

OMAHA PEDALERS NEWSLETTER



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Welcome to 2023! We held our annual meeting in November and elected our officers. I am pleased to announce the officers for this year. Stephen Schnitker: Secretary; Bob Mancuso: Treasurer; Rick Stein: Web Master/Signature Ride Coordinator; Carole Becic: Newsletter; Kim Matney: Membership Director.

I am deeply grateful to these members for their hard work and dedication over the past several years and look forward to another great year.

This is my first year as President. If anyone is looking to be on the board, please reach out and come to our meetings. We are always in need of our members' help and participation. We are always seeking new members to continue and grow the club.

We encourage you all to attend our monthly meetings, which are usually held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at Oklahoma Joes in the Omaha Aksarben district. (Check our website for update information.) We are all looking forward to a great year with the Omaha Pedalers Bicycle Club!

Rhonda Hall, President



Monthly Club Meeting

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 18 at 6:00 PM

Oklahoma Joes

1912 S 67th Street





Those Fun Weekly & Monthly Rides

Saturday Morning Road Ride

Starting soon, weather permitting

O.P.B.C. Rusty Spokes

Thursday Morning Rides
Easy Trail Ride

Starting: April 13, 10:00, weather permitting
Karen Park, North Parking Lot

Bellevue Berry Farm Taco Ride

Thursday Evenings 5:00
Starting at Karen Park
Weather permitting

Fourth Tuesday Evening Trail Ride

6:17 PM
Starting soon, weather permitting

Tuesday Star Party Ride

Starting soon, weather permitting



Hello from Iowa

Adventures on the Wabash

By Stephen Schitker

The Wabash does not hibernate. My old commuter bike, with bags and racks could carry clothes for adapting to the weather on the Ullr Bash this January 14. The hard frozen surface was punctuated with quick white-knuckle ice patches on the way down to Toby Jacks for the beginning of the ride (Don't tense up, just follow the wheel and keep your balance). OK, I'm a weenie, no kilts or shorts for me, but there were a few, just a few, leading the other 60 or so of us back up the trail to Margaritaville. Finding little stuffed huskie dogs hidden along the Trace gave finders a turn in the money machine back at Toby Jacks. Ullr Nordic Libation as well as other high-proof circulation enhancers delayed departure from Margaritaville back to Toby Jacks. RAGBRAI is infamous for their beer slides. The beer slides at Toby Jacks were more temperature appropriate. They involved a stein of beer sliding to the edge of an icy table. The day of games and silent auction raised over \$4,000 for Western Pottawattamie County Trails.

Things had thawed out by March 4. It had been dry and warm for several weeks. I figured the Trace would be ready for a ride to Shenandoah. I was wrong. An off-road terrorist of some kind had plowed such nasty furrows south from the trail head that it was hard to tell that the trail was still too soft to be on. I got off onto Pioneer Trail. A few miles brought me to Dumfries Ave. then left onto Aspen Road, a smooth, hard-packed gravel county road. Then on to L-45, the road that crosses the Trace at the Zion Cemetery. The gravel on that road was fresher, so I was too scared, really, to take advantage of the many down-hill sides of the rollers down to Brothers Ave. That road parallels the Trace across Keg Creek into Mineola. Most people are familiar with Barrus Road and L55 that make a right angle parallel of the Trace to Silver City. Pretty L55 continues south up the hill and past the Silver City Cemetery across 8 miles of hills down to definitely ugly Hwy 34. Trying to avoid as much of Hwy 34 as I could, I took the gravel road that angles into Malvern along the Trace. Two miles of hellish loose gravel and washboard was topped off with a flat. I should have stayed on Hwy 34. When I got to C&M's Cafe, a couple at the next table helped me with some directions to the right fork in the road that leads south out of Malvern to a pretty, and mostly flat, 10 miles of road with almost no traffic. I jogged left thorough Randolph to another pretty road, L68, continuing south another 10 miles. Nine miles and nine hills east on J32 got me into Shenandoah. The Shenandoah Inn and Suites are very bike friendly and let me take my bike to the room.

Finally, the Trace was back to its old summertime self this last, April 8th week-end. The damage from the off-road terrorist is beginning to heal, so the surface was rough, but solid, between the ruts. The Trace was fairly busy. I even met a couple at Toby Jacks riding self-contained for an overnight at the campground at Imogene. Another riding season begins. Come on over for a ride on the wild side. Save the date, The Great American Pie Ride is coming on May 20th.





