

A P R I L 2 0 1 1

ON YOUR LEFT...



A NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA VALLEY BICYCLE CLUB

Bike rodeos: Each spring the Iowa Valley Bicycle Club supports bike rodeos conducted at local grade schools. The rodeos are put on by the Marshalltown Police Dept. with support from IVBC and other service clubs. Each rodeo goes from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. The police licenses each youth's bike for \$1.00, IVBC inspects the bikes (pumping up their tires and making minor adjustments) and then the youth participate in a series of skill drills. Below are the dates and schools for this year's rodeos. Any time you could give to support these rodeos would greatly be appreciated. Helping with the bike rodeos will give one a new perspective on the need for bicycle safety education. If you can help please contact Charlie Smith or Tom Kurth.

April 26	Roger's Elementary
April 28	Franklin Elementary
May 5	Hoglan Elementary
May 10	Fisher Elementary
May 17	Woodbury Elementary
May 19	Anson Elementary

DQ Safety Award Program: During the summer months, the Third Avenue Dairy Queen and the South Center Dairy Queen, along with the Marshalltown Police Department and IVBC will continue rewarding young bicycle riders who demonstrate safe riding technique by giving each rider a ticket for a free Jr. Blizzard at both Marshalltown Dairy Queens.

Quote of the Month: Marriage is a wonderful invention: then again, so is a bicycle repair kit. (I know this is true, just ask Rita)--Billy Connolly

RAGBRAI--The countdown has begun; be sure to log those miles so you will be in shape.



Linn Creek Recreational Trail Patrol Program:

The Marshalltown Police Department spoke to IVBC about the establishment of a trail patrol program. The program would involve five to eight club members riding the trail and reporting anything unusual on or near the trail. It is important to note that "reporting" is the only activity being requested. Currently club members and the Police Department are working on the details of the program, and if any club member is interested in helping to develop the program, please contact Tom Kurth at 641-752-1148.

Editorial Note: Most of us today carry our cell phone when we ride, and I have learned to leave it turned on all the time (which makes my children much happier). It might be wise of us to program the police department's **non-emergency** phone number into our cell phones and report any unusual activity on or near the trail. We will feel better knowing we are doing the right thing. **That number is 641-754-5725.**

Grimes Farm--S75 Connecting Trail: Dirt is moving. Check it out.

High Trestle Trail Grand Celebration---April 30, 2011

It's been eight years in the making: 25 miles of trail with one of the largest trail bridges in the world! An amazing collaboration made it happen: four counties, five cities, the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and nearly 1,000 donors!

Now the trail towns of Ankeny, Sheldahl, Slater, Madrid and Woodward are "rolling out the red carpet" to welcome you and celebrate together with music, food and fun. http://www.inhf.org/trails/high_trestle_trail/hightrestletrail.htm

Bicycle Safety: Most bicycle accidents involving motorists occur at intersections. The two street graphics below demonstrate the common accidents; the "left hook" & "right hook." Avoiding an accident requires cooperation and respect of all who use the roadways. Attitude is the key in making our streets safer for all users. Study the graphics below and consider what the bicyclist can do to prevent an accident. Next, determine the appropriate action of the motorist to prevent an accident. Email your answers to Charlie Smith at crsmith@mchsi.com, and the person with the best answers will win an IVBC insulated Polar water bottle.

1. "Left Hook"

Motorist

Bicyclist

2. "Right Hook"

