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The Voice of Cyclists in Northeast Ohio

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From the Editors

In late March Ken Schneider, owner of Schneider's Bike Shop at 1001 Lorain Rd. on Cleveland's west side, was viciously assaulted during a robbery at his shop. Ken, beaten and unconscious, was found by his wife after failing to return home, and was taken to Metro General Hospital with jaw and skull fractures. The police later caught the suspect, who had robbed Ken 3 times before, and who had been recently released from a 15 year prison term.

Folks in the neighborhood where Schneider's Bike Shop had been a fixture since 1947 were shocked by the senseless beating of a quiet and caring man, and the cycling community was moved with concern. Jay Westbrook, councilman for the ward where Schneider's is located, has helped the Schneider family establish a fund to which donations may be sent to help with Ken's medical and business expenses (see below). This fund was set up mostly because of the interest from the cycling community on the crankmail-bike@topica.com list serve, noted Plain Dealer reporter Mike O'Malley, who wrote an article about the incident and reaction to it for the PD.

The news elicited comments such as: 'Ken's a great guy and always so helpful at his shop. One of the very few old neighborhood shops around'. Edie and Marty were regular customers of Ken's and appreciated the extra effort he would make to get our bikes back on the road after the ravages of a month or two of winter riding. Most of the time we didn't even have to leave the bike as he often did the work on the spot staying late to make sure we'd be able to ride back home.

As of April 20th, Ken was still in the hospital, but up and walking, and improving steadily, his wife said. As he will still be recovering for many weeks, his son, Ken Schneider III, has quit his office job to keep the bike shop open, so that his father will have the option of continuing to operate the business that he loved, though it's not sure he will want to do that after what he has been through. His wife said "He needs to get back to being himself for a while before he can get back to being the 'bike guy,' and that the generosity and support shown by Ken's customers and the cycling community has meant a lot to their family, who had never been in that kind of horrible situation before.

Several efforts are underway for cyclists to help in this tragic situation. Ray's Indoor Mountain Bike Park, located not far from Schneider's, has offered to host an upcoming benefit event, and there was reportedly a benefit concert on April 30th at Pat's in the Flats, organized by some of Ken's many very devoted BMX customers. To help his son with the difficult task of stepping into running a bike shop, the Ohio City Bicycle Co-op will be offering the services of their more experienced volunteer mechanics, and soliciting volunteers from area shops.

Donations can be mailed to "Friends of Ken Schneider", US Bank, 9740 Lorain Rd., Cleveland 44102 or they can also be deposited at any US Bank branch. Cards and gifts can be sent to: Patient: Kenneth Schneider, MetroHealth Medical Center, 2500 MetroHealth Dr., Cleveland, OH 44109

Martin Cooperman and Tom Meara, Editor & Publisher
With Special Thanks to Jim Sheehan, April 2006

IN THE ZONE

Cycling News and Events

"Don't just scream about the environment ... do something about it!" Ohio Canal Corridor invites you to make a difference . . . to support RiverSweep 2006 - our 17th annual clean-up event where volunteers from neighborhoods, businesses, government agencies, non-profit organizations and schools come together to clean those places within the Cuyahoga River Valley where one day a new park or trail will be built. How you can help: 1. Volunteer - bring your friends, your business colleagues and choose a site for a done in a half-day event. 2. Become a sponsor - put your name or your company's name on the souvenir t-shirt. Call Tanya @ 216-520-1825 for details or visit our website: www.ohiocanal.org.

GreenCityBlueLake is the interactive online home for all the discussions and activities that are moving Northeast Ohio toward greater sustainability. It's a community workspace, networking tool, knowledge bank, and facilitator of strategic planning. This site was developed to serve the sustainability community of Northeast Ohio by EcoCity Cleveland, a nonprofit organization that has been at the center of sustainability activities and creative planning efforts in Northeast Ohio since 1992.. There is a section under Transportation devoted to cycling and listing some of the readers favorite bike rides. They are encouraging everyone to add yours to the list. You can send an email to editor@crankmail.com describing your favorite ride and we will insert it The site can be found at: www.gcbl.org.

Looking for some good topographical maps? **Bob Parry** found a webiste of-

fering free customizable topographical maps of any location in the US. The site, **www.TopoZone.com**, describes itself as the Web's center for professional and recreational map users. They've worked with the USGS to create the Web's first interactive topo map of the entire United States. In addition to serving maps, they're also the Web's best source for custom digital topographic data for Web, GIS, and CAD applications. The free My TopoZone feature lets you personalize your TopoZone usage and save your own map preferences. The site also serves as the gateway to adding enhanced TopoZone Pro and other services.

If you were involved 30 years ago when **Adventure Cycling Association** when was known as **Bikecentennial** plan to attend one of Adventure Cycling's four **30th Birthday Bashes**. Each party will meet up with an on-the-road Adventure Cycling group. The wheres are Brunswick, Maryland; Seattle, Washington; Missoula, Montana; and Boulder, Colorado. Visit this link to learn more: www.adventurecycling.org/30thbirthdaybashes.

We are a highly sought-after demographic. "Bicycling is one of the most affluent sporting activities out there right now," said **Jerry Norquist**, executive director of **Cycle Oregon**, a nonprofit cycling organization. Many boomer cyclists "no longer like to just go out and camp in a tent and cook on a stove. They like to stay in a bed-and-breakfast or a hotel and they like to eat at a good restaurant. ... We call it credit-card touring." they are baby-boomer bicyclists, people who can drop \$1,000, \$2,000 or even \$8,000 on their two-wheelers. Because of this, recreation and tourism officials see gold in promoting Oregon as the premier place for them to ride. So why not Ohio?

