From the President:

Well, I’ve been researching again and this time it was really exciting to find another bike route so close to us. On May 19th, there was a ribbon-cutting for US Bike Route 35 in Traverse City. Now you are probably wondering why I’m bringing up this route so far from home? Well it isn’t. The northern section of USBR 35 that was just approved starts in New Buffalo and follows the west coast of Michigan all the way to Sault Ste. Marie. It is 500 miles of some of the best to see in Michigan. It is also the second US Bike Route to be approved in Michigan since the first was in 1982 from Ludington to Marine City. USBR 35 actually reaches all the way to Mississippi on lightly traveled roads. The US bicycle routes now stretch over a quarter of a million miles across the US. You might want to check out www.swmpc.org for more information on southwestern Michigan trails. You can also find a map of the IN-MI River Valley Trail that will eventually reach from Niles to Mishawaka currently in progress.

All bicycling news is not good news though as we continue to see too many accidents and deaths with motor vehicles. The three foot rule has seen a resurrection in the state and in South Bend it has been put on the agenda for the meeting of the city council on June 11th so we should have some word before our newsletter hits the stands (email). There was also a rather interesting note in Michigan State Law in 2011 as an effort was made to make bicycle safety laws a part of the motor vehicle education booklet.

Amishland and Lakes is still in need of volunteers, Please contact Bonnie Yoder via e-mail marbon-yod@att.net or phone 574-243-9027 if you can help. Here are some of the volunteer positions still needed (remember volunteers get free registration for the ride and a event T-shirt).

Dinning hall clean up after the meals, Friday evening, Sat. Breakfast, Sat. Dinner
Registration desk Friday 6p-9p
Saturday 6:30a-9:30a, 9:30-3, 3p-8p

Welcome New MBA Members

Michael Apostolo  Eldon Nifong
Krista Bailey &  Kenneth R. Nifong
Greg, Madlena, &  & Mary O’Neill
Owen Koehler
Sara Fuchs & Raul  Andrea & Donnie
Santeliew  Rogers
Cyd Maravolo  Shari Szilagyi
Ann Amico Moran, Sandy Zielinski
Brian, Hannah &  Matthew Moran
Continued on page 4
The Newsletter of the Michiana Bicycle Association
P. O. Box 182
Granger, IN 46530

The newsletter is published monthly for distribution to the club members and to other bicycle related organizations. Submission of local and state bicycle news is encouraged as well as cycling experiences and tips on improving the sport of bicycling. Submissions should be in writing. Members may place classified ads, notices of ride companions wanted, and reports of stolen bicycle without charge. Deadline is the 10th of the month for the following month’s newsletter.

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marbonyod@att.net

Club dues are $25.00 per year. 2012 membership expires on March 31, 2013. The hot-line has been discontinued. Information on club rides and up-coming events is available on our website www.mbabike.com.
MBA WEB SITE
http://www.mbabike.com
Look at the website for details of rides for 2012 club season.
Ride maps are also on the site.
Amishland & Lakes Bicycle Tour
Www.amishlandlakes.com

Larger Area Ride Information
Here is a list of some web sites that have schedules of rides in Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.
http://bicycleindiana.org/
http://www.cibaride.org/regional/regional.htm
http://www.mikebentley.com/bike/ilrides.htm
(Illinois)
http://www.LMB.org (Michigan)
http://www.bikeleague.org
http://www.adventurecycle.org

WEARING AN APPROVED HELMET IS MANDATORY
WHEN RIDING A BIKE WITH THE MBA

The businesses that advertise in the MBA Newsletter extend a 10% discount to members, generally on non-sale items. You must show your membership card to be eligible for the discount.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albright’s Cycling &amp; Fitness</td>
<td>2720 Lincoln Way West</td>
<td>574-255-8988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elkhart Bicycle Shop</td>
<td>401 East Jackson Blvd.</td>
<td>574-294-7243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Avenue Cycling</td>
<td>430 W Lincoln Avenue</td>
<td>1-574-533-7425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro Form</td>
<td>2202 South Bend Avenue</td>
<td>574-272-0129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro run &amp; walk</td>
<td>3522 N. Grape Road</td>
<td>1-574-243-4994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spin Zone</td>
<td>51345 Bittersweet Road</td>
<td>1-574-243-4994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Bicycles</td>
<td>10140 McKinley Hwy</td>
<td>1-574-679-4992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OutPost Sports</td>
<td>3601 N Grape Road</td>
<td>1-574-259-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakarusa Pro Hardware</td>
<td>108 S. Elkhart Street</td>
<td>574-862-2775</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spin Zone Cycling Outfitters
Cannondale • Kona • Felt
www.SpinZoneCycling.com

Mike Schade
“Have a question, ask a Pro.”

