

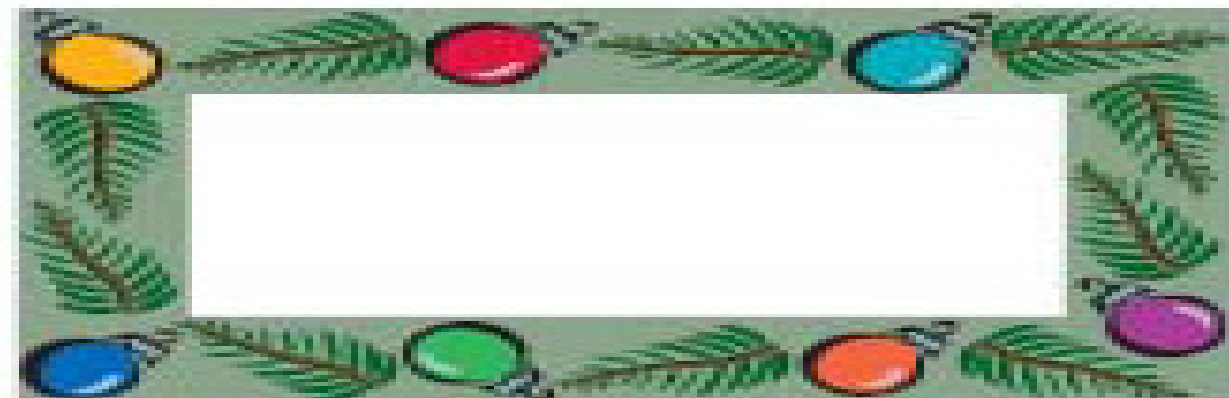


Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club  
PO Box 112078  
Tacoma, WA 98411



Prsrt Std  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Tacoma, WA  
Permit No. 356

December  
2006



### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Membership fee. . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 phone # or ad-  
dress in the membership  
listings.

Also...Check boxes if you  
are interested in volunteer-  
ing for:

☐ Leading Bike Rides

☐ Events

☐ Newsletter

☐ Club Meeting Programs

☐ Becoming a club officer



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the cog-nitive courier  
tacoma wheelmen's bicycle club newsletter  
since 1888

253-759-2800

po box 112078 tacoma, wa 98411

## DECEMBER 2006



### TWBC Annual Holiday Ride and Party



On Saturday, December 9, the TWBC Annual Holiday Party occurs. The first half of this event is a Holiday Lights Ride, led by Lou Vance at 4:30 pm. Hopefully, our local weather will permit the ride go on, though heavy rain, snow or ice will cancel this ride. Safety lights on bikes are required, so that means both headlights and taillights. Holiday lights on your bike are optional, but fun! Battery operated (two 'C' batteries), usually fifteen strand lights can be found at local variety stores. These can be woven though spokes on bike tires, with the battery box duct taped to your rims (make sure the tires can rotate freely), or wrapped around the frame of your bike, with the battery box stuffed into your trunk. Dress warmly; reflective clothing is a good idea for this 'dusk' ride.

The second half of this event is the Holiday Party, hosted by Lou and Karel Vance at their home, located at 1202 Ventura Drive, in Tacoma (in the Titlow Beach Park area). Holiday Riders may change their clothes after the Holiday Lights Ride. The potluck begins at 6:30 pm. Bring a dish of your choice (appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert), & your favorite beverage. Non-alcoholic punch, hot spiced wine, and hot cider will be provided.

If you have any questions concerning this Annual Holiday Event, phone Karel or Lou at 253-564-4218.

### Did You Know?

The words and melody of the song *Silent Night* were sung for the first time at St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria on December 24, 1818. A thirty-one year old teacher and organist, Franz Gruber, composed a melody on guitar, for a poem written by twenty-six year old Josef Mohr, entitled "*Stille Nacht*."



