



Spokin' Times News

SLOW SPOKES BICYCLE CLUB
P.O. BOX 792
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48311-0792

October 2014

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Vice President

Carol Ritchey

Treasurer:

Clara Herndon

Secretary:

Ed Schultz

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Jim Walter

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Lennie Raines

Sunshine Liaison:

Rita Zupan-Wilhelm

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Gabe Halsall

Event Coordinator:

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Webmaster:

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www.SlowSpokes.org

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Slow Spokes

P.O. Box 792

Sterling Hts, MI 48311

So why is the Newsletter so late this month?

Two reasons:

First, the weather has been great, and I have been out riding my bike! (This is a bike club, after all!) In the last 9 days, I have ridden 320 miles. Five of those rides were announced as impromptu club rides and started at 25 and Shelby. The last 2 Fridays, we rode to Richmond for lunch. Along the way, we saw the new brick pavers by the benches in Armada. Several pavers have the Slow Spokes Bicycle Club name on them. The last 2 Saturdays, we went the other way on the trail, once for the CRT Fall Classic and the other time to ride to the very end of the West Bloomfield trail at Haggerty Road. Both rides featured lunch by the babbling brook (otherwise known as Riverside Park in Auburn Hills.) Richmond is 22 miles east of 25 and Shelby, and Haggerty road is 25 miles west. So all in all, the trail stretches for 47 miles end to end, complete except for a 3 mile stretch of road detour through Pontiac. Last Thursday, I led a ride which included the lower section of the Polly Ann trail and returned to 25 and Shelby via Bald Mountain and some dirt roads. These impromptu club rides attracted only from 3 to 7 riders. Where are the rest of you?

The other days, I just rode from home. One day I ran into Andrew while riding around Stony Creek. Another day, Irene and I rode to the library to pick up A Long Way Home (the October book club selection.)

Second, there isn't much to put in the Newsletter these days. There used to be a President's column each month—perhaps our next president would like to restart that tradition. There also used to be lots of rides to publish. Now, the daytime and weekend rides all happen as impromptu rides and the weeknight rides will be discontinued for October as the sun sets at 7:14 on October 1st and about 6:30 by October 31st.

So here we are, and it's time for me to make things up so we can send out a newsletter. As we like to say, I probably won't get fired from the job! Speaking of which, the October meeting is your chance to nominate new officers—see below:

October Club Meeting

The October club meeting will be at the usual time and place, Friday October 3rd at 7:30 pm at the Warren Woods Baptist Church. Nominations for office for the November election are accepted at this time. Elected offices are president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, newsletter editor, and membership chair. The president, Paul Wilhelm, intends to hand over the gavel after 12 years as club president. Apparently, we have someone eagerly waiting for the gavel this time. We could use new blood in other offices too, although I believe most of our other officers are willing to take another term.

Meetings—Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the first Friday of every month at the Warren Woods Baptist Church at 14251 E. 12 Mile Road between Hayes and Schoenherr in Warren. Refreshments are served.

Ride Information—Send information for rides and walks and other exciting events to our event coordinator Chuck Pottenger email only please pottengerc60@gmail.com

Newsletter Information—Send articles you'd like published to Jim Walter. Email the information to him at jim.walter@comcast.net. Articles must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the newsletter. Feel free to call Jim at 248-879-2405.

So, do we want to change the meeting night?

Ed Schultz has suggested that we change the meeting night from Fridays to another night of the week. His reason for suggesting this is that many of us travel on weekends, and a week night might be more convenient for us.

I published Ed's write up on the question last month, and since then, I haven't heard of anyone talking about it. Is anyone interested in changing the meeting night, or should we just continue to meet on Fridays? I would like to hear some discussion on this. Perhaps it could be discussed at the meeting Friday night.



Pictured at left is the group that rode Tom Miller's ride to Windmill Pointe and Bruegger's on Sunday, Sept. 14. (A couple of people in the background weren't on the ride. They are just adding local color.)

One thing about Tom's rides—he's very exact. If he says 12 to 14 mph, he won't go 15. If he says it's a 38 mile ride, that's what it is. And he sets his watch by the government atomic clock, and leaves right on time. So if you arrive at 10:02, you missed him by 2 minutes. So don't be late!



Pictured at left are the hikers who went with Bob George on his impromptu hike in the Keeweenaw Peninsula.

Bob told them to look natural for the photo.



