

NEW ORLEANS BICYCLE CLUB, INC.



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THE ANNUAL N.O.B.C. AWARDS BANQUET and general end-of-the-season bash will be held this weekend on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 at the home of Stan Truxillo. Stan's address is 5115 Bancroft Dr. in New Orleans (That's near the Lake and Bayou St. John). The affair will begin at 11:30 am, and will include food and drink, the awarding of trophies to winners of the Time Trial Series, club Best-all-'round, most improved rider, best novice, NOBC winners in State Championships, etc. District Representative Sally Draper will present Medals to all those who placed in USCF district championships. In addition, there will be the election of 1983 club officers. Everyone is encouraged to bring whatever dishes, chips, etc. as might be handy, although the club will supply drinks and other goodies. It might be a good idea to call Stan (283-6735) if you're bringing a covered dish, so as to avoid too many duplications. Absolutely everyone should attend this banquet because of the elections, and because it is a good chance to get to know those people you've been riding with all year. Feel free to bring family or friends along. See you there!

It struck me around the middle of the year that very few NOBC riders were aware of the history of the NOBC, myself included. So, here is what I dug up, largely with the help of Barrett Leibe, who edited the first newsletter of the current NOBC back in August of 1968. At that point, the club had been in existence for about a year, and was composed of 23 members. Of this roster, I recognized a few names such as Jim Hayes and Bob Perrin (who rode as a team in this year's 2-person Time Trial) & Barrett Leibe (who rode in a number of races this year). Dues were \$1.00 per year. Racing in N.O. apparently started in the summer of 1967 when Jim Ohman met George Calongne riding an American bike near City Park. They soon began riding regularly, and were joined by Al Calongne, Bob Perrin, Jim Hawes, and eventually the rest of the club. In 1968, the club affiliated itself with the Amateur Bicycle League of America (which later was renamed the United States Cycling Federation. The club was also a member of the League of American Wheelmen at this time. The State Championships that year included a 4000 meter Time Trial (6:04.5), a Senior 10 mile race (0:28:02), and a 50 mile Road Race which was won by Jim Ohman with a time of 3:10. Barrett wrote, "Adult serious cycling doesn't exist in the South and we hope it will grow." Well, it has, although it has not yet grown to the point of the unmanageable fields now found in the Northeast and on the Pacific coasts. They did, after all, have a head start of at least 5 years. I think we can all be quite proud to be members of the N.O.B.C. We have been an organized club now for over 15 years, which is a longevity equalled by only a handful of other racing clubs in the United States. An amateur club only survives for this length of time through the diligent efforts of all its members.

EVER WONDER just where you stand with respect to the other traffic on the road? The rules of the road for bicycles are specifically covered by Louisiana law (R.S. 32:191, sub-part G). There are a number of laws in this section which should be obvious (riding on your handlebars is illegal), but the gist of the law is as follows. While on your bike, you have all the rights and responsibilities of any other road user (except on interstate highways, where you are prohibited). You must therefore obey all traffic rules and regulations.

THE NATIONAL VETERAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, held in early October in Tallahassee, Florida were attended by Vets Stanton Truxillo, Mike McCutcheon, and by Master Billy Richards. In the 25mi Time Trial, a newcomer from Hawaii blew the doors off the rest of the Vets, posting an incredible 0:55:29.5, which, by the way, is half a minute faster than our Senior State record set this year by Brian Roberts (0:56:09). The Best placing by an NOBC rider (the envelope please) was a fantastic 12th by Stan Truxillo with a 0:59:05.5. Billy Richards showed his stuff in the Masters event by placing a super 11th with a 1:04:24.2. Not bad performances for a couple of old men!! (Not bad for lots of seniors I know either!) In the Road event, Stan continued his enviable performance by placing 14th, just missing the crucial break which contained the first three finishers. Billy Richards finished credibly in the road event, albiet off the back. OK guys, if you can just cut four lousy MINUTES off those time trial times....

NATIONAL TIME TRIAL RECORDS were set recently by Louisiana cyclists in a record attempt sponsored by the Baton Rouge Bicycle Racing Club. Brian Apsey went to considerable effort to have the course on HWY 55 between LaPlace and Pass Manchac surveyed and certified. Meanwhile, Brian Roberts shamed a number of local cyclists into taking the USCF officials certification exam, which brought the La. total up to eight certified officials. (Contact Sally Draper to take this brief exam) Brian was shooting for records in the 75, 100, 125, and 150 mile time trials, but the 95 degree heat and increasing wind forced him to end his attempt at 125 miles. Nonetheless, Brian set new National records for 75 miles (3:09:18), 100 miles (4:16:42), and 125 miles (5:38:37) before nearly collapsing at the 125 mile turn-around. Brian's first two 25 mile times were 1:02 s, and his 100 mile record represents four 1:04 time trials back-to-back. Quite impressive. Brian rides for Skunk River Cyclists in his home state of Iowa, and has been very active in local events this year. Equally impressive was the performance of NOBC Veteran Denis Carroll, who broke the old Senior 100 mile record on his way to setting national Veteran records for 50, 75, and 100 miles. Denis rode a 2:08:12 50 miles, a 3:19:43 75 miles, and a 4:34:48 100 mile Time Trial. Linda Tischer of Mississippi established Veteran Womans records of 2:38:29, 4:06:09, and 5:33:23 for 50, 75, and 100 miles respectively. Everyone present was impressed with such fine performances in what will undoubtedly become an annual event.

HOT NEWS for all you money-hungry racers: The USCF, following the lead of the UCI, has increased the maximum prize per day to \$1000 for amateur events. The USCF gets 10% of anything over \$200 per day.

THE FIRST NOBC MEETING of 1983 will be held the second week of January. At this meeting the strategy for the coming year will be discussed, and the schedule for spring and summer will be made up. If you would like to promote a club race in '83 (PLEASE!), then make it a point to be present at this meeting. Time and location will be decided at the Banquet this week.

HOT OFF THE PRESSES: Club B.A.R.: 1st Senior-Robin Robert, 2nd Sr.-Glen Gulotta, 3rd Sr.-Tom Finklea. 1st. Jr.-John McAllister, 2nd Jr.-Chris Laporte, 3rd Jr.-Stephen Ziegler. 1st Vet.-Stan Truxillo, 2nd Vet.-Denis Carroll, 3rd Vet.-Jim Bergin.