

August 1999 Rider memo

DATE: AUGUST 27, 1999
TO: ODYSSEY 2000® REGISTERED RIDERS AND STAFF
FROM: TIM KNEELAND & ASSOCIATES, INC.
RE: ODYSSEY UPDATE AND TONS OF STUFF

August Memo

TIME FLYS. SINCE JUNE'S MEMO WAS RATHER BRIEF, WE DECIDED TO WRITE A RATHER LENGTHY AND DETAILED AUGUST MEMO. WE HAVE PACKED IT FULL OF INFORMATION, DETAILS, OBSERVATIONS AND ANSWERS TO MANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS. WE HOPE YOU WILL FIND IT MOST HELPFUL.

Ready or not, Odyssey's on its way

FOR TK&A, AND WE EXPECT FOR YOU AS WELL, TIME SEEMS TO BE INCREASING ITS VELOCITY TOWARDS OUR KICKOFF ON JANUARY 1, 2000. WE ALSO EXPECT THAT MANY RIDERS HAVE OCCASIONAL DOUBTS ABOUT WHAT THEY HAVE GOTTEN THEMSELVES INTO, AND EVERYONE IS WONDERING WHETHER THEY REALLY WILL BE ABLE TO GET THEIR LIFE IN ORDER TO MEET US IN BURBANK ON DECEMBER 30. NO WORRIES, SOMEHOW IT WILL ALL GET DONE BEFORE OUR RAPIDLY APPROACHING DEPARTURE.

We know most people are psyched

IT'S GREAT TO HEAR FROM ALL YOU ODYSSEY RIDERS WHO ARE SO PSYCHED TO BE PART OF SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE. MOST CAN'T WAIT TO GET STARTED AND PROFESS THEY ARE FLEXIBLE AND READY TO ROLL WITH WHATEVER ADVENTURES AND MISADVENTURES THE WORLD DISHES UP. GOOD ON YA MATES. YOU WON'T BE SORRY.

MY (TIM) PERSONAL THEORY ON PREPARING FOR ODYSSEY AND DEALING WITH THE ALL ITS UNKNOWNNS IS TO WORRY AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE. WORRY DOES NOTHING TO HELP AND EVERYTHING TO DISTRACT FROM THE JOYS OF PREPARING FOR AND ANTICIPATING THE DEPARTURE OF OUR 32,000 KILOMETER, 45 COUNTRY, 6 CONTINENT, YEAR LONG ROCKIN' ADVENTURE. SO, IN THE WORDS OF SOMEONE WHO SINGS BETTER THAN I HUM, "DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY".

Courage Classic

LAST WEEKEND WE COMPLETED OUR EIGHTH ANNUAL COURAGE CLASSIC FOR MARY BRIDGE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL'S CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT CLINIC. FIVE-HUNDRED AND FORTY-THREE RIDERS PARTICIPATED ALONG WITH A STAFF OF 150 PLUS. IT WAS A SUPER WEEKEND AND THE RIDE WENT EXTREMELY WELL. THIRTEEN ODYSSEY RIDERS AND FOUR ODYSSEY STAFF RODE AND RAISED MONEY "FOR THE KIDS". THE WEATHER WAS GORGEOUS. SORRY YOU MISSED IT.

Wheeling Washington

WANT TO KNOW WHAT ODYSSEY WILL BE LIKE? IF YOU ARE NOT SIGNED UP, CONSIDER WHEELING WASHINGTON 99™ FROM SEPTEMBER 12 TO 18. CALL FOR DETAILS AND PRICING IF YOU HAVE MISPLACED YOUR OTHER FLYERS. IF YOU ARE WONDERING HOW TK&A WILL BE RUNNING ODYSSEY THIS IS YOUR LAST

CHANCE BEFORE THE BIG KICKOFF. DON'T FORGET, YOUR ODYSSEY DISCOUNT MAKES THIS RIDE VERY AFFORDABLE.

Memo schedule

WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE AND NEED FOR COMMUNICATING ALL TYPES OF INFORMATION TO ODYSSEY RIDERS AND STAFF. OUR PRIMARY TOOL, OF COURSE, IS VIA THE RIDER MEMOS. RIDER MEMOS ARE THE ONLY VEHICLE TK&A USES TO "MASS" COMMUNICATE INFORMATION TO RIDERS AND STAFF. AND, OF COURSE, WE CONTINUALLY ADDRESS INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND CLARITY VIA PHONE CALLS, LETTERS AND E-MAIL.

OUR ORIGINAL HOPE WAS TO ACCELERATE THE MEMO FREQUENCY TO A MONTHLY SCHEDULE LATE IN 1999. UNFORTUNATELY, THE REALITY OF LIFE ON THE ROAD MAKES THIS AMBITIOUS PLAN VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO MEET. HOPEFULLY, EVERYONE WILL UNDERSTAND KAREN-ANN AND MY TIME CONSTRAINTS AND ROLL WITH THE FLOW. WE WILL TRY TO WRITE AT LEAST TWO MORE FULL ON MEMOS AND MAIL THEM IN OCTOBER AND EARLY DECEMBER.

ALSO, BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A COUPLE OF MAILINGS INDEPENDENT OF THE MEMOS TO HIT YOUR MAILBOX BETWEEN NOW AND DECEMBER 30, 1999.

Traveling? Keep track of TK&A mailings

TK&A IS NOT IN A POSITION TO KEEP TRACK OF ANYONE'S PRE-ODYSSEY TRAVEL SCHEDULES. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH TK&A'S OFFICE TO INSURE YOU RECEIVE, AND CAN RESPOND TO, ANY IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN A TIMELY MANNER. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP HERE.

Electronic memos are not going to happen

AS MENTIONED ABOVE, TK&A NEVER DISTRIBUTES MASS RIDER AND STAFF INFORMATION OVER THE INTERNET. THIS IS A CHOICE WE MADE FOR A COUPLE OF REASONS. THE FIRST IS EASY, NOT ALL ODYSSEY RIDERS ARE WIRED. THE SECOND IS A BIGGER CONCERN OF TK&A'S. WE ARE EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO HAVE OUR COPYRIGHTED AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION IN A FORMAT THAT IS SO EASILY FORWARDED AND DISTRIBUTED TO OTHERS. WE HAVE EXPERIENCED ABUSES BEFORE AND WE DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH THEM THIS CLOSE TO THE BEGINNING OF ODYSSEY.

IF YOU SEE INFO ON THE WEB THAT LOOKS OR SOUNDS "OFFICIAL" AND/OR COMES FROM TK&A, IT DOESN'T. NO ONE HAS RECEIVED PERMISSION TO DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION FROM TK&A OVER THE INTERNET. IF THEY HAVE, THEY HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT OUR PERMISSION. ALWAYS USE CAUTION WHEN MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT PREPARING FOR ODYSSEY FROM ADVICE RECEIVED FROM OTHER PEOPLE. THOUGH FOLKS ARE WELL INTENDED, THEY ARE NOT ALWAYS "ODYSSEY" ACCURATE WITH THEIR OPINIONS. IF YOU MAKE ANY INCORRECT DECISIONS BASED ON WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD, THEY COULD PROVE COSTLY FOR YOU TO FIX DOWN THE ROAD.

IF YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC QUESTION, PLEASE CONTACT US DIRECTLY FOR A PERSONAL ANSWER. IF IT'S A QUESTION WE SHOULD ADDRESS FOR ALL ODYSSEY RIDERS AND STAFF, WE WILL DO SO IN THE NEXT MEMO.

Odyssey rider names distributed by an Odyssey rider

AS EVERYONE KNOWS, TK&A CONSIDERS THE LIST OF ODYSSEY RIDERS HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL AND TREATS IT ACCORDINGLY. WE DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THE LIST SO ANY INDIVIDUALS OR COMPANIES CAN SOLICIT BUSINESS OR SUPPORT FOR A PARTICULAR CAUSE.

HOWEVER, ONE OF THE ODYSSEY RIDERS DISTRIBUTED THE ENTIRE RIDER LIST OF NAMES TO CRATE WORKS TRANSPORT SYSTEMS, A BIKE BOX COMPANY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. WE HAVE DISCOVERED WHO IT WAS AND HAVE DISCUSSED THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE DEED. NOT ONLY DID IT DEMONSTRATE BAD JUDGEMENT, IT ALSO JEOPARDIZES A TRUST BETWEEN EVERYONE INVOLVED IN ODYSSEY. WE ACTUALLY CONSIDER GIVING THE NAMES OF ANY ODYSSEY RIDER TO A THIRD PARTY A BREACH OF TRUST AND EACH PARTICIPANT'S RIGHT TO PRIVACY.

Disturbing feedback

THIS IS A VERY TOUGH ISSUE FOR US, AND WE WANT TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO BLOW ANYTHING OUT OF PROPORTION. SINCE THE ADVENT OF THE "ONE-LIST", TK&A HAS RECEIVED LOTS OF POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM ODYSSEY RIDERS THAT THEY HAVE ENJOYED THE CONNECTION MADE WITH THE OTHER RIDERS. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT MOST OF THE INFORMATION ON THE LIST HAS BEEN POSITIVE. THIS TYPE OF COMMENT, OF COURSE, HAS LED US BELIEVE THAT SOME OF THE INFORMATION OUT THERE IS NOT POSITIVE.

WE NEVER WORRIED MUCH THOUGH, SINCE YOU CAN CHALK-UP A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF NEGATIVITY TO PEOPLE JUST BEING PEOPLE.

HOWEVER, DURING THE PAST THREE MONTHS, AN ALARMINGLY HIGH NUMBER OF PEOPLE HAVE MADE UNSOLICITED COMMENTS TO TK&A ABOUT THE PROBLEMS WE ARE GOING TO HAVE WITH SEVERAL PEOPLE ON THE "ONE-LIST". WHEN ASKED WHY, THEY COMMENTED ON THE AMOUNT OF NEGATIVE MATERIAL AND "WHINING" GOING ON BY A FEW PEOPLE OVER THE INTERNET.

TO EVEN THINK THAT PEOPLE ARE HAVING A PROBLEM WITH TK&A IS A BIG DISAPPOINTMENT TO US, SINCE WE ARE LITERALLY SPENDING OUR ENTIRE LIFE (AND THE LIVES OF OUR STAFF) TO PREPARE THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE FOR EVERY SINGLE PERSON INVOLVED IN ODYSSEY 2000®.

WE CERTAINLY UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT A PERSON'S RIGHT TO EXPRESS CONCERNS OR DISAGREE WITH THE DECISIONS TK&A HAS TO MAKE ABOUT ODYSSEY. WE ALSO KNOW SOME PEOPLE TEND TO EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS AS FACTS, INSTEAD OF THEIR PERSONAL THOUGHTS. IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, CONCERN OR REASON TO "WHINE", PLEASE ADDRESS THEM TO TK&A. WE ARE PROBABLY THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN ANSWER YOUR QUESTION CORRECTLY.

ONE THING IS CLEAR, TK&A HAS TO LIVE WITH THE DECISIONS IT MAKES FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR. THEREFORE, WE HAVE NO INTEREST IN MAKING ANY PARTICIPANT, LET ALONE ALL ODYSSEY PARTICIPANTS, MISERABLE FOR ANY PART OF 2000.

PLEASE REMEMBER, TK&A IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO DESIGNING A SUPER ROUTE AND PROVIDING THE LEVEL OF SERVICE EACH OF YOU SIGNED ON TO RECEIVE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT OR WHY WE ARE DOING SOMETHING THE WAY WE ARE, PLEASE HAVE THE COURTESY TO ASK TK&A, NOT FOLKS WHO CAN ONLY GUESS WHAT OUR INTENTIONS ARE. TRY THE PHONE, IT'S QUICK, EASY, FREE (1-800-433-0528), INTERACTIVE AND GIVES US A CHANCE TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER. IF THE OFFICE STAFF CAN'T ANSWER A QUESTION, THEY WILL FIND OUT AND GET BACK TO YOU OR ASK KAREN-ANN OR ME TO CONTACT YOU.

So, since all opportunities for refunds have expired, who are we?

THE DUST HAS SETTLED ALMOST COMPLETELY, AND WE DON'T EXPECT MUCH MORE ATTRITION. SURPRISINGLY, WE HAVE HAD 9 PEOPLE DROP WHO HAD THEIR FEES FULLY PAID. IT JUST SHOWS HOW COMPLEX IT IS TO PREPARE FOR SUCH A MAJOR UNDERTAKING. WE HOPE TO RECRUIT A FEW MORE FOLKS BEFORE WE DEPART PASADENA...TIME WILL TELL! IF WE DON'T, NO PROBLEM.

THE FOLLOWING IS A CURRENT SNAPSHOT OF THE ODYSSEY RIDER GROUP:

1. TWO-HUNDRED AND THIRTY (237) ARE FULLY PAID REGISTERED RIDERS.
2. HERE IS THE DETAIL ON HOW MANY REGISTERED IN EACH YEAR: 1993=2, 1994=16, 1995=83, 1996=57, 1997=32, 1998=26 AND 1999=21.
3. THE EXTENDED PAYMENT PROGRAM HAS EXPIRED AND NO ONE IS MAKING ANY PAYMENTS. IT'S \$36,000 FOR EVERYONE AT THIS POINT.
4. THE GROUP HAS 123 (52%) MEN AND 114 (48%) WOMEN.
5. THE CURRENT AGE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS: UNDER 20=2, TWENTIES=14, THIRTIES=29, FORTIES=63, FIFTIES=84, SIXTIES=39, SEVENTIES=5 AND ONE UNKNOWN.
6. THE AVERAGE AGE WILL BE 49 WHEN WE LEAVE.
7. THE MEDIAN AGE WILL BE 52.85 ON JAN. 1, 2000.
8. THE YOUNGEST WILL BE 18 AND THE OLDEST 79 WHEN WE DEPART. OUR 79 YEAR WILL TURNS 80 IN SEPT.
9. ODYSSEY STILL RIDERS REPRESENT 32 STATES: WA=39, CA=39, CO=24, OR=18, PA=12, FL=9, WI=9, AZ=8, MA=8, VA=7, IL=5, NY=4, IN=3, ME=3, MN=3, NC=3, NJ=3, VT=3, MI=2, CT=2, IA=2, NH=2, NM=2, NV=4, OH=2, TX=1, AK=1, ID=1, KY=1, MD=1, RI=1 AND UT=1.
10. ODYSSEY RIDERS ARE EITHER LIVING IN OR REPRESENTING 8 SEPARATE COUNTRIES: US=223, CANADA=7, SWITZERLAND=2, AND ONE EACH IN ENGLAND, FRANCE, NEW ZEALAND, NETHERLANDS AND WALES. PLUS ONE OF THE RIDERS LIVING IN THE USA IS A SRI LANKAN CITIZEN.
11. ODYSSEY HAS 35 COUPLES REGISTERED TO RIDE TOGETHER.
12. SINCE ODYSSEY BEGAN, WE REGISTERED 542 RIDERS, OF WHICH 305 HAVE DROPPED OUT.

