

OMAHA PEDALERS NEWSLETTER



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Watch for upcoming
rides!

Pasta Pedalers Pigout

Wabash Wine Ride

Onabike

The Omaha History
Ride

Hello from Iowa

Club Officers

Regular Weekend Rides –

Rides are winding down. Please contact ride leaders before heading out.

Contact Rick Stein - rmstein@cox.net, 402-679-6595 if you would like to ride.

Saturday - See weekly email for details - 10:00 AM or later for Fall season - Group will decide the route. 25 - 40 miles, 12-14 MPH - This is a no drop ride - **Rick Stein:** rmstein@cox.net, 402-679-6595

Regular Weekday Rides -

Wednesday Evening Hump Day Ride - Weather Permitting: Contact Ride Leader to Confirm - Meet at Greenstreet Cycles, 24th & Harney, 5:30 PM. Ride to Aksarben Village. Optional start at Aksarben Village (park) approx: **6:30 PM**. Easy evening Keystone trail ride. **Ride Leader: Bob Mancuso, 402-554-8442**

Rusty Spokes - Weather Permitting: Contact Ride Leader to Confirm - Will officially start in May but if the weather is nice prior and you wish to ride just show up, pick a leader and go - Meet at Karen Park 62nd Buckingham Ave. Easy weekday trail ride. **Ride Leaders: Ken & Carol Deman - mbeardeman@cox.net - 402-339-2069**

Please watch your emails or social media for upcoming events. We have Pasta Pedalers Pigout, the BRAN release party, and the year-end party. If you know someone who isn't receiving messages please let us know so we can update our directory.

Save the date for BRAN 40, June 6th-2020-June 13th 2020
We are finalizing the towns & getting ready for the Route Release party. Watch for announcements via e-mail or Facebook about the 40th annual BRAN ride!



Pedaler's Pasta Pigout (P³)

Saturday, October 12

2:30 PM

**Start Point: Omaha Public Safety
Training Center
11616 Rainwood Road
(Park at South End)**

Mileage: 24 miles

Terrain: Rolling Hills to Elk City

Or meet us at Mangia's for Dinner @5:00 PM

**Food: Pizza, Pasta, etc. at Mangia's in
Downtown Irvington**

More information and details:

www.OmahaPedalers.com or

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



Ride at your own risk. Signed waivers and helmets required

This year's Wabash Wine Ride was a smashing success!



Unknown phot bomber, Tom Cody-SAG driver, Dennis Fowler, Carey Ferguson & daughter, Carolyn McGill, Unknown, Brian McGill Steven Schnitker, Linda Grundman & her dog.

Tom's car is loaded and ready to go.



Brian & Carolyn McGill, Carey & daughter Lilly, Rhonda H, Stephen S. Dennis F, Rose Marty Rose. .

Brian & Carolyn M Benoit, was traveling across America, so offered up Ike's for Stephen Schnitker

Save This Old Ride 27 YEARS

By
Stephen Schnitker

Please don't let this ride die!

Onabike, you've probably heard of it, maybe even ridden it, during its 27-year history in the Loess hills around Onawa, IA. This year was a real gem. The Onawa Spartan cheerleaders had a table full of treats in Turin, both Moorehead and Little Sioux had town carnivals, Pisgah had lunch specials at *both* cafes, the weather was ideal, and the camaraderie of the ride was great, as always.

Yes, there was pie!

And cake, and ice cream, and lots of other choices. The Spartan cheerleaders (dance squad?) at the first sag stop in Turin, apologized for the shortage of homemade cinnamon rolls this year, so I had to settle for carrot cake. I didn't feel too deprived. I chatted briefly with a camper staying at the Lewis and Clark State Park. He'd driven his camper down from Le Mars for the ride, and we traded camping stories. My cake finished, I took county road L16 to the car show on Main Street Moorehead. Bud's Bar and Grill was the main draw, but I was distracted by a Shay '55 T'bird replica car. It was red and a faithful reproduction, identical to my real '55 until you looked inside. Under its skin it's a '78 Ford Pinto. Shay reproduction cars was at one time the sixth largest US auto producer, but he was doomed to bankruptcy by a six-man team-build instead of the easier to train, assembly line process. I'd parked my touring bike in line with the show cars, and one of the Onabikers remarked on its vintage style. The ride to Pisgah followed the Soldier River. There might be six inches of elevation gain at the bridges, but that's it, no hills. The lunch special at the Old Home Cafe was \$6.95! The road to the Little Sioux Old Settlers celebration took us over Murry Hill. Coming down, I hit 38 mph, but the guys behind me must have passed 40! A couple of us cheered on the kiddie pedal tractor pull in Little Sioux while eating a little more pie at the Old Settler's Reunion. Sounds like a beautiful day in the Iowa countryside doesn't it?

So, what's all this about *Dying*?

The Omaha Pedalers used to have over a dozen riders show up for Onabike, but other rides are competing for our attention. From the glory days of a few years past, the ride has shrunk from 400 or 500 riders down to about 100 now. So spread the word, the forth Saturday in August, August 21, 2020 save the date. The Onawa Chamber goes to a lot of work to make this a great ride. I hope we can spread the word to keep this great ride going.



The Omaha History Ride was Aug 15th

Riders get ready to head out.

Stopping for a brief explanation on the sites.





Rafael Llorens,
Kim Matney,
and ride leader
Marty Shukert



Save the dates: Coming in February 2020, the Bicycle movie night.

OPBC Swap meet!
March 8, 2020, at the College of St Mary

Omaha Bike Events - Walk, Run, Omaha Biathlon, Midwest Gran Fondo - to the Taste
of Omaha - Sunday May 31, 2020

Corporate Cycling Challenge Bicycle Ride - Sunday, Aug 16, 2020

Hello from Iowa.

