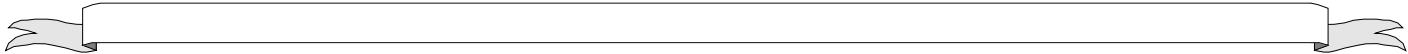




EBC Bikewriter May 2002



The Evansville Bicycle Club was saddened at the loss of one of its favorite members, Richard "Dickie" Lindenschmidt. Dickie passed away on April 17. Dickie started logging miles with the club in 1989. From 1990 on, he logged no less than 1015 miles each year, with the exception of the year 2000, and logged his highest total of 4662 miles in the year 2001. The reason for his lack of miles in the year 2000 was that he participated in , and completed, the Odyssey 2000 round-the-world tour. Dickie's club mileage since 1989 is 34,700 miles. At the end of 2001, Dickie had 33,956 recorded miles with the EBC, placing 3rd on the all-time EBC mileage list since 1988.

He served as the EBC Touring Director from 1994 to 1996. From 1990 to 2002, he hosted 18 EBC rides. His signature hosted ride was his "Soup & Bread Line Ride," traditionally held in February or March which he started in 1994. In 1993, he hosted three rides, including his "Too Busy To Ride" event. In addition to hosting rides, Dickie served as ride leader on the Angel Mounds Boat Ramp rides in the past.

Dickie was a regular at club rides, and always had a smile and something good to say. He was a very positive person, and seemed to find the best in all situations. He never seemed to mind riding with rookies. Somehow, he managed to remember the names of new riders the next time he saw them. He encouraged many of us when we started with the club. Dickie will be greatly missed.



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

President's Notes From the April Meeting

Tour de' Bloom will be here before you know it. It will be June 8, and the EBC is a sponsor again this year. As in the past, we will be providing SAG Support. We need two or three more volunteers to SAG. Operation City Beautiful has agreed to reimburse drivers for their gas. Also, we need 2-3 people to help with registration. Those people who help with registration will be finished by 11:00 a.m. All volunteers who work the day of ride will receive club miles for their help. Remember, OCB helps us make the Great Pumpkin Metric a success each year by doing a rest stop. If you would like to help Operation City Beautiful and the Evansville Bicycle Club with this event, please contact me at (812) 490-0686 or Wayne Fister at (812) 490-2745.

Thank you,
Darlene Wefel, President



Suggestions & Guidelines for New Members and Guest Riders
By Darlene Wefel

The Evansville Bicycle Club welcomes, encourages and promotes riders of all ages and levels of fitness. I hope you find the following suggestions and information helpful.

If you are a novice rider or have not been involved in a fitness program, make sure you consult and follow your physicians recommendations. Cycling is good exercise, relaxing, and physically challenging. The Evansville Bicycle Club has members that ride at all different levels ranging from 12 mph to over 20 mph. I encourage new riders to arrive 15-20 minutes before the ride. This will allow you time to meet club members and ask questions about the route. Weekly club routes are marked with Dan Henry's on the pavement. Make sure you ask about how the route is marked. Keep in mind that there are many routes marked in the Evansville/Vanderburgh & Warrick County area.

Summary of routes:

Dogtown 23 & 24-mile routes are relatively **flat** (good for beginners and children.)

The Dogtown 43 mile route is a fairly difficult route with many climbs and several hard climbs.

Oak Hill route is a good intermediate course with some rolling hills and a couple of challenging climbs.

Mesker Park route is a challenging ride. The route is hilly and some of the roads have a lot of traffic.

Reitz High School route is another challenging ride. Fairly hilly, and the roads do not as much automobile traffic as Mesker Park's route.

Castle High School in a good intermediate ride. Rolling Hills very little traffic on the roads.

Ditney Hill is a good beginners/intermediate route. It has a 15, 21 & 25-mile route. The 15-mile route has some rolling hills. The 21 & 25-mile route have a couple of challenging climbs.

For more detailed information and starting location maps check out our web site at bicycle.evansville.net

Florida SAG
By Dave Ashworth

You never realize how important SAG support is until you are depending on them for all of your needs. Jason Lamar, on loan from Gilles, Norma Greenlee, Cinda Alexander and everyone else's Mom, Sherrie Niethammer, & Vicky Ashworth were the SAG drivers for the Florida trip. Without them and their constant attention this trip would not have been possible. Besides carrying all our bags, tools, spare parts, and water they carried enough food that I actually gained weight during the ride. Sherrie had a pasta salad that was the cause of some extra stops just to eat. Every time we stopped there were cookies, fresh fruit, energy bars, and a sandwich if you wanted. Sometimes you got a strawberry whether you wanted it or not. They were at intersections to help show us the way and when the weather went sour they were there with gear or shelter. More than once we were warned of dogs ahead and on several occasions they ran interference between us and the dogs. When the hill was extreme, there was almost always someone at the top to offer encouragement or something to drink. Since we seldom were at towns that had a place to eat, they were our rolling chuckwagons. This really helped to keep us on time, since this was much faster than fifteen people trying to eat at one restaurant. I did not ride on the third day and offered to SAG while four of the group and one SAG truck went on Chattanooga. It did not take long to realize why my wife was as tired as I was at the end of the day. I only chased the group for 50 miles and was in and out of the truck at least ten times. By the time we got to Chattanooga, my legs were sore from getting in and out of the truck. I guess the next time I ask Vic if she wants to go to Florida I am going to have to assure her it will not be five miles at a time. She did tell me that she actually enjoyed it and missed it when it was done.

