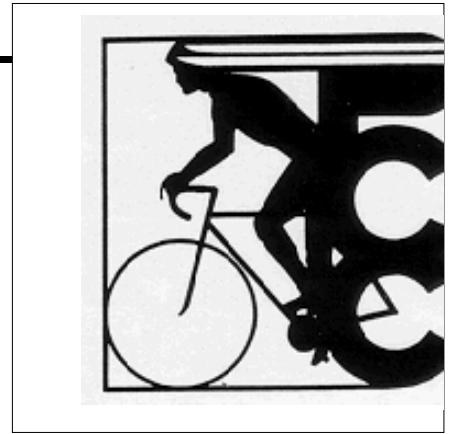

The Prairie Cyclist

Newsletter of the Prairie Cycle Club, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois
Vol. 41 No.11
November-December 2008



GET YOUR RSVP IN!

Mark Tuesday, December 9 on your calendar. That's the PCC Holiday Party at the Great Impasta. This is where we wine and dine, have our annual Membership Meeting, elect officers and have a grand old time.

Please RSVP by Thursday, December 4, to Babette Hiles (donhiles@sbcglobal.net or 352-0926) and then pay at the door.

\$10 PCC member

\$15 PCC non-member

6-6:30 p.m. social time (cash bar,
complimentary hors d'oeuvres)

6:30 p.m. dinner/buffet



Nine riders took an 83-mile route out from Countryside Day School to see the Twin Groves wind turbines. For the pre-ride, sidewalk feasting and post-ER pictures, you'll have to go to

<http://picasaweb.google.com/fholcomb/WindTurbineRide11OCT08>

CRANKSGIVING?

A bicycle scavenger hunt for the Illinois Food Bank, that's what! Live music and prizes, too!

On Sunday November 16 there is going to be a scavenger hunt/alleycat fund raiser that will benefit the Eastern Illinois Food Bank. This event will both start and end at the Bike Co-Op (Elm & Broadway

in Urbana – same building as the old Post Office near Lincoln Square Mall) and afterwards there will be a show at the IMC main space with live music (World's First Flying Machine will be playing). The entry fee will be used as you ride your bike to a number of grocery stores scattered throughout the Chamabana area and buy food items that will subsequently be donated to the food bank.

This will happen regardless of weather so come prepared. You will need Money, a bike, a lock, a bag (to carry food), and lastly helmets and lights are strongly encouraged. There will be prizes but they will not be strictly determined by the fastest person and there will be plenty of bonus prizes for those that go above and beyond the minimum food amount

Check out our Blog to find out more information and also to get more information about all the sponsors who have been so generous with donating prizes

<http://chambanacranksgiving.blogspot.com>

AND DON'T FORGET TO NOMINATE!

We'll still be looking for nominations for our open board positions: Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Co-ordinator, and publicity coordinator. We've had some offers but there are still some good spots open!

FOR SALE

"Giant OCR 3 frame and fork for sale with matching saddle. This is a 1580 g aluminum touring/light racing frame, vintage 2003, with silver-blue paint. There are a few nicks in the paint/logos. Size "Large", which is about 57 cm, or ideal for people 6' to 6'2". British thread bottom bracket, internal headset design, carbon fork with alu steerer. I'm throwing in the old headset for free, but it has

seen extensive use, and a new one is warranted if the frame will be ridden a lot.

Contact Martin Gruebele at 217-351-6330 or gruebele@scs.uiuc.edu

For sale: Indoor trainer made by cycleops. Used only about 1/2 hour, prefer to run when I can't ride. Magnetic with remote cable to change resistance. Paid over 155\$, selling for 100\$. steve.bullard@netcare-il.com.



Rinda Maddox, left, PCC member, and Debbie White spent six days casually riding the 225 mile Missouri Katy Trail from Clinton to Sedalia in September. To read their trip report and view photos go to <http://www.thesidellreporter.com/> and click on the photos tab.



STILL ROLLIN'

That's the "Share the Road" bus, with local graphic artist Joyce Mast's work (silhouettes of local cyclists), turned into "wrap" by Dean's Graphics. It's riding CUMTD routes broadcasting the "share the road" message and the law that drivers allow a minimum of 3 feet clearance when passing a bicycle.

CUMTD donated the bus surface (which they usually generate advertising revenues with) and groups donated \$500 for small labels on the side of the bus (originally the designers had hoped to include logos, but text was all that was manageable for the space for the \$500 contributors), with part of PCC's sponsorship of the maps being counted towards that.

ON THE WEB AGAIN...

Check out Wild Card Cycling at <http://www.wildcardcycling.org/> to find out about cyclocross in Bloomington and assorted other die-hard opportunities.

LIB EXTRA – FROM THE LEAGUE OF ILLINOIS BICYCLISTS

Advocacy, rides, and more – for further details, check out LIB's website, www.bikelib.org

***Bike club members:** LIB's efforts to improve bicycling are supported by over 1000 members – many belonging to clubs that donate. Become an individual member at www.bikelib.org/join*

HENNEPIN AND I&M CANAL TRAILS THREATENED

Budget cuts by Gov. Blagojevich and the IDNR threaten the Hennepin Canal Trail and parts of the I&M Canal Trail. The public outcry from these and other planned state park closings led to unanimous votes in the Illinois Legislature to restore funding – unfortunately, from other IDNR funds. As of this writing (see www.bikelib.org for updates), the Governor has not signed the bill actually applying the restored funds to keeping the trails and parks open.

LIB has found that the closings would violate federal law requiring that projects completed with federal funding (such as the Hennepin and I&M) be maintained. The penalty is loss of future dollars, far outweighing any savings from closing or not maintaining the trails. LIB has been raising this consequence with relevant state agencies, the media, and federal and state legislators.

SEMINARS START FOR ADULTS TEACHING BIKE SAFETY TO KIDS

LIB has launched a series of 42 seminars around the state to help adults teach kids bike safety at bike rodeos or scout meetings, in school classrooms or assemblies, or at home. The 90-minute “Train the Trainer” seminars (www.bikelib.org/srts/training), funded by the IDOT Safe Routes to School program and REI, will be conducted from February through April 2009. To host or attend a session, contact Donnie Miller at 309-737-8270 or bcycleracr@mchsi.com.

NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT – MARCH 10-12

Come to Washington with LIB for the experience of a lifetime. Speak up for bicycling on Capitol Hill as part of the National Bike Summit! With a new administration and a new federal transportation bill looming, this will be our most important Summit in some time. Contact Ed (630-978-0583) if you are considering being a part of it.

LEARN ABOUT BIKE ADVOCACY ISSUES – FROM HOME

LIB will be hosting conference calls on the topics below. E-mail lib@bikelib.org with the topics that interest you, plus your general availability (weekdays, weekday evenings). We'll then develop a schedule for each, with handouts to be sent in advance.

- Bike-friendly and “Complete Streets” road designs, including on-road and off-road bikeway types and LIB's Complete Streets road project audits
- LIB's Share the Road driver education video and curriculum
- Bikeway (and roadway) dollars – bikeway funding sources and strategies, also tracing the flow of federal road dollars
- How to start, do, and implement a bike plan in your town
- Bicycle Safety and Sharing the Road - Riding Safely and Confidently



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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