

December 10, 1999 Bike Memo

DATE: DECEMBER 10, 1999
TO: ODYSSEY 2000® REGISTERED RIDERS
FROM: TIM KNEELAND & ASSOCIATES, INC.
RE: JUST A FEW SLEEPS AWAY

What Is TK&A Up To?

TIM IS IN ASIA. LEFT JAPAN AS THE SNOW ROSE. CUT A PATH THROUGH THE DUCK HERDS OF THAILAND AND IS NOW HEADING TOWARDS SINGAPORE DOWN THROUGH MALAYSIA. TIM HAS ADDED ANOTHER FERRY RIDE OUT OF PHUKET. THAT WILL BE SO AWESOME. THE SCENERY FROM THE WATER WILL BE WONDERFUL. OF COURSE, WE WERE IN THE CAR, BUT IT IS HARD TO GRASP THE BEAUTY OF THE LIMESTONE CLIFFS WHEN YOU ARE SO CLOSE TO THEM.

KAREN-ANN STAYED BACK TO FINALIZE ODYSSEY LOGISTICS.

BRIT-SIMONE, OUR ACTING CEO WHEN TIM AND KAREN-ANN ARE ABSENT, IS WITHOUT A CAR, HOME AND ANIMALS AND IS LIVING OUT OF A DUFFEL. TODAY IS HER BIRTHDAY. ALL THE BEST TO A TOTALLY WONDERFUL FRIEND, A MAGNIFICENT CO-WORKER, (WITHOUT BRIT-SIMONE AT THE HELM ALL THESE YEARS TIM AND KAREN-ANN WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ALL THE TASKS AND THE TRAVELLING NEEDED FOR ODYSSEY) AND EVERY PARENT'S DREAM OF *THE* DAUGHTER.

YOU GUYS TALK ABOUT PACKING. WE SECURED A STORAGE SPACE JUST TO SORT OUT ALL THE BITS WE NEED TO BRING ON ODYSSEY, AS WE ARE STARTING TO EXPLODE OUT THE DOORS OF THE OFFICE.

WE ARE WORKING LIKE DEMONS TO DO ALL THE MILLIONS OF THINGS THAT NEED TO BE ATTENDED TO BEFORE WE DEPART. THANKS TO ALL THOSE WONDERFUL SOULS WHO ARE QUIETLY HANGING OUT ON THE SIDELINES, BAGS PACKED READY TO HIT THE ROAD. THANKS TO ALL THOSE THOUGHTFUL FOLKS WHO HAVE OFFERED TO HELP. YOU ARE ALL ON A RAIN CHECK. YOUR SUPPORT REFILLS OUR BATTERIES. AND THANK YOU FOR THE PROMISE OF HUGS. I CAN SPEAK FOR ALL OF US HERE – *GO FOR IT* – WE MIGHT LOOK COMATOSE OR EVEN A TAD ON THE DUG UP SIDE - HOLLOW CHEEKS, BLACK CIRCLES AROUND THE EYES, FRAZZLED HAIR, ZOMBIE-ISH, ETC., WHEN YOU SEE US, BUT WE CAN STILL FEEL A HUG.

What Are The Riders Up To?

WE HAVE FOLKS WHO SOUND JUST LIKE BRIT-SIMONE EXCEPT THEY ARE JOBLESS TOO. LOTS OF FOLKS ARE OUT TOOTLING AROUND TRYING TO DO ALL THE TRAINING THEY THOUGHT ABOUT OVER THE YEARS.

PLEASE KEEP US UP TO DATE ON YOUR MAILING ADDRESS. THANKS TO ALL YOU FOLKS WHO ARE BEING SO DILIGENT ABOUT THAT.

Congrats

NOT ONLY HAVE SOME OF YOU TURNED INTO BICYCLING TRANSIENTS. SOME OF YOU WENT OUT AND GOT *MARRIED*. SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO A COUPLE OF COUPLES WHO ARE GOING TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTION “WHERE DID YOU GO FOR YOUR HONEYMOON?” WITH “WE WENT AROUND THE WORLD, FOR A YEAR, ON BICYCLES.” A CONVERSATION STOPPER, FOR SURE.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW COUPLES: DALIA PARDUE AND DAN MARSHALL
JANET FREEMAN AND RICHARD SPINETTO

Couples

TALKING ABOUT COUPLES. WE THINK WE HAVE IDENTIFIED MOST OF THE COUPLES ON THE EVENT. BUT, TO MAKE SURE YOU ALL END UP WITH YOUR HONEYS, PLEASE MAKE SURE WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

