# THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO CYCLING CLUB

# RAILLFIR July 2010 LLEUR



**Big Shoulders, Big Rides** By Justin Sondak

On June 19, Lee Diamond, founder of Big Shoulders Realty, hosted the last guided neighborhood bicycle ride in Season 3 of his free tours. Lee has promised that the wellresearched and informative roll through East and West Garfield Park is the final tour for a while, perhaps the last free offering, given the considerable hours of research and pre-riding required to make each event successful. Around 60 riders showed up on this warm and bright Saturday afternoon to soak in some knowledge and thank Lee for his tireless efforts.

Four hours and more than 20 miles later. Lee had revealed a cache of architectural gems including a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed apartment complex, the "original" Sears Tower and a vibrant garden donated by the company, and Washington Avenue residences featuring wide porches and soaring archways on par with most anything vou'd see in Oak Park.

The group also got up close and personal with Garfield Park (the park), its gilded domed fieldhouse, and its massive Conservatory. With each stop, perceptions of a troubled West Side community were replaced with a more nuanced view of an area that has seen so much of the best and worst in the city's history, evolving from an exclusive community of business leaders, to a site of massive civil unrest and decades of civic neglect, to the home of an uneven but gradually more focused renaissance.

The neighborhood represents so much that this city has done right and wrong, as it demonstrates the difficulties of preserving historical sites in challenging economic times. Much thanks to Lee for organizing the event, to the halfdozen "corkers" who calmed traffic and kept us moving, to the riders who welcomed us into their home for a water stop and to all cyclists and organizations who have supported these events. Keep your eyes on the Chainlink www.thechainlink.org and this newsletter for further news of Lee's next ride series, whenever and however it may resume.



# **INVITATIONALS, WHERE EVERYONE'S INVITED**

Invitational rides are a great chance to get out of town for a day or two (or three), see some amazing sites, meet new friends, to test your endurance or simply enjoy some time on two wheels. Here are a few we find interesting:

### **Tour des Trees July 18-24**

The Tree Research and Education Endowment (TREE) Fund invites you to ride the 2010 Tour des Trees. A cross-country cycling tour now in its 18th year, the Tour des Trees has become the signature fundraising event of the TREE Fund, and America's largest fundraising event for tree research and education. This year's ride will launch from Millennium Park downtown on July 18 and travel westward to the Mississippi River and Iowa before looping back toward Chicago. The 2010 Tour concludes with a 30-mile "Ride for Research" through Chicago's western suburbs and a grand entrance into the Morton Arboretum during the International Society of Arboriculture's International Tree Climbing Championship on July 24.

Registration fees range from \$75-125. More info and online registration is at http://stihltourdestrees.org

### **Apple Cider Century September 26**

Founded in 1974, the Apple Cider Century (ACC) has become the Midwest's largest one-day century with 5,000 cyclists participating last year. The 15, 25, 37, 50, 62, 75 and 100-mile bicycle tours of the orchards, forests and wine country in and around Three Oaks, Michigan are sponsored by the Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club. Funds raised are used to finance the Apple Cider Century Tour, the Backroads Bikeway trails, the League of American Bicyclists, Rails to Trails, and other community youth programs and cycling-related nonprofit organizations.

(Continued on page 2)

# PREZ SEZ

By Anne Alt



The weather has made this a challenging riding season so far. Heavy rain and frequent thunderstorms may be helping things grow, but they don't make it easy for us to get out and ride as much as we'd like. With any luck, the weather will improve for the rest of the season.

July is almost upon us, so the summer picnic ride is coming up soon. I hope that you'll join us on Sunday, July 11 for our traditional potluck feast. We'll start from multiple locations: north, west and south. Each group will have a grocery store stop along the way, before we meet up at Promontory Point for a few hours of casual conversation and tasty treats with our friends from the Major Taylor Cycling Club.

