



Gazette

July 2002 • The newsletter of the Pedalers Bicycle Club, Bartlesville, Oklahoma

SUMMER'S JUST WARMING UP! **Firecrackers, Ice Cream & Camping!**

Firecracker Century & Ice Cream Social

On July 4th (Thurs.), the Pedalers will be having a Century ride to Tulsa and back, followed by an Ice Cream Social at the Lummis house. The Century will begin at Johnstone Park, leaving at 6:30 am. The route will take us along old Hwy. 75 through Ochelata, Ramona and Vera to Mohawk Park in Tulsa. Hopefully, we will arrive in Tulsa before the wind picks up. Then, after a short rest, we will return via a similar route with the wind at our backs.

The Ice Cream Social will begin after all the riders return from the century at about 3 pm. Bring your homemade ice cream and/or other goodies and celebrate the Fourth with your fellow Pedalers. Cold pop will be provided. The Lummis house is located at 312 SE Brookline Place. This is just north of Frank Phillips Boulevard, between Frank Phillips and Brookline Drive.

Camping & Credit Cards

In June we camped out at the Spring Fling. In July we will camp out again. This time it's the annual Credit Card Campout ride to Independence, Kansas, and back, over the weekend of July 20-21.

What is a Credit Card campout? It means that the only camping equipment allowed is a credit card for lodging - no tent, sleeping bag, backpack, flashlight, towel, etc. A little cash for food and entertainment is acceptable.

The campground is the Apple Tree Inn in downtown Independence. A block of 10 non-smoking rooms with king beds have been reserved for the Pedalers for Saturday night. You must make your

own reservations by calling 620-331-5500 and mentioning you're with our group.


"But what about my stuff?" you say. Pack up whatever few things you might need - a change of clothes, toilet articles, whatever - and deliver them to my house (1356 SE Dewey Ave.) by Friday evening the 19th and they will be waiting for you when you ride into Independence on Saturday.

FreeWheel was G-R-E-A-T!!

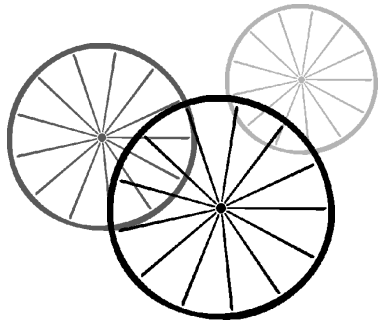
Story and photos on pages 6 & 7

We will leave from Johnstone Park at 6:30 AM to make the 65-mile trek, with a longer option of 80 miles for the hardy. Once in Independence we'll relax with lunch, swimming or hot tub at the motel, an afternoon movie, napping, watching Tour de France on TV, and generally being lazy. Dinner will be at the Woods Restaurant for those who wish to sup together, followed, perhaps, by some ice cream or other treat. Then early to bed for an early return departure Sunday morning.

The route back is much more direct, about 50 miles, which we hope to complete before the usual south wind gets too strong. Please note it is entirely acceptable to ride one or no legs of the trip and still join the campout. If you ride one way, you must make your own transportation arrangements. Non-riding spouses, family, or friends are welcome to drive up and join us.

Call Rod Harwood for info at 336-7546. 

**Join us at the Ice Cream
Social, 3 pm, July 4th!**



August Trash Pick-Up

Come help us clean up trash on one of our favorite stretches of Hwy 123–Hill 44 on Tuesday, August 13 at 6 p.m. This is a service project the club has chosen to help our community. This will be our third trash pick-up for the year. We will meet at the Osage Hills School which is just off of Hwy. 123, south of the Phillips Research Center. You need to wear some sturdy shoes and gloves and chigger/tick repellent. The state supplies us with trash bags and we will distribute them at the school. If it is raining on this day, trash pick-up will be rescheduled for the following Tuesday, August 20 at 6 p.m. We have had good participation in our first two trash pick-ups so I hope we will do as well in August. The more help we have the faster it goes and we won't have to get too hot this August. If you have any questions, call Shirley Martin at 333-8294. We will go eat Chinese afterwards if the participants are interested. Hope to see you there! 🚲

Secretary's Report: *FreeWheel was G-R-E-A-T!!*

I can't believe FreeWheel 2002 is almost history! "Almost," that is, 'cause I'm still waiting to get all those photos back and relive all the wonderful memories! You who participated were AWESOME!!! HOW did you beat me in to camp EVERY time!

