



Steamboat Newsletter—Vol 11
www.steamboatcyclingclub.com



Welcome to the first newsletter for 2021! Spring is upon us and the days are getting longer. Area rides that were cancelled last year are back on. So get out there and get that bike moving once again! Ride lots!! Ride Safe!!

April Spotlight

(our first in a series of spotlights on what we love to do)

2021 Sponsors

These companies have renewed their sponsorship with us again for 2021! Be sure to thank them when you are in their business and be sure to use their services whenever you can!

"They" say that if you enjoy riding a bike and even have a bike or two inside your garage, your BFF needs to be the bike mechanic at your local bike shop. Well...Gary Fraser at Bike Town needs to be your BFF!

Many have said that Gary is one of the best bike mechanics in the state and those of us who have used him over the years certainly agree with that. After being stationed at multiple air bases, Gary retired after 25 years in the USAF—18 at Dyess. With his wife teaching at Dyess Elementary and 2 sons in school, Abilene was a great place to live.

During the 80's, Gary did some road racing at the Cat 3 level and even did some race officiating. When he turned 50, he started Mtn bike racing and was #2 in the state and finished 5th at Nationals in Vermont. He has done multiple century rides; multiple Hotter N Hell rides and ridden with Lance.

Gary had tinkered with bikes over the years and worked part time during his career with Dyess at Mike's Bike on South First St. In 2002 after retiring from Dyess, he began working with Jim at Bike Town.

How many bikes has he placed on his stand back in the shop? Take 10 on the low side and 15 on the high per day x 5 days a week x 52 weeks in a year x 19 years!!! Quite a few to say the least (He's had a few days of vacation now and then!).

Gary has worked on them all....road, carbon, steel, mountain, tri, gravel, E-bikes, kids bikes, tricycles and everything else. (cont'd on the back)



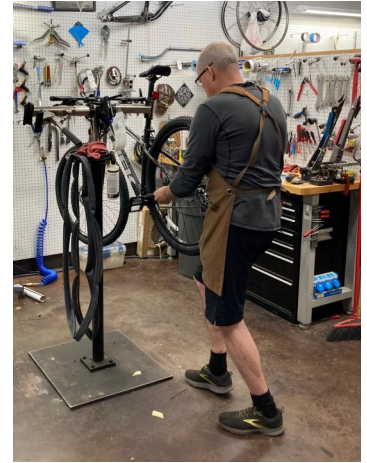
Here are a few of his thoughts:

- **Disc or Rim Brakes:** Rim—here in Abilene with the dry weather
- **Electronic or manual shifting:** **ELECTRONIC!!**
- **Road or Mountain:** Mountain—without a doubt!
- **Climbing or Descending:** Why not both!
- **Power or HR:** Power if you are wanting to improve
- **Trek or Specialized:** Right now Trek...better parts inventory, support, and availability of bikes

Gary has seen a lot of us come through the doors over the years at Bike Town and he continues to perform his magic working on our bikes.

What advice would he give us:

Keep your head up and enjoy the ride!!



2021—A View on the Road!



2021 Cycling Calendar

- ♦ **April 24—Journey for Sight Memorial Bikefest—Ballinger**
- ♦ **May 8—Beat the Street For Little Feet—Sweetwater**
- ♦ **May 15—Bosque Tour de Norway—Clifton**
- ♦ **May 19—Ride of Silence—McMurry University**
(sponsored by Steamboat Cycling Club)
- ♦ **June 5—Possum Pedal—Graham**
- ♦ **June 12—Tour de Agua—Dublin**
- ♦ **July 24/25—Tour de Gap—Buffalo Gap**

May 15— Ride the Double Mtn Fork of the Brazos!!

Dwayne and Cindy Landreth have invited Steamboat Cycling Club to ride from their home in Rule, Texas. Cross the Double Mtn Fork of the Brazos twice, head through Old Glory and wide open ranching country. Arrive at 8:30...wheels out at 9:00. More info will be posted soon.

2021 Time Trial Series is Back—Next TT—May 6

Next Steamboat Club Meeting—May 11 @ Mad Coffee