

Crank Mail

November 2010



Cycle the Oregon Coast

The Yaquina Wheels Bicycle Club Newsletter



The BOBS picture taken at this year's Breast Cancer Awareness Rides sponsored by TREK and Bike Newport

Bike Newport, is the reason for the uptick in cycling activity in little old Newport, Oregon. A classy bike store like this, run by such caring and informed professionals – Elliott and Daniella Crowder – has to be the envy of bike stores all over the country. What they do, and what they have to offer in service, is unprecedented. Los Angeles, eat your heart out. (I used to live and bike there. I know)

In late summer of 2010, a new movement slowly got off the ground for women who started hauling old bikes out of their garages or simply went and bought one. It felt like a new kind of female-fever. It was strictly word of mouth and when 4 or 5 showed up to ride bikes, we decided to give ourselves a name: THE BOBS: aka BABES ON BIKES. Our group has grown to 18 or 19 and we are arranging rides at least twice a week, depending on the weather. The next step was having tee-shirts made and showing up for the Trek sponsored Ride for Breast Cancer. What an event. What a Party! We were amazed to find ourselves featured on YouTube. Who knew?

So far our rides (12 to 25 miles) have been in and around Newport, but we are planning to caravan over to the Big Cities of Eugene, Corvallis and Portland for longer day trips on new territory. Lunch included, of course.

For anyone interested in joining THE BOBS, contact Bobbie Lippman at Bobbisbeat@aol.com OR Linda Kilbride, at lakky@actionnet.net

Submitted by: Bobbie Lippman to Ken Dennis

From Bandon, Oregon to Yorktown, Virginia 2010

They did it! A “once in lifetime” cross-country bike ride began on August 2, at Bullards Beach State Park in Bandon for Yaquina Bike Club members, Lisa (Jeri) Kern, Nancy Mead, Gale Matsumoto and Dana Barnes from Portland, Oregon. Gale Matsumoto rode just to Nevada while the others reached the finish line on October 20 in Yorktown, Virginia after 80 days.

The ride to Fernley, Nevada took 9 days without a break day, climbing the spectacular mountain passes of the Coast Range, the Cascades, and Cedar Pass in California. One of the lakes, Goose Lake in California was surprisingly found to be a dry lake. On less traveled roads, there were many curious cows along the way, more in numbers than people and other bicycle riders. Other creatures such as cottontail rabbits and screeching red tail hawks stirred excitement as well. With August temperatures in the 90's, ice cream and root beer floats “hit the spot” particularly on long riding days. Lisa, Nancy, and Dana continued on their incredible bike ride to Yorktown, Virginia. Nancy spent several wonderful days with her daughter, grandkids, and other relatives in Colorado and Kentucky. In addition, the East coast provided many opportunities for visits to historic sites. You can read about the challenges that were encountered besides see some absolutely must see photos of our country's magnificent natural beauty at

www.bikeoregontovirginia2010.blogspot.com

Right on schedule, the three arrived in Yorktown, Virginia on October 20. Ask them if they put their toes in the Atlantic like they did in the Pacific!



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2010 YLC Ride Report by Skip Harrison

The 2010 Yaquina Lighthouse Century rides were composed of 3 possible routes, all starting and ending at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area. Riders could choose from a 25 mile route, a 70 mile route, or the premier ride, the 103 mile route.



After a short ride out to the Yaquina Head Lighthouse, all routes headed south from the Yaquina Head area towards Newport via Highway 101 and Oceanview Drive, then through the Nye Beach district of Newport and along Elizabeth Street where they entered the Yaquina Bay State Park, traveling past the historic Yaquina Bay Lighthouse.

From there, the routes proceeded east along the scenic and historic Newport Bay Front, and followed the Yaquina Bay and River inland.

At about mile 12, there was a rest stop at River Bend Marina, with hot coffee and numerous and varied snacks. This was basically the turn-around point for riders doing the 25 mile ride, where they headed back to Newport via the same route they had ridden up the bay and through Newport, returning to the lighthouse. Some riders also continued up the bay to get in more miles, but did not ride the 70 or 103 mile routes.