The Odyssey Bike

WE HAVE HAD SOME GREAT FEED BACK ON THE BIKES. EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN THEIR BIKES NOW EXCEPT THE NEW RIDERS. WE HAVE OUR BIKES WAITING TO BE PICKED UP BUT HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO GO GET 'EM. THE BIKE SHOP IN SEATTLE HAD THE MOST BIKES TO DEAL WITH, AT LEAST TWO DOZEN. THIS SHOP HAS BEEN AN ABSOLUTE GEM TO WORK WITH. SO, WE HAVE TO SATISFY OURSELVES WITH GLIMPSES OF RIDERS' BIKES AS FOLKS POP IN TO SEE IF WE HAVEN'T GONE CRAZY IN OUR LITTLE HOME AWAY FROM HOME. TWO OF OUR WONDERFUL RIDERS, BOB AND SUZI JONES, WERE SWEET ENOUGH TO BRING ONE OF THEIRS INTO THE OFFICE WHEN TIM AND I HIT TOWN SO WE COULD TAKE A LOOK. WE WERE SO EXCITED ABOUT GETTING TO SEE ONE IN REAL LIFE. THEY LOVE 'EM AND WE ARE THRILLED.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO RALEIGH AND OUR ODYSSEY MAIN MAN OVER THERE, MATT VAN ENKEVORT, FOR GETTING YOU GUYS UP AND RUNNING. SINCE MATT GOT BACK FROM OVERSEAS HE HAS WORKED VERY HARD TO GET THOSE FOLKS WHO NEEDED HELP SORTED OUT.

WHEN YOU THINK OF IT, IT WAS A PRETTY AWESOME TASK, ESPECIALLY WITH THE UNFORESEEN STUFF THAT SEEMS TO ALWAYS CREEP INTO THE BEST LAID PLANS.

AND A BIG THANKS TO YOU FOLKS FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND FLEXIBILITY. MATT, TIM AND I, AND THE BIKE SHOPS THANK ALL THOSE FOLKS WHO WERE KIND, PATIENT AND COURTEOUS. IN FACT, IT WOULDN'T BE A BAD IDEA TO JOT A LINE TO THE BIKE SHOP WHO HELPED YOU AND RALEIGH ALONG THE ROUTE. THEY WOULD LOVE TO HEAR HOW YOU ARE GOING. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING JOHN AT THE BIKE CENTER IN SEATTLE. I NOW KNOW ANOTHER WONDERFUL PERSON IN THIS WORLD.

Where To Send The Bikes

YOU CAN SEND THEM TO THE HOTEL (NOT TO ARRIVE BEFORE CHRISTMAS DAY) OR THE BIKE SHOP (AS SOON AS POSSIBLE) IF YOU WANT SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF TO UNBOX AND REASSEMBLE YOUR BIKE.

IF YOU ARE SENDING YOUR BIKE TO THE BIKE SHOP YOU NEED TO CALL THEM AND PAY WITH A CREDIT CARD. THEY HAVE REQUESTED THAT YOU IDENTIFY YOUR BIKE WITH YOUR NAME, RIDER # AND ODYSSEY 2000, AND FIRMLY ATTACH IT TO THE BIKE. OTHERWISE THEY AIN'T GONNA KNOW WHICH ONE IS YOURS AFTER THEY REMOVE A FEW FROM BOXES. SO, PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND ATTACH THE PIECE OF CARDBOARD SECURELY TO THE TOP TUBE, WRAPPING IT RIGHT AROUND WITH PLENTY OF STICKY TAPE. OF COURSE, YOU DON'T WANT TO STICKY YOUR BIKE DECALS FOR OBVIOUS REASONS.

WHEN YOU LABEL YOUR BOX, PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME, RIDER # AND ODYSSEY 2000 ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BOX. IF YOU ARE GETTING A SHOP TO DO IT, YOU MIGHT REMIND THEM. SEND THE BOX TO WHICHEVER ADDRESS AND ADD TO THE ADDRESS LABEL – YOUR NAME LIKE THIS – ODYSSEY 2000®
LUKE SKYWALKER # 001

THE BIKE SHOP CHARGE IS \$50.00 FOR RE-ASSEMBLY AND DELIVERY TO THE BURBANK HILTON.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL TK&A OR ASK THE BIKE SHOP ABOUT UPS BUSINESS. ONLY UPS CAN TELL YOU THE SHIPPING AND INSURANCE CHARGES, AND TIME IT WILL TAKE TO GET TO CALIFORNIA FROM YOUR LOCATION.

IF THERE ARE A TON OF BIKES GOING TO THE BIKE SHOP THEY NEED TIME TO ASSEMBLE THEM. WE SUGGEST GETTING IT OFF IN PLENTY OF TIME. ALSO, IF YOUR BIKE DOES A LOOP OF THE US BEFORE REACHING CA, YOU HAVE GIVEN IT PLENTY OF TIME TO GET THERE. THE FIRST DAY IS A BLOODY LONG WALK.

HOTEL ADDRESS

BURBANK AIRPORT & CONVENTION CENTER
2500 HOLLYWOOD WAY,
BELTRAN
BURBANK. CA 91505-1019
818-843-6000

BIKE SHOP ADDRESS

CIRCLE CYCLE,
ATTENTION: MIKE ROONEY AND DAVE

3550 REDONDO
TORRANCE CA 90504
310-329-1159

Mail Stops

ENCLOSED ARE THE MAIL STOPS FOR STAGE 1 AND STAGE 2.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS INFORMATION IS ONLY FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS THIS INFORMATION TO BE PUT OUT IN THE MEDIA, ON THE WEB OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC AREA. THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. OUR VENDORS HAVE WORKED HARD TO ACCOMMODATE OUR NEEDS, EVEN THOUGH OUR NEEDS ARE MOST TIMES VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT THEY ARE USED TOO. WE WANT TO RESPECT THEIR HOSPITALITY. ALSO, WE NEVER WANT MAIL DELIVERED TO OUR SITES FROM PERSONS UNKNOWN TO YOU.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. PLEASE COMPLY. WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO OFFER MAIL STOPS.

YOU ARE QUITE WELCOME TO COPY THE MAIL STOPS AND HAND THEM OUT TO YOUR LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS. PLEASE MAKE THEM AWARE OF THE ABOVE.

New Riders

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT. THREE NEW RIDERS LAST WEEK. STILL HAVE THREE FOLKS TRYING TO GET THEIR #@*& TOGETHER SO THEY CAN SIGN UP. WILL KEEP YOU POSTED. WE HAVE 246 REGISTERED RIDERS SO FAR.

WELCOME GEORGE. OUR LAST RIDER (SO FAR) TO SIGN UP – ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH. GEORGE IS AN OLD HAND AT TK&A TOURS, HAVING PARTICIPATED IN QUITE A FEW. GEORGE IS A SWEETIE. INVARIABLY YOU WILL SEE GEORGE SPORTING A WHITE ZINC CREAM FACE ADORNED WITH LITTLE BUGS STUCK BY A WING TO HIS ZINC.

A Rider Asks..Then Requests

AN ODYSSEY RIDER DROPPED IN TODAY TO SAY HELLO AND BORROW A FLOOR PUMP. WE HAVEN'T EVEN HIT THE ROAD AND WE ARE SERVICING RIDERS ALREADY. WE GOT A CHANCE TO SEE "THE BIKE" AGAIN. IT IS SUCH A TEASE; THAT'S TWO GLIMPSES SO FAR. WE STARTED CHATTING AND ENDED UP AT KRUGER. SHE ASKED ME TO PASS ON INFO ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE ORGANIZED ABOUT OUR GROUP VISITING KRUGER. WE STARTED GETTING SOME CALLS ABOUT THIS SITE, AND THEN WE GOT A FAX FROM A RIDER. THIS INFO LOOKS LIKE IT MUST HAVE GONE UP ON THE WEB. IT STATES THAT TK&A HAD NOT ORGANIZED ANYTHING FOR KRUGER. WELL, WE HADN'T HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE

THEN WE ARRANGED WITH OUR HOST AT HAZYVIEW, AND WHAT A SUPER PERSON HE IS, TO HAVE THE SAFARI GUIDES COME TO MEET US THE FIRST NIGHT AT DIN DIN, GIVE YOU THE SKINNY ON VISITING THE PARK, AND ORGANIZE YOU INTO GROUPS AND TIMES.

IF YOU TAKE THE EARLY MORNING TOUR WE HAVE ARRANGED TO HAVE A BAGGED BREAKY FOR YOU TO MUNCH ON AS YOU ZOOM OFF TO THE PARK AND ALL THOSE HUNGRY ANIMALS. THEY LOVE PLUMP, JUICY HUMANS.

THEY WILL TAKE YOU INTO THE PARK AND DUMP YOU OFF FOR A PUSSY CAT SNACK. JUST KIDDING.....

HAZYVIEW IS ABOUT 16 KM FROM THE NEAREST GATE AND 40KM FROM THE NEXT ONE. COME ON GET THAT MENTAL MILEAGE CONVERTER SWITCH TRIPPED OVER.