“Nebraska’s Greatest Show on 2 Wheels”

BRAN 41 will be June 4th through June 10th, 2023

Registration is Now Open:

For more details:

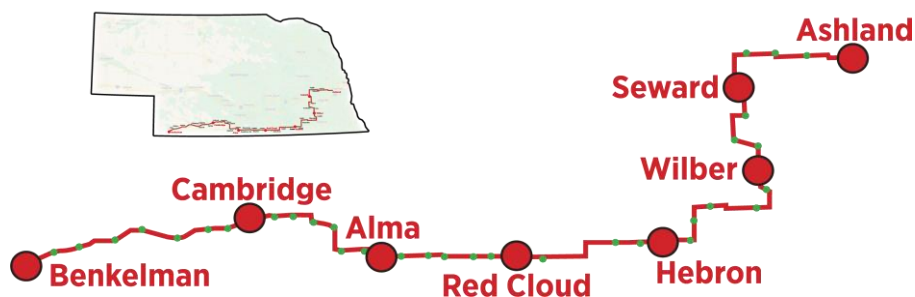
<https://www.bran-inc.org>

BRAN has a long and rich history of riding throughout our state’s cities, towns and villages. Our routes have started in the west and flowed to the east, due to our typical wind patterns. In recent years, we have rotated every third year between Northern, Central, and Southern routes.

For BRAN41, we chose a Southern route to respond to rider requests for shorter days that would provide more time to spend in the overnight towns. In addition to our traditional 7-day ride, we are providing the very popular 3 and 4 day options. This allows riders with limited vacation time options to customize their ride selection.

BRAN 41 Updates:

- BRAN 41 has two buses full. Possibly, a third will be acquired.
- Lee Lazure, Dave Kennedy and Doug Scherlie have visited the host towns.
- Rhonda Hall, Linda Grundman, and Carole Becic visited Hebron, with Lee, Dave, and Doug.
- 238 people have registered for BRAN 41. A total of 300 would be ideal.
- A scholarship will be given to each host town.
- A two scholarships will be given to the best host town.
- Pork Belly Ventures has two 7 day dormitory trailers full. A third is being added for the last 6 days



Benkelman to Cambridge	80.6 miles	Hebron to Wilber	55.1 miles
Cambridge to Alma	49.9 miles	Wilber to Seward	35.6 miles
Alma to Red Cloud	45.7 miles	Seward to Ashland	50.4 miles
Red Cloud to Hebron	54.8 miles		



Little Sioux Overnighter

Saturday/Sunday May 27-28
Meet at 8:30 AM

Start Point: Crescent, IA Elementary School

Mileage: 45 miles each day

Terrain: Mostly flat

Support: Fully sagged

Cost: \$50 (Membership Required)

Food: Lunch, Dinner, Breakfast in Camp
(We will buy food in Mo Valley during ride. Pick what you want)

**Bring tent, sleeping bag & camping gear.
Cooking, Showers, and Shelter Facilities
provided.**

More information and register online:

[Little Sioux Overnighter](#) or

www.opbc.clubexpress.com or

[Facebook.com/OmahaPedalers](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaPedalers)





Club Family Picnic

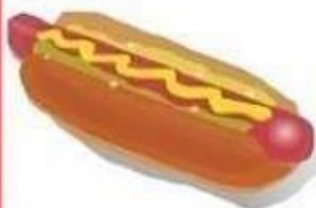
(Members Only PLEASE)

Saturday June 19 11:AM - 1:00 PM

*Silver City IA in the small park around the corner
From the Wabash (not downtown), turn right on
Main Street and right at the next street.*

Ride on the Wabash Trace, No Ride Leader

*Lunch of gourmet Hot Dogs and all the fix'ns
Will be served by Kim and Doug Scherlie
Starting at 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM*



Ride the trace at your leisure.