Odyssey meetings

KAREN-ANN AND I ENJOYED MEETING ABOUT 146 PEOPLE (125 ODYSSEY RIDERS) AT THE EIGHT MEETINGS WE DELIVERED AROUND THE USA. HERE'S A SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE:

<u>CITY</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
PORTLAND	14
SEATTLE	34
MIAMI	CANCELLED
DENVER	16
BOSTON	12
CHICAGO	17
WASHINGTON DC	24
SAN FRANCISCO	15
BURBANK	14

THOUGH THE MEETINGS WERE DIFFICULT TO MESH WITH OUR TRAVEL SCHEDULE, WE FELT THEY WERE WORTHWHILE AND ENJOYED THE TIME WITH THE ODYSSEY RIDERS. WE HAD LOTS OF GOOD QUESTIONS AND HAD A CHANCE TO DISCUSS SOME HISTORY, SHARE SOME FACTS AND ADDRESS THE COMPLEX ISSUE OF LOGISTICS AND ROUTE DESIGN. THE ENERGY LEVEL WAS HIGH AND PEOPLE ENJOYED INTERACTING WITH THEIR FELLOW RIDERS AND ODYSSEY MANAGEMENT. THANKS TO ALL WHO TOOK THE TIME TO JOIN US.

Medical study

UNFORTUNATELY, THE MEDICAL STUDY WE WORKED HARD TO BUILD HAS BEEN CANCELLED. THE TEAM FOUND THAT PULLING IT TOGETHER WITHIN THE LOGISTICAL CONSTRAINTS OF ODYSSEY WAS GOING TO BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO ACCOMPLISH.

WE ARE EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED ABOUT THIS, BUT UNDERSTAND HOW THESE THINGS HAPPEN. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT EXHAUSTED THE POSSIBILITY OF A STUDY AND ARE WORKING ON ANOTHER APPROACH AS WE SPEAK.

Mini-study

WE DO RECOMMEND THAT YOU SPEAK WITH YOUR PERSONAL DOCTOR OR EVEN A SPORTS MEDICINE DOCTOR ABOUT GATHERING SOME CRITICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU BEFORE AND AFTER ODYSSEY. PERHAPS BLOOD WORK, A URINE ANALYSIS, BODY FAT CONTENT, WEIGHT, BLOOD PRESSURE AND OTHER VITALS, ETC. THIS BASELINE INFORMATION WILL BE INVALUABLE TO MEASURE AGAINST UPON YOUR RETURN.

Insurance

DAN MCKAY PROMISED OUR MEDICAL INSURANCE POLICY WILL BE FORMALLY ISSUED BY LLOYD'S IN OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER. TK&A WILL INCLUDE THE OFFICIAL 2 PAGE SUMMARY OF THE POLICY WITH THE NOVEMBER MEMO.

Gear trailer update & luggage space specs

OUR "MCGYVER" TECHNICAL CREW HAS BEEN WORKING HARD ON THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE VEHICLES, SHOWERS, SINKS, GEAR TRAILERS, ETC. IT LOOKS LIKE WE ARE ABOUT TO PLACE AN ORDER TO BUILD THREE ADDITIONAL GEAR TRAILERS. THE FRAMES ARE BEING MANUFACTURED IN IDAHO AND THE BOXES WILL BE ASSEMBLED IN WASHINGTON STATE. WE ARE EXCITED WITH OUR FINAL DECISION AND LOOK FORWARD TO USING THE GEAR TRAILERS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE DURING ODYSSEY.

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, THE EXISTING GEAR TRAILER HAS 128 BOXES. EACH BOX IS 18"X18"X34". IN ORDER TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE TRANS-OCEANIC SHIPPING, IT LOOKS LIKE THE THREE NEW TRAILERS WILL HAVE BOX DIMENSIONS OF 17"X17"X37". PLEASE LIMIT YOUR PERSONAL AND CAMPING GEAR TO A TOTAL WEIGHT OF 60 POUNDS.

What's the story on moving bags?

TK&A HAS PROMISED TO DELIVER YOUR BAGS FROM ONE OVERNIGHT LOCATION TO THE NEXT WHEN YOU ARE TRAVELING AS A NORMAL PART OF ODYSSEY 2000®. THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED WITH EITHER A LARGE OPEN

TRUCK OR TK&A'S NEW GEAR TRAILERS. WHEN WE USE AN OPEN BOX TRUCK (LIKE A 24' RYDER TRUCK), THE TRUCK NORMALLY OPENS 15 MINUTES BEFORE BREAKFAST BEGINS EACH DAY. EACH PARTICIPANT IS PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR LOADING ALL THEIR OWN BAGS. ONCE YOUR GEAR IS LOADED, YOU WON'T HAVE ACCESS TO IT UNTIL THE END OF THE DAY. THE GEAR IS USUALLY UNLOADED BY THE FIRST COUPLE OF DOZEN FOLKS WHO ARRIVE AT CAMP AT THE END OF THE DAY.

WHEN WE USE THE ODYSSEY GEAR TRAILERS, YOU WILL HAVE ONE LOCKER SPACE FOR STORING ALL YOUR GOODIES. AT CAMP, THIS SYSTEM USUALLY PROVIDES EXCELLENT ACCESS TO YOUR BAGS. THE BEST THING THOUGH, IS THAT YOU WILL USUALLY ONLY HAVE TO OFFLOAD WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO NEED. SINCE WE WILL PROBABLY SECURE THE OUTSIDE DOORS ON OCCASION, WE WILL USUALLY UNLOCK THEM 15 MINUTES BEFORE BREAKFAST BEGINS.

WE ARE CURRENTLY EXAMINING SHIPPING SCHEDULES AND COSTS AND HOPE TO USE OUR NEW TRAILERS ON OVER HALF OF THE ODYSSEY STAGES: USA/MEXICO, SOUTH AFRICA, ALL EUROPEAN STAGES, USA/CANADA, JAPAN, NEW ZEALAND AND SAN DIEGO TO BURBANK. STAY TUNED!

What happens to my stuff if I have to leave Odyssey for a day, week, month?

THIS HAS BEEN A HOT TOPIC FOR SOME, BUT IS RELATIVELY EASILY ANSWERED. TK&A IS NOT IN THE PERSONAL BAGGAGE MANAGEMENT BUSINESS (ESPECIALLY TOUCHING OTHER'S BAG) AND WILL NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR OR MIND PARTICIPANTS' BAGS OR BIKES IF THEY LEAVE THE TREK FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME FOR ANY REASON AT ALL. EACH RIDER MUST TAKE COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS OR HER OWN BAGS AND EQUIPMENT EACH DAY OF ODYSSEY, JUST AS THOUGH YOU WERE TRAVELING WITHOUT TK&A.

BASED ON SOME VERY HARD PAST EXPERIENCES, TK&A KNOWS THAT ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR A PERSON'S GEAR IS ALMOST ALWAYS A LOSE-LOSE SITUATION. WHEN YOU ADD THE COMPLICATION OF FOREIGN TRAVEL, BORDER CROSSINGS AND FLIGHTS BETWEEN NATIONS, IT JUST GETS WORSE.

IF YOU EVER PLAN TO LEAVE ODYSSEY FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME (WE HOPE YOU DON'T, OF COURSE), JUST PLAN ON TAKING YOUR GEAR AND BIKE WITH YOU. THE FOLLOWING WILL OFFER SOME CLARIFICATION AND A COUPLE OF IDEAS WHICH MIGHT PROVE USEFUL:

1. WHEN ODYSSEY CROSSES A BORDER (BOTH LEAVING AND ENTERING EACH COUNTRY), EVERY RIDER AND STAFF WILL HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO OFF-LOAD ALL THEIR PERSONAL GEAR, STAND NEXT TO IT FOR INSPECTION PURPOSES AND THEN RELOAD IT BACK INTO THE GEAR TRAILER OR LARGE BOX TRUCK. IN THEORY THIS COULD HAPPEN 45 TIMES. IN REALITY, WE HOPE IT NEVER WILL, THOUGH WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOR THIS EVENTUALITY. PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRIES WE ARE VISITING, PLUS DEALING WITH THE MANNERS, IRRITATIONS AND WHIMS (OR CHARM) OF THE BORDER OFFICIALS AT EVERY CROSSING.
2. WHEN CHECKING IN FOR FLIGHTS ALL OVER THE WORLD, WE WILL BE ASKED TO SHOW A PERSONAL PHOTO IDENTIFICATION (PASSPORT FOR ALL INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS) AND THEN ASKED ABOUT OUR BAGS. WHO PACKED THEM? HAVE THEY BEEN IN YOUR POSSESSION SINCE THEY WERE PACKED? HAS ANYONE ASKED YOU OR GIVEN YOU ANYTHING TO CARRY? THEN, IF THE AIRLINES DISCOVER A BAG WITHOUT AN OWNER ON THE SAME FLIGHT, THEY WILL LIKELY REMOVE THE BAGS FROM THE PLANE. THIS RESTRICTION ALONE PROHIBITS US (OR ANYONE) FROM CARRYING SOMEONE ELSE'S BAGS.
3. IF WE ARE NOT CROSSING A BORDER AND YOU PLAN TO LEAVE FOR A FEW DAYS, YOU MIGHT ASK A FELLOW RIDER TO KEEP TRACK OF THE PERSONAL GEAR YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE BEHIND (PERHAPS YOUR TENT AND SLEEPING BAG). THIS WILL BE RELATIVELY EASY WHEN WE OUR USING OUR ODYSSEY GEAR TRAILERS. YOU CAN LOCK IT UP, LEAVE THE KEY WITH THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY AND TELL THE ODYSSEY ROAD OFFICE WHO IS MINDING YOUR GOODS. HOWEVER, WHEN WE ARE USING A LARGE BOX TRUCK, YOUR FRIEND WILL HAVE TO TAKE CHARGE OF IT, PICK IT UP OFF THE GROUND, SECURE IT, THEN RELOAD IT THE NEXT MORNING. HE OR SHE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COUNT ON RELOADING IT THAT EVENING SINCE WE MAY HAVE OTHER PLANS FOR THE TRUCK.
4. THE BIKE WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, SO PLAN ON TAKING IT EVERYWHERE YOU GO. SINCE THE CONCEPT OF "IF IT'S FAIR FOR ONE, IT'S FAIR FOR ALL" APPLIES, WE COULD EASILY FIND OURSELVES HAVING TO RENT AN EXTRA TRUCK JUST TO HANDLE THE BIKES PEOPLE WANT TO LEAVE BEHIND. ANY AVAILABLE "TK&A BIKE SPACE" WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE ROAD AND TO CARRY THE BIKES OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED.
5. PLEASE UNDERSTAND THERE IS A LIMIT TO THE LEVEL OF SERVICE ODYSSEY STAFF IS CAPABLE OF OFFERING. THE SPECIAL REQUESTS ALWAYS TAKE TIME, COST EXTRA MONEY AND OFTEN CREATE BAD FEELINGS. THESE DISTRACTIONS ARE SIMPLY NOT WORTH IT FOR A SMOOTH RUNNING ODYSSEY.

Passport by now

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT EVERYONE HAS ALREADY OBTAINED A CURRENT PASSPORT. GOOD, 'CAUSE WE NEED SOME BASIC PASSPORT INFORMATION FROM EACH RIDER AND STAFF.

Please correct and complete the enclosed *Rider Information Form*

PLEASE COMPLETE EVERY LINE OF THE ENCLOSED *RIDER INFORMATION FORM*, INCLUDING THE REQUESTED PASSPORT INFORMATION. WHEN YOU MAIL THIS BACK, INCLUDE A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT INFORMATION PAGE (THE ONE WITH YOUR PHOTO) FOR OUR RECORDS-THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. YOU SHOULD ALSO LEAVE A COPY OF THIS PAGE AT HOME AND CARRY ONE WITH YOU WHENEVER YOU TRAVEL.

THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE RETURNED TO TK&A NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 1999.

Please complete and return on time

A TIP OF THE HAT AND HEARTY THANKS TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF ODYSSEY RIDERS WHO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO OUR MAILINGS AND RESPOND IN A TIMELY MANNER. WE REALLY APPRECIATE THE HELP AND COOPERATION.

SURPRISINGLY, OVER TWO DOZEN PEOPLE FAILED TO RETURN THE BIKE INFO TO TK&A ON TIME. WE ENDED UP CALLING THEM SO WE COULD PROCESS THEIR BIKE ORDER. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO COMPLETE AND RETURN ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING REQUESTED BY TK&A, ASAP. IF YOU DON'T, YOU WILL TAKE A CHANCE ON MISSING OUT ON SOMETHING, BEING DENIED PARTICIPATION OR ACCESS TO AN EVENT, OR EVEN DELAYED FOR A FLIGHT OR AT AN INTERNATIONAL BORDER CROSSING. IF YOU MISS A PLANE OR OTHER CONNECTION BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE YOUR MATERIAL ON TIME, IT'S YOUR ISSUE AND COST, NOT TK&A'S.

TO ELIMINATE ANY PROBLEMS, WE SUGGEST KEEPING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH TK&A TO AVOID MISSING ONE OF OUR COMMUNIQUÉS.

Updated list

BASED ON THE DATA PROVIDED ON THE *RIDER INFORMATION FORMS*, WE WILL PREPARE AND SEND OUT AN UPDATED RIDER LIST, PROBABLY IN OCTOBER. WE WILL STRIVE TO BE COMPLETELY ERROR FREE.

Odyssey 2000® Rider Media & Medical Study Permission Form

IF YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETED AN *ODYSSEY 2000® RIDER MEDIA & MEDICAL STUDY PERMISSION FORM* AND ARE INTERESTED IN POTENTIAL PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE CONTACT TK&A TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE FORM. IF YOU NO LONGER CONSIDER YOUR PARTICIPATION IN ODYSSEY CONFIDENTIAL, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM.

NOT SURE? GIVE TK&A A CALL AT 1-800-433-0528.

Clearing international customs

A NIGHTMARE OR SIMPLY AN INCONVENIENCE? THE LATTER IS TK&A'S GOAL FOR ODYSSEY.

