



the cog-nitive courier

tacoma wheelmen's bicycle club newsletter

po box 112078 tacoma, wa 98411 www.twbc.org 253-759-2800

TWBC, originally established in 1888 & reinvigorated in 1974, is a general purpose bicycling club in Pierce County that welcomes cyclists of all skill levels for social riding. The COG is issued monthly.

2012 RAPSody Wrap-Up

By Ralph Wessels

More than 300 riders registered for the 2012 RAPSody and came from Arizona, British Columbia, California, Florida, Iowa, New York, Oregon, South Carolina, and Washington. The weather was almost perfect for the 2-day, 170-mile ride with blue skies on Saturday and the temperature in the upper 70s turning to partially sunny on Sunday and a few degrees cooler.

Volunteers for TWBC included Mike Adams, Sue Coley, Darrell Eslinger, Peggy Fjetland, John & Lois George, Joella & Larry Graves, Daniel Jones, Jim Kling, Steve Lantry, Roger Laybourne and the wonderful Clover Park Kiwanis, Bob Myrick, Kate Oliver, Tim Payne, Tom Reardon, George Richter, Bill Robinson, Nicholas Shelden, Tom & Noranne Skaanland, and Ralph & Dena Wessels. Kelly Pidone managed the website.

Old Town Bicycle, Silverdale Cyclerly, The Bike Stand, and Joy Rides Cycle all provided mechanical support along the way. Be sure to support these business as they support you! Thea Wescott and Timberland Ridge returned again to provide great bluegrass music at the finish line. Great appreciation also goes to BIKES of Snohomish County, Capital Bicycle Club, Cyclists of Greater Seattle, West Sound Cycling Club, Kitsap Ham Radio Club, Mason County Ham Radio Club, Tacoma Community College and their great Security staff, Shelton School District, Port of Allyn, Port of Manchester, Century Massage, Save Our County Kids, Miles John (the photographer), and others supporters. A very big **THANK YOU** to all of you for making RAPSody a success!

The proceeds from RAPSody will again go to the Bicycle Alliance of Washington and be used to support bicycle programs and advocacy in Washington. The next RAPSody will be on August 24-25, 2013. Be sure to put it on your calendar and set your goal to participate. ☺

Off The Couch Ride Series, Fall Edition

By Rollie Herman

Beginning Sunday September 16th and continuing weekly through November 4th Off The Couch rides will be starting from the Proctor Starbucks at 11:00. Rides will be about 3 hours long so that we all have time to prepare Sunday dinner. The pace will be around 14-16 mph on the flats with a no drop policy.

Routes for 2012 will be less challenging than last year but hopefully providing us with a chance to see places we normally don't ride. Install your fenders and check the online ride schedule a few days before each ride for the route.

We ride in the rain (hence the fenders) but will cancel for icy conditions. If you have any questions the morning of the ride feel free to give me a call at 253 - 508 - 8020. ☺

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Web Issue: September, 2012



By Bob Myrick, Director of
Community and Government Affairs

*Actions affecting you
and your community*

Our committee met again on Tuesday, August 8, at the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4 at 6pm. As I've said many times before, we have over 30 government entities that we could be working with. So, please take a personal interest in alternative transportation in your community; the planet and TWBC will appreciate your efforts.

1. Foothills Trail to Mt. Rainier. Several TWBC Members participate in the annual Rainier to Ruston run/walk event. It was started by TWBC member John Selby to showcase the possible future trail running from the Carbon River entrance to Ruston. The Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition has made purchase offers for the old rail corridor running from Carbonado up the river towards the park entrance. The Burlington Northern RR has not been willing to sell it's possible interest to Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition, so the Parks Department has been asked to try to obtain the right of way. Our dream is to be able to access Mt. Rainier Park by trail from Tacoma.

2. Pierce County Trails Conference. The Forevergreen Coalition will have the annual Trails Conference on September 18 at the Pierce County Environmental Services Building in University Place.