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**PRESIDENT:** [president@twbc.org](mailto:president@twbc.org)  
Tim Payne, 360-871-4478  
**VICE-PRESIDENT:** [vp@tgwbc.org](mailto:vp@tgwbc.org)  
Vern Hase, 253-759-7246  
**SECRETARY:** [secretary@twbc.org](mailto:secretary@twbc.org)  
Mary Dahl-Smith, 253-473-7174  
**TREASURER:** [treasurer@twbc.org](mailto:treasurer@twbc.org)  
Gus Fant, 253-564-4710  
**TOURING CAPTAIN:** [ridecaptain@twbc.org](mailto:ridecaptain@twbc.org)  
Carla Gramlich, 253-879-0115  
Deadline for Ride Calendar, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of month  
**NEWSLETTER:** [newsletter@twbc.org](mailto:newsletter@twbc.org)  
Editor: Dena Wessels, 253-857-5658  
Reporters: Various Members  
Deadline for articles, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of month  
**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS**  
Joyce Clifford, 253-759-2393  
**MEMBERSHIP DATABASE:**  
& **MAILING:** [database@twbc.org](mailto:database@twbc.org)  
Ann Seago, 253-761-0709  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:** [gac@twbc.org](mailto:gac@twbc.org)  
Bob Myrick, 253-473-7455  
**MEMBERSHIP:**  
Phyllis Lay, 253-759-1816  
**WEB MASTER:** [webmaster@twbc.org](mailto:webmaster@twbc.org)  
Kris Symer, 253-212-2265  
**EQUIPMENT MASTER:** [equipment@twbc.org](mailto:equipment@twbc.org)  
Chris Smith, 253-473-7174  
**DAFFODIL CLASSIC:** [daffodil@twbc.org](mailto:daffodil@twbc.org)  
**WE NEED AN EVENT DIRECTOR!!!**  
**PENINSULA METRIC:** [pmc@twbc.org](mailto:pmc@twbc.org)  
Mary & Corky Dahl-Smith, 253-473-7174  
**HEADWATERS CENTURY:**  
[headwaters@twbc.org](mailto:headwaters@twbc.org)  
Gene Smith, 253-272-6747  
**BIKE EXPO:** [bikebooth@twbc.org](mailto:bikebooth@twbc.org)  
Peggy Fjetland & Carla Gramlich  
**JERSEY SALES:** [jerseys@twbc.org](mailto:jerseys@twbc.org)  
Peggy Fjetland, 253-841-4458  
**ANNUAL PICNIC:**  
Carla Gramlich & Peggy Fjetland  
**PUBLICITY PERSON:**  
**WE NEED A PUBLICITY PERSON!!!**

Next Club Meeting Not until  
**Tuesday**  
**February 20, 2007**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Food galore; Door Prizes;**  
**Great Program!**

*TWBC Ride Line*  
**253 - 759 - 2800**  
**UPDATED WEEKLY!**

**Club Members**  
**please note:**

Articles for the January 2007 Cognitive Courier should be emailed to the Editor by December 15 to be assured of making it into that issue. Any articles emailed past that date may or may not make it into the January issue.

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

**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, cus 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)

**TWBC BANQUET RESERVATION FORM**  
**January 27, 2007**

**Wild West VFW Post 91, 2000 South Union Aveune**

**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 for the total \$ amount to:**

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



**Equipment Inventory Project**

Please help! Over time, club equipment has been spread around to various locations. Chris Smith is our new Equipment Manager, and he is working to identify, locate, and itemize all of our equipment. If you have any club stuff or know where some might be, please send email to [equipment@twbc.org](mailto:equipment@twbc.org). Thanks.

**Meeting Reminder:**

There is not a Club General Meeting in December or January. The next Club event is the Club Banquet on January 27, 2007. The next Club General Meeting is on February 20, 2007. Untill then, see you on Club rides!

**Step up to the Wheel**

The Club is still in need of a **Daffodil Event Director**, or this premier Northwest ride *may not occur*. Lots of help awaits this special person (or persons) who steps forward. Also needed is a **Publicity Person** to make our Club and our events better known throughout the region.

**'Rolling Wheels'**  
**(sung to the tune of**  
**"Jingle Bells")**

Riding through rain & snow  
On bikes fast or on bikes slow;  
O'er the streets we go,  
Hoping tires don't blow.  
Bells on handlebar ring,  
Making spirits bright;  
What fun it is to ride and sing  
A biking song tonight.