OCTOBER RIDES

Mount Trashmore

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------|-------------------|
| DISTANCE: | Around 50 miles | DATE: | Wednesday, Oct. 8 |
| PACE: | 12 to 14 mph | TIME: | 9:00 A.M. |
| TERRAIN: | Mostly hilly with some flat rail trails. All paved. | | |
| LEADER: | Jim Walter home (248) 879-2405 or cell (248) 376-8924 | | |
| MEETING PLACE: | Lyon Oaks County Park—Take I-696 to I-96 to the Wixom Road Exit #159. Turn right and go 1.6 miles North on Wixon Rd. Turn left on Old Wixom Road. After 0.2 miles, turn left on Pontiac Trail and go 1 mile to the park entrance on the left. Follow the paved road to the golf course and banquet center. Park in the golf course parking lot. | | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: | Rail trail, Island Lake, Kensington Metropark and the infamous Mt. Trashmore. Lunch somewhere toward the last part of the ride. You may wish to bring a snack if you will be hungry too early. | | |

Mount Trashmore

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------|-------------------|
| DISTANCE: | Around 50 miles | DATE: | Saturday, Oct. 11 |
| PACE: | 12 to 14 mph | TIME: | 9:00 A.M. |
| TERRAIN: | Mostly hilly with some flat rail trails. All paved. | | |
| LEADER: | Jim Walter home (248) 879-2405 or cell (248) 376-8924 | | |
| MEETING PLACE: | Lyon Oaks County Park—Take I-696 to I-96 to the Wixom Road Exit #159. Turn right and go 1.6 miles North on Wixon Rd. Turn left on Old Wixom Road. After 0.2 miles, turn left on Pontiac Trail and go 1 mile to the park entrance on the left. Follow the paved road to the golf course and banquet center. Park in the golf course parking lot. | | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: | Same as above. The route and lunch spot may be varied between the 2 days. New paths discovered on the Trail Towns Tour may be used—who knows. | | |

Upcoming Rides of interest

Sunday, October 5. Triple Towns Tour. This is a new ride this year sponsored by the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance. Meet at Milford Central Park between 8:30 and 10:30 am. SAG stops in South Lyon and Wixom. I will be riding this ride to see if I can learn anything new for the Mount Trashmore ride.

Sunday, October 12. Tour de Livingston. Mt. Brighton. 5, 10, 27, 38, 62 and 100 mile routes.

Sunday, October 12. Fall Colors Back 40 Challenge. Clarkston. Sponsored by Flying Rhino Cycling Club. I saw a couple of their Jerseys on our POAR. Please note, this is a dirt road ride.

For other possible rides, see the www.lmb.org event calendar.

Thank you, weekly ride leaders

A big thank you to all of the people who volunteered to lead the weekly evening rides this year.

Monday—Mary Woloszyk

Tuesday—Paul and Rita Wilhelm

Wednesday—Bill Appleberry

Thursday—Ray Carpenter

All evening rides end at the end of September due to earlier sunsets.

Book Club

Next Meeting—Tuesday October 14, 7:00 pm

Book—A Long Way Home

Author—Saroo Brierley

Place—Evelyn Bires' House

Keeweenaw Peninsula Trip by Jim Walter



Ed Schultz led 12 Slow Spokes in a bicycle tour of the Keeweenaw Peninsula in the UP the first week of September. On past trips, we got 12 people in 3 cars, but it took 6 cars to get us up there on this trip. We camped 3 nights at Fort Wilkins by Copper Harbor, and 3 nights at McClain State Park near Hancock and Calumet. Don and Sue Windhorst used their new camper with its full kitchen facilities, Jack and Judy Logomarsino stayed in local motels. The rest of us camped in tents: Ed Schultz, Carol Ritchey, Clara Herndon, Bob George, Tom Graham, John Williams, Ron Lendon, and me. Most used a typical small tent, but I brought my old 8 by 10 canvas tent that you can stand up in. I only use it when staying multiple nights in the same place right next to the car—too heavy to transport farther. But it's nice to have room.

Most of us rode up Brockway Mountain on the first day of riding. It was a tough climb over several miles and a much faster descent on the other side. Our brakes got a workout on the way down. On the second day, we did another loop ride out of Copper Harbor.

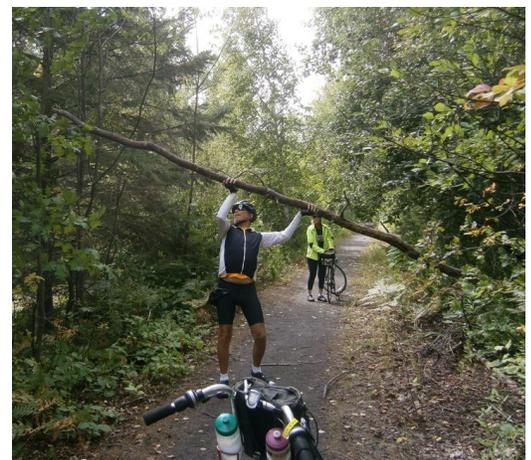
After moving to McClain the third day, we got some rain. So we visited some local points of interest in the Calumet area. 3 of our people had some local knowledge. Judy grew up in Calumet, Ed attended Michigan Tech in Houghton, and Bob had made many business calls to Michigan Tech over the years.