DURING WHEELING WASHINGTON, TK&A HAS HAD INCREDIBLE SUCCESS WORKING WITH THE US CUSTOMS WHEN RETURNING FROM CANADA TO THE USA IN PORT ANGELES. A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE CROSSING, WE SEND US CUSTOMS A LIST OF THE RIDERS AND STAFF ALONG WITH SPECIFIC PERSONAL INFORMATION. THEN THEIR OFFICERS "RUN" EVERYONE'S NAME AND VITALS THROUGH THEIR COMPUTERS BEFORE WE EVEN LEAVE CANADA. WHEN THE BLACKBALL FERRY ARRIVES IN PORT ANGELES, US CUSTOMS COMPLETES THEIR NORMAL CHECKS ON THE OTHER FERRY PASSENGERS. WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS CLEARED CUSTOMS, THEY OPEN THE GATES AND ALLOW OUR RIDERS AND STAFF TO PASS WITHOUT EVEN A COMMENT. IT'S PRETTY NEAT TO WATCH.

WE DON'T REALISTICALLY EXPECT THIS TYPE OF HASSLE FREE CROSSING AT MOST INTERNATIONAL BORDERS, BUT WE ARE GOING TO GIVE IT OUR BEST SHOT. OUR STRATEGY FOR ODYSSEY WILL BE TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE LIST OF RIDERS AND STAFF TO THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS (CONSULATES, EMBASSIES, ETC.) IN EACH OF THE 45 ODYSSEY NATIONS WE PLAN TO VISIT BEFORE ODYSSEY BEGINS. THE LIST WILL INCLUDE FULL NAMES, DATE OF BIRTH, COUNTRY OF BIRTH, COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE, PASSPORT NUMBER, DATE AND PLACE OF ISSUE, DATE PASSPORT EXPIRES, ETC. AND IF YOU HAVE ANY RESTRICTIONS OR LIMITATIONS, LET US KNOW...WE DON'T WANT ANY SURPRISES HERE.

UNLESS THINGS CHANGE A LOT BETWEEN NOW AND ODYSSEY, WHEN YOU CROSS BETWEEN MOST EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES YOU WON'T EVEN SEE A BORDER GUARD AT THE FRONTIER. THE BORDER BUILDINGS AND GUARD POSTS REMAIN, BUT NO GUARDS. IT'S PRETTY COOL. HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL GOING TO SEND THE COUNTRIES COMPLETE DETAILS OF OUR VISIT AND BORDER CROSSING DETAILS.

Shots

DON'T BE TALKED OUT OF GETTING CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOTS BY THE ADVICE FROM WELL MEANING FRIENDS. FOR INSTANCE, IF ONE ODYSSEY RIDER SUGGESTS YOU FOLLOW THE ADVICE THEY RECEIVED FROM SOMEONE WHO STATES THAT MALARIA TABLETS WON'T BE NECESSARY DURING ODYSSEY, IT IS A RISK ONLY THEY SHOULD BE TAKING, NOT YOU. IF YOU TAKE THIS INCORRECTLY DISPENSED INFORMATION TO HEART, YOU MAY FIND YOURSELF ILL OR EVEN DENIED ENTRY INTO A COUNTRY. INSTEAD, WORK WITH A COMPETENT TRAVEL CLINIC AND/OR KNOWLEDGEABLE TRAVEL DOCTOR.

BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2000, IT IS LIKELY EVERYONE INVOLVED IN ODYSSEY WILL AT LEAST HAVE RECEIVED: HEPATITIS A & B SERIES, YELLOW FEVER, TYPHOID, MENINGOCOCCOL, A POLIO BOOSTER, TETANUS AND HAVE CHOLERA INDICATED IN YOUR SHOT RECORD. YOU SHOULD ALSO HAVE A PRESCRIPTION FOR MALARIA TABLETS FOR SEVERAL COUNTRIES WE ARE TRAVELING THROUGH. YOU MIGHT ALSO HAVE RECEIVED THE RABIES SERIES ALONG WITH OTHER SHOTS YOUR OWN MEDICAL FOLKS HAVE RECOMMEND. IF THE ABOVE DOESN'T SOUND FAMILIAR, TALK WITH YOUR DOCTOR.

PLEASE SEND TK&A A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR COMPLETED SHOT RECORD FOR OUR FILES. THIS SHOULD BE EASY SINCE MOST OF YOU HAVE LIKELY COMPLETED YOUR SERIES BY NOW. IF YOU HAVEN'T, INCLUDE A NOTE WITH A COPY OF WHAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED. THIS IS A SERIOUS ISSUE AND YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE YOUR COMPLETED SHOT RECORD (YELLOW) WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES WHEN TRAVELING. IT IS ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO LEAVE A PHOTOCOPY AT HOME AS WELL.

ONCE AGAIN, IF FOR SOME REASON YOU FEEL YOU DON'T NEED OR WANT TO GET SHOTS, YOU WILL NEED TO RETHINK THIS. YOU MUST HAVE THE BASICS OR TAKE A CHANCE ON BEING DENIED ENTRY INTO MOST COUNTRIES. WORSE YET, BORDER OFFICIALS MIGHT EVEN TRY TO GIVE YOU CERTAIN SHOTS THEMSELVES.

Physical fitness

LET ME STATE THE OBVIOUS: THE MORE TIME YOU SPEND ON A BICYCLE SADDLE BETWEEN NOW AND ODYSSEY, THE BETTER. YOUR MUSCLES AND BUTT WILL BE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATIVE. YOU WILL FEEL BETTER AND HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR ABILITY TO DO ODYSSEY. OVERALL, YOU WILL BE MORE COMFORTABLE, LESS CRANKY AND HAVE MORE TIME AND ENERGY FOR PLAY. SO, IF YOU ARE NOT RIDING 100 MILES PLUS A WEEK, START NOW! NO EXCUSES. EVEN FOUR MONTHS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

Bicycling protocol

PLEASE REVIEW YOUR COPY OF TK&A'S RED *RIDER HANDBOOK* FOR A REVIEW OF TK&A'S SAFETY PROCEDURES ON THE ROAD. WHEN IT COMES TO RIDING PROTOCOL, TK&A DOES NOT GIVE AN INCH. WE WILL NOT TOLERATE UNSAFE, ILLEGAL, RECKLESS OR RUDE CYCLING BY ANY PARTICIPANT DURING ODYSSEY 2000[®], EVEN IF PEOPLE IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ENJOY RIDING IRRESPONSIBLY.

SO, IF YOU LIKE TO RUN STOP SIGNS, RED LIGHTS, ALWAYS RIDE TWO ABREAST, RIDE ONLY ON THE SMOOTHEST PART OF THE ROAD, ETC., YOU'D BETTER BEGIN MAKING THE MENTAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE RIDING PROTOCOL EXPECTED DURING ODYSSEY.

Raleigh dealer bugged

RALEIGH IS CONCERNED BECAUSE ONE OF THEIR PITTSBURGH DEALERS WAS APPROACHED BY A COUPLE OF ODYSSEY FOLKS ASKING WHEN THE ODYSSEY BIKES ARE GOING TO BE DELIVERED. MOST RALEIGH DEALERS PROBABLY HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN INFORMED ABOUT ODYSSEY AT THIS TIME. THIS TYPE OF LOCAL INVOLVEMENT (IT'S ACTUALLY INTERFERENCE) CAN AND WILL COMPRISE THE PROGRAM TK&A IS WORKING HARD TO CULTIVATE.

EVEN THOUGH IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE SAID, COOL YOUR JETS! UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY ODYSSEY RIDER BECOME INVOLVED WITH A LOCAL DEALER, RALEIGH CORPORATE OR ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THE BIKE. TK&A IS YOUR ONLY CONTACT AND INFO SOURCE. IF ANYONE COMPROMISES THIS, THEY WILL PUT THEIR PARTICIPATION IN JEOPARDY. SORRY, BUT WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING MUCKING UP OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR VENDORS.

FOR EXAMPLE, A FEW YEARS AGO, A "BUSY BODY" ON THE TREK MANAGED TO CANCEL AN ENTIRE MEAL IN EL PASO DURING OUR SOUTHERN CROSS BICYCLE CLASSIC™. HOW? THEY SIMPLY PUT THEIR NOSE WHERE IT DIDN'T BELONG. WE SHOULD HAVE LOBBED IT OFF!

The Official Bike of Odyssey 2000®

WE ARE REALLY EXCITED TO BE WORKING WITH RALEIGH ON THE CREATION OF THE OFFICIAL BIKE OF ODYSSEY 2000®. OF ALL THE COMPANIES, THEY TOOK THE GREATEST INTEREST IN PUTTING TOGETHER A SPECIFIC PACKAGE THAT WILL WORK WELL FOR 20,000 MILES OF TRAVEL. BESIDES WORKING WITH QUALITY EQUIPMENT FROM A FIRST CLASS COMPANY, RALEIGH HAS A VESTED INTEREST IN MAKING SURE EVERYTHING GOES AS SMOOTHLY AS POSSIBLE FOR OUR GROUP.

HERE'S A LITTLE MORE DETAIL ABOUT THE BIKES:

1. RALEIGH IS TAKING THEIR MOST SUITABLE TOURING GEOMETRY FRAME, THE R-300 AND PUTTING ON A STRONGER FORK.
2. WE HAVE CHOSEN SHIMANO 105 GEARING (27 SPEED, TRIPLE CRANK, FLIGHT DECK COMPATIBLE) BECAUSE IT PERFORMS WELL, HAS A PROVEN TRACK RECORD, IS EASY TO FIX AND REPLACE, IS AFFORDABLE AND WILL HOLD UP WELL FOR OUR NEEDS. SOME PEOPLE FEEL ULTEGRA OR DURACE MIGHT PERFORM BETTER DURING ODYSSEY. THOUGH THEY ARE SMOOTHER, SHINIER AND LIGHTER, THEY ARE MORE EXPENSIVE AND DON'T NECESSARILY PERFORM THAT MUCH BETTER. WHEN IT COMES TIME TO REPLACE WORN OR DAMAGED COMPONENTS, YOU WILL BE PLEASED YOU ARE REPLACING 105 GEARING INSTEAD OF MORE EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT.
3. WE ARE USING 36 SPOKE WHEELS TO HELP MINIMIZE WHEEL PROBLEMS. DT SPOKES SHOULD ALSO HELP KEEP EVERYONE RUNNING TRUE.
4. WE RECOMMEND (AND WILL PROVIDE) ADJUSTABLE DROP HANDLEBARS UNLESS TOLD DIFFERENTLY. ADDITIONAL DETAILS BELOW.
5. YOUR BIKE WILL COME WITH A REAR RACK, 2 WATER BOTTLE CAGES AND FENDER ATTACHMENT EYELETS. SORRY, NO FENDERS PROVIDED. IF YOU PLAN TO PUT YOUR OWN ON, YOU WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE ROSE PARADE.
6. WE HAVE INCLUDED "V" TYPE BRAKES FOR INCREASED STOPPING POWER.
7. YOU WILL PUT YOUR OWN SADDLE AND PEDALS ON YOUR NEW BIKE. WE SUGGEST USING SHIMANO, LOOK OR ANOTHER HIGH QUALITY BRAND OF RECESSED CLEATS FOR COMFORT, FUNCTIONALITY AND DURABILITY FOR THE YEAR. IF YOU BRING PROTRUDING CLEATS, YOU WILL USUALLY NEED TO CARRY A PAIR OF SANDALS OR SHOES TO CHANGE INTO FOR HIKING AND EXPLORING. SINCE CLEATS CAN EASILY MARK OR DIMPLE A FINISHED SURFACE, YOU MAY BE ASKED TO REMOVE YOUR PROTRUDING CLEATS ON FERRIES, WOODEN FLOORS, SCHOOL FLOORS, ETC.
8. WE ARE DECIDING ON THE STOCK TIRE SIZE FOR THE ODYSSEY BIKES. WE FEEL THAT A 28 TO 30 SIZE IS PROBABLY THE BEST OVERALL FOR THE CONDITIONS WE WILL BE ENCOUNTERING. IT'S UNREALISTIC FOR MOST PEOPLE TO ATTEMPT TO SAVE OVERALL WEIGHT AND IMPROVE PERFORMANCE BY PUTTING A 23 OR 25 ON THEIR BIKES. GUARANTEED, YOU WILL BE PURCHASING A LOT MORE TIRES THAN FOLKS USING SLIGHTLY LARGER TIRES. WATCH FUTURE MEMOS FOR MORE DETAILS ON WHAT IS OR ISN'T ACCEPTABLE ON YOUR BIKE.
9. THE BIKES WILL BE CALLED THE GLOBAL 2000™, THE OFFICIAL BIKE OF ODYSSEY 2000®. WE HAVE CHOSEN CHAMPAGNE VAPOR FOR THE OVERALL COLOR OF THE BIKES. WHAT'S CHAMPAGNE VAPOR? STAY TUNED.

Handlebars

TK&A RECOMMENDS USING DROP BARS INSTEAD OF STRAIGHT BARS. WE THINK DROP BARS WILL WORK BETTER FOR MOST PEOPLE ON A TOUR OF THIS MAGNITUDE AND THE BARS WE ARE FURNISHING ALLOW FOR CONSIDERABLE ADJUSTMENT. GENERALLY, DROP BARS PROVIDE MORE PLACES TO PUT YOUR HANDS, ALLOW A LOWER PROFILE THAT PROVES EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL DURING CHALLENGING WINDS, REQUIRES LESS ENERGY AND IT'S JUST MORE EFFICIENT FOR LONG DISTANCE CYCLING.

IN A JOINT DECISION WITH RALEIGH, IT IS LIKELY THE BIKES WILL BE SHIPPED WITH TOURING TYPE HANDLEBARS, NOT STRAIGHT BARS. PLEASE TRY THEM OUT. IF AFTER SEVERAL GOOD HONEST WORKOUTS AND ADJUSTMENTS IT WON'T WORK FOR YOU, PLEASE CONTACT TK&A AND WE WILL LET YOU KNOW HOW THEY CAN BE CHANGED OUT.

What's the Global 2000™ worth?

THIRTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS IS THE REPLACEMENT COST FOR AN ODYSSEY BIKE. IF YOUR BIKE IS STOLEN, LOST, FROGOTTEN, TRASHED, ETC. THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY TO RECEIVE A NEW BIKE AND TO CONTINUE THE RIDE. YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BRING YOUR OWN BIKE FROM HOME OR PURCHASE A DIFFERENT TYPE OF BIKE AS YOUR REPLACEMENT.

