



Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club
PO Box 112078
Tacoma, WA 98411

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December, 2003



mail to:



Please note: You can become a member at www.twbc.org. Click on 'Online' under the Join heading.

Become a member of TWBC

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone (optional): _____

E-mail: _____@_____

Check Box: New Member Renew Addr Chg

Individual person membership \$15 _____

Family membership \$20 _____

One-time initiation Fee for new members \$ 5 _____

Optional subscription to Sports Etc \$18 _____

Optional subscription to The Bicycle Paper \$12 _____

Total Membership Fee: \$ _____

Send this form and a check for the total \$ amount to:

TWBC Membership
PO Box 112078
Tacoma, WA 98411

Check box if you do not want your phone # or address in the membership listings.

Also...Check boxes if you are interested in volunteering for:

Leading Bike Rides

Events

Newsletter

Club Meeting Programs

Becoming a club officer

the cog-nitive courier
 tacoma wheelmen's bicycle club newsletter
 since 1888
 po box 112078 tacoma, wa 98411
 253-759-2800

Extra! Extra!
1st Ever January Meeting of TWBC

Tacoma (AP) — Breaking with longstanding tradition, the Tacoma Wheelman's Bicycle Club has decided to hold a general membership meeting in January. The meeting will be January 20, 2004 at the South Park Community Center, 7:00 pm. A very special program will be presented that evening with the club's very own Louis Boitano re-living his 2003 trek across America and taking the club with him. You will not want to miss this meeting. It may be the only chance in your lifetime to attend a TWBC meeting in January and Louis has some great stories to tell.

TWBC BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

Please list the names in your party for name tags so you and others will know who you are...

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Number of children _____ X \$10 each = \$ _____

Number of adults _____ X \$15 each = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Send this form and a check for the total \$ amount to:

TWBC Banquet
PO Box 112078
Tacoma, WA 98411

The TWBC banquet will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2004 at the Tacoma Mountaineer's Club, 2302 North 30th Street. Each year our club sponsors a banquet to reflect on the past year's activities and accomplishments. It is a time for fellowship and a time to honor significant achievement. This fun evening will start at 6pm for socializing and dinner at 7pm.

The banquet is traditionally the largest gathering of your fellow club members and is a time to reflect on the past year and reaffirm your interest in bicycling. We will recognize noteworthy mileages, volunteerism and accidents. There is always plenty of good food, beverages, merriment and good humor.

We welcome any help...so call Anne Heller @ 253-761-0709 for an assignment.



Banquet Attendance Limited - Register NOW !!!

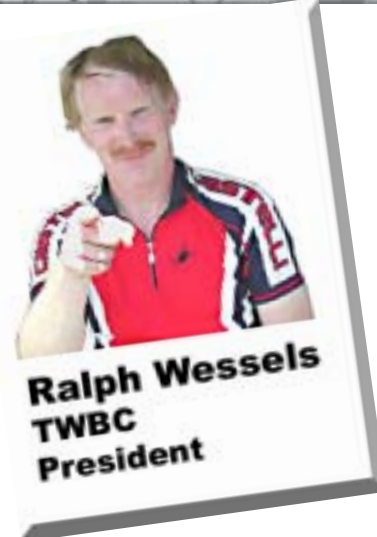
Each year your club sponsors an annual banquet to reflect on the past year's activities and accomplishments. It is a time for fellowship and to honor significant achievements. You are cordially invited to attend.

The banquet will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2004, at the Tacoma Mountaineer's Club, 2302 North 30th Street in Old Town Tacoma. This fun, evening event starts at 6pm for socializing with dinner to follow at 7pm. Your cost for the event is just \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

Dress at our banquet ranges from your old cycling clothes to your best evening wear. The banquet is the time to reflect on the past year and reaffirm your interest in bicycling. We recognize note-worthy mileages,

Continued on Page 2

the view of the bicycle club...
from the president's handlebars



It is the holiday season! For some people, me included, the additional activities tend to add stress. More commitments, shopping, and rainy days all mount up. A few interspersed days of riding between the rains is therapeutic for me. Walking and petting our dog, Dale, also helps. What do you do to relive stress during the holidays?

The organization for TWBC's 2004 rides begins December 16 with the first rides meeting. Contact Steve Burgess, Director of Special Events, at 202-3005 if you would like to be part of the organizational team. A number of Wheelmen are already filling the volunteer positions but more are needed. Most critical are members to be on Team Daffodil and lead the organization of the event. Using a team approach allows the tasks to be spread out and not be too much of a burden for individuals. The first meeting will be at Jan Brame's house on December 16 starting at 6:30 PM. Her house is at 1209 N. Anderson. If you could help in the advertisement of the rides, or making arrangements for the facilities, it would be greatly appreciated.

