

On Your Left!



Past & Upcoming News From the Iowa Valley Bicycle Club

Volume 32 Number 1

February 2007

Message from the President by: Kris McKibben

Dear Cycling Friends,

By the time that you receive this newsletter, the Ragbrai route (at least the overnight towns) will be known! And so begins the new year and a new cycling season! We hope that you will take the time and opportunity to come to some of the Wednesday meetings and hear some of the great speakers that we have lined up. In March, Marty Wymore will be talking to us about what's going on with the Highland Acres Road/Trail area and improvements and in April, our last month for speakers, we will have Chuck Offenburg. He promises to get us kicked off for the real cycling season!

Ragbrai Committee meetings will start in February at 6:30 pm before the regular meeting. Here is also a chance for you if you're going on Ragbrai. We need some more bodies on the planning committee. New people mean new ideas. The IVBC is always looking for ways to improve our charter service to you, and you can help with those ideas. Please consider coming. It promises to be a great year and a well-filled charter with 23 tickets already sold by the Jan. meeting. We are looking forward to the new information that Dana has from the Charter meeting held recently in DSM.

Please get your mileage for 2006 in to Tom Kurth ASAP. He will tally the numbers and we will have our annual awards presentation at the March meeting. This is a change from the last mention of mileage awards. Tom will be out of town in Feb., so the awards have been put back to March.

February's meeting is on Valentine's Day this year! We don't have a speaker, but we will have CPR training and recertification by Ann Bresler. I promise to have some appropriate treats for the night.

Mark your calendars early for this year's Marshmallo Ride!! There is a super planning committee and lots of changes in the air!! Watch for details later as they unfold. It promises to be a great year. The date is May 12.

Mark Smith spoke at our January Meeting. We had 17 in attendance. Mark told us about the annual Summits being planned in Des Moines and Washington D.C. and how it would be great to have a bicycling voice at both of these Summits. Other news from the Jan. meeting includes Happy Birthday to Dieter Butzlaff! His family has donated \$100 to the IVBC in his name! Thanks to the Butzlauffs!! Also, the IVBC will be profiled on the Bike Iowa website in April.. Watch for us there.

Hope to see YOU on meeting Wednesdays! Kris

Inside this issue:

BRR 2007 2

Clothing Report 2

Mileage Reporting 2

RAGBRAI Sign-up 3

Chris Horner - Megan Elliott 3

Schedule of Events 4

2007 Membership Renewal

It is that time of year again. Time to renew your IVBC membership. You will find an application form included with this newsletter or it can also be printed off of our website at www.marshalltownbikeclub.com. Please consider rejoining as your membership helps our club donate to trail development and promote safe biking in our community. Thanks for your support, and we encourage all members to participate in club activities and meetings.



Always Wear A Helmet



30th Annual Bike Ride to Rippey (BRR), Feb 3, 2007:

I know of three club members that rode BRR this year. Pat & Gabrielle Coughlin on their tandem and Ken Lafrenz. They all had one word to describe the ride this year "Brutal". -6 degrees F and 20+ mph headwind riding out to Rippey. Ken said it took him almost 2 hours to ride the 11.5 miles one way. Admittedly some of that time was spent hunkered down in a farmers tool shed trying to warm up. Here's Pat's report: "IVBC and Team Cow were represented today at BRR. We made it all the way, but I'm not sure it was a wise decision. It was **BRUTAL!** I think the comment made by Gabrielle sums up the ride quite well. We were about 3-4 miles from Rippey and really struggling going into the wind when I asked, "How are you doing back there?" She said, "*Well, my left eye is frozen shut, but now that my face has gone numb I don't feel too bad.*" My (Pat) cycling glasses snapped in half from the cold and I lost one of the prescription lenses, so I finished the ride from Rippey with my right eye only, but it was ok because between the two of us we still had two good eyes, ha, ha!!"

