

BJT SPOKES



Berry Junction Trail

By Tom Lindrup

President & Founder of Friends of the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail

We are a volunteer group, created February 2015, called Friends of the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail.

The group is focused on our Mission and Vision.

Mission: "Our mission is

to promote, to maintain and to enhance the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail. This trail will be accessible year-round and will be an environmentally-friendly recreational trail for all

individuals."

Vision: "To promote healthy outdoor activities on a user-friendly trail."

Reaching us

Email:

BerryJunction@gmail.com

Find us on **Facebook:**

Friends of the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail

Also visit our website at:

www.berryjunctiontrail.com



BJT officers & board members

- Tom Lindrup, pres.
- Bonnie Lipan, treas.
- Kathy Whalen, Sec.
- Rosalie Mancier
- Ray McLeod
- Rob Taylor
- Sheila Molenkamp
- Tim Nink
- Oscar Reed
- Lynne McGarry



Ken Scott, 81, has logged thousands of miles during his bicycling career and each season he racks up more.

Riding with the wind

When it comes to biking Ken Scott is an experienced and undisputed leader in the field.

Ken, 81, is a familiar sight on one of his many bikes around Muskegon.

He's been riding solo and with family and friends around Muskegon, throughout the states and cross-country for about half a century.

Ken, a native of Muskegon and his wife Donna have raised 5 children.

For 37 years, Ken worked as a maintenance electrician for Campbell, Wyatt and Cannon.

He now enjoys repairing bikes at The Bicycle Rack bike shop on Laketon Avenue. After years of repairing and building his own bikes Ken can tackle most problems.

In the early 1970s Ken purchased a bike primarily for transportation.

Like many young families, money was tight and the bike was an inexpensive way to get around town.

The younger kids in his neighborhood were racing around, and for fun Ken changed the handlebars to drop bars and started having fun.

See Scott, p3

BJT SPOKES



Our Spring/Summer issue

This is the Spring/Summer issue of our newsletter called **BJT Spokes**. We publish several newsletters yearly to highlight individual trail users, share enhancements and update happenings and events. Contributors this issue: Tom Lindrup, Sheila E. Molenkamp, Frank Michels, Rob Taylor and Rosalie Mancier.

Note: Newsletter also on our Facebook page

Thank you donors for your generosity



By Tom Lindrup
President & Founder of Friends of
the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail

We wish to thank all those donors who
have contributed to many
enhancements on the Berry Junction
Trail

Memorial Bench & Bike Racks

1. Location: **South Trailhead**

Inscription:

"In Memory of Dr. and Mrs. I Busard of
the Community Foundation for Muskegon
County"

2. Location: **First Lutheran Church**

Inscription:

"In Honor of Tim & Lynne McGarry's
40th Anniversary 2018"

3. Location: **Scenic Overlook**

Inscription:

"In Loving Memory of Scott Plummer
1956-2014 Every Day is A Good Day"

4. Location: **River Road**

Inscription:

"In Memory of Dr. and Mrs. I Busard of
the Community Foundation for
Muskegon County"

5. Location: **North Trailhead**

Inscription:

"In Honor of Joan & Bob Scriver"

6. Location: **On the trail between
Durham and Lakewood Rd**

Inscription:

In Honor of Gary Rider at "Rider's
Ridge"

Vice President - Friends of the Fred
Meijer Berry Junction Trail,
A passionate Cyclist, and True Friend

7. Location: **On the trail just south of
White Lake Drive**

Inscription:

"I don't ride a bike to add days to my
life, I ride a bike to add LIFE to MY DAYS
Mikel Kuras"

More on p. 4



Young riders learn about bicycle safety.

EMBARK!

Rotary initiative promotes safe biking routes to school

By Rob Taylor
Muskegon Rotary Club

The new EMBARK! Safe
Routes to Schools Program,
is off to a great start.

After months of planning by the
Muskegon Rotary Club's Health &
Wellness Committee, volunteers
started riding bikes with Muskegon
Public School kids and their
Physical Education teachers.

Kids watch videos and take
quizzes on bicycle safety and
receive instruction on how to safely
ride to and from school in their
neighborhoods.

EMBARK is based on a
successful program in the Traverse
City area called Norte, which has
been in existence for seven years.

In that time it has gone from a
young couple escorting their child
to school on bikes to hundreds of
kids in the area walking and riding
to and from school.



