



## Have You Crossed Over to the Other Side?

By Marguerite Richmond

Do you remember the last time you rode across the Narrows Bridge on your bike? If it was before Saturday, November 17, then your memories are probably similar to mine: Struggling to find the best place to get on the bridge, lifting your bike over the concrete barriers that blocked the entrance, then facing the long, dreaded trek across the bridge itself.

Do you remember the wobbly feeling of traffic rushing by six inches from your head as you stared bravely down at the debris-infested strip of cracked cement? The uncertainty of whether to look straight ahead for obstacles, or watch for broken glass while avoiding the dizzying sight of water flashing between the grates, hundreds of feet below?

Remember the pneumatic suck of each semi that thundered past, one after another? The way you had to dismount for every tower, every pedestrian, and every piece of tarp and tire that blocked your way? Do you remember how relieved you were to reach relative safety on the gritty shoulder of highway 16? And yet we all wondered why so few people wanted to start Gig Harbor rides from Tacoma.

Well, those days are finished, my friends. On Saturday, the above-mentioned November 17, sixteen club members inaugurated the newly opened bike path and declared it to be an entirely new experience.

The path is wide, flat, and smooth, with a waist-high Jersey Barrier and an empty lane separating cyclists from traffic. There is enough room for two people to ride side by side while a third passes easily on the left. It's quiet enough to carry on a conversation, and you also feel safe enough to enjoy the scenery as you ride. It was inspiring to see the soft mist suspended over the water, and gaze at the snow-capped Olympics gleaming in the distance (well, okay, the sun wasn't out, but we all know what they look like.)

**...Crossed Over... , cont. on page 5, column 2**

## SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, December 15, 2007**

**Tacoma Wheelmen Annual Holiday Party**

Lou and Karel Vance will once again be hosting the Annual Wheelmen Holiday Party at their home located at 1202 Ventura Drive in Tacoma (west of TCC & above Titlow Beach Park). Lou will lead a Christmas Light Ride in the north end starting at 5:30 pm from S 12th and Ventura Drive. Front lights and taillights are required. For the ride, dress warmly; reflective clothing is a good idea. Decorative Christmas lights are encouraged but not necessary. Rain will cancel the ride but not the party! The potluck will start after the ride at 6:45 pm. Bring your favorite appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert and the beverage of your choice. Hot spiced wine, hot spiced cider, punch, tea and coffee will be provided.

# The COG Home Page

## PRESIDENT:

[president@twbc.org](mailto:president@twbc.org)

Carol Davis, 253 - 460 - 5622

## VICE - PRESIDENT:

[vp@twbc.org](mailto:vp@twbc.org)

Vern Hase, 253 - 759 - 7246

## SECRETARY:

[secretary@twbc.org](mailto:secretary@twbc.org)

Marguerite Richmond, 253 - 272 - 1254

## TREASURER:

[treasurer@twbc.org](mailto:treasurer@twbc.org)

Gus Fant, 253 - 564 - 4710

## RIDE CAPTAIN:

[ridecaptain@twbc.org](mailto:ridecaptain@twbc.org)

Carla Gramlich, 253 - 879 - 0115

Deadline for Ride Calendar,  
usually, 3rd Thurs of every month

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

[newsletter@twbc.org](mailto:newsletter@twbc.org)

Dena Wessels, 253 - 857 - 5658

Reporters: Various members

## DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS:

[events@twbc.org](mailto:events@twbc.org)

Jan Brame, 253 - 330 - 4256

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:

[gac@twbc.org](mailto:gac@twbc.org)

Bob Myrick, 253 - 473 - 7455

## TWBC SAFETY & EDUCATION:

Jim Ahrens

**We Need a Publicity Person!**

**Your name could be here!**



## MEMBERSHIP DATABASE & MAILING:

[database@twbc.org](mailto:database@twbc.org)

Anne Seago, 253 - 761 - 0709

## MEMBERSHIP:

Phyllis Lay, 253 - 759 - 1816

## WEBMASTER:

[webmaster@twbc.org](mailto:webmaster@twbc.org)

Kris Symer, 253 - 212 - 2265

## DAFFODIL CLASSIC (2008):

[daffodil@twbc.org](mailto:daffodil@twbc.org)

Sharon Remagen, 253 - 847 - 7907

## PENINSULA METRIC (2008):

[pmc@twbc.org](mailto:pmc@twbc.org)

Mary Dahl-Smith

253 - 473 - 7174

## HEADWATERS CENTURY (2008):

[headwaters@twbc.org](mailto:headwaters@twbc.org)

**We need a Headwaters Coordinator!!**

## TWBC RAPSody Contact:

[rapsody2005@earthlink.net](mailto:rapsody2005@earthlink.net)

Ralph Wessels, 253 - 857 - 5658

## EQUIPMENT MASTER:

[equipment@twbc.org](mailto:equipment@twbc.org)

Chris Smith, 253 - 473 - 7174

## CLUB JERSEY SALES:

[jerseys@twbc.org](mailto:jerseys@twbc.org)

Peggy Fjetland, 253 - 841 - 4458

## BIKE EXPO:

[bikebooth@twbc.org](mailto:bikebooth@twbc.org)

Peggy Fjetland, 253 - 841 - 4458

## ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC:

Who wants to volunteer for 2008?

Occurring on the 3rd Tues in August



**PMC**



**Next Club Meeting: Tuesday, February 19, '08**

**January Ride Calendar Deadline:  
Tuesday, December 18, '07**

**Article Deadline for the January COG:  
Tuesday, December 18, '07**



*(If you don't receive your mailed  
Newsletter, contact the editor!)*

The TWBC 'Smiling Bicycle' Logo was designed by member Steve Lay, as are the majority of our Club Ride T-shirts, as well as the Club Jersey.

