



TRI-STATE TRAIL VISION VOICE

May Bike Rodeos

By Rob Williams

Now that we are in the early days of summer, let’s recap the events of Bike Month 2018 – also known as May. To kick off local events, two bicycle rodeos were held the week of Bike to School Day. On Tuesday, May 8th, the Dubuque Bike Coop hosted the Bee Branch Bike Rodeo at the Audubon Elementary playground with assistance with the Dubuque Police Department. We had six youngsters bring their bikes by for safety checks, and front and rear lights were installed. Turnout was less than desirable, mainly due to the elementary school track meet being that same evening.

Bike to School Day was also celebrated at Bryant Elementary on Thursday, May 10th and was a huge success. Normally there would be anywhere from 3-5 bikes parked at the rack behind school. On that particular Thursday, however, over 60 bikes took over the Bryant playground! The Bike Coop was on hand to perform safety checks and install front/rear lights, and the Dubuque Police Department taught the “rules of the road” to ensure summer safety.

Bike to Work Week Recap

By Rob Williams

Bike to Work Week was celebrated the week of May 14 through 18 with Mayor Buol making a Bike Month proclamation. Despite several postings on social media, bus banners and flyers, only ten people registered via our online survey. The Bike Coop had one person take advantage of their “free bike” during BTWW and a public maintenance clinic hosted by the Coop and TMBR at DubuqueFest was also poorly attended, though several people took advantage of the bike valet setup at DubuqueFest. After discussion with several others heavily involved in the local bicycling community, many thought that with the late winter, Dubuquers just weren’t ready to think about biking yet.

Nevertheless, planning on BTWW 2019 has already started with plans to make better use of online and local media. We will strive to have door prizes available from local businesses for those who post “selfies” with their bikes at their places of employment. Other ideas include sharing commuting trips and posting on social media with the hashtag #dubuquebikes. Additional discussion and ideas on how to improve Dubuque’s “bikeability” always welcome!

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IPP and John Deere Mt. Bike Trail Update

By Will Hoyer

Progress continues on the new single-track mountain bike system being constructed at Interstate Power Preserve (IPP) south of Dubuque. This county-owned preserve will, by sometime late this summer or early fall, be open for riding and feature 7 miles of professionally-built trails on the steep, wooded terrain.

(Cont’d on p. 2)

Mountain Bike Trail Update (Cont'd from p. 1)

Trail construction has been slowed somewhat due to recent wet weather, but already nearly two miles of trails have been built by Landowski Trailworx, one of the Midwest's premier trail-building companies. Despite the heavy rains, a walking tour of what has already been constructed showed the value of expert construction, with very little damage from runoff.

TMBR has completed fundraising for the IPP trails, raising \$175,000 from many donors, including substantial contributions from the Wellmark Foundation, ITC, the McCoy Group, Grant Wood Loop, Hodge, Richard Biechler, and McGraw-Hill.

In May an exciting new trail project was announced, with John Deere Dubuque Works donating 137 acres to Dubuque County for a new park on Dubuque's north end. This park, located across the road from the Deere facility, will feature a new picnic pavilion and disc golf course as well as new trails. TMBR is working closely with Dubuque County to raise the estimated \$350,000 necessary to build out the park and has already identified funding for over \$200,000. Like at IPP, single-track trails at the yet-to-be-named park will likely total around 6 to 7 miles, and construction will be completed next year.

Between the trails that opened last year at Asbury's Cloie Creek Park, the Interstate Power Preserve, the John Deere project, and others that are in the developmental stage, TMBR is well on its way toward achieving its goal of being designated a Ride Center by the International Mountain Bike Association by 2025. For more information about TMBR, these projects, or to donate, please visit <http://www.tnbrtrails.org>.

Chavenelle Trail Update

By Dianne Koch

City Engineer Jon Dienst recently updated Tri-State Trail Vision on the status of the Chavenelle Trail from the Northwest Arterial to Radford Road. Construction of the trail is delayed as Chavenelle Road has become a busy detour for the SW Arterial and Old Highway Road intersection. Also Chavenelle itself is to be redone next year, so it was determined that the road and the bike lane would be done concurrently. He assures us that the project will occur next year.