PLEASE DON'T CALL ME ABOUT IT NOW, I, SERIOUSLY, DO NOT HAVE THE TIME NOW. WE WILL CHAT ABOUT IT IN ARGENTINA. I WILL FAX OFF A LIST OF FOLKS WHO WISH TO DO THE JUNGLE THING SO THE OUTFITTERS CAN PREPARE FOR THE NUMBERS AND NO-ONE WILL MISS OUT. I WILL BRING INFO FOR YOU TO BROWSE THROUGH ON TREK. I DON'T HAVE PRICES BUT I HAVE BEEN TOLD THEY WILL GIVE YOU GOOD GROUP RATE.

PLEASE REMEMBER, WE ARE DOING THIS GIG FOR A WHOLE YEAR. WE ARE STEPPING OUT OF THIS CRAZY, WHIRLING EXISTENCE AND STEPPING INTO A LIFE WHERE ABOUT 80 MILES DOWN THE ROAD IS A FULL DAY. TAKING ON A DAY IN THE TIME FRAME OF A SPRINTING SNAIL IS QUITE A TRANSITION. YOU ARE ALLOWED TO SLOW DOWN WITH YOUR ARRANGEMENTS. LIFE WILL TAKE ON A MUCH SLOWER PACE FOR YOU AFTER JANUARY 1ST. DON'T PANIC. SMELL THE ROSES. CHILL OUT. KICK BACK. HANG LOOSE.

SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAZILAND WILL BE *ORGASMIC*, GUARANTEED. THE COUNTRY IS SOOOO AMAZING. YOU WILL GASP ALL DAY AT THE VISTAS. AND THEN, THERE ARE THOSE FASCINATING BABOONS, WHO, BY THE WAY WILL TAKE CHUNKS OUT OF YOU. PLEASE REMEMBER THE WILDLIFE IS WILD.

TIM AND I MET SOME OF THE MOST HOSPITABLE AND FRIENDLY FOLKS IN SOUTH AFRICA – A TRULY MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE.

More Cool Odyssey 2000® Clothes

WE HAVE AVAILABLE FLEECE SLEEVELESS VESTS, LONG SLEEVE JACKETS AND PULLOVERS WITH AN EMBROIDERED ODYSSEY 2000® LOGO ON THE BREASTICLE. WE ALSO HAVE DRESSY BALL CAPS WITH THE ODYSSEY® LOGO.

WE ARE ALSO GETTING ODYSSEY CLOISONNÉ PINS AND BUTTONS MADE FOR FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE SOMETHING TO HAND OUT AS A THANK YOU. PIN MAKES A GREAT CHRISSEY PRESENT.

WE HAVE DESIGNED A SET OF ODYSSEY TEE SHIRTS TO COMMEMORATE THE ODYSSEY 2000®. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE SAMPLE SHEET, THESE SHIRTS ARE FABULOUS. THEY REPRESENT THE ENTIRE ODYSSEY 2000® TOUR.

THE ORDER SHEET IS ATTACHED. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER PLEASE CALL, FAX OR E-MAIL YOU ORDER AND CREDIT CARD NUMBER. WE NEED TO PLACE THE ORDER ON DECEMBER 20.

YOU GUYS ARE GONNA LOOK SOOOOOO SPIFFY.

BY THE WAY, ODYSSEY CLOTHING AND GOODIES MAKE VERY SPECIAL GIFTS. THEY ARE PRODUCED IN VERY LIMITED NUMBERS, THEY LOOK ORGASMIC, AND THEY CANNOT BE FOUND ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD AS NO-ONE HAS THE RIGHTS TO PRODUCE ANY OF OUR MATERIALS.

WE ARE DOING THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO THE PLANNING SO ANY ADDITIONS NOW WOULD BE TRÈS HELPFUL.

TK&A Has Their Collective Head Down And Their Whatnot Up

PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THAT WE HAVE A MILLION OR THREE THINGS TO DO HERE AT TK&A BEFORE WE LEAVE AND WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU ONLY CALLED OUT OF NECESSITY, UNLESS IT'S FOR A HUG – WE TAKE ALL THOSE CALLS ANY TIME OF DAY OR NIGHT.

PLEASE LOOK TO YOUR MEMOS. MOST OF THE QUESTIONS WE ARE ASKED ARE ANSWERED IN THE MEMOS. IF WE DON'T GET THE TIME WE SHAN'T GET THE WORK DONE.

OF COURSE, IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT IS NOT IN THE MEMOS, AND IT PERTAINS TO TK&A PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST FOR YOU.

Living Together

EVERYBODY'S BODY SQUEAKS OR RUMBLES OR BELCHES OR SNORTS OR SNORES OR EXPLODES OR POPS OR SOMETHING DURING THE NIGHT. IT IS FACT O' LIFE. SOOOOOO, IF YA DON'T WANT TO BE TUNED INTO THE CACOPHONY OF THE NIGHT WHY DONTCHA INVEST IN SOME EARPLUGS. CHEWY (CHEWING GUM) WORKS, BUT IT IS SOOOOO HARD TO GET OUT OF YOUR HAIR IN THE MORNING.