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## 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)

## Draft Lines

By President  
Carol Davis



As we enter the season between Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's, we naturally think about the year coming to an end, and project into the future. As cyclists, we have much to be thankful for. This year we have seen numerous projects come to fruition from the hard work of many.

This was the year of the Scott Pierson Trail, the path that takes us through the heart of Tacoma, connecting to the new path on the Narrows Bridge, and to the Cushman Trail on the Peninsula. A monumental achievement that helps all of us cross Tacoma more safely.



The path on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge is finally open! We can now ride our bikes legally, safely, and stress-free across the Narrows. These two projects will surely contribute to more people commuting and recreating by bicycle.



Numerous roads projects have also been completed that help us bicycle more safely. The road to Dupont has been recently improved with wide shoulders and new asphalt. On our way to the Green River Trail, people were commenting on how much better the road is. I'm sure there are other situations I am not aware of yet.



New projects are in the works. The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is working on a comprehensive non-motorized plan to help promote the Active Living Programs, "Burn Calories, Not Carbon!" Calvin Goings has secured funds for bike lanes on Canyon Road East.



The national climate is also turning towards environmental concerns which will continue to trickle down to the local level where real change continues to happen.

As we enjoy all of our new "ride-ways," we must remember that we share these areas with other users. When I am

out with other Wheelmen, I am impressed with how considerate most of us are of pedestrians and motorists. It's fun to ride fast, but these paths are not the place to do it. We want to increase peace on earth for cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. We can promote peace by riding respectfully of others (even if they are not respectful of us).

The best place to ride fast is out on country roads where there are few intersections, driveways, and little traffic. Please ride defensively in town. Don't zoom past pedestrians on trails. Don't zoom through intersections. Be aware of cars pulling out of driveways. Listen for the sounds of traffic coming behind you. Don't assume that the car is NOT going to turn just because it doesn't signal. And don't assume that the driver sees you even if you do have the right of way.

Let's ride peacefully  
and safely into the New Year!



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## The Daffodil and PMC Needs Volunteers with Health Cards

by Sharon Remagen

To be sure we continue to comply with Health Department requirements, our Club needs more volunteers with current food handler cards. We need one cardholder at each site where food is provided for our riders for the entire time it's open.

These cards are easy to obtain. For full information, call 253-798-6475, and listen to the recorded message.

The class costs \$10 (TWBC will reimburse you) and lasts about 1-1/2 hours. The food handler card is good for two years.

Classes are held at the Health Department Building at 3629 South "D" St. in Tacoma. There are plenty of opportunities to attend. They are held most Mondays and Fridays at 9 am and 2 pm: Also on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6 pm.

Watch the Ride Calendar for times when we make this fun excursion to the food class!

# Government Affairs Report

By Bob Myrick



Our committee met again on Tuesday, November 6 at the Taqueria Guadalajara in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenue. We plan to meet there again on Tuesday, December 4 @ 6:30 pm to carry on our agenda for 2007 and plan for 2008. I will be coming back from a meeting at Pack Forest where the Upper Nisqually Rural Transportation Plan will be presented and discussed. It is great to see the Bike/Ped Path open across the new Narrows Bridge. We had great coverage in the News Tribune thanks to Marguerite. It is still our hope to put on a ride in the spring that would go both ways across the bridge with elected Officials invited to participate. A good time might be Bike to Work Day or during the CarLESS Commute.

Beth Glynn and others at the Health Department have submitted a grant request to update the 1996 Tacoma Non-Motorized Plan. I hope to get the Health Department, Metro Parks, TWBC, City of Tacoma, Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition and others involved in working together on the CarLESS Commute in 2008. I think it will be the 16th year for the CarLESS Commute. Just about everybody now recognizes the need for Healthy Living, Active Living and other methods to reduce our environmental impact and our traffic congestion problems. As Dixie Gatchell and National Rails to Trails say, "burn calories, not carbon".

Out on the Foothills Trail, yellow safety envelopes have been painted around Pierce County's bollards. The plan is to remove the two outer bollards to a spot just off the pavement in most places, leaving a much safer path to travel. The other communities out there are moving in the same direction. The missing link between the Puyallup River Walk and the Foothills Trail has been delayed due to some personnel moving on to other jobs, but the link remains a high priority with the City of Puyallup. Hopefully, the work will occur next spring, but we will see. I'm still waiting to see construction start in Lower Burnett to build the big bridge structures that will carry the bike path to Buckley. The Coalition is trying to open up the dirt trail between Wilkeson and Carbonado at least by this spring. In Buckley, the Mayor is trying to get a commitment to provide the trail parallel to

the flume that carries water to Lake Tapps from the White River. Mayor Pat is also working with King County to get Buckley and Enumclaw connected.

In Milton, I have seen the contractors working on the Inter-urban Trail. I am confident the paved trail thru Milton should be available by springtime. Hopefully, we can get the trail extended thru Edgewood and Fife in the near future. The Milton trail piece has been a great place to walk the dog for about an hour or so.

In Tacoma, I have been in contact with Diane Wiatr and Eric Anderson, the City Manager, regarding their desire to move forward on streetcar, bike travel, pedestrian travel and parking issues. Carla continues to bird dog this issue and it seems like the City has a sincere desire to complete the bike lanes contemplated in their 1996 plan.

In Thurston County, I continue to receive positive reports on the Chehalis Western Trail and the much improved bollard situation. Everyone says it is so much easier and enjoyable to use the trail. Some neighbors are concerned that cyclists have been darting out into the crossing traffic. Please be careful and remember that trails like this are far more dangerous than bike lanes due to these crossing situations.

