



Mary Buss New to HBC, but Already a Legend

You've probably seen the name "Mary B****" at the top of a "Who's Going" ride list; in fact, you've probably seen it appear there on almost every weekend and evening ride listed this year. Mary, who joined the club only a couple of years ago, and had never really biked much before that, has ridden over 3000 miles so far this season (since Nov. 1, 2020). That's about 1700 miles more than the runner-up, Colette Sulzer. Not only that, but Mary's still working full time!

Mary bought a new hybrid bike when she joined the club, hoping that the new bike would enable her to ride on group rides. Her first ride was an "introductory" ride led by Alan Wichman and started in Hopkins. Mary recalled that the ride included treats at D'Amico's, the rest stop on the ride.

Eventually, she realized that she wanted a road bike, so she went back to her local bike shop, Tonka Cycles, to shop again. Now she can be seen riding her blue Giant road bike at or near the front of most group rides she joins. She has also become a Ride with GPS expert, having done most if not all of the Self-Guided Rides last year during Pandemic, Part 1. During our July 4th group ride, Mary took the lead about halfway through. When asked whether she knew the way, she said, confidently, "I've got my Ride with GPS."

Mary also knows her routes, with or without RWGPS. Recently, at the start of a Washington County ride led by local naturalist Greg Swanson, we learned that no bathroom facilities were available at the start. No worries - Mary knew exactly where the first port-a-potty was on the route, having ridden the ride before as a self-guided ride.

A Jordan, MN native, Mary spends her days working in HR for the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The St. Boni Self-Guided ride is one of her regular weekly riding routines. On Thursday mornings, Mary rides 30 miles before work to Ruby's Roost in Victoria to get a caramel roll, and that's just for fun! Mary joins all types of rides: relaxed, moderate, or brisk - as long as they aren't during her working hours. Exemplifying true HBC spirit, Mary says that her favorite ride is "the ride that I'm on" - meaning that she enjoys them all.