



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.

Backcountry Hut Completed

Open to the Public

By Bob Brown

After almost 4 years of planning and fundraising, the Mount Tahoma Trails Association heralds the grand opening of Bruni's Snow Bowl Hut.

This spacious new backcountry cabin replaces Snow Bowl Hut, which burned down in March of 2008. Grants of a combined \$100,000 - \$75,000 from the Mountaineers Foundation, and \$25,000 from the Forest Foundation were met with contributions of \$75,000.00 by individual trail supporters.

The Mountaineers Foundation granted \$75,000.00 towards the construction, which came from a generous bequest by Bruni Wislicenus, an avid backcountry skier and climber, and member of the Mountaineers since 1940. The Mountaineers grant came with a challenge to first raise \$100,000.00, which the all-volunteer organization did through individual donations, and a generous \$25,000.00 grant from the Forest Foundation. "It's been a long road," commented MTTA President Bob Myrick. "Looking back, from demolition of the old building, to project design, to fundraising, to contractor selection, finding qualified volunteers, and dealing with weather... it is amazing that we are now ready for the thousands of regional visitors that have been waiting to visit this beautiful site once again." The professional quality of the construction is evident throughout the building. "This is a trademark of Ziggy Zlatkus, our project manager, and his son and partner Tyler Zlatkus," says Myrick. Zlatkus, a paid contractor, also donated quite a bit of time to the project. "None of this would have happened if it hadn't been for Tom McKeon's technical expertise, guiding us through the design and permitting, and then pitching in his building skills at every stage of the project," commented Judy Scavone, MTTA Board Member. Scavone credits the success of the project to the tremendous amount of donated labor by a select group of talented volunteers, including McKeon, Henry Romer and Rich Walter. "It was amazing to see the progress from week to week," commented Rich Walter, who contributed over 800 hours to the project, "and a pleasure to be a part of such an effective team."

Recreational trail users are welcome to visit, warm up, and have lunch. A reservation permit is required to stay overnight, and these can be acquired for the nominal fee of \$15/person. Sno-Park Permits are required to park at the trailhead. More information can be obtained on the MTTA website, www.skimtta.org. ☺

Save the date for Transportation Advocacy Day 2013!

Join bicyclists in Olympia on February 12, 2013 for Transportation Advocacy Day! Further details to follow! ☺

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President's Report

The Rusty Crank



By President Tom Reardon

A new year has arrived, and apparently the apocalypse did not occur. This means that we have an entire year to enjoy the benefits of cycling and the fellowship of other bicycling enthusiasts. Cold weather, icy roads, and rain can dampen our desire to pedal, but with the proper gear winter, we should not be deterred. The Ride Calendar remains filled with possibilities, so, unless the conditions are extreme, take the initiative to get out on the road.

Our Annual Banquet is right around the corner; have you made reservations? We have once again reserved the beautiful lodge at Titlow Beach to accommodate the expected throngs. Check your calendar and be sure to set aside Saturday, January 26 to spend time with fellow Wheelmen as we celebrate the accomplishments of 2012 and look forward to 2013.

Finally, as you meet other cyclists, encourage them to join TWBC. We are far more than just a Ride Calendar. We are the active voice for bicyclists in the region. Through our organization, we represent the interests of non-motorized transportation in the greater Pierce County area. We supply financial support for organizations and events that encourage bicycling. TWBC is an important voice for every bicyclist from the most serious racer to the most casual weekend pedaler, and all riders should be encouraged to join. ☺

Membership Report by Dave Killen

database & mailing



*Our Members are what
makes our Club!*

Renewing Members (Thank You!):

Rodney Briggs, Joyce Clifford, Cynthia Hammer, Steve Hammer, Johnny McCoy, Ken Neukom, Mary Neukom, Scott Nielsen, John Pfaffe, Susann Pfaffe, and Frank Wilson.

New Members (Welcome!):

Lafe Altier and Jack Lieman. ☺



By Bob Myrick, Director of
Community and Government Affairs

*Actions affecting you
and your community*

Our committee met again on Tuesday, December 4, at the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues. The next meeting is scheduled to be on Tuesday, January 1, which is New Year's day, so let's meet on Wednesday, January 2 at 6pm. As you all know, we have over 30 governmental entities that we could be working with. So, please make a resolution to take a personal interest in alternative transportation in your community. The planet, you and I will be much better off due to your efforts.