Well, I certainly DID enjoy lots of the rest stops and learned lots from our trusty Girl Scout Troop 933 from Waukomis and Troop 12 from Tulsa who said they'll see us next year!!! I can hardly wait!

AND did any of you get to see how handsome that Channel 8 anchor, Charles Ely is in person? I had to ask him why he didn't get "helmet hair" and he replied that he was just naturally handsome! (True!)

Thanks, Rod, for all your good training rides, and THANKS, Bob, for the 40th anniversary gift for Bill & me of the BUBBLES!!! I'll remember lots of CHALK messages, too! Good going, Y'all!

See you down the road! And you better have some pictures on you! 🚲

Joanne

Pedalers Secretary & FreeWheel Rest Stop helper

Visit our website:
www.bartlesvillepedalers.com



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From the Road Biking Director...



I counted about 20 Bartians on FreeWheel last month, mostly Pedalers. We enjoyed great weather, including some brisk tailwinds and only one rainy day and night. The towns we visited went all out to welcome, entertain, and feed us. All that training was definitely worth it.

Speaking of counting, I counted 19 riders on one of our recent post-FreeWheel rides, so there is plenty of riding momentum continuing into the summer. Good preparation for a couple great longer rides coming up in July - the Firecracker Century and Ice Cream Social on the 4th of July,

and our annual Credit Card Campout Ride to Independence over the weekend of the 20th-21st of July. These events have both become traditional highlight of the Pedalers' riding year and will certainly generate some stories worth telling. Articles about both of these rides appear in this newsletter.

With these bigger rides behind us, I have eased off on the ride schedule for the rest of July with shorter rides on the schedule. Then, in August, we'll gradually ramp up the distance in preparation for Hotter 'N Hell. The volunteer ride leader system is functioning well, as we again have a full month scheduled. Thanks again to all those who have so willingly participated in sharing the responsibility for our Club.

One final note: July 6 is the opening day of the Tour de France, the world's premier bicycle racing event. Lance is well positioned to win his 4th consecutive title. Good luck to the "Posties". 🚲

Ride well, ride often,
Rod Harwood



Above, one of the high ridges about 20 miles from the finish of the Flint Hills Death Ride. Right, a sag stop.



Metric Century on Gravel

On July 7th our fat-tire inclined Pedalers are invited to do a metric century on gravel roads. (Yup! That's only three days after the Firecracker Century.)

We will meet at the Post Office in Wann America at 7:00 in the morning. Our route will be meandering around in northern Nowata County and southern Montgomery County (Kansas). It will take us over some roads that most of us have never ridden. This will be our last long mountain bike ride before the Flint Hills Death Ride on the 14th. Come out and join your fat-tired friends for a ride that is a little different. 🚲

Mountain Biking...

From the Mountain Biking Director...

By Bob Lummis

What can I say? I missed most of the rides in June. Between FreeWheel, the KATY Trail ride and other obligations, there just wasn't much June left! I do plan to do better in July though. We have a mountain bike metric coming up on July 7th and then the ride we've all been waiting for, the Flint Hill Death Ride on July 14th. And our regular Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon rides will continue as usual.

Speaking of the Flint Hills Death Ride, their website is up and running now. Check it out at <http://www.deathride.org/>. It promises to be another good ride, and also to be a grueling one as well. Time should tell as to whether or not the change in dates affects the ride or not. (It is about a month earlier this year.)

That's all folks! Maybe I'll have more to say next month.

Bob

Wednesday Evening Knobby-Tire Ride Time at 6 pm

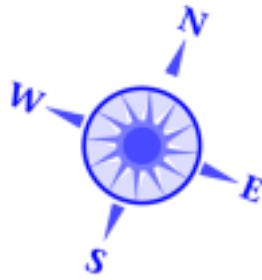
Our Wednesday evening knobby-tire rides are similar to the Tuesday-Thursday road rides, only these are for mountain bikes on local dirt roads. We meet at 6:00 pm at various locations for 15-30 mile rides on dirt roads. See the following for meeting location and description of the ride.

July 3 - July 4th holiday, no ride scheduled.
*** Get the road bike out and join the roadies for a century to Tulsa and back in the morning. ***

July 10 - Mullendore Ranch Route. An approximate 20 mile route, from Copan Lake Dam to Mullendore Ranch and back. Shorter options available. Meet at the parking area below the spillway at Copan Dam.

