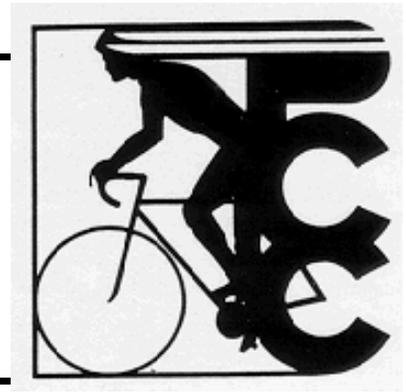

The Prairie Cyclist

Newsletter of the Prairie Cycle Club, Urbana-Champaign IL
June 2010



Paying 2010 PCC Membership Dues

The easiest way is to pay your dues on line at <https://www.signmeup.com/site/reg/register.aspx?fid=VW2V4K7>
Or you can print the membership form at tinyurl.com/boyctl.

CU Across the Prairie (CUAP) Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to help with preparation before and staffing during PCC's annual ride on Saturday, August 14. We especially need volunteers to help with shopping the preceding day to supply the rest stops, and, during the ride, staffers for the rest stops and registration tables, and sag wagon drivers. Contact board members Richard (217-607-0327 ribabran@aol.com) or Sue (president@prairiecycleclub.org) to volunteer

Upcoming Organized Rides

Two good lists of rides in the Midwest this season are <http://brinin.org/> and <http://www.mikebentley.com/bike/mwrides.htm>

In July, the ride closest to home is Pedaling for Kicks July 10, Bloomington IL <http://www.pedalingforkicks.com/>

Champaign Cycle is sponsoring Museum Tours on the last Saturday of June, July and August: <http://champaigncycle.com/about/museum-tour-pg241>.

Help Get the word out for CUAP

... by putting the following in the signature block of any emails you send: "C-U Across the Prairie (CUAP), the Prairie Cycle Club's annual sponsored ride occurs on August 14, 2010 "

Grand Illinois Trails and Parks (GITAP) Report by Susan Jones

Seven PCC members (Sharon Michalove, Dennis and Danda Baird, Bob Morris, Sue Jones, Anne Robin and Nancy Melin) spent June 13-18 (Sunday-Thursday) riding the hilly terrains of northern Illinois (and a wee bit of Wisconsin) on the Grand Illinois Trails and Parks ride (GITAP), sponsored by and for the benefit of the League of Illinois Bicyclists.

The first 3 days of the ride involved quite a bit of the cascading moisture of varying intensity-- mostly drizzle, but Tuesday included an extended downpour for those still on the road after noon.

Both the scenery and the pies along the way in the small town restaurants were stunning. The camaraderie was wonderful -- the ride was at maximum capacity at 160 plus volunteers, so other riders were almost always visible ahead and behind. With the well-marked routes, checked EARLY each morning by Ed Barsotti, I never needed my GPS to check my location.

Each year's routes through different parts of the Grand Illinois Trail--this year's was the steepest. My Xtracycle *did* make it up all of the hills on Blackjack Road without resorting to the ten-toed gear. Even with my braking I got to 39.5 mph on one downhill and crossed 30 mph too many times to count. The food and lodging were excellent and I'm already thinking of next year - but sign up early, it sells out!

The average age of participants on this ride was 58 !!

Everything You Wanted To Know About Bicycling

..... can be found at Mike's Mega Bicycle Links
<http://www.mikebentley.com/bike/index.html>

Highlights of 23 May and June 20 PCC Board Meetings

Mike Bernon is going to be gone for sometime to care for an ill relative in Colorado is ill. His return date remains.

Welcome Letter and Membership: The welcome letter for new members was approved on May 23, which Richard will e-mail it to all new members. Sue will send Richard (a) information on new members so a welcome letter can be sent, and (b) a spreadsheet file containing the membership list

CU Across the Prairie: A brochure for the needs to be made and given to other bike clubs, bike shops, bike rides and running/walking events. Ideally we would like to get the e-mail listings of the other clubs, and e-mail our ride to all their members. CUAP should also be mentioned at our own rides. Additionally each route still needs to be marked and its miles correctly entered. Things such as portable toilets, etc still need to be ordered. Finally, since Mike is gone, someone will have to call the Hideaway in Mahomet to confirm everything is still "a go".

CU Across the Prairie: We need to "get the word out" about our August 14, 2010 event, and start seeking volunteers. Some of the duties to make CUAP successful, and some of the volunteers follow:

Breakfast: Sue to call The Hideaway to ensure a breakfast will be served prior to the riders starting their loops.

Brochures and Flyers: Lorrie has last year's brochure. Sue to get the brochure from Lorrie, edit it and e-mail it to all known bicycle clubs, groups and shops. She will ask these entities to "pass the word" about our Ride. The price will be the same as last year. Sue will also

work on making a flyer to pass out as well.

Route: Sue, Ann Robin and Nancy Melin will create and ride the routes, and put this info into the brochures. They will mark the routes as well. The actual distance of each route, as well as the number of routes, has not yet been determined.

