

WINDBUSTERS



August 2021

Photo credit: Endeavor Energy

James Durbin , The Oilfield Photographer



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Webmaster – Jessica Godinez

Have you seen the new PBBA website?

Check it out at www.pbbatx.com



By Jessica Godinez, PBBA Webmaster

The PBBA website has a new look to provide members and web visitors with streamlined and updated information about the club and current club events.

On the new website, you will find information about the following:

- Club Mission Statement, Officers, and Sponsors
- Becoming a PBBA Member
- Weekly Club Rides
- Mountain Biking (Odessa MTB Park and Midland Trails Park)
- Cyclefest 2021
- Monthly Newsletter

If you do not receive our emails, you can sign up at the bottom of our website Home Page:



CYCLEFEST NEEDS YOU!!

Cyclefest is PBBA's largest yearly fundraising event. This is a challenging year for several reasons. Jasha Culteri who acted as director for several years moved in 2019. David Ham, former owner of Peyton's Bikes, had been the glue that held Cyclefest together. He retired and moved. Several key volunteers from the 2019 volunteer list moved too. Past leaders and volunteers are providing wonderful advice and information, but locals have to get it done. Bob Haskell stepped up to lead Cyclefest for 2020, but the event was cancelled due to Covid concerns. Bob is still on board as our director for this year. Cyclefest 2021 is a restart year in many ways; therefore, **your help is needed**. Cyclefest has been a contribution to the Texas cycling community for 43 years. Please help us make it a success in 2021! Text Kathy Hester at 432-638-7038 or email Khester4205@gmail.com to volunteer.

Before: Door prizes , goody bag items, **HELP SECURE SPONSORS**

Friday: setting up registration, sorting t shirts, transporting equipment to Fort Davis , working registration, helmet raffle

Saturday: morning registration, **SAG**

Saturday lunch: music/ sound system, door prize tickets, jersey and t-shirt sales

Sunday Hill Climb: registration, monitor cars allowed to observatory, route persons, pass out water and prizes, clean up

Sunday after: closing, packing and loading



**44th Fort Davis
Cyclefest Tour**

Fort Davis, Texas
September 18th - 19th, 2021

Promoted by the
Permian Basin Bicycle Association
Come Ride the "Texas Alps"!

Cyclefest is arguably the best and most scenic bike tour in the state of Texas with beautiful vistas, easy novice routes and challenging hills. Cyclefest is a "must do" for every cyclist.

The Cyclefest Bike Tour and Hill Climb is held in the Scenic "Texas Alps" in Fort Davis, Texas. The Tour provides three distance routes: 25, 55, and 75 miles.

The event is staged annually at the historic Prude Ranch in Fort Davis and is held the third weekend of September.

For Ride Information: call 1-432-212-0901 or visit <https://www.pbbatx.com/cyclefest>
Registration on bike Reg at <http://www.bikereg.com/cyclefest-2021>
local information, www.fortdavis.com



Lois Eggleston January 7, 1930 to July 26, 2021

Lois's husband, David, told me the following:

"She was a beautiful 91-year-old with a big smile and a cheerful disposition. She made friends easily and often got hugged by new acquaintances after about ten minutes of contact. She had a strong constitution and was generally very healthy. She had excellent medical care.

Lois was Hispanic and taught ESL for years both at Odessa College and Midland College. She was the eldest of eight sisters. She was the first one in her family to learn English and later taught English to her sisters and parents. She outlived her daughter, Luz Marie Rios and a grandson, Michael Castellon Jr who died of Covid 19. We loved each other very much."

Lois rode many miles with PBBA members and shared a lot of meals at Rosa's with us. She will be missed.

One of our most beloved SAG drivers, Kenny Lorenz, died in May. His wife, Tammy, says that he especially enjoyed the Police Memorial ride when he got to ride along with Jimmy Young and Larry Ward. Cyclefest was his favorite because they were able to get away for the weekend at Fort Davis and "got to eat the terrible food in town." If Tammy was on a bike or helping out, Kenny was there helping and getting out the SAG signs to display on his truck. Kenny's objective during any ride was for all of us to be safe. He always had a cooler of water and Gatorade to make sure riders had what they needed.

PBBA owes him a debt of gratitude for all the time he spent keeping us safe. He will be missed by all of us.