Now is a good time to get your bike in shape for next year. Why wait till the week before a major ride to get your trusty steed in shape? If someone is struggling with a holiday gift for you, you could always suggest a bike tune-up. You should check your chain regularly for wear. If the distance between links has grown from the normal 12 inches by more than 1/16 of an inch, it is time to replace the chain. Wheel bearings should be replaced on a yearly basis. Your bike will roll better with this maintenance.

I would like to invite you to ride on the Polar Bear Jump ride on January 1st. Deep snow cancels this ride, but otherwise the ride goes on. We will leave downtown Gig Harbor at Jerisich Park at 10:30. The ride out takes about an hour to get to Olalla so we drink hot chocolate or coffee until the Polar Bears start jumping at noon. Last year, one of our

riders rode and jumped. I was quite impressed as it was a wet, cold day. I hope that you are inclined to join this ride or another in-town ride to celebrate the New Year.

Best wishes for the holiday! And remember to ride your bike and give attention to your pet(s).

Ride safely,

Ralph Wessels

Thanks to some of our TWBC members the Manastash Metric developed some real momentum this year. There were 263 registered riders, up more than one hundred from last year. The Ellensburg Cross Country Ski Club really appreciates us West Side people coming over and spending our money to enjoy the dry East side of Washington.

Banquet continued

volunteerism, and accidents. There is always good food, beverages, merriment and good humor. Sometimes, it's the only time of year when the Code 2 riders meet the Code 3 riders or when the Tuesday riders meet with the weekend cyclists and hard-core commuters.

The banquet is traditionally the largest gathering of fellow club members. We limit the attendance due to the size of the clubhouse. Please send your ride logs to Carol Davis, Touring Captain, so that we can recognize your accomplishments. If you have good digital images from the past year, please send them to Dorian Smith who will be preparing the "slide" show, a digital presentation of the year in pictures. Then, we can prepare another great picture show for your enjoyment.



We would like you to come out and ride with us... but you have to wear a helmet!

The COG Home Page



TWBC Ride Line
253-759-2800

Next Club Meeting:
Tues, January 20, 2003
Hostess Dolores Fitch brings food galore! See old friends and share cycling stories and food.



Hey Riders... Use this handy-dandy chart to decypher the ride code listed on the Monthly Ride/Event Calendar on page

RIDE CODE CHART

Pace Code: Average mph on flat surface:

- 1 - Easy pace, frequent stops to catch up and regroup, 9-12 mph on flats.
- 2 - Moderate pace, occasional stops to catch up and regroup, 12-15 mph.
- 3 - Steady pace, limited stops, cue sheets or maps provided, 13-16 mph.
- 4 - Fast pace, very limited stops, cue sheets or maps provided, 16 + mph.

Terrain Code examples:

- A - Mostly Flat (Inter-urban Trail)
- B - Gently rolling with one or two steep hills
- C - Rolling steeper hills (Kitsap Peninsula)
- D - Difficult terrain with longer, steeper hills (Vashon Island)



Get yourself a new jersey!
Call Peggy... the Jersey Lady at
253-841-4458 or jerseys@twbc.org



club officers and volunteers

PRESIDENT:
Ralph Wessels, 253-857-5658, president@twbc.org

VICE-PRESIDENT:
Tim Payne, vp@twbc.org, 360-871-4478

SECRETARY:
Sandy Byrd, 253-474-6721, secretary@twbc.org

TREASURER:
Joy Roelofsz, 253-847-1843, treasurer@twbc.org

TOURING CAPTAIN and RIDE LINE Updates:
Carol Davis, 253-857-5396, ridecaptain@twbc.org

NEWSLETTER:
Editor: Jan Brame, Reporters: various members
Email articles to: newsletter@twbc.org
Printed by Barb at Orca Press in Downtown Tacoma.

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE and MAILING:
Anne Heller, 253-761-0700, database@twbc.org

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND GOV'T RELATIONS and BANQUET COMMITTEE:
Bob Myrick, 253-473-7455, gac@twbc.org

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS:
Steve Burgess, events@twbc.org

PAST PRESIDENT:
Not needed this year

MEMBERSHIP:
Phyllis Lay, 253-759-1816

PUBLICITY:
Please contact Ralph Wessels to volunteer.

