

The Official Newsletter of the  
PERMIAN BASIN BICYCLE ASSOCIATION

# WINDBUSTERS

Volume XIV, Number 4

April 2008



The **P**ermian **B**asin **B**icycle **A**ssociation was created to promote bicycle safety and education. Based in Midland/Odessa, Texas, the P.B.B.A. is associated with the League of American Bicyclists, the United States Cycling Federation, the National Off Road Bicycle Association, Texas Bicycle Coalition and many local organizations. They are involved in sponsoring local bicycle touring events, USCF Racing, mountain bike rides, safety programs, riding clinics and many local civic programs. The membership is dedicated to providing a safe riding environment and to help achieve this they are educating both cyclists and motorists on the rules of the road. Remember, cyclists use the **same roads** and have the **same rights** as any other vehicle, but also remember we must obey the **same rules**. Everyone must **SHARE THE ROADS!**

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## Calendar of Cycling Events

*Peyton's has entry forms for many of these events - contact us*

Ride  
Calendar

[Permian Basin Bicycle Assn.](#) Club meetings - 3rd Monday of each Month in the Knights of Columbus Building on FM 1788 at CR60 between Midland & Odessa. Food and social at 7:00, program at 7:30.

Local Rides

**Sunday** - Leaves the NE Corner of 1788 and 191 at the Radio Station & American Home Improvement parking lot at 2:00PM. This is a comfortable pace ride so everyone is welcome; both guys and gals & from beginners to racers. Sometimes we ride to Walters (in Odessa) for soda or snack so bring pocket change.. For more information email Kelly Brammer at [brammer10@aol.com](mailto:brammer10@aol.com) or call Kelly @ 432-559-5346. Be sure and bring your helmet and plenty to drink.

**Tuesday & Thursday** - From Race Pace to Intermediate - Leaves S.E. corner of Loop 338 & Hwy 191 (The Professional Center) at **6:00 P.M.**

**Wednesday** - Peyton's Wednesday Evening Ride. Leaves @ 6:15 from Peyton's

**Monday, Wednesday and Saturday Morning Rides** – Odessa to Crane Ride – 40 Miles round trip. Medium paced ride on one of the smoothest roads around. Leaves the Wilson's Grocery Store at **8:30 AM** (10 Miles south of I20 on Hwy 385 – the Crane Hwy in Odessa). Call 563-0179 for information

**Saturday** – Race to Moderate pace, 25-50 Miles (depending on group) - Leaves S.E. corner of Loop 338 & Hwy 191 at **7:30 AM.**

**Sunday** - Medium pace, 23 Miles - Leaves Odessa Golden Corral on 42nd St. at **7:30 A.M.** , Call Joe Hassell for ride details - 432-366-2136.

<b>April 2008</b>	<b>5-6 James Bailey Criterium &amp; Ivan Makusa Road Race</b>	Mineral Wells, TX	
	<b>6 – The Warda MTB Race (TMBRA)</b>	Warda, TX	
	<b>12 – 13 Fort Davis Hammerfest Stage Race (TXBRA)</b>	Fort Davis, TX	432-699-1718 800-373-4764
	<b>13 – Austin Ridge Riders MTB Race (TMBRA)</b>	Austin, TX	
	<b>19 – <a href="#">LBJ 100 Bicycle Tour</a></b>	Stonewall, TX	
	<b>19-20 Matrix Track Race Weekend</b>		
	<b>27 – Storm Hill Challenge TMBRA MTB Race</b>	Comfort, TX	
	<b>26-27 Peel Out Criterium &amp; Pearl Brewery Criterium</b>		
<b>May 2008</b>	<b>3 – Coldspring Road Race</b>	Coldspring, TX	
	<b>4 – PBBA Fort Davis to Balmorhea Ride</b>		Kenneth Bristow or Cheryl Zachery
	<b>4 – GHORBA Big Ring Challenge TMBRA MTB Race</b>		
	<b>18 – X Bar Shootout TMBRA MTB Race</b>	El Dorado, TX	
	<b>18 – <a href="#">Santa Fe Century</a></b>	Santa Fe, NM	
<b>June 2008</b>	<b>20-22 – Ruidoso Ride</b>	Ruidoso NM	Fred Hunley 638-5715 <a href="mailto:fhunley@hotmail.com">fhunley@hotmail.com</a>

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Mark your calendars for these informative upcoming programs. You will not want to miss these!

**April 21** – Prof . Jim Eldridge of UTPB will present the very popular program that he has specially tailored for us, on Exercise Physiology as it applies to Cycling and Cyclists.