On May 17 at 7:00 PM, the **Ride of Silence** will begin in North America and roll across the globe. Cyclists will take to the roads in a silent procession to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured while cycling on public roadways. Local rides are planned in Bolivar, Columbus, Dayton, Elyria, Toledo and Youngstown. For more information or to learn how to organize a ride visit: www.rideofsilence.com.

This month's cover is of the Station Road Depot in the Cuyahoga National Park courtesy of the Western Reserve Wheelers.

Upcoming Cycling Events

Saturday, 5/6. CALVIN'S 12-HOUR CHALLENGE. Springfield. Dayton Cycling Club. www.geocities.com/c-dale

Saturday, 5/6. BLACK SWAMP BUDGET TOUR. Bowling Green. Flat 20/40/50/60 miles on this budget tour of the historic Black Swamp Area. Map, route markings provided; no food services. Hostelling International - Toledo Area. 419-243-7680. patsquire@juno.com

Sunday, 5/7. KLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ. Huron. No services but a map and 50 - 85 rolling miles! Medina County Bicycle Club. Richard DeLombard; (419) 433-8353. www.lrbcg.com/pogo/bike.html

Sunday, 5/7. OMBC CHAMPIONSHIP XC SERIES #2 AT MOHICAN WILDERNESS. Loudonville. Includes a kids' race (12 and under) during the annual Scout weekend. Expert-level climbs, rocks, descents. 419-989-0239. www.ombc.net

Sunday, 5/7. LAKE METROPARKS SUMMER SPORTS EXPO. Kirtland. From 11 AM to 4 PM at Lake Farmpark, free event features shops, speakers, demos, literature. Buy/sell new/used bike and

sporting equipment, parts, clothing. Lake Metroparks. 440-585-2800. bplessinger@lakemetroparks.com

Saturday, 5/13. NIGHT RIDES ON THE TOWPATH. Peninsula. Free ride for starting at 8 p.m. 15 to 20 miles of flat terrain on the Cuyahoga Valley National Park's Towpath Trail. Helmet and bike lights required. Century Cycles Bicycle Shop. Attn: Derrick; (800) 201-7433. www.centurycycles.com

Thursday, 5/17, International Ride of Silence. www.rideofsilence.com

Saturday, 5/20. PEDAL-WITH-PETE. Kent. A full-service fund raiser benefitting cerebral palsy research. 17/50/60 flat to rolling miles. The 60-miler has rolling hills and some challenging climbs. 800-304-7384. www.PedalWithPete.com

Saturday 5/20 300k ACP Jackson brevet. Ohio Randonneurs, Bob Waddell. www.ohiorand.org

Sunday 5/21 Pedal Pittsburgh. An event of the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCP) offers a variety of course options ranging from 6 to 60 miles to accommodate everyone. This ride draws over 2,000 riders annually, and highlights the neighborhoods and design landmarks that make Pittsburgh unique. For more information, call the Event Hotline at (412) 232-3545 or visit www.pedalpittsburgh.org.

Sunday, 5/21. BICYCLE POKER RUN. Massillon. 18 miles on the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Proceeds benefit local trail projects. Massillon Area Greenways & Ernie's Bicycle Shop. 800-291-0099. www.erniesbikeshop.com

Saturday, 05/27. JERRY'S JEROMESVILLE JOURNEY. Oberlin. A free 100-mile tour with a 50-mile cutoff. Lorain Wheelmen www.lorainwheelmen.org



Cleveland Touring Club
PO Box 1157
Mentor, OH 44061

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

WEEKLY RIDE SCHEDULE

Day	Start Location	Type of Ride
Tues. 6:30	Concord Woods	Large group ride w/maps distributed 440 269-1199
Wed. 7:00	North Chagrin	Smaller group, casual w/ride leader 440-347-9541
6:30	North Chagrin	same map w/variation, self directed
Thur. 6:30	North Chagrin	Large group ride w/maps distributed
Sat	North Chagrin	Pickup Ride, group decides destination
Saturday start times are same as the following Sunday.		

SUNDAY RIDE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Ride/Terrain
May 7	9:00	NORTHFIELD CTR (also Boston Mills parking area) to Peninsula (30), Bath (42). Pancake Breakfast @ AYH Stanford House near Boston Mills Ski Area. Alternate Lake Farm Park to Kirtland, Kirtland Hills (25,45) Sports Expo @ noon after ride Hilly
May 14	9:00	CHESTERLAND – HUBBUB (35,50) Rolling/Hilly
May 21	8:30	AUSTINBURG (20, 33, 43, 53) *TF* (Tandem Friendly) Courtesy of Bill M Flat/Rolling
May 28	8:30	GURNEY SCHOOL to Burton (26) Middlefield (40) Garrettsville (65) *TF* Rolling
May 29	8:30	NORTH CHAGRIN Memorial Day Pickup Ride Varied Terrain
June 4	8:30	LAKESHORE RESERVATION to Madison (25) Geneva (45) Ashtabula (65). Courtesy of Chuck R Flat/ Rolling
June 11	8:30	SUNDAY in JUNE – CTC's Annual Event in Middlefield (10,25,50, 62, 100). See website for details: Snacks, Lunch; Pre-register by mail. Rolling/Hilly

RIDE START LOCATIONS

AUSTINBURG Buck's Grill – I-90 to Rt 45 (Austinburg exit), go? mile south. On left (east) side of street. *Park at back of lot.*

CHESTERLAND HUBBUB Custom Bicycles, 8005 Mayfield Road, east of Caves Road, in Chesterland

CONCORD WOODS Take I-90 to Rt. 44 and go south to Auburn Road. Turn left, continue under the bridge and up the hill to Spear Road (flashing light). Turn

right. Concord Woods is at the end of the street. ADDRESS: 11211 Spear Road, Painesville

GURNEY SCHOOL Bell Street, .5 mile west of Rt 306 in South Russell (small sign at entrance)

LAKESHORE RESERVATION Take Route 20 to Antioch Rd. in Perry. North on Antioch for about 1.5 miles to park entrance.