Spare bike parts

WE ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH RALEIGH TO ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF EXTRA FRAMES, FORKS AND SPARE PARTS NEEDED TO KEEP EACH ODYSSEY RIDER ON HIS OR HER BIKE AS MUCH AS HE OR SHE WANTS TO RIDE. TK&A'S WELL STOCKED MOBILE BIKE SHOP PLANS TO CARRY A COMPLETE INVENTORY OF SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS NEEDED TO REACH THIS GOAL. WE ARE CURRENTLY PULLING TOGETHER THE INVENTORY WE WILL NEED WHEN DEPARTING PASADENA. WE ARE ALSO DETERMINING WHAT WILL NEED TO BE PICKED UP AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND THE WORLD TO INSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF REPLACEMENT PARTS.

What do I have to purchase from TK&A?

TK&A WILL HANDLE WARRANTY ITEMS, OF COURSE, BUT YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE ALL REPLACEMENT PARTS (TUBES, TIRES, CHAINS, BRAKE PADS, CABLES, SPOKES, WHEELS, NUTS, BOLTS, AXLES, ETC) TO KEEP YOUR BIKE IN TOP RUNNING ORDER. EXPECT TO PAY FOR ITEMS AT THE SAME TIME YOU RECEIVE THEM.

Bike repairs

AS STATED, TK&A WILL PROVIDE WARRANTY WORK AND NORMAL SERVICE (WITHIN REASON) AT NO COST TO YOU. CHANGING TIRES, TUBES AND CLEANING BIKES AND COMPONENTS ARE NOT PART OF THE DEAL. SAME FOR PUTTING ON PERSONAL CHOICE ITEMS SUCH AS COMPUTERS, FENDERS, DIFFERENT HANDLEBAR TAPE AND OTHER DISCRETIONARY ITEMS.

Bike shop hours

AS STATED IN EARLIER MEMOS, THE BIKE SHOP WILL HAVE HOURS OF OPERATION EACH DAY. WHEN YOU HAVE A NEED, YOU WILL HAVE TO WORK IT OUT DURING "BIKE SHOP HOURS". IT'S LIKELY THE SHOP WILL BE OPEN DURING BREAKFAST, FOR MOST OF MIDDAY CHECKPOINT AND FOR TWO OR THREE HOURS IN THE AFTERNOON. LIKE MOST ODYSSEY OPERATIONS, IT WILL BE CLOSED ON LAYOVER DAYS.

How do I pay for things on the road?

GOOD QUESTION. HERE ARE OUR THOUGHTS. ALL ODYSSEY OPERATIONS WILL BE TRANSACTED IN US DOLLARS AND WILL LIKELY BE HANDLED BY CREDIT CARDS ONLY. CASH IS SIMPLY TOO RISKY TO CARRY AND CHARGING WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. WE PLAN TO SET UP A PERSONAL ACCOUNT FOR EACH ODYSSEY PARTICIPANT AND STAFF. THIS WILL PROBABLY BE DONE BY CHARGING EACH PERSON'S CREDIT CARD FROM \$200 TO \$500. AS YOU INCUR ODYSSEY EXPENSES SUCH AS BIKE PART SALES, SHIRTS, MESSAGES, ETC. WE WILL DEBIT YOUR ACCOUNT. WHEN YOUR BALANCE GETS LOW, WE WILL ONCE AGAIN CHARGE YOUR CREDIT CARD.

What's happening with our airplane transportation?

WE ARE STILL WORKING THROUGH AIR TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN STAGES. THE FINAL SOLUTION WILL PROBABLY BE A COMBINATION OF SCHEDULED CARRIERS AND CHARTERS. THE BIGGEST DIFFICULTY WITH CHARTERS IS THE TREMENDOUS EXPENSE GETTING THE PLANE TO OUR POINT OF DEPARTURE AND HOME AGAIN AFTER WE REACH OUR FINAL DESTINATION, OFTEN TRIPLING THE COST OF A FLIGHT.

WHENEVER POSSIBLE, WE WILL ALL TRAVEL TOGETHER ON THE SAME PLANE. HOWEVER, SINCE THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL OF PLANES CAPABLE OF HAULING 284 PASSENGERS, WE MAY BE FORCED TO TAKE A COUPLE OF PLANES ON OCCASION.

What about shipping the bikes?

AS WE FINALIZE OUR AIR TRANSPORTATION PARTNERS, WE WILL BE EXPLORING THE VARIOUS OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR PACKING AND SHIPPING THE BIKES BETWEEN STAGES. ONE STRONG POSSIBILITY IS TO SHRINK-WRAP THE BIKES ONTO PALLETS. ANOTHER IS TO PLACE THE BIKES INTO LUGGAGE CARTS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR DIFFERENT PLANES.

AS FAR AS BOXING BIKES, IT IS UNLIKELY. WE DON'T HAVE THE ROOM TO CARRY THE BOXES BETWEEN STAGES. ONE THING YOU CAN COUNT ON, THOUGH, IS THAT EACH OF US WILL PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLL IN PACKING AND STOWING THE ODYSSEY BIKES.

DRGs

THE MOST TIME CONSUMING, DIFFICULT AND COMPLEX TASK IN PREPARATION FOR ODYSSEY IS WRITING CLEAR AND ACCURATE DAILY ROUTE GUIDES (DRGs). A DRG IS A DETAILED SET OF WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS ON ONE SIDE AND A MAP ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF AN 8-1/2" X 11" SHEET OF PAPER. SINCE WE WON'T BE MARKING ANY ROADS, THE DRG IS OUR PRIMARY TOOL FOR NAVIGATING BETWEEN ONE OVERNIGHT LOCATION AND THE NEXT, EVEN THOUGH MANY CYCLISTS USE OTHER CYCLISTS AS THEIR PRIMARY NAVIGATIONAL AID.

TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF HOW WE APPROACH "DIRECTION WRITING", WE HAVE ENCLOSED A PRELIMINARY COPY OF THE ODYSSEY DRG FROM ENSENADA TO COLONET, BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO. WE TRY TO MAKE THEM SIMPLE AND UNCLUTTERED, YET CLEAR ENOUGH TO FOLLOW EVEN AT CONFUSING INTERSECTIONS. AN IMPORTANT PART OF EACH DRG IS THE LOGISTICAL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THE BOTTOM SECTION, WHERE WE INCLUDE INFORMATION ON TOILETS, SHOWERS AND MEAL LOCATION AND TIMES. AS YOU CAN SEE, WE DON'T INCLUDE MUCH SIGHTSEEING INFORMATION IN DEFERENCE TO BREVITY. WHEN AVAILABLE, WE ALSO INCLUDE AN EMERGENCY NUMBER OR TWO FOR USE IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS ALONG THE ROUTE.

THE DRGs ARE USUALLY DISTRIBUTED AT THE GEAR TRUCK 15 MINUTES BEFORE BREAKFAST BEGINS EACH MORNING. IF YOU ARE CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT THE DRG WILL LOOK LIKE BEFORE THE MORNING OF THE RIDE, YOU CAN ASK THE ODYSSEY OFFICE FOR A LOOK AT A COPY OF THE MASTER ODYSSEY DRG BOOK.

DRGs ARE PRINTED FOR RIDERS AND STAFF ONLY AND WE HAVE ONLY PRINTED ENOUGH FOR ONE EACH. PLEASE NEVER TAKE A DUPLICATE DRG AS A SPARE, FOR YOUR FILES OR TO GIVE TO FAMILY OR FRIENDS. IF YOU DO, YOU WILL BE ROBBING A FELLOW RIDER OUT OF HIS OR HER DIRECTIONS.

DRG holders

A FEW YEARS AGO KAREN-ANN FOUND A PERFECT HOLDER FOR TK&A DRGs. IT IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE A LITTLE OVER A 1/2 PAGE OF YOUR DRG VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES. IT'S EVEN WATER RESISTANT TO WARD OFF DEW AND SPRINKLY CONDITIONS. THE COST IS \$10 PLUS SHIPPING. LOOK FOR INFO NEXT MONTH.

Raising money for a charity?

WE HAVE SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE RAISING MONEY FOR THE CHARITY OF THEIR CHOICE. TWO HAVE EVEN RAISED BIG BUCKS, FROM \$50,000 TO \$100,000 EACH. SINCE ODYSSEY IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER, TK&A HAS BEEN GETTING PRESSURE FROM SOME RIDERS TO GIVE THEM A BLANKET APPROVAL FOR THEIR FUNDRAISING MATERIALS. TK&A IS NOT IN A POSITION TO OFFER BLANKET APPROVALS ON ANY MATERIAL ANYONE CREATES AROUND ODYSSEY.

IF YOU ARE RAISING MONEY FOR A CHARITY AND USING ODYSSEY (EVEN IF DISGUISED AS ANOTHER NAME) AS THE CATALYST, YOU WILL NEED TO ALLOW ENOUGH TIME FOR TK&A TO APPROVE ALL FUNDRAISING AND PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS. THIS APPLIES TO YOUR CHARITY, FAMILY, SUPPORT TEAM, PUBLIC RELATIONS COMPANIES, OR ANYONE ELSE INVOLVED IN YOUR FUNDRAISING EFFORT.

IN ALL YOUR MATERIAL (LETTERS, ENVELOPES, CARDS, ETC.) TK&A NEEDS TO BE GIVEN CREDIT AS THE CREATORS AND PRODUCERS OF ODYSSEY 2000[®]. REVIEW THE INFORMATION ON USING ODYSSEY'S NAME. OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE SURE A CHARITY DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE SPONSORING ODYSSEY OR THAT ODYSSEY IS BEING PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF ANY CHARITY.

List of TK&A products

INCLUDED IN THIS MEMO IS AN *ODYSSEY 2000[®] TEE-SHIRT/TYVEK ORDER FORM* FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN ORDERING ODYSSEY TEE-SHIRTS (INCLUDING OUR ODYSSEY/ROSE PARADE T-SHIRT) AND/OR A TYVEK JACKET.

WATCH THE NEXT RIDER MEMO FOR INFORMATION AND ORDER FORMS FOR SEVERAL NEW TK&A OFFICIAL ODYSSEY GOODIES: JERSEYS, CYCLING PANTS, SOUVENIR PINS, CYCLING CAPS AND BALL CAPS.

Rose Parade Update

CHECKOUT THE ENCLOSED COPY OF THE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES® WEB PAGE. IT'S THE FIRST PAGE WHEN YOU GO TO PARADE 2000. WE ARE MENTIONED IN THE SECOND PARAGRAPH. PRETTY COOL! CHECK IT OUT AT WWW.TOURNAMENTOFROSES.COM/ROSE2000.HTM

LAST WEEK WE SPOKE WITH THE PARADE OPERATIONS FOLKS AND HAVE A BETTER FEEL FOR WHAT WE MIGHT EXPECT. IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL LEAVE THE BURBANK HILTON BETWEEN 4:30 AND 5:00 AM (YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE) FOR THE PARADE STAGING AREA NEAR THE TOURNAMENT HOUSE. THIS MEANS, OF COURSE, WE WILL HAVE HAD TO CHECK OUT OF THE HOTEL AND PACKED EVERYTHING AWAY BY THIS TIME. EVEN THOUGH IT WILL BE A SHORT NIGHT FOR ALL OF US, IT WILL DEFINITELY HIT YOUR PERSONAL RECORD BOOKS AND GIVE YOU SOME KICKOFF BRAGGIN' RIGHTS. THIS IS GOING TO BE AWESOME!

AFTER ARRIVING AT THE PARADE, WE WILL COLLECT OUR BIKES AND RELOCATE TO OUR FINAL STAGING AREA AROUND 6:30 FOR AN 8:00 START. OUR VEHICLES, ALONG WITH YOUR PERSONAL GEAR, BIKE BAGS, ETC. WILL BE STAGED ABOUT 1/2 MILE PAST THE END OF THE PARADE. AFTER YOU COLLECT YOUR STUFF, YOU ARE ON YOUR WAY TO YOUR RETURN ONE YEAR LATER.

Rose Parade Jersey

CHECKOUT THE NEXT MEMO FOR A PICTURE OF THE 2000 ROSE PARADE JERSEY TO BE WORN PROUDLY BY ALL ODYSSEY 2000® PARTICIPANTS RIDING IN THE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE IN FRONT OF 500,000,000 VIEWERS. NERVOUS? SHOULDN'T BE...BUT YOU MIGHT SPEND SOME TIME PRACTICING RIDING 5 MILES AN HOUR.

Sponsorship update

NOTHING TO REPORT EXCEPT THAT WE ARE STILL WORKING ON IT.

Odyssey2000.com

CHECKOUT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.ODYSSEY2000.COM FOR SOME ODYSSEY BIOS AND PHOTOGRAPHS. SHOULD BE PRETTY COOL. WE HAVE ALSO PUT UP SELECTED PIECES FROM OUR MEDIA KIT IN ITALIAN, SPANISH, FRENCH AND GERMAN.

Washington DC time off

WHEN YOU SEE THE CURRENT DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY, YOU WILL NOTICE WE HAVE SCHEDULED FIVE OVERNIGHTS IN WASHINGTON D.C. KAREN-ANN AND I BOTH FEEL THAT THIS WILL OFFER ODYSSEY RIDERS AND STAFF A CHANCE TO LEAVE THE TREK FOR WHATEVER REASON WITHOUT MISSING ANY RIDING DAYS. SO, YOU WILL HAVE SOME TIME TO VISIT YOUR FAMILY, CHECK ON YOUR VAST REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, GO TO THE DENTIST, DO LOADS AND LOADS OF LAUNDRY, GET NEW GLASSES OR EVEN SPEND 4 LAYOVER DAYS EXPLORING THIS WONDERFUL CITY. HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY THIS BREAK.

If I decide to leave Odyssey a night or two or more, what does TK&A need to know?

GREAT QUESTION. IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO BE AWAY FROM ODYSSEY FOR ONE OR MORE NIGHTS, JUST TELL US YOUR BASIC PLANS AND WHERE (IF KNOWN) WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTACT YOU. THIS KEEPS US INFORMED AND COULD PROVE INVALUABLE IF SOMEONE IS TRYING TO REACH YOU. IT ALSO ALLOWS US TO CONSOLIDATE AND NOT WASTE PRECIOUS RESOURCES LIKE STAFF TIME, FOOD AND LODGING.

