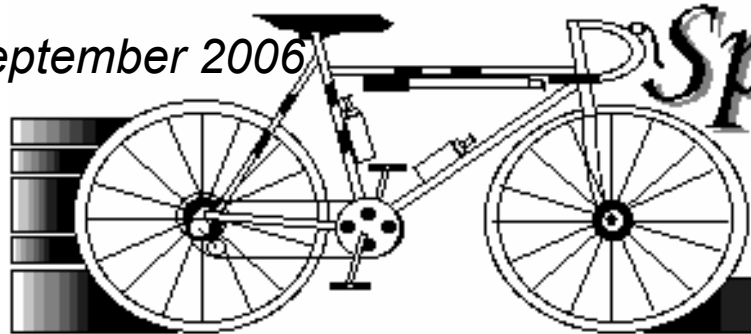


September 2006

Spoke'n Word



Wabash River Cycle Club
Newsletter
West Lafayette, Indiana

WABASH
RIVER
CYCLE CLUB

Is our passion becoming too expensive?

We love to ride. We love our bikes. (I recall the “brief” conversation my wife and I had when she suggested that I keep my Trek 5200 in the garage. Can you believe that?!) I’ve noticed that just in the past year, a number of club members have upgraded to – let us say – bikes of a higher quality. Quite a few of us are riding either all or partial-carbon bikes. Fewer are riding titanium. It seems inevitable that as one discovers the joys of cycling (and spends more time on chip-and-seal roads), there is an urge to upgrade. I did it myself, moving from all aluminum to carbon, and I’ve never regretted it.

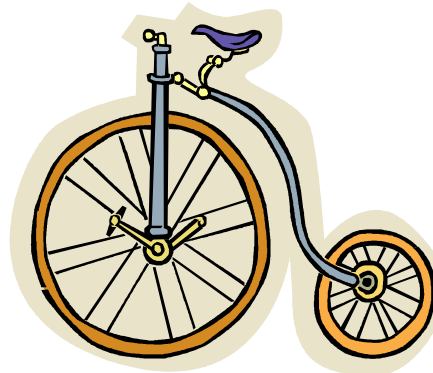
Paceline

But here comes a fly in the ointment. A recent article in the Wall Street Journal was entitled “Why bike prices are shifting higher.” Strong demand for new airplanes is driving up the price of carbon and titanium. The expectation is that bicycles made from these materials will rise 5-25%.

That custom-made titanium Serotta that you had been pondering since January when it cost a mere \$6,000 will now cost \$7,000! According to the WSJ, the carbon-fiber makers are giving preference to their bigger customers – the aerospace industry. One producer reported that he is keeping his prices for his larger customers lower than those to his smaller ones, such as bike and golf club makers. I say, let the golfers bear the brunt of the increase (they already pay far more in greens fees – they’ll never notice it!).

The danger, of course, is that just as cycling is gaining in popularity (helped, no doubt, by the high price of gasoline), bike prices are rising far faster than the rate of inflation. It would be a pity if bikes that provide a reasonable level of performance are priced beyond the reach of avid cyclists.

Andy



Century Volunteer Appreciation Cookout and Bonfire



Did you volunteer your time, and or resources to the 2006 Wabash River Century Ride? If so, you are invited to the appreciation cookout and bonfire at Rob Peterson's house on Saturday October 21st. Each volunteer is welcome to bring their significant other. The club will provide all the food, (menu yet to be determined) and soft drinks. Final details will appear in the October newsletter.



WRCC Contact List

2005 Club Officers

President

Andrew Hirsch 463-1132

Vice President

Greg Small 742-8112

Secretary

Erin Chamberlain
erinchamber1@yahoo.net

Treasurer

Rob Peterson 449-0967

Board Members

Corinne Alexander 429-8525
Donna Bourne 426-8303
Chloe Harshman 474-8621
Kelly Grieger
Ed Lambuth
Joan Wealing - 219-261-2825

Chair Officers

Membership

Volunteer Needed

Century Coordinator

Andrew Hirsch 463-1132

Advocacy Chair

Corinne Alexander 429-8525

Mileage Log

Erin Chamberlain

Newsletter Editor

Brien Dick 497-2283

Cartographer

Charlie Myer 474-8996

Webmaster

Becki Farley 296-4055

Ride Coordinators

Chair / Calendar

Kevin Johnston

A -(11 MPH or less)