NORTH CHAGRIN N. Chagrin Reservation — Sanctuary Marsh Nature Ctr. lot; enter park from Chagrin River Road (Rt 174) to Ox Lane.

NORTHFIELD CENTER CVS Pharmacy parking lot — south side of Rt. 82 near intersection of Old Route 8 in Northfield

SUNDAY IN JUNE Century Village 14653 East Park St., Burton, Ohio

Please Note! Info regarding North Chagrin ride starts

The Buttermilk Falls bridge is gone and will be under construction until November. You can get to the Sanctuary Marsh parking lot from Chagrin River Rd. (Rt 174) to Ox Lane. Other options are to park your vehicle elsewhere in the Metropark (Strawberry Lane & Whispering Woods) and ride the multi-purpose path to Sanctuary Marsh. (The pedestrian bridge crossing Buttermilk Falls is still open.) Please plan accordingly to get to the ride start on time.

Sunday In June – June 11, 2006

In our 29th year, Sunday in June is a classic NE Ohio tour through the heart of the region's Amish countryside. With fifty volunteers supporting the event, the ride includes route markings, hot lunch, music, fully supported rest stops, road service and much more.

This year the SIJ location is moving to Burton with the ride start and lunch at the historic **Century Village**. This setting is beautiful with vistas overlooking the hills of NE Ohio. Registration forms for SIJ can be found at www.ClevelandTouringClub.org.

Routes 25/50/62/100 miles. Rider Limit: 700. For more info contact Bill Maurey at (440)975.9744 or BMAurey@Hotmail.com.

Club Membership

It is that time of year when Club memberships become due for CTC. The memberships run annually, January to January. Don't miss out on getting CrankMail as part of your membership dues! CrankMail will no longer send mailings unless you are a member. Membership forms can be found in the March edition of CrankMail or at www.ClevelandTouringClub.org.

CTC's New Website

Cleveland Touring Club's NEW website is **www.ClevelandTouringClub.org**. The long standing CleveTourClub.org web site was wrestled away by a gang of crooks from England and it has been transformed into a gambling website... this site will now only allow you to LOSE money gambling!!!! DO NOT VISIT THE OLD WEB SITE!!!! -Bill Maurey

Wednesday Night Ride Weenie Roasts

On the second Wednesday of each month from April thru September there will be a hot dog roast that will take place after the ride in the picnic shelter located

across from the Nature Center. Hot dogs, buns, macaroni salad, baked beans and condiments will be provided by CTC. Please bring something to drink and a place setting. Side dishes, appetizers, desserts are welcome, but not required. - *Frank Zoretich, Wednesday 7pm Ride Leader*

Wednesday 6:30 PM self-guided rides

The Wednesday night 6:30pm rides this year are Self-Guided...that is, they are "show-n'-go." The maps for this ride are at www.clevelandtouringclub.org with links on the home page. The ride leaves at 6:30pm and goes all season. As the daylight gets longer, the ride can extend to 32 miles.

New this year is a less aggressive ride for "C" class riders...or "C"asual riders. The ride regroupes at the top of Berkshire and again at River Road (or as decided by the group) by A/B riders and C riders regroup. Since daylight is limited, the first recommended ride is the 22 mile ride. See www.ClevelandTouringClub.org/pdfs/22Mile_Route.pdf for the map. It is recommended that you print a few maps and bring them with you to the ride. -*Bill Maurey*

Yahoo CTC List Serve

Many of the club members are missing out on announcements and mailing from the general club membership. If you want to receive e-mails from the club regarding schedule changes, weather conditions, road closures, parties, membership, Sunday in June, maps, scheduled rides, etc... simply send a blank email to: **CleveTourClub-subscribe@yahooogroups.com**. Anything in the body or subject will be ignored. When you get the confirmation message from Yahoo, simply follow the instructions in that e-mail to join.

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Last month we revised our membership program to better reflect our need for active volunteers (above), and the focus of our work on developing bike literacy. We now include our bike mechanics course with membership, instead of as a separate program that was required for members to use the shop for their own repairs. It seems like a little thing, but it represents a big change in how we explain what we do: we are a place for anyone to learn bike repair; to practice their skills while helping the community, and to teach others what they know. The classes are important so everyone has “baseline” knowledge – though of course we have plenty of work for volunteers who have not yet taken classes.

Experienced mechanics can still “test out” of the classes (and half the membership fee) by tuning a bike for sale, and we have created a “Supporting Member” level for folks who just want to... well, support. “Fit and Flats,” the first class (in the series of four) is free with every bike purchase, and members can retake classes for free as often as they'd like. It's easy for anyone to become bicycle literate – just sign up for a course on the website!

Mechanics is only one part of bicycle literacy: A Bike Drivers' Ed class from the League of American Bicyclists can teach even experienced club riders something useful and interesting – or at least the best way to teach new club riders the rules of the road. Classes are on the 1st Saturday of every month, 9 to 5!

Cycling coverage on TV - OLN Network

May 7	Giro D'Italia	5:00 PM
May 7	Tour De Romandie	6:30 PM
May 8	Giro D'Italia	3:30 PM
May 14	Giro D'Italia	5:00 PM
May 15	Giro D'Italia	3:30 PM
May 21	Giro D'Italia	5:00 PM
May 22	Giro D'Italia	3:30 PM
May 28	Giro D'Italia	5:00 PM

The Pleasures of a 6 Mile Ride

I went to Florida for a few weeks this March to visit with my extended family, who all came down to join in the vacation. My adult daughter Laura was with us at the cottage and spotted some bikes that they offer to guests, free of charge. These are not the kind of bikes you're thinking of. No triple chainrings, not even a double. No cassettes or freewheels, no drop handlebars or integrated brake-shifters. These were basic. One-speed Huffys with cushion sprung seats, upright, wrap-around handlebars and a back pedal brake. I remembered bikes like these. I rode them as a youngster. I never knew there was something better until a friend showed up with a 3-speed English racer one day and changed my life forever.