Trail Warriors by Odis Franklin



Before everyone showed up, Mick and I drove the Jeep out and dropped off drinks, firewood and lawn chairs and it looked like rain. We were worried, but luckily it went around.

Seven people showed up for the ride and we rolled out around 7 with a slight headwind and the normal heat we expect where we live. The ride out was hot at first, but cooled off soon. Bikes ranged from a gravel bike to a fat bike and with some of the sandy sections we faced, the fat bike left us in the dust a few times. We had a relaxed pace mostly, except when the kid tried to race a few old timers up a few hills. The glove was thrown down and the challenge answered every time, which made for some good laughs.

We arrived at camp, a nice little stock tank that was like an oasis in the middle of nowhere about an hour before dark and everyone immediately went about their routine of setting up camp. Tents went up, sleeping pads inflated, a fire built and then we sat around the campfire under the most beautiful starry sky, where the milky way looked like you could reach out and touch it. Stories were told and beer was consumed and we had the best time possible.

We reluctantly called it a night and headed off to our tents, falling asleep with the sound of coyotes in the distance like a strange West Texas lullaby.

We woke early the next morning to beat the heat and rolled out of camp a little after day-break. It was a fairly straightforward ride back to the start, except a few little hills and one small sandy spot. We made it back by 10 am and everyone could be home by noon easily. The Sub 24 Hour overnighter was amazing and we will do it again.



MOUNTAIN BIKING – Stephen Mitchell

Many of you are already aware that the extraordinary amount of rain this summer has significantly damaged our trail systems. The damage is in the form of erosion, overgrowth of weeds, displacement of the bridges, and flooded areas with pooled water. Some of us have spent time cleaning up the trails but the fast-growing weeds have created quite a challenge.

Park Updates

Odessa Mountain Bike Park: The trails have been partially cleaned but large portions of the pits are still underwater. Other portions have become significantly grown over. Much of the green and white trail is rideable but very sandy. A workday will be scheduled soon to go work on the Odessa Trails. Please consider going out there anytime on your own with a hoe or a rake to drag sand off sections of the green trail. Do not be discouraged! We will get this trail back in shape soon and the pits will eventually dry up. I have scheduled a landscaping company to go work on the trails as soon as they can – hopefully, next week. This is the first time in 11 years that we have experienced flooding and trail damage on this scale.

Pictured below: The pavilion takes shape at the Midland park.



Midland Trail Park: Turf Specialties is scheduled to clean up the green trail on Saturday (July 31st). A portion of the green trail is already open but an additional 2 miles still needs to be cleared of very tall and aggressive weeds. The Blue Trail (3.8 miles) is cleared off and it is a good ride. We still need to build a bridge at the north end of the park across Scharbauer draw. After each rain, water pools up in that area and it takes a few days to dry out. Presently this cuts off the last mile of the blue trail. All the trails are expected to be cleared and open by August 1st. A powerful 4 ft wide brush mower was ordered so we can more readily maintain the trails, but it has been on back order for over 5 weeks. It is supposed to arrive in mid to late August. The trails will be cleared, and we will soon have the equipment to keep the weeds under control.

Now the good news! The rain has really helped pack down the trails. Although the trails were sandy after they were first built, they have packed in and are solid. The berms and rollers have held up very well to all the rain. The soil profile at the Midland Trail Park lets rainwater drain quickly and then the ground dries up fast. The pavilion is now built, and it looks great. Picnic tables and a bike repair stand are ordered. We are presently putting up trail signs. The trails are generally marked well enough at this point to easily follow the trail.

The gate to the park is sometimes closed. At first glance it may look locked but it is just chained and easy to open. The Park is open from sunrise to sunset. If you haven't been there yet, please go check it out.



Note: This event will be utilizing the Odessa MTB Park from 7am– 9 am. The green trail will be closed to open riding during that time.

Midland Athletic Company, in partnership with **Fellowship of Christian Athletes**, is excited to bring you -- **THE DUEL: DUATHLON**.

This event will be held on August 14, 2021 at the Parks Legado Farmers Market.

This unique competition hopes to bring together athletes from all over Midland and beyond. It is open to athletes of diverse fitness levels, ages, faiths and backgrounds. **Do you have what it takes to cross the finish line? There is only one way to find out...**

CHALLENGE YOURSELF!

Swapping sports and doing something new is challenging and it gets you out of your comfort zone. We are changing the game and breaking the mold! As athletes ourselves, we know how much **TIME + EFFORT + WORK** it takes to be our best in pursuit of victory. We are on a mission to host this multi-sport event to challenge Permian Basin locals to see how far we can go!

