



WINDBUSTERS

January 2024

Important Dates

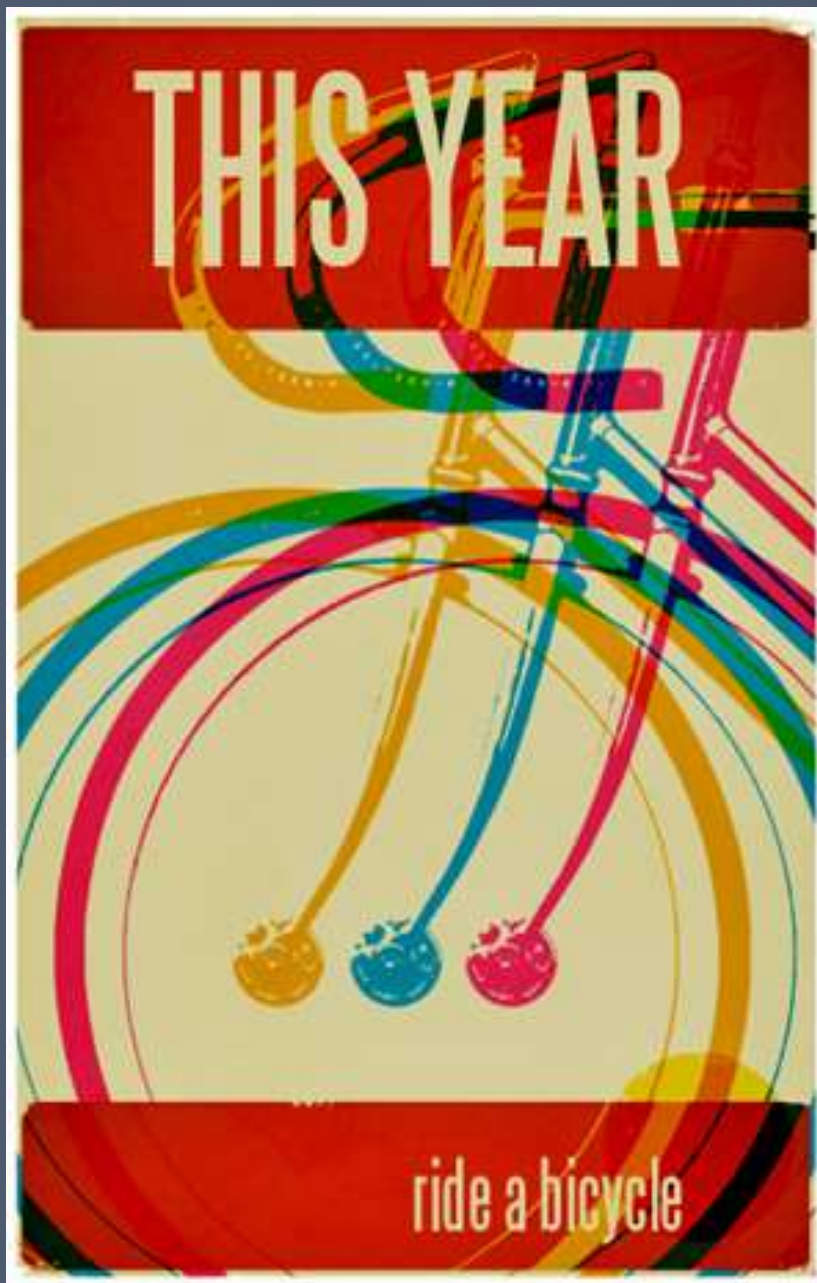
January 20 Energy City No Drop Ride

January PBBA meeting— details will be posted on Facebook and emailed

March 22-24, 2024 Rattlesnake Gravel Grind

September 21-22, 2024 Fort Davis Cyclefest





In the winter, after the time changes, I ride circles around Midland College after work because it is well lit and 20 mph for cars. I am not the only one who takes advantage of this route either in the evening or in the morning.

A little after 6:00 p.m. on 11/28/2023, I was riding clockwise in the bike lane. I approached the side road that exits onto Maxwell Street. I recall cars in the short stretch of road between Garfield and the circle waiting for the light. I also saw a car driving clockwise approaching the same little stretch of road. I thought the car was slowing down in anticipation of stopping to let me continue so I sped up to continue riding.

As I entered the intersection, I recall the car was not stopping, but instead turning into the short road and about to run into me. Then I was flying through the air trying to pull out of my clips before landing real hard on my hip bone. Then there was instant pain that I couldn't escape.

I fractured my acetabulum (hip socket) with several pubic pelvis fractures. Midland couldn't repair the injury, so I had a two hour ambulance ride to Lubbock.

Sixteen days ago I was released from inpatient OTC and PT and have been doing outpatient PT with Chris Robichaux. All in all I expect 5 to 6 months of recovery.