Motorist

Bicyclist

Figure 1
Left Hook

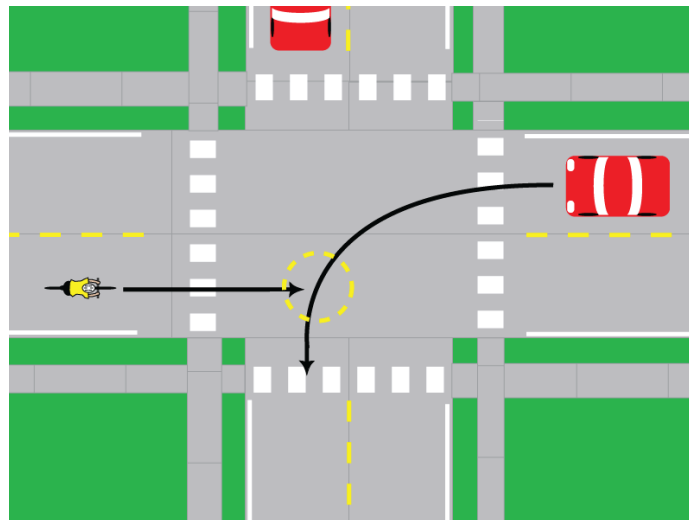
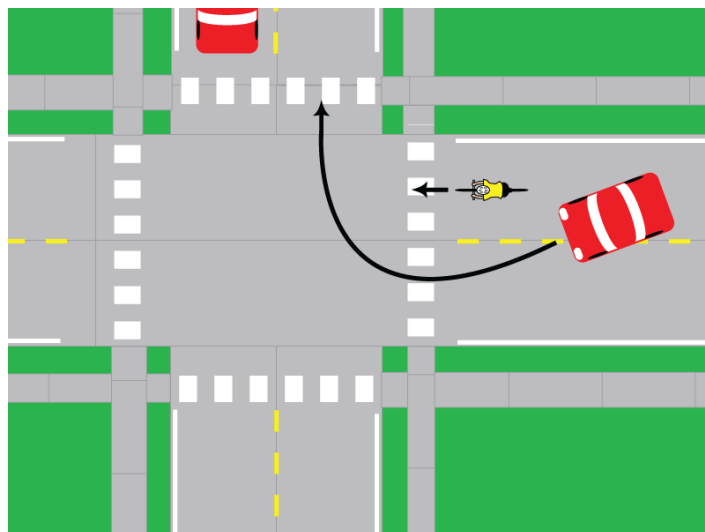
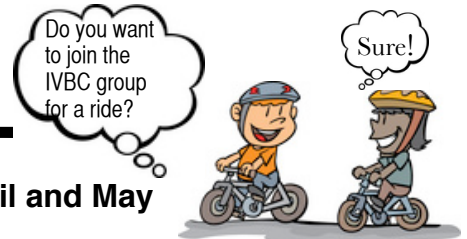


Figure 2
Right Hook



IVBC Business Card? Does IVBC need a business card? Business cards are easy to design, and we know the information needed for the card. The issue is, do we want a club motto on the card. Email crsmith@mchsi.com with your suggestions for items to be placed on the card. The person with the best quote will win an 28 oz. insulated Polar water bottle autographed by Dana Bresler. You must be a member of IVBC, and only one entry per person or two per household.



***Note**

Please note the absence of some ride leaders. Please be aware that there will be a ride, and a club member will help determine the route for the day. The responsibility of the ride leader is to help reach consensus on the route. Dana Bresler has agreed to announce central Iowa organized rides. All local rides will begin in the parking lot of the Community Y Cultural Center.

***Note:** Those individuals who want to do an "out of town" sponsored ride by another club may want to contact John Eich or Dana Bresler and ask of the possibility of an organized car pool.



Iowa Valley Bicycle Club

Ride Schedule for April and May

April	Ride Leader	Start Time
Saturday, April 16		
Kids Fit Day	Community Y	1:00-3:00 PM
Class I Ride:	Charlie Smith	9:00 AM
Class II Ride:	Tom Kurth	9:00 AM
(Mayor's Annual Ride for Trails---Des Moines)	Dana Bresler	
Saturday, April 23		
Class I Ride:	John Eich	9:00 AM
Class II Ride:	Dave Eaton	9:00 AM
Saturday, April 30		
Class I Ride:	(need volunteer)	9:00 AM
Class II Ride:	Tom Kurth	9:00 AM

Both groups plan to ride at the Grand Celebration of the High Trestle Tail. Tom and Dana hope to carpool so watch for more details later about what time to meet at the Y Cultural Center. http://www.inhf.org/trails/high_trestle_trail/hightrestletrail.htm

May	Ride Leader	Start Time
Saturday, May 7		
Class I Ride:	Dana Bresler	9:00 AM
Class II Ride:	(need volunteer)	9:00 AM
(NABR---Nevada)	Dana Bresler	
Saturday, May 14		
Class I Ride:	Dana Bresler	9:00 AM
Class II Ride:	(need volunteer)	9:00 AM
(Lincoln Highway Bridge Festival, Tama)	Dana Bresler	
Saturday, May 21		
Class I Ride: MARSHMALLO 100 mi. ride starts at		7:00 AM
Class II Ride: MARSHMALLO shorter distances start at		9:00 AM
		http://marshalltownbikeclub.com/acrobat/MarshmalloBrochure.pdf
Saturday, May 28		
Class I Ride:	(need volunteer)	9:00 AM
Class II Ride:	Charlie Smith	9:00 AM

Friday-Sunday, June 3-5 Saylorville Campout (Details will be coming later)
Correction: In the March newsletter, the dates for the Saylorville Campout were given as May 27 and 28. WRONG!!! They are June 3-5.

Iowa Valley Bicycle Club

P.O. Box 927

Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

MEETING DATE: The next monthly meeting is May 11th at 7:00 at the Fisher Community Center. The RAGBRAI planning meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Everyone interested in bicycling is welcome to attend.

Check our web site <http://marshalltownbikeclub.com>

Check out our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/IowaValleyBicycleClub?ref=ts>