

Ohio Bicycle Communicator



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www.ohiobike.org

Summer-2019

5th Annual OBF Ohio Bicycling Summit in Statehouse Atrium

Thanks to all who participated in our Fifth Annual Ohio Bicycling Summit April 10 in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium!

Our theme was **“Women in Ohio Bicycling”** and that theme was reflected in our speakers and exhibitors.

Ohio Bike Lawyer and OBF Board Member Steve Magas gave our Key-note Address on **“Women in Ohio Cycling”** from an historical perspective.

Sharon Montgomery discussed Distracted Driving, an OBF focus for 2019.

Senator Teresa Fedor discussed working with OBF over the years.

Tricia Kovaks discussed lobbying.

Catherine Girves discussed Yay!Bikes!

Katherine Swidarski addressed Columbus Safe Routes to School.

Helen Rollins discussed her organization **“Black Girls Do Bike.”**

Deltrece Daniels discussed Bike Cleveland.

Lisa Daris gave us an update on the Ohio to Erie Trail.

Stephan Patchan discussed MORPC and cycling.

Caitlin Harley of ODOT discussed **“Your Move Ohio”**.

Meagan Gerhke discussed her **“Lady Gnar Shredders”** cycling team.

Ohio Wheelmen Captain Richard DeLombard pedaled the Ohio Statehouse Atrium on his 1888 Penny Farthing (high wheeled bicycle).

We thank our OBF Ohio Bicycling Summit exhibitors who included Bike Cleveland (Deltrece Daniels), **“Black Girls Do Bike”** (Helen Rollins), Bike Miami Valley (Emmy Fabich), Columbus Safe Routes to School (Katherine Swidarski), Dayton Cycling Club (Dan Carrigan), Franklin County MetroParks (Steve Studenmund), Green Umbrella (Wade Johnston), Tri-State Trails (Julia Glenn), Lady Gnar Shredders, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) (Stephan Patchan and Taylor Axene), ODOT’s **“Your Move Ohio”** (Caitlin Harley), **“Ohio to Erie Trail”** (Lisa Daris), Ohio Wheelmen (Richard DeLombard), Rails to Trails Conservancy (Brian Housh), Start County Bike Club (Dave Cardarella), Smart Columbus (McKinzie Harper and Andy Wolpert), Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) (Lance Dasher), Yay!Bikes! (Catherine Girves and Shirley Droney).



Senator Teresa Fedor discussing working with OBF over the years.



Caitlin Harley of ODOT Discussed **“Your Move Ohio”** program.



Meagan Gerhke discussed her **“Lady Gnar Shredders”** cycling team

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OBF is a member of the Ohio Distracted Driving task force which delivered our report to Governor DeWine in April.



"Driving while texting, or eating, or dialing a phone should be as culturally unacceptable as drunk driving is today," said Governor DeWine. "When drivers choose to do anything that distracts them from paying full attention to the road, they choose to risk their own lives, the lives of their passengers, and the lives of everyone else around them. Now is the time to create a long-term, comprehensive plan that educates drivers, promotes changes in behavior, and strengthens Ohio's distracted driving laws."

Governor DeWine established a new Distracted Driving Advisory Council, which will develop a plan to reduce distracted driving in Ohio. Our task force was composed of public safety, transportation safety engineering, research organizations, planning organizations and AAA and AT&T. One thing that was very clear from State Highway Patrol and local police departments is that the current laws are difficult to enforce because they only prohibit texting for adults and are secondary laws. We recommended that Ohio enact primary hands-free laws with stricter penalties. You can read the report from the task force at: <https://www.stateneews.org/post/report-80000-distracted-driving-crashes-ohio-last-five-years>