If you're considering more ambitious rides and thinking about doing your first century (100 mile) ride this year, we have a good selection of 50-80 mile rides on the schedule to help you prepare for it. The Pampered Century in August is a great way to try out this distance, as are many August and September invitational rides.

Speaking of invitational rides, CCC will be partnering again with the Active Transportation Alliance to present the Boulevard Lakefront Tour on August 29. This is a year of big changes for the event, which will have a new start location and all new routes (15, 35 and 62 miles). Whether you want to sign up to ride or volunteer, we encourage you to check it out at www.boulevardtour.org.

It's not too early to start thinking about which rides you might like to lead in September and October. If a ride you've scheduled is rained out, please consider rescheduling it later in the season if it's not tied to a specific event.

See you on the road!



**INVITATIONALS, WHERE EVERYONE'S INVITED** Continued from page 1

Many Chicago Cycling Club members ride ACC, which starts approximately 60 miles from Chicago and Kalamazoo via I-94 and US Route 12. The entire weekend of the Apple Cider Century is a celebration, which includes an allyou-can-eat breakfast and spaghetti dinner on Sunday. Riders are strongly encouraged to register early, since the ride is limited to 5,000 entrants and it may fill up fast. Visit

http://www.applecidercentury.com for further ride and registration details.

# Hilly Hundred October 8-10

Not for the faint at heart, this elevationally challenging trek through Indiana is sponsored by the Central Indiana Bicycling Association (CIBA) and has been named "Best Overall Ride," "Best Map," and "Longest Running Annual Ride" by Bicycling Magazine and the League of American Bicyclists. The full route is 100 miles of rolling country roads and breathtaking hills, with shorter and gentler options available.

The pre-ride party is held Friday. Saturday features a costume contest and live Variety Show. Sunday features 49 miles of climbing and coasting before the wrap-up event. Pictures, registration forms, and much more at:

http://www.hillyhundred.org.

### **July Club Meeting**

Lake Michigan is one of our region's most celebrated resources, and Jim Kreps and Thomas Berube have celebrated by completing a "circle tour" of the lake by bike. The duo will share their stories at the next CCC meeting, when we hope they'll answer:

\*How do you prepare for this journey?

\*When do you camp and when do you check into a motel?

\*Is the route as beautiful as the picture postcards?

Find out Tuesday, July 11, 7 p.m., at the Community Room at REI, 1566 N Halsted, Chicago.

## **Boulevard Lakefront Tour**

The BLT is back, sporting a more central location and earlier date. This year's 15, 35, and 62-mile routes all start and finish on the UIC Circle Campus at Morgan and Taylor Streets, Chicago, stretching a cross more parks and neighborhoods. The fully supported ride starts the morning of Sunday, August 29. Registration available at www.boulevardtour.org.

Once again, CCC'ers will be supporting the ride with pre-ride and day-of-ride volunteers. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Anne Alt at pres@chicagocyclingclub.org



# CCC Financial Report - 05/16/2010 through 06/15/2010

Balance as of 05/16/2010: \$10,080.84

Total Income: \$1,101.00 Total Expenses: \$ 345.99

Balance as of 06/15/2010: \$10,835.85



# 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

Snailmail: P O Box 1178, Chicago, IL 60690-1178 Website: www.chicagocyclingclub.org General: info@chicagocyclingclub.org Newsletter: editor@chicagocyclingclub.org Rides: rides@chicagocyclingclub.org Telephone: 773.509.8093

#### Officers

President: Anne Alt Vice President: Julie Sherman Treasurer: Brian Bird Secretary: Jim Adgate Member at Large: Justin Sondak, Julie Hochstadter Education: TBD Newsletter: Justin Sondak, Tom Grose Rides: Jim Adgate



# JERSEYS

## CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

may purchase these items by contacting Duane O'Laughlin merchandise@chicagocyclingclub. org

### 773-612-8157

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



Riders Set Out on the Road to Hegewisch, May 2010



P. O. Box 1178 Chicago, IL 60690 - 1178