Hey! jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way;  
Oh, what fun it is to ride on your own wheeled 'sleigh'.  
Hey! jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way;  
Oh, what fun it is to ride on your own wheeled 'sleigh'.







**Bob Myrick**  
TWBC Director of  
Community and  
Government  
Affairs



Last month, I talked about the great importance of YOU being involved in the repetitive and continuous education and lobbying of elected officials, local staff and neighbors to achieve better conditions for safe cycling. There are at least six activities suggested as being necessary to be successful in a "Complete the Streets" movement. Since our committee did not meet in November, I thought it would be good to review the six activities:

1. Get the **Lay of the Land**. The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) identifies projects of regional scope that impact your community. PSRC also distributes Federal funds for non-motorized transportation. Ernie Bay of Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition and myself have been on the PSRC non-motorized enhancements committee for at least ten years. YOU should familiarize yourself with the bicycle and pedestrian plans for YOUR area.

2. Pick **Good Teammates**. Different skills and resources are necessary to succeed. YOU should find people like you who value community participation and are passionate enough to become involved. We are fortunate in having the Foothills Coalition and Forever Green Council as allies. Because of the "healthy living" movement, we now have strong allies in the Health Department, Park organizations, Healthy Kids coalitions, YMCAs, running clubs and others.

3. Be **Complete Streets and Trails**. Street projects are being planned and built in YOUR community right now. Sometimes these projects prioritize speeding cars and marginalize the access and safety needs of pedestrians and cyclists. Most street projects now include adequate sidewalks, but YOU know a lot of arterial projects leave out bicycle facilities. There is also a great need to fill in missing sidewalks and missing bicycle connections in YOUR

community. Likewise, YOU have a good comprehensive trail plan in Pierce County, but YOUR help is needed to complete the plan. For one example, the planned Interurban Trail passes thru Fife, Milton, Edgewood and Pacific. Your help is needed to encourage these communities to move forward. For another example, the Foothills Trail connects to or passes thru Puyallup, Sumner, Bonney Lake, Orting, South Prairie, Buckley, Enumclaw, Wilkeson and Carbonado. Again, YOUR help is needed to encourage the staff and elected Officials to move forward and maybe, adopt a "Complete the Streets and Trails" policy so that pedestrians and cyclists are routinely accommodated.

4. Plan the **Big Vision**. Fortunately, Pierce County and Tacoma have very good non-motorized plans and trail plans in place. Likewise, most of our other cities and towns have adequate plans. The problem seems to be the lack of staff and monies to implement these plans in a timely manner. YOUR voice needs to be heard in YOUR community at budget time and throughout the year.

5. **Repetitive and Continuous Education**. Last month's article tried to emphasize the need for YOUR involvement in advocacy for pedestrian and cycling access and safety.

6. Leverage Success of **Pilot Programs**. The Foothills Trail success has caused Puyallup and Sumner to move forward to connect to the trail. WE are fortunate to have the City of University Place as a national example of a well-planned pedestrian and bicycle friendly community. YOU can point to these successful efforts and ask YOUR community to implement projects that "Complete the Streets and Trails."

Thank you for any help YOU give to "Complete the Streets and Trails" in OUR community. I hope YOU appreciate the need for YOUR continuous involvement. Our committee will meet again on Tuesday, December 5 at 7pm at the Taqueria Guadalajara in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues.

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Something to keep in mind this holiday season: brain cells come and go, but fat cells live forever.

## TIRE BUZZ

By President

**Tim Payne**



**Timothy Payne**  
TWBC  
"The Prez"

### Greetings of the Season

It is the just past the dawn of the holiday season, but as I write this column I realize this is the final TWBC newsletter you will see until after the festivities have subsided. So it is appropriate that I take a moment to wish you all the best. I realize that everyone has their own traditions and customs whether based on family, cultural or religious backgrounds, but almost everyone I know celebrates some kind of holiday between now and January 1. To each of you and your families I wish to convey my very best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and great expectations for the coming year. If your holiday season happens to include the exchange of gifts I hope you are blessed in the process. While giving is purported to be more character building and fulfilling, I hope you receive something this holiday season that will enhance your enjoyment of riding a bicycle in the coming year. While I would equate getting inner tubes with receiving underwear from my grandmother (a childhood memory), they are both practical and necessary. May your happiness be increased as you experience the holiday season.

