

# Rollin'

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



### Editor's Column

By Larry Best

**So there I was, minding my own business as usual when all of a sudden** my, new in Nov. '11 laptop decided to self-destruct. The hard drive was fried and no data could be recovered. Fortunately I had it backed up on a 2<sup>nd</sup> computer. I turned that one on and it too, crashed. Fortunately a lot of data was

saved, but a significant amount was lost. 😞 That's the reason for the late newsletter. Sorry.

Did you ever get the feeling that the club might be disintegrating before your very eyes? We've certainly had our share of injuries this year. At the next board meeting I'm going to propose the formation of a "gimp squad" section of the club. Greg Orłowski was badly injured in a crash earlier this year. Neither Naaman nor Marilyn Torres fell. They thought the ground looked like it needed a hug so they went to its rescue. Ev Roob's new bike apparently didn't like what she'd been feeding it and it bucked her off in the CVS parking lot resulting in a broken hip. I thought we were done for the year, but LaDean Hutter was apparently feeling left out so she fell breaking her arm. Jeez! Let's be careful out there folks.

I dunno 'bout you, but I'm getting ready for the giant **SWAP MEET/SALE** that's going to be held on Sunday, August 26 at Indian Hollow Park. Indian Hollow is located on Parsons Rd. We have pavilion #2 reserved for the day. There are rides and other activities included, too. After 50 years of riding I've already hired a moving van to bring the stuff I want to sell or trade. There's more info in an article later in this issue.

Speaking of stuff for sale, remember that a **want ads column** is a regular feature here in Rollin'. The ads are, of course, free and I can include pictures. Email the info to me at [cycletheus2012@gmail.com](mailto:cycletheus2012@gmail.com) and they'll be in the next issue. Ads will run for three months (longer if you send me a money order for \$10,000). Hey...Don't laugh! You should see what Ed Stewart wanted to charge.

### Conquering the Double Dog Dare

By Joel Edmonds

If anyone wants to know what it takes to Conquer the Double Dog Dare double Metric Century (125 miles), don't ask me for I have no clue. I just ride until someone tells me to stop. Sort of like Forrest Gump. I have been compared to Forrest Gump often.

The riders who know what it takes to conquer the Double Dog Dare are Dave Hershisser, Terry Hobbs, Scott Kapferer, Dan Roob and Gary Schmitt. They joined me on the Ride the Dog ride July 14th as we attempted the 125 mile route, and yes, we were able to complete the challenge.

We met at the LaGrange Community Park at 6:00AM and didn't waste much time chatting, knowing that we would have a long day ahead of us. We were off and pedaling immediately. The cool morning temperatures and lack of wind made for enjoyable riding. We were in no hurry, balancing the concepts of conserving energy and riding fast enough to not be out all day. The early morning highlight was Abbeyville Road, a winding, twisting, moderately hilly stretch of road followed by the Law Road hill. There is still a dent on the side of the road there where a Silver Wheeler fell during the climb a year ago.

We chatted away. We talked about the "Tour De France," how some dude sprinted past what's his name while the other guy wiped out? We talked about potent potables? I learned of new uses for a nail box. We talked out world politics. And a lot of other stuff that we know absolutely nothing about. As we rode on we were slowed by two trains, the second of which provided an opportunity to fertilize a few shrubs. After that train passed we saw two riders approaching. Dan Roob started to say "I wonder if that's," but before he could finish the sentence I said, "Hey look, it's Dan & Tina". Yes, we were joined by Dan & Tina Maddock. They bring a lot of enthusiasm and positive energy. You can't help but ride a little faster when they are riding with you. And yes, we did pick up the pace. Our average speed increased by about a half mile per hour for the 30 miles that they rode with us. They did eventually leave us as they had a rock climbing engagement to get to. We still had over 60 miles to go.

We continued on. And on. And on. We took turns leading even though there was little wind most of the day. Riders were pointing out "this is where I bonked last year;" it seems you may forget the thousands of miles you have ridden but you never forget where you bonked. It was getting warmer and hillier but we were determined.

Mile 80, lunch! I hate to admit it but we were at Subway in Wakeman for lunch. We parked our bikes on the east side of the building, and

then went to the south side of the building to eat our lunch. Dave Hershiser moved his new bike to the south side of the building to keep his eye on it. No he didn't think someone would steal it, it's new and he just likes looking at it! Off again. Only 45 miles to go. It got warmer and hillier. We were determined. None more determined than Dan and Gary, who both attempted it last year, only to fall a little short. They had to hear about it for a year and I knew they wouldn't let it happen again. Terry had just completed his first century on Depot Day and this was a new challenge for him and he was determined to finish. Scott, the youngster of the group, at first said this might be too much but seemed to get stronger with every mile and soon became determined to finish. Dave at age 73 was determined to humble us all. He finished strong as if it was a mere walk in the park. Me? I was just happy to be riding all day.

