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ou can tell summer is here, hot and a lot of rain. Now is the time to carry that extra water bottle and maybe some rain gear. If you have to ride in the rain, slow up a little and back off from the rider in front. The rear tire will throw up a lot of spray and if that rider goes down you may go down also.

Ginny seems to be getting our Cycle Fest under control but this is a big job and I know that she needs more calls from members to volunteer.

All the Cycle Fest volunteers get to ride FREE this year. You can have a lot of fun; working and riding.

There are a lot less cars on the road, either from lack of fuel or a lot of people going up north and traveling. There are still a few nuts out there. They are the ones you have to have eyes in the back of your head for. Remember, to watch out for the big trucks, don't assume that they can see you, so be on guard.

I want to mention this once more -- beware of the rider in front that calls out CLEAR. It's your life and I would suggest that you look both directions before you go. If there is a call of CLEAR and you are fifth or sixth in line you could be in real trouble if you do not look yourself. Better yet, please DO NOT call Clear.

I got an E-mail from member Bill Rolette with some suggestions for Ride leaders and Riders. Most has to do with the responsibility of the Ride Leaders and most of what Bill had to say is true. I agree with Bill that a lot of ride Leaders forget what their responsibilities are on a ride that they lead. I am not going to go into everything Bill had to say because the SMBC Board is working on a program for ride Leaders and as soon as it is finished we may have a course for all Ride Leaders to attend. This will not be mandatory but I know it would make Ride Leaders more aware of what is expected of them and would help the riders they lead to have more confidence in them.

John Jordan has a "HOT DOG Leisure Ride" coming up soon and I want to be clear what a LEISURE ride is. Leisure rides have no set speed. All levels are welcome and you can ride at any speed you like. On the Thursday Leisure ride the group rides at a speed where they can talk back and forth, look at the sights or they can speed ahead and loosen up but always come back to the group. It gives a rider a break from the normal pace of a ride. In other words, it's a fun ride. As John Jordan puts it "A leisure ride is an unhurried ride where one can enjoy the moment." There will be maps for different mileage rides for the riders that want to do their ride level.

Once again Cycle Fest - NEEDS YOU - Volunteer. *Volunteers please contact Dave at 941-776-2769 or <david@ladyjane.com> or Ginny <vreadsalot@aol.com> 941-342-2821.*



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**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER DEADLINE
FRIDAY OCTOBER 17**

The first thing that happens when a cell phone rings on a ride is that everyone reacts. Think about it.

Ride safe, Tony.

**Sarasota-Manatee
Bicycle Club**

Presents The

**11th
Annual
Gulf Coast
Cycle Fest**

**Sunday
November 2, 2008**



Thanks to our sponsors

Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club, Inc.
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Directions

North of location—take I-75 and exit at 220 SR 64 going east 2.6 miles. Right turn at Lakewood Ranch Blvd. People will be directing traffic into the parking lot.

South of Location—Take I-75 North and exit at 217 SR 70 going east 2 miles. Turn left onto Lakewood Ranch Blvd. LECOM will be on the left side of the street.

Please follow the signs for parking. The Registration and starting ride location will be at LECOM, which is located at 5000 Lakewood Ranch Blvd.