Mark Levinthal 497-7155

B -(12 -14 MPH) &

C -(15 -17 MPH)

Volunteer Needed

D -(18 -20 MPH)

Mike Lockwood 743-0273

Mountain Bike

Ariel Evans 447-7885

Journey Beyond the Center of the Universe

On Saturday, September 30, you are invited to join Rick McKinniss on his "Journey Beyond the Center of the Universe" ride. Where on earth is the "Center of the Universe" you may ask? Well, if you have known Rick long enough, you would know it is Greenhill, Indiana.

"What on earth makes Greenhill the center of the universe?" is the next logical question. Well, it is Rick's center of the universe. Greenhill is where his Grandmother and Grandfather McKinniss were born, reared, married, and had their first two children. It is where his father would run off to visit his cousins when he played hooky from school. It is where all the early Wilson/McKinniss reunions were held when Rick was a boy. And it is where his grandparents and great grandparents are buried.

September 30 is also a significant date too, since it is Rick's Birthday. And his partner, Gary Brouillard, has volunteered to cater the ride. If you are not aware, Gary is an excellent cook and catered a similar ride early last year. The ride will be somewhere between 58 and 85 miles in length. (One of those will be Rick's age, you guess.) Riders averaging from B to C levels (or who want to slow down to that range) are invited. There is no charge for lunch. However, reservations MUST be made by Wednesday Sept 27th for food preparation purposes. Hope you can join us.

Reservations can be made by email at rickand-gary@verizon.net or by calling 742-7994

Rick McKinniss and Gary Brouillard

Join us for a ride in Chesterton, Indiana

The Calumet Crank Club Lakeshore Century is September 10 and leaves from Chesterton Indiana. Routes range from 25-100 miles along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Registration begins at 6:30 central time which would be 7:30 Lafayette time, and costs \$25. For more information, please contact Kelly Grieger at my cell 219-204-0093 or my e-mail at stormy_47946@hotmail.com,

I also have a few extra brochures from the Calumet Crank Club.

I will be at the registration area at 7:00 am central time (8:00 our time), if you are interested in signing a WRCC sheet or you can submit your miles to meet your convenience.



Erin's TRIRI Diary

Sunday, June 18: Allen County Fairgrounds to Pokagon State Park

The weather forecasts today called for 90 degree temps, nasty humidity, and thunderstorms. It wasn't quite that bad, but I'm glad I brought raingear! The riders here are very friendly. Joan knows many of them from a Habitat for Humanity ride she did in April, so I'm meeting a lot of people. Not ten minutes after I set up my tent it started pouring rain. I took a nap. For entertainment after dinner the organizers brought in a caricaturist, and somehow I got wheedled into having mine done. It's pretty amusing—I was reduced to pig-tails and a big stupid grin. The evening was quite peaceful. A guy brought along his guitar (don't know how he managed that on a bike) and played quietly as the sun set.

Monday, June 19: Pokagon Regional Loops

I put in a *lot* of miles today, and am feeling very sleepy tonight. Guitar Guy is playing again, the sun is setting, and I'm listening to small conversations all around me. This morning we had breakfast at the Park Inn, and because they just resurfaced their floors we all had to eat in our socks. I wasn't going to do the longer loop, but I decided to go for it at the last minute. The route went briefly into Ohio and the roads were terrible (all chip 'n seal for about twelve miles). After returning it was extremely hot out, and of course it started raining again. The rangers were driving around camp blaring their weather radios warning us of a severe thunderstorm, and we were eventually forced to take shelter in one of the buildings.

"Take a Hike" for Three Good Causes

Wabash River Cycle Club is invited to participate in Hunger Hike 2006, Sunday, September 17th at Riehle Plaza in Lafayette. Hunger Hike is an annual fundraising event, with a 2-mile walk or a 4.5-mile run along Heritage Trail, to support food and water assistance programs in our area and in Haiti. Participants raise donations which are divided between Lafayette Urban Ministry's food programs, Food Finders' Food Bank and St. Tom's Haiti Mission. The goal this year is \$60,000. The first 500 Hunger Hike participants receive a Hunger Hike water bottle, **co-sponsored by the Wabash River Cycle Club.** All participants who raise \$50 or more in donations will receive a Hunger Hike t-shirt.



