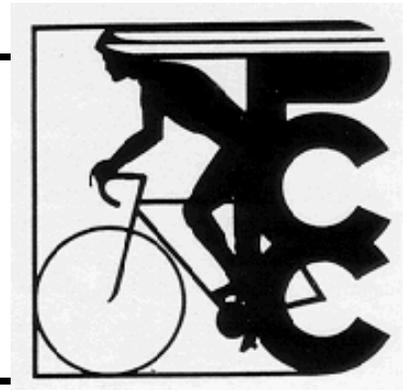

The Prairie Cyclist

Newsletter of the Prairie Cycle Club, Urbana-Champaign IL
Volume 42, Number 6
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Scandalous behavior by PCC Board Members

PCC Board members and several confederates participated in the the local version of the June 13 World Naked Bike Ride (tinyurl.com/cn63sq), shedding their clothes *(continued with photo on page 3)*

June 21 Board Meeting Highlights

Board members and others present: Sue Jones, Brian Barker, Michael Fuerst, Don Roberts, Rich Furr, Lorrie Pearson, and Sharon Michalove

The board welcomed Lorrie Pearson who will help with publicity for CUAP.

Sue reported that PCC has 6 additional paid memberships for the current year since the last board meeting. Snail mail will be sent to a targeted list of potential members.

Concerning planning for CU Across the Prairie:

- A call will be put out for volunteers; Rich will contact the U of I.
- Subaru will provide vehicles for sag.
- Lorrie will contact other sponsors from last year.
- The last date for sponsors to be mentioned in the brochure is July 10.
- August 1 is the cutoff date for early registration
- A half-page ad will be placed in the Second Wind Running Club newsletter.
- Brochures will be sent to other bicycle clubs in the area

No mention was made of the Board members' June 13 adventure.

Membership Renewals

If you have not done so, become a PCC 2009 member. Print the membership form at tinyurl.com/boyctl. Complete and sign the form and mail it to PCC with a check for the dues. (\$15.00 individual, \$20 family- two or more at same address) If you haven't sent yours in yet, this will be your last newsletter. If you're not sure whether you've joined for this year, send an email or give a call (president@prairiecyclclub.org or 217-766-0677) and we will check the membership list and get back to you.

2009 "Grand Illinois Trails and Parks" (GITAP)

Sue Jones provided this report of the 14-20 June 2009 GITAP (www.bikelib.org/gitap/2009/index.htm):

The weather didn't quite match the six tailwind days of 2007, but we did dodge most storms for the annual week-long "Grand Illinois Trails and Parks" tour sponsored by the League of Illinois Bicyclists.



Cyclists on GITAP pause for refreshment and laughs in downtown Milledgeville, IL.

Tour De Champaign July 11th and 12th

The ride's many options for ride length and layovers each day made it work for a range of riders (and ranges of weather).

Highlights along the tour included three state parks (Shabbona Lake, White Pines Forest and Starved Rock); Kenawee and its famous furniture stores; and historic Bishop Hill, where shops produce hand-made brooms and pots, and churches from the 1800's are open for tours.

Anne Robin was wise enough to find someone with the internet in Bishop Hill so we could avoid a hailstorm, and avoid outracing storms on the last day. Billie, the eldest rider at 84, stated, "I found out that getting into a ditch works!"

I found out that one-person tents are rather nice when storms hit because a low profile was a very good thing as my tent flattened on top of me.

Camaraderie exuded everywhere, and many were grateful that ridership had been cut off at 160 so that we didn't tax the shower facilities. (There is a motel option, too, but you'd want to do that as a group so you didn't miss the camp fun.) There was also a skilled mechanic on board who replaced my bent spoke quickly and cheaply. My Xtracycle happily hopped up the "rolling hills" (this route was the gentlest of the possible options).