SPECIAL THANKS to Florida SAG


I'd like to thank Vicky Ashworth, Sherrie Niethammer, Norma Greenley, and Jason Lamar for the excellent SAG service they provided during the "TRIP TO FLORIDA". Whether we were thirsty, hungry, unsure of our turns, or heading into rain, there they were. Also, a special thanks to Scott Gilles, **Gilles Cyclery and Fitness**, for sending Jason Lamar, a Gilles employee, to sag for the week, furnishing miscellaneous maintenance equipment along with a cash donation for refreshments. THANKS SCOTT.

Tony Titzer

NEW ROUTE:

Starting May 19th, we will have new club routes with the starting point being at Scott School on Old State Rd. You will have a choice of 15,25,and 33 miles. These routes are basically the ones laid out by Wally Stremming for the Stremming and Niethammer host ride last Nov. All are mostly flat with a few small rolling hills and should be fun for everyone. Let us know at future club meetings if these routes should be added to the ride schedule on a regular basis.

Thanks, Jim Niethammer



Bike Florida 2002: Spring Break was a Great Ride.
by Ann Stratman

John and I missed the Bike Florida ride last year. The ride this year and the one in 2000 have convinced us that biking in Northern Florida in the spring is a wonderful way to avoid those last gray gasps of winter. We were obviously not the only ones to feel this way. We were joined on the ride by 998 other riders from 41 states and four countries.

We rode a total of 456 miles. The weather was accommodating. We only had rain once, and that was during the night. The daily temperatures were ideal for biking. We did have a vigorous head wind one day, which I wouldn't mention, except it was on the last half of our longest (76 miles) and hottest (nearly 90 degrees) day. It really wore some people down. The sag drivers were hauling riders in all afternoon.

The ride began in Gainesville and looped its way to Tallahassee. I say looped because after two nights in Gainesville, we rode to Lake City, stayed two nights, then on to Madison for two nights, before staying the last night in Monticello. At each layover, there was a loop ride in the area.

On Saturday's loop ride, we toured the small town of Micanopy and the Marjorie K. Rawlings Historic Site. Micanopy was named after a Seminole Indian chief. We learned that it took almost four million dollars and three military campaigns to subdue the Seminoles. Subdue might be too strong a word because a good number managed to escape down into the Everglades.

Sunday was a long day....75 miles. It didn't leave much time for sight seeing. The next day, we did get to tube at the Ichetucknee Springs. The Dixie Grill catered a number of meals, and they provided lunch at the State Park. After stuffing ourselves, we just relaxed and glided down the river. It was our favorite day on the ride.

The rest of the ride took us through Osceola National Forest, to the Stephen Foster Cultural Center, Suwannee Springs, Spirit of the Suwannee Park, Blue Springs, and Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park. The wisteria, azalea, dogwood were at their peak as we rode through Northern Florida. We were surprised to see the dogwoods draped with Spanish Moss; we thought they only thrived in the Midwest.

There was entertainment provided every night. In the small town of Madison, they went all out. The town sponsors provided a group of entertainers including gospel singers, blue grass music, and dancers.

We only had two complaints about the ride. They didn't have anyone to oversee the loading of the baggage trucks, and whoever thought three porta-potties could service 1,000 riders at the camp sites wasn't thinking realistically. I don't think the organizers will make these mistakes again because too many people were too vocal. But there were no complaints about the food! It was substantial and tasty. Thursday night, they provided an ice cream sundae bar that you could die for. We wanted to go through the line a second time, but we couldn't eat another bite, even of ice cream! And Friday, the end of the ride lunch was a fajita bar with all the fixings, chicken, beef, or both. And beer on tap!

The first year Bike Florida did their ride nine years ago, they had only 100 riders. After three years, they had only 400 riders. The organizers decided it was never going to get any bigger unless they changed the date. The ride was the week of July 4th! They had to get riders on the road by 5:00 a.m., so they could get them off the road before the heat of the day. Doesn't that sound like fun? We're glad they changed it, and we plan to be there for their tenth anniversary.

The Evansville Bicycle Club, Inc.

Membership Application 2002

Name _____	Age _____	Release of Liability Evansville Bicycle Club, Inc. is organized for sole purpose of providing it's members with notification of central meeting points and times. Members freely elect to ride together as a group, following a route of choice. In signing this form for myself and/or my family members I understand and agree to absolve EBC, Inc. and it's organizers or sponsors for all blame for any injury misadventure, harm loss or inconvenience suffered as a result of participation in any ride or activity associated with or sponsored by the EBC, Inc. I further understand that I, as an individual am responsible to abide by all traffic laws and regulations governing bicycling and take full responsibility for my actions. Make Checks payable to: Evansville Bicycle Club, Inc. Mail to: Randy Silke 516 Sandalwood Dr. Evansville, IN 47715
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
Address _____	Individual \$12	
City _____ State _____	Family \$20 +	
Zip _____ Phone _____	\$1/child	
E-mail Address _____		
Signature _____		

President	Darlene Wefel (490-0686)	Membership	Randy Silke (437-9122)
VP	Dave Ashworth (426-2489)	Statistician	Rusty Yeager (402-1787)
Secretary	Bob Messick (842-0072)	Touring	Tony Titzer (490-1397)
Treasuer	Bob Willett (270 836-3546)	Website	Bob Wefel (490-0686)

EBC Bikewriter

EBC Mailing Address: PO BOX 15517 EVANSVILLE, IN 47716

EBC Web Page: <http://www.bicycle.evansville.net> "Provided by Evansville Online"

Submit all articles to Faye Carter, the Editor, by calling 270 821-2143 or e-mail chiapet@charter.net