



bicycle coalition of the ozarks

PO Box 4173 Fayetteville AR 72702-4173
newsletter #21 Winter, 2005-06

The **Bicycle Coalition of the Ozarks** is a 501(c)3 coalition of bicycle-friendly folks and organizations creating a unified voice for a more bicycle-friendly community. The **bcoco** will achieve this goal through bicycle safety education, advocating for basic bicycle-friendly infrastructure and creating awareness of an often-overlooked, superior form of transportation and recreation.

BIKERS WANTED:
City of Fayetteville to Host 2025 Plan Workshops & Input Sessions by Brad Fierke



In the year 2025, Fayetteville will be covered with bike lanes, trails, and sidewalks.

This could be the result if we let our thoughts be known at the February public input meetings. A series of citywide workshops will be held discussing the long-range growth strategies of the area. In the past, meetings of this type have typically had low participation. The biking community can have a great bearing on the direction the city takes. I encourage everyone to attend at least one of the meetings, You'll find me at several of them, the more people that show up for them the more influence we will carry. Democracy at work.

These Events are Scheduled for February:

- 10th Community Kick-Off
6:30-7:30pm | Walton Arts Center
- 11th Hands-on Design Workshop
9am-12pm | Senior Center
- 11th Hands-on Design Workshop
2-5pm | Boys & Girls Club
- 13-20th Design Studio
9am-7pm | Nadine Baum Studio
- 13th Hands-on Design Workshop
5:30-8:30pm | McNair Middle School
- 15th Hands-on Design Workshop
5:30-8:30pm | Woodland Junior High
- 16th Open House
6:30-8pm | Nadine Baum Studio
- 20th Work in Progress
6:30-8pm | Town Center

More info at www.cityplan2025.accessfayetteville.org

BCO Leads Project to Help Katrina Victims

by Nan Lawler

The Bicycle Coalition of the Ozarks participated in the Hurricane Katrina relief effort by providing a source of personal transportation: bicycles.

BCO decided to refurbish and repair bicycles that were not being used and give them to Katrina victims. Requests for donations of unused bicycles in the Free Weekly and the Morning News resulted in all the bicycles that volunteer workers could handle. "It was great to have so many donated," said BCO chair Brad Fierke, who coordinated the effort.



Some 40 bicycles were donated, ranging from "a few really nice bikes" to some that were "pretty rough." All sorts of bicycles were donated, from old three-speeds to mountain bikes to road bikes. "That was really neat," Brad said. They were dropped off at Fayetteville Bicycle Company and Highroller Cyclery or picked up from individuals in Springdale and Fayetteville.

See **Katrina Bike Project** p. 3

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Don't see your logo here?

Please refer to page 6.



pedaling bikes since 1972
322 west spring st.
fayetteville, ark. 72701
vox 501 442 9311
fax 501 442 2518



the highroller cyclery, inc.
sales, service & accessories

Bicycle Awareness Public Service Announcements

by Dan Dean

As a response to recent harassment of cyclists by motorists and observation of some cyclists whose riding habits fuel the ire of fellow roadway users, I began a project of composing, recording, and distributing bicycle awareness public service announcements to radio stations in the Fayetteville area. I combined the best aspects of PSAs written by the League of American Bicyclists and the Bicycle Coalition of Maine into four separate messages. Two specifically address motorists and two are aimed at bicyclists.

On December 15th, Laura Kelly and I met with Captain William Brown and Sergeant Shannon Gabbard of the Fayetteville Police department who were kind enough to let me record them reading the messages. I will distribute CDs of these thirty-second spots to radio stations around Fayetteville so that cyclists and motorists alike will become more aware of their rights and responsibilities when sharing the roadway. In the future, I will share recordings of similar messages with other bicycle advocacy groups in the state to help our Share the Road campaign grow to a statewide level.

"Share the Road"

Public Service Announcements

1. I'm _____ with _____ reminding motorists that bicyclists have the same right to use the road as you do. Same roads. Same rights. A motorist passing a cyclist must wait until it is safe to pass, slow down, and then give three feet of clearance. When it is not safe for a car to pass, a cyclist should use the full lane. Whether you ride or drive, share the road. It's the law. For more information, go to www.bikemonth.com
2. I'm _____ with _____ reminding bicyclists to ride defensively. Though you have the same rights as motorists, you also have the same responsibilities. Ride the same direction as motorized traffic, stop for red lights and stop signs, and yield the right of way. Bicyclists who ride on sidewalks are actually more likely to collide with cars than those who use the road and follow road rules. Bike responsibly and earn respect. For more information, go to www.bikemonth.com



1894 – Betty Bloomers' bloomers became very popular. Ladies, heretofore consigned to riding the heavy adult size tricycles that were only practical for taking a turn around the park, now could ride a much more versatile machine and still keep their legs covered with long skirts. The bicycle craze killed the bustle and the corset, instituted "common-sense dressing" for women and increased their mobility considerably.