Registration will be from 12:30-1:30pm that day and the hike will begin at 2:00pm. Following the hike, participants are invited to join in the celebration back at Riehle Plaza which will include music, clowns, hot dogs and watermelon. For more information and registration forms, visit the Hunger Hike website – www.hungerhike.org. There you will also find a link to create your own personal fundraising webpage. It would be great to have WRCC Team participating this year – helping the less fortunate in our community. If you have any questions, please contact Lonni Kucik (497-5696), WRCC member and also a volunteer on the Hunger Hike planning committee.

Tuesday, June 20: Pokagon to Chain O' Lakes State Park

Pat and Howard joined us today, and it was one of our nicest rides yet. The temperatures were in the 70s, there was no humidity, and there were such interesting sights along the way. We had a rest stop at the Great American Clydesdales Farm; the horses were enormous and very beautiful, plus the facilities were so well maintained. I also rode through Shipshewana. I've never been among so many Amish and Mennonites. I passed them constantly in their buggies (and on their bikes!). The roads were different too. The roads were uneven because of the grooves made by the buggies, and we also had to watch out for the horse droppings.



Update #2: Do you want a bike club jersey?

Since I last asked about interest in bike club jerseys, I've heard from a number of people and we have interest in around 20 jerseys which is below the 25 minimum to order and well below the 50 minimum for it to be a reasonable price. We mainly have interest from new members so I'm hopeful that within a year or two with some more new members we can generate enough interest to order jerseys. As a reminder we're going to order from Voler. With Voler, we can combine like items so the total number of items would include short-sleeved jerseys, sleeveless jerseys, wind shell vests and thermal vests. If we go with them, the prices are as follows:



<u># of items</u>	<u>Jersey</u>	<u>Wind shell vest</u>	<u>Thermal Vest</u>
25-49	\$77.75	\$70.75	\$87.74
50-99	\$60.75	\$53.75	\$84.75

Also, remember that the board has voted that you can spend your bike bucks on a jersey, so if you have a lot of bike bucks it might not be so expensive.

Something we can do to generate interest in the jerseys would be to post some pictures of the jersey on the website so people can see what it looks like. **Does anyone have pictures of our club jerseys?** If so, please send them to me and I'll have them posted.

Second, I want to check to make sure the list of interested people I have is correct, so check to be sure your name is on the list if you are interested. If your name is on the list and you are no longer interested, let me know that as well.

By phone: 765-429-8525

or by email: cealexan@purdue.edu .

List of people interested in jerseys:

Erin Chamberlin
Dave Smith
John Folkers
Ed Lambuth
Roy Sparks
Andy Hirsch
Corinne Alexander
Vicki and Alan Sickler
Daniel Mendoza

Corinne Alexander

WRCC Ride Calendar, September 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00am, D-, PWSP, OFD
3 9:00am, C, Burtsfield	4 Labor Day 9:30am, C, Burtsfield 9:30am, D-, PWSP	5 5:30pm, All Club, Mayflower Mill 5:45pm, C, Burtsfield	6 2:30pm, B, Armstrong Park 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Socc fld	7 5:30pm, All Club, Burtsfield	8	9 8:45am, B, East Tipp Mdl Sch 9:30, B+, Burtsfield Indy Zoo ride 12:30, D, PWSP
10 9:00am, C, Burtsfield Lakeshore Century	11 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	12 5:30pm, All Club, Mayflower Mill 5:45pm, C, Burtsfield	13 2:30pm, B, Armstrong Park 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Socc fld	14 5:30pm, All Club, Burtsfield	15	16 Hope Ride 12:30, D, PWSP
17 9:00am, C, Burtsfield	18 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	19 5:30pm, All Club, Mayflower Mill 5:45pm, C, Burtsfield	20 2:30pm, B, Armstrong Park 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Socc fld	21 5:30pm, All Club, Burtsfield	22	23 12:30, D, PWSP
24 9:00am, C, Burtsfield	25 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	26 5:30pm, All Club, Mayflower Mill 5:45pm, C, Burtsfield	27 2:30pm, B, Armstrong Park 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Socc fld	28 5:30pm, All Club, Burtsfield	29	30 9:00am, B&C, Mayflower Mill 12:30, D, PWSP

