Albert (Schelstraete) Coulier

Born November 15, 1918

1927 - Immigrated to Tupperville, Ontario (near Wallaceburg) Canada at age 9. Family worked in grain threshing for \$1 per day. Albert got 50¢ per day.

- 1931 He got his first bicycle, a Royal Jenny, for \$5.
- 1934 Trip back to Belgium in spring where he rode his first bike race. Upon return the family settled in Tillsonburg area.

1934 – Family moved to LaSalette Ontario (Delhi area) where they remained for 50 years until moving to Tillsonburg in 1984.

- 1936 On weekends road bike to Chatham (120 miles) to race and returned on Sundays.
- 1936 Started Delhi Criterium race that continued annually until mid-nineties at the Belgium Hall.

1937 – After winning a number of important races here in Canada he was allowed to go to Europe to race as an amateur.

He competed in 39 road races and one track race in Europe before his injury the next year. He had 4 wins with a number of top 10 placings.

- 1938 September he was hit by a truck while returning from a training ride in Ghent Belgium velodrome. He was unconscious for 21 hours with both legs in a cast and told he may never race again. Returned to Canada.
- 1939 Albert was asked to design and build his first velodrome in Delhi Ontario.
- 1939- Won Six-Day race partnered with Rene Cyr of Montreal.

1939 – Formation of Norfolk Cycling Club – held position of President numerous years and after name change to present name Silver Spokes Cycling Club

- 1940 Won Six-Day race at Delhi velodrome partnered with Andy McConnell.
- 1940 Raced in USA placing 8th in the prestigious Tour of Somerville New Jersey.
- 1940 Placed 2nd in the USA Midwestern Championships in Columbus Ohio after having a flat tire.
- 1940 Named outstanding Canadian rider of 1940.

1940 - Awarded professional contract to ride Chicago Professional Six-Day in November partnered with John Crowder.

- 1941 Rode Buffalo Professional Six-Day in March partnered with Gerard Debaets of Belgium.
- 1941 Rode Montreal Forum Professional Six-Day in October partnered with Gerard Debaets of Belgium.

1942 - Married Irene Dhulst.

1942- Rode Montreal Forum Professional Six-Day in September partnered with Gerard Debaets of Belgium

1942 - Racing curtailed with start of WW11.

1942 – First son born (Robert, Dec 8/42)

1947 – Albert designed and built the world's first portable velodrome and held the first race in Simcoe Ontario.

1947/48 - Track built and two races held in Shawinigan Falls and one in Trois-Riviere Quebec

1942 - Second son born (Ronald, April 25/47)

1949 - Track installed in new Delhi Arena and numerous races, including six-day and 9 day derby's, held in the following 6 years

1948 – 2005 - Built numerous velodromes across North America – see separate track listing

1955, 56, 57 - Elected President of Canadian Wheelman's Association (the national governing body for cycling). The name was later changed to Canadian Cycling Association.

1957 - Built velodrome and promoted a professional 9-Day derby in Cleveland Ohio.

1958 - Built velodrome and promoted a 2nd professional 9-Day derby in Cleveland Ohio

1972 – Chosen as the cycling representative for the 1976 Olympic Organizing Committee to travel to Munich for the 1972 games.

1974 – Built the Montreal velodrome for the 1974 World Championships

197??- Served as National Racing Board Chairman

1975 - Coach for Canadian team (Jocelyn Lovell and Andre Simard) at International Trinidad-Barbados race

1976 - Built the velodrome for the 1976 Montreal Olympics

1978 - Rode bike from Windsor Canada to Florida – 60th birthday

- 1979 Changed name from Schelstraete to mothers maiden name Coulier..
- 1979 Mont Ventoux 10 Stage Brugge Belgium to Mont Ventoux France 1568 km
- 1979 Austria Veterans World Cup 7th place
- 1979 Olympic Masters Championship Belgium 5th place (after spill)

- 1979 America Cup (Open to 27 countries) Gold medal Sutton Quebec 1st
- 1980 Olympic Masters Championship Belgium 6th place
- 1980 Austria Masters World Cup 8th place
- 1980 America Cup Sutton Quebec 2nd place (broke toe clip)
- $1981 \text{Detroit } 24 \text{ hour race} 1^{\text{st}} \text{ place} 325 \text{ mi.} (523 \text{ km})$
- 1982 Austria Masters World Cup 16th place
- 1982 Detroit 24 hour race 1st place 380 mi (611 km)
- 1982 World Masters Championship LaRoche France –Hill Climb 4th - Road Race- 1st
- 1984 Mont Ventoux 10 Stage Brugge Belgium to Mont Ventoux France 1568 km (second time)
- 1985 World Masters Games Toronto Bronze medal
- 1987 Ontario Masters Cup 50 mile race Gold medal
- 1988 World Senior Games St George Utah Gold medal
- 1989 World Senior Games St George Utah Gold medal
- 1989 Austria Masters World Cup 8th place
- 1990 Austria Masters World Cup 16th place
- 1993 World Senior Games St George Utah Gold medal
- 1993 Casa Grande Arizona –25 mi open race for all ages 1st place (127 riders)
- 1994 World Senior Games St George Utah Gold medal
- 1995 World Senior Games St George Utah Gold medal
- 1970's, 80's and 90's Rode 210 mile TORSV (Tour of Sciota River Valley) in Ohio 21 times
- 1990's Hand built and operated 2 'Monster bikes' for fundraising for charitable organizations. One was 15 bikes and the other was 7 bikes both of which could be ridden on the road or on special designed rollers with a timing clock for indoor competitions.

List of Velodrome's built

1939	-	Delhi (Outdoor)
1947	-	Simcoe (World's first portable velodrome) (Builder and Race Promoter)
1947	-	Shawinigan (Fall) (Builder and Promoter)
1948	-	Shawinigan (Spring) – to Delhi stored (Builder and Race Promoter)
1948	-	Three Rivers Quebec (Builder and Race Promoter)
1949	-	Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
1948	-	Buffalo – October 5-11 Six-Day
1948	-	Chicago – Oct 31 – Nov 6 Six-Day
1948	-	New York – Nov 15-20 Six-Day
1949	-	Cleveland – Jan 5-11 Six-Day
1949	-	New York – Feb 28-March 6 Six-Day
1949	-	Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
1949	-	(Fall) – Detroit (Amateur)
1950	-	Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
19	-	Chicago (Stolle track)
1951	-	Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
1952	-	Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
1952	-	Chicago (Builder and Race Promoter)
1953	-	Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
1953	-	San Francisco (Builder) Pg 5 of 5
1953	-	Glendale California (Builder and rider)

- 1953 El Paso, Texas (Builder and Race Promoter)
- 19? New York (Delhi track)
- 1954 Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
- 1955 Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
- 1956 Delhi (Builder and Race Promoter)
- 1955 or 6 Louisville, Kentucky
- 1956 Chicago
- 1957 Cleveland Ohio (Built track and was Race Promoter)
- 1958 Cleveland Ohio (Built track and was Race Promoter)
- 1963 to 73 Montreal Paul Sauve (15 times)
- 1965 Toronto Maple Leaf Gardens
- 1964/65/66 Quebec City (3 times)
- 1967 Pan American Games Winnepeg (Outdoor)
- 1972 Detroit, Michigan State Fairgrounds
- 1973 Los Angeles
- 1973 Vancouver BC redesigned and rebuilt China Creek Velodrome
- 1974 World Championship Montreal (Outdoor)
- 1976 Olympics Montreal (Outdoor)
- 2005 London Ontario Forest City Velodrome