

Subject: Ready2Roll Cycling - Ride 10, Apr 8, 8:00 am, Cat Spring
Date: Friday, April 7, 2017 at 9:18:55 AM Central Daylight Time
From: Stephen Moskowitz
To: Moskowitz_Steve Ready2Roll Cycling

**We're riding in Cat Spring at 8:00 am
this Saturday!**

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Sorry I missed the ride last Saturday. Chappell Hill is my favorite ride all the season. I'm doing great and looking forward to seeing everyone in Cat Spring on Saturday.

The good news is that, as I noted above, we have hit our peak on the training series and will lighten the load a little over the final three weeks of the season as we move to shorter distance and hills a bit the next two weeks and finish off with a medium distance flat perfect final tune-up ride before the BP MS-150.

Today, I do have one important item to mention that is directly related to the success of our rides in the next two weeks.

The key word for everyone planning to ride the next two Saturdays is...
...CARPOOL!!!

We are heading to some really pleasant and really small towns so we need to keep our vehicle footprint as small as possible.

If you have not already done so, it's time to go to our training series website (www.ready2rollcycling.com) and check out the Carpool forum which is in the forum section. If you don't see a carpool that works for you, then you need to create one and post a carpool listing.

There are currently many carpools posted – the list has only grown quite a bit in the past weeks so I know that there are more of you out there who need a carpool. Each listing lists the general neighborhood and then get more specific on the meeting place.

If nothing else works, there is a Park & Ride lot on I-10 at the Sealy exit. Park about 100 cars here and carpool the last 15 miles from here to Cat Spring. The goal is to reduce the number of cars we need to squeeze in at Cat Spring. When you exit I-10, you make a U-turn and normally make a left on Hwy 109 for the ride. Make a right turn instead and drive under I-10 and make a right turn on the road that leads back to I-10 east. The entry to the Park & Ride is on the east side. It's an easy spot to set up a carpool for this ride as well as the New Ulm ride (I-10 exit 109).

This is really critical this week.

The other critical need is to arrive early. There is one road from Sealy to Cat Spring and traffic will back up during the peak arrival time. If your arrival time is late, you will not be parked until 8:00 am and will then have a line for the parking lot to sign in, etc. Please leave early enough to arrive by 6:45 to 7:00 am to allow for some extra time for a small traffic delay and to get ready to ride. The route is heading east at 8:00 am which is where you will be coming from. If you arrive late, there will be significant delays and you may find that you are on the road support team.

I don't mean to dwell on this issue but as we get to these really small roads, a combination of many vehicles and late arrivals puts a really hard strain on the quiet roads that bring us out here in the first place. Please carpool and arrive by 7:00 am.

2017 Ready2Roll Cycling Training Series - Ride 10, Cat Spring -

This week, we're heading to the Cat Spring Social Hall, for a wonderful ride through Cat Spring, Frelsburg and New Ulm.

FLASH - News Update - Our advance ride team rode the route, or part of it, which was good because they confirmed what we had heard, there is some construction which has gone from minor to major on part of the route so, after at least a week, **we will be riding a new version of the Cat Spring route this year!**

This ride returns us to the rolling to gentle hills west of Sealy. The short route has stops at 13, 27 and 37 miles and the long route adds a 9.5 mile loop at the beginning of the ride so this route adds up to just under 59 miles with stops at 13, 27 and 47 miles.

NOTE – The two routes separate in the first mile so, to avoid confusion, we'll spread out on the quiet roads, **we'll send all the 59 mile riders out first and then, after a brief break, we will send all the 49 mile riders out.** The 49 mile riders start with the correct route and then, in the correct wave so you spread out safely. This will also allow us to deploy our SAG support more efficiently and effectively so those of you riding 49 miles, please wait to line up until we see the 59 mile riders on their way. Faster riders don't worry - the slower riders ahead of you will have turned and be off your route by the time you pass the route split point.

At mile 13.4/23.1, there will be a hard "Right on Zimmerscheidt" (this is the start of a really really pleasant 6.8 mile rolling road through the trees) followed by the final challenging hill on Zimmerscheidt before we get to FM-109. This is the toughest hill on this ride but it is definitely the toughest hill on this ride. Some of you may need

walk up. That is OK, just call: "Slowing, dismounting" in advance and on the side of the road and carefully get off out of the way of any riders behind being safe in this situation is to be predictable and communicate in advance intention to dismount and walk up.

Directions to the start - Cat Spring Social Hall (13035 Hall Rd, 713.29.863805,-96.321688)

Here are the driving directions...

Take I-10 west to the Sealy exit (Hwy 36). Take 36 north through Sealy (speed limit!) and turn left at the last light, just after you cross over the railroad tracks (cross under another railroad track coming into Sealy). Drive approximately 1/2 mile to 949 (there is a sign to Cat Spring) and continue a few hundred yards past the Social Hall on your right.

I know I sound like a broken record (how many of you are old enough to set a record is?) but parking will be tight so please carpool unless you are part of a support team and need room to carry food, drinks, etc. Please also park as close as is reasonably possible - we're parking on the lawn so there are no street parking spots.

Oh yes, there is one road so traffic will be slow at the peak arrival period approximately an hour to get here from I-10 and the 610 loop and please arrive before 7:00 am – the traffic will back up.

If the parking fills you will need to park along the road out front. This is not ideal as you park completely off the road. Once we start lining up, access to the road is impossible until all riders depart so, if you arrive after 7:40, you should get in and parked and possibly a late start behind our excellent SAG support.

OK, I'm keeping this note shorter than usual because I want to give you time to get to work on your carpools and to get to Cat Spring early this Saturday.

I'll send an update Friday to cover any late, breaking news....

Thanks!

Steve Moskowitz

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