But that was long ago, and now, in a small isolated village on a remote part of the Florida's west coast, with only a few miles to go in any direction and utterly flat terrain, a one-speed Huffy would have to do. I think they were originally intended as rental bikes. They had quick-release seat posts so we could adjust them to suit. We did our best to adjust ourselves to such unfamiliar seating positions and headed out.

We rode along the shore right through some sand that had blown onto the road. The wide tires took little notice. We turned down a quiet street past the town school, struggling a bit to climb the high ground where the water tower was situated. There were older homes sitting right on the ground and vulnerable to big storms which so far had spared the town, then further out were the newer ones on 14-foot pillars built to withstand such storms but looking ridiculous as though the house had been jacked way up in the air to dig a basement and then just left there, forgotten. We passed the fancy end of town where someone was constructing an incongruous vacation home out of steel and glass that looked like the upper stories of a big-city high-rise condo. Indeed, asking the workmen, we learned that the owner lived in just such a residence in downtown Chicago.

We saw the typical island transportation vehicle, a golf cart, parked beside many homes. No one drives much more than 20 mph and a golf cart does itself proud. There was only one gated community and the gate was open, so we cycled past exotic homes with upper floor decks and widows-walks, the better to view the myriad islands offshore. In the distance we could see an osprey hovering above its favorite fishing grounds and a pelican land with a splash, flapping away with lunch. We rode by the little airport and watched an occasional small plane land or take off.

Several hours later we struggled up that hill by the water tower again, me nearly having to stand on the bike to make the hill. It was all of 15 feet above sea level. Back at the cottage, a bit red-faced and sweaty we retired to the kitchen for a much needed cold drink. It was a good morning's ride. We had covered all of 6 miles.

Marty Cooperman



P.O. Box 844 Medina, OH 44258

Contact the following for information

www.medinabikeclub.org

President:	Dave Polcyn	330-723-3831	davepolcyn@zoominternet.net
Vice Pres.:	Dave Ling	330-416-9421	ldbl3000@aol.com
Treasurer:	Glen Hinegardner	330-725-8430	biker10260@aol.com
Secretary:	Lou Vetter	330-725-0441	bikevetter@aol.com

Tuesday Evening Rides

Start at 6:30 pm (Pace: Moderate 12 - 15+ mph) with some exceptions,
such as September when we start at 6:00 pm instead.

Evening Starting Locations:

April and May	Career Center
June	Buckeye Woods
July	Hubbard Valley
August	Career Center
September	Buckeye Woods

Sunday Morning Breakfast Rides

9:00 am (April & October). 8:00 am May through September.

Our NEW STARTING LOCATION is Buckeye Woods County Park
located on route 162 between routes 3 and 42. Sunday rides are generally 40 to 60
miles in length with breakfast at the halfway point.

BICYCLE HELMETS ARE REQUIRED ON OFFICIAL CLUB RIDES

CLUB NOTES: *We wish our newest member Paula Kasmin a hearty welcome and tail winds always. All rest stops for the Ice Cream Odyssey have been reserved and plans were made for route marking, food preparation, and volunteer assignments. Additional discussion centered on members working on the Ice Cream Odyssey and riding it as a club ride another day. The second annual re-established club picnic is scheduled for August 5, 2006. Members are encouraged to bring their significant others especially non-riding partners. We need to strengthen the conversational gene pool. Let's prove we can discuss something besides carbon fiber, mileage and degrees of grade on those hills we climb.*

LETTER FROM VETTER:

Initial Club Rides: First Tuesday was sparse but then the weather broke and we had 17 riders on the next one. On our first Sunday ride I arrived late and rode alone for eighty-one miles. I rode down to Seville then West to Lodi and on to Stewart Road where I got to ride past the Elk Farm. It has a name but I forgot what it is called. The Elk were all just hanging out laying in the dirt. They looked up as I rode past them. Then it was on to New London where I ate lunch at the redecorated Still Water Café. The atmosphere was good bordering on ambiance and the food was good as usual. I had their all day breakfast, that means it's served all day not it takes all day to consume it.

After breakfast I continued west to Fitchfield where I headed north and returned via Lafayette Road. As I approached a short incline three deer jumped out in front of me. They didn't see me at first but only a second later they started to run across the road and into the cornfield. The wooded area was far away and I got to observe them running together for a long time. Deer always look so cool when they are running out in the open like that.

On the next Tuesday evening ride I chased after the A-group. Those are the riders that can average twenty or better. I can't so chasing them is futile but I do it anyway. Unlike a dog I know what I'll do if I ever catch them. I'll sit in on the back of the pace-line and cruise along at speeds I can't hope to achieve on my own.

As I was saying I was chasing after the "A's" when I caught up to Dave Miller and right beside me was Tom. The three of us continued on together consoling each other saying this is the group for us, this is a good speed, but what not said was, we got dropped. Tom and Dave started up a conversation on the long down slope toward Abbeville and since it was a down slope they let me take the lead. Soon we turned onto Wolfe Road and I was off the back going up the road until it crested and I caught back up on the down slope. This yoyo effect continued until the road flattened out and I could stay with the pack. Three's a pack, right?