Safety and Education:
Position Open... Contact Prez Ralph

EQUIPMENT MANAGER: equipment@twbc.org
John Lea, 253-770-5530

WEB Master: webmaster@twbc.org
Ken and Cindy Stagg, 253-752-0925

DAFFODIL CLASSIC: daffodil@twbc.org
Team Daffodil: Jan Brame, Bob Myrick, Anne Heller, Dave Parker, Ralph Wessels, 253-857-5658

PENINSULA METRIC:
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HEADWATERS CENTURY: headwaters@twbc.org
Linda Higgins, 253-759-5480
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Carla Gramlich, 253-870-0115
Peggy Fjetland, 253-841-4458, bikebooth@twbc.org

JERSEY SALES:
Peggy Fjetland, 253-841-4458, jerseys@twbc.org

ANNUAL PICNIC:
Toni Matson and Vern Martin:
253-212-0781
amatson1@attbi.com



Hello

Everyone. Our small committee met at our usual location, the Guadalajara Taqueria in the Stadium District at 1st and Tacoma Avenue. Our next meeting will be there on Tuesday, December 2 at 7pm. This past month Louie Boitano and I have been spending some time up on the Mount Tahoma Trail System getting ready for the cross-country ski and snowshoe season. We will spend most of our time at the Copper Creek cabin. I expect that at least one of us will be there most weekends during the winter. I hope to go up on Thursdays and stay thru Saturday. Then, I might work in the Ashford office on some Sundays. Feel free to call Louie or me if you want to come up for a visit. It's really cheap to rent snowshoes at the Summit Haus store in Ashford (\$12). Skis are a good value too. Snopark passes are available at the gas station in Ashford and our office is behind the Fire Station. It would be really easy to stay overnight on Thursday or Friday by going into the Summit Haus and making a reservation. Weekends are more difficult. Look up skiMTTA.com or call the office on weekends at 360 569-2451.

Here in Tacoma, Tim Payne and Ralph Wessels continue to bird dog the Narrows Bridge construction. Several members have let me know that they really appreciate all the work that has been done monitoring this project. We continue to be concerned that the connections to Pierce County's road system should be done properly to accommodate cyclist's needs and that Pierce County and Gig Harbor might accelerate some projects so the system will be safe for cyclists.

As indicated last month, we devoted most of our time to creating a 10 Best List. We came up with 9 improvements and left the tenth for you to dream up. Ralph has been out taking pictures of the 10 Most Wanted List for our website and he will start visiting the 10 best areas to take pictures as well. Here's our 10 Best List:

1. Pierce County's Foothills Trail.
2. Pierce County's Cushman Powerline Trail.
3. Tacoma and WSDOT's Skyline Drive Pedestrian Bridge over SR16 even though it was built several year's ago.
4. University Place's great pedestrian and bicycle improvements including Grandview, Bridgeport Way, 67th Ave. W, etc. This City is the model that other communities should follow.
5. Gig Harbor's Borgan Blvd. where they included bike lanes and sidewalks at their new shopping area.
6. Pierce County and Tacoma's Bicycle Map that is in it's third edition. Lakewood, Sumner, Gig Harbor, University Place and

Pierce Transit help finance this map along with the Russell Co., Labor Ready, TWBC, Foothills Coalition and others.

7. Tacoma's Bike Lane Program and the Bike Racks Program.
8. Puyallup's River Trail that will connect with the Foothills Trail and Sumner's Trail.
9. Pierce County's continuing attention to implementing the Non-motorized Plan adopted in July 1997.
10. ???????????? Your suggestion could go here.

This past month, I had a good conversation with Steve Gorcester who runs the State's Transportation Improvement Board (TIB). We talked about the missing sidewalks on Pine and Union near SR16. TIB's present rules aren't favorable to a grant for these sidewalks, but Steve gave me some good suggestions. Steve used to work for Pierce County Public Works and he actually rides a mountain bike around Federal Way, brave guy. I attended the November 3 SOB meeting (Save our Murray Morgan Bridge). It is amazing how much progress this citizen's group has made. On November 6, Tacoma had a meeting where I hoped we could discuss the fact that you can't ride a bike on sidewalks in Tacoma's business districts, but the staff wanted to talk about skateboards in downtown Tacoma. I hope you don't get arrested riding on a sidewalk in Tacoma. I guess the City wants your 8 year old and 80 year old out in traffic causing congestion. Louie Boitano attended the Canyon Road Extension meeting. If the road is ever built, it will have wide 14-foot outer lanes and sidewalks. Eventually, it would mesh with Fife's 70th Avenue that will have a trailhead for the future Interurban Trail running thru Fife and Milton. I reviewed Sound Transit's Bike Parking plan for all the work they are involved with in the region. Have you noticed Pierce Transit's great new bike racks located at their bus stops in locations throughout the area? They are unique, not as good as University Place, but really, really close. The Smart Growth Roundtable met on November 15 and most of the conversation related to Pierce County's new Growth Management regulations that should be adopted in 2004. By this time in December, Ralph and I may have attended a meeting in Steilacoom regarding improvements scheduled for Military Road SW leading into the town from Lakewood. I hope to see you at our December meeting.

