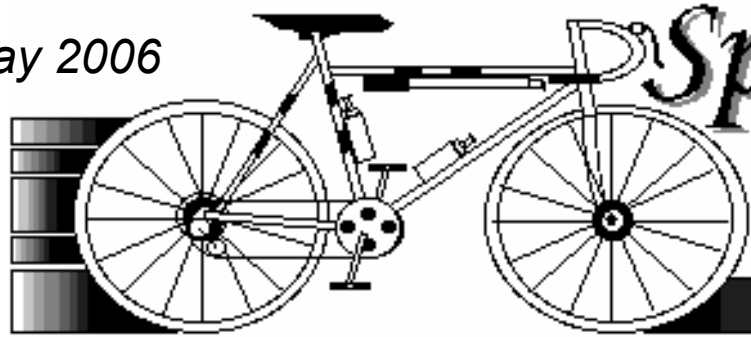


May 2006



# Spoke'n Word

Wabash River Cycle Club  
Newsletter  
West Lafayette, Indiana

WABASH  
RIVER  
CYCLE CLUB

## The Value (?) of Meetings

You will notice that there is no “club meeting” listed on the May calendar. The Board has decided to give May a miss because it seems that most of us were more interested in riding our bikes than sitting in a meeting. In the past few months, only a few members took advantage of the opportunity to catch up on club news and swap stories while enjoying the pizza buffet at Pizza Hut. These gives rises to the question of why have meetings anyway?

### **Paceline**

In the past, before e-mail and websites, the newsletter and club meetings were the only reliable ways to pass on club information. These days, it seems that we spend much of our day at the computer, and that we're more likely to use e-mail than the telephone to communicate. Thanks to the listserv, any of us can pass on information to almost everyone else in the club at the click of a mouse. Board meeting minutes are posted on the website and in the newsletter, and any of us can reach a Board member via e-mail by clicking on their name on the website. By the time you read this, there will be a survey on the website (concerning club meetings, among other things). It's all a little impersonal, but it's pretty efficient.

Thanks to Andy Hirsch's survey, you'll have a chance to weigh in on the value of club meetings. Do we need to meet formally every month, or should we just meet when we have a specific program to present? Should we spend more time riding and less time meeting?

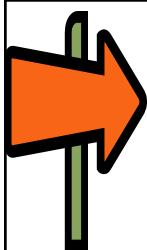
I don't know that there's a “right” or “wrong” answer to this. I've belonged to a club that had a club meeting the first Thursday of every month, with no ride scheduled that night (even in the peak riding season). That club did all of its business at the club meeting; there was no Board, and about 30-35 people regularly

showed up at meetings. I've also belonged to a fairly large regional club (similar to CIBA) that had a yearly general membership meeting, and that was about it—the Board and officers took care of everything else. I had a good time in both clubs, but meetings (or the lack of them) had nothing to do with it. It was the bike riding that made it all worthwhile. Meetings should enhance the cycling experience, not detract from it. The timing and content of meetings should cater to the desires of the membership.

So, take a moment, visit the WRCC website at [www.wrcc-in.org/](http://www.wrcc-in.org/), and let us know what you

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Take the Short Online Questionnaire



This is your club! The Board is interested in getting input from its membership. Towards this end, we have created a short online questionnaire of 6 questions plus an opportunity for you to express your thoughts on how to improve the Club. The survey will be "open"

as of the receipt of this newsletter and will close on May 31. Look forward to a full report in the July Newsletter.

Andy



## WRCC Contact List

### 2005 Club Officers

#### *President*

Joe Bolan 497-4873

#### *Vice President*

Andrew Hirsch 463-1132

#### *Secretary*

Erin Chamberlain

erinchamberl1@yahoo.net

#### *Treasurer*

Rob Peterson 449-0967

### Board Members

Corinne Alexander 429-8525

Donna Bourne 426-8303

Chloe Harshman 474-8621

Daniel Mendoza 430-7367

Greg Small 742-8112

Joan Wealing - 219-261-2825

### Chair Officers

#### *Membership*

#### **Volunteer Needed**

*Century Coordinator*

Ariel Evans 447-7885

*Advocacy Chair*

#### **Volunteer Needed**

*Mileage Log*

Erin Chamberlain

*Newsletter Editor*

Brien Dick 497-2283

*Cartographer*

Charlie Myer 474-8996

*Webmaster*

Becki Farley 296-4055

### Ride Coordinators

#### Chair / Calendar

Kevin Johnston

*A - (11 MPH or less)*

Mark Levinthal 497-7155

*B - (12 -14 MPH) &*

*C - (15 -17 MPH)*

Janet Winters 463-2404

*D - (18 -20 MPH)*

Mike Lockwood 743-0273

*Mountain Bike*

Ariel Evans 447-7885

want in terms of club meetings and all-club rides. We have attempted to build camaraderie by reintroducing the Tuesday all-club ride, and we're resuming the once-a-month



weekend all-club ride with a Century preview (the first of several, to be sure) from Mulberry on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The intent of getting together as a group is to encourage cyclists of all abilities to meet each other and maybe even to a little socializing on their own after the ride. It seems that club meetings had turned out to be more of a chance to socialize with the few who came out (and we did have a good time doing that), and maybe that particular aspect of the club meeting can be just as well (or even better) met by the spontaneous meetings that occur during and after all-club rides. (Chloe is already working on something for the south-side rides on Tuesdays in May).

