

August 3, 2006

August Meeting, Cane Creek Race, Trail Updates

For starters, I just wanted to remind EVERYONE that there is NO August meeting tonight. I have caught a little grief over the cancellation, but there are many conflicting activities scheduled for this evening and our summer attendance has been a little off. Suffice it to say that I will use today's Blog to discuss the various ongoing activities.

The Cane Creek Cup Series makes its annual stop at the USNWC (Catawba) on Sunday, August 20th. We are in need of volunteers for everything from registration to timing and scoring, course marshals, you name it. Our resident cycling promoter, Neal Boyd, will once again be leading the charge. A great article on Neal and the Summer Mountain Bike Series can be found [here](#).

To volunteer for the upcoming race, please contact Neal at: nealboyd@charlottesportscycling.com.

We have a workday at Catawba, scheduled for this coming Sunday, August 6th. Mike Kafsky of the USNWC is spearheading the project along with the Trailblazer faithful. Efforts to complete and open the park continue and I'm certain the White Water faithful are every bit as excited to get in there as we are. Additional scheduling information can be found, [here](#).

Jerry Adams and Steve Kiker continue to lead the trail building effort at Sherman Branch Park. Jerry tells me that he has approximately 4 miles of trail currently cut and groomed. We have recently had a shift in leadership over the park and we are excited to forge a fresh relationship with our new contact at Parks and Rec.

No news is good news concerning our grant application for construction of a trail network in Mt. Holly. We are still in the system and are hopeful of hearing of our status in the near future. Jeff Smith, with the help of Brian Hines, continues to do battle for the club in this arena.

Fall is just around the corner and with the fall of leaves will come the layout of a new trail at Jetton Park, on Lake Norman in Cornelius. The +/- 19 acre parcel of land will be home to the first handicap accessible mountain bike (pedal chair) trails in the area. Or according to IMBA's Woody Keen, the first trails of this nature, anywhere. It looks like we'll be writing the book on this one. It should be a fun project and several of us are looking forward to getting underway.

And while we're discussing Lake Norman, Water bOb Karriker and Jeff Archer have led a total of four workdays at LNSP over the past two months, working on small issues that have led to trail closures due to rain. The repairs should make the trail drain better and hopefully lead to less closures, or at least shorter closures, in the future. Construction of the new Monbo Loop has been halted for the summer months, but will resume this fall. Only 1.5 miles of trail remains to be cut, adding a more aggressive 6.5 miles of trail to the Itsui System. That will make LNSP quite the destination. Look for upcoming posts on trail work days.

We continue to mourn the death of Bill Austin at Renaissance Park on July 16. Bill's wife, Susan Newsome, has gotten back on the bike and looks for healing through her riding. When the family feels sufficiently recovered from this tragedy, we will sit down and discuss a community service project in Bill's name. We are currently moving forward with new signs to place at Reni and our other parks to alert riders of all skill

levels of possible danger ahead. Let's not forget Bill and especially Susan as she works through the healing process.

The latest and greatest, Special Edition Tarheel Trailblazer jersey is now on sale. This jersey features a red to black fade. The garment is the popular short sleeve jersey with mesh shoulder/side panels and full zipper. The jersey is offered to members of the Trailblazers and Dirt Divas for a paltry \$50 (MSRP \$85) and for \$65 to non-members. The non-member fee will include the club membership at a \$5 discount. Savings abound! For more details, go [here](#).

Well, I know that there are about a hundred other items that I have missed, please join us at our September meeting (September 7) at 7:30 PM at Jacks on 7th Street. Hope to see you there!

-tom

Posted At : 4:39 AM. | Posted By : tom