Lesson: Never enough lights, but no matter how lit up, never think the other driver sees you. It is better to stop if even there is the slightest doubt about what a car will do.

-Tom Magee

Editor's note: I asked Tom if he would mind sharing his experience. He responded: "I don't mind if you put it in the newsletter, especially if it would help riders and motorists be reminded of how important it is to ride defensively all the time. The driver got a ticket for failing to yield right of way, she might have also been charged with violation of the Lisa Torry Smith Act signed into law in 2021."



**Texas: The Lisa
Torry Smith Act**
anylaw.com



JANUARY NO-DROP RIDE

COME ONE! COME ALL!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH
RIDE OFF FROM ECB @ 9AM SHARP
ROUTE THROUGH NORTH MIDLAND
DETAILS TO FOLLOW ON FB





The Gazelle Gazebo is open!

Thank you Mayor Joven, MCH CEO Russell Tippin, MCH Board Members Wallace Dunn, Kathy Rhodes, David Dunn, Lion President Larry Crawford and the Odessa Downtown Lions for opening the Gazebo at the Ribbon-Cutting event today (Dec. 26, 2023)

Thank you Robert Haskell and Kathy Hester of the PBBA and John Douthitt of Mission Fitness for joining our event.

The West Texas Gazelles of Odessa (WTGO) would also like to thank Blue Bison Industrial Services, Kelly Evans Construction, Jacquez Iron Works, Navarrete Welding, Medical Center Health System and Odessa Downtown Lions.

Thank you for creating a safe place for cyclists to convene and fellowship before and after rides.

Our next project is to bring more enthusiasts into the sport of cycling starting in our high schools. Thank you Christopher for the idea.

If anyone is interested in cycling, the WTGO does group rides every Monday at 6:15 p.m. from Mission Fitness. Our route is around 12 miles and everyone is welcome. C'mon Spring 2024!

We appreciate all of you and again, thank you!

-Allan Espina



Bike sculpture by Julio Jacquez



Thank you Sponsors



Trail Warrior

★ VETERAN BIKEPACKING ★

EST. 2014

On Veterans Day, VIM hosted the annual Veterans Gravel Grinder at the Colorado City State Park. We would like to thank them and everyone that came out to support the Trail Warrior Project. We could not do this without support from great folks like you!

January 12th, we will be hosting a bikepacking expedition in Las Cruces. We are doing the full Monumental Loop, which consists of about 250 miles around Las Cruces. It traverses parts of the vast 500,000 acres area consisting of the Organ National Parks and Desert peaks National Monuments.

There will be some desert sandy sections mixed with nice gravel roads and some flowy single track. The route is challenging and we plan on doing it in 5-7 days and hope to enjoy some New Mexico cuisine while we are at it.

- Odis Franklin





Thank you to everyone that came to the 2023 PBBA Christmas Light ride. Thank you to John and Bobbie Kerrigan (ride leaders), Loren Frost (police escort), Landy Adkins (clubhouse reservation), Sebastian Haynes/ Trek (refreshments) and Mike Hester (follow vehicle). Many riders put in a great effort decorating their bikes making for a very festive ride. Merry Christmas!





Fifty riders enjoyed the 52 degree temperatures and the 15 mph winds on a slow ride through Grasslands subdivision. There was a little rain shower before ride off time, but the rain stopped and did not dampen anyone's holiday spirit. There were some outstanding bicycle decorating efforts. Two creative decorators were rewarded with \$50 gift certificates from PBBA to the Trek store. Many more decorating efforts were deserving of recognition. The wet surfaces made for some festive light reflections on the pavement.





