

Fall 97 Odyssey 2000[®] Rider Memo

Date: November 6, 1997
To: Odyssey 2000[®] Registered Riders
From: Tim Kneeland & Associates, Inc.
Re: Update on Odyssey 2000[®]

It time for another memo

How many of you would leave on Odyssey today if given the chance? Dozens of folks have told us they would pedal out of LA in a heartbeat. They are psyched and ready. Perhaps you are a little more reserved and need the next 2 years to get the complicated details of your life in order before leaving for a year of high adventure!

We really appreciate the feedback we have received on our Odyssey memos. If what we hear is true, they are well read by most Odyssey riders. Another request is for more frequent info from TK&A. Unfortunately, TK&A is somewhat strapped for time as we continue to run TK&A's other events and hit the road for Odyssey 2000[®] checkout trips.

However, since Odyssey is getting close, just a little over 2 years away, TK&A plans to increase the rate at which we produce Memos. As much as is humanly possible, TK&A will try its best to meet the following schedule of producing O2 Rider Memos: March 98, June 98, October 98, December 98, February 99, April 99, June 99, August 99, September 99, October 99, November 99 and December 99. So, watch those mailboxes.

Karen-Ann and I are off

On Nov. 19, Karen-Ann and I are off for about 60,000 miles of ground and air travel. We are going to drive, explore and computerize possible routes through Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, South Africa, Israel, Egypt, Greece, Australia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, China (including Hong Kong) and Japan. On the way back to Seattle, we are stopping in Hawaii to confirm Wheeling Hawaii details. We will be back in Seattle around February 3, 1998. It promises to be a super trip and highly educational.

Annual payment due in January 1998

As a reminder, your last "annual payment" is due this January. After these payments are made, everyone will be committed at the \$6000 level. Needless to say, this is a substantial investment in Odyssey and will give TK&A a little better indication of who will actually be leaving Los Angeles in less than 26 months.

Then, your final "big" payment (\$29,000 to 33,000) will be due in January, 1999. After everyone has made their final payment, TK&A will, for the first time, really know who will actually be a participant in Odyssey. Even though most of you know your desire and ability to remain part of Odyssey, the payments make it a reality for TK&A.

Yearly payments due in January

Here are the specifics based on the year you registered (payments must be postmarked on or before February 1, 1998):

<u>Reg. Year</u>	<u>Full Cost</u>	<u>Discount</u>	<u>Your Cost</u>	<u>Yearly Payment Due</u>
1993	\$36,000	\$7,000	\$29,000	\$1,100
1994	\$36,000	\$6,000	\$30,000	\$1,375
1995	\$36,000	\$5,000	\$31,000	\$1,833
1996	\$36,000	\$4,000	\$32,000	\$2,750
1997	\$36,000	\$3,000	\$33,000	\$5,500

This is your invoice

TK&A will not be mailing invoices as a reminder of your payment. If you need an invoice, please copy this page and put it with your other bills.

Payments must be on time

Please plan your finances carefully. You must make your 1998 and 1999 payments on time or you will be dropped from Odyssey. Sorry, but there will be no exceptions to this policy. We priced Odyssey well, offered excellent discounts, have tried to be fair and consistent in all of the decisions made around Odyssey's finances and simply don't have the time to chase money.

Can I pay my payment early?

Yes. If it is beneficial to you, please feel free to make your payment this month or in December.

In doubt about going on Odyssey?

As you can appreciate, the big uncertainty for TK&A is that more people will drop than we have anticipated. Since we have already had 134 cancel, we know the complexity and cost of Odyssey makes it hard (impossible) for some people to remain registered for this unique event.

If you are one of those choosing to drop from Odyssey for personal reasons or don't think you can meet the payment schedule, please let TK&A know as soon as you know. Your cooperation in this area will help us predict the potential rider fallout and plan according. If you decide to drop and are due a refund, please send a letter or email your intentions and we will process any refunds due.

US & Canadian wait-list

We currently have 22 on the waiting list from the US and Canada. Their hope, of course, is to eventually become an official part of Odyssey. Even though we can't promise anyone a spot until the attrition realities are known, the wait list will help TK&A schedule its staff time according to priority needs. We need to spend most of 1999 on Odyssey logistics, not recruitment.

International registrations are still open

Even though we have closed US and Canadian registrations, we will continue to sign-up international participants. Recent advertising and news release mailings (last month we sent out news releases in Italian, Spanish and French) have been directed to the foreign press and are paying off. We have

received a substantial number of inquiries, especially from Italy. No new regos yet, but we will keep you informed.

