is up and running.
- **Newsletter:** Editor Libby Oakden reports the April Paceline is in production. Cycling related articles are always needed.
- **Website:** Webmaster Dennis Pederson has updated the web site to include the 2007 club events and a cycling blog.
- **Bike Advocacy:** Tim Rowe testified at the Nevada Legislature in favor of an eighteen years and younger bicycle helmet law in Nevada. It received support from several law enforcement agencies, however there were questions about enforceability. The perceived benefit of the law is to encourage cycling safety education.
- **Junior Team:** Mel has located a source to obtain three new junior team bikes at a favorable price. The Board approved a purchase of three bikes and associated equipment for \$1,500. This appropriation included an unused amount from the 2006 Junior Team equipment budget. These bikes will fill some gaps in the size selection for the junior team bike stable.
- **Carson Valley Classic:** Steve Thomson reported all permits have been approved and paid. An on-line registration capability is up and running.
- **Pine Nut Cracker:** Jeff Ham indicated that all permits have been filed, and preparations are progressing on schedule.
- **Clothing:** Mel reported that shipment of the new clothing order was imminent, and there would be

adequate supply of AACC duds at the Spring meeting. Darla relayed a message from Tammy that the order for AACC hooded sweatshirts was completed and will be available at the Spring meeting.

- **Road Cleanup:** Peter Costa has a workday scheduled for April 21. This is Earth Day weekend. Meet at Turtle Rock Park at 09:00. There will be a ride afterwards, distance and intensity depending upon participants.
- 2. **Death Ride:** Reports from Jennie, Michael, Tim, and John informed the rest of the Board about discussions with the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce concerning budget and staffing for the '07 DR. Jennie reported we now have a team in place to discharge all the duties for which Alta Alpina is responsible. There was a lengthy discussion concerning business arrangements for the '08 event.
- 3. **Weekend Rides:** Ride Director Tammy was not present. The concept of the Ride Board replacing the scheduled weekend rides was discussed, but the consensus of the Board was that we should continue to have scheduled weekend rides in addition to the Ride Board.
- 4. **Twilight Race Series.** Di Bolton presented a schedule for the road race series, which included some new venues and new race formats. The race schedule will be finalized for distribution at the Spring party. Mike Beam was not present to report on the mountain bike race series, but plans are to continue with this series again this season
- 5. **Spring Party:** Arrangements have been completed and day-of-event tasks were assigned to the various board members.
- 6. **Next Meeting:** Monday, May 7, 2007, 6 pm, New York Pizza on Al Tahoe in South Lake Tahoe..

## Local Merchant Discount Program



For discounts from these local merchants, please visit the AACC website at [www.AtaAlpina.org](http://www.AtaAlpina.org)

