

BY THE NUMBERS

Easy, Riders

No trek is too far, no hill too steep, and no pancake too fluffy for the members of the Central Indiana Bicycling Association (and the nonmember cyclists who love them). *By Susan Brackney*

2,099

Members of the all-volunteer Central Indiana Bicycling Association (CIBA)

244

Members who are kids

79

Difference in age between the youngest (age 3) and oldest (age 82) members

400,000

Miles logged by all CIBA members annually (estimated)

4

Percentage of pedalers who actually report their annual mileage

252,202

Miles those 4 percent racked up last year

33,452

How many of those miles were logged during commutes

2

Number of cyclists legally allowed to ride abreast on the road

13

Indiana cyclist traffic fatalities (2005 number)

625

Number of training rides organized by CIBA

73

Free weekend rides planned for 2007

136,875

Weekend ride miles logged per year (estimate)

75

Participating riders per CIBA event

225

Pancakes consumed by CIBA members after a typical weekend ride*

763

Miles of state trails that can be used for walking, hiking, horseback riding, and, yes, bicycling

312

Miles designated as on-road bike trails in the state

300

Miles of off-road bike trails in Indiana

2

Fund-raising rides CIBA members participate in annually

23,055

Membership dues, in dollars, collected last year to cover CIBA awards, ride-planning, and operating expenses

25

Cost, in dollars, of a one-year family membership (singles pay \$20)

130,941

Dollars given by the CIBA Foundation since 1997 for grants to provide helmets for Boy Scouts, help the Indianapolis Police Department, assist with the Hendricks County and Monon trails, and more

250

Members of HOOT (Hoosiers Out On Tandems, estimate)

15,000

Price, in dollars, for a custom tandem bike at Matthews Bicycles

34.2

Hours per week the average cyclist spends thinking about riding*

*Indianapolis Monthly estimate



BUY OF THE MONTH

Cruise Ship

An easy-to-ride bike means you have no more excuses.

Haven't been on a bike for 20 years? That's not surprising: All the talk of titanium alloys, twist shifters, and carbon cranksets has made buying a bike—or worse yet, riding one—a bit intimidating for the casual cyclist. But take heart: Bike-makers have caught on that many people (hello, baby boomers!) want simple vehicles they can use to ride to work, cruise the Monon Trail, or run errands, not train for the Tour de France.

The answer is coasting bikes—as easy to ride as the bike you had as a kid. A coaster requires no shifting (models with more than one speed shift themselves automatically), and you brake by pedaling backward. Coasting bikes are designed for comfort—cushy seats, riser handlebars that don't require you to crouch, and shock-absorbing seat posts. And in a world where a high-tech seat can cost \$400, coasting bikes are relatively inexpensive. Bicycle Garage Indy carries the Suede Coasting model by Giant, a three-speed, aluminum-frame bike that comes with a bell on the handlebar and a kickstand. It's \$499 (or \$699 fully loaded, as shown). 4130 E. 82nd St., 842-4140; 997 E. County Line Rd., Greenwood, 885-7194

—Liz Joss



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