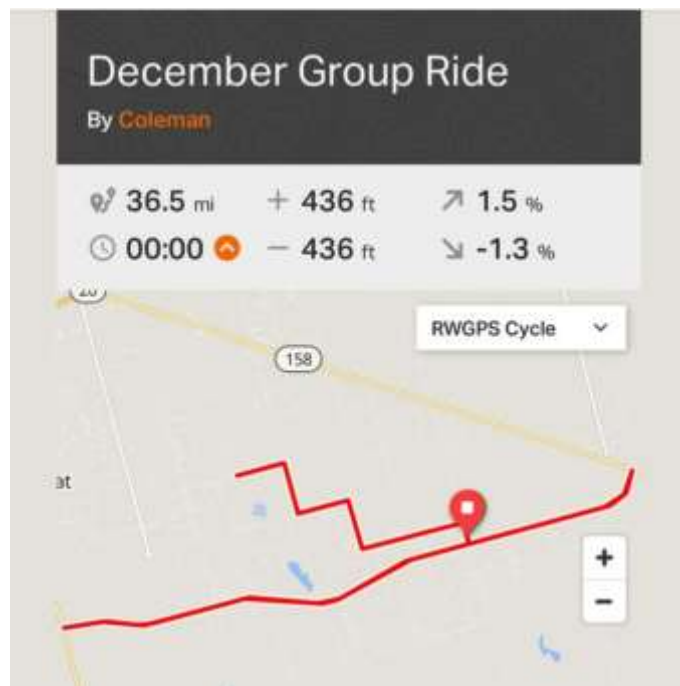


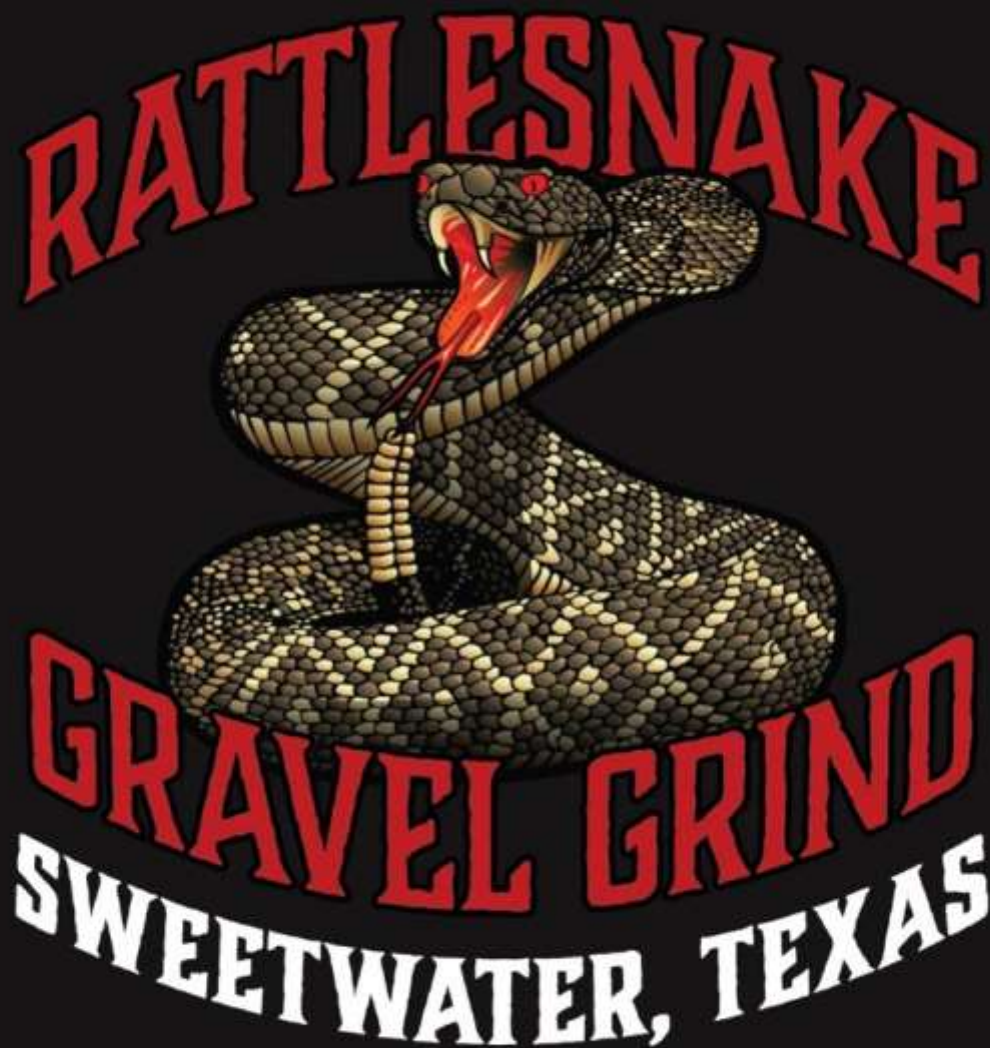
Clif Coleman with Energy City Bikes organized a group ride on Saturday, December 9 to introduce riders to no-drop group riding. There were three options: 12-mile, 20-mile and 36-mile. Vehicles parked at the northwest corner of County Road 1110 and County Road 173. The routes included a part of the Valley View Route and the south reliever route. Riders were greeted with very chilly temperatures and the opportunity to eat a donut for some energy. The cold temperatures probably deterred some newer riders. I don't mind cold as long as I am dressed for the temperature. I will admit when I saw the riders that did brave the cold that I was a little skeptical about the advertised no drop status of this ride. I assured them that I knew the route well enough to ride alone and requested that they not slow down for me. True to their word, they did not leave me behind and slowed their pace to average 15-16 mph. I enjoyed riding and chatting with this group. Next time they post a ride, please consider participating and know that they will go as slow as you need them to for the entire 36 miles.

Several of them rode out to the start from town so I am sure they got their high speed workout and mileage accomplished after riding 36 miles with me.

Thank you to Clif and Energy City for providing this opportunity!

Kathy Hester





March 22-24, 2024

Sweetwater, Texas

For details: rattlesnakegravelgrind.bike



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