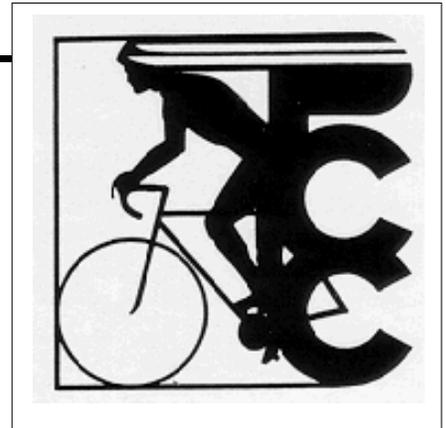


The Prairie Cyclist

Newsletter of the Prairie Cycle Club, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois
Vol. 40, No.5
June 2007



NEW MEMBER WELCOME RIDE, June 7

New Member Welcome Rides are on the first Thursday of the month. Stan Shobe and Bonnie Kemper lead this very gentle Level 1 ride and there's usually a snack afterwards. Meet at the Assembly Hall parking lot (First & St. Mary's, Champaign), 6:15 p.m.

Welcome New Members!

It's been a while since I've tried to keep track of this but I think I've got it figured out. Welcome aboard the PCC Member Ship to:

Valerie & Greg Youngen, Jenny & Jim Barrett, Jeff Bertolet, Joey Charneski, Lisa Gleghorn, Bruce Hajek & Family, Jenny & Jim Mulligan, Rick SHurtz, Diane Smith, Lynn & Ira Wachtel, Rinda Maddox, Susie Duncan, Michael Fuerst, Laura Koterba-Buss, and Rick Langlois.

Hope to see you out riding soon!

June 2: Playing it Safe – Be there!

"Playing It Safe" is an interactive, injury prevention fair hosted by Carle Foundation Hospital and Champaign County SAFE KIDS. The event targets the entire community -- from the very young to the young-at-heart.

PCC volunteers will help fit and sell helmets (on behalf of the Champaign Urbana Public Health Department), and answer bicycle safety questions. Please help PCC spread the word about the club while also promoting safe bicycling practices. Call Babette Hiles (352-0926 or bhiles@uiuc.edu) to see if there are spots to be filled still.

Wednesday ride hasn't disappeared..

Despite having been the victim of a horrible cut-and-paste removal from the list of rides, the Wednesday Long Ride is still happening at 5:45 from Burwash Park. Apologies for the blunder... and one of these nights I'll steal a fast bike and join you!

MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING RIDE, June 12

Monthly Member Meeting Rides are a chance for all our riders to meet each other and experience different rides. Come out on June 12 and see exactly what Pedaling for Pleasure is about! Who knows, if the wind is right, we may get to visit the Fair Lady of the Grain Elevator at Rising... and we'll have groups for whatever speed pleasures you.

These rides rotate through the weekly rides, during the second week of each month. They offer a pace for all riders, so all members are invited to come by and join the fun. I shall bring the blender for parking-lot smoothies.

Monthly Member Meeting Rides will be on Wednesday July 11 and Thursday August 9. The more people come, the more will be going your pace!

Cycle Mania in the Park! July 7

Where? Eisner Park.

What? Unicycles, parades, and cycling information Saturday, July 7 1-4pm

Volunteers needed from Noon - 4:30pm to staff a PCC informational booth/table. Volunteers should contact Babette Hiles at 352-0926 (home) or bhiles@uiuc.edu. You know you want to go and see what it's about anyway!

Ride with the Illini 4000 – June 10

The University of Illinois Alumni Association invites Prairie Cycle Club members to join the Illini 4000 team as they ride from either Chebanse or Rantoul to Champaign, on Sunday, June 10.

Illini 4000 is 19 students who are riding from New York City to San Diego, from Friday, May 25th and finish on Saturday, August 4th with a goal of raising \$100,000 for the American Cancer Society and Camp Kesem. They plan a "homecoming" ride to the University of Illinois campus. Local cyclists are invited to join them on this leg of their route.

Riders will depart from Zion Lutheran Church in Chebanse at 7:30 a.m. and to Clifton for a snack. The riders will continue south through Clifton, Ashkum, Danforth, Onarga, and Paxton. The final stop will be in Rantoul; additional riders are free to join at this point to travel along 1600E to Urbana. The exact route will be available after June 1; Riders will NOT spend any time on gravel roads or highways 45, 50 or I-57. www.uiaa.org/urbana has further information or dwilberg@uiuc.edu or by phone at 217/333-9829. The University of Illinois Alumni Association is happy to support both our students and alumni, and we hope you will join us for a day of cycling and celebration.

