

DERAILLEUR MAILLEUR

February 2011

CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB 101



Leading Rides

By Jim Adgate

This club runs on volunteers, and I hope as a member you will consider leading a ride or rides in 2011. The ride season runs April through October. Most rides occur on weekends, although you are welcome to lead a ride during the week.

If you have never led a ride, reach out to rides@chicagocyclingclub.org. We'll help you develop and publicize your ride theme. The week prior to your ride, we'll send you the waivers, cue sheet forms (use our template or your own) and other necessary information.

Need help planning a route? We have a library of old rides at the club website to provide suggestions along with links that will allow you to map routes. Need help leading a ride? Let us know and we can designate a "co-leader" to help you get going on ride morning.

To submit a ride, go to the ride submission page here:

<http://www.chicagocyclingclub.org/rides/rides.htm>



The Steering Committee

By Justin Sondak

The Club's Steering Committee (SC) comprises a half-dozen officers and another half-dozen (or so) committee chairs. These fine people are listed in the "About the Club" section, page 3. Every couple months (or so), the SC meets to discuss club business, collaborate on projects, and vote on important decisions: whether to get involved in certain events, how to spend funds, etc. *All club members are welcome* at these meetings to learn about and offer fresh perspectives on club matters. Even if you can't attend, we always appreciate your questions and new ideas. Send them all to pres@chicagocyclingclub.org

Officers serve two-year terms, with three new people elected onto the SC each year. (Remember those ballots we sent you last year?) Now here's the nutty part: after CCC members elect these three lucky people, the committee gets together and decides who will be President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large. It's all in our by-laws which, on occasion, the SC tweaks to make the club work better. For instance, our former "Newsletter" committee is now the "Publicity" committee to reflect the variety of ways you're getting club news and information.



Getting Involved and Staying Involved

By Anne Alt

Membership

It's that time again: membership renewal time. Memberships expire each year on December 31. If you join in September or later, your membership includes the next calendar year. If you haven't already renewed, we hope that you'll join us again for 2011. There are three easy options: PayPal, Signmeup.com, or paper form. Go to the membership page on the club's web site to select your desired option.

To use PayPal, you need your 6-digit membership number. You can find it on your membership card or address label on any mailing from the club. Still can't find it? Email me at membership@chicagocyclingclub.org and I'll look it up for you.

Signmeup.com works equally well, and it allows you to update your contact information while you renew not an option with PayPal renewal.

You can also print a paper form in PDF or text format, then fill it out and mail it to the club's P.O. Box with a check or bring it to a club meeting.

If any of your contact information changes during the year, email it to membership@chicagocyclingclub.org, and I'll update it.

(Continued on page 3)

PREZ SEZ

By Justin Sondak



As the new Chicago Cycling Club president and a long-time club member, I'm looking forward to a great year for the CCC on the road and all over Chicagoland. Whether you're a club vet or just discovering us, I hope you'll ride with us, become a member, help us plan club events, and tell your friends how much fun you have riding with us.

My first goal for the CCC in 2011 is to make it easier for members to get involved in all aspects of club activities and leadership. When you renew your membership (hint, hint), you're asked how you'd like to help and volunteer. Once you've sent your form, we'll follow up and invite you to contribute your talents. If you can connect with fellow members to develop new ideas for rides or events: Great! If you can lend your expertise to an ongoing project: Thanks! If your schedule's packed but you wish us well, we appreciate that too.

We're an all-volunteer organization, which means every great idea came from a moment when "Someone should do this" became "Let's do this." Soon after joining the club, I noticed no one was leading rides to outdoor art sites or bowling alleys. So, with the help of experienced ride leaders introducing me to the club library of past ride cue sheets, I developed the Public Art Ride and Bike and Bowl. With a gentle nudge or two, great ideas become great club events. Mitch Gold wanted to fill the void of daytime weekday rides on the club's schedule, and Cycling Seniors was born. Our roadie rides have become popular enough to take on a life of their own, with aspiring roadies enjoying the Monday night "Introduction to Roadie Rides" series. We have a comprehensive club website where users can easily search the ride schedule and electronically renew our membership thanks to many hours put in by Rob Sindelar, Steve Kramer,

Jim Adgate, and Anne Alt. (If I've forgotten anyone else, we're no less thankful to them.)

Let's nurture the next great club ideas. If you're new to the club or just looking to be more involved, check out our page 1 guide to getting involved. Need help with a ride idea? Email rides@chicagocyclingclub.org. Want to help edit and produce this newsletter? Email editor@chicagocyclingclub.org. Don't know where to begin but feel like you've got to do something? Contact me at pres@chicagocyclingclub.org.



The 2011 Chicago Cycle Swap is Coming!

It's time to start thinking about getting out to ride in 2011 (if you haven't done so already). What better way to do so than attending the 2011 Chicago Cycle Swap, where numerous vendors, clubs, demos and presentations will be accessible to you in one location! Mark Saturday, February 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on your calendar, for that is when the Swap will take place. The event will be at the Pulaski Park Field House located at 1419 West Blackhawk Street.

The Chicago Cycling Club will have a table in the vendors/clubs area of the Swap and are looking for volunteers to be there to pass out club literature, promote our club, etc.. You can choose a time period to help out, then spend the rest of the day walking around the Swap. If you are interested, send a message to Brian Bird at his e-mail address: b_t_bird@yahoo.com and tell him what time period(s) you would be able to assist.