3. Washington State Trails Conference. The Washington State Trails Coalition will have its annual conference on October 25 to 28 at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver Washington. This year's theme is "Bridging Communities with Trails". Registration and the program is available online at www.washingtonstatetrailscoalition.org.

4. University Place Trails. I received information that University Place has obtained the missing properties for its Leach Creek Trail proposal. Their dream is to have a soft surface trail extending down thru Chamber's Creek. It is also hoped to have a trail connection between Phillip's Road in Lakewood to Chamber's Creek Road West across Chamber's Creek. This trail connection would follow the old wagon road that was used before Bridgeport Way was built many years ago.

5. Expand Light Link. Several TWBC Members will have attended meetings in late August to explore ideas of expanding Tacoma's Light Link streetcar line.

6. Click It or Ticket. There is still interest in getting law enforcement to enforce mandatory helmet laws when a cyclist might be stopped for some other traffic infraction.

7. Missing Sidewalk on Shuster Parkway. Steve Brown reported a portion of the sidewalk on Shuster Parkway near downtown Tacoma has been replaced with a short section of crushed gravel. He said it is quite rideable, similar to the paths in Wright Park.

8. Sumner Trails. New trail is being extended to the north towards Stewart Avenue. It includes a rather grand new bridge. The main bridge structure was placed across the White River in August and the contractor is now building some major approaches as the bridge is high above the river. The work can be seen from the Sumner Golf Course, but the easy way is to find the northerly end of the existing trail on the weekend and walking less than 300 feet to the work site. So, the trail ends on 16th Street East along the river and the new trail construction is headed north to Stewart Avenue (8th Street East)

It was sad to read about the death of a local cyclist on the RamRod. Steve Albers was the owner of a local insurance agency and was very much involved in supporting our Tacoma community. Apparently, he was an accomplished mountaineer having climbed Mt. Rainier many times and our other big mountains. He had become an active cyclist the last few years. His

GAC, continued on page 3

GAC, continued from page 2

accident happened in the Box Canyon area on the descent from the Paradise area. We haven't heard any further details other than he crashed while he was alone on the road. So, please check the fit of your helmet and make sure you can only get one finger between the chin strap and your chin. If you have a blowout at high speed, take time to figure out which tire is flat and gently brake on your good tire. ☹

ForeverGreen

By Jane Moore, Executive Director

July 16, 2012

Dear Wheelmen,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1500. It will help us achieve our budget goals for 2012 and become self-supporting again. We appreciate your continued support of ForeverGreen's work to improve our system of trails in the county and to improve the health of our communities.

Your donation ☹ moves us closer to achieving the goal of connecting all the cities in Pierce County with a regional trail system. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Thank you. ☹

The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation

by Rose Lincoln Hamilton, President and CEO

July 18, 2012

Dear Tacoma Wheelmen's Club,

We are grateful for your generous contribution of \$1,500.00 to the ForeverGreen Fund of The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. Your active support of the community is a great demonstration of our mission to connect people who care with causes that matter.

Last month, we concluded our 31st year of serving Pierce County. Working together with our fund holders and donors over the past year, we've distributed more than \$2.8 million into the community and provided over 150 student scholarships during a time of great need. We have also expanded the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to increase the breadth and depth of our impact.

As we move into our next fiscal year, there is exciting and challenging work ahead of us. We look forward to sharing our successes and lessons learned with you, as we continue our work to strengthen the Pierce County community.

We are grateful to you for your partnership and support during this exciting time in our history. As always, we welcome the opportunity to sit down with you to talk about how we might help you best reach your philanthropic goals. Please call us at 253.383.5622 to set up a time to meet. ☹

Re: Your Support - Helmets

By Dave Noll, Communications Coordinator, MVPC Bikes For Kids Program
July 20, 2012

To TWBC Board & Membership,

Thank-you so much for your recent donation of helmets to support our summer field day events. The Bikes for Kids Program at Marine View Presbyterian Church could not achieve our success without your support.