I learned that wider front tires take downhill (which approached 33 mph) very nicely, feeling less squirrely than thin tires. I learned to look in *all* the pockets of the Camelbak to see where I'd dropped that adjustable wrench, and that I still would rather ride in 20 degree weather than 90, and that steel bikes are still nicer on the backside than aluminum.

Other GITAP participants from PCC included Anne Robin, Bob Morris, Rich Furr, and Sharon Michalove,

The Verizon Wireless Cycling Team and Wild Card Cycling are proud to bring an exciting weekend of national caliber racing to the streets of Champaign.

<http://www.wildcardcycling.org/>

Help !!

Even if you're not ready to be on the board, these are among the ways you can help PCC:

-- Can you help with planning the Champaign-Urbana Across the Prairie Ride coming this 15 August? The ride will leave from Lake of the Woods, with rides from 17 to 63 miles with food and support and bicycle-blended smoothies.

-- Or... is there something you think should be done? Let us know and we'll figure out how to help you do it.

--Or come to the next PCC board meeting on Sunday July19 at Panera Restaurant on Kirby and Mattis at 3pm (2:30 for those who want to chat and snack beforehand). All PCC members are invited.

Just give a call our president Susan Jones on her cellphone 766-0677. She will get back to you when not at work or riding her bicycle.

Many hands make light work!

Rides in Nearby Places

To learn about upcoming supported rides in Illinois, visit

<http://www.mikebentley.com/bike/ilrides.htm>

From Saturday August 29 through Thursday September 3, the League of Illinois Bicyclists (LIB) is sponsoring the 2009 "Route 66 Trail" Ride from Granite City Mo to Chicago. You can choose to participate in a small segment.

<http://www.bikelib.org/route66/2009ride/>

For rides all over the nation
<http://www.bikeride.com/>

Scandalous behavior (continued from page 1)

... an hour before dusk at Meadowbrook Park, planning to ride to Homer Lake. Except for occasional hoots from pedestrians and passing cars, the ride remained uneventful until just after dark,

When the riders were just about to turn into Homer Lake Forest Preserve, Susan Jones warned: “Car back!!”

Seeing flashing red and blue lights, Brian Barker correctly warned “No!! *Police Car Back*”

Don Roberts, for the first time in 35 years, was overheard to exclaim “&^%\$(*@”

As preplanned, the riders imprudently turned off their lights and accelerated to 28 mph, and, just enough ahead of the Sheriff’s sedan to evade apprehension, managed to disappear into a pre-staked out forested area where bathrobes for all the riders had been hidden,

After 45 minutes in hiding, the now bath-robed riders bicycled back to Urbana without further incident.

A St Joseph-Ogden high school student snapped the following photo of the riders several minutes before the chase began.



Michael Fuerst lost 11 pounds in the course of the evening's excitement.

Save paper and a stamp

Printing and post office mailing of each printed copy of this newsletter costs 97 cents. So if you are receiving a mailed copy and in the future can receive emailed copies only, or if you wish to be removed from the mail list, please email the editor (at mjerryfuerst@yahoo.com)

Champaign Cycle is rebating part of PCC member purchases to PCC

Champaign Cycle supports PCC's efforts to improve cycling opportunities and facilities in the Champaign-Urbana area. Champaign Cycle has agreed to rebate ten percent of the next \$5K of PCC member purchases this year to the club. To help fund us in this way:

1. Let Champaign Cycle enter you in its customer file (listing you as a PCC member).
2. Give Champaign Cycle your name when making a purchase.

For the past 38 years, Champaign Cycle has supported local cycling organizations. Champaign Cycle believes that strong, active cycling clubs make it a better cycling world for all of us. This program gives Champaign Cycle a way to systematize its donation to Prairie Cycle Club and gives you a way to help out our club.



The League Of American Bicyclists

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

Prairie Cycle Club
P.O.Box 115
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Address Correction Requested

PCC Board Members

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Publicity	Lorrie Pearson lorrie_pearson@hotmail.com

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