Gosh, I'm sure sorry I missed that ride! Check out the link below for more info and a video clip about BRR 2007:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070203/MULTIMEDIA/302040004/-1/Multimedia>

IVBC Clothing:

The Club did not do a reorder of IVBC clothing this winter because we have an adequate supply of jerseys, shorts and socks; however, not the supply we usually carry at the beginning of the cycling season. I would like to make the following suggestion, if you want IVBC clothing, with the fit you like, order early! The shorts are \$56, jerseys are \$47 and the ever-popular socks are \$9. Below are sizes we have for shorts, and jerseys:

	Women's Shorts	Men's Shorts	Relaxed Fit Jerseys	Pro-Fit Jerseys
Small	3	1	3	0
Medium	4	5	5	0
Large	0	5	2	3
X-Large	1	0	5	4
XX-Large	1	2	4	6
3X-Large	0	0	0	3
	----	---	---	---
Total	9	13	19	16

I expect all shorts and 25 jerseys to be sold before RAGBRAI, which is the numbers we usually sell each year. IF YOU WANT THE FIT YOU WANT, ORDER EARLY!

Charles Smith 641-752-3929
crsmith@mchsi.com

2006 Mileage Awards:

The 2006 Mileage Awards will be presented at the March 14 Club Meeting. All members are eligible; awards will be mailed to those not able to attend the meeting. There are awards for most individual miles (male & female), most family miles, first century, 5 centuries, and double century. If you have not reported your mileage yet, please send Tom Kurth an email at stkurth@mchsi.com. Report total 2006 miles ridden of each family member, number of centuries, first century, and any double centuries.

In 2003 when Tom Kurth breathed new life into our Mileage Awards program, IVBC recorded 141,000 total miles with 89% of our membership reporting their mileage. In 2004 our total increased to 223,063 with 95% reporting mileage, but in 2005 it dropped slightly to 222,535 with 95% reporting. We are struggling somewhat to get to our goal of 250,000 club miles. Tom Kurth is working very hard this year to get everyone to report their miles and achieve the goal. We'll find out at the awards presentation at our meeting in March if we achieved it or not.

RAGBRAI XXXV**July 22 - 28, 2007**

As I write this, it is the middle of February and -6 degrees F outside, but RAGBRAI registration and planning is in high gear. Currently we have 50 riders registered with our charter on the Des Moines Register's online registration website. You can login to the website and see a list of the 47 that have registered so far. Our allotment of guaranteed tickets is 65, so we have 15 slots left. If you are interested in one of these remaining tickets, time is growing *short*. I will be closing out our charter (with the Register) on Wednesday, February 28 and delivering the waivers and a check for all our registration fees directly to the RABRAI Staff in Des Moines. So we have just over a week to get everything wrapped up.

This is the fifth year for the Register's online registration process and this year they have added a small change. You are required to fill out a user profile, creating a user ID and password, before you can actually enter the registration process. This is a one-time deal and is intended to improve the security of your personal information. Once you have your logon ID and password you can then enter the registration form. There is one step on the form that has caused some confusion. At one point the form asks if you are entering as an individual or with a group. In the space for group put in 40 (our group #) or Iowa Valley Bicycle Club or scroll down until you see "**# 40 Iowa Valley Bicycle Club**" and then you must click on it to bring up the rest of the registration form. Once you have the form completed and submitted there will be an opportunity to print a waiver. The waiver will have your name and unique ID # printed on it.

Once you have completed the above, please go to www.marshalltownbikeclub.com and under the RAGBRAI tab, print off our IVBC Charter application and fill it out. Then mail the waiver, charter application, membership form (unless you have already renewed your membership for 2007), and one check for all fees to IVBC, P.O. Box 927, Marshalltown, IA 50158.

If you do not have access to a computer or are not comfortable working on one, please give me a call (641-753-3114) and I'll take your information and do the registration for you.

Once again, all this needs to be in my hands by Tuesday, February 27 - I'm driving to Des Moines on the 28th.