WRCC RIDE SCHEDULE, SEPTEMBER, 2006

Sun 3,17,24	9:00am	C	30-40 mi	Burtsfield School	Paul Preckel
Sun 10	9:00am	C		Burtsfield School	Show&Go
Sun 10	8:00am	Lakeshore Century sponsored by the Calumet Crank club.			Kelly Grieger
Mon 4, Labor Day	9:30am	C	35-45 miles	Burtsfield School	Janet Winters
Mon 4, Labor Day	9:30am	D-	50-70	PWSP	Kevin Johnston
Mon 11, 18, 25	5:30pm	B		Burtsfield School	Rick McKinnis
Tues 5,11,18,25	5:30pm	All club ride			Mayflower mill
Tues 5,12,19,26	5:45pm	C	20-30 mi	Burtsfield School	Janet Winters
Wed 6,13,20,27	2:30pm	B		Armstrong Park	Dave Blaauw
Wed 6,13,20,27	5:30pm	B		Kalberer Soccer field	Daves Simon and Smith
Thurs 7,14,21,28	5:30pm	All club ride			Burtsfield School
Sat 2	8:00am	Brad's OFD ride (Old Farts D). Help us wish Brad peace, comfort, and strength as he battles his cancer.			
		Routes of 50, 75 and 100 miles. Pace determined by each group.		PWSC	Scott Mills.
Sat 9	8:45am	B	33 miles	East Tipp	Rosemary Young
Sat 30	9:00am	B through C 58-85		Mayflower Mill	Rick McKinnis
		Journey Beyond the Center of the Universe Ride Catered. More details in newsletter.			
Sat 9	9:30am	B+		Burtsfield School	Show&Go
Sat 9,16,23,30	12:30pm	D		PWSP	Kevin Johnston
Sat 9	Indianapolis Zoo Ride, www.Indyzoo.com				Janet Winters
Sat 16	8:00am	Hope ride		Hope Indiana	
	(note: advance registration price available though Sept 2nd. Routes from 25 through 100 miles)				



Note: “+” indicates high end of speed range, “-“ indicates low end of speed range; eg, B+ = fast B, C- = slow C.

Show-N-Go rides: Destination, distance, speed, and reason are determined by the participants.

Category	Ave. Speed	Starting Places
A	12mph & less	Burtsfield School, 1800 N Salisbury, W. Laf.
B	12 - 15mph	PWSP, Purdue West Shopping Plaza, SR26W & Airport Rd., W.Laf.
C	16 - 18mph	East Tipp School, CR 300N & 750E, Laf.
D	18 - 20mph	Other Pub, 3000 S. 9 th St., Laf.
E	21+ mph	Clegg Gardens, 1782N 400E, Laf.
AC = All Club (all categories)		Fort Ouiatenon, S. River Rd. & Newman Rd., W.Laf.
		Shadeland Recreation Center, 250W & 450S, Shadeland

Starting Places
National Guard Armory, 5220E 200S, Laf.
Cumberland School, Cumberland Ave., W.Laf.
Wea Ridge School, 1333E 430S, Laf.
Burnett Creek School, 5700N 50W, W.Laf.
Armstrong Park, Beck Lane & S. 9th. St., Laf.
Cicott Park, Independence, IN
WRCC web site: http://www.wrcc-in.org/



One of our danhenrys even got covered by it and it caused several cyclists to get lost! Tonight we're at Chain 'O Lakes State Park. People keep teasing me about my leg tan. You'd think a group of bikers would understand the funny lines, but no! They're all laughing at me.

