

DERAILLEUR MAILLEUR

September 2011



PAMPERED CENTURY: 2011 VERSION

By Art Gilfand

On August 21, I led 12 riders on the 2011 version of the Pampered Century. If you want to do a century ride that's not really a forced march and has lots of support, this is your ride.

As in past years, Jim Kreps, provided his extraordinary SAG support and catering skills, showing off his ability to navigate grocery stores and fix wayward pedals (among many other bike problems). The weather was really quite good for August not too hot with prevailing winds from the north, which meant a tail wind on the way home. Thanks to Jim for all his help.

If you aren't familiar with the ride, it's unique because all participants receive SAG support and at every rest stop they receive an abundance of drinks, fruit, energy bars and other food. The midpoint is the Kenosha Velodrome where Jim shows up with lunch: six lunchmeats, three types of cheese (it is Wisconsin, after all), PB&J, pickles, chips and, this year, chocolate milk (an energy drink that tastes good). He made sure no one went hungry.

All the way, if something goes wrong with your bike or you run out of steam, he's there. We have two rest stops to Kenosha and three rest stops back, so you never more than 16 miles from the next rest stop. It's a Gilfand route, so there are places that I throw in a few turns to make the ride interesting, but you enjoy many places to stretch out your legs. We keep the riding pace between 16 and 20 miles per hour.



Congratulations to everyone who completed this year's ride. Look for the Pampered Century to return next August. We hope to see you there!



CCC September Meeting: Resume Builders

Giving back to the Cycling Club is more than a feel-good endeavor, it's also a resume builder. Join us for a social meeting on Tuesday, September 13 at 7 p.m. and find out how you can get involved in CCC. From meeting planning to web development, ride planning to club leadership, every effort to make your Cycling Club go is bound to impress prospective employers.

Venue TBD at press time. Check www.chicagocyclingclub.org for further details.



FOURTH WEDNESDAY EVENING GETTING AQUAINTED RIDE (FWEGA)

By Art Gilfand

FWEGA is just a really good excuse for a short bike ride, pleasant conversation and enjoying a couple of hours at an establishment suitable for getting acquainted. A good beer list and good food are my requirements. Nine riders were aboard the August FWEGA as we headed north into Hutchinson Street, Edgewater through Ravenswood then into Wrigleyville and Alta Vista Terrace and the most important stop, The Bar on Buena. I try and pick only quiet streets with some charm or character, so you can just relax and enjoy the ride. Of course, we feature lots of turns as well, to make sure you are on the most interesting streets.

It's a fun ride and we continue to thank Karen Shinnars, for starting this tradition in the club's early years. At present, there is no September FWEGA scheduled (but that could always change), so look for it next summer. Wow, is summer gone already?



PREZ SEZ

By Justin Sondak



Whenever I'm traveling, I can't help comparing other cities' "bikeyness" to ours. Wherever Bicycling magazine rates us, I think we're still one of the best biking destinations on the continent.

This summer I went to Massachusetts to enjoy the postcard views of the Berkshire Mountains. Their rolling hills and mild temps make for a great summer riding season. But cyclists were few and far between. Other than a few spandex clad roadies and a couple students riding around Williams College, few ventured out on two wheels.

This month, family obligations took me to the Los Angeles area's diverse collection of hills, valleys and beaches. They boast temperate winters and sunny summers. Roads rarely freeze, so rides are smooth. Still, cyclists are mainly a curiosity. The freeways are still king. Why the lack of a cycling culture?

I've wondered the same thing about my hometown of Miami. It's warm, it's flat, the bay and the ocean are picturesque. But it seems more people rent bikes on the beach than actually commute by bike. Active bike clubs only got going there in the last few years and bike advocacy is very limited.

Chicago's got them beat. The biking community and local governments have worked together to make the city more amenable to biking, installing

bike lanes, bike racks, and bike stations; supporting fun and vibrant invitational rides; and raising awareness of bike safety among cyclists and non-cyclists alike. We're far from perfect, as collisions and assaults on cyclists continue. But where other cities might treat these incidents as sad but inevitable, here they stay in the news as precautionary tales and calls for continued safety campaigns.

Last month, we proudly participated in Active Transportation Alliance's 4 Star Ride, a massive 4-pronged invitational ride most cities would be happy to have. But on the same day we enjoyed (or, from a traffic standpoint, endured) the Chicago Triathlon and the Jackson Park Cyclocross Relay. Our new mayor showed off his athleticism, and his sharp road bike, by placing 9th in his age group in the Chicago Tri.

Complain about our weather, complain about construction, complain about creative budgeting, but we have little to complain about when it comes to biking in Chicago. And if you do complain, someone's probably listening!

See you on the road.



Save The Date: CCC Holiday Party

The Chicago Cycling Club's annual holiday party returns to Mars Gallery on **Saturday, December 10**. Mark your calendars, iCals, Blackberries, Droids or whatever new technology pops up in the next couple months.

For those of you who haven't been, the holiday party is a fun, casual potluck evening open to all CCC members and

guests. Mars Gallery is a turn-of-the-century loft space featuring contemporary pop art in the West Loop: **1139 W Fulton Market, Chicago**.

Stay tuned for further details!



2011 Downtown Chicago Bike Count Project

The Chicago Department of Transportation Bike Program is participating in the National Bike and Pedestrian Documentation Project and needs volunteers to count bicyclists. This project will elevate public awareness of bicycle transportation issues and help document the need for bicycle improvements

Volunteers will be stationed throughout downtown during one or more of the following times:

- Tuesday, September 13th - 7AM to 10AM
- Tuesday, September 13th - 4PM to 7PM
- Saturday, September 17th - Noon to 2PM

CDOT will provide training on data collection. No experience needed

To volunteer or for more info, please contact: Dave Smith, CDOT Bikeways Planner at 312.742.7620 or email david.smith@tylin.com



CCC Financial Report

7/17/2011 - 8/15/2011

Total Assets as of 07/17/2011: \$10,974.75

Total Income: \$0.00

Total Expenses: \$361.69

Total Assets as of 08/15/2011: \$10,613.06

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

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 General: info@chicagocyclingclub.org
 Newsletter: editor@chicagocyclingclub.org
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Officers

President: Justin Sondak
 Vice President: Julie Hochstader
 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

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

CLUB MEMBERS ONLY
 may purchase these items by contacting Julie Hochstader merchandise@chicagocyclingclub.org

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.

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 September 2011



Riders gather for the Old Plank Trail Ride 2011

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB
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