Choosing your Locker in LA

FROM NOON TO 1 P.M. AND 5 TO 6 P.M. ON DECEMBER 30TH BEFORE AND AFTER THE MEETING WE WILL OPEN THE TRAILERS. THAT'S A TIME WHEN EVERYBODY WILL BE THERE. YOU CAN CHOOSE YOU OWN PRIVATE ODYSSEY NEST THEN. YOU WILL GET TO CHOOSE IN THE ORDER WE SUGGESTED EARLIER, BY FULL PAYMENT DATE. IF YOU AREN'T THERE YOU GET WHAT'S LEFT. ALL THE LOCKERS ARE IN A GREAT LOCATION SO DON'T FRET. YOU MAY BARGAIN, BARTER, SELL, SWITCH OR GAMBLE YOUR SLOTS TO EACH OTHER AFTER YOU HAVE YOUR SLOT. BRING A LOCK WITH SPARE KEYS. IF YOU DO CHANGE LOCKERS DURING THE YEAR PLEASE NOTIFY THE ROAD OFFICE.

THIS TASK IS GOING TO HAPPEN QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY WITHOUT BLOODSHED. OUR STAFF WILL IDENTIFY WITH A BIG "X" ON THE LOCKER DOOR WHAT SPACE IS NOT AVAILABLE AND YOU HAVE A FEW MINUTES TO MAKE A CHOICE. WE WILL PROBABLY DO FIVE FOLKS AT A TIME OVER THE TWO-HOUR SPREAD. WE WILL ASK RIDERS 1 TO 125 TO COME UP IN THE FIRST HOUR AND THE REST IN THE SECOND. HAVE FUN.

Water Bottle Cages

WE WILL HAVE TWO AVAILABLE FOR YOU IN LA. SOME OF YOU WENT AHEAD AND BOUGHT CAGES. SORRY, NO CREDITS, CASH ETC.

Carrying Highly Flammable Products On Planes, NOT

IT'S FUNNY HOW WE GET A WAVE OF THE SAME QUESTIONS ALL OF A SUDDEN. MMMMMM. IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO CARRY SOME PRODUCTS ON PLANES. WHY WOULD YOU EVEN WANT TO IF IT WAS HIGHLY FLAMMABLE? IF IN DOUBT, CALL THE AIRLINES. IF YOU DO NOT HEED THE RULES, YOU COULD END UP MAKING IT A VERY LONG DAY FOR ALL OF US, AS WE ALL GET ALL OUR GEAR INSPECTED WITH A FINE TOOTH COMB. YOU COULD END UP GETTING FINED. YOU COULD MISS THE PLANE. YOU COULD HAVE MORE OF YOUR LUGGAGE CONFISCATED. IF YOU HAVE A PRODUCT THAT YOU CAN'T TAKE **THROW IT OUT**. BUY SOME MORE AT THE OTHER END.

Getting The Best Out Of The Staff

DON'T FORGET THE ODYSSEY STAFF YOU ENCOUNTER IN THE PARKING LOT AND AROUND THE HOTEL ARE SPECIALLY CHOSEN FOLK. IT IS UP TO YOU TO TREAT THEM WELL IF YOU WANT THEIR SUPPORT. YOU CANNOT EXPECT FOLKS TO HELP IF THEY ARE TREATED RUDELY OR WITH DISRESPECT. IF YOU FRIGHTEN THEM OFF YOU DON'T GET REPLACEMENTS.

THE STAFF ARE DOING WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED. PLEASE SMILE, DO WHAT THEY ASK AND BE COURTEOUS AT ALL TIMES. IF YOU HAVE A BAD DAY THAT DOES NOT GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO BE DISCOURTEOUS TO OTHERS, ESPECIALLY THE STAFF.

THIS IS TRUE, NOT ONLY OF HOW YOU TREAT THE STAFF, BUT ALSO YOUR FELLOW RIDERS, OUR VENDORS, THE FOLKS YOU ENCOUNTER ALONG THE ROAD, EVERYONE. TREAT PEOPLE HOW YOU WANT TO BE TREATED, WITH THOUGHTFULNESS AND RESPECT.

BY THE WAY, YOU MIGHT HAVE TV CAMERAS AND NEWSPAPER FOLKS FLOATING AROUND DURING YOUR STAY AT THE HILTON. YOU COULD FIND YOURSELF ON THE LOCAL, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL NEWS.