Odyssey participant names

Once again it is worth a mention. TK&A has decided to keep the list of registered riders private until sometime after March 1999 when all the payments are in. Several reasons have prompted us to make this decision. Maintaining each individual's privacy; keeping people from pitching phone cards, long distance services and other commercial ventures to our group; inappropriate and unauthorized use of the list; someone using the list to garner support for their individual agendas; and the fact that it cost TK&A a lot of money to recruit a group of enthusiastic folks wanting to pedal a bike 20,000 miles around the world in the year 2000.

If you want to meet Odyssey riders

Figure out a way to participate in one of our events. Every year, participants in our cross-country rides, Wheeling Hawaii and Wheeling Washington meet several riders signed up for Odyssey. And it looks like 1998's Southern Cross and West Coast International Bicycle Classics™ will offer plenty of opportunities. Ditto for Wheeling Washington™ and Hawaii.

Odyssey TK&A ride discounts

We have always encouraged Odyssey riders to try TK&A out, but realize the cost and time can be prohibitive for some. However, we are making it a little easier. Check out the enclosed flyer for details about receiving substantial discounts for participation in the Southern Cross Bicycle Classic™ from April 20 to June 6, 1998 (\$50 a week or \$500 off the entire ride) or the incredibly scenic West Coast International Bicycle Classic™ from September 17 to October 12, 1998 (\$50 a week or \$300 off the entire trip). Plus ride Wheeling Washington (\$100 off) or Wheeling Hawaii (\$100 off) as well. Sorry, no discounts for Mary Bridge Children's Hospital's Courage Classic, the challenging 3 day "food" trek in Washington's Central Cascade mountains.

Discretionary time

We feel enjoying Odyssey will be somewhat tied to a person's ability to have the time and energy to do whatever they want: explore, visit, stop and smell the scents, take detours, arrive early in the day, party those nights you feel inclined to do so, take advantage of unexpected opportunities that present themselves, etc. Fitness, both physically and psychologically, will be the key. Most who have registered for Odyssey are psyched and, we expect, more ready psychologically than physically.

How ya doin'? In an earlier memo TK&A recommend riding 3000 in 97, 4000 miles in 1998 and 5000 in 1999 to help prepare for riding the rigors of Odyssey. If you haven't already started to train, it's time! In addition to cycling, adding some other cardiovascular activities during inclement weather is very helpful. Even adding a little weight training might round out your program and impress natives throughout the world.

Incidentally, Odyssey riders don't have to be super athletes or have the lycra bods expected of a racer. But, the better your conditioning, the more enjoyable Odyssey will be. If you wait until Odyssey begins to start your training, you will miss a lot, guaranteed!

Passports

Everyone will need a valid US (or respective country) passport for Odyssey. Make sure you have plenty of pages available for the stamps you will receive and that it expires sometime after July of 2001.

Visa requirements

Terrorism aside, it is getting easier to travel every year. Countries of the EU (Economic Union) in Europe are relatively easy to travel between. In some areas, border guard checkpoints remain, but they are not staffed. Australia just tossed its visa requirement and has initiated an electronic application process for visiting this intriguing country. However, other countries (Vietnam, China, Russia, etc.) require visas and even a letter of "invite" from someone in their country. We expect visa requirements will continue to dwindle, but a few will be required during Odyssey. Obtaining Visas is also each individual's responsibility.

Checkout the enclosed info on requirements through various Odyssey countries. This list was downloaded from the US State Department's world wide website (www). The web continues to be an ever improving, fantastic resource for travel information. Even though this list will continue to change, we thought it interesting enough to include with this Memo.

Web

If for some reason you are not yet wired into the Internet with access to the World Wide Web, consider doing it soon. The information out there, accessible by a few strokes of a relatively inexpensive computer connected to cheap Internet Service Providers (ISPs) such as American Online, Compuserve or others in your local area, is enormous and extremely educational.

As Karen-Ann and I increase our travel schedule to explore routes and connect with folks who will be providing food, facilities and sanitation services during Odyssey, we are becoming more dependent on the Internet. We keep in contact with Brit-Simone from dozens of countries around the world, and it's getting easier every month. The Internet, our website and E-mail (electronic mail) are critical to running our business and preparing the logistics of Odyssey.

So, if you are not wired and taking advantage of the web and email, it's time. Where else in life, for such a low cost, can you have access to millions of web pages packed full of information which might prove valuable as you plan to take a "year on" and travel around the world?

Web releases planned for 1998 & 1999

For those with email access, we might experiment with sending a couple of Memo's from the road during our travels next summer. Stayed tuned for details.

TK&A's web addresses

In addition to our web address at www.kneeland.com, we recently registered www.odyssey2000.net. It still brings you to TK&A's home page and is a logical domain name for TK&A. Note that it's .net, not .com.