Wakarusa Pro Hardware, Inc.
198 S. Elkhart St.
P.O. Box 382
Wakarusa, IN 46573
phone: 574.862.3775
fax: 574.862.2365
email: store@wakarusaprohardware.com
web: www.wakarusaprohardware.com
Schwinn Bicycle Dealer
We service all makes
From the President (continued from page 1):

that is part of driver’s education in Michigan. It was felt that if it was part of education to new drivers to include the laws of bicyclists and motorists from the start, there would be more awareness and hopefully fewer accidents. It made it through the House, but was never taken up in the Michigan Senate. How sad. If you feel it’s a good idea, contact your state representatives.

“Share the Road, Every Life Counts” has never had more meaning than during this bicycling season. Please pass the message to all you talk to. We can never say it enough.

Happy cycling and be safe!

Gail Weaver

Amishland & Lakes (continued from page 1):

Roving SAG drivers Sat. 9:30-2p, 10a-2:30
Sunday 7:30a-11a, 7:30-11:30

SAG Stops:

Saturday: Rogers Park 11-3, Alternative School (water melon sag) 8a-12, 12-4p

Sunday: Burr Oak 7:30-11:30, Sturgis HS (water melon sag) 8a-11:30, 11:30-2:30

All volunteers still need to send in their registrations and write volunteer at the top of the form to get free registration. Registration forms can be downloaded from the site.

Bonnie

4-day Ride in Galena

The date for the fall 4-day ride in the Galena, IL area has been changed due to the unavailability of hotel rooms on the original date. The new date is September 26th to 29th (Wednesday though Saturday). We have 10 riders signed up with several additional riders considering joining the trip. Contact Dick Kuehl (mba_banker@att.net) for more info.

Great Turnout for Potluck Ride at Lee’s

All of those who made the trek out to North Liberty on Sunday, June 3rd were treated to what the MBA does best—a potluck ride.

Bill & Judy generously hosted this event from their home. Before the ride, Bill had marked all the turns on all the routes. Riders had plenty of mileage choices. And the weather was just perfect!

After the ride, there was bountiful spread of foods, as many brought there own specialties to share.

Once again, all of us in the MBA want to offer a “Thank You” to Bill & Judy.

Ride for Sight

The South Bend Lions Club is hosting their 15th annual Ride for Sight on July 14, 2012 from St. Patrick’s County Park.

- Free pancake breakfast
- Well-marked 10, 20, 40, & 70 mile routes
- Great SAG stops up to 4:00 pm
- Mobile SAGs with communication
- Good road surfaces in low-traffic areas
- Scenic routes
- Raffle and door prizes

Go to www.southbendlionsclub.org for more details and registration.
The cyclists who participated in this year’s National Bike to Work Day likely planned their riding route with several criteria in mind, from convenience to safety. Those same concerns help determine how "bikeable" a town is, according to a new study by the Walk Score website. Among the factors: There's safety in numbers.

"The more people who are out biking, the more cars get used to seeing bikes — and also, the more drivers of cars have had the experience of biking," says Matt Lerner, co-founder of Walk Score.

As Lerner tells NPR's Melissa Block, Walk Score recently assigned a Bike Score to U.S. cities based on four criteria: the number of bike lanes and hills; the nearness of destinations; and the number of bike commuters.

Minneapolis tops the Bike Score list, followed by Portland, Ore.; San Francisco; and Boston.

Asked why Minneapolis is rated so highly, Lerner cites the city's trails — and its geography.

"I think it started in the age of glaciers, because the glaciers carved out these beautiful lakes," he says. "And Minneapolis built trails connecting all of those lakes."