Families and friends visiting you on Odyssey

IF AN OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO VISIT YOU SOMETIME NEXT YEAR, YOU SHOULDN'T PASS UP THE CHANCE. TO GIVE THE ONES YOU LOVE AND KNOW A FIRST PERSON GLIMPSE OF YOUR LIFE ON THE ROAD AND TO MEET YOUR TRAVELING COMPANIONS WILL BE A MEMORY NOT SOON FORGOTTEN. TK&A UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE RENDEZVOUS AND ENCOURAGES THEM WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

HOWEVER, PLEASE REMEMBER ODYSSEY IS SET UP TO ACCOMMODATE RIDERS AND STAFF ONLY, NOT VISITORS. TK&A IS CHALLENGED TO THE MAX JUST TO FIND THE ROUTES, OVERNIGHT FACILITIES AND FOOD FOR OUR GROUP OF 260 TO 284. TRYING TO MAKE ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IS SIMPLY NOT POSSIBLE. SO, IF YOU WANT TO MEET UP WITH OTHERS, HERE ARE OUR SUGGESTIONS:

- ABSOLUTELY NEVER INVITE ANYONE TO RIDE WITH YOU FOR EVEN AN HOUR OF ODYSSEY. THEY HAVEN'T PAID AND ARE NOT PART OF ODYSSEY, SO IT SIMPLY IS NOT FAIR. IT DOESN'T MATTER

THAT THE ROADS ARE PUBLIC, ODYSSEY IS NOT. THIS APPLIES EVEN FOR THE RIDE OUT OF LOS ANGELES.

- WHEN YOU ARE PLANNING TO MEET PEOPLE, TRY TO WORK AROUND THE DATES WHERE WE HAVE SCHEDULED TIME OFF, PARTICULARLY IN LARGER CITIES WHERE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FIND ACCOMMODATIONS MORE EASILY. FOR INSTANCE, WE ARE IN ROME FOR 3 NIGHTS, BARCELONA FOR 3 NIGHTS, WASHINGTON DC FOR 5 NIGHTS, NEW YORK CITY FOR 3 NIGHTS, AND GREENWICH/LONDON FOR 3 OR 4 NIGHTS. THESE ARE LOGICAL VISITING SPOTS AND A CHANCE FOR SOME QUALITY TIME WITHOUT TAKING TIME OFF FROM ODYSSEY PEDALING.
- AS YOU ALL KNOW, YOU CAN LEAVE ODYSSEY AND REJOIN ODYSSEY AS YOU PLEASE, EVEN THOUGH WE HOPE YOU WON'T MISS ANY ACTUAL RIDING. SO, YOU COULD BAIL FOR AN ENTIRE STAGE OR MORE IF WANTED.

PLEASE NOTE: OUR HOPE IS THAT EVERY ODYSSEY RIDER PEDALS EVERY SCHEDULED MILE POSSIBLE. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF YOU LEAVE THE TREK FOR MOST REASONS (TIRED, HOMESICK, NEED A BREAK, ETC.) AND MISS SOME RIDING YOU CAN'T MAKE UP, YOU PROBABLY WON'T BE INVITED TO RIDE IN THE JANUARY 1, 2001 ROSE PARADE. AT LEAST THIS IS THE WORD FROM THE OFFICIALS AT THE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES.

- WHAT ABOUT FAMILIES "SHADOWING" THE RIDE FOR A FEW DAYS. THIS IS A REALLY TOUGH ISSUE AND HAS TO BE HANDLED WELL AND UNOBTRUSIVELY BY THOSE PLANNING TO SPEND ADDITIONAL TIME (ESPECIALLY DAY-TO-DAY) WITH THEIR FAMILIES. HERE ARE THE GUIDELINES:
 1. AS YOU CAN APPRECIATE, ODYSSEY WAS NOT DESIGNED AS A FAMILY ACTIVITY. THE ACCOMMODATIONS, FOOD, ROUTES AND BORDER CROSSINGS ARE PLANNED FOR OUR ADULT GROUP OF CYCLISTS AND STAFF, NOT FAMILIES.
 2. KIDS. THANKFULLY, MOST KIDS ARE WELL BEHAVED MOST OF THE TIME, ESPECIALLY WHEN SUPERVISED. HOWEVER, CHILDREN LEFT UNATTENDED HAVE CAUSED MORE THAN CASUAL EMBARRASSMENT FOR THE STAFF AND PARTICIPANTS ON PRIOR EVENTS. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, SOME PARENTS HAVE ALLOWED THEIR KIDS (OF ALL AGES) TO RUN THROUGH FACILITIES, HANG OFF THINGS, EXHIBIT UNRULY, LOUD AND DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR, AND EVEN TO INTRUDE ON THE PRIVACY OF OTHER TREKKERS. IF YOU BRING CHILDREN TO VISIT DURING ODYSSEY (AND THEY ARE WELCOME WHEN BEHAVING,) YOU ARE COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR CONDUCT AND MUST KEEP THEM UNDER YOUR CLOSE SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES.
 3. PLEASE ASK FAMILIES, FRIENDS AND OTHERS NOT TO USE ODYSSEY PROVIDED HOTEL ROOMS OR OTHER FACILITIES FOR GOING TO THE BATHROOM, WATCHING TV, SHOWERING, USING THE PHONE OR TO JUST HANG OUT. WE THINK IT IS UNFAIR FOR GUESTS TO HANG OUT IN OTHER RIDERS ROOMS. MOST "ROOMMATES" WON'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT REMEMBER THAT THEY LOSE SOME OF THE PRIVACY TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED. THESE ISSUES CAN USUALLY BE SOLVED BY ASKING YOUR VISITORS TO MAKE USE OF THE HOTEL'S PUBLIC BATHROOMS, PHONES, ETC. OR SIMPLY WAIT UNTIL THEY GET TO THEIR OWN HOTEL.
 4. FAMILIES AND PRIVATE VEHICLES ARE NEVER ALLOWED TO "SUPPORT" OR VISIT THEIR PERSONAL TREKKER AT ANY TIME ON THE ROUTE DURING THE DAY. WE DON'T WANT TO ADD ANY ADDITIONAL CONGESTION ALONG OUR ROUTE. THIS IS A BIG ISSUE, SO PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF THIS REQUEST.
 5. IF FAMILIES AND FRIENDS HAVE A CAR, THEY SHOULD SELECT THE MOST DIRECT ROUTE TO THE NEXT OVERNIGHT LOCATION TO MEET THEIR TREKKER. WE CERTAINLY DON'T NEED TO ADD UNNECESSARY TRAFFIC ON OUR ROUTE.
 6. AS STATED, DON'T GIVE A DRG TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
 7. FAMILIES SHOULD NEVER APPROACH ONE OF OUR VENDORS TO HELP MAKE THEIR OWN PERSONAL ARRANGEMENTS (ROOMS, FOOD, CAMPING, ETC) UNLESS CLEARED IN ADVANCE BY TK&A. WE CAN'T AFFORD THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF CONFUSING OUR VENDORS IN ANY WAY AT ALL. FOR INSTANCE, A FEW YEARS AGO A HOTEL AT WALT DISNEY WORLD GAVE OUR RIDER AND STAFF ROOMS TO SOME VISITING FAMILIES. TALK ABOUT CREATING A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM FOR US. WE CLEARLY UNDERSTAND PEOPLE DON'T SET OUT TO CREATE PROBLEMS, BUT THEY DO ANYWAY.
 8. ANOTHER REASON TO AVOID CONTACT WITH OUR VENDORS, PARTICULARLY HOTEL ROOMS, IS THAT WE DON'T WANT ANY EXTRA AVAILABLE HOTEL ROOMS TO BE USED BY FAMILIES BEFORE OUR CYCLISTS GET A CHANCE TO RESERVE THEM.
 9. OBVIOUSLY, WHEN YOUR FRIENDS FLY IN TO MEET YOU, YOU WANT THEM TO SEE THE ACTION. THIS IS CERTAINLY OKAY. HOWEVER, IT CAN NOT BECOME A NIGHTLY PRACTICE. THIS SIMPLY ISN'T FAIR.
 10. WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT CAMP FOR THE EVENING, YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SHOULD HEAD FOR YOUR OWN ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE EVENING (DIFFERENT HOTEL OR OWN CAMPING

AREA). THEN, THEY CAN DROP YOU OFF IN THE MORNING FOR BREAKFAST AND TO BEGIN THE DAY'S RIDE.

11. THIS IS A HARD ONE. AFTER CAREFUL THOUGHT AND CONSIDERATION, TK&A DOES NOT RECOMMEND THAT YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOLLOW YOU DOWN THE WEST COAST INTO MEXICO. THIS WILL BE AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR ODYSSEY TO BEGIN BONDING AS A GROUP AND TO GET USED TO LIFE ON THE ROAD. WE'D LIKE EVERYONE TO BE PART OF THIS PROCESS. ALSO, BAJA HAS EXTREMELY LIMITED RESOURCES AND THE SIZE OF OUR GROUP TAXES WHAT'S THERE WITHOUT ADDING OTHER FOLKS TO THE EQUATION.
12. PLEASE DON'T ASK YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO MEET YOU IN HAWAII. THIS IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR THE ODYSSEY GROUP TO BE TOGETHER AS A GROUP WITHOUT THE PULL AND DISTRACTION (SORRY ABOUT THE CHOICE OF WORDS, BUT IT'S TRUE) OF LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS WHO YOU NEED TO SPEND TIME WITH. THIS WILL BE A KEY TIME TO WIND DOWN AS A GROUP AND ADDRESS THE COMPLEX ISSUE OF RE-ENTERING LIFE AS IT WAS BEFORE ODYSSEY 2000® AND WILL BE AFTER ODYSSEY.
13. THESE ARE TOUGH ISSUES BUT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED. A SIGNIFICANT PART OF ODYSSEY 2000® IS OUR TRAVELING ODYSSEY COMMUNITY AND EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. WHAT'S FAIR FOR ONE IS FAIR FOR ALL. EVEN THOUGH WE ENCOURAGE VISITATIONS, WE CAN'T MAKE VISITORS AND FAMILIES DIRECT MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

Guests meals

IF WE HAVE ENOUGH ADVANCE WARNING (SEVERAL DAYS HELPS US PREPARE OUR VENDORS), IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO JOIN YOU FOR ONE OR MORE MEALS. IF YOUR FAMILY IS VISITING YOU AT A TIME WHEN IT MIGHT WORK TO FEED A FEW ADDITIONAL PEOPLE, WE WILL TRY TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUEST. THERE IS A COST PER PERSON, OF COURSE. ROUGHLY, YOU CAN EXPECT DINNERS TO COST AT LEAST \$15 AND BREAKFAST IS AT LEAST \$10. THIS IS PER PERSON REGARDLESS OF AGE.

UNLESS TK&A HAS ARRANGED A MEAL FOR FAMILY MEMBERS, IT'S NOT APPROPRIATE FOR FAMILIES TO HANG OUT WHILE YOU EAT.

Helmets/helmet covers

ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL "IDENTIFICATION TOOLS" USED EXTENSIVELY BY TK&A SINCE 1988 HAS BEEN BRIGHT HELMET COVERS. THEY SERVE MANY USEFUL PURPOSES (IN MANY CASES BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE WE HAVE FOUND) INCLUDING:

- THEY ARE BRIGHT AND INCREASE ONE'S VISIBILITY DRAMATICALLY.
- BY ADDING GRAPHICS, THEY MAKE EACH RIDER AN OBVIOUS PART OF ODYSSEY-NO DOUBT YOU WILL WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER OF ODYSSEY 2000® AND ALL ITS INHERENT BRAGGIN' RIGHTS.
- THIS IS KEY! OUR HELMET COVERS MAKE IT OBVIOUS FOR ODYSSEY STAFF, LOCAL OFFICIALS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, BORDER GUARDS, CUSTOMS AGENTS, FERRY AND FLIGHT PERSONNEL AND VENDORS TO DIFFERENTIATE "OUR" RIDERS FROM OTHERS USING THE ROADWAYS.
- HELPS TO KEEP YOU A LITTLE MORE COMFORTABLE DURING COOLER AND/OR INCLEMENT WEATHER.

THE DOWNSIDE OF HELMET COVERS IS THAT THEY REDUCE SOME OF THE COOLING AIRFLOW PROVIDED BY THE MANY VENTS OF THE NEWER, MORE EXPENSIVE HELMETS. WHILE THIS ISN'T A PROBLEM FOR MANY, IT IS AN ISSUE WE HAVE EXAMINED FOR THE PAST 3 OR 4 YEARS. ONE SOLUTION TO INCREASING AIRFLOW IS TO CUT HOLES IN THE HELMET COVER FABRIC OVER A FEW SELECTED HELMET VENT HOLES. SEVERAL DID A NEAT JOB, OTHERS CREATED AN EMBARRASSING EYESORE. OVERALL NOT THE BEST OPTION.

TK&A HAS THOUGHT LONG AND HARD ABOUT THE HELMET COVER ISSUE. WE ARE UNWILLING TO LOSE THE MOST IMPORTANT BENEFITS OF HELMET COVERS, THE VISIBILITY AND QUICK IDENTIFICATION. HOWEVER, WE THINK WE HAVE COME UP WITH A SOLUTION. FOR THOSE THAT WOULD LIKE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE HELMET COVER (EXCEPT FOR THE ROSE PARADE AND ON OTHER SPECIAL OCCASIONS), WE ARE SELECTING A HIGH QUALITY HELMET WITH AN ODYSSEY SHELL THAT YOU MAY PURCHASE. IF YOU WISH TO USE YOUR OWN HELMET, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A HELMET COVER.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS.

List of equipment and clothing for Odyssey

THE NEXT MEMO WILL INCLUDE A DETAILED LIST OF WHAT TK&A RECOMMENDS YOU SHOULD BRING ON ODYSSEY. A REVIEW OF THE RIDER HANDBOOK WILL GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT THE LIST WILL INCLUDE. WE WILL ALSO MAKE SUGGESTIONS OF WHAT TO CARRY WITH YOU DURING THE RIDING DAY.

Times and weather according to Bruce

BRUCE TIEBOUT, A FRIEND AND ODYSSEY RIDER # 7, HAS RESEARCHED OUR ROUTE AND DEVELOPED A NIFTY CHART OF DAYLIGHT HOURS AND AVERAGE WEATHER EXPECTATIONS DURING ODYSSEY LAYOVER DAYS. EVEN IF SOME OF THE DAYS CHANGE, IT IS A VERY HELPFUL AND INSIGHTFUL LIST.