Bob Myrick



Bob Myrick
TWBC Director of
Community and
Government
Affairs



Timothy Payne
TWBC
Vice President

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE—Chapter 2
Tim Payne, TWBC VP

In last month's column, I shared some unfortunate and dangerous experiences other cyclists have encountered with bottles being propelled toward them. Well, part of the reason may be a small but growing intolerance of bicycles. In a recent New York Times article, it cites a complaint filed by cyclists with the FCC against three radio stations belonging to Clear Channel Communications (they own about 1200 radio stations in the US). It seems these three stations located in Houston, Cleveland and Raleigh, N.C. each have talk show hosts that have a problem with cyclists. The three hosts were inciting auto drivers to take actions against cyclists like throwing bottles at them, or opening car doors in their path or racing ahead of them pulling in front and slamming on the brakes, or blasting the horn next to them. The complaints from cyclists about these talk show hosts encouraging such egregious actions have been heard at each station and at Clear Channels Corporate Headquarters. Clear Channel has been unclear about what they will do to correct such an attack on the personal safety of people who also happen to be cyclists, but they did donate \$10,000 to promote bicycle safety and got the three stations to make an on air apology.

Perhaps the most disturbing part of this for me is the revelation that there are people out there that actually hold such loathing for someone else's pastime and transportation that they would resort to assault to prove their point. Fortunately, those radio stations are a long way from us, but I believe there are a few people who hold this type of deep-seated hostility toward us cyclists right here in the Puget Sound. Be careful out there and do not hesitate to call 911 and report a car driver who chooses to use their chosen mode of transportation as a weapon. No one, not other drivers, not cyclists, nor pedestrians needs or deserves that kind of expression of animosity. Let's do our part to stop it, now.

Credit Where Credit is Due

You may recall in my September column I pledged to become a thorn in the side of those who have it within their authority to improve our cycling environment. I have not done as much as I should, yet, but I have made a few in-roads, one of which turned out to be quite surprising and gratifying. I recently contacted Joyce Komac, WSDOT Maintenance Supervisor for the Port Orchard Maintenance Office. This Maintenance office has responsibility for SR-16 from its beginning in Gorst to the Narrows Bridge. I requested Joyce dispatch a sweeper to specific parts of SR-16 where I had noted large deposits of glass on the shoulder. Within a week of my request the job was accomplished. In a later e-mail Joyce related that the timing was good as they had a crew with some slack in their schedule and a sweeper available. Nevertheless, I certainly appreciated the quick response, kudos to Joyce and crew.

Unfortunately, for one member and bike commuter, the response was not quick enough. One of the places I pointed out to the WSDOT Maintenance folks was a place on SR-16 where someone had "unloaded" a television set doing about 60 mph. It came to rest on the shoulder, face down in a very large lake of very sharp glass. Our member got a flat upon trying to ride through the lake in the darkness on his way to work. To his credit, he returned later and swept the shoulder. I think he wishes to maintain anonymity, but he is Really Over-Zealous about cleaning up glass for others. So much so, he now carries a hand broom on his bike. I appreciate his efforts enough that I think I will at least begin carrying a broom in my commute vehicle (alas, I am not as dedicated a bike commuter as our member) to clean up where I observe these glass zones. If it saves a cyclist (could be me!) a flat, it will be a worthwhile endeavor.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy and safe holiday season. (If you happen to be a Christian, as I am, please substitute Christmas in there, but I prefer to be inclusive of all my friends and acquaintances who belong to other faiths and belief systems.) I hope Santa brings you a shiny new red bicycle with a helmet, a subscription to the Rivendell Reader (hint, hint), and an autographed copy of Lance's new book, "Every Second Counts." Further, I hope you find a way in the coming year to make every second count. Whether you decide to ride across the country or around the block, my wishes are that you accomplish what you set out to do and that you enjoy it in safety.





BIKE DANSKIN by Dena Wessels

Continued from November

Now some would think that one would change out of the swim suit, into bike shoes, bike shorts & jersey, then change to running shoes, running shorts and top; no way, no how, NO TIME! Transition times for the professionals range from thirty seconds to two minutes. Plus, there were no changing areas, unless you wanted to use the sani-cans. Most people wear the same basic thing for all three events and just change the shoes, if that. Some women wore a unitard that they could swim in, & had a light biker padding. Some biked and ran in their swimsuit. I preferred a little more coverage, thank you very much. Maybe in 20 years or so I'd be able to bike and run in a one-piece swimsuit. For this Sunday in August, I had selected unpadded (only 12.1 miles) Danskin 9" shorts for the bottom piece. Even though the 9" didn't have the biker elastic at the end of the legs, they didn't seem to creep up my legs as much as the shorter lengths, & I wanted to be able to concentrate on other things than constantly pulling the legs down. The guys have it lucky when they swim, bike & run—they don't need a top. Women do, not only for escaping arrest for exposure, but for that all important support issue, which is as individual as the individual involved. For my top piece I chose a sturdy runner's bra (good arm rotation for the swim), & threw a runner's singlet over it for the bike & run. With lots of spectators just a short distance away, stripping down was not an option.