Lerner says that despite its hilly geography, San Francisco tied with Portland on the strength of its extensive network of bike lanes.

New York made the Top 10 list primarily for its efforts to build new, and safer, bike lanes.

"For example, they have what are called parking-separated cycle tracks, where there's a barrier of parked cars between the traffic and the bikers — and that's a really great way to make bikers feel safer."

There's an easy way to tell if a town has succeeded in its approach to encouraging cyclists to ride, Lerner says.

"In bike research, they call older people and younger people 'indicator species,' " he says. "So if you see an elderly person biking, or you see a child biking, that's a good indicator that the city is doing a really good job with their bike infrastructure."

The full list of the "most bikeable" cities:

- Minneapolis
- Portland
- San Francisco
- Boston
- Madison
- Washington, D.C.
- Seattle
- Tucson
- New York City
- Chicago

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**Cookout After Sumnerville Ride**

Be sure to mark your calendar for the ride out of Sumnerville on Saturday, July 21st. The MBA will be having a cookout after the ride, with hamburgers and brats and sodas all provided by the club. No need to bring a dish to pass.

Different from our usual Sumnerville ride starts, this ride will start and finish at Arthur Dodd Park in Sumnerville. Drive through Sumnerville and continue on Indian Lake Road. Turn left on Creek Road. The park will be on your left, less than a mile down the road.

Riders should adjust their start times depending on how far they plan to ride, so that they finish around noon.

Richard & Dixie Couch will be hosting the ride, and will be happy to answer any questions. Also, an RSVP would be appreciated. You can email them at richardcouch7@gmail.com, or call Richard at 269-357-6933.

See the ride schedule, page 9, for more information.
MBA CLUB JERSEYS

Dick Couch will be taking orders for the MBA Club Jersey. You can contact Dick at 269-357-6933 or by email at richard-couch7@gmail.com.

Looking for Trailblazers

The IN-MI River Valley Trail is a dedicated pedestrian highway that will serve the communities of Niles, South Bend, Notre Dame and Mishawaka. Plans are in place to finish the final 7 miles of this 34-mile system but trail advocates are needed.

Niles Charter Township is hosting the first annual “Friends of the IN-MI River Valley Trail” meeting Thursday June 28th at 7pm in the Niles Charter Township Hall, 320 Bell Road, Niles.

A presentation showing the history and scope of the IN-MI River Valley Trail will be given and refreshments will be served. If you are a hiking and/or biking trails enthusiast, you are encouraged to attend. If you have questions, please contact Niles Charter Township Park Commissioner Harry Thibault at (574) 292-1175.
Leisure Rides

While we see these rides as a way to introduce new cyclists to the club, the casual pace also makes them very sociable and pleasant for regular members. Here’s the basic info:

**Dates:** Every Monday until August 27

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Place:** Pinhook Park. 2801 Riverside Dr., just south of Cleveland Rd.

**Routes:** We will start with the usual 10-mile route and will lengthen the rides over time. These routes include the Riverside and Northside bike paths, the Notre Dame bike paths, and South Bend bike lanes.

**Volunteers needed:** If you’d like to help with these rides, please contact Chris Vanden Bossche at cvandenb@nd.edu.

July Weekend Rides

**Most weekend rides do not have a host so bring your own map or ask another member at the ride.** You can download a copy from the “Weekend Maps” list on the MBA website at mbabike.com. To obtain a complete set of maps and cue sheets contact Chris Vanden Bossche at 574-234-1035, or cvandenb@nd.edu, or at a ride.

**Sunday, July 1, 2012 at 9 a.m.**

**Edwardsburg North.** Head north over a few rolling hills towards Cassopolis and Dowagiac and return via Eagle Lake. Distances: 17, 26, 35, 44, 55, 66. Meet at the High School (69410 Section Street, Edwardsburg, MI), the southernmost school on Section St, which runs south of US-12 and parallel to MI-62 (IN-23 in Indiana). Map.

**NOTE CHANGE OF START TIME!!**

**Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.**

**Buchanan North.** Head north through wine country and expect some hills in this area of glacial moraines. Distances: 14, 20, 34, 44, 54, 63. Meet at Buchanan Middle School (610 W 4th St.), which is a few blocks north and west of the town’s main intersection at Redbud and Front.

