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July 2003

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Cycling in Northeastern Ohio

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“Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell.”

— Edward Abbey



Roast Your Buns Tour

Sponsored by
Lorain Wheelmen
“RAIN or SHINE”
August 3, 2003



The ninth Roast Your Buns Tour will depart from the Oberlin Community Center, Oberlin, OH at 8:00 AM, on Sunday, August 3, 2003. The ride will provide distances of 40, 52, and 70 miles over flat to rolling terrain.

START-FINISH ... The start-finish and registration is at the Community Center just off South Main St., Oberlin OH. If you are driving via the Ohio Turnpike, exit at gate 8 and take Route 57 north to Route 2. Take Route 2 west to the Route 58 exit and take Route 58 south to Oberlin. The Community Center is just off South Main St. (Route 58) a short distance south of Tappan Square. A map of the Oberlin area is available on our Web site at: <http://www.eriecoast.com/~lorainwheelmen>. It's in Adobe Acrobat format.

REGISTRATION ... This is a freebie ride, so no registration is necessary. A donation of 50¢ will be accepted to cover the cost of maps.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS ... are available at the Oberlin Inn, downtown Oberlin. For reservations, call (440) 775-1111. The Country Hearth Inn and Motel 6, located in Amherst, (approx 8 miles north of Oberlin on SR 58 at SR 2. Call (440) 985-1428 or (440) 988-3266 for reservations.

ROUTE ... The route(s) will be the same as last year, with an addition of a 52-mile cut-off on the 70-mile route. Food can be obtained along the route in the communities we pass through. The turn-around for the 70-mile route will be Savannah. This route will be rolling while the 40- & 52-mile routes are mostly flat. It would be a good idea to take a snack with you just in case. There are no restaurants on the 40-mile route without going off the route. You'll pass through Fitchville, New London on the 52-mile route. In addition, you'll go through Savannah on the 70-mile route. These towns have restaurants.

SAG WAGON ... Since this is a freebie, there will be NO SAG service. Your map will provide you with the various emergency phone numbers.

WEATHER ... August weather in Lorain County is usually hot and dry, thus the name for the ride. We could however have a thunderstorm or two, especially in the afternoon.

For more information:

Call: John Bachman (evenings) at 440.988.5016
Snail Mail: Lorain Wheelmen, PO Box 102, Amherst OH 44001-1614
E-Mail: lorainwheelmen@eriecoast.com
Web: http://www.eriecoast.com/~lorainwheelmen/lor_rb.htm



Cleveland Touring Club

Cleveland Touring Club
P.O. Box 32456
Euclid, OH 44132-0456

email: clevetourclub@hotmail.com
www.clevetourclub.org

Welcome To New Members

Greg Rudl of Concord Twp., **Kirt Hyde** of Chardon, **Susan Scott** and **Lawrence Smith** of Chesterland, **Kim Hansen** of Kirtland, **Paul Liss** of Lakewood, **Diane Markel**, **Karen Schneiderman** & **Tracey Messer** of Cleveland Hts., **Kathy Davis** of Shaker Hts. Welcome to the club!

Painting the Town Red

Deep in the gloom of a winter's night the lights burned bright at the Willoughby town hall near North Chagrin as a group of CTC members planned this year's Sunday In June. Buoyed by the prospect of a long bike ride, the likes of which we hadn't seen in six months, three of us volunteered to paint arrows for SIJ by bike: **Freya Turner, Scott Hopkins** and me, **Marty Cooperman**. **Joe Chupek**, more sensibly offered to paint by car.

But that was back in early March. Now the gloom of a wet, overcast spring had left us desperate to ride and a week before SIJ, Freya and I, accompanied by a friend, **Ann Henderson**, rode forth to do battle with the arrows.

A few days before, both **Tom Black** and **Tom Taylor**, as well as overall ride organizer **Anastasia Birosch** were roused by late night phone calls requesting guidance as to arrows spacing, marking turns, and buying spray paint cans. Their assistance was much appreciated.

With a mercifully sunny forecast for Sunday, I had mounted open-topped shopping bag panniers on the tandem and filled them with the paint cans.

Freya, arriving at my house in Cleveland Hts. at 7 AM, suggested that we bring a broom to sweep away debris from the course, but I swept away her suggestion without thinking clearly. Mounting the tandem we set off to the first crucial stop – nearby Bialy's Bagels, source of our sustenance and meeting place with Ann.

Just a few blocks from my house we came upon a distinctive woman running uphill. Recognizing her as the lady who walked home from the Cleveland Clinic as I passed her on my bicycle each day, we slowed for a brief salutation, about all she or we could manage all of us panting on the uphill grade. Moments later we came upon a tree lawn with next week's trash and lying in plain view was a discarded broom. The serendipity was too great and we broke part of the handle to shorten it and bungied it to the tandem's rear rack. Freya was right; it came in very handy.

Two blocks later a fellow in a van hailed us. Recently arrived from California, he owned a tandem too and wanted to know what local clubs welcomed tandems. We proudly told him about the CTC and took his phone number for a future call.

Finally underway again we landed at the doorstep of Bialy's to see Ann happily and hungrily munching away. After loading up with more bagels we headed into the sunrise and the pretty town of Burton, 30 miles distant. On the steep descent into the Chagrin Valley we hit at least 45 mph and Freya's feet became unclipped more than once as we madly spun the pedals.

At the outskirts of Burton Ann split off to paint the 10- and 38-mile loops. She first tested one of the paint cans and got a blue fingernail for her troubles. Freya and I retired to Belle's Restaurant for a bathroom break and coffee. Looking out the restaurant window we spotted the CTC Sunday fast riders all decked out in bright jerseys, having their own break at the gas station across the street. Freya had rubber-banded blue plastic shopping bags over her new fancy shoes to prevent them from being splattered with paint, and as we made our way over to the bunch their welcoming smiles were replaced with consternation as they spotted Freya's bags and they recoiled in horror. Taking this subtle hint, Freya pondered the bags, her brand new fancy cycling shoes, the averted faces of the group and then, resignedly and quietly removed the bags.

With the rustling of the bags gone, the road reverted to the blissful quiet of a rural Sunday morning in Geauga County, punctuated by the odd car and more prevalent clip-clop of Amish buggies. Our tire was nearly punctuated by a remnant piece of silverware, a fork with one tine upturned in the center of the road, giving new menace to the phrase 'a fork in the road'.

We developed a rhythm, dismounting at each turn, Freya with a can in each hand speedily painting her two arrows. We had the 25- and 50-mile routes; red and orange respectively. Who would have thought that a person of such orthodox tastes had such a flair for design. Tapping a hitherto unknown wellspring of artistic talent, Freya painted the most imaginative arrows this ride has yet seen: Modern Art arrows, ancient Aztec arrows, Neolithic arrows, and occasionally wrong arrows. To Freya's credit this did not happen often, and to her greater credit she did not insist on redrawing the maps and rerouting the ride to match the erroneous arrows. Instead the latter were hastily converted into non-directional diamonds and the correct arrows redrawn.

Our greatest challenge came at Parkman, a major rest stop and the convergence of three routes. Trying to indicate the turn into the rest stop, then the exit out in several different directions taxed our imaginations and we finally threw our hands up in the air in exasperation. This had the not entirely unhappy effect of spreading paint in every direction giving a surprisingly accurate notion of the convergence and dispersal of the various routes. I hope you all found your way back. If not, and you're still out there somewhere asking directions from the Amish, just hang on and wait until next June when we'll be back to retrieve you.