Since our last meeting, Carla and I attended an open house for the Sounder Train moving up thru the Nalley Valley. We commented that the proposed trail from South Tacoma Way to the University of Washington and the Thea Foss Waterway seems to be missing. It is missing due to a large retaining wall that seems to be required to accommodate the train. Hopefully, the City is still pursuing the trail segment from the University down to the Thea Foss. The draft plan is also out for Point Defiance Park and should be commented on, particularly with regard to bike travel. County Councilmen Calvin Goings and Tim Farrell hosted a meeting at Snake Lake to receive input on the idea of having a Transfer of Development Rights program in Pierce County. Almost 150 people showed up the support this idea. Several people including us reminded them that obtaining our non-motorized trail right of ways in a more timely manner is an important issue. Ralph and I will have attended a meeting on the Statewide Non-motorized Plan by the time you get this newsletter.

Please remember your help is needed in your local community. Right now, Lakewood is engaged in developing a non-

**Gov. Affairs, cont. on page 5, column 2**



## RIDE CAPTAIN REPORT

By Carla Gramlich

I had a nice trip to New York City without my bicycle. Sadly, my nephew, David, who had spent most of 2007 training for the Olympic Trials had to drop out at mile 21. Or in his words “just five more lousy miles to go”. He had injured himself two weeks prior and was running in pain after mile 6. He was doing well but wisely exited the run. David will see about qualifying again in four years. Another runner, Ryan Shay, collapsed at mile 5 and was pronounced dead at the hospital. It was moving to hear other runners take the time to mention this tragedy after the Trials and the NYC Marathon.

I reminded my nephew that we did have time to visit with family. I spent the rest of the week in New York City, with my mother, taking in a couple of shows, some museums and visiting other tourist sites. I now know how to hail a cab and take the subway. Knowledge I can use when I return to NYC to do the Borough’s Ride. If the next Trials are in NYC and my nephew makes it, I will be there.

During the November Board Meeting, we got word that the Bike Lane on the New Tacoma Narrows Bridge was opening on November 17. Marguerite Richmond, organized a ride for that day. The press was notified that Marguerite was leading a ride and they sent out a reporter and photographer to cover it. The Sunday paper (The News Tribune, November 18, 2007) had a large article and a couple of photos covering this ride of TWBC member crossing the Bridge’s Bike Lane in the rain and wind. It would have been nice if the Bike Lane could have opened in July but we don’t pay a toll so I guess we can’t complain.

Still looking for Ride Logs and Ride Leaders Sign Up Sheets, so please get them in to me. I will sit down and start to calculate mileage and how many rides people have led so everyone can be recognized for all your hard work on the Annual Banquet in January. I am also looking for digital photos from rides and other TWBC events, so I can compile them for the “slide show.” It is always something.

In January, I am hoping to highlight some longer rides that TWBC members are planning in 2008. If you would like to

do a weekend or week long trip, please get me the information and we will mention it in the January Newsletter. You don’t have to have all the details; dates for the ride would be helpful. This will allow members to start planning and secure time off to do your trip.

There are numerous rides on the December ride calendar plus our Annual Holiday Party on December 15. There really isn’t any reason not to ride. Hope to see you on the road.

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### ...Crossed Over..., contin. from page 1

But as wonderful as the path is, you hardly have time to enjoy it before you are on the other side. With a clear shot from the War Memorial Park on Jackson to the first overpass (24th St NW) by the golf center, the whole trip feels like one smooth coast, straight across. Once on the other side, it’s a quick hop over to the Cushman Trail, and easy sailing into downtown Gig Harbor.

That day, the weather was cold and windy, and the rain had just briefly let up. So, instead of riding all the way to the Tides Tavern as we had planned, we went to Cutters Point Coffee instead. The News Tribune was recording the historic opening of the bike trail, and several members were interviewed as well as photographed crossing the bridge. If you didn’t see the great article in the Sunday News Tribune (November 18, 2007), check it out online at [www.thenewstribune.com](http://www.thenewstribune.com).

Many thanks to all the Wheelmen and other cycling advocates who have worked so hard for years to ensure that a safe, accessible path was included in plans for the new bridge. It not only makes crossing a breeze, it opens up many more opportunities for riding – for everyone.

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### Gov Affairs, contin. from page 4

motorized plan. There has been very little input from the community. There should be a form and information in this newsletter regarding our TWBC Banquet in January. The other Officers and I sure hope to see you there. Please cycle more and worry less. Try to find a way to stay warm and dry until spring.



## A Basic Bicycle Riding Plan

By Safety & Education Officer  
Jim Ahrens

Ask just about any cyclist why they ride and chances are no two riders give exactly the same answer. Some riders say they cycle as an alternative to driving; some do it for their health, while others do it to lessen the impact on our environment. You might have similar reasons ... and several more. Maybe you want to ride in the rain (ha-ha), maybe to ride faster, further, or more intensely. Maybe you want to beat your little brother to the top of the hill, or maybe fit into that jersey you bought two years ago.

I like to look for suggestions on riding. Whether it is inspiration or educational, we can all learn from one another. While nothing in this short article is news to anyone, it is worth repeating.

It's never too early to jump-start a plan to do some of those cycling things you've wanted to do. Cycling is an activity that through repetition and consistency gradually strengthens the body. If you are planning to do a long ride in July, plan for it and practice in advance of that event. That way you become gradually used to the distances and demands made on your body. Use the training time to fine-tune how to best meet your nutritional, metabolic and hydration needs.

Something to consider are activities that keep you involved and energized. This might include attending a bike handling

course or a bicycle maintenance/repair workshop. It is always good to know how to handle yourself and your bike when on a collision path with another cyclist who is talking on a cell phone. It's also handy to have the know-how if you need to do minor repairs or adjustments when out on the road.