February Club Meetings

The Chicago Cycling Club's next monthly meeting is a boardgame night: **Tuesday, February 8, 7 p.m.** at Guthrie's Tavern, 1300 W. Addison Street, Chicago. See old and new friends while enjoying friendly competition and frosty beverages.

The Club's next Steering Committee meeting is **Saturday, February 12, 4 p.m.** at Julie Hochstadter's home. All members are welcome to help discuss club business. RSVP to juliehochstadter@gmail.com for directions.



Where to Bike Chicago

Where to Bike Chicago by CCC'er Greg Borzo offers a range of riding options for both novice and seasoned riders. The 72 rides (including 27 kids rides) take cyclists through Chicago's parks, streets and paths as well as through suburban forest preserves and trails. Helping riders discover the natural wonders, historical treasures and vibrant communities of Chicago and the suburbs that can only be found while biking.

The hardcover, spiral-bound book features spectacular color images of the city and suburbs and easy-to-use maps using precise, up-to-date GPS mapping techniques. It also includes the author's recommendations for exploring the city and suburbs by bike, along with a special section on the best rides for kids. Readers can make a quick decision about a particular ride by following advice in the At a Glance section which breaks down the distance, terrain and traffic patterns as well as the best way to get to the starting point by car or public transportation. The Ride Log guides the cyclist on how to navigate with ease what could otherwise be a difficult path. Other sections, such as "Before You Go," "What to Take" and "How to Ride," offer practical suggestions. And a richly illustrated chapter on the "History, Culture and Leaders" of biking in Chicago give readers a better understanding of the city's century-long love affair with biking.

(continued on page 3)

About the Club

Mission

To facilitate recreational bicycling in a non-competitive environment in and around the Chicago area; to promote safe bicycling habits and proper bicycling etiquette; to provide bicyclists an opportunity to network with other bicyclists; to encourage bicycling as a safe and viable alternative to other modes of transportation.

Contact

Snailmail: P O Box 1178, Chicago, IL 60690-1178

Website: www.chicagocyclingclub.org

General: info@chicagocyclingclub.org

Newsletter:

editor@chicagocyclingclub.org

Rides: rides@chicagocyclingclub.org

Telephone: 773.509.8093

Officers

President: Justin Sondak

Vice President: Julie Hochstadter

Treasurer: Brian Bird

Secretary: Jen Welch

Member at Large: Greg Borzo,

Kitty Shanahan

Rides: Julie Sherman

Publicity: Anne Alt

Education: TBD

Newsletter: Justin Sondak,

Tom Grose

Getting Involved and Staying Involved

(continued from page 1)

Staying in touch

The club has two major e-mail lists: the "main" list for official club announcements and the chat list for members to share information and ideas, suggest additional events, and otherwise reach out to fellow members. If you'd like to be added to these lists, or if you were a previous subscriber but have changed e-mail addresses, go to the "E-Mail Lists" page on the web site and submit a request (available to current members only).

We want to make the club greener in 2011 by improving our electronic newsletter and online presence, and reducing the use of paper. We will be making more use of Chainlink, Facebook and Twitter to publicize club rides and events. The club's web site will continue to evolve.

Feel free to use the appropriate contact links on the web site to stay in touch, get more involved or keep your membership up to date.



STYLE YOUR RIDE



JERSEYS

Sleeveless\$50

(Men: S - XL)(Women: S - 2X)

Shortsleeves\$55

(Men: S - 3X)(Women: S - 2X)

Longsleeves\$60

(Men: M - 3X)(Women:

M - XL)

WINDBREAKER - \$60

(Men: M - 3X)(Women:

S - 2X)

GLOVES - \$10

(XS-2X)

SOCKS - \$6

(S-XL)

CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

may purchase these items by contacting Duane O'Laughlin merchandise@chicagocyclingclub.org 773-612-8157

May not be shipped We will meet you at a club event or ride or you may pick up items by making arrangements to do so in advance.

Where to Bike Chicago

(continued from page 2)

A portion of every book sold will be donated to World Bicycle Relief. Founded by SRAM Corporation in 2005 and based in Chicago, World Bicycle Relief specializes in large-scale, comprehensive bicycle programs supporting poverty relief and disaster recovery initiatives. To date, World Bicycle Relief has provided more than 70,000 bicycles to seven countries, including Sri Lanka, Zambia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

BECOME A MEMBER FILL OUT THE FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR CHECK TO CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB

I, for myself and for any other minor on whose behalf I sign this membership application, agree that 1) bicycling is a potentially hazardous activity and that accidents can occur from negligence or carelessness; 2) ride leaders' maps and/or written directions are provided for my convenience only and not to guarantee a safe route or trip; and 3) I voluntarily participate in club events and assume all risks associated with participation therein, including but not limited to injury, falls, contact with other participants, weather, traffic, and road conditions, all such risks being known and appreciated by me.

Name(s) _____ Birthdate(s) _____

Name(s) _____ Birthdate(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Primary

phone _____

Secondary phone _____ E-mail _____

Emergency contact/phone _____

I obtained this membership application from _____

I want to receive a paper copy of the members' directory Yes No the club newsletter Yes No

I would like to help with the following: ride planning newsletter publicity meetings social events

Annual dues: Individual (\$20) Family (multiple individuals at one address \$25)

Do not share my contact information: within the Chicago Cycling Club with other bike-related organizations

Signature _____ Date _____

Chicago Cycling Club Newsletter February 2011



Only 2 months until ride season...

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB
DERAILLEUR
MAILLEUR February 2011

P. O. Box 1178
Chicago, IL 60690 - 1178