WHAT IS A DUATHLON?

This off-road duathlon is a multi-sport event consisting of running and cycling stages. The whole course is 13 miles. Competitors will go through:

- 2-mile road running stage
- 9-mile mountain-biking stage
- 2-mile road running stage

Odessa Mountain Bike Park is a great service to the local community, annual memberships can be obtained here: <https://www.pbbatx.com/mountain-biking/>

WHAT YOUR RACE REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- Race Finishers' Medal
- The Duel finisher towel
- Open age group awards
- Overall awards
- Team relay 1st place awards
- Post-race refreshments and food+-
- FREE race photos
- Sponsor services and giveaways

Race tech shirt is an add-on for \$15.

RACE DETAILS

WHAT: Duathlon

WHEN: August 14, 2021

TIME: 7:00 AM

WHERE: Park Legado Farmers Market (7260 E Hwy 191 Odessa, TX)





Matt Rodriguez

Pre-Race Day - As I drove into Abilene, the evening before the race, my thoughts were 'I need to carb load'. We hit the local Cracker Barrel for pancakes. The first thing my 12 yr old son noticed were some really neat Specialized signs hanging on the wall near our table. I have taught him well. Haha!

Before the Ride - After having some amazing pancakes the night before and not getting much sleep, I woke up to get my gear ready and head to Buffalo Gap. As we were driving through this beautiful town, I started to remember there would be hill climbing involved. I didn't get completely nervous at the thought, but in my mind I'm thinking 'I hope I prepared myself enough for this 100K'. We arrived and visited with the wonderful volunteers at the check in station. Before I knew it, I was sitting on my bike at the start line, ready to go. I looked around and saw a friend from Midland, Kevin Hubble, and felt extremely thankful he was there. Seeing his familiar face gave me some peace. I was ready to go.

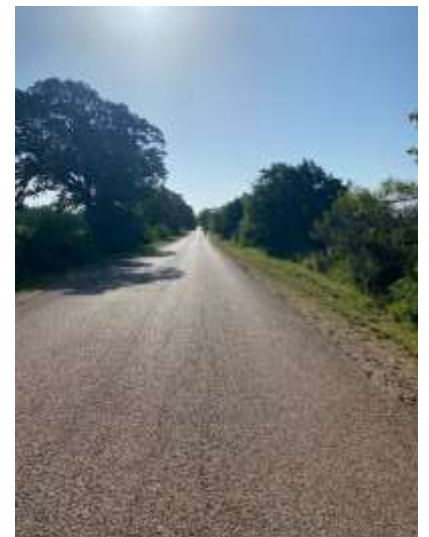
Race - After the National Anthem played, we were off. What a great start! We kept an awesome pace and rolled over some difficult hills. The south wind was at 12 mph, but felt like 30 mph, it truly humbled me. After what seemed like a forever long stretch into the South wind, we finally turned West. This part of the course was rather difficult. The road was not as smooth as I hoped it would be, but the scenery was extremely beautiful and almost made me forget about the challenging road texture. I was very thankful to find a father and son duo to work with because we were able to push each other to get through this first loop. I finally got to my first rest stop; loaded up on bananas, pickle juice, and a couple of cookies. My legs felt like they were destroyed, they were screaming at me to stop. Ignoring the screaming, I got back on my bike and continued to finish the first loop. Success! I made it here, but here we go again, getting back to the start of the same loop, a second time. More south wind! I pushed through it. I made it to the turn to start the second loop and feel discouraged, as the folks I was working with have since dropped off and I'm alone. So, I yell at Siri and tell her to call son. I'm hopeful he can give me some encouragement. He answers, thank goodness, and for a 16-year-old he did his very best to encourage his old dad to not give up and keep hammering. After many long miles, which seemed like forever, I finally made it to the last turn and have the wind at my back. I cranked it up and I was going around 39 mph. I keep pushing and doing my best to close in on the riders I see in the distance. Success! I was able to move up 5 positions.

I was thankful to finally see a sign which said 5K left. I gave it my all and I push harder than I've pushed before. The phrase kept going through my head, 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me'. Finally I rolled into Buffalo Gap, I pushed, and pushed, and pushed, to make it to the finish line. The first person I saw was my wife, I gave her a great big smile and continued to ride past her to give my legs a cool down.

