

Bartlesville azette

Newsletter of the Pedalers Bicycle Club, Bartlesville, Oklahoma

"...to promote bicycling in all its forms"

FEBRUARY 2001

www.bartlesvillepedalers.com

Trash Pickup Feb. 24th, 8:00 am

The first trash pick-up for 2001 will be on Saturday, February 24 at 8 a.m. We will meet at the Osage Hills School to distribute bags and to organize. I hope many of you will be able to help Brad Cobb with this first trash pick-up. You will be able to enjoy having a clean roadside while riding up Hill 44. Be sure to wear gloves.

It Started with One

By Suzy Harris

Yes, it really did start with just one – bicycle, that is. It served George well for about 20 years.

Then we decided to get “off-road” bikes so the two of us could ride trails while living Texas. After visiting the local bike shop, suddenly 1 had turned into 3! (You really have to watch those bikes when you turn the lights out.)

Three seemed like a nice number. There was ample room in the garage to hang three bikes without tripping over one or banging your head on another. It didn't seem unusual for 2 people to have 3 bikes. But then the unthinkable happened. Old Reliable finally sustained irreparable damage.

This was truly a sad time in the Harris household, especially for George. This was, after all, the only bike he'd ever loved. How could he ever adjust to another bike? And what was he supposed to do with the remains? Do you call Stumpf's or Arnold Moore? Do you ask for a single plot, buy a family plot, or request cremation? The decision was just too difficult to make. So Old Reliable lay quietly in the garage, lifeless and broken.

After a brief but intense mourning period, the search was begun for another road bike. Decisions, decisions . . . bicycles had become

much more complicated in 20 years! But eventually 3 bikes became 4. (Yes, you still have to count Old Reliable, lying in pieces in the corner.) “Okay,” I said, “four is do-able . . . when one of them doesn't really count.” Little did I know what was lurking on the horizon.

I would soon learn when one becomes a serious rider, one must carefully consider the quality of one's equipment. This is especially true when it comes to mountain biking, George informed me. I also learned there is a big difference between off-road and mountain biking. “Off-road just refers to a lack of hard surfaces, while mountain biking involves serious obstacles and at times the absence of any resemblance to a road or trail.” This seemed to be leading up to something. You probably know what's coming next, don't you.

Soon 4 became 5. Yes, it was beginning to get a little congested in the garage. By the looks of things, you'd think we had a house full of kids. It was getting tough to find room for my car. I finally suggested disposing of Old Reliable and adding another hook in the ceiling. To my relief, George took the suggestion very well, and we regained a “do-able” number of bikes.

All was well until I began thinking of getting a second bike. I knew without a doubt there simply wasn't room for 5, fully-assembled bikes and 2 vehicles in our garage. “But if he can have three bikes,” I rationalized, “why shouldn't I have two? Who cares if I can only ride one at a time? Who cares if he has to park his car outside? I need another bike! After all, I ride an average of once a month. Surely we can find room for one more.”

The overcrowding continued for about 15 months. In December we finally came to our senses and donated a couple bikes to Concern. We've since learned they made great Christmas presents for some local people. And now we're back to a nice number – 3.

Club Membership

By George Harris

The membership of the Bartlesville Pedalers has been gradually declining over the last couple of years. Already this year we've said goodbye to the Campbells and the Wenzels. It is questionable how long the club will continue to be viable if this trends continues. I sometimes wonder if those of us who ride regularly realize the value of a large club membership.

The club used to have riders with varied riding styles and one could always find someone to ride with who suited your riding whims of the day. Lately on some group rides, if you're not in the "go-fast crowd," you're left with no one with which to ride. We now have fewer riders and less diversity in riding styles.

Just think about that a minute. "Fast" riders, where are you going to get your next ride partner? It's either recruit seasoned, fast riders or recruit any rider and work with them to bring them up to speed.

"Medium" riders, I haven't seen you out on the club rides lately. Why? I know you're out there. Is it because there is no one of your speed on the club rides? If so, how about recruiting some medium, or leisure riders.

This club needs new members. If we don't increase membership, the club will cease to exist as a club. We will just be a bunch of bicycle riders. Joyce, Shirley, my hat is off to you for your Easy Rider rides and your work trying to recruit new riders to the club. Now it's time for the rest of us to do some recruiting.

