

# **"Springbike is a local cycling club..."**



October  
2002

## **Club Officers & Committees**

### **President:**

Ann-Marie Shy  
581-4757

### **Vice President**

Gary Day  
581-6390

### **Secretary**

Carol Gough

### **Treasurer**

Tony Miller

### **Program Director**

James Allen

### **Special Event Route Organizer**

Kevin Umlauf

### **Membership**

Jim Freeman  
724-2701

### **Advocacy Committee**

Bruce Adib-Yazdi 881-8510  
badib@swbell.net

**Tube Editor** Kathy Hudgens  
khudgens@sprynet.com

**Webmaster** Steve Hargis  
[www.springbike.org](http://www.springbike.org)

Deadlines for The  
Tube are the 20th  
of each month.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Oct 1** First Tuesday  
--Monthly Meeting at  
the Library Center

**Oct 5** -- Our Fall Ride  
**Oct. 5 & 6** --Octagonia  
[www.lawrencebicycleclub.org/](http://www.lawrencebicycleclub.org/) (thanks to  
Sue Kidd for this tip)

**Oct 29** --Our Halloween  
Ride

**Dec 8th** --Toys for Tots  
Motorcycle Ride  
benefit

## **FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DUDE**

**H**ope you all had a great season with plenty of cycling accomplishments to talk about. I have not been able to submit this article for the last few months because of a number of reasons. Main among those was computer problems. However, my computer problems have been rectified, all members should be on the mailing list, and all membership cards should be sent out. If you, or anyone you know is having a problem, please let me know.

Our present membership is 220 paid households. This figure is down about 80 from a year ago. A few have told me that they are not renewing because they know the ride routes, they can get the tube from the internet, and no one is checking to see if they are members when they show up for sponsored rides. So why belong to Springbike??? ***For the advocacy for cyclist in the Ozarks!*** The more

members we have, the stronger voice we have. If you have contact with any cyclist who decided to not renew membership or join Springbike, please tell them that cycling advocacy is important to cyclist in the Ozarks, and Springbike can provide a voice for cycling advocacy. By the way, soon the tube will not be available on the internet until it is two months old.

### **ONE HARRIED HOT HELLUVA WEEK**

Early in the afternoon of August 16th, I was riding east on Catalpa. Suddenly a pick up truck pulled across in front of me. My immediate thought was "Opps, I'm Dead." But from somewhere in the back of my mind came a bit of information I had read. "When a vehicle pulls across in front of you, you should try to turn and go with it." Well, that is just what I attempted to do. I guess it must have worked because I ain't

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**..whose purpose is to  
promote enjoyable safe cycling..**

## **Advocacy Committee**

**T**he July AC meeting focused on defining goals: capital improvement help plan; a master bike route plan; bike safety and education; Sunday afternoon ride routes and weekly route rides. It was noted that the club would need to actively help promote cycling education. Options of a certified instructor were also discussed.

If you are interested in attending an AC meeting, please call Bruce and leave your phone number so he can let you know of the meetings. Bruce can be reached at 881-8510 or email [badib@swbell.net](mailto:badib@swbell.net).

...summary by Kathy Hudgens

**..for the members and the community."**

## From Terry Walden

**H**i, I just thought I would provide some information about a 2 day "Recumbent Rally" which took place in Topeka, Kansas the weekend of June 22 and 23.

This article is not meant to persuade anyone to convert to a recumbent bike. It is just provided as information for those who might like to try riding from a different angle and to add reading material to the "Tube".

This rally was put on by a bike shop in Topeka called "Tailwind Cycling & Fitness". It was their first attempt at having such an event, and I am glad they did, because before this I had not heard of this bike shop. It is a fantastic bike shop to find any type of bike. But, this particular shop's owners and workers not only sell recumbents, but they also avidly ride them. They know all the peculiar characteristics about recumbents and can advise you in your search for the right model. They had selections from Vision, Lightning, Easy Racer, Rans, Bike E, Cannondale, the new Bacchetta(which is the one I came to test ride), and many more.



Bacchetta's Strada (steel left), Ti-Aero (titanium right) with John Schlitter (co-designer/promoter) and his wife.



One of three rows of recumbent bikes in the shop.

