

Ohio Bicycle Communicator



Volume 35, Number 2

www.ohiobike.org

Fall-Winter, 2007

OBF to Celebrate Better Ohio Bicycling Bill

When our Better Ohio Bicycling Law went into effect in September, 2006, it was a major break-through for Ohio cycling. It thrust Ohio to the forefront in bicycle legislation.

When we meet on Monday, October 8 (Columbus Day) at the Bicycle Museum of America in New Bremen, we will celebrate the anniversary of this major victory for cycling in Ohio. A copy of our legislation will be presented to museum curator Annette Thompson for inclusion in the museum's extensive collection.

The Better Ohio Bicycling Law made two major improvements in Ohio bicycling law:

1. Made Ohio Revised Code governing bicycle operation closer to the Uniform Vehicle Code, which is accepted as the bench mark for vehicle laws throughout the U.S.
2. Made the law in Ohio governing bicycle operation uniform throughout the state, so we can ride across our state to the same rules, just as we drive motor vehicles to the same rules.

Representative Arlene Setzer of Vandalia sponsored our Better Ohio Bicycling Bill, as well as our Share the Road License Plate Bill. Now, she has promised to introduce a third bill for the OBF, based upon suggested changes in the Ohio Revised Code approved by the OBF during our April meeting.

Here are the OBF's basic proposals which we seek to include in a bill to be introduced this year:



Governor Taft signs HB 389, the OBF's Better Ohio Bicycling Law. OBF Chair Chuck Smith (left) and bill sponsor Representative Arlene Setzer look on

- 1: Revise "Far Right Rule," § 4511.55(A) to link it to § 4511.25(B)
- 2: New language for § 4511.132(A) (dealing with malfunctioning traffic signals)
- 3: Technical revision to § 4511.07(A)(8) (local regulation)
- 4: Safer passing rules for § 4511.27
- 5: Exceptions for exclusion of bicycles from freeway shoulders.
- 6: Add the UVC brake performance metric to 4511.56



“Share the Road” Auto License Plate

Thanks for helping us to continue to fund the publication of Ohio Bicycling Street Smarts through your purchase of “Share the Road” license plates. For a second year, our sales of “Share the Road” plates have exceeded 1,000 meaning that the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles will continue to issue our plates in 2008!

In addition to spreading the good road sharing idea on over 1,600 Ohio autos, \$15 from each plate goes to fund Ohio Bicycling Street Smarts, a well-illustrated publication explaining how to ride a bike in traffic.



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.

Please Join or Renew!

Complete the form below and send it today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

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

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

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

Can You Do the MoMBA?

By Karen Wells-Hamilton
OBF Board Member

No, not the dance. MoMBA is the best new mountain bike trail to hit the Dayton area. The grand opening is September 15, 2007. That's right. A MOUNTAIN bike trail. I love paved trails as much as the next person but there hasn't been much attention given to dirt trails until now with the MetroParks Mountain Bike Area (MoMBA) at Huffman MetroPark West.

You say there isn't much interest in mountain biking in the Dayton area? Consider this. John Bryan State Park has 8.5 miles of trail and sees 800-900 visits to the trail during the summer months. So, it's no surprise that someone took the hint and developed a premiere mountain bike facility in Dayton. That someone is Greg Brumitt, manager of Five Rivers Outdoors, the outdoor initiative of Five Rivers MetroParks. In about a year, Greg and his dedicated staff along with a strong cadre of volunteers from the Miami Valley Mountain Bike Association (MVMBA) and Dayton area have built over 8 miles of quality trails in a beautiful wooded area. That's amazing. In comparison, it took 5 years for volunteers to develop the trails at John Bryan State Park. MoMBA was built to the rigorous standards set forth by the International Mountain Bike Association such that the trails shed water and are easy to maintain.

So, you're new to mountain biking or want to learn. Are these trails for you? Sure. There are easier trail segments that will develop your biking talents and you can always walk areas that you aren't comfortable with. Maybe you're an accomplished biker and wondering if these trails will be challenge enough for you. You bet. Plenty of elevation, a nice rocky ridge (Hawks Lair), an open area down to bedrock like something from out West (Moonscape), and an elevated bridge over a 60 foot gorge will get the blood racing.