So what else can a cycling plan or schedule do??? It can forecast where you ought to be. You can gauge if you're ready to hit your targets. Remember if you get off track for a few weeks, take a look at the plan you developed. Make adjustments and get right back on. Keep cycling!

## Gifts for Cyclists in Your Life

At a recent club meeting, those attending came up with gift suggestions for your cycling friends and family. You may copy this list, highlight the things you want, and leave it where Santa will see it!



### Bike Stuff

Vintage Bicycle  
New Bicycle  
Headlights  
Wireless Speedometer  
Handlebar tape to match color of bike  
Bento bag  
Insulated Water bottle  
Waterproof panniers  
Small water-proof bag like kayakers use  
Tail-light  
Tires to match the color of bike  
Bike stand (the Handstand from Cleverbike)

### Duds

Rain Gear  
Shoe covers  
Bicycle Sandals  
Gortex waterproof socks  
New Road ID anklet/gift certificate  
Waterproof pants  
Reflective vest  
Neon clothing  
Winter cycling gloves  
New Cycling gloves  
Base layer garments with wicking properties  
"Body Glide"

### Other Stuff

TWBC membership  
BAW membership  
Foothills trails membership  
League of American Bicyclists Membership  
Adventure Cycling Membership (includes great magazine)  
Fully charged Starbuck's Card  
Pierce County Bike map  
Books of bicycle routes  
Chocolate covered espresso beans



# twbc monthly event schedule

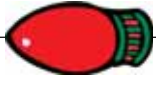
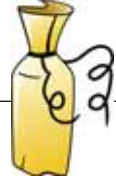

call the ride line for the latest additions and corrections...253-759-2800

Day/- Day	Time	Ride Code	Dist- ance	Leader/ Contact @ (253)	Ride or Activity
12/01 Sat	9 AM	3 B	25	Gene Smith 272 - 6747	Training Ride. Route decided @ start/ Emphasis on maintaining a steady pace using good cadence & spinning techniques. Paceline/drafting experience not required, but may be integrated during ride depending on cyclist experience. Start: Spoke & Sprocket, University Place.
12/02 Sun	Fun	Facts	Notes	Smooth Sunday	The Safety Razor was patented on this day in 1901.
12/03 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	David & Joyce 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. Loop Pt. Defiance. Someone will stay with the slowest rider. Regroup at Ft. Nisqually, then onto Fircrest for espresso/raspberry scones. You can shorten to 13 miles by cutting out Fircrest. Rain/Freezing Cancels. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.
12/04 Tues	9:30 AM	2 B	30 - 50	Call Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tues. Decide to Ride. Note later Winter Start Time. Start: Call Ride Line or check Club Website for details.
12/04 Tues	7 PM	00 Meet	00 & Eat	Bob Myrick 473 - 7455	<b>Government Affairs Meeting</b> @ Guadalajara Taqueria in the Stadium H.S. area @ 1st & Tacoma Ave. Work on bicycle problems around Pierce County. All are invited to participate.
12/06 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 A	30	Lonna Cain 475 - 8853	Silk Road Smooooothly. 100% paved trail w/ very few road crossings;. No hills, no unpleasantries or your money back! Smoothies or beverage of your choice in South Prairie (no host). Rain Cancels. Start: East Puyallup Trailhead.
12/07 Fri	10:30 AM	2 A	43	Lou & Karel Vance 921 - 4847	Ride the Chehalis Western Trail (CWT). See Ride Notes for location/start details. RSVP appreciated. Carpool from Skyline P & R (6th Ave) @ 9:30 AM. Rain Cancels. Start: Chambers Lake Trailhead, Lacey.
12/08 Sat	11 AM	1 A	12	Sharon&David Remagen 847 - 7907	Woodard Bay to Picasso Bros on the CWT. See Ride Notes for details for location/start details. Start: Woodard Bay Trailhead.
12/09 Sun	9:30 AM	2 B	25	Roz & Carol Davis 460 - 5622	Coffee Break Ride. Loop to Lakewood w/ a stop for coffee. Start: Bertolino's Coffee Shop @ 40th W & S Orchard.
12/10 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	David & Joyce 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. Rain/Freezing Cancels. See 12/03 for Ride Details.
12/11 Tues	9:30 AM	2 B	30 - 50	Call Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tues. Decide to Ride. Note new Winter Start Time. Start: Call Ride Line or check Club Website for details.