The more 'hard core' riders continued on up the Yaquina River to Toledo, and then on north on Highway 229 to Siletz, where there was another rest stop with more food, the special at this stop was Spam and a fruit cup of bananas, hazelnuts and cream. Both were very popular.

At Siletz, the 70 mile riders continued north along the Siletz River, following Highway 229 to Kernville for 24 miles to the next rest stop. The 103 mile riders headed east on Logsdens road for a 24 mile loop out and back to Moonshine Park, and returned to the rest stop in Siletz for more food before heading north on Highway 229 to the rest stop at Kernville.

From Kernville, the 70 mile riders turned south to follow Highway 101 back to Newport, using the Oregon Coast Bike route over Cape Foulweather, enjoying the fantastic view from the "Lookout" at the top of a 1.6 mile climb of almost 450' elevation gain. From there, it was 'all downhill' back to the start area at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.

As for the 100 mile riders, they turned north at Kernville to ride a loop on Drift Creek, Anderson Creek and Schooner Creek roads into the south end of Taft to pick up enough extra distance to get up to 103 miles.

From Taft, the 103 mile riders also followed Highway 101 south, over Cape Foulweather and back to the start at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Area.

The weather was generally good for the ride, with full sun by the afternoon and a nice northwest wind along the ocean to give the riders nice tailwind for the last 20 miles or so, and provided for outstanding views of the Pacific Ocean, especially from the top of Cape Foulweather.

The total turn-out for all routes was approximately 175 riders, who were supported by members of the Yaquina Wheels Bicycle Club, and their friends, who organized the ride, and staffed the rest stops. Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses also assisted at the start area with registration and other duties.

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The President's Corner

First I'd like to thank, Bobbie, Gale and Skip for contributing to this newsletter. I had hoped to get it out earlier but found that my last days as an employee were busier than usual. In case you hadn't noticed when you received this email, our membership has grown to around 60 members. There are several reasons for this. First, the bike shop has gotten a lot more people back on bikes and you've shown an interest in riding with others. Second, Dave Campbell's Beaver Creek time trials added some members so that the event could fall under the club's insurance umbrella. On that note I'd like to let you know that I've printed membership cards that are available at the bike shop. There is a list with your name and date paid available at the shop. It's not a big deal at this point unless the shop decides to require proof of membership before giving the club discount. Contact me if you would like a PDF copy of the list and a membership questionnaire that asks what your interests in cycling are.

It's with considerable fanfare that I'd like to report that Bike Newport has just received the Adventure Cycling's Sam Braxton Bike Shop of the Year Award for 2010. Elliott and Daniella would like to thank all of those that took the time to nominate them for this award. There is only one bike shop in the country that is selected for the award by the ACA. In case you're not sure what the ACA is, here is a link to their website: www.adventurecycling.org. The website tells you everything you'd ever want to know about them. Check it out.

The selection process was also made easier due to the fact that the Executive Director, Jim Sayer and his family, paid a visit to Newport on their Pacific Coast tour this summer and the Adventure Cyclist editor and staff visited the store. The store was mentioned in the October/November magazine. This is huge for the store and Newport in general because of the large membership base that ACA has. This will promote more bicycle tourism in our area.

Let's continue to support Bike Newport. One of the ways you can do this is by bringing your bikes in for their annual maintenance this winter. Don't wait until spring when the shop may be too busy to spend a little extra time with you and your bike. Winter is the slack time for bike shops. Winter riding and a notoriously slow time



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What's in store for the coming year?

Rick Hill hopes to continue with his bike maintenance classes for women and will send out information about the class or you might want to contact him if you have an interest or questions. It was a pretty popular class earlier this year.

I'll be putting on a League of American Bicyclists Traffic Skills 101 course this winter or spring. It's a 12 hour course that is done in 2-3 hour increments so I'll need to get myself organized before submitting a date for the course.

The League of American Bicyclists promotes May of each year as Bike to Work Month. The Newport Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee will be pursuing the promotion of Bike to Work Month in 2011. I've volunteered to be the event coordinator and will be looking for help from club members to form a committee so we can make this a community event. Any volunteers yet?

The Yaquina Wheels Bike Club's, Yaquina Lighthouse Rides, will move into the 9th year in 2011. Tentative dates are August 20th or 21st depending on whether we feel that Saturday is still a good day to put the ride on.