Excellent medical resource

[Travel Medicine, Inc.](http://www.travelmedicine.com) (351 Pleasant Street, Suite 312, Northampton, MA. 01060, www.travelmedicine.com, 413-584-0381) is a physician-directed company providing travel health information and products for

domestic and international travelers. The company is also a mail-order provider of over 100 products including water filters, medical kits, insect repellents, mosquito nets, and sterile needles and syringe packs for the prevention of AIDS and hepatitis. The company publishes and sells the annually-updated International Travel HealthGuide which describes health risks in over 200 countries and includes a wealth of information on disease prevention and treatment. TK&A has their materials and we have ordered their products.

www.cdc.gov

The Center for Disease Control's web page. Check it out.

Travel Clinics

We highly recommend that each of you ask your Doctor about connecting with a Travel Clinic. Karen-Ann and I have seen and consulted with Doctor Roberts from the Polyclinic in Seattle. He recommended the shots and medication Karen-Ann and I are likely to need for our Odyssey checkout trips and for Odyssey-i.e. Hepatitis A and B series, Yellow Fever, Malaria, Polio Booster, Cholera records, Typhoid, etc. He also supplied our needed International *Certificate of Vaccination* required for travel through much of the world. Immunizations, though unpleasant for many, are a required part of travel and are your responsibility. 1998 is not too early to get started.

Media contacts

TK&A is beginning a pretty aggressive media campaign to promote Odyssey and its role as a significant millennium event. Part of our strategy is to inform local media about folks living in their coverage area. If you have any friends or contacts in the local or national media and feel okay about passing their name/s along to TK&A, please note their name, your relationship with them, their organization and how we can best contact them on the enclosed Media Permission Slip. Also indicate if you'd like to be interviewed by them. No promises, but we will try.

Tyvek jackets

We still have lots of small, medium and large tyvek jackets available for \$39 (includes shipping). As you might know, we had to order 300 to be able to put our design on the jacket. Please call TK&A at 1-800-433-0528 with a VISA or MC in hand and we will ship in plenty of time for Christmas.

Odyssey clothing

Watch the next Memo for info about ordering a Pearl Izumi Odyssey 2000® Jersey (estimated cost of \$75), cycling shorts (estimated cost of \$50) and a nifty Odyssey t-shirt for about \$15.00. We figure these items will be well received and hope the interest is high. Any feedback from you would be appreciated.

Rumor control

Rose Bowl Parade: We are in contact with the Rose Bowl Committee and hope to make an arrangement with them to begin riding Odyssey before the parade actually starts. Then, if all goes well, pedal behind the Rose Bowl Parade on January 1, 2001 as the climax for Odyssey. No promises, but hopefully it will come together.

LA Housing: TK&A will arrange (and pay) for rider and staff housing somewhere in the greater LA area before Odyssey begins. We are thinking of asking everyone to be in LA by about December 29 for the prep meetings before we head south on 1/1/2000.

Odyssey 2000® Bike: We are preparing the proposal and it will be mailed to many worldwide bike manufacturers sometime early next year (if not sooner). We do plan to provide a quality bike that will last for 20,000+ miles of cycling. Plan to put your own pedals and seat on your new bike. The bike will be able to fit all shapes and sizes of participants, even the tough to fit. You will pay for non-warranty parts (including tires, tubes, spokes, a new bike if you lose or trash the one you receive, etc.) and TK&A will provide its normal maintenance to keep your bike in good running order.

You get to keep the bike forever so that you can pass it along to your favorite heirs. You will probably receive your bike about 3 months before Odyssey begins, even if it is snowing in your front yard. We will not be leaving our bikes behind in South America and we are not planning to use Mt. Bikes in Africa.

It's true. Whining will not be allowed during Odyssey. However, each rider will be allowed one bi-monthly short whimper.

Terrain: Odyssey will not be flat, instead it will be topographically interesting. If you ride at your own pace and keep your RPMs up, you won't have any problems handling whatever we design into Odyssey. After all, having fun is the goal!

Odyssey 2000® scientific study update

During the past 2 years we have had several meetings with Dr. Dan Tripps from Seattle Pacific University and brainstormed his idea of a significant scientific study of Odyssey 2000® participants. From these discussions and Dan's professional contacts, it looks like the study is about to become reality.

If funding can be arranged, and we think it can, we will select dozens of enthused Odyssey riders and follow their progress before, during and for several years after Odyssey. The research team has interest and commitments from MDs, PhDs, and other professionals interested in studying the psychological and physiological changes that occur from consistent long term exercise, along with the sociological aspects of being a member of a traveling community of 284 people for an entire year.

In the March 1998 Memo we will discuss specific details about the study and begin the process of selecting the participants.

PS I think our group is a scientist's dream come true!

Questions

Thanks for being part of this unique millennium event. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call at 1-800-433-0528 or (206) 322-4102 or email us at timtka@aol.com.