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Day/ Day	Time	Ride Code	Dist- ance	Leader/ Contact @ (253)	Ride or Activity
12/11 Tues	<b>6 PM</b>	00 Meet	00 & Eat	Carol Davis 380 - 8819	<b>Board Meeting</b> @ the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred. Guests & Club members welcomed.
12/12 Weds	Fun	Facts	Notes	Wacky Weds	US Steel was formed on this day in 1900.
12/13 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 A	30	Lonna Cain 475 - 8853	Silk Road Smoooothly. Rain Cancels. See 12/06 for Ride Details.
12/14 Fri	10:30 AM	2 A	30	Lou & Karel Vance 921 - 4847	Foothills Friday. No host coffee/smoothies in South Prairie. Rain Cancels. Start: East Puyallup Trailhead.
12/15 Sat	<b>5:30 PM</b>	1 B	???	Lou & Karel Vance 921 - 4847	<b>Annual TWBC Holiday Ride.</b> Front lights & taillights required for ride; reflective clothing a good idea Decorated bikes welcomed. Rain Cancels. Start: Home @ 1202 Ventura Dr. 
12/15 Sat	<b>6:45 PM</b>	00 Meet	00 & Eat	Lou & Karel Vance 921 - 4847	<b>Annual TWBC Holiday Party.</b>  Potluck; bring your favorite appetizer, main dish, salad or dessert. Start: Home @ 1202 Ventura Dr.
12/16 Sun	<b>5 PM</b>	00 Meet &	00 Listen	 Bob Myrick 473 - 7455	Blue Vespers @ Immanuel Presbyterian Church. Features Little Bill & the Blue Notes w/ special guest Heather Rayburn. Annual free Enchilada Dinner follows music. A unwrapped new toy would be appreciated to support Christmas House. Start: 909 N "J" St.
12/17 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	David & Joyce 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. Rain/Freezing Cancels. See 12/03 for Ride Details.
12/18 Tues	<del>9:30</del> AM	2 B	30 - 50	Call Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tues. Decide to Ride. Note new Winter Start Time. Start: Call Ride Line or check Club Website for details.
12/18 Tues	<b>6:30 PM</b>	00 Meet &	00 Plan	Jan Brame 330 - 4256	<b>Special Events Meeting.</b> If you are interested in volunteering for one/all of the TWBC Events, attend! Start: Home @ 1209 N Anderson.
12/20 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 A	30	Lonna Cain 475 - 8853	Silk Road Smoooothly. Rain Cancels. See 12/06 for Ride Details.
12/21 Fri	10:30 AM	2 A	43	Lou & Karel Vance 921 - 4847	Ride the Chehalis Western Trail (CWT). See Ride Notes for location/start details. RSVP appreciated. Can carpool from Skyline P & R (6th Ave) @ 9:30 AM. Rain Cancels. Start: Chambers Lake Trailhead, Lacey
12/21 Fri	<b>10:08 PM PST</b>	Fun	Facts	Friday	Winter Solstice @ 06:08 Universal Time. Beginning of winter/summer in the Northern/Southern Hemisphere. Here, shortest day & longest night of the year.





# twbc monthly event schedule

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Day/- Day	Time	Ride Code	Dist- ance	Leader/ Contact @ (253)	Ride or Activity
12/22 Sat	9:30 AM	2 B	72 KM	Louie Boitano 922 - 1168	Louie's Birthday Ride. Join Louie as he rides his age in kilometers. Start: Sumner Library. 
12/23 Sun	<b>12:30 PM</b>	2 B	30	Carla Gramlich 879 - 0115	Sunday Afternoon Ride on the Foothills Trail w/ a stop for coffee/snack in South Prairie. Start: East Puyallup Trailhead.
12/24 Mon	Fun	Facts	Notes	Movable Monday	The 'bicycle break operated by pedaling backward' was patented by W. Hance & D. Stover on this day in 1889.
12/24 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	David & Joyce 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. Rain/Freezing Cancels. See 12/03 for Ride Details.
12/25 Tues	<b>9:30 AM</b>	2 B	30 - 50	Call Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tues. Decide to Ride. Note new Winter Start Time. Start on this holiday: Freighthouse Square.
12/27 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 A	30	Lonna Cain 475 - 8853	Silk Road Smoooothly. Rain Cancels. See 12/06 for Ride Details.
12/28 Fri	10:30 AM	2 A	30	Lou & Karel Vance 921 - 4847	Foothills Friday. No host coffee/smoothies in South Prairie. Rain Cancels. Start: East Puyallup Trailhead.
12/30 Sun	<b>12:30 PM</b>	2 B	30	Carla Gramlich 879 - 0115	Sunday Afternoon Ride on the Cedar River Trail. Start: Gene Coulon Park, Renton.
12/31 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	David & Joyce 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. Rain/Freezing Cancels. See 12/03 for Ride Details.
01/01 Tues	9:30, 10:45 AM	2 B	30 - 50	Call Ride Line 759 - 2800, Ralph Wessels 549 - 6952cell, Dena Wessels 857 - 5658	Tues. Decide to Ride. To celebrate the New Year, the group will ride over the New Narrows Bridge to Olalla to see the Polar Bears jump (or wade) into the water. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor @ 9:30 or meet w/ Ralph @ Jerisich Park in Gig Harbor @ 10:45. Contact Dena early if you want to jump & get sagged back to GH.

## December Ride Notes

**12/07, Fri:** Ride the Chehalis Western Trail (CWT). We will start at 10:30 a.m. from Chambers Lake Trailhead in Lacey and ride the CWT from Lacey to Tenino.

*Directions:* **I-5 South** to Martin Way Exit. Right off of the exit onto Martin Way and then left onto College Street (CS). Continue on CS to 14th Ave S. Turn right on 14th and go approximately one mile. The entrance/parking are on the left near the trestle. Carpool @ 9:30 am from the 6th Ave/Skyline P&R, in Tacoma. Rain cancels, RSVP appreciated.

**12/08, Sat:** Woodard Bay to Picasso Bros on the CWT. Enjoy scenery including herds of cows, flocks of geese, emu, horses, & lots of rural scenery.

*Directions:* **I-5 Southbound** take Exit 105B and merge onto Plum St. **I-5 Northbound** take Exit 105, keep right and right again, to the stop lights on Plum St. Turn left onto Plum St, go 6 mi (becomes East Bay Dr then Boston Harbor Rd). Bear right on to Woodard Bay Rd for 1 mi; road turns left but Woodard Bay Rd continues to the right immediately at end of turn, continue for 0.8 mi. across causeway and around corner. Parking for CWT is on the left.

## Annual TWBC Annual Banquet

By Bob Myrick

Each year our club sponsors a banquet to reflect on the past year's activities and accomplishments. It is a great time for fellowship and to honor significant achievements. You are cordially invited to attend. The banquet will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2008 at the Wild West VFW Post 91, 2000 South Union Ave. This fun event starts at 6:00 pm for socializing with dinner to follow at 7:00 pm. There may be a jam session starting around 4:00 pm, if I can find some TWBC musicians brave enough to show up again. Dean Allen's Catering will again be serving dinner. This will be the eleventh year for Dean Allen's team because they do such a great job. Last year, we had to reluctantly raise prices to \$20 for adults and \$15 for children.