By all means, take advantage of the opportunity to see some new roads and meet some new people at the all-club rides, and let us know what you think about meetings and all-club rides. The purpose of all of this is to make bike riding more fun, and isn't that the whole reason we all joined WRCC?

See you on the road!

Joe B.

Remember your 10% Club Discount at

**Hodson's Bay Company  
On the Levee**

Your Local Source for  
Everything Cycling and Fitness

# WRCC Ride Calendar, May 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	<b>2</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Mayflower Mill	<b>3</b> 2:30pm, B+, Armstrong Pk. 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Soccer Fields	<b>4</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Burtsfield	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00am, D-, PWSP 10:00am, B, Burtsfield
<b>7</b> 9:00am, C, Botanical Gdns 9:30am, B, Burtsfield 12:30pm, D, Ft. Ouatennon	<b>8</b> 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	<b>9</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Mayflower Mill	<b>10</b> 2:30pm, B+, Armstrong Pk. 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Soccer Fields	<b>11</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Burtsfield	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00am, B, East Tipp 12:30pm, D, Ft. Ouatennon
<b>14</b> 9:00am, C, Botanical Gdns 9:30am, B, Burtsfield 12:30pm, D, Ft. Ouatennon	<b>15</b> 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	<b>16</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Mayflower Mill	<b>17</b> 2:30pm, B+, Armstrong Pk. 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Soccer Fields	<b>18</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Burtsfield	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10:00am, All Class, Centennial park in Mulberry
<b>21</b> 9:00am, C, Botanical Gdns 9:30am, B, Burtsfield 12:30pm, D, Ft. Ouatennon 2:00pm, A, Cumberland Park	<b>22</b> 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	<b>23</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Mayflower Mill	<b>24</b> 2:30pm, B+, Armstrong Pk. 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Soccer Fields	<b>25</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Burtsfield	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10:00am, B+, Burtsfield 12:30pm, D, PWSP
<b>28</b> 9:00am, C, Botanical Gdns 9:30am, B, Burtsfield 12:30pm, D, Ft. Ouatennon	<b>29</b> 5:30pm, B, Burtsfield	<b>30</b> 5:30pm, All Class, Mayflower Mill	<b>31</b> 2:30pm, B+, Armstrong Pk. 5:30pm, B, Kalberer Soccer Fields			

## WRCC RIDE SCHEDULE, MAY, 2006

Sat 6	7:00 am	D-	100 miles	PWSP	Mike Lockwood
Sat 13	9:00am	B	25-30 miles	East Tipp	Rosemary
Sat 6	10:00am	B	40-50 miles	Burtsfield	Corinne (Lunch ride bring \$\$)
Sat 27	10:00am	B		Burtsfield	Show & Go
Sat 20	10:00am	All Club 13-100 (Century Preview) Centennial Park in Mulberry			Joe Bolan
Sat 13	12:30pm	D	50-70 miles	Ft. Ouiatenon	Kevin Johnston
Sat 27	12:30pm	D		PWSP	Show & Go
Sun 7,14,21,28	9:00 am	C	40-45 miles	Botanical Gardens	Show & Go
Sun 7,14,21,28	9:30am	B		Burtsfield	Show & Go
Sun 7,14,21,28	12:30pm	D		Ft. Ouiatenon	Show & Go
Sun 21	2:00 pm	A	5-7 miles	Cumberland Park	Family ride by Hodson's Bay
Mon 1,8,15,22,29	5:30pm	B		Burtsfield	Show & Go
Tues 2,9,16,23,30	5:30pm	All Class		Mayflower Mill elementary school	
Wed 3,10,17,24,31	2:30pm	B		Armstrong Park	Dave Blaauw
Wed 3,10,17,24,31	5:30pm	B		Kalberer Soccer field	Daves Simon and Smith
Thurs 4,11,18,25	5:30pm	All Class		Burtsfield School	

### All Club Ride From Mulberry May 20<sup>th</sup>!

On Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am from Centennial Park in Mulberry (on Gasline Road), there will be an All-Club ride. It will be a century preview, with routes ranging from 13 to 100 miles (including approximately 25, 35, 50 and 65 miles). Take this chance to see Charlie Myer's great new Century route and meet old and new friends. Refreshments will be served.

See you there!  
Joe B.

Note: “+” indicates high end of speed range, “-“ indicates low end of speed range; eg, B+ = fast B, C- = slow C.