Riding "safe routes" to and from school

See Rotary, p.3



**Ken Scott, 81, navigates
a trail in his Australian-made Rotovelo.**

Scott cruises in style

Cont. from p1

Although he was not a racer he rode with racing groups and really learned how to ride. That was the start of a lifelong pursuit of cycling.

In the 1980s Ken and Donna put on a bicycle camp for kids through the baptist church. The club would do a one-week circle tour going from Bay City to Traverse City and back.

It wasn't unusual for Ken to ride to Ohio and Indiana to visit family.

His son, Matthew, who was then 16, accompanied him on one of those trips. Matthew later told Ken that he thought his father was trying to kill him.

Apparently the ride was a good work out for the younger Scott.

When Ken approached 50 years of age, motivated by the feeling that time was running out, he flew to Seattle and rode his bicycle back to Muskegon. The trip covered 21 days and he averaged 120 miles a day.

The terrain included mountains and at times he endured freezing temperatures.

Ken continues to rack up the miles. From 1998 through 2020 Ken has logged 170,000 miles on his bikes. During one year he rode 11,200 miles.

Ken loves bikes, which includes a collection of his 10 favorites. Three of those he built himself. Most of the others are recumbents and one is a Rotovelo.

The Rotovelo is made in Australia and has a plastic body around it. There are two holes in the floor where your feet can go through if you need to go backwards. Ken rides this often in cold and wet weather because it offers some protection from the cold.

Ken currently rides a recumbent and also a trike. He finds these bikes to be more comfortable.

Ken enjoys riding the Berry Junction and Hart to Montague trail. He has also logged a lot of miles on the Muskatawa trail.

His advice for new riders or those wanting to get back into biking:

"Ride trails. Trails are your salvation. Having a destination is more important as opposed to riding a certain number of miles."

– Story by Sheila Molenkamp



Students on a bicycling trek

Rotary advocates for biking, hiking

Cont. from p2

In addition to safe routes to school the program now includes other aspects like walking and biking advocacy, biking youth camps and teams, youth leadership, a bike library, a bike shop, and bike maintenance training.

Our vision is to duplicate as much of the Norte success as possible here in the Muskegon area. The program with the Muskegon Public Schools is just the start.

Already, we have collaborated with other organizations to build the program.

Mercy Health has provided bike helmets to kids who don't already have one.

Ron Baker, who runs a bicycle repair ministry at Fellowship Church, provides bikes for kids to use who don't own one.

Rotarian Darlene Collet has donated a couple of bikes her grandkids no longer need. Perhaps others have a used bike or two they would like to donate.

Right now, since Muskegon Public School kids are attending school remotely, they are meeting one day a week outside their school to ride with their physical education teacher.

Once they are back to the classroom, the expectation is that the kids will ride their bikes to and from school with their parents.

The program will continue every week until the snow flies and we expect more kids in the future.

They currently ride at 12:45 and 2 p.m. from two different elementary schools each Wednesday. With that, we really need more volunteers to ride with these kids to keep them safe and to spread the volunteer load.

For more information to volunteer contact Rob Taylor at 810-355-6381 or taylorjrj@ameritech.net.

Thank you donors for your generosity



Information Kiosks

Three Information Kiosks, one at south trailhead, North Muskegon, one at River Rd trail crossing, and one at north trailhead at White Lake Dr trail crossing.

Donor & Inscription:

In Memory of Dr. and Mrs. Busard of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County"



Wayfinding/Mileage Signs

Located at several locations along the trail.

Donor: Howmet Corporation

Scenic Overlook

Located adjacent to the trail between River Rd and Giles Rd overlooking Bear Creek.

Donor: The Muskegon Rotary Community Fund

Inscription:

The Muskegon Rotary Community Fund of Community Foundation for Muskegon County, donated this scenic overlook to the Friends of the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail June 2018.

Berry Junction, other area trails



Your trail/bike organization needs a friend.
Donate or volunteer at one or more of the following:

Friends of the Fred Meijer
Berry Junction Trail
BerryJunction@gmail.com

Muskegon County Bicycling Coalition
Ray McLeod
bikemuskegon@yahoo.com, 231-206-6182

West Michigan Trails & Greenways
wmtrail.org, 616-485-7805

Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance
michigan-trails.org, 616-485-7805

West Michigan Mountain Biking Community
wmmba.org

League of Michigan Bicyclists
lmb.org 517-334-9100



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