Tom took over the lead position and continued west on Neff all the way to the seventeen-mile cutoff. Here we stopped and asked Dave about our current status with regard to speed, time, and distance. Tom and I both had no computer on our bikes this time out. While we were standing still another group caught up to us. Dave joined them on the seventeen-mile route while Tom and I decided to try and finish the whole twenty-five mile route. As we were continuing on Tom convinced me that we would not make it back before dark so we cut the route short and turned left onto South bound Route Eighty Three. We kicked it up a notch, or I should say Tom kicked it up and I drafted all the way to Crow Road where we turned left and to our delight about a half a mile ahead of the racers. Now the foot was on the other shoe and it was us they had to chase after. Our job was to see how long we could hold them off.

Tom kept leading and I kept drafting and pretty soon we could see a lone rider chasing us down. We both assumed it was Bill Brannon, so now, new job description, Tom set the new goal as getting to the turn onto Stone Road before getting passed. Tom kicked it up another notch, BAMB. We crossed eighteen and the lone rider was close enough to see that it was the fast Dave and not Bill Brannon. We have three speeds of Dave in the club and this was the fastest one. After we crossed route eighteen Dave slowed for traffic while Tom pushed on and I tried to hang on. We were going south on Erhart Road toward

Stone when the road started to rise up. I tried to attack the climb but pooped out near the top and was passed by Dave just before the turn onto Stone. Tom however made the turn then slowed to wait for me and was promptly passed by Dave. New goal, lets get back before the rest of the "A's" catch us. Yep, Tom kicked it back up a notch and off we rode. Next challenge for me is the long descent to Mallet Creek before climbing up to cross over the railroad tracks. There always seems to be a train coming and this time was no exception. Since there was a long downhill I could build up a good head of steam and try to attack the hill. I was sprinting for the top when the words of Johnny Cash rang in my ears "I here the train a coming" and I attacked the track crossing but chickened out. Those train engines are big so I put my foot down and Tom stopped right beside me and we waited for the train to pass while the rest of the A-group coasted up to join us.

Bill Brannon, Laurie MacDonald, Dave Ling, joined Tom and myself to form a new pack. Once the tracks were clear I got the jump on everyone, because I was the only one who needed to. Stone Road has a long upward incline from here to the Career Center and the first thing after the tracks is the steeper part. I was bogging down and the pack was passing me by when I felt a helping hand pushing me up the hill. It was Tom being unselfish. Next there was a crest where the road flattened out and I was able to catch back up to the group because they had to wait for traffic to cross Columbia Road. We all got to the Career Center together and just as we were crossing route eighteen Bill discovered his rear tire had flatted. Not the perfect ending for a ride but the weather was great and the ride was immensely fun. Tom and I had finished with the fast group and had ridden twenty-three miles. Oh Tom is not Tom Waterson but another Tom. I didn't get his last name and I couldn't find him on the membership list so lets just say Thanks for the push Tom. Sorry I don't have a T-shirt for you.



**Rainbow Hospital
Emerald Necklace Tour**

The Rainbow Emerald Necklace Tour, August 6, 2006- Join us in a beautiful ride that supports a great cause. Tour the Emerald Necklace of the Cleveland Metroparks in the Rainbow Hospital Emerald Necklace Tour, all proceeds to support Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. Starting points are either on the east (Polo Grounds, South Chagrin) or west (Mastick Woods, Rocky River) side of Cleveland, with any distance up to 100 mi. All routes are out and back. Breakfast, lunch, 5 rest stops with refreshments, SAG support, T-shirts and goody bags. This year we are also hosting a kickoff dinner the night before with door prizes and raffle to those donating \$30 or more over the registration fee. Sponsored by Rainbow Babies and Children's Circle of Friends. Complete information at www.rainbowemerald.com. Register online through www.signmeupsports.com.

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SATURDAY 9-3

OTHER TIMES AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

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A Freebie Century
Saturday, May 27, 2006

This has been a traditional Club Century for about 20 years and all who ride it find it offers a varying challenge depending on the wind. The northern half is mostly flat while still in Lorain County. The terrain starts to give way to some rollers as you get deeper into Ashland County. There's a real good one just outside Hayesville. The ride home gets easier (if that's possible in a century) as you get further north. The route loses altitude as you make your way toward Oberlin and if there's a tailwind, it's a real "breeze".

This is a freebie century through southern Lorain and northern Ashland Counties. The route takes us south from Oberlin through some rolling Amish countryside to Jeromesville. Then it's west on part of the Cardinal Trail to Ashland. From here, we'll head back home via route 511. Plan for stops in Hayesville Olivesburg (for BIG ice cream cones) and Nova to refuel. It wouldn't hurt to take a Powerbar or two along, just in case. For those who think 50 miles or so is enough, there's a cutoff at Ashland County Road 500 to accommodate you.

The ride will start in Oberlin OH at the Oberlin Community Center at 8:00 AM on Saturday, May 27, 2006. The Community Center is just off South Main Street a few blocks south of Tappen Square ... the center of town and the intersection of State routes 58 & 511. From Tappen Square, drive south on Main Street until you see the McDonalds & the Bike Path ... you're there! If you're unfamiliar with the area a map of the Oberlin area is available on our web site <http://www.lorainwheelmen.org> in Adobe Acrobat format. For more info, see our website: <http://www.lorainwheelmen.org/jjj.htm> or e-mail us at rides@lorainwheelmen.org.



April 2006 Wheelmen Calendar

Date	Starting Point	Destination	How Far	The etc's
Sunday ride times are 8:30 AM Eastern Daylight Time!				
05/04	Nordson Depot	Meeting	7:30 PM	be there!
05/07	Amherst	Milan	56	to the invention.
		Berlin Hts.	42	will something be open?
05/14	Oberlin Inn	Norwalk	56	A nice restaurant!
		Wakeman	32	Our old standby
05/20	Spenser Lake	Wooster	57	A long Saturday ride
05/21	N Olmsted	Cle Zoo	53	A nice city ride (see below)
05/27	Oberlin Community Center	JJJ	50/100	a freebie invitational
05/28	Amherst	LaGrange	54/45	Is it summer yet?

