

21 SOB's had a fantastic trip to Carbondale, Colorado for three full days of riding, Sept. 7th to the 11th. The weather was perfect, the aspens were starting to turn and there were routes for everyone. We had A, B, and C riders with challenging and leisure rides for each. The Rio Grande Trail, named for the railroad that used to go to Aspen and various mining towns along the way, stretched for 42 miles between Aspen and Glenwood Springs along the Roaring Fork River. It was beautiful.

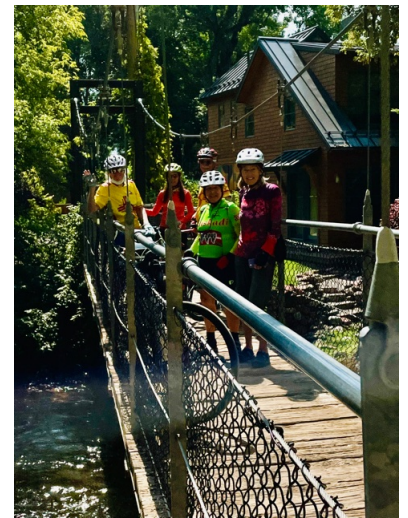
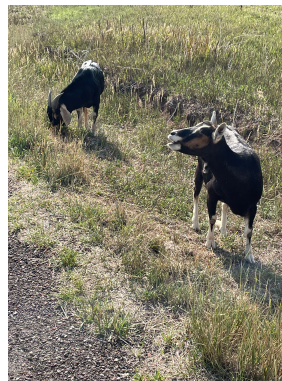


Our first day was spent exploring the trail with a stop at the little town of Basalt where we had coffee and pastries to die for.. Some of us explored other trails out of Carbondale climbing high for views of the Rockies and Mt Sopris which stands guard over Carbondale.



Rio Grande Trail

Goats on the Trail



Swinging Bridge in Basalt

The second day we all climbed up to view the Maroon Bell Mountains and its Lake. It was a challenge but we all made it! On the way we climbed up on one side of a canyon and crossed it on an amazing bridge below. The road to the "Bells" was closed to through traffic, except buses, so it was quite wonderful to not live in fear of fast moving cars.



Crossover Bridge



Road to the Maroon Bells



Betsy, Rob and Pam



Maroon Bells and Lake



The third day was to do whatever you feel like. Many rode to Glenwood Springs for a soak in their hot springs, while others explored new trails and three of us "young" women rode up to McClure Pass, so I could scatter some ashes of my late husband. We had climbed it almost 25 years ago. Everyone went their own way and had many adventures.



Pierogis any one?

Rob and Friend



Coke Kilns.



The Road to McClure

We made it! Lynn, Judy, Liore



Missouri Heights