**May 19** – Holly Lafebre (Development Coordinator) and Toby Shahan (Bike Committee Chairman) present a program on the upcoming MS150.

**Dinner @ 7:00**

**Program and Meeting @ 7:30**

Thanks, Nigel Cowan Program Chair

## PRUDE RANCH TO BALMORHEA RIDE

May 4<sup>th</sup>: Mark your calendar for the PBBA's oldest continuous ride. Also known as one of the most popular rides. It's 35 miles of smooth, mostly down-hill road with just enough climbs to make it interesting.

Cyclists will meet at Balmorhea State Park at 8:30 on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Bikes will be loaded on to the club trailer to be sagged to Prude Ranch. The trailer will leave BSP at 8:45. Riders will car pool to the ranch. Meet outside the gate at Prude Ranch for a 10:00 ride off time.

Riders will meet back inside Balmorhea State Park for lunch. (There is a \$3. per person fee into the Park.) Kenneth Bristow and Cheryl Zachery will provide the lunch.

Sponsors for this ride are Carl Murdock, Jay Kelly, and Kenneth Bristow. For information call: 563-1079.

## KEEP MIDLAND AND OESSA BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL TRASH PICKUP DAY APRIL 5TH

It is Trash Pickup time again. Keep Odessa Beautiful and Keep Midland Beautiful are having their Annual Trash Pickup Day on April 5<sup>th</sup>. John Floyd has volunteered to coordinate the clean up of our adopted 2 mile section of Highway 158. This is a great opportunity to help our community and build a little goodwill toward cyclists. If we can get everyone to come out, this shouldn't take too long, it is in pretty good shape.

John will meet us at 10:00 AM at the Kent Kwik located at the intersection of Hwy 158 and 1788. He will have Trash Bags, Safety Vests, etc. You need to wear a pair of gloves and bring a "picker upper" of some sort, if you have one.

## **The View From Back Here**

**By: Russell Livingston**

Spring is here and more importantly, Daylight Savings Time has finally arrived. That means more evening rides and the resumption of the Wednesday “Peyton’s Ride.” It was like a reunion on March 12 when over 30 riders showed up to ride, some of us for the first time this year. Getting to see everyone again was one of those little pleasures our pastime affords.

“Getting back in the saddle,” causes me to reflect a little. By now, I guess I will have to be considered an experienced rider. Starting my fifth season riding doesn’t place me at the head of the group, and I will probably never get there anyway. One knows he has been riding for a while when at almost every turn of a regular ride brings a memory of something that happened on a prior ride.

Most of those memories are funny. Some of the memories relate to how the route has changed. (There is even a cemetery on the “long loop now.”) Houses and complete neighborhoods are springing up as we pass through. People still wonder what that bunch of crazies are doing out on Hwy. 191. Harley riders still wonder why anyone would ride on two wheels without a loud motor.

Last year was an important year. For the first time in ages, the ride route was altered in the name of safety. Most recall the trauma of riding several blocks north and then turning west on Mockingbird Lane to Oriole. In doing so, we missed the traffic around Wal-Mart. A near tragic cyclist/vehicle accident precipitated that alteration. New cyclists were not comfortable riding in that much traffic.

Perhaps the greatest change for my ride finally occurred this past winter. The new development around Scharbauer Elementary School and Nueva Vista Golf Course has made its way to Hwy. 158! As promised years ago, there is an opening in the fence. That gate has opened a safer door for most cyclists. For now, the use of the gate requires a bit of portage. One must carry his bike across, but the reward, in my opinion, far outweighs the price.

Before, we were pretty much required to ride down County Road 60 to get back to town from any ride that started inside the city limits and traveled west. Others may not have the same attitude, but this Old Fat Guy never liked riding on County Road 60. The road is too narrow, the traffic is too heavy and the vehicles, especially the large trucks, just came too close for comfort.

We are all too aware of the physics of being hit by a vehicle while riding a bicycle. Generally speaking, the cyclist is going to lose. The new gate just gives us the opportunity to remove one of those situations. As the season progresses, hopefully we will find other safer modifications to our rides. Have fun and ride safe.

# Recumbent Corner

By David Eggleston

On Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, Carl Murdock arrived in his van at Wilson's Corner for the Crane ride to find the group had left early. Nobody was there. He was intending to ride his V-rex, but since he had his bright yellow F40 along too, and he needed to be fast to catch up with the group, he decided to ride the F40 instead. That decision probably saved his life.