We sincerely appreciate all that the Tacoma Wheelmen have done over the years to contribute to our volunteer program. Many hundreds/thousands of bikes have been reconditioned and repurposed to provide enjoyment and transportation to people in the south Sound area.

Our program continues to be successful thanks in large measure to various groups and people who provide the needed donations.

Thanks again to the Tacoma Wheelmen for your support and generosity. ☺

**Membership Report by Dave Killen
database & mailing**



*Our Members are what
makes our Club!*

Renewing Members (Thank You!):

Andrew Austin, William Bulley, Phil Burgess, Patty Ecklebe, John George, Ken Gunkel, Gary Hawkinson, David Killen, Patricia Killen, Fletch Kistler, Leon Leonard, Bob Levin, Donna Levin, Jim Merkle, JD Miller, Bill Newman, Steve Smith, Michael Springer, and Bob Vogel.

New Members (Welcome!):

Douglass Dorr, and Mark Lewis. ☺

Your article could have been here
for Members to read!



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
09/01 Sat	8 AM	3 D	50 - 60	Robert Deehan 272 - 9682	Spokie Cycling Club Ride. Average for entire ride is 17 mph w/ 20-25 mph on the flats. Route decided @ start. No lunch, but coffee & conversation @ the end. Start: Forza Coffee, 2700 Bridgeport Way, University Place.
09/01 Sat	9 AM	3 B - C	50	Jim Ahrens 988 - 2098	Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. Fun, but challenging road ride to destinations from Gig Harbor to Bonney Lake & Dupont. Start: Tacoma Bike, 309 Puyallup Ave., Tacoma.
09/02 Sun	9:30 AM	2 B	50	Louie Boitano 922 - 1168	South Center for lunch. Ride up the Interurban trail to either IKEA or Zoopa's. Start: Sumner Library, 1116 Fryer Ave, Sumner.
09/03 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	Joyce Clifford 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. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.
09/04 Tues	9:30 AM	2 C	30 - 50	Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tuesday Decide To Ride. Meet with friends & go to lunch. Start: To Be Announced.
09/04 Tues	6 PM	00 Meet	00 & Eat	Bob Myrick 473 - 7455	Government Affairs Meeting @ the Harvester Resturant in the Stadium H.S. area @ 1st & Tacoma Ave. Work on bicycle problems around Pierce County. All are invited to participate.
09/05 Weds	9:30 AM	2 B	43 Trail	Phil Burgess 307 - 029	Chehalis Western Trail. Rain in Tacoma Cancels. Ride from Chamers Creek Trailhead to Tenino to stop & buy lunch. Start: Trailhead in Lacy; past Josephine Ct SE & 14th Ave S.
09/06 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 - 3 A 2 - 3 D	30 Trail	Richard Walter 840 - 9450	Silk Road Smoooothly/Over The Hill Gang. Ride to S. Prairie via Foothills Trail. Paved trail w/ very few road crossings. Beverage of your choice in S. Prairie (no host). Or, for a challenging 1000 ft of climbing, go over Victor Falls. Start: East Puyallup Trailhead, 13900 - 80th St E, Puyallup
09/08 Sat	8 AM	3 D	50 - 60	Robert Deehan 272 - 9682	Spokie Cycling Club Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/08 Sat	9 AM	3 B - C	50	Jim Ahrens 988 - 2098	Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/10 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	Joyce Clifford 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. See 09/03 for Ride Details.
09/11 Tues	9:30 AM	2 C	30 - 50	Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tuesday Decide To Ride. Meet with friends & go to lunch. Start: To Be Announced.
09/11 Tues	6 PM	00 Meet	00 & Eat	Tom Reardon 759 - 2800	Board Meeting @ the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred. Guests & Club Members welcomed.



