



team girlbike ride for kids

girlbike's Crystal Waters is riding to raise money for Prevent Child Abuse Vermont. You can help! [More >>](#)

april 1, 2003 :: for women cyclists :: reviews, deals, resources, how-to, and more :: since 1999

inspiration

one woman's story: her fight against cancer and her rides for a cure.



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issues index

In the nothing-to-do-with-cycling but- supports-it department - The "day job" goes under:



See these cool books I wrote? Well, my publisher went bankrupt on Friday March 14. You can still buy these books as far as I know, but chances are I won't receive any royalties. I'm trying to be optimistic... and they *are* good books. **Sooo..**



Meet Liddy, founder of Team Sarcoma.

kind of went that way. At the beginning of March, I'd been talking to my editor about two new books, the weather was starting to creep up above the freezing mark and I actually got in a few good rides, and I was working on the Ride for Kids site and getting ready for the season. Things were rolling along smoothly.

On March 14, I got an email from a representative at my publisher's office: the boogers had filed for bankruptcy. My main source of income was gone just like that. After the initial shock (and anger and denial and all those other stages of grief - I'm not sure if I did them in the right order), I started scouring the newspapers for jobs, sending out query letters about freelance work, and filling in all spare moments with worrying. It pretty much sucked.

A few days later, I got a letter from a young woman named Liddy. The subject of her email was "help." She'd said she'd been to girlbike a number of times for shopping tips and entertainment, but this time she wanted some assistance with a few topics I hadn't covered.

In April 2002, Liddy was diagnosed with cancer. While chemo and surgery removed a tumor in her leg, it left her unable to twist out of her clipless pedal. Her cancer has also since moved to her lungs.

Besides asking for fundraising ideas and [a link to her site](#) for girlbike readers to visit, she also wrote to ask for ideas on

APRIL 01, 2003 ::

This is just a brief issue, one without the usual links to products. I just haven't had the time to get a theme together and go window shopping. But I had to take the time to tell you about Liddy, who I'll introduce in a minute.

You know that old saying about March coming in like a lamb and going out like a lion? My month

issues index

2003

- 42 [inspiration](#)
- 41 [march madness 2003](#)
- 40 [for the love of accessories](#)
- 39 [riding & touring with kids](#)

2002

- 38 [great girl gifts](#)
- 37 [10 tips for buying a new bike](#)
- 36 [10 gifts for woman cyclists who have \(almost\) everything](#)
- 35 [fall fashions](#)
- 34 [national bike month!](#)
- 33 [march madness](#)
- 32 [training inspiration](#)
- 31 [be my valentine](#)
- 30 [six weeks of winter](#)
- 29 [buy my bike!](#)
- 28 [gear under \\$10](#)
- 27 [hot legs@cool prices](#)
- 26 [new year, new gear](#)

2001

- NOV 09 - [season of change \(letter from the editor\)](#)
- 25 JUN 22 - [summer deals](#)
- 24 MAY 18 - [bike to work](#)
- 23 MAY 11 - [mother's day](#)
- 22 MAY 04 - [extras & essentials](#)
- 21 APR 20 - [getting fleeced](#)
- 20 APR 13 - [\\$13 & \\$20](#)
- 19 APR 06 - [handlebars](#)
- 18 MAR 30 - [out on a limb](#)
- 17 MAR 23 - [spring!](#)
- 16 MAR 16 - [wearing o' the green](#)
- 15 MAR 09 - [travel gear](#)
- 14 MAR 02 - [march madness](#)
- 13 FEB 23 - [don't sweat it](#)
- 12 FEB 16 - [presidential deals](#)
- 11 FEB 09 - [red hot gear](#)
- 10 FEB 02 - [winter/spring](#)
- 09 JAN 26 - [sleeping gear](#)
- 08 JAN 19 - [saddle search](#)
- 07 JAN 12 - [fighting rain](#)
- 06 JAN 05 - [under \\$13](#)

2000

- 05 DEC 29 - [basic training](#)
- 04 DEC 22 - [bike bags](#)

now I'm looking for freelance copywriting and editorial work, as well as a "real" job, so please let me know if you're hiring! Thanks! - *Crystal*

options for clipping her foot to the pedal that would also be easy to release. Her foot slips with cages, and she'd tried Frogs and SPDs without luck. I got some tips from a touring list I subscribe to, including a lead who makes magnetic clips for those with prosthesis. The cool folks over at [Crank Brothers](#) are also trying to help her out with modified Egg Beater pedals.

"I'm working on my list of things I always wanted to do," wrote Liddy, "and a multi-day bike tour is one of those things." So, it's not surprising that she is organizing two bike tours to raise funds for and increase awareness of sarcoma. Her first ride, from April 10th to the 13th, is the 200-mile Cycle Zydeco. Her bike ships off this week, and soon Team Sarcoma will follow. Its eight riders are Liddy, her husband Tom, her mom and dad, her brother Mark and his son Daniel, and friends Rich and John. They hope to raise money for the [Columbia Cancer Center's Sarcoma Center](#). From June 30th to July 5th, 2003, [Team Sarcoma heads to Denmark](#) in hopes of raising at least \$25,000 for sarcoma research.

We've been trading fundraising tips, and girlbike.com is sponsoring her for \$50 towards bike shipping (I wish I could give more!). We've talked a bit about meeting in Massachusetts for a ride later this year.

So this issue is for **Liddy**. I hope you'll head over to her site and pay her a visit, and consider contributing to her cause. It's also for my friend **Jodi**, who was diagnosed with cancer in January, and underwent surgery on March 10. Both of these women have such gumption and drive, it's hard for it not to be infectious. With all the flippity flop things going on in the world, it's easy to get caught up in the "ughs." Liddy wrote to me, "It's amazing how something like cancer refocuses your interests." I'm grateful that someone like Liddy can come into my life and make me look at things in a different light, and to feel gratitude for simple everyday things.

I hope you'll get outside and take a ride today. And take some time to work on your list of all the things you want to do. - *Crystal*

"In April 2002... Elizabeth (Liddy) was diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma (PNET). Sarcoma is a rare cancer in adults, accounting for only 1% of all adult cancers. ... Liddy's cancer arose in one of the nerves in her leg. After several months of chemotherapy, her tumor, which was in her thigh, was surgically removed. We learned after the surgery that it had metastasized to her lungs. Liddy had post-surgical radiation and chemotherapy. Her cancer did not respond to the chemotherapy and more metastasis occurred in her lungs. Liddy will shortly begin a Phase I clinical trial using ET-743 (an experimental drug) and Doxil. Because sarcoma is a rare cancer in adults, little is known about how to treat it. Research is desperately needed to help understand and treat this disease. About 10,000 new cases are diagnosed each year and about 5,000 people die each year from sarcoma..." - [read more by Liddy's parents](#)

03 [DEC 15 - lights & gifts](#)

02 [DEC 08 - no cold feet](#)

01 [DEC 01 - bargain gifts](#)

Please note - I don't sell the products I mention, I'm simply linking to products I've found on other sites that I think may be of interest. Products on sale often sells out *fast,* and sometimes sale prices change. I check all links before I send out the newsletter or post deals on here, but sometimes supplies run out or prices change even faster than I can get this to you. **Let's go shopping!**

If you have stories and/or tips you want to share, [please email them to me](#) and we'll share them here on girlbike!

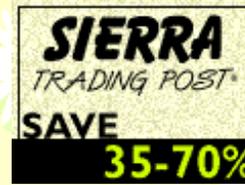
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