Look in this newsletter for the 2008 Banquet Reservation Form. Mail your reservations to the club address: TWBC Banquet, PO Box 112078, Tacoma, WA 98411. You will not receive any confirmation so just trust us to do the right thing (as long as you address your envelope as stated—if you absolutely positively want to verify that your reservation has been received, call Dena Wessels @ 253-857-5658). We must limit attendance to about eighty-eight people so think about signing up as early as possible.

Dress at the banquet ranges from your old cycling clothes to your best evening wear. Some people ride to the banquet. It is a great time to reflect on the past year and reaffirm your interest in bicycling. We recognize note-worthy mileages (all of them!), volunteerism and accidents. There is always good food, beverages, merriment and good humor. Sometimes, it is the only time of the year when the Code 2 riders meet the Code 3 riders, or when the Monday, Tuesday and Thursday riders meet the weekend cyclists and hard-core commuters.

The banquet is traditionally the largest gathering of fellow club members. We limit attendance due to the size of the facility and to limit our costs. Whether you choose to attend the banquet or not, please send your Ride Logs, Commute Logs and Ride Leader Sheets to TWBC 2007, Attention: Touring Captain Carla Gramlich, PO Box 112078, Tacoma, WA 98411.

Please send these by early December so that we can rec-

ognize your accomplishments. Carla is also requesting that if you have good digital images from the past year's worth of riding, save them or send them to her. She plans on preparing another great slide show for your enjoyment (the more images, the merrier the time)!

As always, we welcome any help. Carol Davis, our President, will be the Master of Ceremonies. Steve Brown will be providing refreshments and some light snacks. Wine will come from Wildside Wines. Peggy Fjetland will help organize the event and the entertainment. Mike Schrumm will be assisting as well. These people are all great company, so come out early and help them set up the place or plan to stay late and help clean up. Please call me if you would like to help. We really need your digital images.

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## But It's Too Warm for Balaclavas!

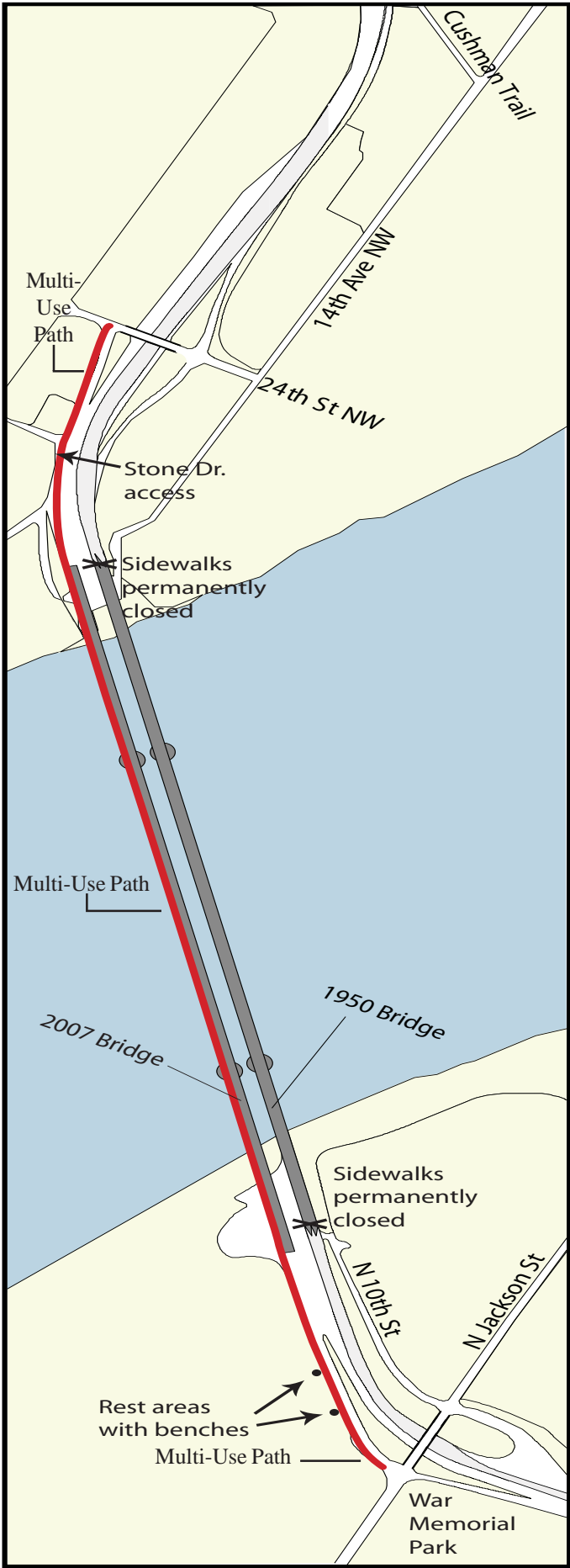
by Marguerite Richmond

The weather was spectacular for this year's annual Halloween club ride and potluck on Sunday, October 28. Nine riders headed out from Steve and Phyllis Lay's house under clear blue skies and bright sunshine. The Lays wore elaborate clown costumes, Lou Vance was convincing as a mild-mannered pirate, and riding behind him, Carol was Hell on Wheels. Marguerite looked demented with a large spider on her helmet, and four people showed up dressed as bicycle riders – complete with bicycles!

As we rode twenty miles through Tacoma, reactions from residents varied. We were greeted with shouts of encouragement in the North End, friendly skepticism on Hilltop, complete apathy downtown, and initial terror followed by polite smiles in University Place. But everywhere we rode, people noticed us. The Halloween ride is a great way to promote cycling as a fun activity. It's also the one ride of the year where you hear cars honk, and know they are being supportive!