This place is the closest of any bike shop I know of with this many models of recumbents to test ride, and with knowledgeable people that ride the products they sell. There were none here in Springfield when I was wanting to try the Easy Racers Gold Rush that I have now. Gardner Martin, the owner of Easy Racers called a guy in St. Louis that he had just sold one to and asked whether I could come up there to see it and possibly try it out. I also went out to the factory that builds Rans recumbents in Hays, Kansas to check their bikes out. In short, I did quite a bit of traveling and reading Recumbent Cycling News' buyers guide on recumbents before I finally chose which one I wanted.

There were 25 people that sent in registrations for the rally. Most riders were from Topeka. The first day consisted of a short ride(about 18 miles) through the historical spots of Topeka. What a sight to see 25 to 30

recumbent bikes going down the main roads of Topeka. We got quite a few looks from motorists and bystanders. But, it was good advertisement for the bike shop since on both Saturday and Sunday there were many people coming in to try the bikes.

The lead rider for the first day was a cyclist who was a real estate agent/historian. The ride was a very relaxing and interesting ride as we stopped at different points and he told the stories that went along with some of the old histori-





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cal homes and businesses. We had a small breakfast break during this ride on the grounds of the capitol building. After the ride and back at the bike shop, we all got to try the different bikes. The Bacchetta's are designed by 3 former upright racing cyclists(one an engineer) who are attempting to build a recumbent that has both wheels the same size(time trial size), similar road feel and handling to a diamond frame bike, and light weight (22lbs for the ti version). I rode the titanium model, and it was much different than my long bike, but still may prove to be just as fast especially with the lighter weight and aggressive riding position for doing hills. After riding all the bikes most everyone left to go the BBQ dinner that was being prepared at the local lake, "Lake Shawnee". That is where I camped with my sons. We biked back and forth to the lake which added another 14 miles to our first days ride.

The second day was supposed to have 3 different ride lengths of 20, 40, and 60 miles. I guess I was the only one who signed up for the 60 mile ride because they cut the rides back to 20 and 47 miles. It was a beautiful day and the scenery was great. And, there are hills in Kansas too. I took a picture from the top of one just for proof.

For a first attempt at holding a recumbent rally, I think they were successful. I believe there is plans to have one each year as long as



The highest hill top before I went down. Reached 50mph.  
Then had uphill to get back out.

participation is good. If anyone would like to visit Topeka sometime and go by the Tailwind bike shop here is there address:

3723 SW Plaza Drive  
Topeka, KS 66611  
phone: (785)266-1166  
e-mail:  
tailwind@networksplus.net

See ya' out at the rides--  
by Terry Walden

Terry on the new EZ Sport by Easy Racers



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 dead. As I turned the corner beside the truck, I remember the bike sliding and my shoulder coming in contact with the truck. Next thing I know, I was trying to get up. Someone, turned out to be the driver of the truck, was yelling "I'm Sorry," and someone was trying to keep me from getting up. I got a fun ride in an ambulance, while my head was strapped to a board, was checked from head to toe, and it was decided that I had only sus-

tained a slight concussion, a little road rash, and some great bruises. What can I say, I was lucky as hell. My bike, my helmet and my Camel Back bladder, on the other hand was toast. I was scheduled to leave for the Hotter N' Hell Hundred in just six days, and no bike. Thanks to the crew at Sunshine Bike Shop, and an understanding insurance adjuster, I was able to go to Wichita Falls, Texas and finish the Hotter N Hell on a new Bianchi Giro. So when you see me on my new shiny

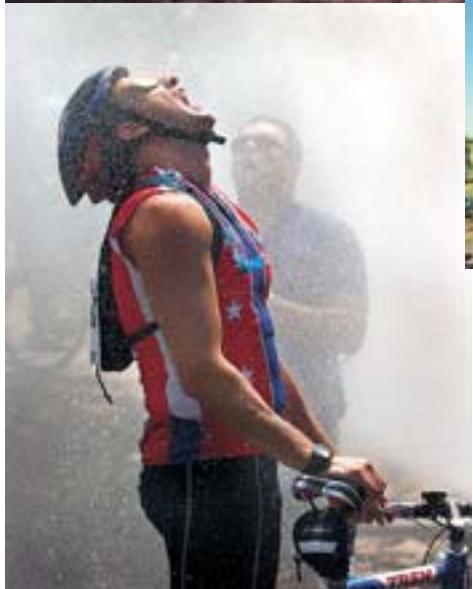
red bike, you will know. I honestly got it the HARD WAY!!!!!!