As the afternoon drew on I began yet another interminable story which Freya struggled to focus on while stifling a yawn. In the distance she spotted a large bird that landed up ahead behind some brush. I, deeply involved the nuances of my story, failed to notice this and as we approached the spot a huge wild turkey exploded out of the bushes right in front of the bike, scaring me half to death and putting a merciful end to my tale.

On our last leg we hailed a yellow-jacketed Ann in the distance, who had obviously finished her painting and come to look for us following our route in reverse. "Ann," for some reason, failed to return our salutation and it wasn't until the woman passed us that we realized it wasn't her. This was the only other cyclist we saw the entire day. We finally found Ann at the main circle in Burton as we painted the last of the arrows. Freya did a fine job of sweet-talking a Burton policeman who challenged us and our authority to paint. This, occurring as Freya painted the very last arrow, was more funny than serious as the concept of *fait accompli* gradually dawned on him.

Joe Chupek, having finished the morning club ride, returned in a car with his son to the main oval at Burton, just as we were finishing up. He kindly took the remaining paints from us and proceeded to mark the 62-mile route late in the day.

Meanwhile the three of us celebrated our accomplishment by having sweet potato fries and blueberry pie at Belle's Restaurant. Then we faced the hilly ride home. Thirty miles of hills nearly did me in. Coming west on Fairmount Blvd. I had used the last of my energy and Belle's pie climbing out of the Chagrin Valley and as Ann powered up on grade after another it was only Freya's steady pedaling that kept us going. We arrived home around 7 PM, a full 12 hours and 110 miles later.

The following Saturday **Scott Hopkins** and I went over much of the route touching up or repainting arrows that had been faded by road wear and weather. It was distressing to see how much dimmer some arrows were after only a week.

Thanks to all of you who gave advice and time to prepare the road markings for our special ride.

— Marty Cooperman

Ride Schedule

Weekdays

6:30 PM: Tuesday eve large group ride - Concord Woods

7:00 PM: Wednesday eve casual small group ride - North Chagrin

6:30 PM: Thursday eve large group ride - North Chagrin

9:15 AM: 2nd Tuesday every month casual fun rides:

July 8 **Eldon Russell Park** Rapids Road off Rt. 87 just west of Burton.
Ride to Garrettsville for lunch

Aug. 12 **Madison Twp Park** Rt. 528 north to Lake. Ride Ashtabula
Greenway & lunch

Sept. 9 **Polo Field** Chagrin River Rd. Ride South Chagrin Pkwy. to Bridal Falls,
bring food for lunch

Oct. 14 Thompson Square Rt 528 Our annual fall color scenic ride. Lunch
in Thompson

Saturdays

9:00 AM: Pickup ride – North Chagrin

Sundays

July 4 8:30 **North Chagrin** Holiday pickup ride Hilly.
6 8:30 Northfield Center to Hudson (25), Kent (35), Hartville (60) Rolling/hilly.

13 7:00 **North Chagrin** thru downtown & Emerald Necklace (100) all day
ride stopping for quick lunch **or...**

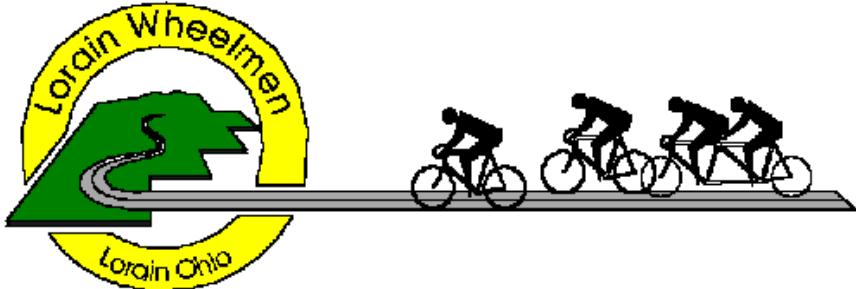
8:30 **Northfield Center** to Akron's Tuba Summer (50) Flat/hilly.

20 Burton to Garrettsville (30), Mantua (40), Ravenna (65) Rolling/hilly.
27 **North Chagrin Hill Challenge** (20,50) Flat/hilly.

Aug. 3 **Lakeshore Reservation** to Madison, Perry (25,40,60) Flat/rolling.

10 **Landerwood Tom Black's Mystery Ride** – Fun.

17 **Peninsula Eric Schultz's 14-Hill Ride** (call 330-659-3274) very hilly
Or **Chardon** to Thompson (30), Harpersfield (50) Rolling/hilly.



July 2003 Calendar

Day	Date	Starting Point	Destination	the etc's
Fri	7/4	Amherst Shupe	A July 4 th U-Show of about 25	
Sun	7/6	Oberlin Inn	Norwalk	could be over 60
Thurs	7/10	Oberlin (Lorenzo's)	Prolog at 6:00 at Lorenzo's Pizza meeting at 7:30	
Sun	7/13	Amherst Shupe	Wellington	50 - An omelet at Cecil's
Sun	7/20	N. Ridgeville	Medina	50 - See the note below
Sun	7/27	Oberlin Inn	Fitchville	55 - breakfast at Jake's
Sun	8/3	Oberlin	ROAST	a freebie invitational

Evening rides ... about 25 miles:

Tuesday rides will start at Prospect School at 6:00 PM

Thursday rides will start at Shupe School at 6:00 PM

Saturday rides will continue from Prospect School and start at 9:00 AM

For you first-timers, Field School is on Root Road, just north of old Route 10 (Butternut Ridge) in North Ridgeville. An easy way to get there from the west is to use the Turnpike and to exit 9. Head west on State Route 10 and Root Road is only about $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile. Field School is on the NW corner. Turn north on Root Road and look to your left ... you'll see it. Another good route is Chestnut Ridge from Elyria to Root Road and go south to the school.

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Seventh Annual

Chippewa Creek Road Race

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2003

BRECKSVILLE, OHIO

OFFICIAL RACE RESULTS

* * *

Category 5/Citizen Men (overall placing followed by placing in parenthesis for top 3 in 12-18, 35-44, and 45+ age categories; winners in bold): 1. Joseph Cech (Lake Effect Racing), 25, Shaker Hts. OH, 20.2 miles in 53:17 (22.7 mph); 2. Andrew Zepp (Team Dayton), 33, Vandalia OH; 3. Don Bunker (Stark Velo), 43, Apple Creek OH; 4. Rob Tandy (Allied Decal/Summit Freewheelers), 26, Cleveland Hts. OH; 5. Wesley Jones (unattached), 32, Orrville OH; 6. Chuck Boulware (unatt.), 28, Brecksville OH; 7. Brian Shirilla (unatt.), 33, Poland OH; 8. Nick Favorite (Pista Elite), 22, Garfield Hts. OH; 9. Michael Bonomo (unatt.), 23, Hudson OH; 10. Geoff Zylstra (unatt.), 32, Cleveland Hts. OH; 11. Jeff Cartledge, (unatt.), 21, Brecksville OH; 12. David Schneider (Snake Bite Racing), 30, Akron OH; 13. Jason Rapp (unatt.), 31, Cleveland OH; **14. (1) David Berlekamp (Lake Effect), 18, North Royalton OH; 15. (1) Tom Keller (unatt.), 39, South Euclid OH;** 16. Stephen Caminati (unatt.), 22, Solon OH; 17. Brett Davis (unatt.), 33, University Hts. OH; 18. Doug Foley (unatt.), 33, Cleveland OH; **19. (2) Trey Shively (unatt.), 36, Broadview Hts. OH;** 20. Matt Tuskan (unatt.), 28, Cleveland OH; **21. (3) Ed Asher (unatt.), 40, Chagrin Falls OH;** 22. David Steiner (unatt.), 26, Cleveland Hts. OH; 23. Brian Schneider (unatt.), 38, Parma OH; **24. (1) Ron Waggoner (Orrville Cycling Club), 53, Wooster OH;** 25. Todd Guenther (unatt.), 33, Cleveland Hts. OH; 26. (2) David Drabison (unatt.), 48, Youngstown OH; **27. (2) Jared Zabrosky (unatt.), 17, Broadview Hts. OH;** 28. (3) Reid Curry (Pista), 16, Shaker Hts. OH; 29. (3) Kevin Brumagin (unatt.), 47, Girard PA; 30. Jeremy Bosl (Pyro Apparel/PDQ Cleveland), 15, Berea OH; 31. Bruce Abbott (unatt.), 48, Marietta OH; 32. Rick Simmons (unatt.), 44, Garfield Hts. OH; 33. Denis Celleghin (unatt.), 41, Beachwood OH; 34. Anthony Kramer (unatt.), 26, Cranesville PA; 35. Mark Carrabine (unatt.), 51, Solon OH; 36. David Kovach (PDQ), 41, Cleveland OH; 37. Shayne Zuk (Pista), 15, Berea OH; 38. Brian Smith (Pista), 15, Olmsted Twp. OH; 39. Bernie Krzys (unatt.), 62, Valley City OH (43 starters).

Women: 1. Sally Price (Tri-Tech Multisport), 32, Cuyahoga Falls OH, 20.2 miles in 1:06:15 (18.5 mph); 2. Rebecca Leidy (Allied/Summit), 34, Fairlawn OH; 3. Jane Evely (Tri-Tech), 34, Kent OH; 4. Catherine Scott (Allied/ Summit), 31, Wooster OH; 5. Annie Malouin (East Suburban Sports Medicine), 26, Niles OH, all s.t.; 6. Judy Carroll (Tri-Tech), 62, Kent OH, at 2:53; 7. Karen Zepp (Team Dayton), 33, Vandalia OH, at 6:20 (7 starters).

Men 35-44 (Cat. 2-5): 1. Matt Brungard (Mahoning Valley Cycling), 35, New Middletown OH, 28.4 miles in 1:15:50 (22.4 mph); 2. Glenn Snyder (Pittsburgh Masters Velo Club), 44, Pittsburgh PA; 3. Tom Frueh (Torelli/ Team Columbus), 37, Sagamore Hills OH; 4. Jim Yankush (MVC), 43, North Lima OH; 5. Sal Ponzio (MVC), 44, Girard OH; 5. John Lorson (Orrville CC), 39, Orrville OH; 6. Craig Nivens (Presque Isle Cycling Club), 44, Erie PA; 7. Jeff Grzybowski (Tri-Tech), 39, South Euclid OH; 8. Ed Hoffmeier (unatt.), 39, University Hts. OH; 9. Brian Stem (Guinness Cycling Team/All Ireland Racing), 36, Kirtland OH; 10. Michael Maring (Revolutions Cycling Club/Kwik Fill Red Apple), 44, Erie PA; 11. John Fiumara (MVC), 44, New Middletown OH; 12. Derek Wilford (Lake Effect), 43, Euclid OH; 13. Dave Garrett (PDQ), 38, Parma Hts. OH; 14. Bob Riffle (ESSM), 38, Freedom PA; 15. Lawrence Tafe (unatt.), 38, Shaker Hts. OH; 16. Tom Price (Guinness), 43, University Hts. OH; 17. Tom Eberlein (PICC), 41, Erie PA; 18. Doug Williamson (PMVC), 44, Pittsburgh PA; 19. Rick Pudoka (Team Glenwood), 43, Clinton OH; 20. Brad Lang (unatt.), 44, Transfer PA; 21. Brad Hansen (M & M's/Team Akron), 43, Akron OH; 22.

Mitchell Tallan (Savage Hill), 44, Pickerington OH; 23. Jeff Paul (ESSM), 40, Washington PA (25 starters). **Men 45+ (Cat. 2-4):** 1. Rudy Sroka (Lake Effect), 46, North Royalton OH, 28.4 miles in 1:15:50 (22.4 mph); 2. Larry Pandy (Glenwood), 47, Concord Twp. OH; 3. Karl Kule (Glenwood), 50, Chesterland OH; 4. Jeff Plas (PDQ), 46, La Grange OH, s.t.; 5. Peter Friel (Torelli), 46, Columbus OH; 6. John Eldred (PDQ), 46, Lakewood OH; 7. Alan Wenger (MVC), 51, North Lima OH; 8. Dick Brink (Guinness), 48, Cleveland Hts. OH; 9. John Hayden (PDQ), 48, Westlake OH; 10. George Liolios (SFW), 55, Munroe Falls OH; 11. Phil Brozier (MVC), 50, Mineral Ridge OH; 12. Tom Clayton (MVC), 46, Youngstown OH; 13. Dennis Kershner (Lippert Sports Cycling), 53, Sand Lake MI, at 1 lap (14 starters).

Cat. 4 Men: 1. Hector Colon (MVC), 29, Mineral Ridge OH, 28.4 miles in 1:16:43 (22.2 mph); 2. Mark Jackobs (unatt.), 37, Shaker Hts. OH; 3. Jack Sutte (unatt.), 30, Cleveland OH; 4. Phil Hines (unatt.), 35, Sharpsville PA; 5. Jeffrey Hobbs (unatt.), 27, Lewis Center OH; 6. Mark Bergman (Orrville CC), 33, Medina OH; 7. Todd Bolgrin (Snake Bite), 27, Stow OH; 8. John Raffo (unatt.), 26, Vermilion OH; 9. Will Koehler (Savage Hill Cycling Club), 36, Columbus OH; 10. Kevin Ward (Lake Effect), 27, Euclid OH; 11. Larry Pesyna (Savage Hill), 39, Westerville OH; 12. James Mock (Kwik Fill), 29, Johnstown PA; 13. Scott Thor (Stark Velo), 32, North Canton OH; 14. Ken Hiller (Lake Effect), 31, Broadview Hts. OH; 15. Glen Hance (TMS/Ultimate Sports), 47, Kennerdell PA; 16. Brian Differnabcher (Lake Effect), 34, Broadview Hts. OH; 17. Steve Heibel (Lake Effect), 34, North Royalton OH; 18. Bill Marut (Lake Effect), 39, Painesville OH; 19. Mike Vega (Team Akron), 35, Fairview Park OH; 20. Bill Gotberg (ACA/Cycleworks), 42, Bethel Park PA; 21. Tom Minturn (Miami University), 22, Cincinnati OH; 22. Mike Schiltz (Stark Velo), 35, North Canton OH; 23. James McCain (Kwik Fill), 34, Erie PA; 24. Woody Patrick (Savage Hill), 41, Columbus OH; 25. David Young (Orrville CC), 34, Norwalk OH; 26. Eric Collander (PDQ), 37, Oberlin OH; 27. Aaron Seipel (Savage Hill), 27, Canal Winchester OH; 28. John Crawford (North Hills Velo), 40, Bethel Park PA; 29. Paul Stock (Savage Hill), 35, Grove City PA; 30. Eric Virostek (Allied/Summit), 33, Stow OH (32 starters).