Note the meeting on the FIRST Thursday of the month!

All Wheelmen rides require an approved helmet!

Special Start: Water Tower Square in North Olmsted is on the corner of Lorain and Dover Center Roads. Exit 480 at Sterns Road and go north to Lorain Road. Turn right and the shopping center is only a couple of blocks. The ride will feature some of the Metro Parks, and some city riding, including Lake Avenue (Lakewood) and the Flats.

Spenser Lake Parking Lot: On the eastside of Foster Rd about 1-1/4 mi. north of Rte 162.

Amherst: The Amherst start is the City parking area 3 located between Tenney & Park Avenues just east of Church Street. From SR-58, go west on Park Avenue. When you get to the bowling alley, look to the left ... that's the lot! We meet on the south end near Tenney.

Oberlin: The Oberlin Sunday start is in the Oberlin Inn parking lot located in the rear of the Inn. The Saturday start is Prospect school on the corner of Elm St. and Prospect St.

Saturday Morning rides are about 30 miles with a fueling stop. They start from Prospect School at 9:00 AM.

Evening rides are moving back to the summer schedule. Both rides will start at 5:30 P.M. The TUE ride will start at Prospect School in Oberlin. The THU ride will start from the City parking lot in Amherst. Both will be in the 20 to 30 mile range.

Yo, Wheelers!

In case you didn't make it to our annual meeting held at the beginning of March, it was a great success. Dues were collected and the ride schedule for the year was presented by John Stork. We will attempt to keep you posted on the ride schedule through this column. It is important to remember that rides are subject to change and it is always a good idea to consult the Club's web site at WWW.WesternReserveWheelers.Com to verify any change.



For the benefit of those who prefer slower paced rides, the "C" Group or "Over The Hill Division" ride every Saturday and Sunday. Unless announced otherwise, rides always start at the "J", at the same time as the ride on the following day. From time to time the "C" Group will join up at the other starting points for the regularly scheduled ride.

Of considerable interest at the meeting was the showing by John Stork of crash scenes from various European rides, including the Tower de France. It was scary to see a pack moving at considerable speed with a rider who goes down, and takes several more riders with him. Not only do the riders get banged up, but the finely tuned bicycles the racers use take a big time beating.

It won't be long now before I start seeing all of you on our rides.

May the wind be at your back.
Ed Reichek

2006 RIDE SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	START	DISTANCE
5/07	Sam's Tinkers Creek	8:30	JCC	42/38/30
5/14	County Line Special	8:30	JCC	38/28
5/21	Hudson	8:30	JCC	40
5/28	Hale Farm	8:30	Northfield Center*	63/36
5/29	Memorial Day Rid	8:30	JCC	
6/4	Cal's Five County	8:30	JCC	49/38/32
6/11	Urban Desert	8:30	JCC	40/30
6/18	North Shore Limited	8:30	Sunset Pond*	42/36
6/25	Hiram/Mantua	8:30	Chagrin Falls*	46/37

**** Note****

* A Riders will start earlier at JCC - check website for details.

For further information, schedule changes, directions to starting points and an archive of ride maps please see www.westernservewheelers.com

Saturday rides begin at the JCC at the same time as the following Sunday ride.



Write Your Senator for Better Bicycling Laws

The standard “Rules of the Road” are very beneficial to bicycle drivers. They help create an orderly transportation system that allows swift travel in reasonable safety. Unfortunately, some of the special rules directed towards cyclists are detrimental towards safety. In fact, some of them mandate unsafe practices.

House Bill 389 will amend appropriate sections of the Ohio Revised Code to make changes to certain laws that relate to bicycle operation and safety. These changes are based on a proposal written by a committee of the Ohio Bicycle Federation that includes four bicycle safety instructors, certified by the League of American Bicyclists. Go to the OBF web site at www.ohiobike.org for complete details on our bill.

The changes include provisions to:

- § Give courts sentencing discretion including remedial bicycle training
- § Eliminate misinterpretation of bicycle road position
- § Allow a person operating a bicycle to stand up to pedal
- § Clarify bicycle safety equipment requirements
- § Exempt bicyclists from continuous turn signal requirement.

This legislation better aligns Ohio law to provisions of the Uniform Vehicle Code, accepted nationwide as the benchmark for traffic law.

HB 389 is also supported by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, The Ohio State Highway Patrol and The Ohio Department of Transportation. The Better Ohio Bicycling Bill, House Bill 389, has passed the full Ohio House.

HB 389 has been assigned to the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee, chaired by Senator Jeffrey Armbruster of North Ridgeville, just west of Cleveland.

Please support HB 389 with a letter to your Ohio state senator. Go to <http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/search.cfm> to find contact information.

In your letter to your state senator, please mention that HB 389:

1. More closely aligns Ohio cycling law with the Uniform Vehicle Code.
2. Has been approved by the Ohio Highway Patrol, ODOT, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety.
3. That sponsor Rep. Arlene Setzer of Vandalia, would appreciate Senate co-sponsors.

Bike to Work Program Kicks Off

Friday May 19th is ClevelandBikes first Bike to Work Day - coordinated with National Bike to Work Week. Join us as we meet at A.J. Rocco's, at the corner of West Huron &

Prospect Rd., who is offering free coffee and bagels. Go to www.ClevelandBikes.org for more information on the Bike to Work Program.

ClevelandBikes Membership for 2006

Renew or set up a new membership at www.clevelandbikes.org and click on the donations link, you can pay through Pay Pal, most of the major credit cards and e-check is accepted! It's simple and your dues are tax-deductible.