Continuing upwards, I threw on the runner's singlet and strapped on my small fanny pack (that's "bum bag" in Australia) containing my inhaler, various medical info and cell phone (how do you find someone when you cross the Finish Line—let them '...hear you now'). I took off my swim cap (or as Ralph calls it, my swim 'helmet'), and put on the sweatband, bandana mask, and biker glasses with rearview mirror that I'd left in my helmet hanging on my handle bar that morning. I took a couple of swigs of cold Gatorade from the water bottle at my site, slipped into my camel-back and plopped my helmet onto my head. Then and only then did I un-bungee & remove my bike from the rack. The rules were if the bike was in the hand, the helmet had to be (buckled) on the head. If not: DISQUALIFIED.

It's kind of hard to pedal on grass, & as long as you were in the Transition Area, you had to be off your bike. You could run or walk, but you had to be beside the bike, not on it. Stepping out onto the pavement of Lake Washington Blvd. I threw my leg over the bar, clipped in, & started riding. At the beginning & end of the Bike section, things can get a little dicey, with all the people in one location just starting to pedal or coasting to a stop. With me were about ten women, and we went from bunched up to strung out. Annessa & I had ridden on the Lake

Washington Blvd. portion a few weeks earlier to learn where we had to dodge & weave for potholes & such. Now is when past speed work would pay off. It was a biker's paradise, no cars on the road. Up one side of the road and down the other, it was just bikes, and spectators lining the course on either side. I quickly got into my beginning bike rhythm and started the recommended drinking from my camel-back. I even managed to pass a couple of women as I angled toward the I-90 bridge. It seemed that the phrase "on your left," was as much used as "you go girl!" Did I mention that there was one hill on this course?

Utilizing a (normally fenced off) narrow, steep maintenance road, only two lines of bikes were suppose to be there, 1 up & 1 down. This gradually enlarged to 2 up and 1 down, then 2 up and 2 down, w/ inches between handlebar ends. Those quick shifting levers had me down in the lowest gear I had (I told the maker of my trusty steed that I wanted to be able to ride up walls), and avoiding the walkers on the right, dug down and spun up that short, ¼ block of hill. Arriving at the top, I went through the one section of opening in the jersey barrier, turned to head across Lake Washington, & get my breath back. Mt. Rainier was shining in the distance to my right, the road was flat and smooth, and it was a picture perfect morning. It was at this time that I grabbed an energy bar and started munching it down. Multi-tasking was an 'event' that I had also practiced at Pt. D. It's also easier to eat on a bike, then to eat on the run. About 3 lines were headed in each direction on these express lanes that normally contained cars. I was in the middle one and was moving comfortable along. It was at this time that I was able to observe the different types of bikes women were riding. Whizzing past "on your left," were fast road bikes w/ thin tires and aero bars, their riders bent low over the handlebars. I was passing heavier framed hybrid, old road or mountain bikes, w/ thicker tires (some so knobby I wondered where the dirt was suppose to be), sweeping handlebars, downtube shifters and upright riders. Then we headed for the 1st overpass.

The tunnel lights illuminated the slight incline. I down-shifted and spun onwards. The tunnel apparently was the signal for everyone to let out a long and loud WHOOP! I saved my breath; besides, the roadway appeared to have sprouted water bottles all over the place. Dogging and weaving my way through I entered the sunlit world again. Glancing down at my odometer, I was surprised to see that I was not at the halfway point yet. Then I heard the roar of an engine. Just as the Swim section had 'swim angels,' the Bike section had 'bike angels,' both motorized (read small motorcycle) and non-motorized (read bike). Both had on board floor pumps, and every thing needed to change a flat tire or fix some minor mechanical problem. You didn't even need to know how to change your own tire.

Finally, after 2 more inclines, and wondering where the heck the turn around point was, I spotted it. Everyone slowed down to make the turn, then it was pour on the after-burners! I-90 was the place for speed as the roadway was wide, nicely surfaced, and mostly flat so you could see where you could pass easily. I downed more cold Gatorade I had in a water bottle on my bike & chased it with water. Back across the big water to get through the bottleneck to the downhill. Riding my brakes hard down hill, till my hands hurt, I reached the

Continued on p. 7

Danskin continued from p. 4

slight incline that headed back towards Genessee Park. Speed was needed here, but skill was the principle factor required to dodge the potholes, pavement cracks, water grates, manhole covers (and some spectators) along the course, which appeared to be worse inbound than on the outbound course. I caught my one and only glimpse of Ralph sitting in a chair among the spectators and was able to yell a greeting. But there was not one car on the course!