July 17 - The Wann America Knobby-Tire Loop. A pleasant 20 mile loop around Wann that begins and ends at the post-office. Visit Six Flagpoles over Wann America while you are there! Meet in the parking lot of the Wann post-office on Highway 10.

July 24 - Paseo de Nowata Loop. An 18 mile loop in western Nowata County, South of Highway 60. Meet in the triangle at the junction of Road 2400 (Moose Lodge Road) and Road 4020. About 25 miles.



July 31 - Cotton Valley Loop. Meet at the junction of County Roads 0700 and 3990. (One mile East of Highway 75 on the road just North of the Copan Truck Stop.) About 20 miles rambling through northern Washington County.

August 7 - More Moore Ranch Loop. Some fun loops to choose from West of Nowata and north of Highway 60. Shorter options available. Meet at the junction of Nowata County Roads 4050 & 0200. (Go straight on the gravel road at the first big curve on Highway 60 after crossing Hogshooter Creek.) About 20 miles.


Sunday Afternoon Cross-Country Knobby Tire Ride at 2 pm

July 7 - Pedalers Metric on Dirt. This will be a new ride on roads that are new to us too. We'll do 100 Km+ on gravel roads in northern Nowata County, Oklahoma and southern Montgomery County, Kansas. Meet at the Post Office on Highway 10 in Wann America at 9:00 a.m.!

July 14 - No Ride Scheduled! - Flint Hills Death Ride, Madison, Kansas.

July 21 - More Moore Ranch Route. Meet at the junction of Nowata county roads 0405 and 0200. (Hwy 60 to 1 mile east of the Washington/Nowata County Line; at the first curve of the big "S" curve.) 15 to 30 miles around the Moore ranch northwest of Nowata. We'll decide at the time how far we feel like riding. Some options are into Delaware or into Nowata. Check around before you leave for the ride, this is Credit Card Campout weekend and several of our regular riders will be playing roadie this week on the Credit Card Campout.

July 28 - Eagle Rock Bicycle Trails. Independence, Kansas. This is some of the best singletrack we have in the area. Three trails are there for you to pick; Beginner, Intermediate and Difficult. The trail's close proximity to the north shore of Elk City Reservoir and a predominate south wind makes for cooler riding too! Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the spillway parking lot for the Elk City Dam.

August 4 - Tall Grass Prairie Preserve to Foraker. Ride where the buffalo roam! We'll meet at the park headquarters and ride to Foraker and back. (With the south loop thrown in for good measure.) 

Pedaler Profile:

Shirley Martin

I have been cycling off and on since I was in grade school. Joel, my husband, took me on my first long ride. We checked out a route for his Boy Scout Troop from Bartlesville to Hulah Lake. I guess he thought if I could survive it, his scouts could too. I of course had only been riding a few blocks in Oak Park so I was really prepared for our ride on July 4. It only hit over 100 degrees that day and the road turned to tar from the heat. Thank goodness we had a flat tire on my 3-speed bicycle that Joel was riding so I could ride his 10 speed. I did make it there and about half way back before the bicycle gave out. Joel rode back to town and picked me up in the car. Boy was I pooped! Despite this beginning we did get married that September 1979.

I did actually upgrade to a 10-speed bicycle after that ride. Joel and I rode to work for several years when the weather permitted. I thought I was going pretty far when I rode our 7-mile route. Now I think a 15- to 20-mile ride is just a short jaunt.

We joined the Bartlesville Pedalers Bicycle Club about 1985 and continue to enjoy going on the club rides. We have made some good friends through the cycling club and plan to continue riding with the club for many years to come.

I have learned a lot of the back roads in Washington County by riding with the club. The number of paved roads has increased over the years especially since the sales tax increase for county roads passed. We of course even know a few into Kansas, Osage County, Nowata County, Tulsa County, and Rogers County. One of my favorite rides is the Credit Card Campout to Independence, KS in July. I always feel like I have accomplished something by the time we get back home. We take a longer route to ride to Independence and then a more direct route to ride back on Sunday. We all are quite ready for a cool shower after arriving in Independence.



Shirley Martin while on a recent trip to Ottawa, Canada.

We spend Saturday afternoon and evening visiting with fellow cyclists and exploring Independence.

One of my favorite times to ride is in the spring. I can enjoy the many wildflowers growing in the pastures and along side the road and the temperatures are more comfortable.



