

NEABC

NORTHEAST
ARKANSAS
BICYCLE
COALITION



And now a word from the president...

As usual, it's been quite a month. Calls for more equitable transportation were heard, and the MPO cast its final vote in February FOR the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan which included many bike and pedestrian projects.

The national bicycle advocacy agencies sounded the alarm recently in response to the announcement that Rep. Mica (FL), the chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, would be hosting listening sessions across the country. Because Rep. Crawford sits on this committee, Jonesboro was chosen as one of the locations. While the public was not invited to speak or ask questions of the panel, NEABC submitted a written statement on

behalf of its members declaring our support for continued funding for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects including Safe Routes to School and the Transportation Enhancements program. As I'm sure you're all aware, funding is a hot topic, and we're waiting to see what the new transportation bill will look like. One thing is for sure, we need to make it clear that cycling and walking are TRANSPORTATION and not just recreation. The listening session was held Feb. 24th during the monsoon, so thank you to those who made it out.

All this rain and wind means one thing, though - SPRING!! And that means lots of bikey goodness! There

are lots of new events this year along with your old favorites. Stay tuned!

~ Sally Broadway



Northeast Arkansas Bicycle
Coalition

March 2011

The Northeast Arkansas Bicycle Coalition is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to:

-Promoting the use of bicycles as a means of transportation and recreation

-Making Northeast Arkansas A safer place for cyclists of all types through encouraging the development and utilization of facilities (bike paths, routes, lanes and trails)

-And providing education and information to motorists and cyclists about safety and



Women to Dominate Cycling Scene in NE Arkansas

The Plan: The only women's only cycling program of its kind in the state! Modeled after the ever-popular Women Can Run series, we will divide into groups based on fitness/comfort level on the bike and meet twice weekly for group rides. Participants will learn the basics of bicycle riding (shifting, breaking, etc), the rules of the road, group ride etiquette, maintenance, and more. Training goals and rides will be catered to meet the needs of each rider group.

Who Can Participate: Women ages 16 and up (under 18 must have parent's permission).

When: Saturday, May 14th, 9am: Orientation - Packet Pick-up, Road Skills 101

Sundays, May 15th - July 3rd, 2pm: Group Rides

Tuesdays, May 17th - July 5th, 5pm: Group Rides

Saturday, July 9th: Ride the Ridge Poker Run - Celebration Event

Additional clinics may be scheduled throughout at times and locations to be determined.

Where: SW Church of Christ Parking Lot, 1601 James Street, Jonesboro, AR

Registration Fees: \$15 for NEABC Members / \$20 for non-members (Fee includes a rockin' tech tee with the Women Can Ride logo.) Additional shirts may be ordered for \$20/shirt. Registration and liability waivers can be downloaded here: <http://www.neabicyclecoalition.org/womencanride>.

On Feb. 22, an amazing group of ladies gathered to begin organizing this event. Let me tell you, with these women at the helm, we are going to have one fantastic time. We encourage women of all abilities to join us, even if you were seven years old for your last bike ride!

Volunteers and sponsors are still needed and much appreciated!

Need another reason to bike your drive?

Avg. Price of Gas = \$3.43/gal

Did you know?

Some of the ways NEABC is working for you:

A Voice in Regional Planning

NEABC is represented with a seat on Jonesboro's Transportation Management Board. There is an NEABC board member at every Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting and very often at Jonesboro City Council meetings and other community planning meetings.

Share the Road Signage

Thanks to generous donors, there are now 65 Share the Road signs throughout Jonesboro and Craighead County

Infrastructure

Through a grant from New Belgium Brewery, we were able to create a pump track/mt. bike training park inside of Craighead Forest Park. We also partnered with Jonesboro Parks and Recreation to provide a grant worth \$5k to assist in funding the Greenway. With the students of the NEA Technical Center, we provided 21 bicycle racks for downtown Jonesboro.

Partnerships

NEABC partners with national organizations such as the League of American Bicyclists, the Alliance for Biking and Walking, and Safe Routes to School. We are also a part of the Arkansas Safe Routes to School State Network.

Community Outreach

NEABC provides safety and encouragement information during community events and as requested from other organizations .

Board of Directors

Sally Broadway - President
Dr. Jeffery Graham - Vice President
Troy Ratliff - Treasurer
Jason Broadway - Secretary
Jim Gann - Ridge Rider Rep.
Jeff Owens - Jonesboro Parks Dept.
Cecil McDonald
Jeff Herren

Join NEABC Today!

Individual Membership: \$30

Family Membership: \$50

Corporate Sponsor: \$150

Membership Benefits Include:

- 10% Discount -Gearhead Outfitters Bikeshop
- Monthly newsletter packed with information
- A voice in local and regional planning
- Updates and alerts about important issues and events locally and nationally
- Discounts to NEABC events
- Having a hand in creating a healthy, bike friendly NEA!!

NEABC Membership

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I do not wish to receive occasional email

Referred by: _____

Membership Type

Family - \$50

Individual - \$30

I'd also like to sponsor a Share the

Road sign - \$50

Corporate Sponsor - \$150

Additional Donation - \$_____

Total contribution - \$_____

Checks Payable to: Northeast Arkansas Bicycle Coalition
PO Box 892
Jonesboro, AR 72403

Kid's Corner

Make sure the bike fits the rider. A bike too big can cause accidents. Can you touch the ground with your toes while sitting on the seat? If not, try lowering the seat if possible. If you can't lower the seat, look for a smaller bike.

Contact Us:

On the Web

<http://neabicyclecoalition.org>

Email

info@neabicyclecoalition.org

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!
(NEABC)

NEABC

PO BOX 892

JONESBORO, AR 72403

For Your Calendar:

March 15 - 6pm NEABC Meeting
Jonesboro The Spot (above Piero's)

March 19 - 8am Turtle Creek Greenway
2 mile run/walk ridgerider.org
Jonesboro