**Show-N-Go rides:** Destination, distance, speed, and reason are determined by the participants.

Category		Ave. Speed	Starting Places
A	12mph & less		Burtsfield School, 1800 N Salisbury, W. Laf.
B	12 - 15mph		PWSP, Purdue West Shopping Plaza, SR26W & Airport Rd., W.Laf.
C	16 - 18mph		East Tipp School, CR 300N & 750E, Laf.
D	18 - 20mph		Other Pub, 3000 S. 9 <sup>th</sup> St., Laf.
E	21+ mph		Clegg Gardens, 1782N 400E, Laf.
AC = All Club (all categories)			Fort Ouiatenon, S. River Rd. & Newman Rd., W.Laf.
			Shadeland Recreation Center, 250W & 450S, Shadeland

Starting Places
National Guard Armory, 5220E 200S, Laf.
Cumberland School, Cumberland Ave., W.Laf.
Wea Ridge School, 1333E 430S, Laf.
Burnett Creek School, 5700N 50W, W.Laf.
Armstrong Park, Beck Lane & S. 9th. St., Laf.
Cicott Park, Independence, IN
<b>WRCC web site:</b> <a href="http://www.wrcc-in.org/">http://www.wrcc-in.org/</a>



## WRCC Board Meeting – March 20, 2006

Present:

Joe Bolan, Donna Bourne, Ariel Evans, Andrew Hirsch, Ed Lambuth, Rob Peterson, Greg Small

Minutes of Feb, 16, 2006 meeting were accepted and will be posted on the WRCC website.

Rob reported that the balance in our bank account was \$10,974. We've spent \$357 on newsletters, Jan. – March. The banquet cost \$966. 2006 Century expenses thus far at \$384, the majority of which went towards our first mailing of postcards to last year's riders. We've taken in \$486 in 2006 dues. Ultimately, payment of dues should result in income of close to \$2000.

Andy presented a draft of a survey that will be made available to the membership on the WRCC website. The goal of the survey is to obtain input from the membership as to how to improve the club. A message will be distributed to the membership via the listserve when the survey is ready to go "live."

All Club Rides were discussed at some length. The Board supported the notion of reviving the All Club Rides in an effort to foster greater interaction among the club members. The following motion was made and accepted by the Board:

Starting with the May Ride Calendar, every Tuesday and Thursday will be reserved for All Club Rides originating from Mayflower Mill and Burtsfield School, respectively. No other rides will be scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays. The May newsletter will include directions to these starting points. Joe B. will ask Charlie Myer if he can provide route maps suitable for riders in each speed group.

Brief discussion of the National Trails meeting. The club would benefit greatly if a member would assume the Advocacy Chair, vacated by Sandy Laing. Joe will mention this in the next newsletter.

2006 Century:

Design for T-shirts and brochures is completed.

Visitor's Bureau will mail our brochures and those for the Zoo-Run-Run to the combined WRCC/Columbian Park Zoo mailing list.

Ariel has mailing labels for all Indiana bike shops. We will mail an appropriate number of brochures to each shop.

Janet B. will troll the web for contact information for bike clubs in bordering states.

New Business:

Discussion of how to do more to promote cycling in the community. Visitor's Bureau is very supportive of cycling and would split the cost of bike racks with the club. We will look into placing bike racks in local (neighborhood, county, state) parks such as Happy Hollow, Ft. Ouiatenon, Prophet's Town...

Feedback from Hodson's Bay: The WRCC's reputation in the community is not as good as it could be (putting it diplomatically). We are not considered a friendly group and we sometimes violate traffic laws. The Board believes that we all need to do more to develop a positive image within the community. Hodson's is going to sponsor a May community ride. We will encourage the WRCC membership to turn out in large numbers to support Hodson's ride. In addition, we will partner with Hodson's in distributing bike toys at the Family Ride this August.

Next Board Meeting: April 17, 7 pm @ Manicini's.



# WRCC MEMBERSHIP FORM



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS JOINING:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
Same Address	<input type="checkbox"/>
NEW MEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>TYPE MEMBERSHIP</b> STUDENT (\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL (\$20) <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY (\$25) <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>AVERAGE SPEED</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1-11 (A) <input type="checkbox"/> 12-14 (B) <input type="checkbox"/> 15-17 (C) <input type="checkbox"/> 18-20 (D) <input type="checkbox"/> OVER 20(E)	<b>CYCLING TYPE</b> COMMUTING <input type="checkbox"/> TOURING <input type="checkbox"/> RACING <input type="checkbox"/> MOUNTAIN <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>RETURN TO:</b> WABASH RIVER CYCLE CLUB P.O. BOX 1243 LAFAYETTE, IN 47902-1243  I would be willing to lead rides: <input type="checkbox"/>
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ARE YOU A MEMBER OF INDIANA BICYCLE COALITION? YES  NO

MAY WE PUBLISH YOUR NAME IN OUR DIRECTORY? YES  NO

Minors (under 18 yrs) require parent/guardian to accompany on all activities

<b>T-shirt size</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Small
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium
<input type="checkbox"/> Large
<input type="checkbox"/> XLarge
<input type="checkbox"/> XXLlarge

Visit the WRCC website at - [www.wrcc-in.org](http://www.wrcc-in.org)



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