

# Rollin'



## Newsletter of the Silver Wheels Cycling Club, Inc.

January, 2016

President: Gary Schmitt,  
 Vice President: Deb Wailes,  
 Treasurer: Betsy Nestor,  
 Secretary: Larry Best,  
 Membership: Randy Lottman,  
 Membership: Emily Townsend,  
 Ride Chair: Bob Burkhardt,  
 Website Coordinator: Tom Weber,  
 Merchandise: Cindy Pesta,  
 Newsletter Editor: Steve Osmialowski,

newsletter, it belongs to the membership. So, please feel free to send me articles, biking tips, ride reports, for-sale items and anything else of interest to the membership. Publish dates should be around the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month -

Thanks! [theozs@oh.rr.com](mailto:theozs@oh.rr.com)

### From the Editor:

#### By Steve Oz

Who is this Steve Oz guy? It's me, Steve Osmialowski, your new Rollin' editor. Oz has been a nickname our family has used as long as I remember. Since most folks have trouble saying my last name (and some don't even want to try!) I just say "call me Steve Oz".

I've been in Silver Wheels since 2008. I am on the ride committee, a ride leader and try to participate in as many club events as I can. When Larry Best indicated stepping down as Rollin' editor, I thought I'd give it a shot. Larry has done a great job so I have big shoes to fill. Thank you Larry, for all your past newsletters! I have many ideas for Rollin' and hope everyone finds it interesting and informative. I do ask your help though. Rollin' is not my

### Ghost Bike

Last month Larry Best told you all about ghost bikes placed near the location of a cyclist's death. The recent tragedy of cyclist Mr. Startup has been memorialized with a ghost bike on Butternut Ridge Road. Here is a picture of that bike taken by Ann Hauser.





## **Winter Hiking**

For most of us, the bikes are put away due to the arrival of the cold, snowy winter season. Looking for another way to get some free fun exercise? Winter hiking is a popular way to get out and get moving. There are two groups that are planning weekend hikes, sometimes separately and sometimes together. Should we call them Silver Boots? Hikes can vary from moderate, flat 4 mile trail walks to 8 plus miles of challenging terrain. Emails are sent only to those who want to see them. They do not come through the Newsgroup. The message will contain start times, location and a description of the hike. We've hiked in the sun, light rain, snow and temps down to 20 degrees! If you want to participate in these non-wheeled adventures, contact Joel Edmonds and LaDean Hutter to be added to the contact list.



## **Awards Banquet**

The 2015 Silver Wheels Awards Banquet was just held on January 9 at Tom's Country Place in Avon. It was decided that a change to a Saturday afternoon from a Thursday evening would benefit many. Overall, it was a success

with about 90 in attendance. After some social time (and many wine bottle openings) the group sat down to a delicious meal of:

Top Round of Beef with Au Jus  
Baked Atlantic Salmon  
Parsley Red Jacket Potatoes  
Bahamas Blend Vegetables  
Garden Salad with Two Dressing Choices  
French Bread and Butter  
Cake & Cookies

After eating, the awards were presented:

### **Awards and Recognitions**

- \* **Mileage certificates:** to those with > 500 miles
- \* **Golden Wheelers:**  
Ed Stewart, Bob Burkhardt and Joe Etzler
- \* **Tuff Ole Bird:** Bob Piccirilli
- \* **Rookie of the Year:** Jim Gipper
- \* **Ride Leader of the Year:** Eva Weber
- \* **2015 Silver Bullets:** Tom Weber, Bob Burkhardt
- \* **2015 Silver Wheeler:** LaDean Hutter

A big thanks to Mark Kasmak, Banquet Chairman and his committee: Cindy Pesta, Betsy Nestor, Steve Osmialowski, Ann Hauser, Rick Wells and Sue Wells for making this a successful event.



## **Book Club Idea**

From Pat Serio:

How about something to keep us thinking about cycling during the dreary winter months? I'm proposing a book group with members reading a cycling themed book. I'd like this to take place on the last Tuesday of the months of January and February (that would be Jan 26 and Feb 23). This would be at my house at 7:30pm. I will supply wine and non-alcoholic beverages. Other participants can bring snacks if they want to. Anyone wanting to attend must email me so I know how many are coming: [midwife@oberlin.net](mailto:midwife@oberlin.net)

The first book is *The Lost Cyclist* by David Herlihy. I read this about 5 years ago when it first came out and thought it was a good read. Part history, part mystery, the book is about a young man who rides his bicycle around the world in the late 1800s. But before he completes his trip he vanishes.

