

# NEABC

NORTHEAST  
ARKANSAS  
BICYCLE  
COALITION



## And now a word from the president...

NEABC is celebrating its 2nd birthday, and what an amazing two years it's been! Who woulda thunk it?! We've made a lot of progress, and gotten quite a lot of attention for being the little advocacy group that could. But - what next?

Here's what I think (in no particular order really):

- Jonesboro needs a Complete Streets Ordinance, basically meaning that new roads get built with all users in mind.

- Jonesboro Public Schools needs to rethink the "no bicycles on elementary campuses" policy.

- We need to educate teachers, law enforcement, drivers, and future educators about the rights and responsibilities of cyclists (and pedestrians). (Fayetteville has an excellent program to model.)

- We need more bicycle friendly businesses throughout NEA.

- Jonesboro and other communities should work toward obtaining Bicycle Friendly Community status.

Ok, so that's no small list and that's only what I can think of quickly. I'm sure there are other things you could add to the list as well. Here's the only catch. These things take a lot of man (or woman) power and community partners. The changes that have happened in the cycling community in NEA didn't happen without a ton of hard work, and the changes we want to see won't happen if we don't continue to keep at it.

Hopefully, someday we'll have grown to the point of being able to support an executive director. Believe me, there's enough work to keep one plenty busy! Until then, we rely on our

board and volunteers. With that in mind, I urge you to join us on April 19th for our annual business meeting and board elections. I hope that you'll consider what you can bring to this organization and where you'd like to see us go. I'm excited to see where the next years and your ideas and involvement will take us... and I hope you are, too!

~tailwinds,  
Sally Broadway

Northeast Arkansas Bicycle  
Coalition

April 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

## April Events

- April 16th - 7am - Ride For the Cure - ASU Convo Center
- April 17th - 2pm - Women Can Ride - Leader Training- Allen Park
- April 19th - 6pm - NEABC Annual Business Meeting - The Spot (above Piero's)
- April 21st - 9am - Earth Day Tree Planting - Greenway Wetland Area (Highland Dr)
- April 21st - 11am-3pm - ASU Earth Day Celebration



**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, 5:30pm:** Group Rides

**Thursday May 19th 6:30-8pm** Ladies' Night at Gearhead

**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 women's vneck 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.neabcyclecoalition.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!

**Thank you to Sylvan Learning Centers of Jonesboro and LARABAR for supporting Women Can Ride!**

## 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

If your kid is struggling with riding without training wheels, try taking off the pedals, lowering their seat and letting them "walk" their bike. This helps them learn balance. Then, put the pedals back on once they learn to balance and send them on their way!

## 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:

May 7 - Gearhead Tri

May 7 - MayFest in Blythville, AR

May 20 - Bike to Work Day