If you choose not to register at this time, that's perfectly ok. You are still welcome to join our charter once you have acquired your credentials directly from the Register. We have room for 90 riders.

Well that's pretty much it from IVBC's RAGBRAI Central - the focus at this time is getting past this initial registration frenzy.

As I sit here and look out my window at the snow & ice, riding season seems a long way off. The first organized ride in this area is in four weeks at Newton, Iowa and is called the Chill-i Ride. It's called the Chill-i ride for two reasons and one of those is that they serve chili after the ride. After that, during April and May' the temperature starts moderating and there are more and more nice days that we can ride. But now, the middle of winter, is the time to get my bike in for it's annual tune-up, inventory my riding gear and see what needs to be replaced, and get some new tires & tubes on order for the new season. Gotta do my part to keep the economy healthy. Dana Bresler

Chris Horner - Megan Elliott Jersey Exchange:

Wednesday night before Thanksgiving 2006 Megan Elliott and Chris Horner spoke to an audience of 80 central Iowa cyclists at the Fisher Community Center in Marshalltown. Megan is the daughter of Jim & Ginny Elliott, long time club members, and she dates Chris Horner. They were home for Thanksgiving and volunteered to come and talk to us about bicycling racing. Both Megan and Chris are professional racers. Chris is one of the top racers in the US and also does very well internationally. He races for a Belgium team (Predictor-Lotto), and he finished 64th in the 2006 Tour de France. Chris is currently racing in the Tour of California (Feb 18-25) which can be seen on the Versus cable channel (old OLN).

At the conclusion of Chris & Megan's talk Thanksgiving, there was a jersey exchange. We gave Megan & Chris each one of our IVBC jerseys and Chris gave us one of his team jerseys that he signed. We are in the process of having that jersey framed along with pictures and bios of Chris and Megan. The plan is to display this framed jersey in prominent locations around Marshalltown before finding it a permanent home. All in an effort to raise bicycling awareness in the community.

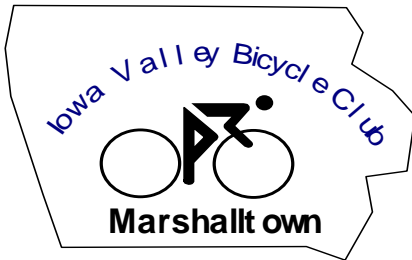


Iowa Valley Bicycle Club

P.O. Box 927
Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

Phone: 641-753-3114
Email: ivbc@mchsi

On Your Left!



Date	Time	Event	Place
Mar 14	6:30 p.m.	RAGBRAI Committee Meeting	Fisher Community Center
Mar 14	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Regular IVBC Meeting - All club members welcome Program: Marty Wymore & Presentation of 2006 Mileage Awards	Fisher Community Center
Mar 18	12:30 p.m. Reg. 1:00 p.m. Ride	Chil-I Ride Details on www.bikeiowa.com	PJ's Deli, 101 First Avenue East Newton, IA
Apr 11	6:30 p.m.	RAGBRAI Committee Meeting	Fisher Community Center
Apr 11	7:00 p.m.	Regular IVBC Meeting - All club members welcome Program: Chuck Offenburger	Fisher Community Center
Apr 21	8:30 a.m. Reg 10:00 a.m. Ride	20th Mayor's Ride Details on www.bikeiowa.com	City Hall Des Moines, IA
May 5	8:30 a.m. Reg 10:00 a.m. Ride	NABR 2006 14, 32, and 43 mile routes Details on www.bikeiowa.com	Minsky's Pizza and Lounge Nevada, IA
May 9	6:30 p.m.	RAGBRAI Committee Meeting	Fisher Community Center
May 9	7:00 p.m.	Regular IVBC Meeting - All club members welcome	Fisher Community Center
May 12	9:00 a.m. Reg 9:30 a.m. Ride	Marshmallo XXII	Cultural Center (Old Community Y) Marshalltown, IA