More Mundane, but Important, The Newsletter

This past membership meeting the 2007 TWBC budget was adopted by the membership. There is an item I want to call to your attention regarding this budget. The expense of publishing and mailing the newsletter is the single largest expense in the TWBC budget. At close to \$6,000 per year, it speaks to the importance of this gazette to the membership. But it also speaks to the need to carefully consider how we are using club funds. Many organizations deal with the rising costs of newsletter publication by reducing the frequency of publication. In my opinion, for this organization, that would be an inappropriate approach;



the newsletter is far too important in communicating with a group of people who seldom see each other, to discuss the potential of reduced frequency.

A group of us have been discussing the possibility of taking advantage of new technology available to the club as a way to begin reducing the cost of producing the newsletter, reducing our dependence on forests of trees and potentially improving timeliness of the publication as well as enhancing our ability to communicate. I think we have arrived at a satisfactory solution.

Our plan is to send your newsletter via an e-mail link to all people who wish to receive their newsletter in that manner. For those who do not have e-mail or, for whatever reason, want to continue to receive the newsletter in print, we will continue to print and mail newsletters. Our goal is to work on this project through most of 2007 reaching a point of stability in early fall where we know what the balance of electronic versus print will be.

After the first of the year, we will be sending out a mass e-mail to all TWBC members for whom we have e-mails. We suspect there will be some clean-up necessary to correct e-mail addresses and to get clear of people's spam filters. Following that clean-up effort we will be sending out e-mails asking people to unsubscribe if they wish to continue receiving the newsletter in print via mail. This will help us build a database of people who want to continue to receive the newsletter in printed form versus those who wish to receive it in "e" form. About mid-spring we plan to begin newsletter distribution via-e-mail as well as in print. We will work through any issues that may arise and hopefully by next September have a good feel for how this is all going to work. For those of you who do not have e-mail, we will continue to print and mail your newsletter just like always.

By the way, one other advantage of electronic transmission, not only is it cheaper, it is much faster. The December newsletter went to the printer on November 27 (@ 10 am). That would be the same day you would receive the newsletter electronically.

**The Buzz continued on p. 9**



TOURING CAPTAIN REPORT



By **Carla Gramlich**

Every month it is wonderful that we can count on people like Steve and Phyllis, Bob, Joyce and David, Louie, Carol and Roz, just to name a few, to lead rides. These people take the time to reserve a date and time. Then they check out a route, make maps, write up cue sheets and then provide the information on their ride to the newsletter. From there we update the website and the rideline. We tend to take it for granted that every month we can pick and choose what rides we are going to attend. There is lots of hard work behind the scenes to provide our members with a great selection of rides each month.

As Touring Captain, I am SO thankful that when I request/beg for rides, members take the time to send me information on a ride that they would like to lead that month. Some members even provide me with ride information before I resort to begging and pleading. That really makes my day when that happens! I know as a member of this club I would be a little disappointed if I received the newsletter and it didn't include a couple pages or more of rides that I could choose from. Remember to thank your ride leader for taking the time out of their busy schedule to lead a ride.

Ride leaders can also offer rides by leaving a message on the rideline or sending an email to the Touring Captain by Sunday evening, 6:30 pm, for rides that you would like to lead between Monday and Thursday. The ride information is needed by Thursday evening, 6:30 pm, for ride that you would like offer to lead on the weekend, Friday – Sunday. I take information from the newsletter, web calendar, emails and voice messaging, on Sunday and Thursday evenings to record the rideline. Members know that they can check the rideline and web calendar twice a week and have a pretty good idea what rides the club is offering.

I remember reading an article that employers have to realize that when the sun comes out in the Puget Sound area, some of their workforce will take a day off. I guess

that is just one of the costs of doing business in the Northwest. It was suggested that TWBC should also being able to offer rides with a shorter lead time. We came up with an idea that will allow members to be notified about a ride that person would like to lead but there wasn't enough time to get in the newsletter, rideline or web calendar.