Category 1-3 Men: 1. Mike House (West Virginia-Gomart Elite Cycling Team), 19, Helena OH, 36.4 miles in 1:31:38 (23.7 mph); 2. Jeff Braumberger (WV Elite), 41, Mansfield OH, at 0:12; 3. Paul Martin (WV Elite), 31, North Royalton OH, at 1:55; 4. Brian Batke (Torelli), 43, Novelty OH, s.t.; 5. Tris Hopkins (Torelli), 38, Stow OH, at 2:13; 6. Dave Chernosky (Torelli), 37, Westlake OH, at 3:04; 7. Brett Bailor (Lake Erie Velo), 25, Erie PA; 8. Ryan Gamm (WV Elite), 22, Chagrin Falls OH; 9. Ryan Borcz (TMS), 22, Prospect PA; 10. Shawn Adams (Allied/Summit), 29, Akron OH; 11. Jeremy Grimm (Team Akron), 28, Orrville OH; 12. Jonathan Matey (TMS), 27, Oil City PA; 13. John Lowry (Stark Velo), 34, North Canton OH; 14. Ray Russell (Cycleworks/ACA), 44, Beaver PA; 15. Ryan Rish (Savage Hill), 29, Newark OH; 16. Abel Donka (Lake Effect), 26, Toledo OH; 17. Stefan Kadar (M & M's/Team Akron), 27, Brook Park OH; 18. Jordan Harrelson (Savage Hill), 42, Worthington OH; 19. Chris Cioccio (Lake Erie Velo), 31, Erie PA, all s.t.; 20. John Oshlick (Lake Erie Velo), 23, Erie PA, at 3:25; 21. James Rochette (PVR Bike Club), 31, Fairview Park OH, at 3:33; 22. Jim Cunningham Jr. (PDQ), 31, Fairview Park OH, s.t.; 23. Craig Mattern (Tri-Tech), 29, Columbus OH, at 4:25; 24. Russ Folger (Tri-Tech), 26, Columbus OH, s.t.; 25. Mike Culley (unatt.), 33, Grove City PA, at 9:12; 26. Bryan Routledge (ACA/Cycleworks), 38, Pittsburgh PA; 27. Steve Paletti (Savage Hill), 35, Worthington OH, both s.t.; 28. Marcus Tullio (Team Akron), 24, Kent OH, at 12:25; 29. Frank Corbett (ACA), 45, McMurray PA; 30. Polo Fernandez (Team Akron), 35, Rocky River OH, both at 1 lap (36 starters).

KOM: House, 19 pts.; Hopkins, 11; Braumberger, 5.

Promoter: Charles Howe.

Officials: Dan Gabelman (Chief Referee), Gary Bywaters (Chief Judge).

Sponsors: PYROapparel; Ohio School Pictures; Saturn of Middleburg Heights; Bike Authority; Century Cycles.

2003 Westlake Race Series

— Season standings* as of June 16 —

“A” Race

RANK	TOTAL	LAST	FIRST	TEAM	HOMETOWN
1	60	Chernosky	Dave	Team Columbus	Westlake
2	50	Frueh	Tom	Team Columbus	Sagamore Hills
3	47	Kadar	Stefan	Team Akron	Brookpark
4	45	Grimm	Jeremy	Team Akron	Orrville
5	21	Hansen	Brad	Team Akron	Akron
6	20	Batke	Brian	Team Columbus	Novelty
7	19	Cunningham Jr.	Jim	PDQ Cleveland	Fairview Park
8	18	Sroka	Rudy	Lake Effect Racing	North Royalton
9	17	Baldesare	Jim	Team West Virginia	Kent
10	16	Hopkins	Tris	Team Columbus	Kent
11	9	Riccardi	Chris	Guinness	Parma
12	8	Dieringer	Zak	Lake Effect Racing	Lakewood
13	6	Gilmore	Jim	Summit Freewheelers	Cuyahoga Falls
14	4	Brink	Dick	Guinness	Cleveland Heights
tie	4	Fernandez	Robert	Team Akron	Broadview Heights
tie	4	Martin	Paul	Team West Virginia	North Royalton
17	3	House	Mike	West Virginia Elite	Helena
tie	3	Young	Wesley	Great Lakes Racing	Cleveland Heights
19	1	Perera	Nick	Great Lakes Racing	Cleveland Heights

“B” Race

RANK	TOTAL	LAST	FIRST	TEAM	HOMETOWN
1	46	Rapp	Jason	Pyro Racing	Cleveland
2	40	Hlavaty	Mike	Summit Freewheelers	Jeromesville
3	30	Guggenheim	Dan	Cleveland Chaos	Cleveland Heights
4	27	Collander	Eric	PDQ Cleveland	Oberlin
5	25	Bonomo	Michael	unattached	Hudson
6	21	Keller	Tom	Pyro Racing	South Euclid
7	18	Marcosson	Alan	PDQ Cleveland	Cleveland
8	14	Miranda	Pat	Snakebite Racing	Valley City
9	11	Tuskan	Matthew	Pyro Racing	Cleveland
10	10	Ward	Kevin	unattached	Euclid
tie	10	Hayden	John	PDQ Cleveland	Westlake
12	6	Eldred	John	PDQ Cleveland	Lakewood
tie	6	Berlekamp	David	Lake Effect Racing	North Royalton
14	4	Favorite	Nick	unattached	Garfield Heights
15	2	Grimm	Bob	Team Akron	Marshallville
tie	2	Madison	Mike	PDQ Cleveland	Cleveland Heights

* Provided by Race Promoter Chris Riccardi: chris16@stratos.net



**P.O. Box 844
Medina, OH 44258
www.medinabikeclub.org**

Contact the following for information

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Treasurer:	Glen Hinegardner	330-725-8430	biker10260@aol
Ride Coord.	Tom Byerly	330-723-4782	teberly@lxdesign.com
Ride Coord.	Carl Bidinger	330-336-5190	crbidinger@westfieldgrp.com
Secretary:	Dave Ling	330-725-3974	db13000@aol.com
Mtb Coord.	Dave Towne	330-321-8758	djtowne@earthlink.net

Tuesday Night Rides

Starting at 6:30 pm (Pace: Moderate 12 - 15+ mph)

Starting Points:

April -	Medina County Career Center
May -	Medina County Career Center
June -	Buckeye Woods County Park
July -	Hubbard Valley Park
Aug -	Plaza 71 Route 18 & 71
Sept -	Buckeye Woods County Park

Sunday Morning Rides

Starting at 9:00 am (April & October) and
8:00 am (May through September)

Starting Point:

Historic Medina Square. Please park in the Courthouse Parking Lot –
At Jefferson and E. Liberty St. off the Square.

**BICYCLE HELMETS REQUIRED ON ALL
OFFICIAL CLUB RIDES**

Club Notes

The newly designed MCBC Jerseys are now available. These great looking Jerseys are available in small to 2Xlarge, and cost \$55. To place an order please contact me, Shawn, at the above number or email address. I will also bring some to the Tuesday night club rides for you to check out, if it ever stops raining. If you pre ordered a Jersey and have not gotten it yet call me so we can make arrangements.

Speaking of Tuesday night club rides, we will be riding from Hubbard Valley Park in July. Hubbard Valley is located about 5 miles south of the square. To get there take Route 3 south to Blake Road, turn left to Hubbard Valley, turn right and the park will be on your right. So far the weather on Tuesdays has not been cooperating so I have been contemplating moving the start point to JoJo's this way we can get to the $\frac{1}{2}$ -price burgers and \$1 Coronas faster.

Most importantly Saturday July 19 is the Ice Cream Odyssey. Come on out for a great ride through Medina and Wayne Counties beautiful rolling terrain with Premium Ice Cream at all rest stops. When you finish we will have the grills fired up to prepare your post ride feast and, for dessert, more ice cream! Come on out and support your club!



