



EBC Bikewriter

April 2004

The Evansville Bicycle Club Newsletter

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SADDLE

A week ago last Saturday at the Olmstead ride, it was noted that someone had dumped several bags of trash at the turn-a-round. One of members decided to take the initiative and remove this eyesore. That person was Bob Willett. Bob went over there the next day and re-bagged several of the ones that had broken open. While doing this, one of the property owners in the area mistakenly assumed that he was dumping the bags. The person quickly realized his mistake and proceeded to help. They found several pieces of identification that linked the trash to an individual. The sheriff's office was called and the deputy took the information and also made arrangements to have the collected bags removed. Through Bob's effort the club is now in good standing with the property owners in the area. When you see Bob give him a big thank you for all of us.

We had a nice turn out for the club meeting last week. Two items of new business were discussed. The first would be a joint social ride between the EBC and the CRCC (Paducah Bicycle Club) in Madisonville, Kentucky. Please watch the calendar for the date and let's have a big turn out from the club at the ride. The second was A request for assistance from a representative of the city of Henderson. They are planning a ride in conjunction with the music festival in August. What they needed from us was information on what needs to be done. A committee of three headed by Dave Heng will provide guidance in this endeavor. This will be on a Saturday and should not conflict with any currently scheduled event.

Dave Ashworth, President

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Larry Woods

Aussie police find 1,000 bicycles in dead man's home

Police in an Australia found 1,000 bicycles at the home of a man who died while trying to steal a bicycle last week.

Officers had gone to the house in Geelong, south of Melbourne, after the man died.

Police superintendent Steve Barber said it was understood the man, who was aged in his 60s, died while trying to steal a bike in Melbourne.

He said it was unclear how many of the bikes were stolen, as the man also "had a habit of buying bicycles as well".

Supt Barber said police were working around the clock to try to clear the house of all the bikes which ranged in style and value, reports [The Age <http://www.theage.com.au/>](http://www.theage.com.au/). He said it took police four hours and two trucks just to move 100 bikes from the scene.

It's understood most of the stolen bikes were taken from Melbourne, however, it would take police some time to unravel the mystery.

Police haven't said how the man died.

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Note from the Tour Director....

The rumors are true, I am moving to Louisville, Kentucky. My intentions are to continue doing the ride schedule at least until the end of the year. I will miss my many friends on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, but I negotiated a 4-day work week (3-day weekend!!!), allowing me to feasibly ride here with the club. Louisville has some great rides too like the Old Kentucky Home Tour which I would encourage everyone to try to do in September.

See you on the road....Julie

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT

This is the first in a series of articles designed to protect cyclists, who have been involved in motor vehicle accidents, by making them more aware of their rights and responsibilities under the law.

This article is meant to be informational only and is not meant as legal advice. It is imperative that you consult an attorney for the law applicable to your state or jurisdiction.

A common and serious mistake made by injured cyclists is the failure to report accidents to the police.

I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of waiting for the police to arrive at the scene of an accident or, in the alternative, traveling to the nearest local precinct to make out a report.

On numerous occasions, I have been contacted by cyclists who at the time of an accident felt that there was no need to wait for the police. Immediately after the accident, they felt fine and wished to avoid the inconvenience of a lengthy wait. This inclination may be reinforced by the driver of the vehicle. The driver may be worried about a hike in insurance rates, or points on his or her license, and therefore may want to leave the scene before the police get involved.

Unfortunately, all too often the cyclist who dismissed an accident as causing "only bumps and bruises" finds, a day, a week or even longer after the accident, that the "minor" injuries have dramatically worsened: now, the cyclist is plagued by severe back pain, or neck pain, tingling sensations running down both legs or other symptoms. The so-called "minor" accident has now disrupted the cyclist's entire life and the cyclist may be left without recourse.

The police report will contain information crucial to securing and protecting your rights. An unscrupulous driver may attempt to avoid responsibility by providing a bicyclist with incorrect information but will be less likely to do so with the police (who often have the facilities to instantly verify such information).

Insurance information is generally also included in the police report. In many states, such as New York, the vehicle's insurance carrier will pay all or some of your medical bills, lost wages and other expenses. (The issue of medical and related expenses, including so-called "No Fault" laws, will be covered at length in a future article).

Often, police reports will include names and addresses of witnesses, diagrams of the accident, information as to weather conditions and other information which may become even more useful as time goes by and memories of the participants grow dim. Your attorney will want to contact witnesses to take statements and to verify that your version of the accident is correct.

In the event the vehicle has no insurance, or the driver is driving with a suspended or revoked license, this information will be ascertained by the police as well. Armed with this knowledge, along with any violations or summons issued by the police officers at the scene, your attorney will know how best to proceed to insure that your interests are protected.

There are many compelling reasons for every cyclist involved in an accident to wait for the police to arrive on the scene or to proceed to the nearest precinct immediately from the accident. This article can only cover some of them.

Ride Safely.

Robert S. Fader, Esq.

Article from www.bikehighway.com

Submitted by Bob Wefel

EBC Bikewriter

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The Evansville Bicycle Club, Inc.

New Membership and Renewal Application 2004

Name _____ Age _____

 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Phone _____
 E-mail Address _____
 Signature _____

Individual \$12
Family \$20 +
\$1/child

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.

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