Begging and Permanently Borrowing

ONCE WE HIT THE BORDER YOU WILL FIND ANOTHER CULTURE TO WHICH SOME OF YOU ARE NOT USED TOO. WHEN I VISIT MEXICO I PULL ALL MY CHANGE AND HAVE IT READY FOR THE LITTLE CHILDREN. THEY WANT TO SELL YOU CHEWING GUM USUALLY. I GIVE THEM A FEW COINS AND GET THEM TO KEEP THEIR PRODUCTS. BUT, YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER ONCE YOU START GIVING YOU WILL BE INUNDATED WITH EVERY PERSON WITHIN A ONE MILE RADIUS. SO, THINK ABOUT IT. SAYING NO, IS A LOT EASIER TO DO IF YOU DON'T ENCOURAGE THE PRACTICE.

YOU CANNOT GO AROUND THE WORLD AND CHANGE IT TO LOOK LIKE YOUR WORLD OR "FIX" IT. ALL OF US COMBINED DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO GIVE TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO ARE BEGGING. YOU WILL FIND SOME SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE YOU CAN MAKE A LITTLE DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE.

WHEN YOU COME HOME AFTER ODYSSEY MAYBE YOUR EXPERIENCES WILL MOVE YOU TO TAKE UP A CAUSE THAT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ALWAYS WATCH YOUR "STUFF". A PERSON TAKING YOUR ATTENTION CAN BE PART OF A GROUP WITH A WELL THOUGHT OUT PLAN TO HELP LIGHTEN YOUR LOAD FROM THE REAR – POCKETS, FANNY PACK, BIKE BAG, BIKE, YOU NAME IT.

I ACTUALLY WATCHED A MAN ABOUT TO PICK THE POCKET OF TOURIST RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES. IT WAS IN NORTH AFRICA ABOUT A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, FEELS LIKE... BRIT-SIMONE USED A STROLLER THEN INSTEAD OF A SPORTS CAR. WE WERE ALL MESMERIZED BY THE SNAKE CHARMER'S ANTICS WITH A HUGE WRIGGLY THING COMING OUT OF A BASKET. LUCKILY FOR THE UNSUSPECTING SPECTATOR I WARNED HIM AND OFF SCURRIED THE UNSUCCESSFUL THIEF. THAT WAS 25 YEARS AGO. IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU CAN REMEMBER WHEN YOU ADD "HUGE SNAKE" TO AN INCIDENT AND IT BECOMES AN INDELIBLE MEMORY.

Language

BECAUSE GOD WAS IN A SNIT ONE DAY WITH THOSE NON-UNION WORKERS ON THE TOWER OF BABEL, HE MADE LANGUAGES. NOW, SOME OF THEM ARE OK TO WORK AROUND, BUT OTHERS, NADA, UNLESS YOU WANT TO LIVE IN THE AREA FOR A COUPLE OF LIFETIMES.

IS THE OLD FASHIONED PEN AND PAPER WAY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO DRAW A MICHAELANGELO TO GET YOUR POINT ACROSS.

YOU CAN BUY LITTLE DICTIONARIES FOR EACH LANGUAGE THAT HAVE THE BASICS. A TRICK IS TO ALWAYS LEARN TO SAY THANK YOU AND PLEASE. GOES A LONG WAY. JUST THINK, YOU KNOW HOW NICE IT IS TO HAVE SOMEONE BE COURTEOUS TO YOU.

WATCH OUT WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR HANDS. YOU COULD ACTUALLY START A MINI WAR BY A GESTURE THAT YOU ARE NOT AWARE OF.

BOWING AND PUTTING YOUR HANDS IN A PRAYER POSITION GOES OVER WELL IN THAILAND. BECKONING WITH YOUR INDEX FINGER WOULD BE IMPOLITE IN LOTS OF COUNTRIES AS IT IS ONLY USED FOR CALLING ANIMALS.

IF YOU READ *GESTURES, THE DO'S AND TABOOS OF BODY LANGUAGE AROUND THE WORLD* BY ROGER E. AXTELL YOU CAN GET UP TO SPEED ON WAVING YOUR ARMS AROUND.

Toilets, Loos, Luas, Potties, Cans, Johns, Heads, Powder Rooms, Bathrooms and Dummies

WOW, ONE COULD GET A BA JUST RESEARCHING THE DIFFERENT (AND I DO MEAN *DIFFERENT*) WAYS FOLKS APPROACH THIS FACET OF LIFE.

THERE IS SOOOOO MUCH TO SAY. LET ME JUST CAUTION YOU TO **ALWAYS** BE ARMED WITH TOILET PAPER AND **ALWAYS** WEAR SHOES AND **NEVER** TOUCH ANYTHING WITH **ANY** PART OF YOUR BODY. A PEG FOR YOUR NOSE COULD HELP IN PLACES.