STUDENT \$15 – for persons enrolled in school fulltime

BASIC \$30 – members @ this level are entitled to participate in all ClevelandBikes Programs without voting privileges

ADVOCATE \$50 – members are entitled to participate in all ClevelandBikes Programs and have voting privileges

CHROM-MOLY \$100 – donor level with voting privileges

CARBON FIBER \$250 – significant donor with voting privileges

TITANIUM \$500 – outstanding donor with voting privileges

Founding Membership \$1000 - Lifetime membership

Each membership includes one year subscription to CrankMail: The Voice of Cyclist in Northeast Ohio

Contact ClevelandBikes at www.clevelandbikes.org, or write/email: Rob Schwab, rshwab@hotmail.com or write: ClevelandBikes, 16781 Chagrin Blvd., #167, Shaker Heights, OH 44120, for more information on membership.

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The Perils of Road Rage

Marty Cooperman

It was a bright, sunny morning at the end of March when Edie and I set out to bike to work as we do every day. We live in Cleveland Heights and take Cedar Rd to Carnegie on our way downtown. Cedar is wide up in the Heights, then narrows as it passes through the Cedar-Fairmount shopping district. There are surges of traffic along Cedar controlled by distant traffic lights. When traffic is coming we ride single-file. When the road is empty we ride two abreast and chat, then single up again when necessary.

This particular morning a lady coming past us as we were single-file, passed a bit closer than was comfortable, stopped at the traffic light and pulled within inches of the curb to prevent us from riding alongside, in a lane easily big enough to accommodate us both. My normal reaction is to move left to the driver's side, pass the car, then stop right in front of it and have them wait behind me, one unsociable gesture in response to another. Edie was quicker; spotting a curb cut, she rode up the sidewalk and down the next curb cut, nicely bypassing the car, but still stayed to the right. A few moments later the light changed and we started up, the woman this time clearly swerving uncomfortably near to us before moving to the next lane as the lane we were in had parking up ahead and was impassable. This time I gave chase and caught her shortly at the following light. What happened next was hilarious.

Pulling up on her left I rapped on the driver's side window to get her attention, and as I did so, recognized her as someone who used to work in the same place as I, some 20 years ago. We worked on some projects together. She was a nice, intelligent person whose company I enjoyed and whom I had run into on occasion in the neighborhood even after she took a different job. After rapping on her window, she pressed the button to roll it down. But I had the one-second advantage. I recognized her first.

'Jane, I exclaimed, as the window came down, 'how nice to see you', as a red, angry face, broke into embarrassed bewilderment. 'I'm glad you recognized me', how are you doing?'. About to let loose with a tirade, she suddenly found herself facing an old acquaintance who was greeting her as though this was a serendipitous coincidence. Struggling to switch emotions she managed to blurt out a hello while still trying to tell me that she thought it was dangerous to ride alongside cars like that. Annoyance couched in the language of safety. The words and facial expression didn't match. She couldn't hide her anger but couldn't express it either. What a quandary.

The light changed and saved her from herself. I waved goodbye and so did she. As I rejoined a puzzled Edie, I had to hold myself back from laughing to get the words of explanation out. We were grinning all the way downtown.

(Marty Cooperman and Edie Antl commute downtown every day but rarely get the chance to meet all those nice drivers along the way. If you're a nice driver and want to say hello, just copy Jane's actions and we'll get acquainted).



LAKE ERIE WHEELERS

P.O. BOX 26146, FAIRVIEW PARK, OHIO 44126-0146
lakeeriewheelers@yahoo.com www.lakeeriewheelers.org

LEW Club Weekend & Holiday Ride Schedule

- May 7 9:00 Bonnie Park to Peninsula - Stanford House Pancakes - 50 miles.
May 14 9:00 Bonnie Park to Scenic Park - 25 miles.
May 14 10:00 Bike Path Ride: Berea Falls to Scenic Park.
May 20 9:00 Women's Ride: Hinckley to Sharon Township - 30 miles.
May 21 9:00 Tour de Cleveland - 30/65 miles.
May 28 9:00 Brecksville to Chagrin and Burton - 45/65 miles.
May 29 9:00 Holiday Hawaiian Shirt ride start from Scenic Park to Cleveland Flats for lunch - 30 flat miles.

Please consult club website for maps & details on the start locations. 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 Olmsted Falls East River Park at the normal start time for the month.

Weekday Evening Rides

Tuesday Evenings – Short, slower (C-pace) rides starting on April 18, from the parking lot behind the Fairview Park Post Office at West 220th Street & Lorain Road, 6:30 p.m., weather permitting. Usually 10 to 18 miles in length, these are recommended for beginning and slower riders. For details call Greg James at 440-331-9419.

Wednesday Evenings – The “Mod” (Moderate Pace) Rides will leave from the Olmsted Falls Public Library lower parking lot at 6:30 Wednesday nights, beginning April 19, weather permitting, of course. These qualify as B rides, with distances varying from 20 to 40 miles, and will be led by Marc Snitzer and Greg James. For more information, contact Marc Snitzer at 440-236-3017, e-mail at msnit@juno.com, or Greg James at 440-331-9419 (email at clockwerke@aol.com).

Regular Club Wednesday Evenings – Moderate to fast pace, 20-30 mile rides. Starting location To Be Announced. Time 6:30 pm . For details, contact Jim Boland at 440-779-0070 (jboland@apk.net), or Ed Wheeler at 440-572-1122 (wheels@ameritech.net).

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 2006 Women's Rides Series

In order to provide as many opportunities as possible to ride amongst bicyclists with common interests, we are pleased to announce the Lake Erie Wheelers Women's Rides, which will be held on the third Saturday of each month, from April through October. This year, we'll offer fun new rides (B-C pace) led by different group members. Please

check the ride schedule on the Lake Erie Wheelers web site, in CrankMail or contact Bonnie Vargo (vargobb@hotmail.com), for ride starting locations and destinations.

