



EBC Bikewriter

October 2004

The Evansville Bicycle Club Newsletter



THE GREAT PUMPKIN METRIC Sunday, October 3



GREENWAY

The Public Hearing for construction of the next section of the Greenway will be on October 12, 2004 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Cedar Hall Elementary School located at 2100 N. Fulton Avenue. The public is invited to attend and review the plans and discuss the project.

The proposed section will connect the north bike path and the Ohio riverfront bike path on the West along Pigeon Creek. It will result in a path about 7 or 8 miles long.

I am not a member of the Evansville Bicycle Club, but I think it is important that a united front be seen from bicyclists in Evansville. Could we arrange a "ride-in" to the meeting.?Perhaps, we could meet at Garvin Park and cycle from there via the north bike path to Uhlhorn and then up to the school on Fulton for the meeting. It would make quite an impression if 100 or more bikers were there to give input and support for the project. EBC would be the natural organization to arrange for such a "ride-in."

Gary Merillat
475-8516





Breakdown at Tour de Cave

By Wayne Fuller



On June 5, of this year, Kate and I returned to ride Tour de Cave, which we did last year. This was my third occasion to do this ride. We spent the previous night in Bowling Green and drove to the ride Saturday morning.



It was a perfect with the temperature being moderate and a high sky. We started at the Lone Oak Elementary School. The first ten miles went without incident, and we even managed to make it up Pig Hill without too much difficulty. However, approximately 14 miles into the ride, the rear wheel of our bent locked up. We stopped and



checked over the bicycle. There appeared to be a brake problem on the rear wheel. The Sag ride stopped and four of us proceeded to work on the brakes. We managed to



fix them; Kate and I began to ride again. Approximately two miles down the road, the brakes locked up again. This time Kate and I proceeded to work on the brakes and managed to get them fixed to the point that we were able to ride and still have some rear



brake. We continued on our ride.



The Sag wagon came by, and we told them to meet us at the first rest stop, as we did not feel comfortable in continuing the ride beyond that point. When we got to the first rest stop, the Sag people drove me back to the starting point where I got the truck, drove back to Kate, and loaded the bicycle.



Once we got home, I was able to fix the brake mechanism. It is never any fun to have a break down when on a ride. Of course, I think we all forget from time to time to check the mechanics of our bicycle because we are all in such hurry to get on it and go. Kate and I had ridden the Tandem the previous Thursday without any mechanical difficulties.



As it was reported, the difficulty was something that apparently occurred on the road since we were able to ride the first ten miles without incident. Of course, it is important to carry a set of tools with you in case of a breakdown. We missed the opportunity



to ride more miles because of our breakdown. We also had the common sense to realize



that the bike was going to require more to fix than we were going to be able to do on this ride. However, we plan on attending this ride again next year.





Tour de Corn-A-Flat Ride

by Wayne Fuller

On June 26, 2004, the town East Prairie, Missouri held its third annual Tour de Corn-a-Flat Bike Ride. This is our second time doing this tour. We enjoyed it a great deal the first time that we rode it when it was first started in 2002. The riding distances were 15, 30, and 60 miles. New routes were established for both 30-mile and 60-mile rides. New facilities provided for more lodging opportunities, which included RV and tent sites.

We decided to camp and so left on Friday for the Saturday ride. In order to get to East Prairie one must first cross the Ohio River and turn around and cross the Mississippi River. On our way there, we stopped and stood on the point of the confluence of the two rivers.

We arrived, set up camp then went to pick up our registration packets. Later on that evening, the town had a street festival. They served up big buckets of boiled crawdads with sweet corn and potatoes. As we sat eating, four parachutists jumped out of an airplane overhead to land nearby. The last parachutist unfurled a 50-foot long American flag. It was quite a show.

The next day, we got up and went to the ride start. We were concerned about the weather, considering that the first time we rode this ride it had been quite hot. However, on this day the weather turned out to be quite mild, although with a rather hefty wind. The terrain is quite flat. The major hill was that of riding the bridge over the interstate. During the first part of our ride, we noticed several big trucks carrying loads of potatoes. Apparently this has now become a great potato growing area. We eventually saw a huge potato digger out in the field digging up potatoes.

The route was well marked. The rest stops provided excellent snacks. Each of the three routes also incorporated a part of the Mississippi River Cycling Trail. Upon completion of our 60-mile ride, showers were provided as well as a pasta dinner, which I must say was quite good.

Five members of the Evansville Bicycle Club were in attendance at this ride. I wish more members of the Bicycle Club would participate in this ride. I think that they would find this ride to be an excellent one. I also think that they would find the geography of the area to be quite different. The City of East Prairie extends a great welcome. Also, if you had not have the chance to eat a bucket of crawdads in a while, this is a great opportunity.

The Best Cookies

By Wayne Fuller

On May 22, 2004, the Little River Bike Tour was held. This was our fourth year at this ride. Several members of the Evansville Bicycle Club were also in attendance. The best thing about this ride is the fact that every year at every rest stop there are homemade cookies. This is not the real reason to go to a bike tour, as the real reason is to ride. However, these cookies are very good and are an excellent reward for participating in this ride. The ride is put on by the St. John's United Methodist Church. A good job is done by this organization every year. An excellent pasta dinner is served after the ride. The routes are extraordinarily well marked. The routes give you the advantage of some flat terrain and some actually quite excellent hill climbing opportunities. The routes consist of 20, 40, or 60 miles. As the brochure says, the massive piles of homemade cookies and the friendly volunteers have become a signature feature of this event. Early registration gains you a free Little River bike tee shirt. Over the years, the designs of these shirts have been above average. It is a ride that I would like to see more members participate in. It usually occurs the week before Memorial Day. Usually there are approximately 150 riders. In the past, the ride started downtown and there were complaints of the starting point. However, over the past four years this ride has not on the outskirts of town, a better starting point. When considering a tour for next year, consider the Little River Bike Tour and the homemade cookies.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Michael Gibbons

Reed Palmer

Scott Coomes

Rudi Heinrich

Meaghan Walker

Kim Reising

Georgia Chapman

Chuck, Marianne, and Lauren Coney

WELCOME RETURNING MEMBERS

Deana Dunnack

Lawrence and Marcon Judy



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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