The fourth day was too windy for most of the bikers. A group went hiking, a group rode a rail trail out of Houghton, and others did their own thing. In the evening, chef Ed Schultz treated us to fish for dinner back at the camp. And on the fifth day, most of us rode the planned route (for the fourth day). The nice thing about camping in one spot for a few days is that you can change your plans based on the weather. You don't need to ride to the next overnight stop.

The sixth day, most of the riders headed for home, while 4 of us drove some possible roads for a self-contained ride that Ed is thinking about for next year. All in all, it was a great trip and everyone had a good time. Thanks for doing all the planning, Ed. And you're right, leading us is just like trying to herd cats.



Bikers who rode up Brockway Mountain.



Superman Tom Graham removing tree that was blocking the trail.

YOUR FAVORITE BIKE SHOP!!!

The following bicycle stores offer a discount on equipment and accessories. Be prepared to show your Slow Spokes membership card when making a purchase to receive the discount.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Allied Cycle | 23101 Gratiot | Eastpointe, MI 48021 | 586/772-3411 |
| American Cycle & Fitness | 29428 Woodward Ave | Royal Oak, MI 48072 | 248/542-7182 |
| American Cycle & Fitness | 39900 W. Fourteen Mile | Walled Lake, MI 48390 | 248/960-1371 |
| American Cycle & Fitness | 203 N. Perry Street | Pontiac, MI 48342 | 248/333-7843 |
| American Cycle & Fitness | 20343 Mack Avenue | Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 | 313/886-1968 |
| American Cycle & Fitness | 18517 Hall Road | Macomb Twp. MI 48044 | 586/416-1000 |
| Anchor Bay Bicycle & Fitness | 35214 23 Mile Road | New Baltimore, MI 48047 | 586/725-2878 |
| Bike Tech | 18401 E. Warren | Detroit, MI 48236 | 313/884-2453 |
| D & D Bicycles | 8383 N. Middlebelt Rd | Westland, MI 48185 | 734/522-9410 |
| D & D Bicycles | 121 N. Center Rd. | Northville, MI 48167 | 248/347-1511 |
| D & D Bicycles | 9977 E. Grand River | Brighton, MI 48116 | 810/227-5070 |
| D & D Bicycles | 4141 W. 12 Mile Road | Berkley, MI 48072 | 248/547-0770 |
| D & D Bicycles | 7330 Highland Road | Waterford, MI 48327 | 248/461-6550 |
| East Side Bike Shop | 26210 Van Dyke Ave | Centerline, MI 48015 | 586/756-2001 |
| Fraser Bicycle & Fitness | 34501 Utica Road | Fraser, MI 48026 | 586/294-4070 |
| Hamilton Bicycle | 69329 Main Street | Richmond, MI 48062 | 586/727-5140 |
| Macomb Bike & Fitness | 28411 Schoenherr | Warren, MI 48088 | 586/756-5400 |
| Main Street Bicycles | 5987 26 Mile Road | Washington, MI 48094 | 586/677-7755 |
| Main Street Bicycles | 622 S Lapeer | Lake Orion, MI 48362 | 248/236-9100 |
| Metro Bike-N-Sport | 36649 S. Gratiot Ave | Clinton Twp., MI 48035 | 586/791-3488 |
| Paul's Bike Depot | 28057 Gratiot | Roseville, MI 48066 | 586/776-9165 |
| Stoney Creek Bike | 58235 Van Dyke | Washington, MI 48094 | 586/781-4451 |

Club Information

For more information about our club, please see our website at www.slowspokes.org

Most of the information on the website is visible without signing in. If you are a member, you can use your email address as your login ID and create a password. This gives you access to some information that non-members cannot see.

If you wish to join the Slow Spokes, there is a membership application on the website that you can print out and fill out.

You are welcome to come for a meeting or try out a ride before joining the club.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS?

If you want to know of impromptu rides and other information of special interest not found on our website or in the newsletter, please make sure you forward your correct email address to Paul Wilhelm at jpwilhelm@hotmail.com

Notes from the Newsletter Editor:

Every attempt will be made to include all articles as they are submitted, and in their entirety, in the newsletter. However, due to space constraints, this may not always be possible. If you do not want your article edited in any way, shape or form (even if typos and/or grammatical errors are apparent) please make a note of that when the article is sent.



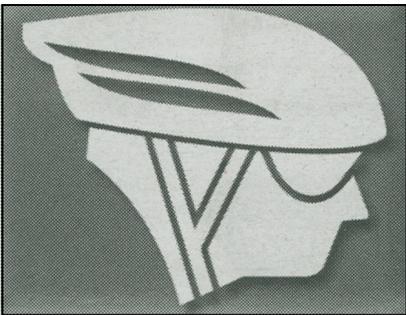
Slow Spokes Spokin' Times News



Slow Spokes are members of the
League of Michigan Bicyclists and
the League of American Bicyclists.



Website: www.SlowSpokes.org



BIKE SMART
Always Wear Your Helmet!

Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0792

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