Women's Cycling Apparel



We offer a complete selection of women's cycling clothing & accessories, from more than 40 top brands.

www.TeamEstrogen.com

Pedaling To Pittsburgh or the Blind Leading the Blind

by Martin Cooperman

I looked at the email with growing interest. The Why Not Adventure? Group, a mix of local Cleveland area cyclists from several bike clubs who also hike during the winter, sent a note about Pedal Pittsburgh. This is a one-day bike ride through Pittsburgh's neighborhoods. I'd never cycled in Pittsburgh and it caught my eye.

It also tickled my memory.

Last winter a fellow named **Tony Ratajczak** came to a Lake Erie Wheeler's meeting and talked about mapping a connector route between the Adventure Cycling northern tier (Oregon-Maine) and the Great Allegheny Passage, from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C. He noticed a 'small' gap between the two and decided to map it. The map became a small booklet that he sold and I bought. So did **Tom Nezovich**.

A farfetched idea began to form. What about pedaling to Pittsburgh and then Pedaling Pittsburgh?

Tony's small gap looked small enough on a map of the eastern U.S. but the route plotted out to be roughly 150 miles door to door. The western terminus of Tony's route was in Cleveland's eastern suburbs. I live not far from there.

My tastes in travel tend towards the rustic. My short cycling trips favor guerilla camping. In rural areas this is pretty easy, where scattered woodlands, parks and pavilions abound. I had my plans all set, just a camping pad and sleep sheet and a change of clothes in one pannier, Tony's map and a bit of devil-may-care, when Tom ruined it all.

You remember Tom. He last appeared in the second paragraph. He heard I was going to cycle to Pittsburgh and wanted to join me. Now Tom's an excellent cyclist, fine company and sports a brand new Atlantis touring bike. He's done lots of trips like this. But he just couldn't countenance camping. Not just guerilla camping, any camping. Not for such a short trip. He offered a motel instead. I hesitated. He offered to pay for the motel, I stopped hesitating.

To cover 150 hilly miles is doable in a very long day. To arrive by 6 PM refreshed and ready for a group dinner is not. **Paula Adams** from the Group had cleverly reserved room at the Pittsburgh youth hostel, a beautiful old bank at the top of a very steep hill, for the weekend. Saturday evening at 6 PM was dinner. **Cheryl Engel**, recently from Pittsburgh, had arranged a grand tour of "The Strip" an area of specialty food stores, from which everyone would gather the ingredients for the grand potluck that night. Tom and I decided to leave late Friday afternoon.

Following Tony's route took us through lovely, scenic Northeast Ohio roads, through Chagrin Falls, Mantua and finally to Newton Falls where our motel was located. The route was expertly mapped; Tony's directions impeccable. Our only problems were us. Tom's vision is a bit impaired. He's got coke bottle lenses for glasses. Compared to him, my vision's pretty good. It's my brain that's impaired. I have a habit of not paying attention. When Tom would stop and stare at a blurry sign, I'd wake up and read it to him. But if he failed to see it, there was no hope I'd be paying any attention to directions. We'd busily be chatting or listening or day dreaming until an abrupt thought would creep into one of our minds: Where the heck are we? Map in hand, eventually we'd find our way again. 50 miles later we arrived at the motel.

The motel owner pointed to our right. "It's just a mile down the road" replying to our request for the nearest restaurant. Why ride for just a mile...we'd walk. It's a good idea to not trust non-cyclists about distance. Tom only had his cleated cycling shoes. The distance was well over two miles, a long walk in the wrong foot gear. Worse at night, blinded by car headlights. Worse still with

big puddles lying in wait for the unwary. Tom stepped deep into one and yelped. I started walking in the right traffic lane thinking it was the road shoulder. A honking car put me right.

Back at the motel the hot shower felt great. Little chance of that with guerilla camping, but I wouldn't let on to Tom.

On the next day's ride I kept pointing out all the nice shelters, gazebos and pavilions that could have served us for a free night's rest. Tom retaliated by proclaiming at half the intersections and nearly every town "Why I've been here before..." followed by an interminable description of some failed cycling trip where a hapless in-law was drafted into rescuing him by car from some impending folly.

Still faithfully on Tony's route we came upon a paved bike path and several boy scouts& leaders who were practicing for a trip around Lake Erie and pondering the mysteries of their bike chain which had come apart. Brandishing my new expensive Park chain tool I quickly spliced their chain together and Tom furnished the final detail, telling me to bend the chain sideways to take the stiffness out. We looked like heroes.

After 90 increasingly hilly miles we looked like dead opossums. We crossed the Beaver River and then the majestic Allegheny River at Beaver Falls, Penn. and then came face to face with the least pleasant part of the trip: Rt. 51. A high-speed four-lane road that ran at the base of a cliff on one side and the Allegheny River flood plain on the other, we had little choice but to take one lane and tough it out. Fortunately both Tom and I are bike commuters and urban traffic holds little fear. Once past the end of Tony's route which bypasses Pittsburgh on a bike path, we followed emailed instructions right into the heart of town on an increasingly narrow, rough roadway.

Just as we reached the downtown area, a light rain began to fall. We were tired, sore and chilly. Fortunately we had arrived at the foot of Mt. Washington, at the top of which lay the long-awaited youth hostel. Dodging metal sewer grates and trolley tracks we warmed up climbing a long, steady grade to the top of the hill commanding a view across the city. We had finally arrived at the youth hostel. Only a half-hour late.

Joni Lewanski met us in the lobby and told us she had saved two plates of some of the best stuff that was rapidly disappearing. We dashed for the dorm rooms and the showers and then for the top floor and Joni's graciously hidden plates of food.

Two hours later we were busily doing dishes and trying to refrigerate the huge amount of leftovers. It was a wonderful feast.

Sunday, the day of the ride was cool and cloudy. Hundreds turned out for the ride which took us up half a dozen long, steep climbs. Granny gears were mandatory. We lost track of which of Pittsburgh's three rivers we were crossing over the many bridges. We saw their stadiums, parks and neighborhoods, climbing and descending all the way. One older woman rode the short route on a restored 1938 Schwinn balloon-tired cruiser, deliberately, because people would be drawn to ask questions and she'd enjoy their company. It worked. I was hooked until our routes diverged.

Joni managed every steep climb except for one horrible short grade that mimicked Main St. out of Chagrin Falls. I had to stand in my lowest granny gear to make it. I have no idea how steep it was. Somewhere in the high 20 percents, I suppose.

We finished so late the youth hostel had reopened and for a small fee we showered, changed and were on our way back home before dark.

I later heard some people were awestruck by the hills, others by the rough paving, but I enjoyed the ride there most of all and the good company at that potluck dinner. Thanks to all who helped make it a memorable weekend.

On a sad note – the Pittsburgh youth hostel will be closing after September due to a precipitous decline in guests, a result of the 9/11 disaster. They may open seasonally in future years. If you have an interest in hostels, do visit them this summer. It's a lovely place.

— **Marty Cooperman**

Yo, Wheelers!



Are you riding on Wednesday nights? Reports from participants indicate that they are having fun rides with dinner and refreshments after. Check the club Web site at www.westernreservewheelers.com for the club schedule and information on Wednesday rides.

Jim Gernstetter was our representative at TOSRV this year. He made it to Portsmouth but was unable to return to Columbus because he damaged (slightly) his bicycle in a fall outside of Portsmouth. Fortunately Jim was not hurt.

I am impressed with the number of new bicycles, employing the latest technologies, our members are riding. We are getting a good turnout of serious riders every weekend. The "over the hill" division is still going strong. If you want a more relaxed pace and a shorter ride, look for us at the start.

Please add to your ride calendar Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003 for our annual lunch ride for members, spouses, and significant others. Chairman Harold Pasternak assures me that this event will be special. Art Kaplansky on Jackson road has again graciously offered his hospitality. Watch for special notice of this event.

