

Fresh Air

OutSpokin' Wheelmen

September 2018

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Editor's Note: If your Fresh Air did not get to you,
please check your address/status with our
Membership Chair Jan McWilliams

(janicemcw@att.net), to be sure it is current.
Every month a new list of addresses is sent to the
editor to send out that issue.



Prez Sez – September 2018

THEY USED BIKES TO BECOME LEADERS -- Recently, Greg and I volunteered to help at a picnic, headed by last year's banquet speaker Stefanie Sydlik. We had the opportunity to meet an inspiring group of Youth Bikers from the Bicycling Coalition Youth Cycling (BCYC) program in Philadelphia. They were camping for the night at Camp Guyasuta, Sharpsburg, PA. Stefanie and her biking comrades volunteered to feed the group. As we set the tables and grilled the burgers (in the pouring rain), we listened to stories of how the program has given these kids access to the sport of biking, allowing them to explore the world outside their neighborhood. The group of approximately 25, were leaving the next day to ride the GAP from Pittsburgh to Cumberland. They call these trips "Sojourns" a term coined from the Rails to Trails Conservancy. This was their first "sojourn" outside of the Philadelphia area. Biking has helped these kids develop confidence, healthy habits and leadership skills. You can read more about them in the Sept/Oct issue of Bicycling magazine on page 49.
Safe Biking
Mary

Next Meeting - September 12th at Davidsons
Restaurant and Tavern
Social at 6:00 – Meeting at 7:00

**Nominations for Club officers will be listed
under
New Business on the Agenda**

COOKIES: A cookie sign up sheet for
NEOC will be at the September meeting. If
you can not make it to the meeting,
and plan on bringing cookies, please email
Lori Swan at loriswan41@hotmail.com with
how many you are bringing.
We are low on cookies as of August 23rd.
Thank You
Lori

Safety Article (Entire Text)

By Frank Krygowski

As OSW Safety Chairman, I've said a lot
about being skeptical of weird bike
facilities.

First, I don't believe weirdness is needed. I
have decades of riding experience, I've
studied bike issues, I've seen tons of data,
and I know that competent riding on
ordinary roads, following the normal rules
of the road, is extremely safe. It's literally
safer than not riding at all, since bicycling's
benefits far outweigh its tiny risks.

Second, I don't think weird facilities
(otherwise known as "innovative")
necessarily make riding safer. Traffic
needs clear rules that everyone knows and
understands. When "innovation" is thrown
in, the rules change and people get
surprised. "Think quick! Here's a surprise
bicyclist!" is a recipe for disaster.

But there are hundreds of bike advocates
who disagree. They love "innovation" and

think that stodgy old engineers are harming
bicycling. Their mantra seems to be
"Every bike facility is a good bike facility."
They've pushed for bike lanes even in door
zones. (Surprise! A door is going to pop
open right in front of your bike!) They've
pushed for hidden "cycletracks." (Surprise!
A fast bicycle is popping into an
intersection from behind parked cars!)
They seem to say "Hey, it's
innovative! What could go wrong?"

Here's a report on what has gone wrong.

First, let's talk bike boxes. These are
green painted boxes all the way across a
traffic lane, just before the crosswalk stripe.
Several years ago, Portland painted these
at eleven intersections. Why? To prevent
the "right hook" deaths that the bike lanes
near the curbs had caused, when vehicles
turned right and ran over straight-ahead
cyclists. Supposedly, the boxes would
mean a cyclist could pass cars at a red
light on the right, then safely sit out the red
light directly in front of the cars, nice and
visible - and, um, never mind what
happens if the light is green.

So how did it work out? Well, more people
did ride their bikes, probably because they
were told the boxes were safe. But in the
four years after the bike boxes, there were
twice as many right hook collisions at those
intersections. (See tinyurl.com/portl-box)

Why didn't the bike boxes work? Because
the cyclists felt safe passing on the right
when the light was green. And because it's
very difficult for a right-turning motorist to
look back over his right shoulder for
passing bikes, while steering around the
curve and also watching for pedestrians up
ahead. All this is just what the bike safety
experts from around the country had been

saying! But those stodgy old guys just aren't innovative, you know?

Second, let's look at Washington D.C.'s "innovative" bike facilities. Washington's consultants dreamed up "innovation" for three locations. These were a complicated mix of bike boxes, special stripes, special traffic lights just for bikes, and even bike lanes down the center of the road (Wow! Innovative!!) on Pennsylvania Avenue.

So how did those work out? First, as in Portland, the number of people riding on those streets increased a lot. If you tell people you've made things safer, they'll ride there.

But the crashes? At the most complicated intersection, the number of crashes per month were five times worse! At Pennsylvania Avenue, six times worse. At the third location, 2.2 times worse. (See "Bicycle Facility Evaluation" at <https://tinyurl.com/DC-bike-tracks>) These crash increases were more than the riding increases, meaning each cyclist was at greater risk.