When we finally reached the Community Park we were all glad to have finished. There was no celebration, no high fives, we just simply said it was nice riding with you and let's do it again sometime. I was not quite finished. My odometer showed 124.6 so I did a lap around the gravelly parking lot where I lost 0.1 average mph so now I have the dubious distinction of being the slowest of the Double Dog Dare riders. I will have to live with that til next year.



## SWAP MEET



### August 26 Swap Meet – Indian Hollow Reservation, Parsons Road, Grafton, Pavilion #2

By Ed Stewart

A Swap Meet, if you didn't already know, is where people bring usable but no longer needed items and swap them for the usable or nor longer needed from other people... or swap for cash. It's more like a garage sale or in this case, a pavilion sale. In this case, however, since the event is with your favorite bike club, all items must be bicycle-related. Surely each of you has something hiding away in your garage that you no longer need but believe someone will surely want to own. Put a quick-to-sell price tag on it and bring it along with you. Each person responsible for their own sales.

This is an All-Star event so we are looking for leaders who can lead our various star level rides. If you can lead, contact Bob Burkhardt, Ride Committee Chairman. This one is different in that we will provide a suitable map and each level will start at a different time so we can hopefully all return about the same time. Distances will vary from 10 TO 50 miles.

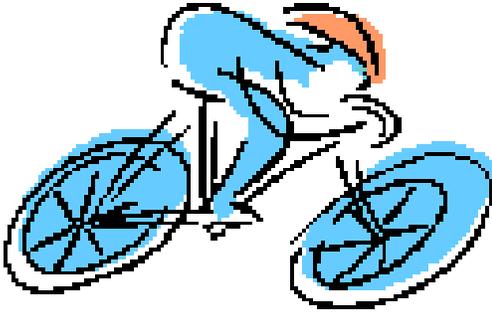
Aaaaannnndddd..... This is also a cookout-potluck. The club will provide some sort of edible dead animal products to cook (probably

hot dogs or something equally difficult to ruin in a cookout) while all the participants bring something to share. Make it something that will not spoil in a few hours in your car. It can be as elaborate as you want or as simple too. We have the pavilion reserved from 1 to 5. There are a couple of grills there if we need them. And there are plenty of seats under the pavilion. There are inside toilets on the premises. And there is a really nice hiking trail, too. If you get back from your ride early maybe you can do some cross-training on the trails. All you have to do is show up with some cash to buy things, some stuff to sell (optional), and a dish to share.

Sorry, alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the Metroparks.

*This is a no-no.*





**8/26/12**

**SWAP**

**MEET**

**RIDES**

1-Star – 10 miles with 15 mile option.  
Start time 11:30 a.m. Not on trail.

2-Star – 25 miles. Start time 10:30 a.m.

3-Star – 40 miles. Start time 9:30 a.m.

4-Star – 50 miles. Start time 9 a.m.

**Questions? Contact Ed Stewart,**  
[emsc0514@gmail.com](mailto:emsc0514@gmail.com).

## **Cycle on the Recycled: A \$9 Cardboard Bike to Begin Production in Israel**

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- **JULIE MA**  
*Writer*

The 1st time you purchased something made entirely from cardboard, chances are it was a box to pack up your belongings. While the sturdy material is perfect for moving your stuff, an inventor from Israel has figured out a way to make cardboard move you. Using nine dollars worth of materials, bicycle enthusiast **Izhar Gafni** has created a fully functioning, water-resistant bicycle, made, from seat to spokes, entirely of recycled cardboard. The technology makes the environmentalist's choice mode of transportation even a bit greener and easier on the wallet.

The all cardboard bike is shockingly durable: it can carry riders who weigh up to 485 pounds. A layer of coating atop the cardboard shields the bike from the elements and gives the finished product the look and feel of lightweight plastic. While the cost to make the bicycle ranges from nine to twelve dollars, the manufacturer expects to sell the vehicle for sixty to ninety dollars depending on the optional addition of an electric motor.



“It's going to be a game-changer in the bike world,” says Giora Kariv, an Israeli artist and a longtime friend of Gafni's who made a documentary about the project. “Like Henry Ford who made the car available to anybody, this bike is going to be cheap and available to any child in the world, including children in Africa who walk dozens of miles to school every day.”

According to Kariv's documentary, Gafni's cardboard bicycle was inspired by news that an inventor had successfully built a cardboard canoe. Gafni's bike design was initially deemed “impossible” by three engineers, but over the course of three years, Gafni proved triumphant. He has since made four different prototypes and even created a training bike for youth using origami techniques to mold and strengthen the material.



Gafni's next steps involve establishing a company to produce and distribute his cardboard creation to the world market. He's currently working with investors to have the product ready for mass-production and worldwide distribution by next year.