Post Race - After cooling down, I enjoyed a delicious barbecue sandwich and I won't say how many sodas. I enjoyed the trees, beautiful scenery, and new friends I met while riding in Buffalo Gap. This race was challenging, fun, exciting, and difficult. I will definitely be coming back next year. Make plans to join me next year July 23, 2022; you won't regret it!



Kevin and Matt



Book Reviews: Two fun quirky books about cycling

by Berry Simpson



Cyclepedia, by Michael Embacher, is a beautiful book, the ultimate coffee-table for devotees of cycling. It has amazing photos of many iconic bicycles plus an impressive array of quirky designs.

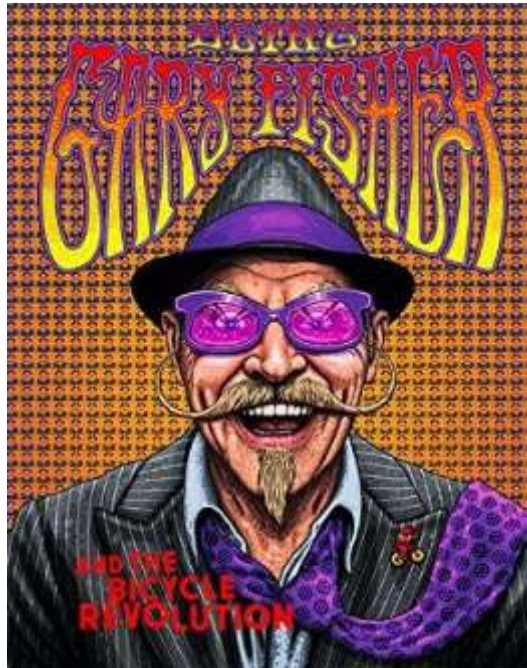
This book is a catalog of the author's personal collection of idiosyncratic 20th century bicycles: 71 of them are after 1976. The oldest bike is 1922, three are from the 1920s, five from the 1930s and five from the 1940s. *Cyclepedia* showcases the innovations and legacies of bicycle design over the past century, especially braking, gearing and frame designs.

One of the strangest bikes in the collection is the Buddy Bike, from 1988. The author wrote, "It was a tandem for riders who prioritized socializing over performance with the arrangement of the seats making communication easy and prompting a nickname – the sociable."

How did it work? Two riders sat side-by-side, rather than one in front and the other behind as in a traditional tandem. Only the left-hand rider had the power of steering, the right-hand riders had handlebars just for balance. The Buddy Bike required a balanced load to avoid the bike tilting or falling sideways, so both riders needed to have equal weights

I only have one complaint about the book: there are too many folding bikes. Folding bikes are cool, and as an engineer I appreciate the intricate designs, but for my taste there were too many. How many folding bikes can you look at?

In conclusion, *Cyclepedia* would make a great gift for anyone who loves bikes.



Being Gary Fisher is about the countercultural invention and development of the mountain bike in Marin County, California, during the 1960s, by a group of adventurous hippies who loved to tinker with bikes. It's a worthwhile read for anybody interested in the roots of mountain biking, its progression and hopes for the future from an industry pioneer and icon.

I should say right up front I'm not a mountain biker. I've tried a few times - notably, the Dale Ball Trails in Santa Fe, and I ended up with skinned and bleeding knees and elbows every time. However, I found this book about the development of mountain bikes to be fascinating.

Fisher wrote, "I didn't invent the mountain bike — I just took all the best bits and tweaked them till they worked really well. I then packaged them up as something totally different to the uptight world of road biking and created something that people all over the world could understand and enjoy." Gary Fisher introduced the following ideas: oversize headsets, wider axles, more powerful brakes, a rear derailleur that sits closer to the wheel so it isn't damaged so easily, 29-inch wheels, full suspension, four-bar linkage suspension and longer top tubes paired to shorter stems. With most of these the world laughed and then two years later followed his lead. With some of them, like brakes and derailleurs, he got inside other peoples' heads, like the engineers at Shimano.

This is a rich book and one that fascinates because it places the birth of mountain biking within the larger context of the 1960s social movement. It shows why mountain biking was invented by a bunch of hippies rather than experienced bike industry people, but it does so by illustrating what a fertile time it was for fresh ideas.