1. Interstate 5 Congestion Management Project. Our meeting was devoted to speaking with three WSDOT representatives who are working on this project to allow better flow of traffic in the JBLM (Fort Lewis). Sixteen miles of freeway are being studied to reduce congestion. There are 16 on/off ramps and ramp meters will probably be installed. The project is funded from a \$20 million TIGER Grant from the Feds. The WSDOT representatives wanted to talk to us first since it will be necessary to find a permanent detour route from about Thorne to Berkley. Apparently, there are just a few bike commuters

GAC, continued on page 3

along the freeway. Most work at JBLM and may enter the freeway near Bridgeport Way. There are just three lanes from Thorne to Berkley and the existing shoulder will be used to ease congestion. We agree that bike commuters could leave the freeway on Thorne Lane and re-enter on Berkley traveling thru the Tillicum neighborhood. The next stop for WSDOT representatives is Lakewood's transportation department to identify which route will be emphasized.

2. Chamber's Creek Trail. There will be a community/interested parties meeting on January 29 from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Pierce County's Environmental Services Building. The meeting is sponsored by University Place to discuss the soft surface trail running from salt water up Chamber's Creek and then, Leach Creek to around 40th Street West (Emerson) and Orchard Street. University Place has obtained almost all the right of way required for the trail.

3. Happiness Initiative. I will be meeting with Health Department representatives in January to discuss public health and happiness in Tacoma/Pierce County. I'm sure there will be a bike in that description of happiness.

4. Swan Creek Park. The steering committee met in December to discuss the progress on Swan Creek. A \$40,000 contract has been entered with the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance to provide a first class course on the uplands of the park. The hiking trail in the canyon has been improved with directional signage and new routes up out of the canyon to the uplands.

5. Bud Blanchard Trail. Eatonville's Bud Blanchard Trail is moving forward with plans to enter construction contracts for the 2013 construction season (late spring). TWBC agreed to provide \$10,000 towards construction of the trail along an old railroad route leading to Pack Forest. The trail can be incorporated into the Daffodil Bike route in the future.

6. Coalition for Active Transportation. We met again in December mostly discussing Complete Streets efforts and our role in the Health Department's Community Transformation Grant.

7. Forevergreen Monthly Meeting. We met this past month to discuss our progress and a meeting in January to plan our future activities. Transportation Choices Coalition's new Field Director, Kate Whiting, brought us up to date on "Transportation for Washington" and reminded us that Transportation Day will be in February in Olympia to lobby the new Legislature. I reported on progress on the Foothills Trail and let everyone know that Sumner has just finished a 150 foot long bike/ped bridge across the White River near the Sumner golf course.

8. Puget Sound Energy Meeting. Buz Grant from Foothills Rails to Trails, Tony Tipton from Pierce County Parks and I met with PSE representatives to discuss their progress on acquiring right of way for a new major power transmission line in the valley. The line will generally follow Shaw Road from East Pioneer Way to the River. The City of Puyallup is the lead agency for linking the Foothills Trail to the Riverwalk Trail and the new power line is the preferred route. City Officials will be meeting with landowners to find a way for the trail connection to become a reality.

9. Point Defiance Park. I will start attending monthly meetings at Park Headquarters to monitor the plans for improving Point Defiance. Major items for TWBC are the plans for connecting Ruston Way Trails to the Park, keeping Five Mile Drive closed on Saturday and Sunday mornings from cars, and finding some possible mountain bike use.

It has been raining the past few days, so not much recreational riding. It has been dumping snow in the mountains, so you might consider a snow shoe or ski trip up there, particularly at Mount Tahoma Trails Association near Ashford. I hope to see many of you at our annual banquet on January 26. Ride safe and dry. ☺

☺ Your article could have been here ☺
for Members to read!

Beans, Bread, Brew and Bikes

By Bob Myrick

Our recent winter fund raiser event was a success. We raised \$181 thru donations and our Board voted to raise our donation to the Hospitality Kitchen to a total of \$500. The Catholic Community Services and St. Leo's Church runs the Hospitality Kitchen. Last year, they prepared 1.4 million meals for hungry people and provided food to take home. Pastor Steve Lantry runs St. Leo's Church and rides with us almost every Monday. He used to drive the Jesuit's Prius to the ride, but has converted to riding to the ride.

Thanks to the Tacoma Playhouse for providing a free room next to Wildside Wine. Roz and Carol Davis provided free beverages. Jan Wieser provided homemade french bread, Janet Higbee provided salad and sweet potatoes from her home and garden, Gene Smith provided rice crispie treats, Joyce Clifford provided homemade apple sauce and I provided chili, minestrone, black bean soup and corn bread. Tom Reardon brought salsa and sour cream for the soups. So, we had no expenses since everything was generously donated.