Odyssey volunteers

THANKS TO KAREN-ANN'S HARD WORK, WE HAVE SELECTED THE MAJORITY OF OUR FULL TIME ROAD STAFF AND A NUMBER OF FOLKS WHO WILL BE JOINING US FOR A STAGE OR TWO. TK&A HAS RECEIVED HUNDREDS OF APPLICATIONS FROM HIGHLY QUALIFIED PEOPLE SO WADING THROUGH IT ALL HAS BEEN A MAJOR TASK. THE FIRST TO GO, OF COURSE, WERE THOSE WHO WANTED TO BE A "GUIDE" AND RIDE THEIR BIKE AROUND THE WORLD FOR FREE.

WE HAVE CHOSEN PEOPLE WHO ARE HARD WORKERS, CAPABLE OF WORKING LONG HOURS, ARE WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IS NECESSARY, AND ARE ADVENTUROUS, FLEXIBLE, LOYAL, SELF-SUFFICIENT AND SELF-RELIANT PEOPLE. THESE FOLKS ARE THE ONES WHO WILL MAKE ODYSSEY MORE ENJOYABLE FOR ALL OF US.

OUR ROAD STAFF WILL BE ACCOMPLISHING A WIDE VARIETY OF TASKS, INCLUDING:

- RUNNING THE GEAR TRUCKS AND TRAILERS AND TK&A SHOWER AND SINK OPERATIONS AS NEEDED.
- STAFFING OUR MIDDAY CHECKPOINT AND END-OF-DAY CHECK-INS.
- MAINTAINING A COMPLETE MOBILE BIKE SHOP OPERATION FOR SERVICE, MAINTENANCE AND SALES.
- PATROLLING THE ROUTE EACH DAY IN SUPPORT VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH PUMPS, SPARE PARTS, WATER AND A SUPPORTIVE ATTITUDE.
- RUNNING TK&A'S ODYSSEY OFFICE. IT WILL BE THE FOCAL POINT FOR GETTING ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS, HELPING YOU SOLVE ANY UNIQUE PROBLEM THAT MAY SURFACE (IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER EACH OF US IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOLVING OUR OWN INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS-ODYSSEY STAFF WILL NOT SOLVE THEM FOR YOU, JUST HELP WHERE REALISTIC) AND AS A PLACE FOR EVERYONE TO KEEP TK&A INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR FUTURE PLANS (GOING OFF ROUTE, LEAVING TREK FOR A DAY, HEADING INTO TOWN TO FIND A HOTEL, WILL MISS A MEAL, ETC).
- PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPORT.
- PROVIDE MESSAGES.
- HELPING TO INSURE OUR LOCAL FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS ARE RUNNING SMOOTHLY.
- WORKING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AS NEEDED.

AS YOU CAN SEE, WE'LL ALL BE BUSY. BUT, WHEN IT COMES TIME FOR EXPLORATION AND PLAY, THE STAFF WILL BE THERE AS WELL.

THE ODYSSEY TEAM IS AWESOME. WATCH THE NEXT MEMO FOR DETAILS ABOUT SOME OF THE TALENTED FOLKS YOU WILL BE SPENDING THE YEAR WITH AND THE TASKS THEY WILL BE PERFORMING. WATCH FOR SOME PHOTOS AND BIOS ON THE WEB AS WELL.

International Drivers License

TO MAKE IT EASIER TO DRIVE IN CERTAIN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, TK&A RECOMMENDS YOU VISIT YOUR LOCAL AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION AND OBTAIN AN INTERNATIONAL DRIVERS LICENSE. THEY COST VERY LITTLE (2 PASSPORT PHOTOS AND A FEE) AND ARE GOOD FOR ONE YEAR. SO, TO MAXIMIZE THE USE OF YOUR LICENSE, WE SUGGEST YOU PICK ONE UP AROUND DEC. 15. YOU WILL NEED A VALID STATE DRIVERS LICENSE THAT'S STILL GOOD FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR. NO DRIVING TEST REQUIRED!

Road messages

IT'S EASY TO LEAVE MESSAGES FOR FELLOW RIDERS WHO ARE STILL BEHIND YOU. SIMPLY COMPLETE THE MESSAGE AREA AFTER THEIR NAME ON THE END-OF-DAY SIGN-IN SHEET. YOU CAN ALSO CHECK AT THE OFFICE TO SEE IF A FELLOW TREKKER HAS LEFT ANY WRITTEN (THIS IS THE ONLY TYPE WE WILL PASS ON) MESSAGES FOR YOU.

EMERGENCY MESSAGES ARE PASSED ON AS SOON AS WE CAN LOCATE YOU.

Lost and found items

YOU WILL LOSE MORE THAN ONE THING NEXT YEAR, GUARANTEED. IF IT HAS SURFACED, WE WILL PLACE IT IN THE ODYSSEY LOST AND FOUND BOX, USUALLY LOCATED NEAR THE END-OF-DAY CHECK-IN OR ODYSSEY OFFICE. RIDERS OFTEN FIND ITEMS THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW ARE MISSING. THE LOST AND FOUND USUALLY BECOMES HISTORY EVERY FEW DAYS, SO KEEP AN EYE ON IT. LABELING YOUR PERSONAL STUFF IS A RADICAL THOUGHT FOR MANY, BUT IT'S A GREAT IDEA.

Security for your gear at camp

THIS IS A HUGELY IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR EVERYONE. TK&A WILL NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PEOPLE'S PERSONAL GEAR OR BIKES. EVERYONE HAS TO USE REASONABLE AND PRUDENT CARE WITH THEIR OWN GEAR, THOUGH IT'S NORMALLY QUITE SAFE AT MOST CAMPS (RARELY HAS ANYTHING BEEN STOLEN AT ONE OF OUR CAMPS).

WE USUALLY LEAVE SOMEONE AT CAMP DURING MEAL HOURS TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS. HOWEVER, THEY AREN'T RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PROPERTY. GET USED TO ALWAYS LOCKING YOUR BIKE AND NOT LEAVING THINGS LAYING AROUND. IT'S FUNNY, BUT PEOPLE OFTEN PUT THEIR WALLETS AND OTHER VALUABLES ON PICNIC TABLES AND LEAVE THEM UNATTENDED FOR HOURS. GO FIGURE!

Food: psyching yourself to eat locally as you travel globally

FOOD. WE NEED PLENTY TO REPLACE THE 6000 OR SO CALORIES YOU WILL BE BURNING EVERY RIDING DAY DURING ODYSSEY. FOOD HAS ALSO BEEN ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND REMEMBERED ASPECTS OF ANY AND ALL EXPERIENCES. A GOOD BREAKFAST HELPS US BEGIN OUR DAILY JOURNEY, READY TO ABSORB WHATEVER ADVENTURES THE TERRAIN, ENVIRONMENT, TRAFFIC AND WEATHER MUSTERS. A TASTY, FILLING DINNER HELPS US PUT THE MEMORIES OF THE DAY INTO PERSPECTIVE AND HELPS MAKE THE END OF EACH DAY A MORE SATISFACTORY EXPERIENCE.

AS ONE CAN IMAGINE, WORLD TRAVEL IS MUCH MORE COMPLICATED (AND USUALLY LESS ENJOYABLE) FOR THE PICKY OR FINICKY EATER. IF ONE EXPECTS MUCH OF THE AMERICAN FOOD WE ARE USED TOO, THEY'D BETTER STAY AT HOME. EVEN THE UNITED KINGDOM IS DIFFERENT ENOUGH, LET ALONE CHINA. IT'S BEST TO KICK THE NEED FOR RECOGNIZABLE FOODS, AND EMBRACE THE UNKNOWN AND BE PREPARED TO EAT WHATEVER IS SERVED UP EACH DAY BY MEMBERS OF COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. JUST REMAIN FLEXIBLE AND ROLL WITH THE PUNCHES.

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT DURING ODYSSEY? THOUGH WE PROMISE PLENTY OF EXCELLENT FOOD THROUGHOUT ODYSSEY, WHEN WE ARE IN MEXICO, IT WILL BE MEXICAN (OR EACH COUNTRY'S) FOOD AND A LOT OF IT. IF YOU DON'T LIKE MEXICAN FOOD, THIS SECTION OF ODYSSEY WILL BE TOUGHER FOR YOU. FOR THOSE WHO CAN EAT MOST ANYTHING, YOU WILL HAVE A BLAST AND WILL ENJOY THE LOCAL FOODS OF EACH CULTURE.

TK&A works closely with all of its food vendors

TK&A PROVIDES ITS VENDORS WITH LOTS OF INFORMATION AND HAS MET MOST OF THEM PERSONALLY. YOU CAN BE ASSURED EACH OF OUR VENDORS WILL DO THE BEST JOB POSSIBLE FOR OUR GROUP OF HUNGRY "EAT-EVERYTHING-YOU-CAN-SEE" CYCLISTS. THIS INCLUDES, OF COURSE, MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR ODYSSEY'S LEGITIMATE (ONE'S WHO HAVE IDENTIFIED THEIR "MEAT" PREFERENCES TO TK&A) NON-MEAT EATERS. AS FAR AS LOWFAT MEALS ARE CONCERNED, IT'S OFTEN TOUGH TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN IN TEXAS, LET ALONE MOST FOREIGN (EVEN FIRST WORLD) COUNTRIES. BESIDES, IT'S THE STAFF WHO HAS TO WORRY ABOUT OVEREATING AND TOO MUCH FAT, NOT Y'ALL CYCLISTS!

WHEN MEETING AND CORRESPONDING WITH OUR VENDORS, WE EMPHASIZE FOOD QUALITY, PLENTY OF FOOD FOR EVERYONE AND BEING ABLE TO FEED OUR GROUP RELATIVELY QUICKLY. EVEN THOUGH WE SUGGEST THAT DINNER INCLUDES SOME TYPE OF A NON-ALCOHOL DRINK, SALAD, BREAD, VEGETABLES, A COUPLE OF MAIN COURSES AND, ON OCCASION, A DESERT, WE KNOW THAT IT SIMPLY WON'T BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE EACH OF THESE ALL THE TIME.

BREAKFAST IS EVEN MORE STRANGE. MOST OF THE WORLD, IT SEEMS, EATS A LIGHT CONTINENTAL TYPE BREAKFAST, WHICH USUALLY INCLUDES BREAD, CHEESE, THIN SLICES OF MEAT, JELLY OR PRESERVES, BUTTER OR MARGARINE, COFFEE AND JUICE. SOMETIMES HARD BOILED EGGS AND COLD CEREAL WITH HOT OR COLD MILK ARE INCLUDED. LESS OFTEN, YOU WILL BE OFFERED AN "ENGLISH" BREAKFAST. IN ADDITION TO THE CONTINENTAL OFFERINGS, YOU WILL USUALLY RECEIVE SCRAMBLED EGGS, SAUSAGE AND/OR HAM

AND/OR BACON. POTATOES ARE A RARE BREED. IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BREAKFAST IS A HEFTIER MEAL AND INCLUDE BEANS AND A COUPLE OF ITEMS ONLY THE BRITISH COULD LOVE.

FOR BREAKFAST PREP, TK&A USUALLY ASKS FOR JUICE, COLD CEREAL, SOMETIMES HOT CEREAL, FRUIT, EGGS, SOME TYPE OF MEAT, MILK, COFFEE (YOU WILL LOVE EUROPEAN COFFEE) BREAD AND, WHEN AVAILABLE, POTATOES. SOMETIMES WE ASK FOR FRENCH TOAST OR PANCAKES, BUT THESE ARE STRANGE CONCEPTS FOR MANY CULTURES. PLEASE REMAIN FLEXIBLE AND ENJOY WHAT'S OFFERED.

BREAKFAST IS THE MEAL THAT GENERALLY PROVIDES THE LEAST VARIETY AND CAN BECOME A LITTLE BORING AT TIMES. ON THE OTHER HAND, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF LOCAL OFFERINGS CAN SPICE UP AN OTHERWISE "COMMON" BREAKFAST.

REMEMBER, TK&A IS NOT IN A POSITION TO SUPPORT MORE RESTRICTIVE DIETARY LIMITATIONS SUCH AS VEGANS AND/OR NON-DAIRY. YOU WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THESE FOOD RESTRICTIONS AS BEST YOU CAN.

What about Asia

IT'S EVEN WILDER. HOPE YOU LIKE RICE! EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY NOT HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA OF WHAT SOME OF THE FOODS ARE, KEEP ON ADVENTURING AND ENJOYING THE LOCAL AND REGIONAL FLAVORS.

Alcoholic drinks

WE HAVE WARNED OUR VENDORS THAT MOST CYCLISTS LIKE TO DRINK BEER, WINE AND OTHER ASSORTED SPIRITS. SO MANY HAVE PROMISED TO STOCK UP. AS A GENERAL POLICY, TK&A DOES NOT PROVIDE ALCOHOL, SO BE PREPARED TO MAKE YOUR OWN PURCHASES. HOWEVER, MOST TK&A STAFF ENJOY A GOOD DRINK OR TWO AS MUCH (IF NOT MORE) THAN ANYONE.

Alcohol is often prohibited at overnight facilities

AS A GENERAL RULE, ALCOHOL IS NEVER ALLOWED ON SCHOOL OR CHURCH PROPERTY, AT RELIGIOUS FACILITIES AND AT SOME CITY, STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS. CHECK THE DRGs, WHITEBOARD AND ASK ABOUT ANY SPECIFIC LIMITATION WE MAY HAVE AT A SITE. PLEASE RESPECT THESE WISHES. IF YOU DON'T YOU WILL JEOPARDIZE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR VENDORS AND THE COMMUNITIES. AND YOU WILL ALSO PLACE YOUR CONTINUATION OF ODYSSEY IN JEOPARDY. AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE.

PS: TAKING ALCOHOL INTO YOUR TENT WHERE NO ONE CAN SEE IT IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE WHEN THERE ARE ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE.

Illegal drugs

YOU'RE OUT'A HERE, AND COULD END UP ON DEATH ROW IN SOME COUNTRIES.

TK&A 1999 travels

SO FAR THIS YEAR, KAREN-ANN AND I HAVE FLOWN ABOUT 90,000 MILES EACH AND DRIVEN OVER 15,000 MILES FINALIZING ODYSSEY ROUTES. THOUGH WE HAVE MET LOTS OF SUPER PEOPLE AND SEEN INCREDIBLE PARTS OF THE WORLD, IT GETS A LITTLE HECTIC FOR US. WE MUST SAY, THOUGH, YOU ARE GOING TO LOVE THE PLACES WE ARE GOING ON ODYSSEY. IT'S GOING TO BE A BLAST.