Members who are interested in being notified with last minute additions of rides need to subscribe to the "Google group" for TWBC. Go to the twbc.org website and scroll down to the middle of the homepage, on the right hand side is a section called "Discussion List". From there you can follow the instructions to become a member of the "TWBC Google group". Once you have become a member and select the option to have emails sent to you, another member of that "Google group" can send emails out notifying members of an upcoming ride. If time allows, we will also try to get that information on the webpage. Tomorrow is forecast to be a sunny day; you can send out an email, to other subscribers of the "Google Group", that you would like other club members to join you on a bike ride.

If you can get me your ride information by the third Thursday of each month, you enjoy the most exposure for you ride by getting that information into the newsletter, web calendar and rideline. Carol Davis is helping me, by selection some of our rides from our newsletter and forwarding that information to the News Tribune. These rides maybe included in the News Tribune Outdoor column on Thursday. We are hoping that we gain some new club members this way.

It is fantastic that people are stepping up and offering to lead rides. Special thanks to those individuals that help to fill out the calendar for the newsletter every month. I am hoping with the new option of sending emails to alert members of new rides that occur on a sunny day, more people will take the day off from work to ride their bicycles.

**Holiday Humor**

Christmas is just plain weird. What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree in your living room, eating candy and snacks out of your old socks?

**The Buzz continued from p.3**

**Club Jerseys – the Next Generation**

Another item included in the budget is the creation of the next generation of TWBC wear. Our supply of club jerseys is dwindling, so we need to buy a new supply sometime with the next two years. Typically, these are long lead time items, so some forward thought and planning is warranted. This is a great opportunity to create a new generation of club logo wear. We have included some funds in the budget to facilitate the process, food for design committee meetings, buying samples, etc. Now, the trick, I freely admit I have almost no sense of style or color. If I happen to look like I do at any given moment it is only because my loving wife or daughter has aptly covered my ineptitude. Therefore, I need someone, or a group of someones, who does have this ability to take on this project. If you have a creative bent and an eye for style, design and color, your club wants you. If you would like to volunteer to work on a committee to bring out TWBC logo wear – the next generation, please let me know. E-mail works best, but phone and in-person is also quite suitable.

**NOVEMBER RAIN**

November may or may not set an all time monthly record for precipitation, but it is behind us now. Given that the future is a bit uncertain, if it is not raining, or snowing, get out there and ride. I found some delightful riding over the Thanksgiving weekend in southwest Washington. So, if you see a peek of sunshine, put on your togs and enjoy it while you can. Above all, ride safe.



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



**More Holiday Humor**

Q. What do you call Santa's helpers?  
A. Subordinate Clauses.

**Deck the Halls**

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,  
Fa la la la la la la la la.  
'Tis the season to be jolly.  
Fa la la la la la la la la.  
Don we now our gay apparel,  
Fa la, fa la la la la.  
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,  
Fa la la la la la la la la.  
See the blazing Yule before us.  
Fa la la la la la la la la.  
Strike the harp and join the chorus,  
Fa la la la la la la la la.  
Follow me in merry measure,  
Fa la, fa la la la la.  
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,  
Fa la la la la la la la la.