As I approached the Bike Finish I remembered the advice from the YMCA trainer. With as much energy that a participant puts out during the bike event, the leg muscles sort of forget how to stand straight and support the full weight of the body without the benefit of a bike seat. So it was advised that one stand up and pedal for the last couple hundred yards or so of the course. I did just so, and saw that it was fine advice. Just at the dismount area in front of the Bike Finish gate, three riders swung their legs over their bars, put their feet on the pavement, and promptly fell over. Volunteers rushed out to help get them standing, while others called for oncoming riders to slow down. With my heart pumping & my lungs dragging in air, I dismounted and ran into the Transition area. Now, where was I was suppose to rack my bike? In Section D, three rows over and the third rack in from the end, directly in line with a tree, and where my Teva sandals were hanging from the bar. Once there I could re-bungee my bike, then take off my helmet. The Bike section was complete. I had finished 12.7 miles in forty-four minutes, averaging 16.7 mph. I wasn't ready to go home now. The last event still remained; then I could go home. It was only a short 5K run. But there was also one good hill on it. I'd seen it; and I was not looking forward to it.



NEW MEMBERS

Patrick Joseph, and Joe & Sue Krezelak

RENEWING MEMBERS

Margaret Lavender & Bruce Engell, Mark, Debbie, Jila & Pete Bozanich, Tom Cook, Michael A. Doyle, Bernie Finklein, Jean M. Graves, Cynthia & Steve Hammer, Santana Harris, Dianne Koch, Steve & Mary Kubiszewski, Patsy Lavelle, Sue Mathews, Lois & Paul Marquart, Krista Pearson, Mike Silvers, Greg Torfin, Janice Jensen, Dorothy Schedvin, and Marguerite Richmond



Musings by Myrick

This past month I have been in the process of creating a designated endowment fund for the Foothills Coalition. The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation will be the administrator and custodian for the fund. Each year, the Foothills Coalition will receive five percent of the fund's value to carry on their important work of supporting trail creation for walkers, bicyclists, and others. This work helps support the Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club mission to promote cycling for recreation, health and as a form of alternate transportation. This fund will be a permanent form of income for the Foothills Coalition, but the monies will be re-directed to the TWBC if the Foothills Coalition should dissolve or change its mission. In the event the TWBC ceases to exist, the monies will be re-directed to a like organization to continue the purpose of the fund. Past history indicates that the annual payment should grow over the years, hopefully to keep up with inflation.

If you should be interested in donating to the fund, you can contact Margy McGroarty at 383-5622. The Foundation's website is www.tacomafoundation.org. Another option is to create a charitable gift annuity that would pay you or you and another person a fixed amount each year during the lifetime of you and the other person. At the donor's death, the remainder can be transferred to the Coalition's fund or others of your choice. There are several other options available like a charitable Remainder Unitrust where your income can be variable from 5 to 7 percent of the yearly value of the assets held in trust for your benefit. This unitrust should pay you an increasing amount over the years. I would also be happy to talk with anyone who might be interested in donating or creating a trust or gift annuity.

More Musings by Myrick

I didn't get to relive myself of some thoughts at the last Wednesday meeting so I will pass these on and I will pass on some thoughts related to creating a list of expectations for the Executive Director and the Coalition for next year.

General Thoughts:

1. Should we think about reviving the Pierce County Regional Trails Advisory Commission in light of the less than satisfactory progress of trails throughout the County and as a way to promote trails with the other governments in the County? Likewise, should we lobby for a new Pierce County Trails Coordinator to be hired and named. I believe Public Works is still

continued on p. 5

TWBC December Ride Notes:

Tim's Birthday Ride: Ride the Peninsula Area to Port Orchard for lunch. Will Tim claim to be 49 forever?

Winter Solstice (in the Northern Hemisphere): Occurs on Dec. 22 @ 7:04 AM, UT (Universal Time) or GMT (Greenwich Mean Time), or on Dec 21, @ 11:04 PM, PST (Pacific Standard Time). The Sun is the farthest south due to the tilt of the Earth's rotational axis. First Day of Winter. Shortest day & longest night of the year. Solstice literally means 'Sun stands still.' The Sun appears to 'stand still' in the sky in that it's elevation at noon does not seem to change (for about three days). See what you think at noon on 12/21, 12/22, & 12/23.

Olalla Polar Bear Jump Multi-Club Ride: Ride from Jersich Park in downtown Gig Harbor, out to Olalla, to watch approx. 600 people jump or wade into Puget Sound. Call prior to Jan. 1st if you desire to ride out & become a Polar Bear. Dena can arrange for sag back to Gig Harbor after she wades in. Weather will dictate length of ride.