Shopping: Nina Chanlin volunteered to shop for the supplies needed for the rest stops. Lorrie has a list of what was used last year. Nina will get this from Lorrie.

Early Morning of or day before the Ride: Volunteers are needed to put up signs prior to the start. Richard and his wife Vevi will take the supplies to the Rest Stops on the morning of the Ride and have everything in place prior to 7:30 AM.

Registration/Maps: People are needed to do sign up on the morning of August 14th. Workers are also wanted to hand out route maps.

Rest Stops: Richard and his wife Vevi will staff a rest stop for the duration of the event. Others are needed to run additional rest areas.

Sag Wagon: Sue to contact one of the car dealerships to arrange for a vehicle. Volunteers are needed to drive the van during the event.

Porta-potties: Sue will take care of getting the toilets out to the rest stops and other areas that need a restroom as well.

Sponsors: Sue will work on Sponsorship. Lorrie has a list last year's sponsor from which Sue will work off this list and her own ideas as well. It would be helpful to have another individual working on this as well. Sponsorship is the biggest task necessary for CUAP.

Lemonade/Food Person: This position may be

necessary as well.

Other Rides: Sue plans to get ride leaders for each of the three Museum Rides sponsored by Champaign cycle tours to lead bikers to the destination, so that one or more groups on each ride will maintain an agreed pre-determined pace.

New Board Member needed: Brian Barker has left the area and is no longer involved in the Club. We need to start looking for a new Activities Coordinator.

Next Meetings: July 18, 2010, 7:00 PM at Panera Bread, and an additional meeting around August 1st to finalize CUAP planning, exact date to be determined.

CUAP Volunteer Party will be on a still unscheduled weekday roughly two weeks prior to the Ride.

PCC Weekly Ride Schedule

Monday Moderate Ride - Level 2 Averaging 20 miles at 12 to 15 mph 6:00 P.M. from Countryside Day School, corner of Kirby and Staley, Champaign. Emphasis on socializing, not speed. One of the most popular rides. Ride Leaders: Anne Robin (356-1107, arobin@uiuc.edu), Jim Witte (356-8085 jim@thunderingbison.com)

Monday Moderately Manic Ride—Level 3-4 Same departure as Monday Moderate Ride, but faster. No leader—but lots of fun folks to ride with. This ride starts in late March with an earlier departure (5:30) and then "goes to 6:00 when it gets warmer."

Tuesday Morning Tour — Level 2/3, 14-16mph, length 30 miles or so, increasing over the season; 9am April-May; 800 am June-August; Departs from the pavillion at Hessel Park in Champaign; Ed Bondurant (dmrobert@illinois.edu) Expected to be 2 hours initially, lengthening as season progresses

Tuesday Pedal for Pleasure – Level 1 Averaging 12 to 13 miles, 10 to 12 mph. 6:30 P.M. from Champaign Cycle, 506 S. Country Fair Drive, Champaign. Suitable for beginners and any rider who wants to meet people and enjoy a leisurely ride. Mountain bikes welcome. Ride leader: Peter Davis (352-7096/h, 352-7600/w, peter@champaigncycle.com)

Thursday Three Ride - Level 3 averaging 25 miles at 15-17 mph 6:00 P.M. from Countryside Day School, SW corner of Kirby Ave and Staley Road. Geared to those riding at Level 2 last season who want to move up and faster riders needing a slower recovery ride. Ride Leaders: Richard Brannon and Lorrie Pearson. Looking for another ride leader to help cover some rides. Contact Lorrie at lorrie_pearson@hotmail.com

Saturday Saunter – Level 1/2 Averaging 10 to 20 miles at a leisurely 10-13 mph. Departs from the Windsor Rd parking lot of Meadowbrook Park, 9:00 am in April and May, and 8:00 am in June through August. Common destinations are Philo, St. Joseph or Tolono, with water and rest stops. Smaller groups often break away for longer/faster rides. All frame types of cycles and riders welcome. Ride Leader: Susan Jones, siouxgeonz@gmail.com

On the Tuesday Pedaling for Pleasure and Saturday Saunter rides, the leaders ensure that no riders are left behind.

Those interested in 45+ mile long rides at 20+ mph, refer to <http://wildcardcycling.org/index.php/site/about/>

Contribute to the Newsletter

For possible inclusion in the newsletter, send editor Michael Fuerst (mjerryfuerst@yahoo.com) photos and a paragraph or two about any rides you have taken, or links to interesting articles or web sites about bicycling.



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

President: Susan Jones
president@prairiecycleclub.org

Secretary: Richard Brannon 217-607-0327
ribabran@aol.com

Treasurer: Mike Bernon 217-355-9313
mikebernon@hotmail.com

Advocacy: Rich Furr
rfbike@sbcglobal.net 359-1995

Newsletter: Michael Fuerst 217-239-5844
mjerryfuerst@yahoo.com

Activities Coordinator: Vacant.

Membership: Mike Bernon 217-355-9313
mikebernon@hotmail.com

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.

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

Address Correction Requested

PCC Board Members

Address Correction Requested