THE PURPOSE OF THESE TRIPS, OF COURSE, IS TO FINALIZE THE LOCAL LOGISTICS FOR ODYSSEY. HERE IS A PARTIAL LIST OF SOME OF WHAT WE ACCOMPLISH EACH TRIP: GET A FEEL FOR THE AIRPORTS WE WILL BE FLYING INTO AND OUT OF; DESIGN THE ROUTE USING LOCAL MAPS AND INFORMATION; DOCUMENT THE ROUTE IN THE FORM OF A DRG ON OUR MAC POWERBOOK G-3 AND MICROSOFT EXCEL; IDENTIFY A MIDDAY CHECKPOINT LOCATION; TELL A STORE OR TWO ALONG OUR MOST REMOTE ROUTES TO BE PREPARED FOR AN INVASION; LOCATE AND NEGOTIATE AN ACCEPTABLE OVERNIGHT FACILITY; AND ORGANIZE THE DINNER AND BREAKFAST VENDORS. WE ALSO LEARN WHAT WE CAN ABOUT THE LOCAL AREA AND OFTEN SPEND TIME WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

HERE'S IS A THUMBNAIL OF HOW IT WORKS. AFTER FLYING FOR THE BETTER PART OF A DAY, WE PICK UP OUR RENTAL CAR AND BEGIN THE PROCESS OF PULLING ODYSSEY TOGETHER. IF WE ARRIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF ONE OF ODYSSEY'S 17 STAGES, WE START BY DOCUMENTING THE ROUTE FROM THE AIRPORT TO ODYSSEY'S OVERNIGHT FACILITY. AFTER WE LEAVE THE CITY, WE DRIVE FOR SEVERAL HOURS DESIGNING THE ROUTE UNTIL IT'S TIME TO CHECK INTO A HOTEL FOR THE EVENING AND GRAB A BITE TO EAT. THEN THE NEXT MORNING, IT'S UP AT 6 OR 7 AM, THEN WE PACK UP AND HIT THE ROAD. BEFORE WE CAN BEGIN THE DAY'S WORK WE HAVE TO PLUG THE COMPUTER IN, CONNECT THE GPS, ORGANIZE OUR MAPS, BOOKS, GUIDES AND LOCAL MATERIALS, AND STUFF OUR BAGS INTO A RELATIVELY SMALL FOREIGN CAR. WE USUALLY DRIVE

AND WORK FOR THE NEXT 12 HOURS ACCOMPLISHING OUR VARIOUS TASKS. BY THE END OF THE DAY, WE HAVE NORMALLY DOCUMENTED 125 TO 250 KILOMETERS AND COMPLETED AT LEAST ONE SITE, HOPEFULLY TWO.

ONE OF THE MOST FRUSTRATING AND TIME CONSUMING PARTS OF OUR WORK IS THE INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF TIME IT TAKES TO DESIGN THE ROUTE THROUGH CITIES, ESPECIALLY WHEN SEEKING QUIETER ROADS. SINCE STREET SIGNS ARE MOSTLY NONEXISTENT OR USELESS TO US, AND THE SIGNS POINTING TO THE NEXT CITY CAN ALSO BE A LITTLE SPARSE, WE SPEND A FAIR SHARE OF OUR TIME GETTING INTO AND FINDING THE RIGHT ROUTE OUT OF SMALL VILLAGES AND LARGE CITIES.

Mexico

BRIT-SIMONE AND I SPENT 7 DAYS FINALIZING THE ROUTE IN BAJA CALIFORNIA AND BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO. IT WAS A SUPER TRIP AND WE MET SOME GREAT PEOPLE, THOUGH MANY OF WHOM LIVE POVERTY.

MEXICO HAS SLIGHTLY LESS THAN 100 MILLION PEOPLE, WITH A QUARTER OF THE POPULATION LIVING IN THE GREATER MEXICO CITY METRO AREA. MEXICO'S LAND MASS IS ABOUT THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF TEXAS AND MOSTLY DESERT UNTIL YOU REACH THE TROPICAL AREAS IN THE SOUTH. MEXICO IS A RELATIVELY POOR NATION.

BAJA CALIFORNIA IS WONDERFUL. IT'S DRY, REMOTE, BEAUTIFUL, EXTREMELY FRIENDLY AND A SUPER PLACE TO BEGIN OUR ADVENTURE. BAJA HAS ONE MAIN ROAD AND NOT MANY DISTRACTIONS OR CHANCES FOR TOO MUCH CREATIVE "NAVIGUESSING". AS WE ALL KNOW, MEXICO IS THE FIRST FOREIGN COUNTRY ODYSSEY WILL BE VISITING, AND IT IS CLEARLY A DEVELOPING NATION. POVERTY, I BELIEVE, IS MUCH WORSE IN CHINA AND VIETNAM, FOR INSTANCE, BUT MEXICO STILL HAS A RELATIVELY LOW INCOME LEVEL. HENCE, FEWER RESOURCES, LESS SELECTION OF GOODS YOU ARE USED TO HAVING ACCESS TO, MUCH DIFFERENT ROAD CONDITIONS, OLDER VEHICLES ON THE ROAD, FEWER LOCAL PRIVATE CARS, A FEW OF THE SAME CRAZY DRIVERS YOU FIND EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD, POORER AND/OR MORE PRIMITIVE SANITATION FACILITIES AND PRACTICES, POORER WATER QUALITY, ETC. THE IMPACT ON ODYSSEY? A RICHER EXPERIENCE FOR THE FLEXIBLE AND ADVENTUROUS. A GREAT BEGINNING FOR PEDALING INTO THE NEW MILLENNIUM.

Southern Europe

THE ENTIRE ODYSSEY MEDITERRANEAN IS SPECTACULAR, WITH EVEN A COUPLE OF FLAT DAYS THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE. THE FIRST STAGE OF SOUTHERN EUROPE INCLUDES GREECE, ITALY, ROME, SAN MARINO, FRANCE, MONACO, ANDORRA, AND SPAIN. THIS STAGE LASTS 44 DAYS (ODYSSEY DAYS 76-THU., MARCH 16 TO DAY 120-SAT., APRIL 29) AND COVERS 7376 KILOMETERS (4581 MILES) OF SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL TERRAIN. AND FOR THOSE WHO APPRECIATE ANCIENT HISTORY, EVERY DAY OF THIS SECTION OF THE GLOBE WILL BE A SPECIAL TREAT.

HERE ARE SOME OF TK&A'S OBSERVATIONS ABOUT SOUTHERN EUROPE:

1. RIDE ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD. NO DOUBT IT WILL FEEL GREAT CYCLING ON THE "CORRECT" SIDE OF THE ROAD AFTER LEAVING SOUTH AFRICA.
2. THE WATER IS POTABLE AND VERY DRINKABLE, EVEN THOUGH BOTTLED WATER IS A WAY OF LIFE FOR MUCH OF EUROPE. YOU KNOW, EVIAN, PERRIER, ETC.
3. THE EXCHANGE RATE VARIES BETWEEN EACH COUNTRY AND GENERALLY CONTINUES TO BECOME A LITTLE MORE FAVORABLE FOR THE AMERICAN DOLLAR. AS FAR AS THE EURO IS CONCERNED, TIME WILL TELL.
4. EXPECT SUNRISE AS EARLY AS 5:45 AM AND AS LATE AS 7:25 AM. EXPECT SUNSET AS EARLY AS 6:00 PM AND AS LATE AS 9:15 PM. MEALS ARE ADJUSTED AROUND THESE TIMES SO WATCH YOUR DRGS AND THE WHITEBOARD.
5. THE CYCLING CONDITIONS VARY FROM FLAT TERRAIN (A LITTLE BIT ANYWAY), TO SOME HEFTY CLIMBING (LUNG BUILDING CLIMBS). IN FACT, EXPECT SOME CHALLENGING TERRAIN EACH DAY IN SOUTHERN EUROPE. GET USED TO YOUR LOWER GEARS PUSHING YOU TO BETTER VIEWS, FOLLOWED BY SUPER FAST, CURVY DESCENTS. REMEMBER THAT THE CURVES ARE SHARP AND THE ROAD CONDITIONS CAN BE ROUGH. SO, CONTINUE TO USE YOUR BEST RIDING SKILLS FOR ALL OF ODYSSEY.
6. EXPECT SUN, COOL, COLD, WARM AND HOT TEMPERATURES, EVEN THOUGH IT'S POSSIBLE TO HAVE RAIN (MAYBE SNOW), SO BE PREPARED. CARRY HIGH QUALITY RAINGEAR, EYE PROTECTION AND SUN SCREEN.

7. EUROPEAN DRIVERS CAN BE PRETTY FAST AND A QUITE RECKLESS AT TIMES. HOWEVER, THEY ARE USED TO CYCLISTS ON THE ROADS AND CAN EVEN BE COURTEOUS. DON'T EXPECT IT THOUGH AND KEEP YOUR GUARD UP.
8. MOST VILLAGES HAVE SOME SERVICES, AT LEAST A LITTLE BAR (ESPRESSO SHOP WITH SNACKS AND ALCOHOL) AND MANY HAVE "GROCERY STORES". MANY OF THE ITEMS SOLD WILL BE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT MOST OF US ARE USED TO.
9. STORES AND BUSINESSES OFTEN CLOSE FROM 12:30 TO 3 OR 4 PM MOST DAYS AND SHUT DOWN COMPLETELY ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS. AS ALWAYS, BE SELF-SUFFICIENT AND MAKE SURE YOU HAVE WHAT YOU NEED FOR THE DAY.
10. ODYSSEY ARRIVES IN SOUTHERN EUROPE A COUPLE OF MONTHS AHEAD OF THE NORMAL "TOURIST SEASON". THIS MEANS LESS TRAFFIC AND FEWER PEOPLE WITH WHOM TO SHARE THIS MAGNIFICENT COUNTRY. HOWEVER, IT ALSO MEANS FAR FEWER CAMPING RESOURCES UP AND RUNNING. SO, TK&A HAS HAD TO NEGOTIATE CREATIVELY WITH SEVERAL VENDORS TO SOLVE ODYSSEY'S NEEDS. MANY OF THE CAMPGROUNDS WON'T LOOK AS CRISP AND FRESH AS THEY WILL BE IN LATE JUNE.
11. PLEASE THANK OUR ODYSSEY VENDORS WHENEVER IT MAKES SENSE TO YOU.
12. OVERALL, THE BATHROOM FACILITIES IN EUROPE ARE CLEAN AND NEAT. DON'T ALWAYS EXPECT TO FIND TOILET PAPER, HOWEVER, AND GET USED TO SQUAT TOILETS IN MANY FACILITIES. SOME SHOWERS ARE ALSO TOILET COMBOS. MOST CAMPGROUNDS HAVE SUPERIOR BATHROOM FACILITIES, OFTEN WITH PLACES TO WASH YOUR FEET. ENJOY.
13. OCCASIONALLY WE WILL INDICATE THAT OUR MIDDAY "CHECKPOINT WILL BE SOMEWHERE ALONG HERE". THIS PROBABLY HAPPENED BECAUSE WE INITIALLY DIDN'T KNOW HOW LONG THE DAY WAS GOING TO BE. JUST KEEP A LOOKOUT AND CHECKPOINT WILL APPEAR.
14. EXPECT THE FEW STREET SIGNS TO BE OF LIMITED HELP WHEN NAVIGATING THROUGH VILLAGES AND CITIES. KEEP YOUR DRG CLOSE AND WATCH FOR THE LARGER DIRECTION SIGNS POINTING TO THE NEXT CITY. KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE ON YOUR COMPUTER DISTANCES.
15. SMOKING SUCKS! AFTER INHALING LOTS OF SECOND HAND SMOKE, KAREN-ANN AND I BELIEVE IT'S A REQUIREMENT FOR MOST OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE TO SMOKE, ESPECIALLY IN EUROPE. EXPECT IT EVERYWHERE-BATHROOMS, RESTAURANTS, BARS, CAFES, HOTEL LOBBIES, HOSPITALS, AT AIRPORT X-RAY MACHINES, UNDER NO SMOKING SIGNS, ETC.
16. MANY SOUTHERN EUROPEANS SPEAK ENGLISH QUITE WELL, MAKING IT EASIER TO GET AROUND. HOWEVER, IT HELPS AND IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED IF YOU CAN USE A FEW LOCAL WORDS TO EXPRESS YOURSELF. THINK ABOUT LEARNING THE BASICS IN A FEW LANGUAGES.
17. THE FRENCH ARE GENERALLY FRIENDLIER THAN THEIR REPUTATION INDICATES.

Greece

WE LOVE GREECE, AFTER ALL IT'S FULL OF 11 MILLION MOSTLY FRIENDLY, FUN GREEKS, TUCKED AWAY IN AN AREA A LITTLE SMALLER THAN ALABAMA. GREECE HAS INCREDIBLE SCENERY, LOTS OF COASTLINE, BILLIONS AND BILLIONS OF OLIVES, PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEDALING TO GREAT VIEWS AND FAST DESCENTS, AT LEAST ONE TRILLION MOTORCYCLES AND LOTS OF GOOD FOOD. HISTORY...IT'S GOT PLENTY TO ABSORB IN ATHENS ALONE: THE ACROPOLIS, INCLUDING THE PARTHENON, THEATRE OF DIONYSOS, ERECHTHEION AND THE TEMPLE OF NIKE; OLD ATHENS; AND PLENTY OF MUSEUMS.

ODYSSEY 2000[®]'S ROUTE BEGINS WITH A LAYOVER DAY IN ATHENS, THEN CIRCLES MOST OF THE PELOPONNESE, HOME OF THE CORINTH CANAL, SPARTI (SPARTANS) AND THE SITE OF THE FIRST OLYMPICS DATING BACK TO 8 BC. WE GO THROUGH SEVERAL SMALL VILLAGES, PAST HISTORIC SITES AND THROUGH A COUPLE OF MAJOR COMMERCE CENTERS. NO DOUBT, GREECE WILL BE A PLACE YOU WILL RETURN TO AFTER ODYSSEY.

Italy

WHAT CAN WE SAY, THIS ARIZONA+ SIZED, BOOT SHAPED, MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY IS CLEARLY ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST COUNTRIES AND HOME TO MANY, MANY HISTORICAL TREASURES. EVERYWHERE YOU TURN, YOU WILL SEE SIGNS OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATION. CASTLES, ANCIENT ROUTES, ROMAN AQUEDUCTS, WALLS, FIELDS, FENCES, ETC. IT'S AWESOME! ITALIANS ARE FRIENDLY FOLKS WHO KNOW HOW TO EAT GOOD FOOD, ALL 60,000,000 OF THEM.