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Day/ Day	Time	Ride Code	Dist- ance	Leader/ Contact @ (253)	Ride or Activity
09/12 Weds	9 AM	3 C	30	Tom Ripley 606 - 1720	Ride to Dupont for coffee via Steilacoom for a nice workout. Start: Skyline Park & Ride (6th & Skyline).
09/13 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 - 3 A 2 - 3 D	30 Trail	Richard Walter 840 - 9450	Silk Road Smoooothly/Over The Hill Gang. See 09/06 for Ride Details.
09/15 Sat	8 AM	3 D	50 - 60	Robert Deehan 272 - 9682	Spokie Cycling Club Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/15 Sat	9 AM	3 B - C	50	Jim Ahrens 988 - 2098	Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/16 Sun	11 AM	3 B	20 - 40	Rollie Herman 508 - 8020	Exploring w/ Rollie. Ride @ posted pace; no drop, but no sweep. Ride Pierce County, weather dependent. Hills involved, exact route/conditions unexpected. Home prior to 3 PM, fenders please, lights are nice. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.
09/17 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	Joyce Clifford 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. See 09/03 for Ride Details.
09/18 Tues	9:30 AM	2 C	30 - 50	Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tuesday Decide To Ride. Meet with friends & go to lunch. Start: To Be Announced.
09/18 Tues	6 PM; 6:30 PM	Meet & 00 Meet &	Eat; 00 Greet	Tom Reardon 759 - 2800	Sept. Club Meeting. Food, drinks, & fellowship @ 6 PM & meeting business @ 6:30 PM. Start: Portland Ave. Community Ctr, 3513 Portland Ave. (E. 35th St. & E. Portland Ave.), Tacoma.
09/19 Weds	9:30 AM	2 B	43 Trail	Richard Walter 840 - 9450	Chehalis Western Trail. Rain in Tacoma Cancels. See 09/05 for Ride Details.
09/20 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 - 3 A 2 - 3 D	30 Trail	Richard Walter 840 - 9450	Silk Road Smoooothly/Over the Hill Gang. See 09/06 for Ride Details.
09/22 Sat	8 AM	3 D	50 - 60	Robert Deehan 272 - 9682	Spokie Cycling Club Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/22 Sat	9 AM	3 B - C	50	Jim Ahrens 988 - 2098	Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/23 Sun	11 AM	3 B	20 - 40	Rollie Herman 508 - 8020	Exploring w/ Rollie. See 09/16 for Ride Details.
09/24 Mon	9:30 AM	1 C	22 (13)	Joyce Clifford 759 - 2393	Hail, hardy & ready for coffee. See 09/03 for Ride Details.
09/25 Tues	9:30 AM	2 C	30 - 50	Ride Line 759 - 2800	Tuesday Decide To Ride. Meet with friends & go to lunch. Start: To Be Announced.



twbc monthly event schedule

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Day/- Day	Time	Ride Code	Dist- ance	Leader/ Contact @ (253)	Ride or Activity
09/26 Weds	9 AM	3 C	30	Tom Ripley 606 - 1720	Ride to Dupont for coffee via Steilacoom for a nice workout. Start: Skyline Park & Ride (6th & Skyline).
09/27 Thurs	9:30 AM	2 - 3 A 2 - 3 D	30 Trail	Richard Walter 840 - 9450	Silk Road Smoooothly/Over the Hill Gang. See 09/06 for Ride Details.
09/29 Sat	8 AM	3 D	50 - 60	Robert Deehan 272 - 9682	Spokie Cycling Club Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/29 Sat	9 AM	3 B - C	50	Jim Ahrens 988 - 2098	Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. See 09/01 for Ride Details.
09/30 Sun	11 AM	3 B	20 - 40	Rollie Herman 508 - 8020	Exploring w/ Rollie. See 09/16 for Ride Details.

For TWBC Monthly Ride/Event Calendar

TERRAIN CODE CHART

- A - Mostly Flat (Interurban 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)

PACE CODE CHART

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

The COG Home

TWBC Ride Line : 253 - 759 - 2800
Updated Sunday & Thursday!