January Club Meeting: Yes, there is a Club Meeting for this year in the month of Jan., due to the caterer's scheduling, placing the Club Banquet in Feb. Come dream those winter dreams of riding across the country.

More Musings by Myrick cont. from p.7

transferring county gas tax revenue to Parks for this purpose. RCW 46.68-100 directs that 1/2 of 1 percent county gas tax revenue be devoted to a paths and trails fund. In 1988, this amounted to \$30,000 per year and I believe about 1 percent was actually being transferred.

2. Mountains to Sound Greenway has a long list of Directors including Governor Gary Locke. Likewise, they have a long list of Advisors including former Governor Dan Evans. Should we think about adopting a similar structure? Their website is mtsgreenway.org.

3. I have had some people question the progress of the County's Non-motorized Plan. We should remember that less than 5 percent of travel is non-motorized, but the County has devoted 15 percent of their construction monies to implementing the plan. At this high rate of spending, it would take 80 years to accomplish the plan. That is why the County created Premier Projects that were hoped to be built in 20 years.

4. Is there a way to encourage the Puyallup Indian Tribe to purchase part or all of the Carbon River lands offered by the Plum Creek Timber Company?

List of Some Proposed Expectations for the Executive Director and the Coalition for 2004:

1. Create a Charitable Foundation to provide some permanent funding.
2. Provide Trail Coordination, Design, Grant Application, Construction Management, Operation and Maintenance services for local governments and agencies.
3. Match or exceed staff salaries thru grants, contributions, events and memberships.
4. Provide Trail Patrol and Clean-up throughout the County.
5. Promote Physical Activity and Nutrition thru the Health Department and others.
6. Promote Safe Routes to Schools.
7. Participate in Helmets on Wheels.
8. Participate in CARLESS Commute and Live Close to Work programs.
9. Create a "single track" trail on both sides of the Puyallup River and continue efforts to provide a safe system from Puyallup to Tacoma in the vicinity of the River.
10. Sponsor a Retreat to develop a process for setting and implementing goals for the coming years.

There was a big AASHTO (American Association of Highway Officials) meeting on September 3 in Vermont. A resolution was passed (39-1) for establishing and extending US numbered bicycle routes. In 2004, AASHTO will begin working toward those goals with national and regional organizations. For more information visit: www.transportation.org/committe/design/tf_nonmotorized.html. The meeting was a Joint Task Force of Nonmotorized Transportation.

January Program Set

Speaking of riding across America, you will not want to miss the January program (Yes, Scarlet, we are having a January meeting! See you on January 20, 2004.). Our very own Louis Boitano will take us with him on a trek across the good ol' USA. Louis completed the trip this past summer, the stories are really fresh!

the Picture Page

The Pres & his Lady Dena at BAW Banquet



A Successful Bid at the Auction



More Happy TWBC Bidders at BAW Auction



Day	Date	Time	Distance	Ride Code	Leader	Contact at	Ride or Activity
Tues	12/02	Call	Call	Call	Call Ride Line	253-759-2800	Tuesday AM Ride. Call Ride Line for details.
Tues	12/02	6 PM	20 - 30	xxx	Peg W & Joyce C	475-3625 & 759-2393	Tuesday Knight Riders. Lights/Reflectors required. Start: Starbuck's @ N 26th & Proctor.
Tues	12/02	7 PM	00	00	Bob Myrick	253-473-7455	Government Affairs Meeting @ the Guadalajara Taqueria in the Stadium neighborhood @ 1st & Tacoma Avenue.
Sat	12/06	9 AM	49	2 D	Tim Payne	360-871-4478	Tim's Birthday Ride. Bad weather cancels. Start:Gig Harbor Park & Ride. SeeRideNotes.
Sun	12/07	Call	25	2 B	Bob Vogel	253-756-9984	Mtn. Bike to Mowich Lake. Rain or Snow cancels. Ride on closed, gated gravel road. Start: Call for location & time.
Sun	12/07	10 AM	40	2 B	Roz & Carol Davis	253-857-5396	Allyn-Grapeview Loup (rain cancels). Start: Espresso Stand @Hwy 302 & 118th (park in gravel).
Tues	12/09	Call	Call	Call	Call Ride Line	253-759-2800	Tuesday AM Ride. Call Ride Line for details.
Tues	12/09	6 PM	20 - 30	xxx	Peg W & Joyce C	475-3625 & 759-2393	Tuesday Knight Riders. Lights/Reflectors required. Start: Starbuck's @ N 26th & Proctor.
Tues	12/09	6:30 PM	00	00	Ralph Wessels	253-857-5658	Board Meeting @ the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred.
Thurs	12/11	11:30 AM	12+	1C	Dena Wessels	253-857-5658	Steilacoom Hill Training. Rain/Snow will cancel. Double Loop of 4 hills (Chambers Creek & Grandview). Start: Chambers Creek Properties Playfield @ 64th.
Sat	12/13	4:30 PM 6 PM	xxx 00	xxx 00	Steve & Phyllis Lay Joyce Clifford	253-759-1816 253-759-2393	Holiday Ride & Holiday Pot Luck Party. Meet @ J. Clifford's house, 3811 N Madison. Light/Reflectors required. Holiday lights & bells on bikes & riders well received.
Sun	12/14	10 AM	60	2 B	Bob Myrick	253-473-7455	Rainier for Lunch. Rain cancels. Start: McDonald's in Spanaway.
Tues	12/16	Call	Call	Call	Call Ride Line	253-759-2800	Tuesday AM Ride. Call Ride Line for details.
Tues	12/16	6 PM	20 - 30	xxx	Peg W & Joyce C	475-3625 & 759-2393	Tuesday Knight Riders. Lights/Reflectors required. Start: Starbuck's @ N 26th & Proctor.
Tues	12/16	6:30 PM	00	00	Steve Burgess & Jan Brame	253-202-3005 253-759-6984	1st Special Events Meeting. Daffodil, PMC, & Headwaters planning. There will be pizza. At J. Brame's house, 1209 N Anderson St.