WE HAVE DESIGNED A TRUE, NORTH TO SOUTH, CROSS-COUNTRY RIDE THROUGH ITALY. ODYSSEY WILL BE ARRIVING IN BARI (NOT BRINDISI) VIA A FERRY FROM PATRA, GREECE. FROM HERE WE PEDAL CROSS-COUNTRY TO THE MEDITERRANEAN, UP THE COAST TO POMPEII, TO ROME TO VISIT THE HOLY SEE (VATICAN CITY), THEN OFF TO SAN MARINO VIA ASSISI. FROM HERE IT'S WEST TO THE ITALIAN RIVIERA VIA PISA. WE

THINK YOU WILL ENJOY ITALY TO THE MAX SO WE HAVE ADDED AS MANY DAYS AS POSSIBLE. EXPECT PLENTY OF SPECTACULAR VIEWS AND EARNED DESCENTS THE ENTIRE TIME WE ARE IN ITALY.

THE MAJORITY OF ITALIANS, IT SEEMS, ARE FRUSTRATED RACE CAR DRIVERS. SOUTHERN ITALY IS THE WORSE, BUT IT REALLY DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER AS YOU GO NORTH. THE DRIVING DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE, AT TIMES, SO JUST STAY ALERT. OUR EXPERIENCE IS THAT A STOP SIGN IS SIMPLY A SUGGESTION, WHILE A RED LIGHT IS SOMETHING SOME PEOPLE MIGHT CONSIDER. OF COURSE, THIS CONDUCT DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY OF US. WE ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD.

Vatican City

THE HOLY SEE IS THE WORLD'S SMALLEST COUNTRY (.44 MILES) WITH ABOUT 1000 PERMANENT RESIDENTS. IT'S IN THE HEART OF ROME AND INCLUDES SEVERAL BUILDINGS. AS THE SEAT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, ITS REVENUES COME FROM CONTRIBUTIONS AND INVESTMENTS. THE VATICAN IS A "MUST SEE" WHILE IN ROME AND IS EASILY ACCESSED FROM OUR CAMPGROUND.

ROME (ITALY AS A WHOLE) IS CELEBRATING THE GREAT JUBILEE 2000 AND IS EXPECTING 20,000,000 PEOPLE FROM 1999 THROUGH 2000, CAUSING A MAJOR HOTEL ROOM SHORTAGE, PARTICULARLY FOR GROUPS. HENCE, WE ARE CAMPING IN ROME AT AN EXCELLENT CAMPGROUND IN AN IDEAL LOCATION.

San Marino

SAN MARINO TAKES UP 24 SQUARE MILES ON THE SLOPES OF MOUNT TITANO IN THE ITALIAN APPENNINES, NOT TOO FAR FROM THE ADRIATIC SEA. SAN MARINO IS THE SECOND SMALLEST REPUBLIC IN THE WORLD AND HAS A POPULATION OF 24,000. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CITIZEN, YOU WILL HAVE TO RESIDE IN SAN MARINO FOR AT LEAST 30 YEARS.

YOU WILL REMEMBER SAN MARINO BY THE CLIMB INTO AND DESCENT OUT OF IT'S CAPITAL, SAN MARINO. IT'S A GREAT PLACE AND WORTHY OF SOME EXPLORATION.

France

WE ARE IN AND OUT OF FRANCE AT LEAST FOUR SEPARATE TIMES DURING ODYSSEY. FRANCE HAS ABOUT THE SAME POPULATION AS ITALY, BUT HAS 80% MORE SPACE (ABOUT THE SIZE OF TEXAS) TO SPREAD OUT IN. ITS TERRAIN IS AS VARIED AS ANY COUNTRY AND SUPPORTS SUCH WORLD CLASS AREAS AS PARIS, THE LOIRE VALLEY, FRENCH RIVIERA, PYRENEES, FRENCH ALPS, LOTS OF WINE COUNTRY, ETC. FRANCE ALSO HAS A GREAT NETWORK OF SMALLER, QUIET ROADS, IDEAL FOR CYCLING.

OVERALL, FRANCE HAS A LINGERING REPUTATION FOR RUDENESS, ESPECIALLY IN PARIS. OUR EXPERIENCE IS THAT MOST FOLKS WE HAVE MET ARE FRIENDLY AND TRY TO SPEAK ENGLISH IF THEY CAN. WE ARE SURE MANY FRENCH HAVE AN ATTITUDE REFLECTIVE OF THEIR REPUTATION, BUT WE HAVEN'T MET TOO MANY YET.

OUR SOUTHERN EUROPE ROUTE IS GREAT. WE REMAIN ALONG THE FRENCH RIVIERA, INCLUDING AN EXCELLENT ROUTE THROUGH THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRY OF MONACO, UNTIL HEADING INLAND NEAR LE CAP D' AGDE, SOUTH OF MONTPELLIER. WE PLAN TO SPEND 2 LAYOVER DAYS IN CARCASSONNE BEFORE HEADING OVER THE PYRENEES INTO ANDORRA. YOU WILL BE HAPPY TO KNOW WE ARE USING A COUPLE OF THE 1998 TOUR DE FRANCE ROADS AFTER LEAVING CARCASSONNE.

Monaco

JAMES BOND (007), PRINCESS GRACE, THE RIVIERA, THE RICH AND FAMOUS, MONTE CARLO CASINO, ETC. MUSTER ROMANTIC IMAGES OF THIS VERY FAMOUS COUNTRY, SURROUNDED BY FRANCE ON THREE SIDES. MONACO IS TINY (.75 SQ. MILE) AND HAS A POPULATION OF 31,000. MONACO IS RANKED AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S GLAMOROUS INTERNATIONAL JET-SET DESTINATIONS. OUR ROUTE GOES WITHIN A BLOCK OF THE LUXURIOUS MONTE CARLO CASINO, SO CHECK IT OUT.

WE ARE SPENDING OUR LAYOVER DAY IN MENTON, FRANCE, ABOUT 11.6 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF THE MONTE CARLO CASINO, GIVING US GREAT ACCESS TO THIS INCREDIBLE AREA. WHILE EXPLORING MONTE CARLO'S WATERFRONT, YOU MIGHT PUT YOUR DIBS ON THE YACHT YOU PLAN TO BUY AFTER ODYSSEY.

Andorra

NOW, HERE'S A PLACE YOU WILL REMEMBER. WHEN WE LEAVE FRANCE, THE DAY AFTER EASTER, WE WILL CLIMB OVER THE PYRENEES INTO ANDORRA. ANDORRA JUGGLES LIFE BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND SPANISH, FAVORING SPAIN. ANDORRA CAN BE DESCRIBED AS A LARGE SHOPPING CENTER WITH AN ULTRA MODERN SPA

ON THE MAIN ROUTE TO SPAIN. SPANISH CUSTOM AUTHORITIES HAVE A FIELD DAY COLLECTING TAXES ON DUTY-FREE GOODS PURCHASED IN ANDORRA.

ANDORRA IS A LANDLOCKED MOUNTAIN COUNTRY NESTLED AT THE CREST OF THE PYRENEES BETWEEN FRANCE AND SPAIN. IT'S 181 SQUARE MILES (ABOUT 1/6 THE SIZE OF RHODE ISLAND) CONTAINS A POPULATION OF 64,000 PEOPLE. IT'S APPEAL IS ITS DRAMATIC SCENERY, DUTY-FREE SHOPPING AND ALPINE SKIING. A LARGE AVALANCHE WOULD WIPE A LOT OF IT OUT!

KAREN-ANN AND I SPENT MOST OF THE DAY TRYING TO LOCATE A HOTEL CAPABLE OF HOUSING OUR GROUP. UNFORTUNATELY, WE WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. LARGER HOTELS DIDN'T WANT TO SET ASIDE ENOUGH ROOMS TO HOUSE OUR GROUP. THE ACT OF SPLITTING OUR GROUP UP INTO TWO HOTELS THAT ARE OVER 100 METERS APART IS NOT A VERY APPEALING OPTION. SO WE DECIDED TO HEAD INTO SPAIN FOR THE NIGHT. OVERALL, WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT PLAN. A SHORT DAY (83 KM-ONLY 36 KM OF WHICH IS CLIMBING) ALLOWS FOR PLENTY OF EXPLORING.

Spain

SPAIN IS LARGE, 194,884 SQUARE MILES, A LITTLE SMALLER THAN CALIFORNIA AND PENNSYLVANIA COMBINED, ALLOWING PLENTY OF ROOM FOR ITS 40 MILLION INHABITANTS. SPAIN IS AWESOME, SCENIC, FILLED WITH WONDERFUL PEOPLE AND FIRST WORLD AMENITIES. HISTORICALLY, SPAIN HAS STRUGGLED TO GROW AND TO BECOME A STABLE FORCE IN EUROPE. IT'S A COUNTRY THAT SUFFERED THROUGH CENTURIES OF DECLINE AFTER IT'S HAY DAY IN THE 15TH CENTURY. AFTER ALL, SPAIN GAVE US CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS AND THE CONQUISTADORS.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE ARE ONLY SPENDING A FEW DAYS IN NORTHERN SPAIN. ONLY TWO OVERNIGHT LOCATIONS BEFORE SPENDING THREE NIGHTS IN BARCELONA. WE HAVE FOUND A CAMPGROUND CLOSE TO THE AIRPORT WITH BEDS IN SMALL CABINS ON THE BEACH. A SUPER PLACE. FREQUENTLY SCHEDULED BUSES DEPART FOR THE CITY RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE CAMPGROUND.

Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR IS A BRITISH CROWN COLONY WITH A STRONG SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE. WE LOVED OUR TIME IN THIS SMALL COUNTRY KNOWN AS THE ROCK. GIBRALTAR IS 2.75 MILES LONG, .75 MILES WIDE AND 1396 FT HIGH, FILLED WITH TUNNELS AND CAVES (143) BUILT BY THE BRITISH FOR DEFENSE PURPOSES. GIBRALTAR IS ALSO FAMOUS FOR ITS PARKS AND APE POPULATION.

THE GIBS SPEAK SPANISH AND ENGLISH AS WELL AS A MIX CALLED "SPANGLISH", SO EVERY VISITOR IS CONFUSED AT SOME POINT DURING THEIR VISIT. WE HAVE LOCATED AN EXCELLENT HOTEL ON THE COAST AND HAVE ADDED A LAYOVER DAY FOR REST AND EXPLORATION. GIBRALTAR'S AIRPORT IS PART OF THEIR ROAD SYSTEM, SO THEY STOP TRAFFIC FROM CROSSING THE RUNWAY WHEN A PLANE LANDS OR TAKES OFF...PRETTY COOL.

SPAIN WOULD LOVE TO ABSORB GIBRALTAR, BUT IT IS NOT LIKELY TO HAPPEN. GIBS ARE AN INDEPENDENT LOT AND WANT THEIR FREEDOM, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE AT THE TIP OF SPAIN.

Southern Spain

WE PLAN TO BEGIN OUR SOUTHERN SPAIN/PORTUGAL STAGE BY FLYING INTO OR NEAR GIBRALTAR. AFTER ANOTHER MEMORABLE LAYOVER DAY WE WILL BEGIN OUR TRAVELS INTO SPAIN ON A SOMEWHAT CIRCUITOUS ROUTE TO LISBON (LISBOA). IN SPAIN, OUR INITIAL COASTAL ROUTE TAKES US TO MALAGA AND BEYOND. TURNING INLAND OFFERS US THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THREE WONDERFUL, HISTORIC CITIES: GRANADA, CORDOBA AND SEVILLE. TO MAXIMIZE THE EXPERIENCE, WE HAVE INCLUDED LAYOVER DAYS IN CORDOBA AND SEVILLE.

Portugal

PORTUGAL IS A SLIVER OF A COUNTRY ABOUT THE SIZE OF INDIANA, BORDERED BY THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AND SPAIN. ITS ENTIRE POPULATION IS LESS THAN NEW YORK CITY'S FIVE BOROUGHS. PORTUGAL IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES IN WESTERN EUROPE, BUT IS ALSO ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING WE WILL VISIT. AFTER CROSSING THE BORDER WE WILL VISIT THREE VERY SIGNIFICANT CITIES: MONSARAZ, A SMALL COMMUNITY WHICH HAS APPLIED FOR WORLD HERITAGE STATUS, ÉVORA WHICH HAS RECEIVED WORLD HERITAGE STATUS AND, OF COURSE, LISBON. THREE EXCELLENT CHOICES.

Geneva, Switzerland-United Nations

ON AUGUST 12, TK&A WAS INVITED TO SPEAK AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND. WE WERE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ON AGING AND WELLNESS CO-SPONSORED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE ARE VERY HONORED TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SUCH A PRESTIGIOUS EVENT.

UNFORTUNATELY, KAREN-ANN HAD TO REMAIN AT HOME TO ACCOMPLISH ODYSSEY FOLLOW-UP WORK, SO I WAS THE ONE TO ADDRESS THE GROUP OF TWO DOZEN OR SO PEOPLE. TK&A WAS INVITED BECAUSE OF ODYSSEY'S DEMOGRAPHICS, PARTICULARLY THE AVERAGE AGE OF ODYSSEY PARTICIPANTS. THE TITLE OF THE ROUND TABLE WAS 'WELLNESS 2001: WELLNESS AND AGING'. 1999 IS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE OLDER PERSON, AND SOMEHOW, MANY ODYSSEY RIDERS AND STAFF FALL WELL WITHIN THIS AGE CATEGORY. ODYSSEY WAS HIGHLIGHTED AS A CASE STUDY OF HOW THOSE 50 AND OLDER ARE CHOOSING TO SPEND OUR LIVES. "ACTIVE AGING" IS ONE OF THE NEW CONCEPTS USED TO PROMOTE AN ACTIVE LIFESTYLE, REGARDLESS OF AGE, AND HALF Y'ALL ARE A TEXTBOOK CASE.

ENCLOSURES FOR JUNE/AUGUST MEMO 99

DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

STAGE ITINERARIES FOR:

USA/MEXICO "FINAL" ITINERARY

SOUTH AMERICA "FINAL" ITINERARY

SOUTH AFRICA "FINAL" ITINERARY

MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE "FINAL" ITINERARY

SOUTHERN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL "FINAL" ITINERARY

USA/CANADA "FINAL" ITINERARY

AUSTRALIA "FINAL" ITINERARY

ROSE PARADE 2000 WEB PIECE

COPY OF BAJA DAILY ROUTE GUIDE

ODYSSEY 2000® TEE-SHIRT/TYVEK ORDER FORM

RIDER INFORMATION FORM TO COMPLETE

BRUCE'S NIFTY CHART OF WEATHER AND DAYLIGHT HOURS