



May Day 2018.

Yay! It's finally spring, the trees and flowers are blooming, the sun is warm, and there are some days when it's not even windy! Get out and enjoy the shoulder season before it gets muggy and hot (and you know that's coming PDQ).

On April 26, twenty seven club members met at Walt's for an All-Club meeting, and talked about lots of new ideas. It was lively and fun. Thanks to all who came, and for all your great suggestions!

**Here are some of your ideas, addressing ride- and WRR- related stuff:**

**People would like to see**

- more calendar and fewer listserv rides;
- more rides that are friendly to newbies, especially ones in the N/S and E categories;
- varying the distances for rides in different categories (e.g., have some short fast B rides, or a long E rides);
- more varied start times for our rides, e.g., 7:00 pm rather than only 5:30 pm, and more varied start locations, so it's not so skewed toward WL;
- put some morning rides on the calendar, e.g., 7:00-8:00 am; can we hold ride leader training sessions;
- holiday-themed rides (e.g., St. Patrick's Day, Halloween).

As for the **Wabash River Ride**, lots of ideas were floated:

- review peer rides of similar size and examine what makes them successful
- review our advertising strategy, make an Instagram/Twitter/FB for event itself
- make the WRR culture more inclusive and community-driven by incorporating more local groups as part of the ride
- come up with more family friendly routes (shorter and flatter),
- have local food trucks to provide menu items that are the same price as the BBQ per person, and then riders can choose what they would prefer for their "end of ride meal"
- ask Peoples or other breweries to partner with us at the end of the ride with swag and beverages (?!)
- ask local bakeries to partner with our ride for SAGs by having a table/booth.

**Just go do it:** So hey, it's your club! If you have been thinking you'd like to try leading a ride, and you think you've got the experience to do this, step up! We'll arrange training and mentoring for brand-new leaders, maybe even someone to co-lead with you a time or two! You earn a bike buck for each ride you lead or sweep, so there's that too. If you want different times and start places, try leading a ride in the morning or for a shorter slot. Experiment, and make the changes happen that you would like to see.

**A head's up:** we need more leaders for slower and beginner rides, especially N/S (novice/senior) and E rides (11-13 mph). Please consider doing this once a week.

Also, we'll be talking about lots of these ideas at our **upcoming Board meeting**, which is scheduled for **6:00-7:30 pm on Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Board Room of the West Lafayette Public Library**. Non-Board members are welcome to attend.

~Pat