He started out and was about 4 miles south, before reaching the edge of the cap, riding fast to catch up, about 25 mph. Without any warning he was struck by the right front fender of a pickup doing 75 mph, that had drifted over onto the paved shoulder. This happened at a section of highway that had no rumble strips. So neither Carl nor the pickup driver had any warning. The pickup driver swore that he never saw the bike. There was a bright blue sky, which was the first thing Carl saw when he regained consciousness about 20 min later. Carl cannot understand how a driver could miss seeing his bright yellow faired F40.

Carl has no recollection of anything that happened from the time he left Wilson's Corner until he gained consciousness.

Carl was transported to the hospital. Examination revealed that his scapula was broken in 4 places, he had a broken rib, a concussion and contusions. He ended up 90 ft from the point of impact. His bike and his helmet took the brunt of the abrasion as he skidded along the pavement. He considers himself very lucky that he wasn't killed.

The DPS officer that investigated the accident came to Carl's hospital room and explained his report and gave Carl a copy. The officer determined that the pickup driver had wandered onto the improved shoulder of the highway and was issued a citation for this infraction.

After talking several times, Carl told Larry Ritchie that his helmet also probably saved his life, as he skidded on both the right and left sides of his helmet. His face was cut along his right chin and cheek up to his forehead.

Larry has ridden his bikes and motorcycles for many years with no helmet, and nothing but a go-rag for his hair. After his conversations with Carl, Larry changed his mind and went out and bought a helmet!

Channel 9 reported Carl's accident, indicating that the bicyclist swerved into the path of the pickup. Armed with a copy of the police report, which stated that the pickup driver was cited for driving on the improved shoulder of the highway, Carl questioned the Channel 9 news department, asking where they got their information on the accident. They could not answer that question. Finally they agreed to put together a special on bike and car safety, which they did. They did not air a retraction of their original error.

Carl is worried that drivers now have so many distractions that such accidents are much more likely to happen. What with cell phones, CD's and DVD's, GPS, stereos, and other gadgets to handle, driver's attention wanders for considerable amounts of time. This bodes ill for highway safety in general, and for bicyclist safety in particular, bicycles being so much more vulnerable.

# PBBA NEWS

## FROM THE FOOD COMMITTEE

Many thanks to Ken Pittaway and Chris Robichaud for bringing the food for the March meeting. Chris brought the meat lasagna and Ken brought veggie lasagna, cookies and cake. I think there were a couple of other people that brought items, but I do not know to whom I should express my gratitude; therefore, please accept my gratitude and forgive me for not mentioning your name.

The April meeting will feature baked potatoes & toppings, salad and dessert. I hope to see you there!

Kathy Hester

## PBBA MEETING

April 21<sup>st</sup>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUILDING  
CORNER OF 1788 AND CR60

**Baked Potatoes & Toppings @ 7pm**  
**Meeting starts @ 7:30pm**

## PBBA FORUM UPDATE

The PBBA Forum is back up and running and a little more spam proof than the previous one.

You can read what the other club members are up to at:

<http://www.pbbatx.com/phpBB3/index.php>

If you were registered on the old forum, you will have to re-signup to post anything to the new one. We had to erase the old list and couldn't install it on the new forum. It is easy to do.

Nearly at the bottom of the forum page there is a link to "Register". Click on it. There is a short Privacy notice and some instructions about what NOT to post on the forum. I might add that we will also be monitoring for cycling related posts ONLY! Other posts will be removed and if they continue, the member will be banned from further posts on the forum. Once you agree to the terms, there will be a short form for you to make up a screen name/username, enter your email address and a password. At the bottom you will be asked to type in a few letters and numbers to confirm that you are a live person and not somebody's computer and you will be registered. It is simple so get signed up and let everybody know what is happening in your cycling world.

If you have any questions call David Ham @ Peyton's Bikes 699-1718.

***STEAM-N-WHEELS RACE***  
***PBBA PARTICIPANT RESULTS***

*SUBMITTED BY READ JOHNSTON*

**This event took place in Abilene Texas on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Permian Basin riders placed well in this race. Age group winners included first place for Kelly Thompson, Steve Betton, Meyling Sanford, Clare Murphy and Helen Romeiser. Second place included Ken Pittaway and John Paul Barrandey. Third place included Stephen Dodd and Scott Sanford.**

**For Sale**

Shimano Ultegra 9 Speed Group

2 cassettes 12/27 and 12/25

crank set 175mm double

chain

front/rear derailleur

pedals (105)

brakes

brake/shifter levers

bottom bracket

\$250.00

Call John Kerrigan at 689-4747

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS THE 23<sup>RD</sup> OF EACH MONTH. PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES, PICTURES ETC. TO KELLY BRAMMER - [BRAMMER10@AOL.COM](mailto:BRAMMER10@AOL.COM) OR CALL 682-2617**