Wednesday, June 21: Chain O' Lakes to Little Turtle State Recreation Area

It has been raining every afternoon this week. We can't seem to escape the afternoon thunderstorms. I'm lucky I haven't had to ride in them yet. My tent has stayed mostly dry, but it is getting damp inside and I never have time to dry everything out before it storms again. It was our worst weather day yet. We rode 56 miles to Little Turtle Recreation Center and it was a very exhausting, windy heat. We stopped at the Thomas Marshall home for cookies and water (oh yeah, and a tour of the house—but the real attraction was the food). Lunch was at Nick's Kitchen, a wonderful little diner that provided a quick meal and nice air conditioning. At camp I took a nap under a tree, then went and bought myself a red TRIRI jersey from a couple of years ago. Then we had another thunderstorm, of course.

Thursday, June 22: Little Turtle to Ouabache State Park

Today I went through the Salamonie Forest Area and Reservoir, and it was one of the prettiest places I've seen all week. There were plenty of large trees and rollers, and "Hanging Rock" down by the Wabash River. We had our biggest storm yet this afternoon. I hid in the shower building along with the other women. We had great winds and hail and rain. The power went off in the Park and in the next town over for a few hours. Then the tent awnings came down, some of them twisted and damaged beyond repair. Even my tent was lifted off the ground briefly. Because we lost electricity they had to shut off the water for awhile, meaning that several riders didn't get showers and nobody had working toilets. What an adventure! After dinner the entertainment was a talent show that consisted of poems riders had submitted throughout the week. This was one of the winners: "To the rider on the left 'on your left' means power and might, / To the rider on the right 'on your left' is just being polite."

Friday, June 23: Ouabache Regional Loops

The ride this morning was quite different. It was cloudy and cool almost the entire ride, making it a very nice ride. The first part was great; I had a tailwind for more than 60 miles. At Hartford City a local woman stopped me to ask why so many bikers were passing through town. I chatted with her for a few minutes, explaining TRIRI to her. She told me her husband rode RAGBRAI several years ago while she drove a private SAG for him. Heading back to Ouabache I fought a headwind the whole way. We had a great entertainment after dinner with the TRIRI week in review from Joe and the picture presentation. Joe and Barb are quite the comedians.

Saturday, June 24: Ouabache to Allen County Fairgrounds

We left the Park this morning on a strange route. We couldn't leave from the front gate as originally planned because we would run into some unexpected gravel for about four miles. Joe replanned the route to take us out the back gate, which meant we had to walk our bikes in the grass through a hole in the fence. That took us onto the highway where the danhenrys started up again. We were told after getting past this exit to "forget" we ever heard about it. It was really a beautiful morning; the sunlight and fog reflected on the cornfields in just the right way. I took my time getting in, stopping at water trucks, gas stations, and an old country store. After 39 miles I starting riding with a couple from Indy. They gave me quite a workout at the end. I also finally learned how that guy brought along his guitar—he paid the massage guy to carry it for him! What a great week. I'm already plotting a longer bike tour next summer. Hehehe.



WRCC MEMBERSHIP FORM



NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE #: (____) - ____ - ____ E-Mail _____

OCCUPATION: _____

OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS JOINING:

RENEWAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
Same Address	<input type="checkbox"/>
NEW MEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/>

TYPE MEMBERSHIP	
STUDENT (\$15)	<input type="checkbox"/>
INDIVIDUAL (\$20)	<input type="checkbox"/>
FAMILY (\$25)	<input type="checkbox"/>

AVERAGE SPEED	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1-11 (A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	12-14 (B)
<input type="checkbox"/>	15-17 (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	18-20 (D)
<input type="checkbox"/>	OVER 20(E)

CYCLING TYPE	
COMMUTING	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOURING	<input type="checkbox"/>
RACING	<input type="checkbox"/>
MOUNTAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>

RETURN TO:
WABASH RIVER CYCLE CLUB P.O. BOX 1243 LAFAYETTE, IN 47902-1243

I would be willing to lead rides:

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF INDIANA BICYCLE COALITION? YES NO

MAY WE PUBLISH YOUR NAME IN OUR DIRECTORY? YES NO

Minors (under 18 yrs) require parent/guardian to accompany on all activities

T-shirt size	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large
<input type="checkbox"/>	XLarge
<input type="checkbox"/>	XXLarge

Visit the WRCC website at - www.wrcc-in.org

<i>Affiliated Club</i>	
AFFILIATIONS	

Wabash River Cycle Club P.O. Box 1243 Lafayette, IN 47902-1243
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