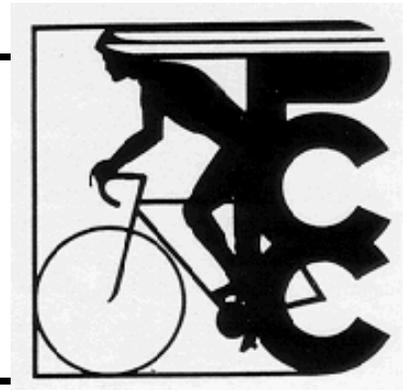

The Prairie Cyclist

Newsletter of the Prairie Cycle Club, Urbana-Champaign IL
Volume 42, Number 1
January-February 2009 Inaugural Edition



Holiday Gathering/Membership Meeting December 9, 2008

The PCC Holiday Membership Meeting and Dinner occurred at the upstairs banquet rooms of the (soon to re-opening in Lincoln Square) Great Impasta.

The members amended the by-laws

- (a) allowing the board to approve expenditures of up to \$250 without deferring the decision to the next board meeting (unanimously)
- (b) revising the rule which limits the number of terms that Board members can serve (by an 18-17 vote)

The new board members were simultaneously elected and inaugurated:

Susan Jones, President
Don Roberts, Secretary
Mike Bernon, Treasurer
Rich Furr, Advocacy
Michael Fuerst, Newsletter Editor
Two additional board members still needed!!

The Darwin Potluck & Ride Saturday January 24, 2009

Event: Darwin Ride! - distance depending on conditions; nobody will be dropped

Place: 1110 S. Pine Street, Champaign

Time: Ride at noon (a bit of a change from last year), food & fun from 1-3

Ann Robin and Nancy Melin have graciously availed us of their abode for the Annual Winter Survival, or "Darwin" ride. Hopefully the weather will have improved, but the ride is optional (and generally short). Whether or not you have the survival skills to ride (or the intelligence to know better), bring a dish and CHOW DOWN from 1 to 3. Come on out and join the fun!

New PCC Email group

At the end of 2008, prairienet.org, overrun by spam, no longer hosts email groups. Thus, PCC has moved to Google Groups, but so far only 72 PCC members have joined. To access group emails, visit <http://groups.google.com/group/prairie-cycle-club> and ask for an invitation to join. You can choose to receive either (a) an email for each message posted on the list, or (b) one daily digest of all new messages (as this newsletter editor does), or (c) only review messages by visiting the above site. We'll see you there!

The Chill Is On! Saturday, February 7, 2009

The Eighth Annual Illini Chill Ride will be held in St. Joseph on Saturday, February 7.

Folks have participated at various levels – from getting the ticket, eating the food and swag, and laughing at people who rode, to "just" doing the 20 miles with the hot chocolate and reminding your legs what a bicycle is, to riding out from Champaign, doing the "extra 20 miles for proficient riders," and making it an endurance event.

The ride includes a lumberjack breakfast, hot chocolate break and spaghetti lunch, and is held *regardless* of the weather.

For more information:

http://www.stjoechamber.org/illini_chill.html,

E-mail: illinichill@yahoo.com, or

Todd 309-824-8684

**Champaign Cycle
January and February
Workshops and Training Rides**

Several free bicycle repair workshops to be held at Champaign Cycle.

Basic Mechanical – Learn how to fix a flat, lube your bicycle, adjust saddle height properly, and basic gear & brake adjustment.

Intermediate 1 Mechanical – Advanced brake and shift maintenance. Learn to replace cables and housing, and complete brake and gear adjustment.

Intermediate 2 Mechanical – Bearing system adjustment. Learn the different bearing systems on your bicycle and how to adjust them including headset, bottom bracket, and hubs. (This will be scheduled after February.)

Functional Cycling – How to make your bicycle work for you as a practical commuting, shopping, and recreational tool. The class will cover technique, clothing, and equipment to reduce your reliance on your car.

Workshop Schedule

(except as noted, all start at 6:30pm)

Jan. 21, Wed. – Basic Mechanical

Jan. 28, Wed. – Basic Mechanical

Feb. 4, Wed. – Intermediate 1

Feb. 11, Wed. – [Women's Night](#) (starts 7pm)

Feb. 18, Wed – Functional Cycling

Feb. 25, Wed. – Basic Mechanical

Indoor Trainer Rides every Tues. & Thurs. at 6:30 PM through February. Increase your fitness for Spring riding.

The Ice Melter Indoor Century Sunday Feb 15, 2009

A ride on your trainer inside at Champaign Cycle for a virtual 35, 65, or 100 miles, starting at 10am. For non-riders there will be conversation, entertainment, and snacks.

Additional workshops are planned.

For further information on the above *free* programs contact

Champaign Cycle
506 S. Country Fair Dr.
Champaign, IL
217-352-7600

League of Illinois Bicyclists News

The [LIB website](#) is a source general information and news items of statewide interest about bicycling. Their current news includes a report of averted trail closings (several PCC members rode out to Kickapoo to help support trying to keep that open) and how to order special temporary auto Bicycling License Plates

**Grand Illinois Trail and Parks Ride
Sunday, June 14 - Saturday, June 20**

Registration for [this ride](#), limited to 160 riders, is now open on a first-come basis.

Inauguration Reports

Anyone who will have bicycled to or at Washington D.C. for the new president's inauguration should send a brief summary of your experiences, with links to photos and/or to a more extensive report, to the newsletter editor. Thanks.

Our Friends in Congress

Did you know that Earl Blumenauer, a passionate advocate of cycling as a remedy for everything from climate change to obesity, who represents most of Portland Oregon in Congress, is the founder and proprietor of the 180 (plus or minus)-member Congressional Bicycle Caucus? To learn more: [A Bicycle Evangelist With the Wind Now at His Back](#)

Individuals receiving a post office mailed copy of this
newsletter can
save both an itsy-bitsy part of a tree and also some of
PCC 's 43-cent stamps by
emailing the editor (at mjerryfuerst@yahoo.com) that
you will read future newsletters on-line



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

PCC Board Members

President: Susan Jones
president@prairiecycpleclub.org

Secretary: Don Roberts

Treasurer: Mike Bernon

Advocacy: Rich Furr
359-1995

Newsletter: Michael Fuerst
mjerryfuerst@yahoo.com

Activities Coordinator: Vacant (volunteer needed!!)

Membership: Vacant (volunteer needed!!)

The board meets on the third Sunday of the month, usually at Panera at Mattis and Kirby. Everyone is welcome to attend, just to listen in or to bring ideas or feedback.

Prairie Cycle Club
P.O.Box 115
Urbana, IL 61803

Address Correction Requested

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