Third, how about Columbus, Ohio? About three years ago they installed a two-way "protected bike lane" on a mile of Summit St. The years before the installation had about 1.5 car-bike crashes per year. After the "protection?" They had 13 car-bike crashes per year. That's more than a 700% increase in crashes! (See <https://tinyurl.com/Columbus-summit-st>)

So what do the "innovative" facility advocates say? In all cases, they say "give us time." They hope to make things better by more warnings - more green paint to the road, more caution signs for bicyclists, more "Yield to bikes" signs,

brighter street lights, and so on. Because they're sure there's a way to make innovation work, even if bicyclists pop out in front of moving cars in the motorists' blind spots.

Another interesting point: What do the riders themselves think about these weird facilities? The D.C. report makes it clear: The people riding bikes love them! They feel much safer, even though the data shows that the facilities place them at much more risk! To the average person on a bike, "Every bike facility is a good bike facility." And if it does cause five times the number of crashes? Well, maybe it needs more green paint...

Please, don't be the average person on a bike. And please don't accept, let alone ask for, weirdness or "innovation" in special bike facilities. Cyclists do best when they ride competently, as a normal part of traffic, following normal rules of the road. Be visible, be confident, surprise nobody - and be very careful what you ask for!

Secretary's Notes – August 8th 2018

OSW Meeting - Davidsons

President Mary called the meeting to order and welcomed all who came. John McCormick made a motion to accept the minutes and Paula Kohler seconded the motion. All were in favor to accept the minutes as written.

Executive Board

President- Mary Merritt reported on the great article that was published in the Youngstown Business Journal by Jim Brock, on the OSW club.

Vice President – Neil Betts – no report

Treasurer – Lyn Baker reported the beginning balance is 13,865.98 and ending balance is 12,535.25. See financial report for details.

Secretary – Lori Swan – no report

Trustee – Ed Howley – Ed has been checking mail box and we had one new membership.

Committee Reports

Bikeways – Neil Betts – a order for club jerseys will be sent in soon, contact Neil to get your order in.

Historian – Lark Dickstein – no report

Membership – Jan McWilliams -no report

Mileage – Rick Huggins – no report

NEOC- Mary Merritt reported on the gifts that had been donated for prizes, Dave Hughes needs help painting the road signs, Juli Boles and Mary Merritt will be in charge of SAG and parking lot directors, Carl and Sherri Talerico are in charge of the kitchen, Lori Swan and Debbie Migletts will be in charge of cookies, Barb and Ed Howley are in charge of registration and Debbie Migletts offered to pick up the fruit that day. Registration forms have been dropped at local bike shops. The routes are the same as last year. John Nagy will contact the local and state police departments and churches that our ride will be taking place that day.

Newsletter- Kelley Walker – no report

Program – Steve Duchene - no report, if anyone has a program to be presented, contact Mary Merritt.

Ride Captain- Juli Boles – no report

Safety – Frank Krygowski – no report

SICCO- Dave Hughes – no report

Social – Nalungo Aduma – Mary reported that club picnic was not scheduled due to lack of interest.

Website – Mary Merritt reported that the website is close to be up and running by the end of the month. Send photo's to Neil Betts that you would like posted to the website. Frank Krygowski brought up the issue that some people might not want their picture posted, if it was a group picture. Mary is hoping that we could incorporate the club colors on the home page of the website.

Old Business

Mary reported that the helmet issue is still being discussed by the board and membership. Frank Krygowski reported that he had talked to Tonya from the insurance company and it is not mandatory that helmets be worn. The executive board could be held responsible for a club member being injured who is not wearing a helmet and sue the board. Lyn brought up the concern of the executive board being involved in a lawsuit of a member not wearing a helmet.

Ellen Satre wanted to thank the club for it's donation to Pelotonia, there were close to 8500 rides this year supporting the cause. Dan Betts also sent his thanks for the club support of Pelotonia.

Mary had talked to John Nagy, he was feeling better, but will be continuing more treatments.

Ellen Satre made a motion for adjournment and was seconded by Kelley Walker.

Submitted by – Lori Swan

September Rides + Activities:

Speeds: Leisurely: 9-11, Low-moderate:11-13, Mid-moderate:12-14, High-moderate:13-15, Brisk:15-18, Fast: 18+ mph

Rides should be submitted to our ride captain Juli Boles at harleyj@roadrunner.com

Please note: The printed schedule is subject to change. Please check the ride schedule on the website for additions or cancellations. Our ride captain also sends out email updates of the schedule. Contact Rick to be added to the update email list.

Sun. Sept 16 NEOC-Registration opens 7AM-details on OSW website!

Sun. Sept 23 at 1:00 Join Duane Metz and Mill Creek Park for a 10 mile hike through beautiful Mill Creek Park. We will be meeting at the Ford Nature Center. There will also be a shorter 5 mile hike that will be leaving at the same time. Any questions call Duane at 330-565-5071 or the Nature Center at 330-740-7107.

Sun. Sept 2-9-23-30 Meet at Canfield Farms Trailhead at 2:00 PM. High-moderate pace, flat to rolling terrain. 45-55 mi. Call Dave McCuen, 216 496-1220.