**No Wednesday evening ride on the 4th of July.**

**NOTE CHANGE OF START TIME!!**

**Saturday, July 7, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.**

**Dowagiac.** Enjoy the beautiful country northeast of Dowagiac towards Decatur and Paw Paw. Distances: 30, 43, 53. Park in the lot along Railroad St. (behind the stores on Front St) just south of Division St (MI-61).

**NOTE CHANGE OF START TIME!!**

**Sunday, July 8, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.** **Osolo North.** These routes head north towards Vandalia, east toward Constantine and then return north of Bristol. Distances: 11, 22, 30, 44, 50, 60. Meet at Osolo Elementary School
(24975 County Road 6, Elkhart, IN) on the north side of Elkhart at the intersection of CR6 (Cleveland Rd in St. Joe county) and CR11 (aka Osolo Rd), east of Cassopolis St (IN-19).

Saturday, July 14, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.


Sunday, July 15, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Prairie View. These routes start from the Hudson Lake area. Expect a few rollers as you ride through northern La Porte county; longer routes travel down to Fish Lake. Distances: 18, 24, 36, 43, 54, 69. Park at Prairie View Elementary School (6434 East 700 North, Rolling Prairie, IN). Take U.S. 20 west of New Carlisle to County Line/900 and go north to 700N then west to the school. Be careful not to confuse it with Prairie Vista!

Saturday, July 21, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. (Official start time: you can plan your start earlier or later so that you get back to the park at noon for the barbecue.)

Summerville Barbecue Ride from Arthur Dodd Park. The ride will follow the familiar Summerville North-west route, but we’ll start and finish at Arthur Dodd Park. Dick Couch and company will host a barbecue, with food ready at 12 noon. Arthur Dodd Park is just northwest of Summerville. Take MI-51 north from Niles, go west on Pokagon into Summerville, turn right on Indian Lake (by the tavern) and then immediately left. Take the first left onto Old Indian Lake and then an immediate left onto Creek. The park will be about a hundred yards down the road on your left. Distances: 21, 31, 42, 48, 59.

PLEASE RSVP TO DICK COUCH no later than Thursday, June 19: richardcouch7@gmail.com OR 269-357-6933

Sunday, July 22, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Edwardsburg East. These routes run east towards Union, with the longer ones heading north from there toward Birch Lake. Distances: 17, 26, 34, 44, 55, 66. Meet at the High School (69410 Section Street, Edwardsburg, MI), the southernmost school on Section St, which runs south of US-12 and parallel to MI-62 (IN-23 in Indiana).

Saturday, July 28, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Buchanan West. Head west toward Lake Michigan; routes start and end in a hilly area west of town but flatten toward the lake. Distances: 15, 21, 30, 39, 54, 66. Meet at Buchanan Middle School (610 W 4th St.), which is a few blocks north and west of the town’s main intersection at Redbud and Front.

Sunday, July 29, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Niles. New routes for 2012! These routes head north from Niles in the direction of Indian Lake and Sister Lakes. Distances: 21, 33, 42, 49, 59. Use the Riverfront Park parking lot on the northeast corner of Main and Front in Niles, MI. (Alternative start location: If there are special activities and you can’t park at Riverfront Park, start from Ring Lardner School at 801 North 17th Street. All routes pass the school.)

Saturday-Sunday, August 4-5

Amishland and Lakes
July Tuesday Rides

Tuesday rides do not have a host so bring your own map or ask another member at the ride. You can download a copy from the “Tuesday Maps” (formerly “Letter Maps”) list on the MBA website at mbabike.com.

Tuesday, July 3, 2012, at 9 a.m.

Sumnerville. These routes travel north through orchard country (passing Tree-mendous and Wicks) up toward Sister Lakes. Distances: 18, 27, 37, 50. Sumnerville is a village 7 miles north of Niles and about 1 mile west of MI-51. Park at the church (61268 Indian Lake Rd.) on the west side of Indian Lake Rd, just south of Pokagon Rd.

Tuesday, July 10, 2012, at 9 a.m.