One can even hear the birds singing if you slow down and just take it easy (no wind whistling by my ears.)

Another time I like riding is in the fall when the leaves are turning to varied shades of yellow to orange in the Osage Hills. I'm not too crazy about riding the hills but the views are great at that time of year.

Oh and another thing about cycling I don't have to write. I'm really not too crazy about writing. With cycling I can just enjoy feeling free to move myself across the countryside. I actually thought that when I retired I would have more time to cycle - foolish me. I have been retired from Phillips Petroleum for almost 2 years now and manage to cycle less. So my goal is to get out on the road more so I can feel the breeze in my face. Also, as the organizer of the club trash pick-ups, I do hope to see more of you out helping us pick-up trash on our favorite stretch of HWY 123 - Hill 44. 🚲



Head 'em up, ride 'em out, soon it will be raw hides! It's Day 1 and the official starting day.



Day 3 is Crazy Day and it brought the craziness out of Clay and Dawn Thurman.

Right, a rider makes her way carrying her own gear.

*All photos taken by David Kincannon of Stillwater. For these and more than 800 other photos from FreeWheel, visit their website:
www.okfreewheel.com*



Day 7 gives an opportunity for David Kincannon, a photographer from Stillwater, and Charles Ely, your favorite newsman from Tulsa, to pose for a picture.

FreeWheel 2002

June 9-15

**About 400 miles
from Snyder, Oklahoma
to South Haven, Kansas**



A fruit stop on Day 4 - Joanne Estes helped out in this department this year!



Riders enjoy a partly cloudy Day 5.



Moving and coordinating the gear for hundreds of people creates another "adventure" at FreeWheel.



A site for sore eyes and a sign of the end of the ride on Day 7 - the final stop of South Haven was not far away.

More than 20 riders from Bartlesville were there!

A total of 613 riders registered for FreeWheel 2002 which kicked off at Snyder, OK on June 9 and ended 400 miles later in South Haven, Kansas on June 15.

There were 477 riders from Oklahoma on the ride, joining one rider each from France, Australia and Canada, with the remainder of riders coming from the other states of the Union.

Representing Bartlesville were the following riders: Ralph Bergstad, Donna & Jim Black, Sarah and Susanna Black, Walt Bohn, Karen and Rob Dahlgren, Bill and Joanne Estes, Tim and Katie Harper, Rod Harwood, Barbara Joyce, Bob Lummis, Dan Maloney, Dale Munn, Don R. Prah, Brian and Dan Schultes, Jack Tatum, Dawn and Clay Thurman, Kyle and John Whipple, and Paul Woollett.

Thanks to Libby Stalter, ride director, for coordinating another great event and Libby reminds us its 341 days until FreeWheel 2003 (June 8-14). See you there. 🚲



The **Bartlesville Pedalers** are proud to be affiliated with the League of American Bicyclists, a national organization that promotes the ideal of a bicycle-friendly America through sponsored bicycle rallies and tours, political advocacy, and education.

You are invited to join the **Bartlesville Pedalers**. All memberships are \$16 per year. Anyone joining in the last quarter of the year is also paid up for the following year.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Please return application to: **Bartlesville Pedalers, P.O. Box 793, Bartlesville, OK 74003**

NAME: _____

SPOUSE & OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Other: _____

E-MAIL: _____ OK to publish this info in club directory? Yes No

I accept with pleasure this invitation to join the Bartlesville Pedalers. I agree to observe all traffic laws and to comply with the suggestions of the ride leaders about the safety and decorum of the club. I understand that my participation in club activities and rides is solely at participant's own risk. The Bartlesville Pedalers cannot be held responsible for any accidents that may occur during or as a result of their activities. Helmets are required on all club rides.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in the **Bartlesville Pedalers** brings numerous benefits:

- ☼ Meet and ride as a group with others who enjoy exercise, health, and being outdoors
- ☼ Share knowledge of bicycling skills and equipment
- ☼ Learn, and teach, bicycling rules of the road and safety practices
- ☼ Receive newsletter containing news, events, and contacts into the greater cycling community
- ☼ Select from a variety of regularly scheduled organized rides
- ☼ Contribute your personal energy to the bicycling lifestyle in the area
- ☼ Participate in community service through our Adopt-a-Highway cleanup and other projects



Bartlesville Pedalers
P.O. Box 793
Bartlesville, OK 74003

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED