



BARTLESVILLE
PEDALERS

Gazette

JULY 2004 • THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PEDALERS BICYCLE CLUB, BARTLESVILLE, OK

FreeWheel is almost here...

Countdown set for June 6th!

By Bob Lummis

The Credit Card Campout is coming up this weekend. Dale has put the maps for the route on the club website, or you can go to the following links for the maps:


<http://bartlesvillepedalers.com/Members/pdf/maps/rb/CreditCardN.pdf>

<http://bartlesvillepedalers.com/Members/pdf/maps/rb/CreditCardS.pdf>

You'll need both maps for the route. Please print out your own maps. The first one is the northern half of the route and the second is the southern half of the route.


Patsy Lummis will be driving to Independence




Saturday morning, so if you need your bag taken up, just bring it by Friday and leave it with us. Our address is 312 SE Brookline Place. 

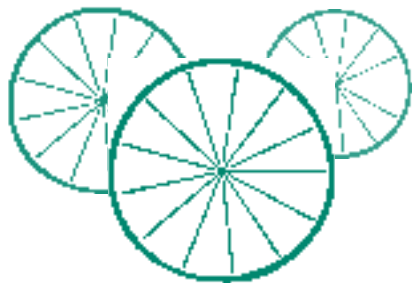
CREDIT CARD CAMPOUT

What is a Credit Card Campout, you might ask? A Credit Card Campout is where you leave your tent at home and use your credit card to rent an air-conditioned hotel room. This is the perfect way to camp on a hot July day.

The Pedalers Annual Credit Card Campout will be held July 10 and July 11 this year. We will depart Johnstone Park at 6:30 a.m. for Independence Saturday, July 10. The Apple Tree Inn in downtown Independence is holding a block of rooms especially for the Pedalers. The block will be released July 1, so make your reservations now. The room rate is \$61.95+tax for a single, and \$67.95+tax for a double. The Apple Tree can be reached at 620/331-5500. Be sure and tell them you are with the Bartlesville Pedalers! 



Rumor is there is a new ride in the club. It's a "WAKE-UP RIDE". We don't get up early enough to watch the sun rise, but we do get out in the cool of the morning and get a few miles in before it gets hot, and the day gets spent. If you want to ride with this group come to Sooner Park Monday, Wednesday, or Friday morning @ 7:30am, or drop an e-mail to FWFriends@bartlesvillepedalers.com Jim Black is coordinating the rides, call him at 918-335-3553. 



Spinning **Wheels**

President's Article

It was great to see so many cyclists from Bartlesville during the FreeWheel week. This is a time when time has a different meaning. Most of the riders used the time to get away from normal activities. During the week, I think I only saw one major newspaper and no television. We could tell the day of the week by the town we arrived in, i.e., "this is Fairview, it must be Thursday."

In fact it would be nice to have at least the weather channel, then I would have know it was going to storm while we were in Thomas. As it was the storm messed up quite a few tents, I got wet because I didn't bother to put up my tent fly. Of course Shirley helped out by telling me "it was well known that it was going to rain."

During the week, bike clubs were assigned the task of supervising the loading of the baggage truck. Our day was Wednesday, the day of a hard 66 mile ride to Thomas. Everyone was anxious to get an early


start that day. A great big thank you goes to Bill, Paul, Malcolm and Barbara, for their help in supervising the baggage truck, especially since the person I thought I had lined up for 7am didn't show up.

I didn't see too many flat tires during the week, although I did manage to have one in Thomas, but I don't think it counts because I was already in camp. That was the day we spent the night at the Mexican restaurant to avoid eating spaghetti. If you want to know how long it took for service, check out the pictures of Walt and Jack.

Much of the spring has been spent in preparing for Freewheel. Now that we've made it, there is no time to quit riding. The club rides continue so that you can maintain your fine level of condition developed during Freewheel.

If you are interested in knowing about other casual rides, joining the FWFriends e-mail list. This list is used to notify interested riders about daytime rides when many people will be working.

The board meeting was again well attended. All members are welcome to join us for dinner at the Madison Pizza Hut. The food is good and the water is cold (ask Andrew about how cold it is). Check the calendar for date and time, the next one is July 19th at 6:30 pm.

We have many activities scheduled for July, firecracker century, credit card campout and many normal rides. Hope to see you out on the road during the month. 

Dale Munn

President



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Report from the Road Director


By Bob Lummis

Once again, FreeWheel is behind us. If you didn't go this year, you missed a ride to remember. Anyone who was there, and expected western Oklahoma to be flat and cool, probably got a rude awakening.

The hills weren't all that big; it was just that there were so many of them. As you topped each hill, you would get a good view of your next hill. And it did get hot a couple of days. (A bank thermometer in Cordell said 103° Monday afternoon.) Then there was the storm Wednesday night! Quite a few of us got our tents flattened for us, thanks to the high wind that preceded the rain and hail. That might not have been too bad for us, except that Patsy and I were in ours when it collapsed. So Thursday morning, after looking at our broken tent, wet bedding, and my sunburn, I wimped out and we went home.

Don't forget the Firecracker Century on July 5. We normally have this ride on the 4th, but since the 4th falls on Sunday this year, we've moved it to Monday the 5th. We'll leave Johnstone Park at 6:30 a.m. and hopefully get to Tulsa before the wind picks up. We'll rest a bit at Mohawk Park and then start back for Bartlesville with the wind at our backs.

Another event coming up is the Credit Card Campout on July 10 and 11. I wasn't thinking when I originally scheduled the ride for 7:30; it'll undoubtedly be hot that day, so we'll leave Johnstone Park at 6:30 a.m. Saturday. Our route will take us through Copan, Caney, Havana, and Elk City. There are some options to shorten the route if you don't want to do the full distance. Then Sunday morning, we will leave the Apple Tree at around 6:30 for our return to Bartlesville. The route for Sunday will take us through Tyro and Wann. The Apple Tree Inn in Independence has been holding a block of rooms for us, but by the time this goes to press, they will have released the block. Call the Apple Tree at 620/331-5500 to see if you can get a room.

And lastly, I've been trying to talk up the Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee this fall. I've done the ride twice in the past and greatly enjoyed it both times. Fall is a great time of year to be in Tennessee. The nights are cool, the days warm, and the scenery is gorgeous. Patsy & I have already signed up and would be delighted to have some more Pedalers on the ride with us. The ride will be held September 18 through the 25th and this year's route is a 375-mile loop through eastern middle Tennessee. See their website at <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/BRAT/> or contact me for further information. 

That's it for this month, have a SAFE ride!

Bob

Let's Ride Across Tennessee!

Lets get up a group of Pedalers this fall and do a great week-long ride in Tennessee. This is a fun ride. The nights are cool, the days warm, and the scenery is outstanding. This year's ride will be a loop north and east of Nashville. The ride is fully sagged, most camping facilities are in state parks, warm showers and lots of fun. For more info on the ride, go to their website at <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/BRAT/>. Bob Lummis and Rod Harwood have done the ride in the past – ask them for their opinion of the ride.



The Bartlesville Pedalers got to host the Oklahoma State Criterium and Road Races in early June. Our Rod Harwood is seen here giving a hug to his daughter, Karen, a race participant.

Pedaler Profile

Thomas Martin

Through the middle of nowhere...

by Thomas Martin

Four hundred miles, seven days and burning asphalt – that's Oklahoma Freewheel! Being an exchange student from Germany, I did the trip this year that took us very far in the west of our beloved Sooner State.

Since I had no bike and no gear (why would you bring that over as an exchange student?), I very much appreciated the support given to me by the Bartlesville Pedalers. Thanks especially to Joel and Shirley Martin, Joanne and Bill Estes, Rod Harwood, and my host dad John Fusselman (who was unable to attend the ride).

The ride officially started Sunday, June 13th in Duncan, OK, although we were there one day earlier and had a short ride from the Texas border (so we could claim to have crossed the state). The ride led us from Duncan to Anthony, KS where we arrived June 19th.

On the way we stopped and stayed over night in the towns of Apache, Cordell, Cheyenne, Thomas, Fairview and Cherokee. Food, campgrounds (outdoor




Thomas shares cake and ice cream along with Clay and Dawn Thurman to celebrate Bob Lummis' birthday after a training ride.

and indoor) and entertainment were provided at every town. Water stops, fruit stops and lunch stops were provided during the rides.

While it rained the last day, most of the days could be described as blazing hot. There are not many hills in western Oklahoma, but on the ride to Thomas, many of the riders could be heard saying, "Those darn hills, they're never gonna end."

They did end, but it was tough. Speaking of Thomas, I have to mention a "little incident." We were hit by a huge storm, no tornado, but 70- to 80-mile per hour straight winds. Since tents are not really made for this, many of them collapsed (mine didn't, but it blew out all of the stakes. My neighbors came over in the middle of the night and said, "Hey, Thomas our tent collapsed, we're moving to the gym to take shelter, you wanna come, too?" I looked around my tent and since the rain fly was almost gone, the inside looked more like a lake than like my tent.

Well you know what my decision was – I spent the rest of the night in the gym. Despite some complications, it was a wonderful ride. I and all of the other riders have seen Oklahoma in a way not many Oklahomans have seen it – on two wheels and without worrying about gas prices.

Ed. Note: We got to know Thomas on training rides. He saw the article about Freewheel in the Bartlesville newspaper and decided to do Freewheel. He was a senior this year at Dewey High School and swam with the ConocoPhillips team! He is from eastern Germany and enjoys riding a mountain bike and martial arts. 



Thomas reaches the Kansas border at the end of Freewheel!

Board discusses July rides

The Bartlesville Pedalers June Board Meeting Minutes was held June 21 at the Madison Pizza Hut and several rides were discussed.