Galien. Head north and then over to Lake Michigan and plan on a stop at the Swedish Bakery on Red Arrow Highway; the long route travels down the shore to New Buffalo. Distances: 22, 29, 37, 49. Park at Galien Township Schools (22 Southeastern, Galien, MI) From US-12, proceed North on Cleveland, take the first right (onto Southeastern St) and the school is a block further down.

Tuesday, July 17, 2012, at 9 a.m.

Knollwood. These routes quickly exit the suburbs and emerge into southern Michigan; the long route loops through Morris Farms. Distances: 10, 20, 23, 32, 40. Park at the Knollwood Country Club (16633 Baywood Ln, Granger, IN), which is north of University Park Mall, just west of the intersection of Adams and Grape.

Tuesday, July 24, 2012, at 9 a.m.

Moran. These routes head south toward Wakarusa through mostly flat farmland in Elkhart county. Distances: 12, 19, 26, 33, 44. Meet at Moran Elementary School (305 N Beech Rd, Osceola), which is about two blocks north of Lincolnway and one mile west of the Elkhart County line. Map.

Tuesday, July 31, 2012, at 9 a.m.

Horizon. These routes go north to Eagle Lake and east towards Union, MI; roads are mostly flat with a few rollers going out toward Union. Distances: 13, 20, 30, 41. Meet at Horizon Elementary School (10060 Brummitt Rd), which is in northeastern St. Joseph County north of Cleveland Rd and the Toll Road between Beech and Ash Rds.

Tuesday, August 7, 2012, at 9 a.m.

July Wednesday Evening Rides

NO EVENING RIDE ON July 4. See the weekend schedule for a morning ride.

Wednesday, July 11, 2012, at 6 p.m.

**Grissom South.** These mostly flat roads take us south through classic Indiana farmland. Distances: 16, 22, 24, 30. Meet on the north side of Grissom Middle School (13881 Kern Rd.), which is at the intersection of Kern and Elm, 1 mile south of US-20 and 2 miles east of IN-331.

Wednesday, July 18, 2012, at 6 p.m.

**Bertrand Township Hall.** Enjoy the beautiful area southwest of Buchanan and expect some hills in this area shaped by glacial moraines. Distances: 11, 17, 23, 29, 36. The hall is on Buffalo Rd just west of Redbud Trail (from South Bend take the US-31 bypass and exit west on US-12 to Redbud then turn south to Buffalo).

Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at 6 p.m.

**Horizon.** These routes go north through Michigan lake country. Distances: 13, 19, 25, 35. Meet at Horizon Elementary School (10060 Brummitt Rd), which is in northeastern St. Joseph County north of Cleveland Rd and the Toll Road between Beech and Ash Rds.

Wednesday, August 1, 2012, at 6 p.m.

**Ring Lardner.** Head north towards Barron Lake and then, on longer routes, up Anderson hill towards Dowagiac. Distances: 16, 20, 24, 29, 35. Meet at Ring Lardner Middle School (801 North 17th Street, Niles, MI), which is north of MI-60 and south of Lake St. on the east side of Niles. If we have any luck, it will only rain a little!
2012 Membership, Newsletter Application, and Dues

Mail to: Michiana Bicycle Association
PO Box 182
Granger, IN 46530-0182

Name:__________________________________________  E-Mail:________________________

Address__________________________________________________________________________

City, State Zip________________________________________________________________________

Phone:_________________ Cell:____________________   Newsletter ___ e-mail ___ paper copy

Make check payable to MBA
Membership fee ........ $25.00 per individual or family living at same address
(Age 70 or older- free, but must fill out renewal each year)
Total Enclosed .........$_____

Please check:
_____ New Member
_____ Renewal
_____ Address Change

Name & ages of participating bicyclists in immediate family:
__________________________________________  ___
__________________________________________  ___
__________________________________________  ___
__________________________________________  ___

Disclaimer - MUST BE SIGNED
In signing this form for myself or the named applicant (if he or she is under 21), I agree to absolve all of the organizers, officers, sponsors and members of the Michiana Bicycle Association, Inc., be they individuals or organizations, singly or collectively, of all blame for any injury, misadventure, harm/loss or inconvenience suffered as a result of taking part in the scheduled or non-scheduled activities of the Michiana Bicycle Association.

Signature:____________________________________
Date:__________________