MoMBA has history. Before it became a MetroPark, it was a popular motorcycle and ATV area and the park shows the scars of old trails. Lots of the rock used in Huffman dam came from this area and that's why it's down to bare rock in places. But Five Rivers MetroParks saw promise in this area and used mountain biking as a way to conserve and protect the land. How? They built sustainable trails that both prevent erosion and manage riders through design while allowing folks to enjoy the great outdoors and experience a great workout at the same time.

Thank you, Five Rivers MetroParks, for building such an amazing outdoor recreation facility in the Miami Valley. For more information on Five Rivers Outdoors and MoMBA at www.metroparks.org

The author (shown below riding the MoMBA "moonscape") is a member of IMBA, the MVMBA Board, the Ohio Bicycle Federation, the Dayton Cycling Club, the Friends of John Bryan State Park and a volunteer for Five Rivers MetroParks.



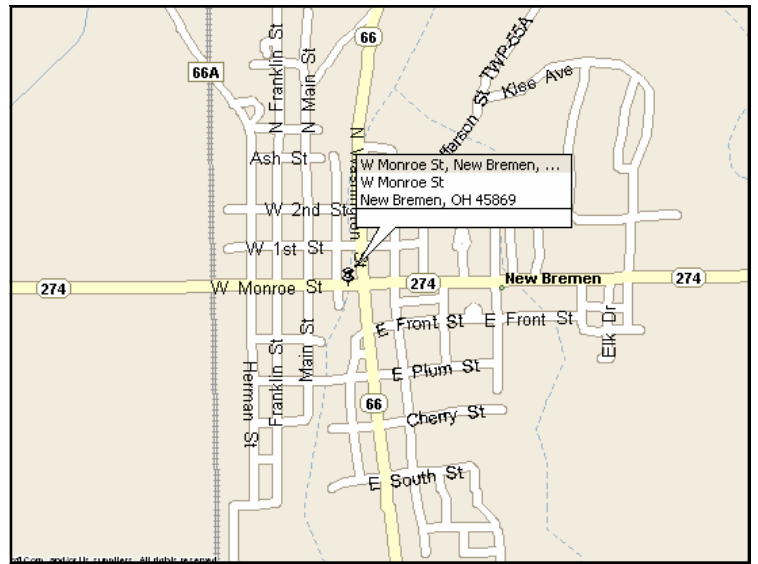
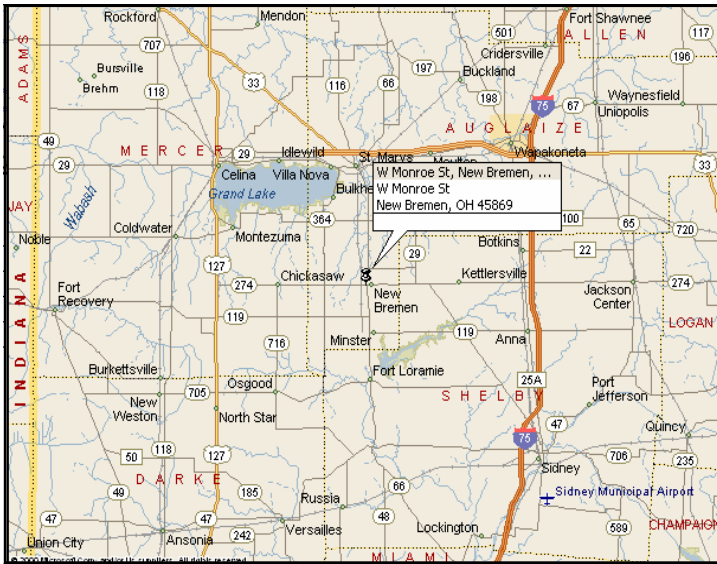
OBF to Meet October 8 at Bicycle Museum of America

Join us at noon on Monday, October 8 for our Fall, 2007 OBF meeting/celebration at the Bicycle Museum of America, 7 West Monroe Street (State Route 274), New Bremen. New Bremen is located between Lake Loramie and Grand Lake St. Marys in west central Ohio (north of Dayton and west of Columbus). This will be a “working lunch” meeting, and will be open to all OBF members.

The museum will open at 11 a.m., so come early to see the world’s largest bicycle collection before our meeting. There will be no charge for touring the museum, as the OBF maintains membership in the museum.

At 12 Noon, we will begin our meeting, which must end by 3 p.m.

We want to thank museum curator Annette Thompson for hosting us again. We look forward to seeing you



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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