|  <b>twbc monthly event schedule</b><br><i>call the ride line for the latest additions and corrections...253-759-2800</i> |       |            |             |              |                 |                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Date  | Time       | Distance    | Ride Code    | Leader          | Contact at (253)        | Ride or Activity                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/23 | 10 AM      | 25          | 1 A          | Carla Gramlich  | 879-0115                | Ride East Lake Sammamish Trail; mt, hybrid or sturdy touring bike recommended on gravel trail to Alki Point. Start: Lk Sammamish State Park, Issaquah.                                                    |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/25 | 9:30 AM    | 13 [& 20 +] | 1 C          | To Be Announced | 759-2800                | Monday in the Park. Loop Pt. Defiance, 13 miles [& to Fircrest, (espresso, scones)]. Beginners & seasoned veterans. Group riding; no solos. Rain Cancels. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.              |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 12/26 | 9:30 AM    | 35 - 50     | 2 B          | Call Ride Line  | 759-2800                | Tues. Decide to Ride. Call RideLine-4-details.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Thurs                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 12/28 | 9:30 AM    | 30          | 2 A          | Lonna Cain      | 475-8853                | Silk Road Smooooothly. Paved trail; few road crossings; no hills. Beverage of your choice (no host) in South Prairie. Rain Cancels. Start: East Puyllup Trailhead.                                        |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/30 | 9:30 AM    | 30          | 2 A          | Carla Gramlich  | 879-0115                | Cedar River Trail From Renton to Maple Valley. Mostly paved trail. Start: Gene Coulon Park, Renton.                                                                                                       |
| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/31 | Fun        | Facts       | Notes        | Serene          | Sunday                  | Official end of World War II, 1946.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 01/01 | 9:30 AM    | 13 [& 20 +] | 1 C          | To Be Announced | 759-2800                | Monday in the Park. Loop Pt. Defiance, 13 miles [& to Fircrest, (espresso, scones)]. Beginners & seasoned veterans. Group riding; no solos. Rain Cancels. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.              |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 01/01 | 10:45 AM   | 17 or 26    | 2 B          | Ralph Wessels   | 857-5658; 549-6952 cell | Polar Bear Jump Ride to Olalla. Mileage depends upon weather. Deep Snow Cancels. Start: Jerisich Park, Gig Harbor.                                                                                        |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 01/01 | 11:15 AM   | Jump        | & Enjoy      | Dena Wessels    | 857-5658; 549-6961 cell | Olalla Polar Bear Jump. Watch, jump, or wade into Puget Sound. Fins, mask, & snorkle optional. Car pool for ease of parking. Dress for cold & standing around. Start: Purdy Park & Ride. Call if joining. |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 01/02 | 9 AM       | 35 - 50     | 2 B          | Call Ride Line  | 759-2800                | Tues. Decide to Ride. Call RideLine-4-details.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 01/02 | 7 PM       | 00 Meet     | 00 & Eat     | Bob Myrick      | 473-7455                | <b>Government Affairs Meeting</b> @ the Guadalajara Taqueria in the Stadium neighborhood @ 1st & Tacoma Ave.                                                                                              |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 01/27 | 6 PM; 7 PM | Meet, Meet  | Great; & Eat | Bob Myrick      | 473-7455                | <b>TWBC Annual Banquet</b> , Wild West VFW Post 91, 2000 South Union Ave. Please reserve your space now.                                                                                                  |



Let’s All Share the Road

by Ralph Wessels (aka BK 00009)

More than 1600 “Share the Road” license plates have been sold since January this year when they first became available. The concept and champion for the creating these plates is Don Martin. Don proposed the idea at the Bicycle Alliance of Washington BAW Legislative Committee meeting that was held in Tacoma in October 2000. Don’s vision was to create a “Share the Road” plates so motorists are reminded that others, such as bicyclists, are out there on the road too. He also wanted the funds raised by the sale of the plates to benefit bicyclists. With the great idea and backing from Don; the organization and political connections of the Bicycle Alliance; efforts of bicycle advocates like Rebecca Slivka, and David and Martha Jones; and support of bike-friendly legislators; the vision is being realized.

In 2005, the Legislature allowed a number of “special design” plates (from \$30 to \$45 in cost) to be created to benefit different causes, including the Sports and Hobbies, “Share the Road” plate. Other “special design” plates include: Collegiate, Military, Organizations, Parks and Environment, Service Organizations and Associations, and Miscellaneous. Additionally there are license plate “Emblems,” or strips which stick to the bottom center of your license plate; include here is the \$25 Cooper Jones “Share the Road” saying, with a bicycle on one side and a pedestrian on the other side of the saying. After paying the State for the cost of creation of the plates, funds have now started going to BAW for statewide safety and education programs that benefit bicyclists.

The current “Share the Road” plate starts with “BK” placed vertically followed by five numbers that are horizontal. Starting in March of 2007, vehicle owners will be able to further customize their plates by substituting letters for the now mandatory numbers, creating “Personalized Plates.” So you could obtain a plate that will read BKTREK, BKIBIKE, BKRIDER, BK4FUN, BKRBABE, or whatever your imagination comes up with.