The 2006 Ohio Bike Path Series

This year we are proud to continue the popular Ohio Bike Path Series, conducted entirely on bicycle paths or all-purpose trails, supplementing the regular Sunday rides. These will usually be held the second Sunday of each month, from May to October. Last year we drew many members, their families, and some guests. We 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.

These will be “C” level rides, beginning at 10:00am, 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.

The Ohio Bike Path rides, distances, & Ride Leaders, for the early 2006 Season:

May 14	Berea Falls to Scenic Park	28 miles	John Whitaker
June 11	Elyria to Kipton via North Coast Inland Trail	28 miles	Dan Izuka

The April, 2006 Club Meeting

After snacking on pizza and distributing the member packets, the meeting came to order. It began with the Secretary's report, which was read and accepted. This was followed by the Treasurer's report, which indicated a balance sufficient to cover upcoming expenses, including Rail-n-Trail. The Membership Chairman stated that the roster had risen to 87 paid members as of the start of the meeting.

Old business started with Rail-n-Trail: Dave Schneider mentioned that volunteers for the event will be able to ride for free, if they chose to do so. A “daisy” pattern ride for the Road Option has been established, centered on Stanford House. An arrangement has been reached with Carvel Ice Cream for providing coupons for riders. The Cuyahoga Valley Park Association has offered to provide parking lot attendants for the day of the event. The marketing is going well, adding two more sponsors for the event, and still seeking more: a sales kit has been assembled to assist the effort.

The “Early Bird” registration has been extended to April 22; we have 12 registrants as of the meeting, and we are getting plenty of hits on the website. Approximately 5,000 flyers will be printed to promote the event, with many to be distributed via Northeast Ohio bicycle shops. We intend to have a promotional booth at the Lake Metroparks Sports Expo at Lake Farmpark on May 7 (volunteers are requested, see John Whitaker). We anticipate that this year’s Rail-n-Trail will be better than last year’s.

The new club jerseys will be ordered from Canari's in California. The order form is available online. Be sure to measure to determine correct size: the jersey material works best with a snug (not tight or loose) fit.

New business covered the Weekday Rides that start in April: the Tuesday Night Rides out of Fairview Park, and the Wednesday Night Rides out of Olmstead Falls. The Regular Wednesday Night Rides will shift from Berea to Lakewood at the end of April. The Findlay State Park Tour was mentioned (see below). John Clay offered kudos to Eric Overton for the Long Distance Touring Rides in April. Following an announcement that the next meeting will be held on October 9, the meeting adjourned. Sherman of Bike Authority treated members to a presentation of new bicycle merchandise.

LEW Touring Division News

Tom Meara will continue as Chairman of the Touring Division.

Tom is also interested in attracting LEW members who have are enthusiastic about touring, overnight and otherwise. Anyone interested can contact him at 440-777-2563, or email him at tmeara@wowway.com. Volunteers are needed for Ride Captains.

Planned overnight tours for the 2006 Touring Season:

Tour Destination	Date	Ride Captains
Findlay Lake State Park	May 20, 21	TBA

Please consult the 2006 Club Ride Schedule for more Touring Rides. Starting locations and times TBA. Rides are RSVP; please notify Tom Meara promptly to be included.

Prospective riders are expected to be physically fit, properly attired & equipped, with bicycles suitable for the routes in question (and adequately maintained).

The Findlay Lake State Park Tour

The Findley State Park Overnight Touring Ride will be held on May 20-21. The start location will be in Valley City, at the intersection of Ohio Rt. 252 & 303. The distance will be approx. 35 miles each way, and the pace will be "B" to "C". Please note that this ride is self-contained, and you will be responsible for carrying all of your gear including tent, sleeping bag, food and clothing. Limited sag will be provided; we will have a van meet us at the park, primarily to deliver wood for the evening campfire. Since we will need a head count to make reservations for campsites, please plan on committing to the ride no later than Friday May 6th. If you would like to make a reservation to guarantee your campsite, the \$19.00 fee must be paid (by cash or check payable to Lake Erie Wheelers) no later than Friday May 5th. You may also choose not to purchase a reservation and take your chances on finding (and paying for) your spot when we arrive. For more information, please contact Greg James, 440-331-9419 or email at clockwerke@aol.com. If you would like some information about the park, go to: <http://findleystatepark.org/>.



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Time for Spring Cleaning. Sell your unwanted bike stuff in CrankMail!

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Pearl Izumi cool weather windproof zipper tights, womens' L, nearly new, \$40 - **Giro helmet "Venus"**, white with black visor, 50-57cm, \$20 - **Luis Garneau helmet** with visor, white with red accents, ConsumerUnion-rated "safest", 53-56 cm, \$20- **Avenir Ultralite MTB pedals** with toe clips, \$15 - **Shimano SPD clipless pedals PD-M505**, \$18- **Kore AL2014 butted straight handle bar** aluminum with rubber grips, weighs 6oz, \$15. Call 216-321-2083 or email enr2@case.edu

Draftmaster Specialty+3 Hitch Rack. Holds 1 tandem/LWB recumbent, 3 single bikes, and front wheels. Pivots for easy loading. \$400. 216-832-8870 sct@po.cwru.edu

Biemmezeta 23" Italian road racing bike. Classic old style with friction shifters, chrome forks and stays. Many new parts...Campy, Suntour, Shimano - derailleurs, cranks, stems, etc. \$150 OBO. 216-671-9030.

Bianchi Nuova Touring 18-speed, 53 cm, 27" wheels, mfg in 1981, needs a little grease and oil and someone who will love it. Make offer. Hilary, 216-548-4558, email tohrp@yahoo.com

Expires June 2006

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