

The Cog-nitive Courier
Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club Newsletter
2014 January
The 'No-Editor' Edition

Presidents Notes
By Darrell "EZZ" Eslinger

May I Wish you a Happy New Year that is full of rich experiences, boundless joys and enjoyable riding.

Every year we are given an opportunity to reevaluate what we had done this past year. So, what were your results of last years plans, goals and expectations? Like me, you either met some, exceeded others and failed at others.

It is now time to sit down and establish new goals, plans and expectations for 2014. May this year be fruitful in what you do, enjoyable for your life experiences and fulfilling in what you accomplish.

Ride your bike and enjoy the simplicity of your self powered adventures, where ever they take you.

We have an area that is so beautiful and rich that we like to share it with others. Our Daffodil, Peninsula Metric and the RAPSody organized rides gives TWBC the opportunity to share our area with other bike enthusiasts. Please, Put those events into your plans for this year. These rides are fun and challenging and we will also need people to volunteer. So help us be a good host to those visiting our 'home'.

Are you planning to attend the Annual Banquet at Primo's Grill on the 25th. It will be a great time to get together. Hope to see you there.

Ride Safe.

Government & Community Affairs
By Bob Myrick

Our committee met again on Tuesday, December 3, at the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues. The next meeting is scheduled to be on Tuesday, January 7 at 6 pm. As you know, we have over 30 governmental entities that we could be working with. So, again, we ask for you to take a personal interest in alternative transportation in your community.

We were so happy to meet Eric Swanson as a new TWBC member and a person interested in making the community better for alternative transportation. Eric is recently retired from a work career near Washington, D. C. and has decided to live near Gig Harbor. He is a long time Board Member of the League of American Bicyclists currently also serving as the Treasurer.

We updated Eric on our advocacy history by talking about TWBC, the Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition, the ForeverGreen Trails Coalition and the Coalition for Active Transportation. Jane Moore reviewed her activities working on a possible grant from the Russell Foundation for the Puyallup River Watershed activities regarding recreation, particularly non-motorized uses.

We asked Eric to consider working with Ralph Wessels in making biking conditions better on the Gig Harbor Peninsula. Right now, Ralph is concerned with issues at the Peninsula Metropolitan Park District. The Park Board is thinking about not continuing with several RCO grants related to non-motorized trails. The grants

would help build a new trailhead near the Narrows Bridge, a new trail to avoid using the street near the bridge and a trail to the Cushman Trail along Reid Road. RCO is the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. Ralph is trying to raise awareness of the issue and interest prominent citizens to appear before the Park Board to remind them of the importance of trails. The Park Board has other possible projects they would like to move forward on with their limited funds.

I hope you have still been riding in spite of the cold and rainy weather. It is a good time to consider trying some winter sports like snow shoeing or cross country skiing. Please look elsewhere on our website to sign up for our annual banquet in January. You should also be receiving information on volunteering for our two event rides, the Daffodil Classic and the Peninsula Metric. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the banquet.