DO NOT, EVEN IF THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT IT MIGHT BE THE NORM, MAKE A MESS OF MOTHER NATURE. LET'S TREAT THE WORLD WELL. ALWAYS BURY OR TAKE OUT, IN A PLASTIC BAG TO BE DROPPED IN A GARBAGE CAN SOMEWHERE ALONG THE ROUTE, YOUR TOILET PAPER. IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD KNOWING THAT YOU ARE NOT ADDING TO THE POLLUTION OF OUR ENVIRONMENT. ALSO, EVERYTHING WE DO OUT THERE WILL BE A GOOD (ALWAYS WE HOPE) EXAMPLE.

Do/Don't Eat

ENCLOSED IS A FORM THAT WE WOULD LIKE BACK STRAIGHT AWAY, ESPECIALLY IF YOU DON'T EAT IT. WE HAVE TO ASK AGAIN BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE EVERYBODY'S INFO. THANKS.

AS YOU CAN IMAGINE ORGANIZING GRUB FOR THE GROUP IS A MONUMENTAL TASK TO ADD TO THE OTHER ONES.

PLEASE JUST CROSS YES OR NO. *THERE ARE NO OTHER OPTIONS*. "SOMETIMES", "DEPENDS", "OCCASIONALLY", "NOT TOO MUCH", "USUALLY" ARE NOT ANSWERS. WE CANNOT CALL A VENDOR AND SAY "WE HAVE 255 BEEFS TONIGHT, 5 MAYBES AND 15 NO'S". YOU GET THE PICTURE. SO, IF WE GET ANY "EXTRA" INFO WE HAVE TO DEFAULT TO "YES YOU EAT IT". OF COURSE, IF YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE YOUR EATING HABITS ON TREK AND FIND THAT GRAZING IN FIELDS IS THE WAY TO GO, OR THAT A PIG BEGINS TO LOOK LIKE A PORK CHOP, WE CAN ADJUST OUR RECORDS. IT WILL TAKE ABOUT THREE WEEKS TO MAKE THE SWITCH DOWN THROUGH OUR VENDORS.

IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL LIKES, DISLIKES ALLERGIES, ETC., JUST ASK THE SERVERS NICELY IF SUCH AND SUCH HAS ELEPHANT TOE NAILS, ETC. IN THE INGREDIENTS. IF IT DOES CONTAIN "STUFF" YOU DON'T LIKE OR THAT MAKES YOU BREAK OUT, OR FALL COMATOSE TO THE FLOOR, DON'T EAT IT, MOVE ON. THE VENDORS ARE NOT CATERING TO SPECIAL DIETS. PLEASE DON'T APPROACH VENDORS FOR ANY SPECIAL ORDERS.

SOME OF YOU WE SPOKE TO ABOUT THIS IN DEPTH BEFORE YOU SIGNED UP PLUS IT'S IN THE MATERIAL

PLEASE, IF CHOOSE TO EAT FLESH, ETC. DO NOT EAT YOUR COMRADES "NO MEAT" DISH. YOU ARE ACTUALLY TAKING YOUR BUDDIES MEAL. WE ARE NOT GOING TO POLICE THE PIES ETC., SO PLEASE BE SENSITIVE TO OTHERS' NEEDS. EVEN THOUGH IT LOOKS REALLY YUMMY IT IS NOT FOR YOU BECAUSE YOU ALREADY HAVE YUMMY TUCKER TO CHOOSE FROM.

Washington DC

IF YOU ARE FLYING OUT OF DC ON OUR LAY OVER DAYS WE SUGGEST YOU PURCHASE A TICKET THAT CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER FLIGHT, JUST IN CASE. WE CAN ONLY TELL YOU WHEN WE HAVE ORGANIZED TO ARRIVE AND LEAVE AIRPORTS. WITH AIRLINES INCORPORATED INTO OUR LOGISTICS THERE ARE A LOT MORE PEOPLE MAKING DECISIONS THAT CAN AFFECT OUR PLANS, INCLUDING MOTHER NATURE.

WE NEED TO KNOW WHO IS STAYING AND GOING IN DC AND THE DATES, IF YOU DON'T MIND. ALSO, IF YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR BAGS AND/OR BIKE, AND WHO IS GOING TO LOOK AFTER YOUR GEAR AND/OR BIKE. WE WANT TO MAKE THIS MASS ARRIVAL AND MINI EXODUS AS SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE. WHEN WE GET CLOSER WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU LEAVE US A PHONE NUMBER WHERE YOU CAN BE CONTACTED. WITH EVERYBODY WORKING TOGETHER WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOOK AFTER EVERYONE SO YOU ALL CAN HAVE A SUPER LAYOVER.