Day	Date	Time	Distance	Ride Code	Leader	Contact at	Ride or Activity
Sat	12/20	8 AM	25 - 35	2 B	Steve & Phyllis Lay	253-759-1816	Pancake Breakfast @ Spanaway Senior Center. Start: Starbuck's @ 26th & Proctor.
Sat	12/20	9:25 AM 10 AM	40	2 B	Roz & Carol Davis	253-857-5396 253-380-8819	Holiday Shopping in Seattle. Rain cancels. Bring lights for trip back. Start: 1st time @ Southworth Ferry; 2nd time @ Lincoln Park.
Sun	12/21	9:30 AM	68 K	2 B	Louis Boitano	253-922-1168	Louie's Birthday Ride. Rain may shorten or postpone. Heading towards South Center. Start: Sumner Library.
Sun	12/21	11:04 PM	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	Winter Solstice. Pacific Standard Time. See Ride Notes.
Tues	12/23	Call	Call	Call	Call Ride Line	253-759-2800	Tuesday AM Ride. Call Ride Line for details.
Tues	12/23	9:30 AM	60 - 70+ K	2 D	Bob Myrick	253-473-7455	Bob's Birthday Ride to CJ's @ Bonney Lake. Rain may cancel. Includes a big up-hill. Start: Freighthouse Square.
Tues	12/23	6 PM	20 - 30	xxx	Joyce C & Peg W	759-2393 & 475-3625	Tuesday Knight Riders. Lights/Reflectors required. Start: Starbuck's @ N 26th & Proctor.
Sat	12/27	10 AM	20	2 A	Carla Gramlich	253-879-0115	Cedar River Trail. Park near front of park.. Start: Gene Coulon Park in Renton.
Sun	12/28	10 AM	30 - 40	2 B	Bob Myrick	253-473-7455	Ride to Yelm & Roy for Lunch. Rain cancels. Start: Parkland's McDonald's @ 112th & Pacific.
Tues	12/30	Call	Call	Call	Call Ride Line	253-759-2800	Tuesday AM Ride. Call Ride Line for details.
Tues	12/30	6 PM	20 - 30	xxx	Joyce C & Peg W	759-2393 & 475-3625	Tuesday Knight Riders. Lights/Reflectors required. Start: Starbuck's @ N 26th & Proctor.
Thurs	Jan. 1, 2004	10 AM	xxx	2 B	Steve & Phyllis Lay	253-759-1816	Ride around Town. Start: Starbuck's @ N 26th & Proctor.
Thurs	Jan. 1, 2004	10:30 AM	17 or 27	2 B	Ralph Wessels	253-857-5658	Olalla Polar Bear Jump Multi-Club Ride. Start: Jersich Park, Gig Harbor. See Ride Notes.
Sat	01/03	7 AM	xxx	xxx	Ralph & Dena Wessels	253-857-5658	Cross Country Ski Trip. Area to be determined by snow pack. Call to confirm. Start: Meet @ Freighthouse Square.
Tues	01/06	7 PM	00	00	Bob Myrick	253-473-7455	Government Affairs Meeting @ the Guadalajara Taqueria in the Stadium neighborhood @ 1st & Tacoma Avenue.
Tues	01/13	6:30 PM	00	00	Ralph Wessels	253-857-5658	Board Meeting @ the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred.
Tues	01/20	7 PM	00	00	TWBC	253-759-2800	January Club Meeting @ South Park Community Center, 4851 S. Tacoma Way. See Ride Notes.