*From: Council Bluffs Trail Head (15 miles)
Recommended Start: 9:30 AM*

*From: Mineola Trail Head (5 miles)
Recommended Start: 10:00 AM*



More information and register online:
www.OmahaPedalers.org or
[Facebook.com/OmahaPedalers](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaPedalers)

Contact: Kim Scherlie
402-297-6802 Kim.Scherlie@yahoo.com





Glacial Till

Summer Wine Ride

Sunday July 16, 2023

Glacial Till Tasting Room is at 1419 Silver St, Ashland

We have invited the Great Plains Bike Club to join us
Come Meet our Cycling Friends from Lincoln

Glacial Till opens at 12:00 pm
Start: 10:00 am Long Ride, 11:30 am Short Ride
(Or drive out and meet us around 12:30 pm)

Start Point: Round the Bend Steak House
30801 E Park Hwy, Ashland

Mileage: Long: 35 Miles, Short: 13 Miles

Terrain: Lots of Rolling Hills

Please register so we can get a count!
www.OmahaPedalers.org

Bring Money for Food and Wine at the Till
(We will have a SAG to carry purchases back to the start point)

More information & Register at:
www.OmahaPedalers.org
Facebook.com/OmahaPedalers
Or Contact
Rick Stein at
402-679-6595
Rick.M.Stein@gmail.com





*Come Join the Omaha Pedaler's Bicycle Club for a
Historic Ride Around Omaha*

Sunday August 6, 8:00 AM

Meet at Starbucks, 15th and Douglas

Led by Marty Shukert

*The ride will be about 3 hours with appropriate
Stops to view and discuss interesting
Omaha history and architecture by one
Of Omaha's leading authorities.*

*We will meet afterwards at Starbucks
For food/drinks*

**More information online:
www.OmahaPedalers.org or
Facebook.com/OmahaPedalers**





ONABIKE XXXI Weekend Tour

“The Shawn Gosch Memorial Ride”

Western Iowa's Largest 1-Day Bike Ride through the Loess Hills

Three day, self-contained, 140 – 180 mile options

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 25 - 27, 2023

For more information: [ONABIKE](#)

Register to ride with a group: [ONABIKE Weekend Tour](#)



Wabash Weekend

Saturday/Sunday September 2/3

8:30 AM

Start Point: Wabash Trace Trailhead Southeast of Hwy. 92 and I-29, in Council Bluffs IA. Turn right at HWY 275 (first traffic lights). Go about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south to trail head on right of road just past of Lewis Central High School.

Mileage: 57 miles each day, optional 10.8 ride to and back from Missouri State Line

Terrain: Flat Wabash Trace

Support: Fully Sagged

Cost: \$20 Adults / \$10 Children

Food: Dinner Provided

Breakfast on Sunday in Shenandoah (not included in fee)

Bring Tent, sleeping bag for outdoor camping, indoor shower/restroom available

More information and register online:

www.OmahaPedalers.org or

[Facebook.com/OmahaPedalers](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaPedalers)

**Not an OPBC member,
registration available at start of ride.**



Magnolia Member Appreciation Ride

Saturday, September 9, 2023

Ride to the Sawmill Hollow Aronia Berry Farm near Magnolia.
Club paid Aronia Berry chili lunch for OPBC members.
Fully supported



Pedaler's Pasta Pigout (P3)

Saturday, October 7, 2023; 2:30

Starting: Omaha Public Safety Training Center,
11616 Rainwood Road (Park at South End)

To: Elk City and back

Mileage: 24 miles

Terrain: Rolling Hills to Elk City

Or, Can't Ride?: Meet us at Mangia Italiana, Irvington
for Dinner @ 5:00 PM

Food: Pizza, Pasta, etc.

More information and details:
www.OmahaPedalers.com or
[Facebook.com/OmahaPedalers](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaPedalers)

*Please Register if you are joining us for Dinner
so we can get a rough count*

Ride at your own risk. Signed waivers and helmets required.





33rd Annual Corporate Cycling Challenge



Mark your calendar: Sunday August 20, 2023!!

It's back in the **Omaha, Nebraska Capitol District Plaza, 11th and Capitol St.**
3 routes are available, starting and finishing at the Capitol District Plaza.
Various restaurants are open before and after the Challenge ride with food and music.

PARKING:

Most people park near downtown Omaha in the Old Market area, near Charles Schwab Park. They ride their bike to the Capital District Plaza.
Parking is free at meters on Sundays.

For more information: <https://showofficeonline.com/CorporateCyclingChallenge/>