

Some of you who are new to Over The Hill Rides may wonder what this is all about. Well, here's the "rest of the story" as Mr. Paul Harvey used to say.

Three times in the spring, and then again three times in the fall we have \*official\* Over The Hill rides. All rides go over the SaddleBrooke Hill (aka the "front door") and then turn around to return. The **first** ride (OTH-1 & -1A) turns around at the traffic signal at SaddleBrooke Blvd and Oracle Road. It's a little over 3 miles each way. That ride is usually held in late February and then again in late September.

The **second** ride (OTH-2 & -2A) turns around a bit farther at Oracle Junction where AZ-79 breaks off from AZ-77 and heads over to Florence. It's over the hill, turn right at the traffic light, and head up to the junction. That ride is a little over 5 miles each way, and is usually done in late March and again in late October or early November.

The **third** and final ride (OTH-3 & -3A) continues up AZ-77 to the water tank on the right (south) side of AZ-77 before reaching the SaddleBrooke Ranch entrance. Again, it's over the hill, turn right at the traffic light, and continue on AZ-77 past Oracle Junction to the water tank just before milepost 92. It's a slight climb all the way up, but a nice descent coming back. The ride is about 6 miles each way and is usually done in late April and again in early December.

The CycleMasters club maintains a **plaque** (actually there are four of them now!) on the wall outside the pro shop and near the elevator on the lower level of the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse. Those riders who \*officially\* ride one of the OTH rides for the first time will have their names added to that plaque and will be honored for their accomplishment at the club's annual dinner-dance that is usually held in the spring (watch for the date).

So there -- that's a bit more about our yearly OTH rides. If you haven't done one and have a strong desire to go Over The Hill (I know, I know, most of us are over the hill already) then plan to ride with others doing the OTH Rides. It's a challenge, it's fun, and it's a real accomplishment for those who haven't gone Over The Hill already.

...Skip