Mon. Sept 10 & 17 only. Meet at Kirk Rd Trailhead 9AM for 30-35 miles at low to mid mod pace both on and off the bike trail. (Call if weather questionable) Barb or Ed Howley 330-793-8219.

Mon. Sept 3 – 10 – 17 - 24 Hill Repeats Leaves the Leetonia trailhead at 9:00am for hill repeats on some of the vicious hills along the Lisbon Greenway. We'll do slow recovery in between averaging a mid-moderate pace. 40+ miles. Call, text or email the night before to make sure the ride is a go. Jerry King 234-567-5778 jdkingphoto@gmail.com

Mon Sept 10 - 24 only. Meet Hartford, Oh twp park at intersection of Rt 7 & 305 at 5PM. Mid mod pace 25+miles on backroads of Hartford, Fowler, Orangeville. Few small hills (parking by playground) Ed Rigby 330-423-7316.

Tues Sept 4-11-18-25 Meet 3:30PM Mill Creek Newport parking lot for 25-30 miles in and out of park. High moderate to brisk pace. Rich Cameron 724-714-7928.

Tues Sept 11 & 18 only Meet 6PM Mill Creek Newport parking lot for 15-20 mile ride through and around the park at low-mid mod pace. Ed Howley 330-770-1489.

Wed. Sept 5-12-19-26 Meet Mosquito Lake Beach parking lot 10 AM for low moderate ride. About 20 miles or so. Rose 330-399-6141 or John Thomas 330-609-9807

Wed. Sept 5-12-19-26 Salem Wednesday Ride, B Group. Leaves from 2nd St public parking lot at 3:00PM. NOTE NEW START TIME. High-moderate pace, flat to rolling, 50+ miles, with short breaks until just before dusk. Call Dave McCuen, 216 496-1220.

Wed. Sep 5 – 12 – 19 – 26 Salem Wednesday Ride Leaves from 2nd St. public parking lot (Between Lincoln & Ellsworth Aves.) at 4pm. 50+ miles at brisk pace, with only short breaks until just before dusk. Maybe a “B Group” if we have the riders?? Rides vary from fairly flat, to rolling, to downright hilly depending on the day and who shows up. Call Jerry King at 234-567-5778

Wed. Sept 5-19-26 Meet at the Mosquito Lake Beach at 5:15 PM. Pace mid to high moderate. Estimated distance is 25 to 35 miles. No ride in inclement weather, lightning or temperatures above 95 degrees. Call Kelley Walker at 330-505-3573.

Wed Sept 12 OSW meeting Davidson Restaurant, Canfield, Oh. Social time 6pm with dinner and meeting at 7PM.

Thur Sept 6-13-20-27 Meet 10 AM at Bogey's, Lowellville, OH for 20-25 miles low moderate pace. Park in rear. Lunch

after ride. John McCormick 330-942-5770 or John Thomas 330-609-9807.

Thur Sept 6-13-20-27 Meet 5 PM New start point is new playground trail head on Rt 46 just down from the Canfield experimental farm park lot, low mid mod pace for 25 to 35 miles on trail and/or road. Tony Rothbrust 330-337-0798.

Fri Sept 14 @ 7:00 pm. Meet us for Margarita's, Negra Modelo's and a fiesta of food choices at Tequila Jalisco. Located at 583 East Main St. Canfield. Call Paula to be included (no collusion) 330 533 6299 before Sept 12 evening.

Fri. Sept 7. 14. 21. 28 10am Ride starts. Canfield experimental farm. Moderate speed. 40 miles. Flat to moderate hills David Hughes 330 692 2468

Fri Sept 7-14-21-28 Meet Kirk Road trail head for ride leaving at 6pm to Niles on the trail and back for 20 miles low to mid mod pace. Gregg Merritt 330-383-5994.

Sat Sept 8 - MEANDER AND MILTON RIDE: Meet at 10 a.m. at the Niles bike trail terminal parking lot for a leisurely, mostly-level, 36-mile round trip ride to Meander Reservoir and Lake Milton. Noon lunch stop at Halliday's Winery. No ride in the rain. Call Pete Milliken at 330-792-0232.

Sat., Sept. 15 Meet at 10 A.M. at the Gustavus Township hall at the intersection of State Routes 87 and 193 for an approximately 45 mile long mid-moderate ride. Lunch in Orwell. No ride in rain, lightning, or thunder. Call Kelley Walker 330-505-3573.

Sat. Sept 22 Meet 10 AM SHARP at Old Matthews School Building, 4429 Warren-Sharon Rd. Vienna, Oh for the “Ode” Pie ride about 40 miles at low to mid mod pace. Lunch stop at Times Square in Kinsman. No ride in rain or inclement

weather. Call Ed Randall for info 330-647-3911.

Sat. Sep 29 Salem Century (Route to be determined. Probably moderately hilly.) Leaves from 2nd St. public parking lot in Salem (Between Lincoln & Ellsworth Aves.) at 8am. There will be a couple breaks along with a short lunch stop. 100+ miles at hi-moderate to brisk pace, Call Jerry King at 234-567-5778.