

June 99 Mini-Memo

DATE: JULY 4, 1999
TO: ODYSSEY 2000® REGISTERED RIDERS
FROM: TIM KNEELAND & ASSOCIATES, INC.
RE: ODYSSEY UPDATED

Odyssey update

KAREN-ANN AND I ARE PRETTY MUCH SPENDING MOST OF OUR TIME TRAVELING IN THE AIR AND ON THE GROUND FINALIZING THE DAY TO DAY LOGISTICS FOR ODYSSEY 2000®. WHEN WE RETURN TO SEATTLE FOR A FEW DAYS BETWEEN EACH TRIP, WE FOCUS ON THE OVERALL LOGISTICS SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION, SHOWERS, STAFFING, BIKES, ETC.

SINCE BRIT-SIMONE AND I ARE CURRENTLY FINALIZING THE ROUTE AND OVERNIGHT LOCATIONS FROM WASHINGTON DC TO QUEBEC, WE ARE SENDING THIS "MINI-MEMO" TO ANNOUNCE THE BIKE SELECTION AND TO ASK FOR YOUR BASIC FITTING INFORMATION.

Detailed Memo later this month

IN JULY, WE WILL SEND OUT A MORE COMPLETE "JUNE MEMO" WITH THE RESULTS OF OUR RECENT TRAVELS AND MAILINGS. SORRY FOR THE DELAY, BUT OUR TIME IS ABSORBED IN LOGISTICS.

Bike Company

AFTER CAREFULLY REVIEWING FIVE SEPARATE PROPOSALS FOR "ODYSSEY BIKES", WE HAVE SELECTED A WELL RESPECTED SEATTLE BASED INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, RALEIGH USA BICYCLE COMPANY. WE ARE EXCITED TO BE WORKING WITH RALEIGH AND ARE CONFIDENT WE WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP EVERYONE UP, RUNNING AND COMFORTABLE DURING OUR EPIC JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD. THIS DECISION WAS NOT EASY, SINCE SOME MANUFACTURERS PUT QUITE A BIT OF TIME AND THOUGHT INTO THEIR OFFERS.

Opinions & bike selection criteria

WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT MANY ODYSSEY RIDERS HAVE SOME PRETTY STRONG OPINIONS ON WHAT THEY BELIEVE THE ODYSSEY BIKE SHOULD BE. THE FOLLOWING ARE TK&A'S CONSIDERATIONS FOR MAKING THE SELECTION:

1. THE ODYSSEY BIKE IS FOR RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION, NOT FLASH OR "EXPENSIVE BRAGGIN' RIGHTS.
2. EASE OF REPAIR, REGARDLESS OF WHERE WE ARE IN THE WORLD. TK&A HAS NO DESIRE TO EXHAUST ITS MECHANICAL TEAM AND OTHER ODYSSEY STAFF KEEPING THE BIKES RUNNING FOR A YEAR.
3. MAKING SURE WE CAN OFFER A PROPER FIT.
4. THE BIKE MUST CARRY A SOLID WARRANTY.

5. ACCESS TO SPARE PARTS AND EASE OF GETTING THE BASICS SUCH AS TIRES AND TUBES.
6. COST OF THE ENTIRE BIKE PROGRAM.
7. RESPONSIVENESS AND SUPPORT FROM THE MANUFACTURER.

The basic bike

RALEIGH HAS TAKEN THE FRAME BEST SUITED FOR OUR LONG DISTANCE TOURING NEEDS AND HAS BUILT A COMPONENT GROUP TO OUR SPECIFICATIONS. THE BIKE WILL BE ALUMINUM, HAVE 27 SPEEDS, STI SHIFTERS FOR THOSE DESIRING DROP BARS, A CHOICE OF STRAIGHT BARS WITH BAR END SHIFTERS, TWO WATER BOTTLE CAGES, A REAR RACK, 700 X 30CM OR 32CM TIRES AND RUGGED WHEELS. IT WILL COME WITHOUT PEDALS AND A SEAT, BUT DOES INCLUDE A SUSPENSION SEAT POST.

WE ARE WORKING ON THE BASICS OF GETTING THE BIKES SHIPPED TO A DEALER FAIRLY CLOSE TO YOUR HOME. WE ARE ANTICIPATING DELIVERY ABOUT OCTOBER 15. RALEIGH IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT GETTING THE PARTS FROM OTHERS IN TIME SO THEY ARE BEING PRETTY CONSERVATIVE ON THE DELIVERY DATE.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE BIKE CAN'T BE CALLED "ODYSSEY" BECAUSE OF SPECIFIC COPYRIGHT ISSUES, SO WE ARE WORKING ON A DECAL TO IDENTIFY IT IN SOME WAY AS THE "OFFICIAL BIKE OF ODYSSEY 2000®".

We need this info

USE THE ENCLOSED FORM TO SUPPLY TK&A WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. TORSO MEASUREMENT. PLEASE USE A TAPE MEASURE TO GET THE DISTANCE FROM YOUR CROTCH TO THE TOP OF THE CLAVICLE (BASE OF NECK).
2. ARM LENGTHS. TOP OF SHOULDER TO BASE OF THUMB.
3. BASIC INSEAM. WITH SHOES ON, FLOOR TO CROTCH.

IF YOU HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THESE MEASUREMENTS, GO TO YOUR FAVORITE BIKE SHOP (OR TAILOR) AND ASK FOR THEIR HELP. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OPINIONS ARE LIKE NOSES, EVERYONE HAS AT LEAST ONE.

NOTE: TK&A'S OFFICE MUST RECEIVE THIS INFO BY JULY 21 VIA FAX, EMAIL OR LETTER. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT THIS INFO OVER THE PHONE. THANKS!

ALSO: IF WE DON'T RECEIVE THIS INFO FROM YOU BY JULY 21, YOU WILL LIKELY INCUR SPECIAL HANDLING AND SHIPPING FEES.

Don't contact Raleigh

PLEASE DON'T CONTACT YOUR LOCAL RALEIGH DEALER AT THIS TIME. LET CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS HAVE TIME TO SET THE PROGRAM UP CORRECTLY, THEN WE WILL COMMUNICATE THE PICKUP AND FINAL TWEAKING PROCESS.

EVEN THOUGH WE KNOW MOST PEOPLE NEVER WOULD, PLEASE DON'T ASK YOUR LOCAL RALEIGH DEALER FOR FREE STUFF. OWNING A BIKE SHOP IS A TOUGH BUSINESS.

ONE LAST REQUEST, NEVER CONTACT RALEIGH PERSONALLY. CONTACT TK&A AND WE WILL GIVE OR GET ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS.

Questions

GIVE US A CALL AT 1-800-433-0528 OR (206) 322-4102, EMAIL AT TIMTKA@AOL.COM, SEND A LETTER OR DROP BY FOR A VISIT.