Suggested Reading

SUGGESTED READING BY ONE OUR MEDICAL TEAM, IS "WHERE THERE IS NO DOCTOR" BY DAVID WERNER. YOU CAN ORDER IT FROM THE HESPERIAN FOUNDATION, CA. PHONE 510-845-1447. IT INCLUDES HELPFUL HINTS ON SICKNESS PREVENTION.

Keeping Up With Odyssey Vagabonds

THANKS SOOO MUCH FOR BEING SOOO GOOD ABOUT KEEPING US INFORMED ABOUT YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES. IT IS SOOO MUCH EASIER TO GET THE MAILINGS TO YOU. MORE AND MORE OF YOU WILL BE MOVING NOW, SO PLEASE DO THE SAME. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE IF WE HAVE YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS PLEASE CALL AND WE WILL CHECK.

Welcome

SOME OF THE FOLKS FROM OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAVE ARRIVED IN OUR WONDERFUL COUNTRY. WELCOME FOLKS, WE WISH YOU A WONDERFUL TIME HERE, AND CAN'T WAIT TO MEET OR RE-MEET YOU.

Mele Kalikemaka

CHRISTMAS IS SO FAR FROM OUR THOUGHTS HERE, BUT THAT IS NOT SO FOR MOST OF YOU. TIM, KAREN-ANN, BRIT-SIMONE AND OUR SPECIAL STAFF WISH YOU A MELE KALIKIMAKA.

Odyssey 2000® Staff Again

WE HAVE SUCH AN AWESOME CREW. A COUPLE OF THEM HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR MONTHS ON ODYSSEY PROJECTS. YOU WILL MEET THEM AT THE RIDER MEETING. HUG 'EM LOTS, SMILE LOTS. THANK YOU IS A MAGICAL WORD, USE IT OFTEN AND BE KIND TO THEM. ALL OF THEM LOVE TO RIDE A BIKE. THEY HAVE TEMPORARILY GIVEN UP THEIR HOBBY TO JOIN TIM AND ME ON ODYSSEY AND HELP US MAKE OUR DREAM COME TRUE. AND, NOW THEY ARE INFECTED WITH THE ODYSSEY VIRUS – THEY ARE WIRED WITH EXCITEMENT AND REARING TO GO.

IF WE DON'T HAVE YOUR PHOTOS YOU WON'T GET YOUR ID OR BIKE NUMBERS AND THEN YOU WON'T GET MEALS OR GET TO RIDE AND THEN YOU WILL BECOME UNDERNOURISHED AND WITHER AWAY AND WON'T HAVE LEFT LA.

ANY BIKE TAGS OR ID TAGS MADE AT THE HOTEL WILL COST \$5.00 PER TAG. LOST TAGS NEED TO BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY ON TREK. GO TO THE TREK OFFICE AND ORDER WHATEVER YOU ARE MISSING. SINCE THESE ARE BAR CODED, AND ARE CREATED ON A COMPUTER, PRINTED AND LAMINATED, WE SUGGEST YOU TREAT THEM LIKE CREDIT CARDS. THAT WILL SAVE YOU HASSLE, TIME AND MONEY. YOU CANNOT RIDE WITHOUT BIKE NUMBERS OR EAT WITHOUT AN ID TAG.

ALSO, WITHOUT YOUR ID YOU SHAN'T BE ABLE TO COLLECT YOUR BIKE FROM HOTEL SECURITY.

DO NOT MAIL ANYTHING THROUGH THE POST OFFICE, ONLY FED EX OVERNIGHT, TO OUR OFFICE AFTER DECEMBER 20TH. AFTER DECEMBER 27TH OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL JANUARY 2ND. IF WE DO NOT HAVE YOUR FORMS IN OUR FILES IN LA YOU WILL NEED TO GET THEM TO US BEFORE YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR RIDE PACKET. CHECK YOUR RECORDS. PLEASE DO NOT CALL OUR OFFICE.

Tootles

ONE MORE MEMO MAY HIT YOUR LETTERBOX.

TIM SWELTERING IN MALAYSIA WHILST KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR FAR SIGHTED ELEPHANTS
BRIT-SIMONE BURIED UNDER "MOUNT OF PAPERS"
KAREN-ANN WEARING ALL THE HATS ALL TOGETHER AND STILL MAKING SOME SENSE
THE STAFF WORKING AT WARP SPEED.

ENCL: MAIL STOPS
ORDER FORM
PICS OF TEE SHIRT
A *TRAVEL TIP OR TWO* FROM KAREN-ANN
EAT/NOT FORM