## HEY YOU!

That's right...**you**.

Who'dja think I was talking to, that Pepsi can sittin' over there??

Got something to say regarding cycling, Silver Wheels, traffic, dogs, touring, bicycle camping, racing, crappy roads, the editor of this rag? Well...What are you waiting for? Write what's on your mind and send it to me at [cycletheus2012@gmail.com](mailto:cycletheus2012@gmail.com). It's a letters to the editor kinda thing. Somebody cut you off while you were cycling to work and you want to rant about traffic? This is the place. Know of a way to improve the club. Don't keep a secret. Think my latest class was a waste of time and you want your 2 bucks back? Say so here.

**SERIOUSLY** I've been the editor for the past **two years** and have asked for your input in (I think) every issue. **Two years!** Know how many members have responded?

**ONE** - That's how many. So if you have a suggestion, something to say, or something to sell, write to me and it will get published. I'll keep your name in confidence if you request it. Remember, this is **YOUR** club.

# Last Page

A blast from the past. Dave Krebs, an old friend from the Lorain Wheelmen found this picture of the two of us riding together circa 1979 or so. He says it's on 511 near Kipton and I have no reason to doubt him, especially with my memory.

OK, let's see...where was I? Oh yeah!

Like the helmets and the short shorts? How 'bout the moustache? I don't know who's on the tandem but Dave is on my wheel taking shelter as usual.



Thanks for the picture, Dave.

# Rollin<sup>2</sup>

*Newsletter of Silver Wheels Cycling Club, Inc. August 15, 2012*

*Due to technical difficulties, some articles were omitted from the earlier August Rollin'. It's easy to blame all problems on computers... so we do.*

*Anyway, here are a few articles of club interest that tried to be included but never made it to the etherworld on time.*

## **Coupling Reserve Labor Day Weekend August 31-September 1**

The club is renewing an old tradition by celebrating the Labor Day Weekend with an overnight trip to Coupling Reserve. We used to do this annually but, as with many things, it slipped away in lieu of other pursuits. With a whole flock of new members now we thought we would enjoy this trip again this year.

Coupling Reserve is actually a park managed by the Erie County Metroparks system. It is located on Route 13 a few miles south of Huron, a few miles north of Milan. It is a unique facility in that it includes a rehabbed train station that serves as meeting place, kitchen, dining room, and has lavatory and shower facilities. The stone fireplace offers a warm atmosphere and an ambiance akin to a lodge.

The sleeping quarters consist of train cars outfitted with bunk beds that will sleep up to 23 people, according to their brochure. The beds are complete only with a 4" foam pad – users supply their own covers and pillows, as desired. These are not luxury quarters by any stretch of the imagination.

The facility is located right on the Huron River, a few hundred feet downhill. Some canoes come with the rental of the place; our kayaking group will surely want to take advantage of the launching spot.

The "agenda" for the weekend usually goes like this:

1. Arrive anytime Friday before dinner time. (Earliest check-in is 3 p.m. but often it is available much earlier.) Early arrivers can go for a ride or float on the river. Dinner will be served around 6:30 or 7. the evening can be spent playing board games, making s'mores at the fire ring in back, or visiting one of the nearby wineries (4 are nearby).
2. Saturday will include a simple breakfast then usually a ride (around 6 miles) into Milan to partake in the Milan Melon Festival, featuring melon ice cream, rides, a parade, plenty of deep fried food.

cont'd

## Coupling Reserve Labor Day Weekend August 31-September 1

Continued from p.1

3. After the festival visit, some may want to return to the Reserve and go floating on the river, while others may want to explore more of the area on bikes. (A variety maps will be provided.)

4. For Saturday evening another ride is often enjoyed or people make more s'mores and gab around the fire ring or drive to another winery. It is very open-ended and the group decides among all what activity to do.

5. Sunday morning after breakfast another ride or more floating can be enjoyed or folks just return home. Departure needs to be completed after the place is cleaned up and finished before about 11 a.m.

The cost is one of the nicest features: Lodging is \$6 per person per night (we already have it secured for both nights) and meals are usually about \$5 per meal, which will cover some snacks too. Normally people bring plenty of snacks and beverages so this figure may vary. You are expected to pay your lodging fee ahead of time while the meal cost will be determined onsite depending on how many meals in or out are chosen.

If you are planning to participate, send your lodging fee (\$6 per night per person) to Kathy Yourkiewicz and inform her if you are staying Friday and/or Saturday nights. Anyone camping should plan to pay the same amount. Deadline for payment is Wednesday, August 29. We need to know how many are coming which days so meal plans can be made. We also have to pay the Metroparks the balance of the deposit.