Rider of the month: Our rider of the month is Howard "which way is the wind blowing" Mayers. He has been riding with the Club since the mid-1970s. Howard frequently rides downtown to work from his home in Pepper Pike. You haven't lived until you have been on one of Howard's famous real estate rides. Howard's claim to fame is that he has more bicycle jerseys than anyone else in the Club.

May the Wind Be Always at Your Back

— Ed Reichek

Western Reserve Wheelers Ride Schedule

DATE	TIME	START	DESTINATION	MILES		
				A	B	C
07/04	8:30	JCC	July 4th Pick-Up Ride	??	??	??
07/06	8:30	GLM	Headlands Express	44/35	29	25
07/13	7:30	JCC	“Top of Astorhurst” (Metroparks/Solon)	--	35	--
07/20	7:30	JCC	Burton/Middlefield	60	--	--
	8:30	GS+		--	40	30
07/27	8:30	JCC	“Pancake Ride”/Walden	58	42	35
08/03	7:30	JCC	Kent	69	--	--
	8:30		Northfield Elementary School	--	37	30
08/10	8:30	--	Emerald Necklace	--	--	--
08/17	8:30	SSP	Holden Arboretum	50	35	--
08/24	8:30	JCC	Chagrin Falls via Catsden	--	26	--
			“Club Party Ride”	--	28	--
08/31	7:30	JCC	Ravenna	65	--	--
	8:30		Solon - Parking lot at Koenig's Sports	--	48	--
09/01	8:30	JCC	Labor Day Pick-Up Ride	??	??	??
09/07	8:30	JCC	Twinsburg	--	41	--
09/14	8:30	SSP	Waite Hill	40	--	--
09/21	8:30	FW	Ashtabula Covered Bridge	70	--	--
09/28	8:30	--	<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	--	--	--

Ride Start Locations and Abbreviations:

Northfield Elementary School is located at the intersection of Olde Rt. 8 and State Route 82.

SSP = Sunset Pond

GLM = Great Lakes Mall

FW = Ferrante Winery – Route 307, 1 mile west of Route 534

GS = Guerney School on Bell West of Rt. 306

NOTICE: Any nonmember guest who has not signed a release will not be considered, for insurance purposes, as a part of the club, nor will they be entitled to any protection afforded by the club insurance policy. In addition, all minors must be accompanied by an adult and must have a release signed by parent or guardian.



LAKE ERIE WHEELERS

P.O. Box 770744; Lakewood, Ohio 44107

lakeeriewheelers@yahoo.com • www.lakeeriewheelers.org

Affiliated with the Bike Authority

President: Tom Meara – (440) 777-2563 • Vice-President: Bob Parry – (440) 779-8392

Secretary: John Whitaker – (216) 485-9184 • Treasurer: Bob Ugan – (216) 695-0038

Membership Chair: Dan Izuka – (440) 734-5777

LEW Club Weekend & Holiday Ride Schedule

July 4	10:00	Holiday Hawaiian Shirt Ride - Scenic Park to the Flats for lunch - 30 flat miles
July 6	9:00	Paw Paw to Hinckley & Doylestown – 30 or 60 hilly miles
July 13	8:00	Lakewood Park to Euclid and Grand River 40 to 65 miles
July 13	10:00	Bike Path Series: Lakeshore (Rock Hall to Euclid) – 24 miles
July 19	9:00	Women's Only Ride: Olmsted Falls to Oberlin – 50 miles
July 20	9:00	Valley City to Wooster – 80 flat miles
July 27	9:00	Canal Visitor's Center to Squires Castle – 45 to 65 miles
Aug. 3	9:00	Scoop-a-Loop Invitational Ride
Aug. 10	9:00	Bradley Woods to Huntington Park & Vermilion -20/50/70 flat miles
Aug. 10	10:00	Bike Path Series: N. Olmsted Bike Path (Stearns to G.N.B.) – 11 mi.
Aug. 16	9:00	Women's Only Ride: Brecksville to Chagrin - 45 miles
Aug. 17	9:00	Eric's Hill Climb Challenge – Deep Lock Quarry, Prizes!
Aug. 24	9:00	Bonnie Park to Lodi – miles
Aug. 31	9:00	Huntington Park to Vermilion/Huron - / flat miles

Ride Start Locations

Bonnie Park	In Strongsville, in the Mill Stream Run Reservation, west of Albion Road & Valley Parkway.
Bradley Woods	In Westlake, in the Bradley Woods Reservation, at Bradley Rd. and White Oak Lane, south of Center Ridge Road.
Brecksville	in Cuyahoga Valley National Park, at Station Rd. parking lot east of Riverview Rd. (just south of Rt. 82).
Canal Visitor	Along Towpath Trail, off Canal & Hillside Roads, in Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Center.
Lakewood Park	Picnic area and parking lot, in Lakewood, north of Lake and Belle Avenues.

Lakeshore	Parking lot under Great Lakes Science Center, near Erieside Ave. and East 9 th Street (meet in front of Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame).
Paw Paw Lot	Picnic area and parking lot, off of the Valley Parkway, just east of West 130 th Street, in North Royalton.
Scenic Park	Parking lot at marina in North Rocky River Reservation, off of Valley Parkway ½ mile south of Detroit Road, in Lakewood.
Valley City	Liverpool Elementary School, at West River Road and School Street.

Weekday Rides

Tuesday Evenings – Short, slower (C-pace) rides starting from parking lot behind Fairview Park Post Office at West 220th Street & Lorain Road, 6:30 p.m., weather permitting. Call Bob Ugan at (216) 695-0038.

Wednesday Evenings – The Ice Cream Rides will leave from the Olmsted Falls Public Library lower parking lot at 6:30 Wednesday nights, weather permitting, of course. These qualify as B or C rides, with distances varying from 20 to 30 miles, and will be led by Marc Snitzer and Greg James. For more information, contact Marc Snitzer at (440) 236-3017, email at msnit@juno.com, or Greg James at (440) 331-9419 (email at clockwerke@aol.com).

Regular Club Wednesday Evenings – Moderate to fast pace (B to A) 20-30 mile rides, weather depending, starting at 6:30 p.m. from Kamm's Corner parking lot at Lorain Rd. & Rocky River Dr. (Rt. 237) in Cleveland (behind Pizza Hut), Call Ed Wheeler at (440) 572-1122 (email at wheels@ameritech.net) or Doug Barr at (440) 734-1715 (email at ospdoug@aol.com).

Thursday Mornings – No longer a club ride, but members are welcome to attend. Begins at 9:30-10:00 a.m. and finishes around 2:00 p.m. Rides will be at a moderate pace (C) and will include lunch at a restaurant along the way. For starting location & other information, contact John Glasgow at (440) 777-7392 or email at jglasgow2@msn.com.

Thursday Evenings – These rides have been put on hold for this month, due to a lack of interest, and may possibly be cancelled for the entire season.

LEW WEB keeps club informed of late breaking news

To keep informed of late breaking news and location of rides during the year check the LEW club site out at: <http://www.lakeeriewheelers.org>. The LEW club email list is at lakeeriewheelers@yahoo.com (please note new email address). If you aren't receiving weekly ride updates and have email, let us know and we'll put you in the address book.

Weekend Club Rides

In the interest of looking out for the well being of club members and guests, each ride will have a Ride Leader, who volunteers for the month, and a defined pace. Their responsibility is to keep the main group at that pace, and ensure that no riders are left behind. All riders must wear an approved helmet. The ride pace levels are as follows:

- A – Brisk pace with paceline likely, regrouping every 30 to 60 minutes with a 10-minute wait, maximum. Usual speed is 18 – 20+ mph.
- B – Touring pace with pacelines possible, regrouping every 30 to 45 minutes and waiting for all riders to assemble. Usual speeds are 15 – 18 mph.