OBF at the League of American Bicyclists National Bike Summit

By Chuck Smith, OBF Chair

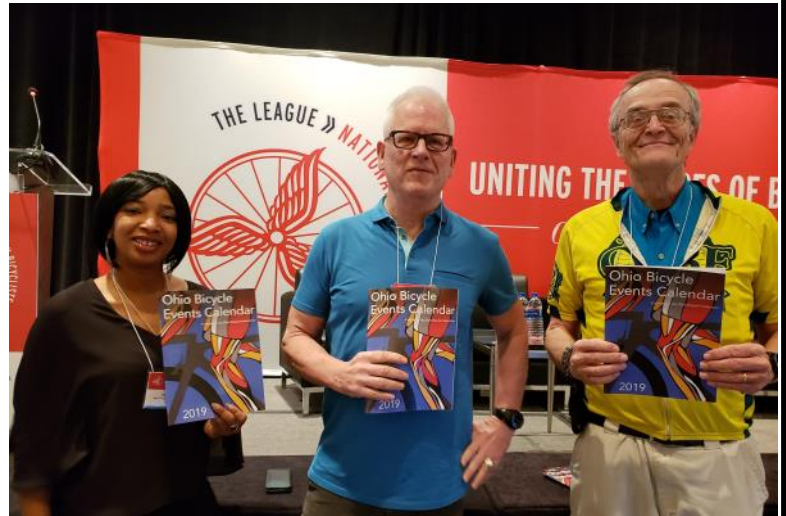
The National Bike Summit is the premier bike advocacy event of the year, uniting the voices of bicyclists on Capitol Hill and showcasing successes on the ground, learning how they happen, and exploring ways to expand their reach.

Deltrece Daniels of Bike Cleveland and I made up the entire Ohio delegation for the March 8 through 13 League of American Bicyclists Summit in Arlington, Virginia! The two of us visited all 18 Ohio Congressional offices during Lobby Day on March 13! Our delegation of two was our smallest Ohio delegation since 2002!

My Summit began on March 8 and 9 with a leadership seminar. I shared our 2019 OBF Ohio Bicycle Events Calendar to other attendees. They enjoyed and appreciated our Calendar. Some made plans to visit Ohio to ride the tours listed in our Calendar.

Our most important "ask" during our visits to the Congressional offices was a Bicycle Commuter Bill. This bill would encourage employers to install showers, lockers, bike parking, etc. by making their investments in these enhancements tax deductible. We had promoted a similar bill during Congressional visits in conjunction with past League Summits. Finally, a Bicycle Commuter Bill was passed in 2009. Unfortunately, the tax benefits of our 2009 Bicycle Commuter Bill were deleted for the tax code by the Trump Administration's recent "Tax Cut" bill, taking us back to square one!

Another issue which we addressed during our Congressional visits is the fact that the National Highway Traffic Safety Agency (NHTSA) has not tested the new automatic braking systems being installed now on many cars for sensitivity to bicyclists. We bicyclists sharing the road with untested brake detection systems face unnecessary risks. We in the OBF are following up with the US Department of Transportation regarding this issue.



The Ohio delegation to the League Summit
Deltrece Daniels, Ken Knabe and Chuck Smith

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OBF is sponsoring Cycling Savvy courses to Ohio cyclists. We've taught the Truth & Techniques in Upper Sandusky, sponsored by Bud's Bicycle Shop, and in Columbus, sponsored by Columbus Outdoor Pursuits. We've also taught the Group Leader Course to ride leaders in Columbus Outdoor Pursuits. Other courses are being planned later in the summer. We also have 2 new Cycling Savvy instructors in Ohio, Laurie and Marshall Cohen. They are very experienced and inspirational cyclists, riding across the country in sections, a week at a time.

Contact information to schedule a course at: www.ohiobike.org/education

Learn more about Cycling Savvy at www.cyclingsavvy.org

Ohio Bicycle Federation endorses SB73, sponsored by Senator Andrew Brenner of district 19 (Delaware, Knox and northern Franklin counties). This bill will require motorists to stop for pedestrians waiting at a crosswalk, rather than requiring pedestrians to step off the curb before they attain the right of way. Although this is primarily a pedestrian issue, cyclists often use crosswalks for trail crossings, when traffic is heavy and vehicular left turns are difficult and when signal detectors are not functioning. Children use crosswalks when cycling on sidewalks. We hope this bill will be approved by the Ohio legislature to help reduce the number of pedestrian and cyclist crashes in Ohio. You can read the details of the bill and its status in the Senate Committee on Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs.

