

NOOK

Reviews of new books for and by cyclists.

to avoid needing the book in the first place (which seems to go against that foresight thing again on the author's part). There's an excellent glossary and the whole book is extremely well referenced and indexed.

This isn't a book you carry with you on rides ... but it's definitely a resource that League members should have, especially if you are part of a club or advocacy group. At some point in the near future, you are going to need a section of this book, either for you or a fellow rider. So, be prepared!

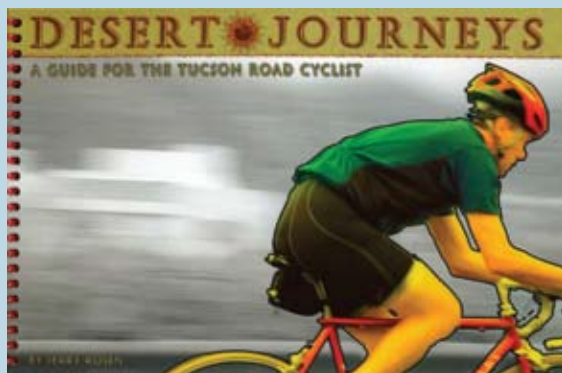
Desert Journeys

By Jerry Rosen

Reviewed by Elizabeth Preston

There is a point at which many I-just-like-to-ride-my-bike-around-the-neighborhood cyclists become it's-Saturday-so-I'm-going-on-a-big-ride cyclists. In many communities across the country, budding cyclists have to cobble together their own cue sheets, based on Web sites done by enthusiasts, books with more texts than maps, and friends' recommendations. Luckily, in Tucson, riders now have an option: *Desert Journeys*, an incredible new book by Jerry Rosen.

Rosen, a cycling enthusiast and 30-year-Tucson resident, saw a lack in an otherwise very bicycle friendly place (the Tucson area has a gold rating in the League's Bicycle Friendly Community program): namely, an easy-to-use local resource for Tucson road cyclists. With some help from very talented friends of his, he's laid out an excellent book with full-color maps, cue sheets, mileage, feet of climbing, and descriptions of more than 30 journeys around the Tucson area. The rides range from very flat 2-mile rides to the 105-mile monster climb called Sonoita.



In addition to clear ride descriptions and great ideas to get out of your riding ruts, he also includes tips for riding in groups and a map of all the bike shops in the Tucson area. Every city in the country could use a helpful, colorful, and spiral-bound book just like this one. Next time you plan on going for a ride in the Tucson area, be sure to take this book with you.

The Bicycle Book: Wit, Wisdom & Wanderings

Edited by Jim Joyce

Reviewed by Elizabeth Preston

Jim Joyce, founder of the Web site www.bikexchange.com, has collected a book of essays, cartoons, and stories from the road. The book includes contributions from the Web site as well as some never-before-seen essays, and are written by everyone from Pulitzer Prize-winning authors to people who just love to ride.

Joyce has also committed to donating 15 percent of his royalties on the book to SoldierRide, the League, and the United States Association of Blind Athletes' tandem cycling program.

Split into three categories — wit, wisdom and wanderings — the book has bicycle-themed cartoons throughout to keep the tone from ever getting too serious. This book will keep any cyclist entertained for a few hours of reading. ●