The 'Smiling Bicycle' Logo, the Club Jersey
& a majority of Club Ride T-shirts were
(are) designed by Member Steve Lay.



Next Club Meeting: 6 PM
Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2012

Oct. Ride Calendar Deadline:
Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2012

Oct. COG Article Deadline:
Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012

*Please keep Database Commander Dave updated as to any USPS/E-mail address changes.
It makes his job a lot easier! (If you don't receive your Newsletter, contact the Editor!)*

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president@twbc.org

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vp@twbc.org

Joyce Clifford

SECRETARY:

secretary@twbc.org

Caroline Warnock

Assistant: Linda Higgins

TREASURER:

treasurer@twbc.org

Fred Swift, 355 - 4365

RIDE COORDINATOR:

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Rich Walter, 840 - 9450

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:

gac@twbc.org

Bob Myrick, 473 - 7455

Assistant: Don Hoover

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS:

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Daniel Jones

(All Phone #s are 253 Area Code, unless otherwise indicated.)

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newsletter@twbc.org

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database@twbc.org

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Rich Walter, 840 - 9450

TWBC SAFETY & EDUCATION

Jim Ahrens, 566 - 3347

TWBC EQUIPMENT :

equipment@twbc.org

Sue Coley

Assistant: Peggy Fjetland

TWBC PUBLICITY:

publicity@twbc.org

Anita Beninger

DAFFODIL CLASSIC (2012): APRIL 15

daffodil@twbc.org

--Unfilled @ this time--

PENINSULA METRIC (2012): JUNE 3

pmc@twbc.org

--Unfilled @ this time--

RAPSody Contact:

(2012): Aug. 25 & 26

rapsodybikeride@comcast.net

Ralph Wessels, 857 - 5658

BIKE EXPO:

(2012): March 10 & 11

bikebooth@twbc.org

--Unfilled @ this time--

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC:

(2010): Sept. 26 (?)

--Unfilled @ this time--

CLUB JERSEY SALES:

jerseys@twbc.org

--Unfilled @ this time--

Advertisement Requirements: TWBC Members may place ads in the COG for free that are directly related to bicycling. All ads must be accompanied with contact information (i.e., name, address, phone number, email) of the person submitting the ad.

Local bicycle shops that offer a discount of at least ten percent (10%) to TWBC Members may place ads or flyers in the COG for free. "Local" is defined as within the Puget Sound area. Each bicycle shop may place up to two ads for free in a calendar year.

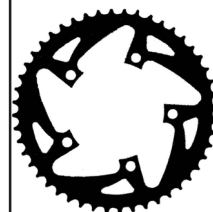
Non-members, agencies, businesses and bicycle shops that do not offer discounts of at least ten percent (10%) to TWBC Members will be charged for placing ads in the COG. Payment for the ad must be received prior to inclusion into the COG. The fee shall not be less than \$10 for a 1-line text ad and will be a minimum of \$50 for quarter page ads or more. The Newsletter Editor will determine an appropriate fee based upon the size and complexity of the ad. All ads are subject to editing and space limitations as deemed appropriate or necessary by the Newsletter Editor. ☺



**September
2012**

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

mail to:



Please Note: You can become a Member at www.twbc.org. Click on 'Membership' on the left side.

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: _____ @ _____

(all info. is for Club use only; please print clearly!)

Please Check Those That Apply:

New Member Renew Addr Chg

Please Note: *COG* delivery is now electronically via E-mail, as there is not an elected Editor to produce a USPS issue.

Individual Person Membership Fee \$15 _____

Or, Family Membership Fee \$20 _____

One-time Initiation Fee \$5 _____

Total Membership Fee(s) \$ _____

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

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

Check the following boxes if you
are interested in volunteering for:

- Leading Bike Rides
- Events
(Daffodil, PMC)
- Newsletter
- Club Meeting Programs
- Becoming a Club Officer

**Thanks for becoming
a Member of TWBC!**