The best time to purchase plates are when your plates are up for their normal renewal or when you purchase a new vehicle. Otherwise, you end up paying more if you obtain the plates in advance of the renewal date, as you will have to pay full price at the time of purchase and full price again when the normal renewal is due. In addition, if you want to keep the same specialized and/or personalized plate (eg, BKSRULE), there is an additional cost involved.

I have noticed that motorcyclists also share an interest in the plate. One of the vehicles that I see in the parking lot as work has a large Harley Davidson emblem in the back window with “Share the Road” plates. Motorcyclists and bicyclists have a lot in common when it comes to wanting drivers of cars and trucks to have better awareness of their presence.

So here it is, almost Christmas and you’ve been wondering what to get someone. Why not make them a certificate to go along with some cash so they can buy that great “Share the Road” license plate this year. And if someone has been bugging you for gift ideas, let them know that you really want a new license plate. More plates on the road makes for better driver awareness, which makes the roads safer for all of us. Other than world peace, a titanium frame, or winning the lotto, you can’t ask for much more.



|  <b>twbc monthly event schedule</b><br><i>call the ride line for the latest additions and corrections...253-759-2800</i> |       |             |                        |              |                                 |                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Date  | Time        | Dist-<br>ance          | Ride<br>Code | Leader                          | Contact<br>at (253) | Ride or Activity                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/02 | 9 AM        | 25 - 30                | 3 B          | Gene Smith                      | 272-6747            | Ride training for steady pace, good cadence & spinning techniques. Route decided @ start. Start: Spoke & Sprocket, University Place.                                                                  |
| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/03 | 9:30 AM     | 50                     | 2 A          | Louis Botano                    | 922-1168            | IKEA for lunch, through the valley. Bring \$\$\$ for lunch & a trailer to cary a bookcase. Start: Sunmer Library.                                                                                     |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/04 | 9:30 AM     | 13<br>[& / or<br>20 +] | 1 C          | David Barton,<br>Joyce Clifford | 759-2393            | Monday in the Park w/ David. Loop Pt. Defiance, 13 miles [& to Fircrest, (espresso, scones)]. Beginners & seasoned veterans. Group riding; no solos. Rain Cancels. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor. |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 12/05 | 9:30 AM     | 35 - 50                | 2 B          | Call Ride Line                  | 759-2800            | Tues. Decide to Ride. Call RideLine-4-details.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 12/05 | Fun         | Facts                  | Notes        | Take Upon<br>Oneself            | Tuesday             | International Volunteer Day, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly, 1985.                                                                                                                 |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 12/05 | 7<br>PM     | 00<br>Meet             | 00<br>& Eat  | Bob Myrick                      | 473-7455            | <b>Government Affairs Meeting @</b> the Guadalajara Taqueria in the Stadium neighborhood @ 1st & Tacoma Ave.                                                                                          |
| Thurs                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 12/07 | 9:30 AM     | 30                     | 2 A          | Lonna Cain                      | 475-8853            | Silk Road Smooooothly. Paved trail; few road crossings; no hills. Beverage of your choice (no host) in South Prairie. Rain Cancels. Start: East Puyllup Trailhead.                                    |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/09 | 4: 30<br>PM | 20                     | 1 A          | Lou & Karel<br>Vance            | 564-4218            | <b>Annual Holiday Light Party Ride.</b> Safety bike lights required; reflective clothing good idea; decorated bikes welcomed. Heavy rain/snow Cancels. Start: 1202 Ventura Dr.                        |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/09 | 6:30<br>PM  | Meet                   | & Eat        | Lou & Karel<br>Vance            | 564-4218            | <b>Annual Holiday Party.</b> Potluck: bring your chosen dish & your favorite beverage. Start: L & K's house, 1202 Ventura Dr., near Titlow Beach Park.                                                |
| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/10 | 9:30 AM     | 40                     | 2 B          | Roz & Carol<br>Davis            | 460-5622            | Wine for Winter. Ride to Dupont, wine tasting @ Wildside Wine for your Winter Holiday meal. Rain Cancels Ride (wine tasting then occurs @ 3 PM). Start: Skyline Park & Ride.                          |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/11 | 9:30 AM     | 13 [&<br>20 +]         | 1 C          | David Barton,<br>Joyce Clifford | 759-2393            | Monday in the Park w/ David. Loop Pt. Defiance, 13 miles [& to Fircrest, (espresso, scones)]. Beginners & seasoned veterans. Group riding; no solos. Rain Cancels. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor. |

