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**FCC SEEKS
VOLUNTEERS
SEE PAGE 2**

**FAIRBANKS GOES
TO THE ALASKA
FAT BIKE EXPO**

UPCOMING EVENTS:
TOF: Thurs 6/9 - Sun 6/12
CHSB Classic: Sun 6/26

WEEKLY RIDES:
Mtn Bikes Tuesdays, 7pm
WOW Wednesdays, 6pm
LOL Thursdays, 6pm
Road Rides Saturdays, 8am
SCUM Wednesdays,
5:30pm & Sundays, 11am

SPOKE 'N WORD

Fairbanks Participates in Inaugural AK Fat Bike Expo

Written by Rachael Kvapil , Photo by Andy Romang



Traveling 300 miles for a 5 mile ride might seem extreme, but I just couldn't pass up the chance to participate in the inaugural 2016 Fat Bike Expo & Big Fat Ride. Yes, Fairbanks had all the snow. Yes, the expo itself had only a handful of vendors; primarily from the Anchorage and surrounding areas. However, the event coordinators were on a mission: remind the world that fat biking was born in Alaska by rallying as many riders during the Fur Rondy Winter Festival.

Five hundred riders of all levels showed up at the start of a 5 mile recreational ride through downtown to Westchester Lagoon and the

Coastal Trail. I convinced my friend that this would be a great first-time ride for her. The snow trucked in for the dog mushing events was already packed down and the icy trails made for an easy ride. At the end everyone hung out for cookies, cheering on others at the finish. Overall, the event succeeded in connecting riders from different communities.

The expo provided an educational component, as riders were introduced to organizations advocating on behalf of cyclists in all forms along with different places to plan an extended winter bike trip. Experienced fat bikers also gave presentations throughout the weekend. Naturally, commercial vendors were on hand with customized gear, next gen components, and frames that weighed less than my first born child.

Many stayed an extra day to watch the start of the Iditarod Trail Invitational in which several FCC members competed (congratulations all of you). Still a novice, I opted for a guided tour where I had a chance to cheer on the lead riders for a whole 8 seconds. Totally worth the 300 miles I would drive home the next day.

Upcoming Events & Rides

Tour of Fairbanks

There's still time to get in on the last day of the Tour of Fairbanks on Sunday June 12th! Sunday is the Stage 5: Kunkel Time Trial, starting at 9:30am for racers. This stage leaves from the Ken Kunkel Community Center and heads to Cleary Summit and back. For Sportif riders who'd like to enjoy the route without the race, start time is at 8:45am. Banquet at 11:30am.

Chena Hot Springs Bike Classic

The CHSBC will take place on Sunday, June 26th, 2016. "The Classic" has been happening since the eighties and is signature event in the summer. The cycling event offers something for everyone - from the fast cyclist to the family with kids.

Choose from a 60, 33, 17 or 8 mile ride that ends at Chena Hot Springs Resort. All riders receive an end-of-ride picnic, a free soak in the hot springs and a ride back to town for the rider and their bike.

Pre-Registration is \$35 for adults, \$20 for children 12 and under, and a \$75 cap for families. All FCC members receive \$5 off. Note that if you registered and paid in full for the 2015 ride that was canceled due to unhealthy smoke levels, you are all set for the 2016!

Register online at www.fairbankscycleclub.org/Events/2016/chsbc.shtml

Weekly Rides

Tuesday Night Mountain Bike Rides: These trail rides will take place every Tuesday evening throughout the summer, rain or shine. Be ready to ride at 7:00PM, rain or shine. Skill level varies with ride. See website for weekly meeting spot.

LOL (Ladies of Leisure) Rides: This is a "get out and ride" weekly rides for women that is slow to

medium paced. Bring whatever type of bike you have. This ride meets Thursdays at the UAF Nenana Parking Lot (unless otherwise noted) at 6:00pm, ready to ride. Snacks and gabbing always follow.

WOW (Women on Wheels) Ride: For the intermediate to fast paced ladies, this is a weekly road bike ride. This ride meets Wednesdays at the UAF Nenana Parking Lot at 6:00pm, ready to ride.

SCUM on Wheels: Moderate paced road rides "for old guys." These rides meet at the UAF Patty Center on Sundays at 11:00am and Wednesdays at 5:30pm, ready to ride.

Group Road Rides: Fast paced road rides with training in mind, this weekly ride meets at Goldstream Sports on Saturdays at 8:00am, ready to ride.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are lots of volunteer opportunities available this summer and on-going!

Midnight Sun Run Leaders: 6-10 riders are needed to lead the MSR runners on Saturday 6/18 at 10pm. Contact Liam at 455-8448.

Trail Work: Interested in helping occasionally clean up and clear trails? Contact Geoff Orth at 479-0049 or 460-4390.

Webmaster: Do you have web skills? We need you! The FCC is still looking for a webmaster. Contact Tom Clark at aksnowbiker@gmail.com.

Commuting Ambassador: Are you a commuter, summer or winter? We are looking for a *Commuting Ambassador* to help get the word out on safe riding and show people how fun and easy commuting can be! Contact Rachael at pres@fairbankscycleclub.org.

Want to contribute to our monthly newsletter? We'd love to publish your cycling adventures and photos! Email sec@fairbankscycleclub.org.