Back at the Lay's at 2:30 pm, we were ready to eat. We were joined by additional club members who brought meatballs, turkey sandwiches, fresh baked bread, German pastries, salads and cider. It was all delicious, but everyone agreed the highlight of the meal was Karel Vance's homemade Baklava, which some people misunderstood as cold weather gear. That left more for the rest of us, and we all wobbled home afterwards, looking forward to the next holiday ride.

Introducing : **The New Narrows Bridge  
Multi-Use Path**  
or How to Get From Tacoma to Gig Harbor



or is it From Gig Harbor to Tacoma...



for more info on the New Narrows Bridge go to [www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr16narrowsbridge/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr16narrowsbridge/)

## Bridge (& Road) Etiquette, Laws, Rules, Common Sense, Etc.

Submitted by Dena Wessels

With the opening of the multi-use (i.e., bike/pedestrian) path on the New Tacoma Narrows Bridge, it might be a good time for Club Members to review our knowledge of bike laws and safety tips. Remember of course, that in Washington State, bicycles are legally considered "vehicles" on Washington's roadways. That means bicyclists must obey the rules of the road as drivers of any other vehicle and must be treated as equal users by all other vehicles. So, **Ride your Bike or Tandem** as if you were **Driving a Car or Truck!** The following laws are taken from the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) on the Municipal Resource and Services Center of Washington at the web address: <http://srch.mrsc.org:8080/rcwwac/template.htm?view=main>.

Title '46' deals with Motor Vehicles. Chapter '61' deals with Rules of the Road.

### RCW 46.61.245

#### **Drivers to Exercise Care.**

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this chapter **every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care** to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any obviously confused or incapacitated person upon a roadway. (Editor's Note: the phrase '...sounding the horn...' I personally would take to mean as making some type of warning noise either with a bike bell (ding, ding!) or your voice ('On your left'). Please, please, don't forget when sounding your 'warning,' to factor in the loudness of wind &/or vehicle noise, or the fact that the upcoming pedestrian(s) just may not be able to physically hear you (they may be deaf or actually be hard of hearing); & if they were, wouldn't you feel stupid while you were demonstrating your personal bicycle etiquette?

### RCW 46.61.755

#### **Traffic Laws Apply to Persons Riding Bicycles.**

(1) Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway **shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties** applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, except as to special regulations in RCW 46.61.750 through

46.61.780 and except as to those provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application. (Editor's Note: 61.750 – 61.780 includes 'Effects of regulations-penalty,' 'Hand signals,' 'Riding on bicycles,' 'Clinging to vehicles,' 'Riding on roadways and bicycle paths,' 'Carrying articles,' 'Lamps & other equipment on bicycles.')

(2) Every person riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk or crosswalk must be granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to a pedestrian by this chapter.

### RCW 46.61.100

#### **Keep Right Except When Passing, etc.**

(1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width a vehicle **shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except** as follows:

(a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing such movement; (b) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided, any person so doing shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion of the highway within such distance as to constitute an immediate hazard; (Editor's Note: this is only part of this particular RCW)

### RCW 46.61.770

#### **Riding on Roadways and Bicycle Paths.**

(1) Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at a rate of speed less than the normal flow of traffic at the particular time and place **shall ride as near to the right side of the right through lane as is safe except** as may be appropriate while preparing to make or while making turning movements, or while overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction. A person operating a bicycle upon a roadway or highway other than a limited-access highway, which roadway or highway carries traffic in one direction only and has two or more marked traffic lanes, may ride as near to the left side of the left through lane as is safe. A person operating a bicycle upon a roadway may use the shoulder of the roadway or any specially designated bicycle lane if such exists.

(2) Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

Remember, that newly opened ten foot section on the New Tacoma Narrows Bridge is not a 'limited access highway,'




**Bridge (& Road)...., cont. on page 13, column 2**

## Transportation Improvement Board Funds Projects in Pierce County

The Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (T.I.B.) awarded road and sidewalk improvement grants to sixty local agency projects totaling \$65.4 million at its November 16 meeting in Tacoma. The grant funding comes from the revenue generated by three cents of the statewide gas tax dedicated by the Legislature to T.I.B. programs.

Pierce County was awarded \$5.0 million to widen 94th Avenue East and build sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of this heavily congested roadway. The city of Lakewood will receive \$1.6 million to complement the private developer improvements recently completed on Bridgeport Way.

Additional grants in cities throughout Pierce County total nearly \$500,000 to provide new sidewalks and sidewalk maintenance. Bonney Lake, Buckley, South Prairie, and Milton will be the benefactors of that funding.

Lead Agency 	Project (Area)	Project Limits 	TIB Funds 	Total Project Cost
Pierce County	94th Avenue E	500' south of 136th St E to 116th St E	5,000,000	10,074,000
Lakewood	Bridgeport Way	75th St to North City Limits	1,600,000	4,044,000
Bonney Lake	SR 410	Central Business District	154,503	220,719
Milton	Milton Way	11th Ave to 15th Ave	189,221	270,316
Buckley	Street maintenance	Multiple locations throughout the city	71,792	71,792
South Prairie	Sidewalk maintenance	Multiple locations throughout the city	57,290	57,290



## membership report by Phyllis Lay

### December Memberships

#### Renewing Members:

Fred Knox and Sue Batali, Keith Bates, Rod Briggs, Jim Graham, Santana Harris, Kurt Harsh, Vern Hase, Linda Higgins, William Horn, Lewis Jones, Georgene Kunz, Margaret Lavender, Bob and Donna Levin, Phillip Lux, Kate Oliver, Ronald and Bonnie Nowicki, Todd & Barbie Pratt, Thomas Reardon, Marguerite Richmond, Joy Roelofsz, Corky & Mary Smith, John Summerour & Family, Lou and Karel Vance, and Karen Comer & Charlie Wolf.