|  <b>twbc monthly event schedule</b><br><i>call the ride line for the latest additions and corrections...253-759-2800</i> |       |                           |                           |                           |                                 |                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Date  | Time                      | Dist-<br>ance             | Ride<br>Code              | Leader                          | Contact<br>at (253)           | Ride or Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12/12 | 9:30 AM                   | 35 - 50                   | 2 B                       | Call Ride Line                  | 759-2800                      | Tues. Decide to Ride. Call RideLine-4-details.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12/12 | 6:30<br>PM                | Meet                      | & Eat                     | Tim Payne                       | 360-<br>871-4478              | <b>Board Meeting @</b> the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Weds                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12/13 | Fun                       | Facts                     | Notes                     | Wednesday                       | Wealth                        | First Susan B. Anthony Dollar, 1978.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Fri                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12/15 | Fun                       | Facts                     | Notes                     | Far-reaching                    | Friday                        | Netscape Navigator is released, 1994.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12/16 | 9 AM                      | 25 - 30                   | 3 B                       | Gene Smith                      | 272-6747                      | Beethoven Training Ride. Multiple loops of the park, while humming Beethoven's 9th. Start: Pt. Defiance Park entrance.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12/16 | 9:30 AM                   | 40 ish                    | 2 B                       | Ralph Wessels                   | 857-5658;<br>549-6952<br>cell | Port Orchard for lunch @ local establishments. Rain Cancels. Start: Purdy Park & Ride.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12/17 | 3:30<br>PM;<br>5:30<br>PM | Meet<br><br>Meet          | & Eat;<br><br>&<br>Listen | Bob Myrick                      | 473-7455                      | Enjoy Blue Vespers @ 5 PM w/ Little Bill & the Bluenotes @ Immanuel Presbyterian Church. Free enchilada dinner to follow. Bring a new toy to support Christmas House. Prior to Blue Vespers, if desired, meet @ The Parkway Tavern, just down the street, @3:30. Start: 909 N "J" St, Imman. Presby. Church. |
| Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12/18 | 9:30 AM                   | 13 [&<br>20 +]            | 1 C                       | David Barton,<br>Joyce Clifford | 759-2393                      | Monday in the Park w/ David. Loop Pt. Defiance, 13 miles [& to Fircrest, (espresso, scones)]. Beginners & seasoned veterans. Group riding; no solos. Rain Cancels. Start: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.                                                                                                        |
| Tues                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12/19 | 9:30 AM                   | 35 - 50                   | 2 B                       | Call Ride Line                  | 759-2800                      | Tues. Decide to Ride. Call RideLine-4-details.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Weds                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12/20 | 9:30 AM                   | 71 K,<br>Miles<br>or Feet | 2 B                       | Louis Boitano                   | 922-1168                      | Louie's Birthday Ride. Probably 35 miles. Mileage depentent on Birthday & weather . Start: Freighthouse Square.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Thurs                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/21 | 9:30 AM                   | 30                        | 2 A                       | Lonna Cain                      | 475-8853                      | Silk Road Smooooothly. Paved trail; few road crossings; no hills. Beverage of your choice (no host) in South Prairie. Rain Cancels. Start: East Puyllup Trailhead.                                                                                                                                           |
| Thurs                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 12/21 | 4:22<br>PM                | Facts                     | Notes                     | Thoughtful                      | Thursday                      | Winter Solstice. Beginning of winter in the Northern Hemisphere & summer in the Southern Hemisphere. Sun is @ its greatest distance from the celestial equator. Shortest day & longest night of the year.                                                                                                    |