Ogden Lions Club Ride – June 9

To benefit Camp Lions. 2 blocks East of Rt. 49 and one block North of US 150 at I-74 Exit 197) Registration 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. 12, 32, and 62 mile routes. More information: Bill Gillespie, (217-582-2117)

www.members.aol.com/LionE1Z3/theride.htm

For Sale!

From Mark Washburn: I have a new Selle Italia Mythos men's black leather slotted 165g saddle for sale. They list for \$50 on Ebay. I'll take any reasonable offer (979-1753). It's still in the original box.

Trainer and bicycle – I'm moving! 2004 Trek 1000 road bike, 52in. frame. Specs are below. Only ridden 40 miles. Well cared for. Paid \$550, asking

\$400. : Minoura Mag 850 with Remote. Never used, just been out of the box. Bought for \$140, asking \$100 obo. Melida A. Heien, 812-746-2593

Tagging along a cross-country ride

On Sunday, May 20th, Kim Ponder, Jennifer White, and Mike Cross joined Buddy Teevens (Dathmouth Head football coach) for a small part of his cross country bike ride. He started in San Diego on May 7th, and hoped to be back in New Hampshire by May 27th. Coach Teevens spent Saturday night in Tuscola with Susan and Gary Kling, whose son Jordan is a receiver for the team. With a tailwind, they made it to Montezuma, Indiana, for an ice cream break. Buddy then rode to Richmond, Indiana that day, 175 miles closer to his destination. You can read Buddy's blog at www.biggreenalert.com

Habitat For Humanity Rides Again!

Anne Robin, Nancy Melin, and Kim and Cliff Ponder will be joining the Habitat 500 group again this summer. It's a wonderful ride, not quite as crazy as RAGBRAI, and... we get to collect donations! Speaking of which, we all know that Habitat is an incredibly worthy organization, so please consider helping. This is a great ride, 500 miles in 7 days, in Minnesota in mid-July. A highlight this year will be Itasca State Park and the Headwaters of the Mississippi River. Each rider pledges to raise donations for Habitat for Humanity. Since the ride is volunteer-supported, 100% of donations go directly to Habitat. Anne and Nancy are designating our own Habitat Champaign County to receive all their pledge money. \$25.00 is a nickel a mile, \$50.00 is a dime a mile, \$500.00 is a dollar a mile. You get the idea. Please send donations to Habitat 500 (or Habitat for Humanity) to Anne Robin/Nancy Melin 1110 S. Pine St. Champaign, IL 61820

Urbana Bicycle Plan Public Workshop #1

The Champaign Urbana Urbanized Area Transportation Study was well attended, and attended well. Ed Barsotti noted that not only was the turnout excellent in numbers – over 60 – but that the participants were very knowledgeable about riding the streets and paths of Urbana. We'll keep you posted on the process! Groups were formed and priorities were chosen for improvements in transportational and recreational cycling, such as Main Street on the East side of town and connections to Champaign and access over Interstates.

Ride of Silence 2007

Roughly 40 riders participated in the first Champaign-Urbana Ride of Silence on May 16, 2007. The riders formed a procession and rode silently through non-arterial downtown streets, creating a visible presence in honor of those who have been injured or killed while cycling on public roadways.

Drivers and those we passed by were sometimes not sure what we were doing, but generally the black arm bands and the silence were a clue. We also attracted several riders along the way.

Thank you to everybody who helped out and participated!



Mother Prairie Chicken's Monthly Safety Tip

Take the lane! It's not because it's the "assertive" thing to do; drivers will almost always pass with a wider gap if a bicycle is positioned roughly where the right tire of a car would be. Next time a car passes you closely, nudge out a foot further into the road and watch what happens. Your prairie chicken momma didn't believe it at first, either, but "hugging the line" is not the safest way to ride. Hug someone's mother instead!

The Bike Co-op Thrives On...

The Urbana-Champaign Bike Co-op, a.k.a. "The Bike Project," invites you to drop by and find out just what a bike co-op does during their "open hours," which fluctuate madly from semester to semester for obvious reasons, but generally on Sunday afternoons, good things are happening.

Join the coop and you will have a place to work on your bike (without getting the furniture greasy) and ask questions of some knowledgeable blokes when you aren't sure which way to twist the wrench. They also revive donated & abandoned bicycles for rental and sale. Check their website out at www.thebikeproject.org

! Seen those jerseys? Like those jerseys? Order a jersey!

Dig that prairie dog!

<http://www.prairiecycleclub.org/newsletters/pccjerssey2006.pdf> is where you'll find the order form and big color image. (If you're looking at the newsletter online, you can just click on through.) The sooner we get the minimum, the sooner we can place the order and the sooner we can get the jerseys!





The League Of American Bicyclists

The Prairie Cycle Club is an affiliate of the League of American Bicyclists, the League of Illinois Bicyclists and the Champaign Park District

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