2001 Membership

It is time to renew your Pedalers membership.

Our present paid up membership is 19. If you haven't paid for this year, do it now and avoid the embarrassment and hassling at the hands of those who have. Also please complete the membership release form, even if you have done it in the past.

If you haven't been a member in the past, the membership is only \$16 per year. We are a fun club that get together to enjoys bicycling. We are easy going with member of different riding abilities and preferences.

Fair Weather Friends Ride Racking up the Miles

The Tuesday-Thursday mid-day Fair Weather Friends Ride continues to rack up the miles. Participation has been good and the short days do not necessarily mean short rides.

The ride meets at 2:30 by the playground at Sooner Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call Bob Lummis, 333-4374; Walter Bohn, 333-5904; or Jack Tatum, 333-9423 to find out if the ride is on for any particular day.

Weekend Rides

Road Rides: (Leaving Johnston Park at 9:00am Saturday mornings)- All Saturday morning road rides will be "Tailwind Rides" until daylight saving time returns. All Tailwind Rides will depart Johnston Park at 9:00 am, weather permitting. Those in attendance will be determined the distance and direction for each ride.

Sunday Afternoon "Cross Country"
TIME - 2:00 pm, PLACE - Osage Hills

February has been designated Osage Hills month since the weather did not allow us to ride there last month. We have found another way to the top of the hill. Now all we have to do is develop a loop trail through the meadow on top.

We have also found one of the regular hiking trails that is fun to ride. It is less technical than our single-track trail and can be ridden a little faster. There are enough ledges, sharp turns and short steep ups and downs to make it interesting.

President's Letter



We did have a board meeting on January 16. The following items were decided at the meeting:

1. John Cary was chosen to be the Mountain Bike Director for 2001.
2. Special events for this year: Free Wheel information meeting scheduled for March 13 at 7 p.m. in the large meeting room at the Bartlesville Public Library. We also discussed any special rides. If any member wants to help plan a bike route, we would be glad to have the input.
3. We also wanted to publish a roster of members in March. In order to have your name listed on the roster your dues need to be paid for 2001. Also this will be the last newsletter mailed to anyone who has not paid his or her dues for the year.
4. We also are trying to continue with the update of the club by-laws that was started by Bob Lummis last year. If you have any suggestions for changes, please let us know. We can only compile the changes. The actual change in the by-laws still has to be voted on by the club membership at a club meeting.
5. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 at 7 p.m. at the Martin's - 636 SE Kenwood Drive.

Keep on pedaling! Shirley

“Consider a man riding a bicycle. Whoever he is, we can say three things about him. We know he got on the bicycle and started to move. We know that at some point he will stop and get off. Most important of all, we know that if at any point he stops moving and does not get off the bicycle he will fall off it. That is a metaphor for the journey through life of any living thing, and I think of any society of living things.”

- *William Golding, A Moving Target*

Officers/Directors:

President:

Shirley Martin 333-8294 home
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Vice President/Treasurer:

George Harris 331-9080 home
661-8899 work
crash@bartnet.net

Secretary:

Janis Hayes 333-6786 home
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Road Biking Director:

Joel Martin 333-8294 home

Mountain Biking Director:

To be named

Directors at large:

Jack Tatum 333-9423 home
Walter Bohn 333-5904 home

Newsletter Editor:

George Harris 331-9080 home
661-8899 work
crash@bartnet.net

Membership Application / Renewal

I accept with pleasure this invitation to join the Bartlesville Pedalers. I agree to observe all traffic laws and to comply with the suggestions of the ride leaders about the safety and decorum of the club.

I understand that my participation in club activities and rides is solely at participant's own risk. The Bartlesville Pedalers cannot be held responsible for any accidents that may occur during or as a result of their activities.

Helmets are required on all club rides .

NAME: _____

SPOUSE & OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS:

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE - home: _____ work: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

OK to publish this info in club directory? Yes No

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

All memberships are \$16 per year. Anyone joining in the last quarter of the year is also paid up for the following year. Please return application to: Bartlesville Pedalers, P.O. Box 793, Bartlesville, OK 74003



P. O. Box 793
Bartlesville, OK 74003

