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March 2023



Rollin'

THE NEWSLETTER OF SILVER WHEELS CYCLING CLUB



Rollin' Editor-Larry Best

So, there I was, minding my own business as usual, when all of a sudden I got an email reminding me that I was supposed to give a presentation at the March 15th membership meeting. I knew that and I thought that a couple of fellow members and I were going to talk about trikes & probably do a show and tell. OOPS! I lied. Instead, I'll be talking about the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) Safe Cycling classes that I teach. In February's Rollin' I stated that it would be trikes. Mea culpa. I apologize for misleading everyone, and I hope I didn't upset your schedules.

I'm a LAB cycling instructor, and will be teaching my first class of the year sometime in late April. The class will include classroom, bike handling in a safe parking lot, and a slow 7-to-10-mile road ride averaging about 10 mph. I also teach two other classes, one on bike maintenance and one on emergency road repairs. Those will be scheduled for early May.

Please be sure to check the events calendar for this month. The Chili Weiner spring ride will be held Sunday, March 12th at 1:00 PM leaving from the Oberlin Public Library. The first club membership meeting of the year will be held on Wed. March 15th at 7:00 PM at the Carlisle Visitor's Center. Wednesday night all star rides start on March 22nd at 5:00 PM from Auto Zone. Please come out and ride.

State of the Club

By Pres. Steve Oz.

As President of Silver Wheels Cycling Club, I plan to give a quarterly update on the club via Rollin', so here goes the first one:

January is historically a busy time for the board. Those that run the club (our fantastic board officers and committee chairs) work on the club budget, make proposals for the year and present at the planning meeting. That meeting took place on January 22. During the 4-hour session, discussions were held and decisions were made. There is always a look back at the previous year and a plan for the upcoming year. In short, 2023 is now planned out and promises to be another year of fun cycling adventures.

January also saw the return of the awards banquet. There were about 55 in attendance on the 29th . We had skipped two years of banquets due to that darn Covid. From the success of this one, I can see us resuming this annual event. A big thanks goes to Cheryl Burkhardt, Karen Hobbs and everyone else who planned and participated.

February is a quiet month for the club as winter generally keeps us off our bikes. However, there is still work going on in the background by several committees. I know the Dog Days team is continually working on making our popular fundraiser better than ever! Please make plans to help us out on July 15!

And, remember to renew your membership if you haven't done so yet. Yeah, it's that time again...but your bike wants you to ride it, so plan on riding with your fellow SW members. Spring is fast approaching! See you at the March 15 meeting!



Amish Land and Lakes tour

By Peggy Doheny

Hi Silver Wheelers

Spring is coming soon as are many cycling activities. If you have not heard of the Amish Land and Lakes tour <https://www.amishlandandlakes.com/> it is one to consider. It is July 28-30 in Shipshewana IN. About 200 miles from Oberlin.

Several SW have done this ride in the past and it is a great time. On Saturday the Amish folk go out of their way to provide interesting items to eat on the various routes.

This year some SW are planning to ride the event. There is a registration scale and early bird registration ends 2/28. So if you are interested, this is a way to save a few dollars.

There are many hotels in the area as well as camping (the website provides camping info). Close to the turnpike are 3 hotels in close proximity to each other and about a 20-minute drive to the ride start location. In the past these hotels book up fast with riders on the event.

Hampton Inn Sturgis-Lagrange Area [71451 S. Centerville Road Sturgis, Michigan 49091 USA](#)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOWE (STURGIS, MI) 45 W. 750 N., Howe, IN 46746

Best Western [8080 N State Road 9 Howe, Indiana](#)

If you have any questions or plan to ride the tour let me know and I'll make a roster of attendees.

Peggy Doheny pdoheny@kent.edu

FACTOID

Ohio has the most Amish residents of any state. Pennsylvania is second
and Indiana is third

An Opportunity to help:

Lorain County Public Health (LCPH) is looking for "Bike to School" day volunteers for Friday, May 5. The meet up time is at 6:30am at one of our 3 meet-up locations. We're looking for volunteers to either bike into school with the kids or to help pass out coffee and donuts. If you are interested, contact Catherine Mavrigh at cmavrigh@loraincountyhealth.com

This Southside Pride group in Elyria supports students from some of the lowest income areas of Elyria with programming, food and other resources. This committee is made up of members from non-profit and county organizations. The mayor and other city members will be participating but more help is needed.



New E-Bike Policy by Steve Oz

E-bikes have been growing in popularity since they hit the market in a big way some years ago. Our club went from 1 or 2 members owning one to probably near two dozen by now. With improving technology and more acceptance, those numbers are sure to climb each year.

Over the last few years, Silver Wheels leaders have been tweaking our e-bike policy. This has been based on what we knew about them, current laws and our insurance provider's restrictions.

Our current insurance policy now covers all e-bikes on club rides and we welcome them. With that in mind and their growing popularity, a new policy regarding e-bikes has been created. This is the policy going forward:

- Each rider of an e-bike shall ride the e-bike in a manner consistent with the rider's skill level and the club's safe cycling practices.
- We strongly discourage using throttle mode on club rides, regardless of how the bike is class labeled. The use of pedal-assist mode is welcome and preferred on club rides.
- The e-bike rider is responsible for knowing the current state laws regarding restrictions allowed on shared pathways and trails and for the various "class"

restrictions allowed on shared pathways and trails and for the various class of electric bikes.

- Only class 1 and 2 e-bikes are permitted on Lorain County Metropark trails, Cleveland Metropark trails and the Towpath. Class 3 e-bikes can be used if the route is strictly on roadways.

Note - The sign shown is posted at Days Dam along the Black River Trail in Lorain

LAST PAGE

MARRY A GIRL THAT SAYS THINGS LIKE:

I can't wait to see you when you're gone.

I can't believe you're mine.

You're so special.

You got this.

You can do this baby.

You haven't ridden your bike all week. You should go for a ride.

Here's some money.

*That's all for this
month, folks*

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