Present were President, Dale Munn with Judy, Andrew and Tiffany; Previous President, Jim and Donna Black; Treasurer, Joel Martin and Shirley Martin; Ride Director, Bob and Patsy Lummis; Mountain Director, George Harris and Suzy; Members at Large, Bob Pinnick and Roseanne, Joanne and Bill Estes, plus members Walt and Betty Bohn.

After supper and lively discussions of recent riding (i.e., FreeWheel adventures) Dale called meeting to order. George proposed the Mountain Bike Rides be postponed until fall, since participation is down for the summer.

Bob Lummis told the Credit Card Camp-Out is rescheduled for Saturday and Sunday, July 10th and 11th. The reserved block of rooms at the Apple Tree in Independence will be held until July 1st. Bob will be ride leader.

The Wynona Ramble will be July 17th, ("Wynona Again") - Tim Harper, ride leader.

Bill Estes volunteered to lead the July 24th ride through Ochelata, Ramona and Oglesby.

Rod Harwood will lead riders on the Firecracker Century, 6:30 a.m. Monday, July 5 from Johnstone

Park to Mohawk Park in Tulsa and back. Suzy Harris graciously offered to sag with water and goodies!

Tuesday - Thursday evening rides will be "show-up, tail-wind rides." Jim proposed Monday-Wednesday-Friday - 7:30 a.m.-Meet at Mid-High rides, which he convened and led the following cool morning!

July 31st will be "Pancakes in Pawhuska!"

Bob Lummis recommended the Tennessee Ride, September 18-25 through the state parks. It is sponsored by the Park Department. It has warm showers, and costs about \$100 plus meal plan fee.

Donna gave a good tent storage tip - place a "Bounce" fabric rinse sheet in your tent when you store it to prevent that stuffy smell when it's time to use it again!

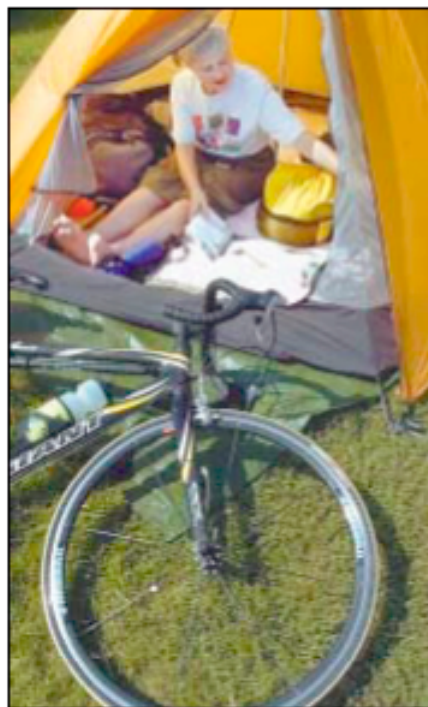
The next board meeting will be Monday, July 19, 2004 - same time, same place! The next Newsletter Deadline will be Monday, July 26th.

Accolades to Joel and Shirley Martin for successfully completing their FIRST Oklahoma FreeWheel and thanks to them, too, for sponsoring Thomas Martin, German Exchange Student, who also completed the ride across our state!

Respectfully Submitted by Joanne Estes - for vacationing secretary, Rod Harwood.



Left, Tim Harper and his daughter Katie, mark the course route for the Wynona Ramble. It was rained out in June but rescheduled for July 17th. Right, How does Joanne Estes do it? She got her photo and story on the front page of the Tulsa World on June 13 in a feature story about the start of Oklahoma Freewheel 2004. Way to go, Jo!

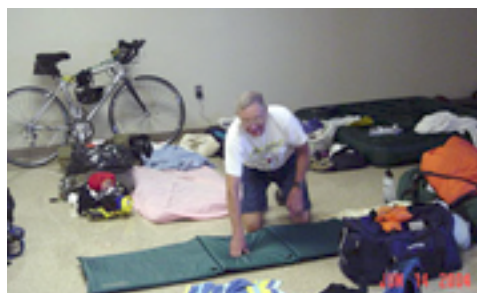


MICHAEL WYKE / Tulsa World

Oklahoma Freewheel



June 13-19, 2004



Above, John Whipple relaxes after a hard day; above, top right, Walt Bohn, Jack Tatum, Ross Snider and friend riding the bus to Duncan; Center, right, Bruce Sturges discovers the joys of an inflatable bed while indoor camping; and lower right, Paul Wollett settles in for the night. Congratulations to Shirley and Joel Martin, they completed their first OK Freewheel. And congratulations to everyone who completed Freewheel. What a ride!



More Photos on the Web

OK FreeWheel is a great opportunity for cyclists to ride, have fun and shoot photos. Here are locations for pictures by Dale Munn and Bob Lummis.

If you have pictures (digital or scanned to digital) we can add them to the collection to share with others.

Either zip them up and send them to me or let me know & I will create an account on the Gallery and you can upload your own pictures.

<http://gallery.bartlesvillepedalers.com/FW04DM> - Dale's pictures. <http://gallery.bartlesvillepedalers.com/FW04BL> - Bob's pictures. 