

THE SPOKE 'N WORD



London - Photo by Chris Read

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The next issue will be out in December

OCC: Onondaga Cycling Club is a Central New York State non-profit organization that facilitates the participation in the sport of bicycling. The club schedules and conducts bicycle rides, tours and sporting events from March through November. Meetings and social occasions are held throughout the year. Our Web-site is at: <http://www.onondagacyclingclub.org>. The OCC email discussion list (listserver) can be subscribed to from our Web site.

We welcome these new members:

Nancy Garofano
Neel Garofano
Brian Williams
Chris Williams
Dave Williams
Mike Williams

2008 members: 485
2009 members: 25



Membership

Decals available!

If you want a decal with the OCC logo and in OCC colors, please contact Bob Ruth. The decals have the adhesive on the front, so they should be attached to the inside of the (car) window.

OCC Annual Banquet – Save the date!

by Joanne Yaworsky



The annual banquet will be held Friday, January 23, 2009 at the DoubleTree Hotel off route 298 in East Syracuse (formerly the Marriott Hotel). Cocktail hour with a cash bar including light hors d'oeuvres begins at 6:30PM followed by a full buffet dinner at 7:30PM. A tossed salad with choice of dressings and warm rolls and butter will be served followed by the buffet which will include a fresh fruit salad, chef's chicken, sliced London Broil with sherry mushroom sauce, spinach and cheese stuffed ravioli tossed with a red pepper coulis, chef's potato, fresh vegetables, assorted dessert bar, and coffee, tea, or decaf.

Officers for 2009 will be voted on and elected, awards for our 2008 cyclists will be presented and of course, we will have many wonderful door prizes! This should be a fun event at the new location so please come and bring a guest! The price will be \$25 for adults and children 16 and under are free. Please note that this year, the banquet will be held on a **FRIDAY** as opposed to SATURDAY as in past years. The deadline for

reservations and payment is Friday, January 16, 2009. To sign up now, mail your check to Onondaga Cycling Club, PO Box 6307, Syracuse, NY 13217-6307.

Syracuse Grand Prix Cyclocross

by Jochen Woicke

On October 18, the OCC hosted the 2008 edition of the Syracuse Grand Prix Cyclocross at Long Branch Park in Liverpool. At 7.00 a.m., the set-up crew started to put up the barriers and tape the course, which again was designed by our experts Eddie Luban and Erik Wennberg. This year's course had a few additions which challenged the technical skills of the racers and made the course a little longer than in the years before. The new course layout received very positive comments



Jeff Walker and Dave Faso. Photo by Marlene Cleary/Lynn Douglas

from participants. For the first time, the race scoring was facilitated through chip timing; accurate, quick results were available in print ap-

proximately 3 minutes after the last rider completed the course.

The first race for the women, master's women, juniors, and master's men categories started at 11.00 a.m. and was scheduled for 45 minutes. The 60-minute race for the open-men field took off at 12.30 p.m. The kids race was held between the two events, they raced three shortened laps in two groups. The participation in the kids race was amazing: 22 young racers, 21 of which were from b.i.k.e. Syracuse.

Top Finishers:

Open Women (6 participants):

1st Sarah Krzusiak, 2nd Anne August, 3rd Shana Lydon

Masters Women (6 participants):

1st Ruth Sherman, 2nd Katina Walker, 3rd Margaret Thompson, 4th Kate Stewart

Juniors (2 participants):

1st Eli Robinson, 2nd Adam Luban

Masters Men (29 participants):

1st Rich Rutishauser, 2nd David Faso, 3rd Jeff Walker, 4th Greg Drumm, 5th Ad Stabel

Open Men (47 participants):

1st Dan Staffo, 2nd Matthew Dickinson, 3rd Peter Ozolins, 4th Andy August, 5th Wayne Bray

Detailed results with times and number of laps are posted on the Cyclocross section of the OCC website.

Overall, the whole event was a huge success, a total of 90 racers in the main categories participated (plus 22 in the kids race); racers, spectators, and volunteers, everybody seemed to have a great time, in particular the kids. Also the weather was extremely cooperative: a beautiful bright and sunny fall day. A few days before the race, there was substantial rain which ensured

authentic cyclocross conditions on parts of the course.

The success of an event like this is highly dependent on our volunteers. Without their dedication and help, the race would not have been possible. I want to thank our volunteers full heartedly, also in the name of the OCC BOD: David Baker, Anthony Baleno, Marlene Cleary, Andrew D'Agati, Chuck Dominick, Bill Goffe, Don Healey, Adam Luban, Eddie Luban, Mike Lyon, Al Martinez, Wayne Miner, Kristin Mullally, Kate Stewart, Rich Veenstra, Katina Walker, Jeff Walker, Erik Wennberg, and Käthe Woicke.

Another big thank you goes to our local bike shops.: Advanced Cyclery, Bicycle Alley, Bike Loft, Bikery, and Wayne's and Meltzer's Syracuse Bicycle. They supported our race by providing awards for the top finishers.

A wonderful day in a beautiful park with excellent sport and the company of your buddies from the OCC, who can ask for more? If you have regrets that you missed it - wait, there will be another one: The date for next year has been set and confirmed: Sunday, October 18, 2009.