C – Relaxed pace with no pacelines and frequent regroups for all riders.
Usual speeds are 12 – 15 mph.

As of this writing, we are anxiously awaiting volunteers for Ride Leaders for August, September, and October. If no one has stepped forward, leaders will be selected from amongst members attending the rides, and maps may not be provided.

If the scheduled ride for any given date is an invitational, or starts outside the tri-county area (Cuyahoga, Lorain, Medina), a pick-up ride will start from the Olmsted Falls Library at the normal start time for the month.

The 2003 Ohio Bike Path Series

Last year we introduced a new ride series in order to supplement the regular Sunday rides. As hoped and promised, we are proud to announce the return of the Ohio Bike Path Series, which will be held the second Sunday of each month through October. Last year we drew many members and their families, and hope to do so this year. We also hope to attract new riders unused to riding in groups, folks uncomfortable riding on roads and competing with motor vehicles, and seasoned riders out for the pure joy of riding with friends.

The June 8 Bike Path Ride was very encouraging. Over a dozen members attended, starting from the trailhead on the outskirts of Elyria, and stopping for lunch at the “Java Zone” café in beautiful, downtown Oberlin. Along the way, we were greeted by the sight of a local snapping turtle, bigger than a bicyclist’s helmet, that had strayed onto the path (following in the chicken’s footsteps, perhaps?). While everyone else returned to the starting point for snacks, a hardy few continued on to the trail’s end at Baird Road outside of Kipton. Kudos to Dan Izuka for organizing and leading this excursion.

These are “C” level rides, beginning at 10:00 AM, with a stop for lunch. All riders must wear a helmet and be club members, unless a signed signature card is obtained in advance. All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Upcoming Ohio Bike Path rides for this summer and autumn:

July 13	Lakeshore (Rock Hall to Euclid)	24 miles	Tom Meara
Aug. 10	North Olmsted Bike Path (Stearns to G.N.B.)	11 miles	Tom Meara
Sept. 14	Towpath (Canal Visitor Center to Peninsula)	24 miles	John Whitaker
Oct. 12	Kent (Alexander Road ABC Trail to Kent)	22 miles	Dan Izuka

2003 “Women Only” Ride Series

In an effort to expand the types of riding that the club organizes, we’ve decided to offer a *Women’s Only* ride on the third Saturday of each month. Contact Bonnie Vargo at (216) 226-5918 for details.

Charlie Martin’s Progress

As of May 16th, Charlie is in Waynesboro, Virginia, and is taking a “zero day” on the 17th to fill up on food. He looked in the mirror and almost couldn’t see himself. Charlie estimates that he was burning over 5,000 calories a day, by walking about 20 miles per day (except for when a storm blew up after 13 miles into the day’s hike, forcing him to seek shelter). He has put more than 800 miles behind him now, with only about 1,400 more miles to go.

He has been neck and neck with a guy called Skeemer, who is also retired and making his much-dreamed-of trip. If you log on to the Trail Journals Web site (located at <http://www.trailjournals.com/entry.cfm?id=30899>), he does a nice journal of the trip and is much more talkative than Charlie.

Charlie is on his third pair of New Balance trail shoes, but is asking for his work boots and his Vasque boots for the trek through Pennsylvania. They say the shale there is treacherous on the shoes. Charlie seems to be the one who is on the trail by first light. The young people all sleep in then start hiking. There are some that say he is quite organized and has a system down to the bare essentials. According to Charlie, all you need is the clothes on your back, and food in the pantry.

A small group from the Cleveland Hiking Club met Charlie in Fayetteville, PA near the midpoint of the Appalachian Trail. Charlie beat them to it. The group arrived midday on Friday, May 30, finding a very skinny Charlie. They took a five- or six-mile hike to a viewpoint in Pine Grove Furnace State Park. The next day, Saturday, May 31st, Tom Nezovich walked with Charlie from U.S. 30 to the marked midpoint of the trail.

By Wednesday, June 11th, Charlie was at Wind Gap, PA., which seems to be a short day's hike from the Delaware Water Gap on the PA/NJ border. He was asking for yet another pair of his favorite low-cut New Balance light hikers.

LEW Wear

We've arranged to have the LEW Logo embroidered on a cotton two-button sport shirt or an alternate garment (shirt or jacket) of your choice. So far the response has been tepid and is not sufficient to cover the cost of setup. If you are interested in a LEW Logo shirt, please send an email to lakeeriewheelers@yahoo.com.

Bob Parry reports that new jerseys are being considered, and that the cost is expected to be about \$55.00 per jersey. If any members are interested in buying one, they should call Mr. Parry at (440) 779-8392 (or email at bob.parry@juno.com) to put in a reservation for a jersey. We are hoping to have at least a dozen people interested in buying jerseys.

Touring Division News (by Tom Meara)

Tom Meara, as Chairman of the Touring Division, is interested in attracting LEW members who have are enthusiastic about touring, overnight and otherwise. Anyone interested can call him at (440) 777-2563, or email him at tom_meara@hp.com. Volunteers for Ride Captains are needed. Proposed overnight tours include:

Date	Route	Ride Captain
July	Details to be provided, please contact...	Bob Parry
August 23-24	Olmsted Falls to Findlay State Park	Tom Nezovich
September 13-14	Westlake to Put-in-Bay	Marty Cooperman
September 27-28	Olmsted Falls to Malabar	Tom Meara, Bob Parry

Prospective riders are expected to be physically fit, properly attired & equipped, with bicycles suitable for the routes in question, and adequately maintained. As of this writing, the July ride is still in development, please check the club Web site for updates.

The 2003 LEW Club Picnic

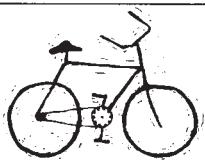
The annual club picnic was a traditional event, previously held in July or August, and included a full-contact, grudge-match volleyball game. We hope to revive this tradition for the benefit and enjoyment of current members. Last year's picnic was very well received and well attended, and we feel encouraged to try again this year. The club picnic will be held next month, on August 10th at Bradley Woods Metropark, the start point for both the regular club ride (to Huntington Park and Vermillion) as well as a Bike Path Series ride, and will begin after the rides. Volunteers may be needed to help, including a Designated Squatter to secure the site. Anyone wishing to volunteer, please contact Tom Meara or Dan Izuka (see top of first page for phone numbers).

Reporters tour Ohio by bicycle



Here is a little shameless self-promotion, though I believe many will find it interesting: Together with *Akron Beacon Journal* photographer Dennis Gordon, I'll be embarking on the Ohio Odyssey on Sunday morning. It's a 20-day, 1,200 mile bicycle trip around the Buckeye State. Keep up with the journey at www.ohio.com, or at my personal blog - <http://blogs.salon.com/0002598> — Mike Needs, Akron.

Needs and Gordon detail their adventures in the Akron Beacon Journal.



