

Ohio Bicycle Communicator



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Share the Road Auto License Plate to be Issued March 23

On Tuesday, December 22, 2004 Governor Bob Taft signed the SHARE THE ROAD license plate into law as part of House Bill 406. This law culminates five years of efforts by the Ohio Bicycle Federation to create an auto license plate which will publicize the importance of motorists sharing Ohio's roads with bicyclists. Proceeds from the plate pay for publishing *Ohio Bicycling Street Smarts, Riding Confidently, Legally, and Safely*, a free booklet covering the Ohio law regarding cycling, and presenting illustrated instructions on riding in traffic. The SHARE THE ROAD plate will be available after March 23, 2005.

To get your SHARE THE ROAD plates after March 23:

1. Visit <http://www.oplates.com>
2. Click on "special plates."
3. Select vehicle type
4. Scroll to and click on "SHARE THE ROAD"

-OR-

Visit your local deputy registrar's office

-OR-

Dial 1-800-589-8247

You may purchase a SHARE THE ROAD plate at any time during the year--even if you are not renewing your registration. You pay only the cost of the plate (\$15.00) plus the transaction fee (\$3.50). Many individuals prefer to request the SHARE THE ROAD plate at the time of renewal. A customer may renew their registration up to 90 days prior to the expiration date; for example, if my registration expires on June 30, I may renew as early as April 1. You would request the SHARE THE ROAD plate and pay for your registration renewal at that time. SHARE THE ROAD license plates are a great way to show your belief in motorists and cyclists sharing the road for their mutual benefit. Your purchase of SHARE THE ROAD plates is appreciated, as 1,000 must be sold each year in order for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to continue issuing the plates. Visit <http://ohiobike.org> for more information.



OBF Secretary Mike Abrams is New League of American Bicyclists Region 4 Director

I am happy to announce that I have recently been appointed to fill the vacancy of Region 4 Director of the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) effective March 1, 2005. The opening was created because the current Region 4 Director, Brenda Pulley, of Cleveland, is relocating from the area. I wish to thank everyone for their support in reaching this position. In addition to my role as your Secretary of the Ohio Bicycle Federation, I look forward to serving cyclists in Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana, as your LAB Region 4 Director. I hope to be a valuable member of the Board and to vigorously promote and champion your interests and concerns at the national level. If you would like to learn about LAB and/or become a member, visit <http://www.bikeleague.org>

Editor's Note: Dayton Cycling Club President Anita Patten is a candidate for the League Board's At-Large Seat. Official ballots will be published in the spring issue of the League magazine to be sent to League members in mid-April.

Lucinda B. Miller is new OBF Southeast Regional Director

Lucinda has taught bicycle safety classes for Ohio youth for many years. She began riding tours in 1987, and rides for both recreation and fitness. Lucinda would much rather be riding a bicycle than driving a car, and when time permits uses her bicycle as a mode of transportation. She especially enjoys hill climbing in beautiful Southern Ohio. She lives in Beaver, Ohio, where she is an Assistant Professor with Ohio State University Extension. As an Extension Specialist, 4-H Youth Development, Lucinda provides leadership to the Ohio 4-H companion and small animal programs.



Ed Dressler is new OBF Director at Large

As Greene County Park District Director from 1974-1998, Ed was responsible for 15 miles of the Little Miami Scenic Trail, 12 miles plus spurs of the Creekside Trail, 12 miles of The Ohio to Erie Trail. Also helped with acquisition between Cedarville and London for 16 miles. For the Xenia Station (7 acres) he wrote a grant to buy the land which City of Xenia purchased. Also wrote grant to develop in full cooperation with City of Xenia, Greene County Commissioners and Park District. Managed the preparation of the classic Bicycle Friendly Manual along with Bike Miami Valley with funding from BMV, Village of Yellow Springs, City of Xenia and Greene County Park District.

Pete Precario is new OBF Director at Large

Pete Precario has been an avid rider for 30 years. He has ridden the Randonneur Brevet series and completed Paris-Brest-Paris in 1987. Pete is a dedicated bike traveler riding frequently to work and vacationing by bicycle. He is committed to keeping all roads open to bike travel and providing planning for bike use into all roadway repair and construction. He believes that providing good roadways for bikes and education for all riders will insure and promote biking into the future.



February 20 OBF Meeting in Hilliard



COTA gets Huffman Award for Bike Racks on Buses

Belinda Taylor, Director of Corporate Communications for the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) receives the Horace Huffman Award for Service to Ohio Cycling for mounting bike racks on all COTA buses. OBF Chair Chuck Smith is presenting the award.