Here is a link to Coupling Reserve online site.  
<http://milanarea.com/couplingreserve.htm>

Questions? Contact Ed Stewart  
emsc0514@gmail.com

## Annual Silver Wheels Elections Coming in October-November

Each year our board of directors has elections of officers and directors, as determined by our Constitution and Bylaws. The president appoints a Nominating Chairperson who in turn finds others in the membership to help seek out interested and qualified persons to serve the club. This year's Nominating Committee is headed by Past President Joe Etzler.

The positions for election this year include President and Vice President, plus two Director at Large positions. The current holders of these seats include Ed Stewart – President, Cindi Conrad – Vice President, Director – Rich Kolofer, and Director – Gary Schmitt. Our practice in the past has been to give precedence to current holders of office if they wish to continue for another two-year term.

Any member in good standing is eligible for an office. However, for persons interested in one of the offices (president, vice president, secretary or treasurer) it is preferred that they have at least one year experience in serving on the Silver Wheels Board (not required, only preferred). Persons interested in serving as a Director should have been a member for at least one full year (not required, only preferred).

If you are interested in serving the club as a voting member of the board, you should contact Joe Etzler directly. He may ask you for your qualifications and reasons why you are interested in serving so his committee can come up with a slate of members to nominate. All procedures for nomination and election are written into our Constitution and Bylaws, which are available on the club website.

## **Dog Days Wine Tour Participants Say Thanks**

Here are some of the unsolicited remarks that were emailed to the club by participants in this year's Dog Days Wine Tour. Since Ed Stewart's email address is the only one showing for the contact, they were sent to him, but intended for the whole club. All volunteers should take equal pride in these remarks.

*"Just wanted to thank you for a wonderful, well organized ride! What a great group of volunteers you have. The food was great! The beautiful weather was also a real bonus! Can you arrange for the same weather next year???"*

*This was our third time at your event and as always we really enjoyed ourselves. Thanks, again!"*

**Wendy and Gary Bourn**

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*"Hi Ed,*

*Just wanted to pass on our thoughts after driving from Cincinnati to enjoy your DDWT. EVERY volunteer that we came in contact with was friendly and helpful. Thanks to all of them for their efforts in making this an enjoyable day. The route was very well marked...never had to use the cue sheet. Love the design of your logo. The BBQ was delicious & plentiful. All of the rest stops had real bathrooms...no portajohns."*

**Bob Rich**

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*Our thanks to you and the Silver Wheels Bicycle Club for the great ride on Saturday. We enjoyed the dog Days of Wine Tour and hope to be back again next year. The hard work of all of the club members and volunteers was not only evident but greatly appreciated. It could not have been nicer.*

*Please tell your SAG captain that we were able to find Jackalope and enjoyed dinner and the sunset over lake Erie Saturday night. Everyone was so nice and we appreciated the hospitality.*

*Thanks again and congratulations on a very successful event."*

**Denise and Mark Kelly**

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*"Ed - What a wonderful day (and week end) we had at Dog Days. Our ride was perfect, very leisurely. And then there were those imaginary rollers. The food was delicious."*

**Sue and Tom Williams**

## More thanks from our guests

*“Ed, Just wanted to tell you that my husband, my daughter and myself all came to the Dog Days ride this past Saturday. It was the first time that any of us had been on a “tour.” Your group is really well organized and we could tell that everything from parking to lunch, and everything in between, was very well planned. The maps were very helpful. Everyone was very friendly and we had a great time. Thanks. “*

### **Carol Slater - Bowling Green, Ohio**

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*“Hi Ed, wanted to just say thank you to you and all the volunteers....the bike tour was a blast this past weekend ;-) I wanted to say hi to you but each time I saw you....you were talking to someone and didn't want to interrupt!*

*Next year if we take the tour again....we might bring some friends ;-)*

*Thank you for everything and everyone was very nice!!”*

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*“just wanted to let you know that this was my husband and my 4th year of riding the Dog Days Tour and wanted to let you know that it never ceases to impress! We ride several rides throughout Northeast Ohio and the Dog Days ride is always one of the most organized and pleasurable rides every year! Also, as a vegan I appreciate the many non-meat options available. We can't wait for next year.*

*Thanks and thanks for another great ride!”*

### **Kris Giaimo**

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*“This was my first Dog Days ride, actually my first organized ride! I really loved the ride! I had an unfortunate accident at the Depot in Oberlin with several bumps, scrapes and bruises. There was damage to my bike that required repairs, but with all of the great support and help from the members of the bike club, I was back on the road and completed the 40 mile ride! Chris from Swerve Bike Shop went above and beyond even loaning me a new seat to allow me to complete the ride. I needed to be transported to the bike shop for additional repairs to my bike and was back on the road in no time! What a great group of people! My thanks to everyone that helped! “*

### **Chris Jackson**

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*Ed:*

*“It was a great time, thanks for all your work!”*

### **Terence W. Hunady**

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