

HELENA BICYCLE CLUB

HBC SEPT 2011 NEWSLETTER

Helena's participating in August 10 workshop



HBC Helps Fund Bikeability Study

Montana's Safe Routes to School program and the Helena Bicycle Club helped fund this workshop/study, seeking to better understand the degree to which Helena is bike friendly. HBC contributed \$500 from our bike safety fund to assist with this project. Several elected officials, city and county staff, interested citizens, and at least one HBC representative participated in the workshop.

"On August 10, Helena held its first ever Community Bicycling Workshop and Audit. Mighk Wilson and Keri Caffrey, from Orlando Florida conducted a group ride around the streets of Helena in the morning and discussed what positive attributes the city has – a good street grid system, relatively slow traffic speeds on most streets, courteous automobile drivers and relatively short distances to most major destinations.

During an evening presentation, Mighk gave some suggestions to help make Helena a

more bike friendly city. His primary recommendation is that Helena work to educate cyclists on how to operate safely and predictably on the streets. Mighk and Keri are the co-creators of a bicycling safety education course called Cycling Savvy. They believe that automobile operators become more aware and drive more safely around cyclists if they are aware of how the cyclist is going to ride. Secondly, Helena could benefit from creating bicycle boulevards on the streets that run parallel to major roadways. A bicycle boulevard is a street that caters to bicycle through traffic, does not eliminate vehicular use but is not a through street for cars.

The **takeaway lessons** from the group ride and the public presentation is that bicycles and automobiles can happily co-exist on streets and that courtesy for all users goes a long way to making a town bike friendly."

Laura Erikson, L&C County

NEXT HBC MEETING SEPT 27, 6:30 - 8:30

A SOCIAL NIGHT AT THE HOLTER MUESUM

12 E Lawrence

Exhibits include:

Bicycle Eclectic: Photos of touring cyclists by Adventure Cycling's Greg Siple (as seen in the magazine, Adventure Cyclist)

Cruise Control: Paintings of Montana's highways by Andy Cline

Ice tea provided, please bring a treat to share



Sunday August 7 Rocky Mountain Front Ride

Six riders enjoyed a great day in the north end of the Sun River Game Range, near Sawtooth Mt., early this August. They enjoyed spectacular views, great weather, and were lucky enough to see a few grouse (no bears!) on the ride. The Front was still wonderfully green, and the lucky riders had a fantastic ride.

Riders hope to repeat this ride next summer, perhaps a little earlier in the season to capture some of Montana's brilliant spring flowers. Story and photo, Julie McKenna

Quick Report—HBC 2011 Event Rides

We had a good summer. As of Sept 10, 2011:
Double Divide, 54 cyclists (+/-)
DDR income \$4,944.00, expenses \$4,523.66
One Helena Hundred, 135 cyclists (+/-)
OHH income \$6,721.54, expenses \$3,753.33

Thanks, Rick, Heather, and many helpers!

HBC Officers

President – Julie McKenna
Vice President – Danica Vanderwaal
Secretary – Rob Psurny
Treasurer – Bob Stringer
Newsletter – Bruce Newell
Double Divide Ride – Rick Bush
One Helena Hundred – Heather Lambott
Past President – Kelly Flaherty-Settle

Reminder: HBC's October program is our annual meeting and election of officers. We are now accepting nominations for the upcoming election of officers for the 2012 HBC year. Nominations can be mailed to Danica Vanderwaal at prestigiousldy@aol.com the elections will be at the October meeting.