Dickeyville, Wisconsin Company, 1Up USA, Manufactures Bike Racks

The Tri-state area has a bike manufacturer in our midst. Since 2001, 1Up USA has been designing and selling bike racks and biking accessories. Recently featured in a TMBR Facebook post, here is an excerpt:

[TMBR is feeling excited at 1upUSA.](#)

July 2 at 5:15 AM · Dickeyville, WI ·

TMBR is excited to introduce a first year sponsor, 1UP USA. 1UP manufactures the best mountain bike rack available, just up the road in Dickeyville, WI. These rugged racks are all metal and all parts are made in the USA, ensuring they are built to last. Their unique design eliminates the annoying wobble you get with most racks and keeps your bikes incredibly secure without any contact with the frame. They also offer roof racks, cargo carriers, trainers and rollers. Show your support of local manufacturing and job growth by purchasing your next bike rack from 1UP USA.

Check out their website at <https://www.1up-usa.com/>

Dubuque Riding Adventures Checklist

By Dianne Koch

Riding bicycles in Dubuque is getting easier every season. Listed below are a number of popular routes or trails throughout Dubuque. See how many you have ridden.

Favorite, scenic places include:

- South Grandview Avenue
- the Riverfront at the Grand River Convention Center
- the Riverfront at Chaplain Schmitt Island through Miller Park and along the Peosta Channel
- the Floodwall Trail from 16th Street north to the Lock and Dam
- the Eagle Point Park Trail starting at the Ham House and proceeding through Eagle Point Park
- the Bee Branch Trail
- Heritage Trail
- the John Deere Marsh Trail
- the Northwest Arterial Trail from Hwy 52 to Pennsylvania Avenue
- Asbury Cloie Park Mountain Bike Trail
- Bergfeld Pond Trail to Middle Road
- the Mines of Spain
- the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Hwy 52 from Key West to St. Donatus to Bellevue
- the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Hwy 52 from Sageville to Sherrill to Balltown and northward

Access the Accessories

By Dianne Koch

Both Free Flight owner Brian Walsh and Bicycle World owner Parrish Marugg report that Daytime Running Lights by Bontrager have become an excellent safety feature for all bike owners. The intensely bright lights are highly visible even on sunny days. Bontrager manufactures a front and rear light set that retails for \$69. The 65-lumen rear light can be seen from 2 kilometers away.

This is part of Trek's ongoing research that focuses on increasing biker visibility to motorists. More information can be found at: https://www.trekbikes.com/us/en_US/daytime_running_lights/

Brian Walsh also notes that Garmin continues to add features to their bike computers, especially sending a rider's statistics to Strava automatically. Reflective shoes and socks are other items that merit a look, too. Riders may want to check these out.



Bontrager
Ion 100 R/Flare R City Light Set



Garmin Edge 705



DeFeet Aireater D-Logo Socks by Sigma Sports

Galena River Trail

By Dianne Koch

Looking for a trail just outside of Dubuque that would be new to you? The Galena River Trail, just under the Galena River Bridge, might be your next adventure. Begin by driving on Highway 20 east over the Galena River Bridge, taking a left on Park Avenue, a left on Bouthillier Street and go to the far end of the Depot Park parking lot.

The walking trail, 3.4 miles long, parallels the Galena River, is free, and has some interpretive trail signage regarding history, geology, and wildlife. The finely crushed gravel trail allows for mountain, hybrid, and even road bikes to move easily. The trail goes to Galena Junction, a former train station, which is also where the Galena River meets the Mississippi. The trail then turns south through the Aiken area. This 2.7 mile segment has a parking lot on North Pilot Knob Road. A third segment, more of a lane-road trail, runs south past Chestnut Mountain. Plans are in the works for all of these segments to become part of the Great Illinois Trail and connect with the existing trail in Savanna. A detailed map can be found at [Galena River Trail map](#).

Meanwhile, walkers, joggers, birders, and cross-country skiers are not the only ones who can enjoy the trail. The Galena River parallels the trail and offers paddling opportunities. Water trail users can rent from the Galena River Outfitters or bring their own kayak or canoe. The free parking and public dock at Depot Park also includes a canoe or kayak launch system.

Recently Kevin and I floated on the river during a hot day. The close banks provided much appreciated shade. We could see some of the beautiful buildings of downtown Galena from the river. White star-like clustered flowers, similar to Queen Anne's Lace, edged the banks. Although the water was high, due to Mississippi high waters, the Galena River was certainly manageable with no discernible current. Blue skies, a refreshing new spot, and satisfying float all make for a pleasant day.



Enjoy the Tri-States via trails!