#### New Members:

Austen Freeda & Family, Jim Frentress & Family, Cathy Garner, Ken Gunkle, Jim Martin, Heidi Morton, Andrew Neiditz, Ed Orcutt, John Pfafe, and Sally Sprenger & Family.



### Bridge (& Road)..., cont. from page 12, column 2

or an exclusive 'bicycle path,' or an exclusive 'pedestrian walkway.' It is a MULTI-USE PATH, & as such you can expect to find any & all users on it (except, motorcycles, cars, vans & trucks).

Now, you might say, "but wait, the RCW's specify *roadways*, & *bike paths*. This section of the bridge is a multi-use path, & these RCW's don't specify *that!*" The only thing that I can personally say to you then, is Tell It To The Judge after you're ticketed by a law enforcement officer (& I hope you're not wearing a TWBC jersey on your bike at the time you're caught committing the infraction(s)).

**Courtesy & Care & Safety** for ALL users is first & foremost when traversing on any surface!

Ok, I'm off my high horse now. Let's be responsible TWBC Members & set good examples to the public while with our bikes. Kids small & kids grown are always watching everywhere. There is even suppose to be a big old elf watching all of us somewhere in the North, making some kind of list...



# TWBC BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

## Saturday, January 26, 2008

### Wild West VFW Post 91, 2000 South Union Ave



Please list the names in your party for name tags  
so you and others will know who you are...  
(please print clearly!)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Number of adults \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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

**TWBC Banquet, PO Box 112078, Tacoma, WA 98411**

## TWBC BLURB AREA



The Budget was passed by those attending the November Club Meeting.  
Our non-ride expenditures for the 2008 calendar year will total approximately \$28,500.



Get those Ride Logs & Ride Leader Sheets to Ride Captain Carla early in December (she'll take them later in December, but be nice, help her out, & get them in asap)!

There is a 'High Importance' **Voluntary Recall** for **Genuine Innovations Second Wind MTB** (Part #s 2525, 2525-0 & 3519) & **Wrench Force Two Shot** (Part #s 84995, 84995-1 & 80383) Tire Pumps. They can shatter while under pressure when inflating tires. If you have one of these pumps, contact the company @ (800) 340 – 1050 or web address: [www.genuineinnovations.com](http://www.genuineinnovations.com) for return authorization #s to receive defective products & for them to send you replacements. Thanks for the info, Larry!

A nice Holiday gift for a rider would be a snazzy TWBC Club Jersey or a pair of TWBC Buddy Flaps to help keep the rain from your buddy's face. There are 6 Medium, 15 Large, & 6 Extra-Large Club Jerseys still available.

For the Buddy Flaps, there are 8 Red (short), 5 Silver (short), & 8 Yellow (long) still available.

Contact Peggy Fjetland early in December if you would like to purchase one (or two, or....).

Please note the **new deadline dates** for the **Ride Calendar & Articles** for the Newsletter for the month of **January**.

If you would like to save the Club money so that more may be spent in our local community, choose to have your *Cognitive Carrier* delivered to you by E-mail instead in stead of by print, mailer & USPS! E-mail the Editor your choice.

The 2008 Group Health Seattle International Bicycle Expo will occur on March 8 & 9  
at Cruise Terminal 30 (2431 East Marginal Way) in Seattle.



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

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Permit No. 931

December  
2007



mail to:

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Please Note: You can become a member at [www.twbc.org](http://www.twbc.org). Click on 'Online' under the Join heading.

### B e c o m e a m e m b e r o f T W B C

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_  
(for Club use only)

Please Check Those That Apply:

New Member       Renew       Addr Chg

Want to Receive Newsletter by:

E-mail       US Postal Service

Individual person membership Fee..... \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Family membership Fee..... \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

One-time Initiation Fee .....\$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Membership Fee(s) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thanks for becoming a member of TWBC !

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 USPS address,  
phone # or email address in  
the yearly membership  
listings.

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

Leading Bike Rides

Events (Daffodil, PMC,  
Headwaters)

Newsletter

Club Meeting Programs

Becoming a Club Officer



# *the Picture Page*



Left:  
A Motley Bunch Assembles  
for the Halloween Ride



Right:  
Ride Captain Penguin



Left:  
Dedication for  
The Habitat for Humanity House  
built by  
Mike & Marcia Madden  
& 1000 Friends.



# *the Picture Page*



Left:  
Habitat for Humanity Sign  
at the home



Right: Mike & Marcia Madden in front of the HFH home



Left:  
The Newly Built Habitat for Humanity  
Home on Dedication Day,  
November 10, 2007

# *the Picture Page*



At the Start, those hale & hearty TWBC Members, in their attempt to ‘Cross Over to the Other Side...’



Legal but only after Nov 17, 2007



And the Sign Said  
“Restrooms Not For Public Use...”

# *the Picture Page*

From the Tacoma 'Side'...

It was wet....



# *the Picture Page*

From the Tacoma 'Side'...



It was windy....



# *the Picture Page*

From the Gig Harbor 'Side'...



**But traversing the path  
on opening day...**

Is there suppose to be  
a HILL on this Bridge?!?

Your cell phone when where?  
Heh guys, there's a phone  
we can use right back here!



# the Picture Page

In Gig Harbor



Marguerite Richmond:  
Leader of the Pack.....

Sure was Nifty!



The Interview From The News Tribune



Coffee, coffee,  
cup of coffee,  
make me WARM!  
I need a kick-start,  
so I can go home,  
and get DRY!