The rain and cold held us down to 3 riders, but about 14 happy people enjoyed our event. We hope to double attendance next year. ☺

Mission

*The Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club
welcomes bicycle riders of all skill levels, from beginners to advanced.
Founded in 1888, TWBC serves to promote
"... cycling for Fun, Fitness and Liveable Communities."*

For TWBC Monthly Ride/Event Calendar

RIDE CODE CHART, TERRAIN

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)

RIDE CODE CHART, PACE

Pace Code Examples: 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, 13-16mph.
4 - Fast pace, very limited stops, cue sheets or maps provided, 16 + mph.

**TWBC
ANNUAL BANQUET
RESERVATION FORM**

**Saturdayday, January 26, 2012
Titlow Lodge
8425 - 6th Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98406**

(Attendance limited to the first eighty-eight people to sign up!)

(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:

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



twbc monthly event schedule

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

Tuesday Rides

Jan. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29: @ 9:30 AM, 2 C, **Tuesday Decide to Ride**. Meet w/ friends & go to lunch. **Start:** to be announced. Call the Ride Line, 253 - 759 - 2800.

More Tuesday Happenings:

Jan. 8: @ 6 PM, **Board Meeting** @ the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred. Guests & Club Members welcomed.

Wednesday Rides

Jan. 2, 16 & 30: @ 9 AM, 3 C, **Ride to Dupont** for coffee via Steilacoom for a nice workout. **Start:** Skyline Park & Ride (6th & Skyline).

Jan. 9 & 23: @ 9:30 AM, 2 B, **Ride the Chehalis Western Trial**. Rain in Tacoma Cancels. Ride from Chambers Creek Trailhead to Tenino to stop & buy lunch. **Start:** Trailhead in Lacy, past Josephine Ct SE & 14th Ave S.

More Wednesday Happenings:

Jan. 2: @ 6 PM, **Government Affairs Meeting** @ the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium H.S. area @ 1st & Tacoma Ave. Work on bicycle problems around Pierce County. All are invited to participate.

Thursday Rides

Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31: @ 9:30 AM, 2 - 3 A or 2 - 3 D, **Silk Road Smooooothly/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.

Saturday Rides

Jan. 5, 12, 19, & 26: @ 8:30 AM, 3 D, 50 - 60 miles, **Spokie Cycling Club Ride**. Average for entire ride is 17 mph w/ 20-25 mph on the flats. Route decided at start. No lunch, but coffee & conversation @ the end. **Start:** Forza Coffee, 2700 Bridgeport Way, University Place. Note: This is not a TWBC Ride, but a Spokie Cycling Club Ride. **Start:** Tacoma Bike, 309 Puyallup Ave., Tacoma.

@ 9 AM, 3 B - C, 60 - 100 miles, **Tacoma Bike Shop Ride**. Fun but challenging road ride to destinations from Gig Harbor to Bonney Lake & Dupont. Note: This is not a TWBC Ride, but a Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. **Start:** Tacoma Bike, 309 Puyallup Ave., Tacoma.

Sunday Rides

Jan. 6, 13, 20, & 27: @ 11 AM, 2 B, 25 - 35 miles, **Sunny Sunday Ride**. A chance to ride somewhere fun, provided there is a chance of sunshine and not too much rain. **Start:** 12/2: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor; 12/09: Wildside Wine @ 608A S. Oxford; 12/23: East Puyallup Trailhead, 13900 - 80th St E, Puyallup; 12/30: Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.

More Saturday Happenings:

Jan 26: @ 5 - 9 PM, **Club Annual Banquet**. Food catered for those who pre-register. Activities, 6:30 - 9 PM. Contact Carol Davis@ Wildside Wine, 253 - 565 - 0811. **Start:** Titlow Beach Community Center, 8425 - 6th Ave., Tacoma.

Monday Rides

Jan. 7, 14, 21 & 28: @ 9:30 AM, 1 C, **Hail, Hardy & Ready for Coffee**. Loop Pt. Defiance. Someone will stay w/ the slowest rider. Regroup @ Ft. Nisqually., then onto Fircrest for espresso/raspberry scones. You can shorten to 13 miles by cutting out Fircrest. **Start:** Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor. ☺

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, Feb. 19, 2013**

**Feb. Ride Calendar Deadline:
Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013**

**Feb. COG Article Deadline:
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2013**

*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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Anita Beninger

DAFFODIL CLASSIC

(2013): APRIL 7

daffodil@twbc.org

Daniel Jones & friends

PENINSULA METRIC

(2013): JUNE 2

pmc@twbc.org

Daniel Jones & friends

RAPSody Contact:

(2013): Aug. 24 & 25

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. ☺



**January
2013**

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

mail to:

Please Note: The COG is now available electronically via the Club Website only, as there is not an elected Editor to produce a USPS issue.



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!**