<http://www.ibike.org/library/historytimeline.htm>

Energy Saving Tip

Switch your household light bulbs over to compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL). They last 10 times longer than conventional bulbs and use 20% of the energy for the same amount of light output. *"If every household in the U.S. replaced one light bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulb, it would prevent enough pollution to equal removing one million cars from the road."*

www.energystar.gov



In addition to serving as drop-off points, the two bicycle shops also donated parts for the repairs. The Park Tool Company gave BCO a very good deal on tools and a stand, and Kryptonite Locks donated 40 locks, so each included a good lock. Chuck Maxwell not only worked on repairing bicycles, but also gave a substantial donation for tools. Most of the work on the bicycles was done by Brad Fierke and Ira White.

About 30 bicycles have been refurbished. Most were given to Pilgrim House (the county jail when it was being used for emergency housing) and Mount Sequoyah Conference and Retreat Center (also used for emergency housing). Some were given to Seven Hills Homeless Center. Brad mentioned, "I've seen people use them around town. They're getting used."

Brad feels that this would be a good continuing activity for BCO. Seven Hills could probably use more and other organizations might be able to help get bikes to people who can use them. If anyone has any questions about the program or would like to donate bicycles, parts, work, or money for supplies, please contact Brad at fierke@hotmail.com or 527-9375.



Gas Thief Escapes on Tricycle

Speeding from the scene of the crime, a Chinese boy tows a floating plastic bag of stolen natural gas in early August. Flouting a government ban, farmers around the central Chinese town of Pucheng frequently filch gas from the local oil field.

As Chinese industry booms and automobile use spreads, the country as a whole appears to be on a feverish quest for fossil fuels. Oil consumption rose by 11% last year, and the number of private autos hit 14 million in 2003—and is expected to rise to 150 million by 2015.

China National Offshore Oil Corporation dropped its bid for U.S. oil and natural gas company Unocal in August. But the China National Petroleum Corporation, the country's biggest oil company, later bought PetroKazakhstan, a Canadian company with oil fields in the central Asian country of Kazakhstan. http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/12/photogalleries/top_ten_pictures/photo6.html

KUDOS TO ALL THE RENEWING AND NEW MEMBERS

Several membership renewals have reached the BCO post office box in the last month, and we thank all of you for the necessary funds to fuel our efforts.

To all new and renewing members: your 2006 membership card should be enclosed in this issue of BCO news. If you have a question about your membership, or have lost your card, drop us a line at bco@cavern.uark.edu.

Member expiration dates should be indicated on your newsletter address label. To renew your membership, please fill out the member form either from the back of this newsletter, or on our website membership page.

Some 2006 accomplishments with your member donations:

- \$ Your member donations have funded the effort to update the Driver's License Test Study Guide, and publish postcards that you and others have been sending to Little Rock to support the effort.
- \$ Your donations have helped the BCO acquire the tools and stand that support the bicycle donation project. Rehabilitated bicycles have reached dozens of hurricane evacuees. We were able to purchase these items at low-cost due to our non-profit status.
- \$ Your donations purchased the new bicycle racks to be installed along Dickson Street in January 2006.
- \$ Your donations help the BCO publish a comprehensive array of educational literature from how to Share the Road, and practical tips for the Bicycle Commuter, to the Health Benefits of Cycling.
- \$ **AND REMEMBER**—Your donation is *tax-deductible*.



Ever thought about it?

BCO Meeting Schedule by Laura Kelly

1st, some BACKGROUND:

As many of you know, at our last meeting at Tim's Pizza on the Fayetteville Square, we debated a new meeting venue that might allow us to sit in a more conversationally conducive atmosphere. We discussed moving our meeting to the public library where we could use a conference room complete with large central table and kitchenette.

However, our first time choice, second Mondays at 6pm, was already booked for library board activities. We have met on the 2nd Monday of the month since October 2005, and prior to that, we met on the second Tuesday for several years. Several other days and times are available for reservation, so I temporarily reserved a few times and turned to the BCO folks for feedback. One of the time slots under consideration, Sunday afternoons, was quickly nixed due to the regular conflict with the competitive cycling season.

2nd, DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:

The Bicycle List Serve was solicited for other days of the week, but only one member responded in favor of the alternate meeting times, and one member replied that it would not work. Alas, that can hardly be considered a scientific sampling, so the decision was postponed until the next meeting could be held. I am certainly not surprised that a routine list serve e-mail asking for responses to meeting times drew only 2 replies. We all know that e-mail isn't exactly the most compelling medium. However, considering time and labor limitations, we will continue to use the list as needed to alert a larger community than we can reach with this newsletter. So please try to let us know you are listening, when we ask for a response.

As the January meeting time was looming too close to call a regular meeting, Brad set the meeting for the first Monday of February, and Laura asked that the venue be at the home of Dan Dean, Laura Kelly and Quinn Kelly. **See the Calendar on page 5 for more details.**

In a recent article published in the Morning News, written by Rachel Lianna Davis, titled:

Get Healthy, Save Money . . .

Bike to Work, several bike shop owners were interviewed about the influx of bicycle purchases over the past 6 months. Every store interviewed reported an "dramatic" increase in sales.

Barry Haley, owner of the Fayetteville Bicycle Company said that after seven years in the business, he noticed an increase in bike sales for this time of year.