The second book is one recommended by Jim Zinzer, *Lantern Rouge* by Max Leonard. It's about the cyclists that finished the Tour de France in last place. Part history, part inspirational, it's about perseverance, team work and of course, the Tour. Both had good reviews. Both are available at Amazon as a Kindle or as a book. Probably other booksellers would need to order one. If interested:

1. Email me so I know how many are coming.
2. Read the book and come with at least one discussion question.

## **2016 Planning Retreat**



The annual planning retreat will be Saturday, January 23. This is where your leadership team gets together and plans the major events for the upcoming year. It will be held at McBid Hall, Twin Lake Homes, 42660 Albrecht Rd. Elyria. From 8AM to 8PM. All are welcome to

attend for the day or just part of the day. We do need to know who is coming so food can be arranged. Contact President Gary at [gary.schmitt@att.net](mailto:gary.schmitt@att.net) if you plan to attend. We will be discussing the 2016 budget, club rides, social events DDWT, WACO, insurance needs and other topics. All suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

## **Unlikely Fix** By Naaman Torres.

Well, I had an issue recently that stretched across bikes, two states and an ocean to a tropical island. It started when I stopped into Swerve for a repair several years ago and saw an expensive set of white, flat spoke wheels for sale for more than I had paid for the bike. So then, I decided I deserved this set of wheels. After the 1st year I had an issue with the rear wheel I thought was repaired when I had the wheel trued. Came the trip to Petoskey, MI and I took this bike along. Being leery of what can happen, and not being the only one to blow a tire on the one to blow a tire on the previous MI trip, I brought along the original black spoke rear wheel on the trip. Sure enough, on our pre-trip days with friends in Traverse City, the spokes started to pull out of the fancy rear wheel. With a quick swap and scrapping the bad wheel we continued along.

I was really glad, as some of you know, this was the last I was to ride in a while. Deb Wailes and I rode the roughest ride, over the MI divided twice and after the trip, arriving home, I had what was to be a simple surgery and they found leukemia. I spent a long while in the hospital.

Fast forward to this winter and I decided to bring the front, white spoke tire to Puerto Rico to use on my winter bike. I had already replaced the rear wheel with a heavy duty rear wheel purchased at Century Cycles for a heavy rider since I had broken many spokes on the original and repairs were killing me. It was chrome and didn't match the rusting from salt air front, black spoked front wheel.

I installed my new front wheel and headed off along the ocean route. I climbed the first huge hill and as I braked coming down, a screeching so loud, it not only scared me, but woke up the neighborhood, sent dogs barking and chickens a running. A couple of days of this, and I'm worrying, where can I get brake parts ordered and get this repaired.

Sometimes problems aren't all they seem. I take a good look at the brakes, making a executive decision to attempt to adjust the pitch of the pads on the replacement wheel. After a few miles, I am again stealthily getting past the dogs and chickens. As of today, Dec 20, I see people back in Ohio are still riding. Hurrah for that and a mild winter to all.

### **In Case You Did Not Know....**

At the November 16 Oberlin City Council meeting, Silver wheels Cycling Club presented a check for \$5,000.00 to the city for bike trail upkeep. This donation is far and away the largest the club has ever made to any entity in its 18 years of operation.

Since the 350-member club uses the bike trail so much, and the surface conditions in the Oberlin section have become worse lately, the directors felt this was a way to let the city know how much we appreciate the trail and how important its upkeep is to our members. We realize this is only a small amount compared to what is needed overall, but it is our way to say thank you and to please make some much needed repairs.

Silver Wheels has been a persistent supporter of the North Coast Inland Trail over its history. Two benches have been donated for use (one in honor of Don Pease who was a club member and outstanding politician) (One to honor four of the club's previous directors for their work) (in 2014 raised funds for and built, in conjunction with the Metroparks employees and assistance from Swerve Bike Shop, a large rest area platform between Russia and Butternut Ridge Roads).

Gary Schmitt, Silver Wheels President, made the presentation and Bob and Cheryl Burkhardt were the members who recommended this worthy donation. It is another way Silver Wheels gives back to the community.

### **New Year's Day Ride: Jan 1, 2016**

Sixteen members braved the 28 degree breezy conditions for the first ride of 2016. Riders went from 6 to 16 miles in dry but very cold conditions. Why? Because we can and maybe we're a little bit crazy too!

Many more showed up that day to get together and enjoy some fine soups, snacks and yummy desserts. (OK, now the diets can start!). There was even some games played including a laugh out loud game of Telestrations. This drawing game had everyone laughing at subjects such as "Huge Tuna" and "Tornado Cheese"

I guess you had to be there.....

### **Ski Lift Discount**

From Greg Orłowski:

As a ski instructor, Greg has made ski lift discount passes available to SW members for Boston Mills / Brandywine resorts. Greg needs to be there to verify but the cost is only \$5. Call Greg to arrange dates and times 216-749-4887. He can be at either area on most days and Alpine Valley may be available too.