The Kids Cyclocross Race - Photo by Alberto

University Hill Project Update

by Wayne Miner

At the end of October the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) held an Open House to solicit feedback and to update the public on the next steps in the University Hill Bicycle Network Project. The following article is a synopsis of that meeting, some of the resulting recommendations and the follow-up steps to be pursued by the SMTC as it works to the project report it will present to the City of Syracuse before the end of the year.

For those of you who may not be familiar with the project, it is a proposed bicycle network to be developed within the University Hill area within the City of Syracuse. If implemented by the City the end result will be a bicycle network involving striped and segregated bike lanes, signage, bike facilities, and the implementation of traffic calming measures to create a safer and more bicycle friendly environment. Additionally, two long-term goals beyond the project are to link this network to future bike lanes and to continue to work to encourage bicycling as an alternate mode of transportation. For additional information, an overview of the project was published in the club's August newsletter, which can be found at the following link:

<http://onondagacyclingclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/08/august08-lr.pdf>

As a next step in the planning process the SMTC took the feedback received during its May public workshop and created numerous recommendations, which were presented at the most recent meeting. In developing these recommendations

the SMTC coupled the public input with an evaluation technique known as "appropriateness measures." These measures evaluated the elements of safety, design potential and connectivity. For example, safety looked at issues such as traffic volume and speed, the presence of signals and the quality of the road surface, to name a few. Design potential looked at road and lane width, topography and the presence of parking. Lastly, the measure of connectivity looked at connections to existing bike lanes, common destinations within the network, access to bus routes, and the overall quality of the user experience.

The final objective of the evaluation was to generate recommendations identifying a bicycle network including lane treatments and bike facilities that can readily be implemented by both the City and Syracuse University.

Among these recommendations were both street specific and network-wide improvements. The network-wide improvements included the development of consistent bike network signage, required covered bike parking through city zoning, encouragement of employer-based incentives for bike commuting, increased enforcement of bike and vehicular traffic violations, and the institution of elementary school curriculum on bike and pedestrian safety, to name a few.

Among the street specific recommendations there were 9 streets identified for treatments. These streets were parts of South Crouse, University and Waverly avenues, segments of East Genesee and Comstock, as well as parts of Irving, Raynor, Renwick and a small segment of East Castle Street.

For example the recommendations for South Crouse Street and University Avenue are presented on the next page. Additionally, if you

look closely at the pictures you'll recognize some fellow OCC rider, which through some technology magic were placed into SMTC presentation.



Option A - South Crouse is converted to a two-way street with bike lanes on either side of the road. Additionally, University is also converted to a two-way.



Option B – South Crouse stays one-way with a bike lane on the left side. University is converted to a two-way street.



Option C - South Crouse stays as a one-way with a bike lane on the right side of the road headed north. University stays as a one-way street with a bike lane also to the right side and headed south.

Other recommendations included a “road diet” of Comstock converting it from four lane road to one with a single north and southbound lanes and the addition of a turning lane in the center of the road. Bicycle lanes are then placed at both the north and southbound shoulders of the road. This is similar to what has already been accomplished on E. Genesee Street between Hurlburt Ave. and the Dewitt town line.

For pictures of the above as well as additional recommendations follow the link to the SMTC’s presentation found at http://www.smtcmpo.org/DocsFP/Meetings/2008-10_bike_network_open_house.pdf

The next step in the planning process is to present a final draft report to the Study Advisory Committee (SAC). This committee is composed of representation from the City of Syracuse, Syracuse Onondaga County Planning Agency (SOCPA), Onondaga County Department of Transportation, New York State Department of Transportation, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, Syracuse University,

University Hill Corporation, BikeCNY and, of course, the Onondaga Cycling Club.

After the SAC has approved the final draft the SMTC will then present the project to the

Mayor's office with recommendation for implementation to be carried out by the City. For additional information about the project contact Mario Colone at the SMTC mcolone@smtcmpo.org

Board of Directors

Club Officers

President	Bill Goffe
Vice-President	Wayne Miner
Secretary	Tony Baleno
Treasurer	Mike Lyon

Board of Directors and Assignments

Fall Century	Marcello Pratico, Rich Veenstra	Merchandise	Kelly Wheeler
Membership/Insurance	Bob Ruth	Time Trial	Sam Sampere
Newsletter Editor/ Advocacy	Gianfranco Vidali Wayne Miner, Gianfranco Vidali, Anne Diekema	Publicity	Wayne Miner
Banquet	Joanne Yaworsky	At Large	Pat Reid, Doug Taylor,
Racing/USCF Liaison	Sam Sampere, Marcello Pratico	Web-site Manager	Marcello Pratico
		Ride Schedule	Rich Veenstra
		4th of July Century	Bob Spear

Other Positions

Earth Day Clean-up	John Baker	Equipment	Jack Lancette
Annual Picnic	Chad Bradshaw	E-map Designer	Jeff Palmer
Vacation Ride	Joan Youngwirth, Jimmy Ryan	Listserver Admin	Tim Bingham
Point and Mileage	Jim Price	Map Distribution	Rich Veenstra
Long Distance Riding	Jennifer Barber		

Classified

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For sale:

Downsizing due to injury. Two (2) Custom Mountain Bikes: Santa Cruz Superlight (Price: \$800.00) and Santa Cruz Blur (Price: \$2,000.00), small frames, full suspension, hydraulic disc brakes, top components, yearly maintenance performed.

Ellie Sheldon

(315) 668-3047

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