"Usually September/October is kind of a dead time of year" for bike sales, he said. This year, sales have remained steady into the autumn season.

"I've had a few people come in who were purchasing a bike to start commuting around town, instead of driving their car," Haley said. Because of Fayetteville's hilly terrain, most folks buy mountain bikes with several gear options, "so they have the ability to crawl up a hill when you come to it," he laughed. ***Health and pocket change.***

You can read the entire story at:

<http://www.nwanews.com/bcdr/News/26796/>

By the way, if you're interested in having this...there's a guy in Dallas, Texas who'd love to help you with training your cockatoo.

Check it out:

<http://www.aviancompanions.com/training.htm>





Upcoming Events & Meetings

BCO Bicycle Safety with Cub Scouts

Tuesday, January 24th

7pm @ Wiggins Methodist Church
in Fayetteville

**Volunteers from the BCO will
bring the rules of the road to the 7
and 8-year old cub scouts**

BCO Group Rides

Thursday, February 23

Thursday, March 23

Thursday, April 20

Meet 5:30pm @ Fay square

A ride for any and all; an easy-paced
and positive 5-10 miles.

Contact Laura for more info:
pedal_power@hotmail.com

Fay Sidewalks & Trails Committee Meeting

(2nd Wednesdays)

February 8

March 8

April 12

A Public Forum for all things related
to trails, sidewalks, and bicycles.
Come air your opinions, concerns
and confusions regarding City of
Fayetteville's progress on
Sidewalks and Trails projects.
Democracy in Action.

Great Meeting of the Minds!!

WHAT: Gathering of Bike-friendly folk

WHEN: Monday, Feb 6th

TIME: 6pm

WHERE: Dan, Laura & Quinn's house
867 South Washington Ave.
Fayetteville, 479-521-4619

FOOD FACTS: Potluck and drink-luck by and
for folks with the best taste in town.

BRING: Plates, food or drink if you'd like, and
your appetites, ideas, and your calendar.

AGENDA ITEMS (partial list):

- 1.) Set a regular meeting time and place
for the rest of 2006.calendars.
- 2.) Brainstorm on tasks for Bike Month
preparation, and assign needed help.
- 3.) Rev up the Urban Bike Ride Program.
- 4.) Discuss allocating funds for a grant-
writing project.
- 5.) Brainstorm on a special, exciting fund-
raising event/ride/bicycle extravaganza.



Bikes for Peace

Group Ride

Saturday, March 4

Meet 2pm @ Fay square

Why should we contribute to the war
for oil anyway? Let's ride for peace.

Contact Joshua for more info:
thompson@riseup.net

OORC Meetings

(2nd Tuesdays)

Feb 14

March 14

April 11

7pm @ West Mountain Brewery on Mountain St. (Fay Square)
For more info: Don West don_west23@hotmail.com

BCO MEMBERSHIP:

BCO memberships are annual and expire one year from the date of purchase. And don't forget how your volunteerism is worth more than your money!

- **Contributing members** will receive a coupon good for a classy **bco** water bottle and 50¢ off an Arsaga's beverage.
- **Supporting members** will receive a 100% organic, cotton T-shirt with the dark green bco logo on the front.
- **Sponsor members** will receive a choice of mug or t-shirt as well as one listing in a bco newsletter with the message of their choice.
- **Business members** will receive 4 bco water bottles with Arsaga's 50¢ coupons and a continual logo or message listing in the quarterly newsletters. (Please send a logo *or* a website address your check.)
- **Lifetime members** receive all of the above.



BCO NEWSLETTER READERS:

Your input and submissions to the **bco** newsletter are encouraged!!

Please submit e-mail response, reaction or opinion to the bco at bco@cavern.uark.edu.

Postal address for newsletter submissions is:

BCO P.O. Box 4173 Fayetteville, AR 72702



For membership renewals send this form with your check to:
BCO P.O. Box 4173 Fayetteville, AR 72702-4173

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

e-mail _____

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Youth (16 and under) | Contributing Members receive mugs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12 Contributing | or water bottles. Supporters receive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$24 Supporting | a coupon for an Organic Cotton bco |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sponsor | T-shirt. Sponsor and Business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business | Members will be contacted for ad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Lifetime | listing & gift. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> check to NOT receive your complimentary membership gift. | |

Who are we?

The BCO membership is amazingly diverse. We are all ages and from all over NW Arkansas. We are interested in bicycle advocacy for a wide variety of reasons, mostly stemming from a desire for a higher **quality of life**. We have a wide variety of ideas as to what makes a truly bicycle-friendly town. But we all agree that there is more commonality in our cause than differences. Through both education and infrastructure, we are creating a more bicycle-friendly community. www.uark.edu/ALADDIN/bco/

Bicycle Coalition of the Ozarks officers:

Chairperson:	Brad Fierke	fierce@hotmail.com
Vice Chairperson:	Laura Kelly	pedal_power@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Dan Dean	exequals@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Janet Johnson-Mertz	
Media Liaison:	Nan Lawler	nlawler@uark.edu
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Stamp