By Stephen Schnitker

How much good riding is there between Onawa and Wabonsie in the Loess hills? Let me remember a few of them. After ONABIKE in August there followed the Wabash Wine Weekend, Loess Hills Parks and Peaks Ride, and the Magnolia Member Appreciation Ride. Although all four rides were in the same range of hills, each had surprising turns I was happy to explore.

There are four roads out of Pisgah, which means there's four ways to get there, as well. The Parks and Peaks Ride is an annual four-day ride celebrating the Loess Hills of western Iowa. It is led by Lance Brisboise and Rebecca Castle of the Golden Hills RC&D. It took us out to Larpentour Road to Turin, then straight south past the Inseman Church through Moorehead and into Pisgah from the north. After camping at the Loess Hills State Forest Visitor Center, we rode East on F20 to Murray Hill. The other two roads to Pisgah were used by the long riders on the Magnolia Member Appreciation Ride. They came north on Hwy 183 then turned three miles east on F20 to Laredo Ave. It was a treat either way, the impressive view from atop Murray Hill or the twisty turns through the hills along Laredo Ave. The town is diminished from the glory days when Anderson Ford attracted buyers from a 40 mile radius to "low overhead Pisgah", but still has two restaurants, a B&B whose rough exterior hides the restored jewel within, and the fore mentioned Loess Hills State Forest Visitor Center.

Magnolia too is at the center of interesting routes. The club has celebrated the Member Appreciation Ride there for about 30 years. We reminisce of the Methodist Church ladies who so enjoyed hosting us for over 20 years. Cindy and Vaughn Pittz have done a great job of carrying forth the tradition at the Aronia Berry Farm just south of town. They have a piece of Magnolia history, a pew from the Methodist church, on the front porch of the lodge. This year we approached from three different directions. The 22-mile riders came up the new bike path along Hwy 183 from the south. The 44-mile riders turned left from the bike path to Modale, Mondamin, then along Hwy 127 past Smalls Fruit Farm and up those two "dandy hills" to Magnolia from the west. The 56-mile riders went north on Hwy 183 along the base of the hills past Small's, the Deere on the hill (a green and yellow tractor perched atop the bluffs south of the Lavender Farm), then back south as mentioned above. The twenty riders had a real treat, light winds, perfect temps, and a beautiful day. This year, hurray!, no one missed the Kennedy Ave. turn at the bottom of the hill on Laredo Ave. Since the Magnolia ride coincided with "Bike to Your Park" day I registered the ride with Adventure Cycling. If you wish, anyone "invited to participate" in the ride can register to win a bike by following the following link (you may need to paste into your browser):

"You are entered to win the Co-op Cycles bike. Did you know your Bike Your Park Day participants can enter to win, too? As a bonus, every time a participant enters the sweepstakes you'll get an extra entry to win. Send them to your ride details page and ask them to enter by October 31."

Your ride details page: . [https://www.adventurecycling.org/resources/bike-your-park-day/join-a-bike-](https://www.adventurecycling.org/resources/bike-your-park-day/join-a-bike-your-park-day-)

[your-park-day-](https://www.adventurecycling.org/resources/bike-your-park-day/join-a-bike-your-park-day-ride/?ShopClubListingsaction=bikeYourParkDay:main.bikeYourParkDayDetail&idNationalPark=5523)

[ride/?ShopClubListingsaction=bikeYourParkDay:main.bikeYourParkDayDetail&idNationalPark=5523](https://www.adventurecycling.org/resources/bike-your-park-day/join-a-bike-your-park-day-ride/?ShopClubListingsaction=bikeYourParkDay:main.bikeYourParkDayDetail&idNationalPark=5523)

We all need another bike!

Missouri Valley is the starting point for many Club rides. Interesting routes out of there include the Loess Hills Trail, and the Beebeetown road. Hwy 30 also can be ridden by the most intrepid of us but is avoided by the Club. The Parks and Peaks ride took the Loess Hills trail through on the way to tenting at the Hitchcock Nature Center on Friday, Sept. 6. Park ranger Chad Greave showed us the burning off of trees and restoration of native grass they are doing for the loess habitat.

Council Bluffs has many ways in and out. The Bob Kerry Bridge connects Omaha to the levee trails and the soon to be created First Avenue corridor. Mud Hollow Road is a favorite route in from Badger road from Crescent. Two miles north of town a 20-foot-tall Concrete Dragon battles a 50-foot

cobra along this road. Through CB, the levee trail, Indian Creek Trail, and Valley View trail all connect to the Wabash Trace south of town. The Parks and Peaks Ride came in Mud Hollow and out the Wabash on the way to Malvern.

Malvern does connect to nice county roads, but the Wabash has had the greatest impact. The town supports a Casey's, grocery, drug store, and three restaurants, a prime example of how well towns along the Trace are doing. County rd. L63 heads south out of town and some picturesque county roads lead to Tabor, then down lovely Plum Creek Rd to Thurman and the Bluff Rd along the base of the bluffs.

The Wabash Wine Weekend stopped in Malvern for lunch, then continued to Imogene and Shenandoah on the Trace. The dozen riders in the group ranged in age from 11 to 73. We had a nice break at the Wabash Wine Co. in Shenandoah before dinner, campfire, and tenting at The Issac Walton lodge south of town. Tom Cody did a great job of sagging, catering, and even an emergency run to the bike shop to rebuild a damaged wheel. We happened onto Lauren Benoit who told us, over dinner, stories of the America Non-stop race she was doing along the Cowboy, Wabash, and other trails from coast to coast.

So many roads, not enough time! Hope you can plan on riding some of these with us in 2020.

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Elections will be held at the year-end party.