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-73>

Bicycling Development Grants are available to cycling organizations in amounts from \$200 to \$1200. We have received several grant requests for funding for scouting bicycle safety events, bicycle encouragement days, used bicycle repair programs and education programs. But we still have funding available, so please take advantage of this grant program by applying for your own education or encouragement projects. Apply by May 31, 2019

www.ohiobike.org/advocacy

OBF Membership Report

As of May 2, 2019 we have 130 current paid-up members. 46 of them are Lifetime members. We have 17 bike clubs. The category numbers are:

Individual 62
Individual Lifetime 40
Family 9
Family Lifetime 2
Organization 13
Organization Lifetime 4

Ken Mercurio
OBF Membership Director

Upcoming OBF Events

Join us June 8 for OBF Day in Cleveland!!

All Ohio Bicycle Federation members are invited to join us at the Cleveland Velodrome at 10 am (weather permitting) for two track cycling lessons given by Fast Track Cycling, who operate and manage the Velodrome. As a Founding Member of the Velodrome, OBF was one of the organizations responsible the construction of the Velodrome at 5033 Broadway Avenue (entrance off Pershing Avenue), Cleveland, OH 44127, (216) 256-4285. Bring a helmet, cycling shoes, and pedals with you to the velodrome just before 10 am. Fast Track Cycling will loan you a track bike (track bikes are fixed gear bikes with no brakes). At 1:30 pm, we will hold our Summer, 2019 OBF Meeting at Jim Sheehan's Ohio City Bicycle Co-Op, 1840 Columbus Road, Cleveland OH 44113, (216) 830-2667.

Join us October 29-30 for OTEC!!

Your OBF will exhibit during the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference (OTEC), October 29-30, 2019. Please let us know if you can assist at our display during the event.

Join us Nov 9 for OBF Day at Bike Museum!!

Join us on Saturday, November 9 for our 10th Annual OBF Day at the Bicycle Museum of America, 7 West Monroe Street in New Bremen, Ohio!
10 am: Special docent-led tour of the museum's fantastic collection of over 300 vintage bicycles! The world's largest bicycle museum by far!
Noon to 2 pm: OBF Fall Meeting in the board room (behind the first bicycle display).
OBF members will be admitted free to the museum!

Please Send OBF Your Email Address

If you wish to continue to receive our OBF Communicator, please send the email address at which you would like to receive our newsletter to OBF Membership Director Ken Mercurio at kcmerc@yahoo.com

Your OBF Communicator is now available in electronic newsletter format at <http://www.ohiobike.org/index.php/blog/newsletters>

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We want YOU to join our team!

Visitors to www.ohiobike.org can view the Ohio Bicycle Events Calendar to stay abreast of current cycling events, browse safety and efficiency resources, read newsletters, and view crash data assessments as well as road conditions. Whether you are a devoted cyclist, a cycling club owner or member, or if you simply care about protecting the rights of our cyclists everywhere as do we, the Ohio Bicycle Federation is for you. Why not fill out the form below and join us today?

Join below or online at www.ohiobike.org/index.php/join

In 2018, all new members and renewals will receive a custom OBF leg strap. Lifetime members will receive both a free OBF t-shirt and an OBF saddle bag. Those providing Additional Sustaining Support will receive an OBF t-shirt and OBF rear tail light (while supplies last).

Name _____
 Address _____ Apt/Suite/Comp. _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 DOB _____ Email _____ Phone _____
 Do you belong to local bike clubs? Write club name here _____

- | | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 Lifetime |
| Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$350 Lifetime |
| Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Lifetime |

Additional Sustaining Support: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other: _____

Make check payable to "Ohio Bicycle Federation".

Mail completed form to: Ohio Bicycle Federation, P.O. Box 181, Monroe, OH 45050



Show your support for the 3-FOOT LAW

RECEIVE UP TO 35% DISCOUNT WHEN PURCHASING ANY ITEM OF THE OBF 3-FOOT COLLECTION

<https://www.voler.com/browse/collections/details/li/OhioBicycleFederation>