Being Gary Fisher resembles a scrapbook with hundreds historic photos and entertaining art throughout (just look at that cover, for example).

The book is part history, part origin story, and part photographic account of ingenious innovation, dogged determination, and boundless energy.

Gary Fisher was a road racing cyclist before he became a dirt bike inventor and guru. I loved learning about his racer background and his rebellion against the governing body of cycling in the USA when they tried to force him to cut his hair. It was his prime motivation for cycling on dirt.

When you think about the fact that Fisher lived in the Bay Area, was hanging out with a bunch of hippies playing a new kind of music and engaged in a culture that saw cannabis and psychedelics as a way to advance creativity, mountain biking seems less an invention than an inevitability. How long would it have taken for mountain bikes to be invented if not for the social movement that led to the Summer of Love in 1967?

Bike MS 2021 was one for the cycling record book. Many riders were alerted to speed records by their cycling computers. The temperature remained below 85 degrees until noon and the sky was partly cloudy. After turning north from Greenwood, riders were aided by a tailwind for most of the way into Lamesa with the exception of crosswinds through Klondike.

According to MS director, Lyndee Klein there were 199 registered riders. As of now the fundraising total stands at \$334,000.

There were great rest stops and friendly supportive volunteers at each one. The ride ended in Lamesa with appetites being satisfied by True Texas BBQ. Several riders including some from Peyton's and the WTGO team continued north unsupported. One group reported 170 miles.

It was a great day of cycling, friends and the opportunity to raise money for people that we love with MS.



PBBA members at Bike MS



Ride of Silence Post Ride Report by John Floyd



Bare-bone Facts

Sixty seven (67) riders

Temperature 85 degrees

Third attempt as inclement weather forced postponement

Participant Comments

I have participated in the Ride of Silence for several years. I hope by attending that the families of those lost see that we have not forgotten their loved ones. I hope the public is reminded of the importance of their role in helping cyclists stay safe.

It's still really tough to go up 158 and stop.

This was my first time participating in the Ride of Silence. I was hit while cycling June 10, 2017, & suffered life altering injuries. I participated via my Peloton, as I have not been back on a bike. I love the symbolism behind the ride.

Links to Media Coverage

CBS 7: <https://www.cbs7.com/2021/05/24/severe-weather-postponed-permian-basin-ride-of-silence-rescheduled-for-a-week-later/>

Newsweek 9: <https://www.newsweek9.com/article/news/local/ride-of-silence-raises-awareness-cyclists-honors-killed/513-bfb247ad-fa68-43b8-8b1c-41f22f1a09e2>

Midland Reporter Telegram: <https://www.mrt.com/news/local/article/Permian-Basin-Ride-of-Silence-16219806.php>

July 7



- 1  ERIC BURKHART
- 2  JIM WANER
- 3  SHAWN HARRIS

July 21



- 1  FIDEL RUVALCABA
- 2  ERIC BURKHART
- 3  ZACK BELEW

July 14 no podium due to crash

July 28 no podium due to wet road conditions

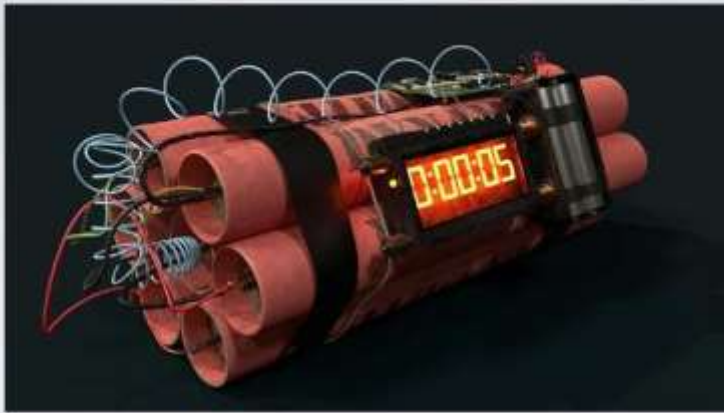


Riders don't have to race to enjoy Wednesday rides from Peyton's at 6:15 p.m.

Above: Zach, Sara and Jacob Jones enjoy a few loops around Greentree Country Club subdivision on a recent Wednesday.

Pictured at right are Cliff and Alaina Jay enjoying the Saturday Holy Cross Ride.





TNT (THURSDAY NIGHT THRASHER)

6:00 p.m. ride-off
Valley View Church