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A Letter from Vetter

by Lou Vetter

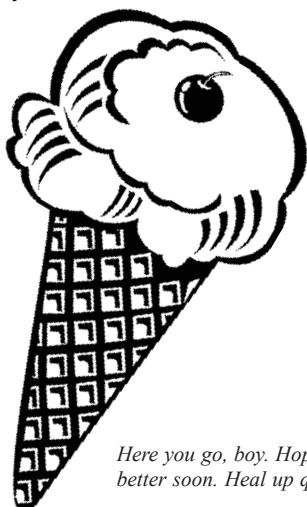
PEDALING PITTSBURGH: Last month I wrote about how I was complaining to Tom about running out of things to write about and he assured me not to worry because things just seem to happen when we ride our bikes. Pedaling Pittsburgh is a different kind of ride. It starts in downtown Pittsburgh and stays there. The 62-mile route puts a bunch of hills in the last ten miles just to have them there. Socializing with the group was the best part. Cheryl was the ride leader and had planned an itinerary for all day site seeing on Saturday. Tom and I arrived about 11:00 am, just in time to purchase some food for our contribution to the potluck dinner. Next we headed to the registration at "Station Square" to sign in and pick up our packets for the Sunday ride. Next it was off to the Church Brewery for refreshments. I was liking this ride already. After the Church Brewery we headed across the river to a second brewery. I don't know which river, the "alley-gaga-healy" or something, and I don't remember the name of the brewery, but now they really had my attention. While we partied upstairs there was a birthday party going on downstairs I know this because you the rest room was downstairs and as I was returning to our party I couldn't help but notice the guest of honor putting a bra on over her clothing. Tom got an even bigger eyeful later and reported that she was putting on a thong over her slacks. None of us believed him but when she came upstairs she still had it on. A gold thong shows up pretty well over black slacks. Next we moved into the hostel and prepared dinner. Just as we were unloading our bikes and luggage it started to rain.

Dinner was a flurry of cutting slicing and baking. The kitchen was large enough to house five chef wannabes and I was cutting the cheese as fast as I could. That would be dicing the Swiss and cheddar. After dinner no body felt like going out to party so we all settled in to get plenty of rest. The ride started on wet streets from station square Sunday morning and meandered around many of the beautiful old buildings. Tom and I rode with Cheryl and she was telling us about the history of the area. Tom and I both had on a jacket but not Cheryl. She claimed she didn't need one as long as she kept riding and generating heat. The streets had some glass and just as I was bragging about my bulletproof tires I got a flat. Tom stayed with me but Cheryl had to move on or freeze. Tom got quit a laugh when my pump wouldn't work. Finally we determined that the compression barrel had come loose and after I screwed it back together I was able to "pump it up." We followed the course and made it to the first rest stop where we met up with Cheryl again. There were four different routes and they crisscrossed over each other so many times you had to really pay attention. The course was well marked and easy to follow but seeing other riders going in different directions made you wonder just who was on course. There were plenty of hills but the organizers still had to make us descend one hill with no outlet so we could experience the climb back up. Many riders just ignored that part and cut about three miles off the course.

Cheryl and Tom made it up the hills much faster than I, but I met up with them at the rest stops and we rode together again until the next hill. There are hills so steep that the city paves them with rough-cut bricks (cobble stones) set in at an angle so the edge of the brick acts like a saw tooth giving cars lots of traction. It gives bikes lots of bumps. It was like riding up or down a steep hill that was all rumble strips. The last ten miles were up and down the hills of the Mt. Washington area. Tom was riding well and

I was trying to keep him in sight. Cheryl warned us about Sycamore Street and said she would ride up but never down that street. Sycamore is the last descent back to Station Square. The hill was very steep with switchbacks and represents the last two miles of the ride. Tom was in front by about a hundred feet or so when the descent began. I pulled my brake levers hard to maintain a slow speed down the hill and cars were following closely. Tom was negotiating a ninety-degree turn in the road when I began to pickup speed. While Tom's attention was on his braking and making the turn I was busy trying not run into him. I was frozen in to my handlebars and heading straight for Tom. Since I couldn't stop I decided against trying to pass Tom on the curve and I turned left slightly and headed toward the side of the hill. I got a pleasant surprise when I saw a pile of cinders to crash into and as my bike started to ride up the cinder pile just like one of those truck runaway ramps I thought I had dodged a bullet. My euphoria turned to panic as my tire sank into the soft cinders and I began my header over the handlebars. It was like I was flying in slow motion. I landed softly enough and didn't even get the wind knocked out of me. The bike and I rolled back down the cinders to the street. I checked my bike and it was okay but I wasn't. That's when I noticed that I was bleeding from two cuts near my knee and it had dripped all the way down to my shoes.

A lady in the car behind me stopped and asked "do you need any help" and I replied, "Yeah, I think I do." She flagged down the next car to get me a ride to Station Square and offered a washcloth to cover my wounds. She put my bike on the porch of the house on the corner. Traffic was starting to backup and I was becoming the object of some developing road-rage. Horns honked then the lady in the house came out to offer her assistance. She contributed paper towels so I could cover my bloody leg and not make a mess of the car that would take me back to Station Square. There was a doctor in the parking lot who cleaned my wounds with betadine and advised that I seek immediate attention from the nearest Emergency Room. He suggested Allegheny General Hospital. Word of my injury spread among our group and Cheryl and Don May drove back up the hill to retrieve my bike. Next Tom drove me to A.G.H. where I got to meet Dr. Kristal McKitrick, a very lovely resident doctor, who put seven stitches in one cut and five stitches in the other. In addition she started off with two so called "mattress stitches" under the skin which cannot be removed under penalty of law. The E.R. stop took only two hours and we were on our way home at 6:00 pm.



Here you go, boy. Hope you feel better soon. Heal up quick, Lou!

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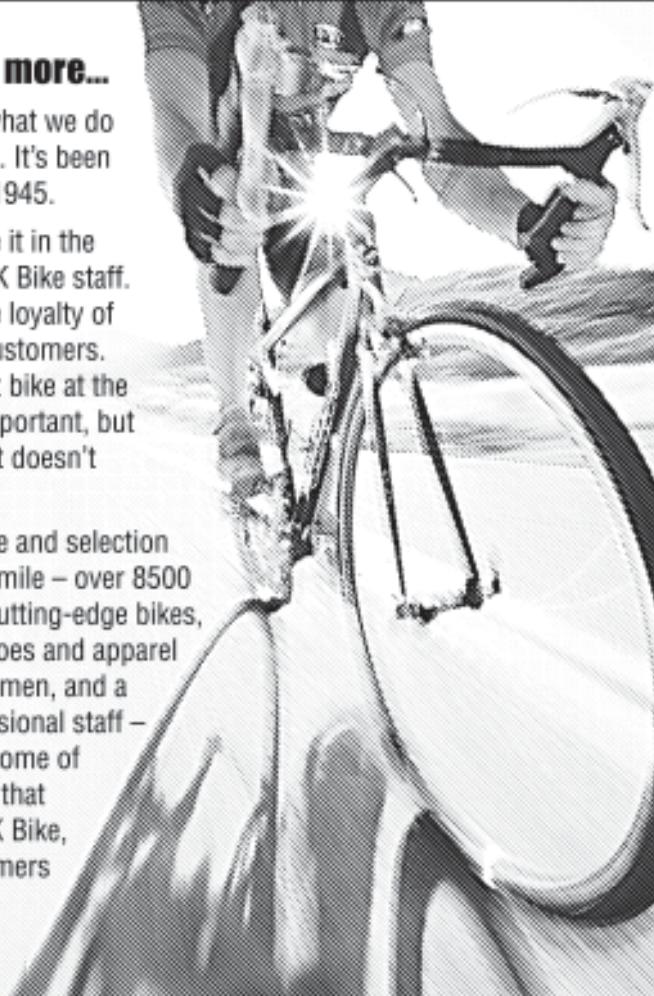
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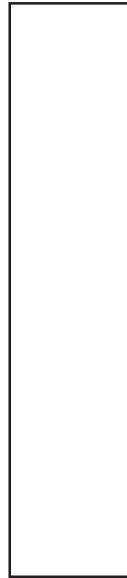


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