Jim Freeman



## Hotter 'n Hell

**Y**es it was! This was my first Texas Hotter 'n Hell ride. 10 gallon Stetson's adorned traffic controllers, smashed rattlers adorned the road. Sagebrush, mesquite, sandy thorn infested soil, prickly pear cactus and blasts of oven-hot air raged across that flat flat land. I knew that without the help of the rest stop volunteers and their buckets of ice water and iced towels, I would not have been able to make even the 5 miles to the next stop. I have never experienced cycling in heat such as this! So-o-o...



Until next year--

Kathy Hudgens

"At Aaron Wm. Sachs & Associates, P.C., we are so committed to helmet safety that we sell helmets below cost at \$5 each. We are pleased to team up with the Traffic Safety Alliance of the Ozarks to provide this community project... Call 889-1400 to arrange a time for helmet selection and fitting."



3259 E Ridgeview, Springfield, MO



## Great News for KATY Trail Users

By Terry Whaley

**F**or many years it has been a mystery to users of the Katy Trail why there was never a bike-friendly connection between one of Missouri's most visited state parks and our capitol city. The Missouri River and its Highway 54 bridges have never been inviting to cyclist visiting the Katy and possibility wishing to visit, dine, or lodge in Jefferson City. Past indifference in state decision makers is starting to make a move toward correcting this lack of foresight.

Word on the trail front is that MoDOT is looking at changing out the current "unfriendly" drainage grates on the north bound bridge to a bike-friendly grate design and identifying a bike zone across the bridge and its approaches. This work is funded and scheduled for completion next spring.

Because of existing lane width, the newer southbound bridge presents a greater challenge. The solution appears to be the addition of a cantilever structure to be added to the bridge. Funding of \$4 million is earmarked for this work thru the states share of federal transportation enhancement



funds. There is still a need to identify a \$1 million local match to get this project off the ground. Several state agencies are working together to identify possible funding sources, and update costs estimates. An ambitious goal for spring of 2004 has been discussed for having this improvement finished. There is also ongoing discussion about reducing the current speed limit on the bridges also for not only cycling safety but auto safety as well.

The KATY Trail enjoys a wide range of cyclists from across the United States and even international visitors. A connection linking the KATY to Jefferson City would add greatly to the possibilities for bicycle touring as the use of Amtrak for shuttle purposes makes for great weekend and extended trips.

Terry Whaley

## Where's the Tube?

**S**ome of you may have noticed we do not have a recent Tube online. This is a note of explanation.

August: we had no newsletter because your editor was on RAGBRAI. (Remember me and the pig pix last month?) If someone would like to be a backup editor, that would probably help prevent skips in the Tube --anyone interested? Otherwise, I'll get out the Tube as info is available for it and if I'm home.

September's Tube has been held for online viewing as a decision by the Exec committee. At this time, the Tube will be held for 2 months before being offered online. Your feedback is welcome. Please notice our next meeting will be October 1, the **first** Tuesday of the month, at the Library Center. This date was changed regretfully due to scheduling difficulties.

Kathy Hudgens editor



## Treasurer's Report 8/902

Beginning Bal:	\$4116.72
Income.....	.00
Disbursements .....	245.08
Total .....	\$3871.64

...from Tony Miller

Editor's note: Tony has a detailed report available for any questions

## Fall Pickup at Turner's Station

We are invited to the fall highway pickup at Turner's Station. The date is October 12. It goes fast if several show to help --See you there!

From Ray Wageman

## Fall Ride

Springbike's Fall Ride will be a multi-distance Show and Go event starting at Hickory Hills 8:00 AM October 5. Flyers of the route will be available. There will also be limited SAG.



## Halloween Ride

Our annual Halloween Ride will begin 6:15 pm starting at A&B Bike shop October 29. We'll ride out then come back and eat at Churchills