COTA President Bill Lhota wrote, "On behalf of the COTA Board of Trustees and staff, I would like to thank the OBF for selecting COTA for the Horace Huffman Award. COTA takes pride in receiving the OBF's highest honor. I am pleased to report that COTA's Bike 'n Bus Program continues to be embraced by the central Ohio community. Since the bike racks were first available to the public in September 2004, there have been 1,569 recorded bike boardings. COTA's automated vehicle location system data indicates that racks are being used across Franklin County.

COBAC Gets Huffman Award

John Gideon, Central Ohio Bicycle Advocacy Coalition (COBAC) President, receives Horace Huffman Award from OBF Chair Chuck Smith for COBAC's successful work with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) in establishing bicycling accommodation rules ("Complete Streets") in the Columbus Area. Mr. Gideon and COBAC worked with Bernice Cage of MORPC.



Mindy Kuth is new OBF Director At Large

Mindy Kuth is an Ohio state representative for the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) and currently on the board of ClevelandBikes and the Cleveland Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA).

She served as CAMBA's first Advocacy Director from 2001 through June 2004. An outdoor enthusiast who dabbles in racing, she is a volunteer with Youth Outdoors, a Cleveland Metroparks program that introduces urban kids to outdoor adventures, and serves as a patroller with the northeast Ohio chapter of the National Mountain Bike Patrol.

Steve Magas is new OBF Director At Large

Steve Magas is an avid cyclist and Ohio trial lawyer who has worked on bicycling issues for the past 15 years. Steve's cases have ranged from 7-figure settlements to \$50 traffic tickets and have included the case of Trotwood v. Selz, which he won in the court of appeals. In the Selz case, he represented the OBF in successfully appealing the conviction and fine of Steve Selz of Dayton for "impeding traffic" on SR 49 in Trotwood. This case stands as an important precedent for the right of cyclists to ride the roads of Ohio. Steve has written extensively on legal issues of interest to cyclists. Steve regularly handles bike matters throughout the state of Ohio and is a longtime supporter of the OBF, working closely with the OBF on the Selz case and permitting publication of the case transcript and all legal briefs. Steve rides an old Trek 1420 road bike and a Klein Mantra mountain bike. He doesn't ride as much as he would like, but his two boys are at an age where more riding is definitely in the works!



OBF to Meet April 17 at Lake MetroParks' Bike Expo

Join us on Sunday, April 17, 2005 for a fun time at the Lake County MetroParks' Bike Expo. The event will take place in Lake Farm MetroPark, 8800 Chardon Road (U.S. 6) in Kirtland, east of Cleveland (see star on below map). The OBF meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. in the auditorium. The OBF will erect a display which will stand on the Bike Expo exhibit floor from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



www.ohiobike.org

The Ohio Bicycle Federation is an alliance of individuals and organizations interested in promoting the use of bicycles for recreation, transportation and sport. It serves by providing opportunities for the betterment of bicycle education, engineering, legislation, and the encouragement of activities involving the use of bicycles and by serving as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas.

- Membership Levels**
- 1 Year – Single \$20, Family \$25, Supporting/Organization \$50, Sustaining \$100
 - 2 Years – Single \$35, Family \$45, Supporting/Organization \$90, Sustaining \$190
 - 3 Years – Single \$50, Family \$65, Supporting/Organization \$130, Sustaining \$280
 - Lifetime – \$300

Ohio Bicycle Federation, P.O. Box 253, Xenia, OH 45385-0253

Please Join or Renew!

Complete the form below and send it today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Fac: _____

E-Mail: _____

Join at the Supporting level or above and receive an OBF t-shirt so you can proudly show your support!
Adult Extra Large Only

OBF Wants Bicyclist Friendly Ohio Revised Code

The Ohio Bicycle Federation has proposed reforms for Ohio's bicycle traffic laws, and is looking for sponsors for a bill to make them law. We need your help to get them introduced into the legislature and passed. Two of the reforms are priorities: (1) Require uniformity of traffic laws for bicycles, as required for other vehicles. Uniformity is required to eliminate the many bad bicycle ordinances which communities have adopted throughout our state. (2) Fix the "far right rule" that encourages cyclists to ride too far to the right. These are just the most important of many needed reforms.

See all of the reform proposals on our OBF web site at http://ohiobike.org/ORC_Proposals.htm

Please contact your state representative and state senator asking for their support. We have a potential sponsor, but need support from more legislators.

The advocacy page on our OBF web site provides information to make it easy for you to contact your lawmakers. This information includes:

- A link to access your lawmakers
- A sample letter
- A complete description of the reforms and why they are needed
- A booklet addressing the reforms, in downloadable PDF format

Please go to our OBF site at <http://ohiobike.org/> then click on "advocacy" for more information.