



DELAWARE VALLEY BICYCLE CLUB

P.O. Box 156, Woodlyn, PA, 19094-0156

MARCH 2000

FREE

Plan to attend!

General Membership Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2000,
from 7:30 - 9:00 pm!

Speaker: Bill Hoffman,
LAB Board Member and
Effective Cycling Instructor,
will speak on Effective Cycling.

(See inside ride calendar for more info.)



Ride leaders who attended the December banquet. Front (l to r): Jan Chadwick, Chris Martha, David Bennett, Ira Josephs. Middle: Tony Rocha, Bob Martin, Frank Jackson, Bob Leon. Back: Rich Wagner, Greg Cymbala, Dave Trout, Walt Linton, Bob LaDrew.

Number Crunchers Check In, edited by Bob LaDrew

In response to a newsletter request, DVBC "number crunchers" checked in with their fastidiously recorded riding statistics from the past year and decade. In no particular order, here's what they reported:

Chris Harendza: 2050 miles in '99, lowest since '87. Fastest ride 65 miles @ 16.8 mph. Longest ride 98 miles (crashed at Mile 98). Proudest achievement: Saying I'd ride less this year—and doing so.

Joel Perlisch: Had 423 biking days in a row, took a few off, and working on another streak of well over 200 now. Astonishingly, Joel has not missed a day of running for over 21 years! Says, "Almost every run and ride is a delivery or has some functional purpose. When I'm on a bike and see a runner, I think 'I wish I were running.' When I'm running and see a biker, I think, 'Gad, I wish I was on my bike!'"

Ed Sobolewski: 10,594 miles in '99. Fastest ride 130 miles @ 19.4 (Oct. 30 Shore Ride). Highest month: 1546. Longest one-day: 150 to and from Avalon. Proudest '99 accomplishment: 21 consecutive riding days, including two back-to-back bicycling tours: 570 miles Pedal

(cont. p. 3)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN, by Ira Josephs

We should finally be getting through this long cold snowy winter and out on the roads again. We have a busy DVBC cycling season to look forward to, but for it to happen, we are **urgently** in need of some volunteers to step forward and help make it possible. Fortunately we have had some people respond to the request, but we have much work to do and need more of you to help the club.

We recently lost several people performing key functions, which if we don't fill soon, will cause serious problems with some of our activities. We need a Vice President of the Board of Directors, people to coordinate our Open Space Tour in May, the Brandywine Tour in September, the Holiday Banquet in November, and someone to do our events listing (mainly Century rides that neighboring clubs sponsor). Certainly, the Holiday Banquet and events listings are not integral to our functioning as a club, but our two Century Tours are where we make the money that funds our club. In addition to providing donations to cycling organizations like the LAB and Bicycle Coalition, the profit from these rides pays for our liability insurance and printing and mailing the newsletters. Membership dues only cover a small portion of these costs.

In recent years, we have built up the club. Our membership is up, treasury is sound and our Tours have gained many participants. We have a strong internet presence and a bright future. We can only continue to be successful if members volunteer to help run these activities. Please speak up now and say you will help. With many folks we would each have only a little to do. I have already started publicity for our Tours and contacting sponsors. There are other things that need to be done soon. Respond now before it is too late. Contact Ira at 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com. Thanks.

On a positive note, we do have a new Ride Coordinator, Dave Trout. Big thanks to him for volunteering. A big thank you to Katrina Dowidchuck, as the outgoing Ride Coordinator, and to Chris Martha, as our Events Listings Coordinator. Good luck in your new endeavors. I hope to see you around and at DVBC events.

Lastly, if you are a League of American Bicyclists (LAB) member or care about the LAB, take note of the letter from Bill Hoffman in our newsletter. I know Bill personally and believe that he truly represents us. If he says to vote for a particular candidate for the LAB board, I know I will. Enjoy the end of winter, get out and ride, and call me now to volunteer to help the club.

The Delaware Valley Bicycle Club
P.O. BOX 156
Woodlyn, PA 19094-0156
<http://www.dvbc.org>

DVBC Meeting Place

Delaware County Peace Center,
 Springfield Friends Meeting, 1001
 Old Sproul Road (behind the car
 wash at Rt. 320 and Old Marple
 Road). Meetings are usually held
 the first Monday of most months.

*DVBC welcomes articles and ride
 reports for the newsletter. Please
 submit your proofread materials to
 the Editor before the 15th of each
 month.*

Board of Directors & Staff

Ira Josephs, *President & Newsletter Coeditor*,
 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com

Bob Leon, *Treasurer*, 610.833.2096 or
 cbleon@bellatlantic.net

David Bennett, *Secretary*, 610.626.1344
 queenofsheba@craftech.com

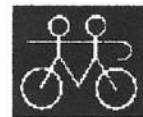
Judy LaDrew, *Newsletter Assembly &
 Coeditor*, 610.383.9327 or
 2ladrews@netreach.net

Dave Trout, *Ride Coeditor*, 610.368.0760
 or dtwave@home.com

Jan Chadwick, *Mail Labels & Brochures*,
 610.541.0784 or chadwick@craftech.com

Christopher Harendza, *Web Page*,
 610.449.6456 or elzchris@netreach.net

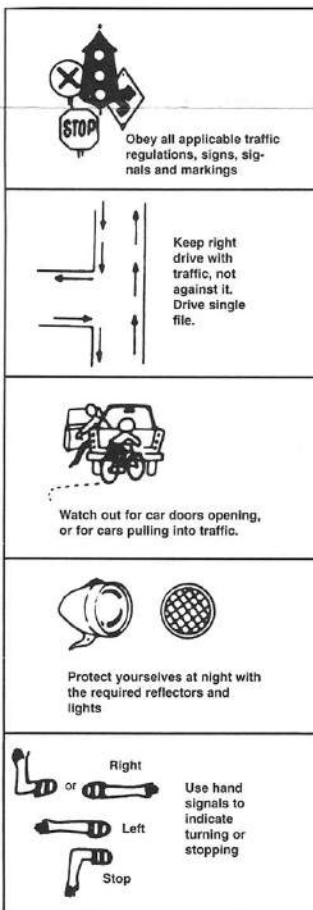
Club Affiliations



*Bicycle Coalition of the
 Delaware Valley*

*Please note that the views
 expressed in this publication are
 not necessarily the views of the
 DVBC, nor do we endorse
 products or services advertised.*

Ride Guidelines



1. Arrive early and *be ready to leave on time*. Rides start no more than 5-7 minutes late.
2. Make sure your bike is in proper working order *before* you arrive.
3. Carry a spare tube, patch kit, and water bottle.
4. Practice safety and obey all traffic laws.
5. A helmet is mandatory for all DVBC rides.
6. All Club rides are rated according to the degree of difficulty. Do not "bike off" more than you can do. Go on rides within your ability, interest and experience. If you're in doubt about your ability, try out a ride one class below the one you're not sure of and work your way up.
7. Ride classifications:
Class D: For new, inexperienced riders or families: 7-9 mph average moving speed with frequent stops and as few hills as possible. The group will wait for all riders. The ride lengths are usually less than 10 miles, but longer distances are permissible.
Class C-: For average riders: 10-11 mph average moving speed with rest stops as needed. The group will wait for stragglers. The recommended distance is 10-30 miles.
Class C+: Also for average riders: 12-13 mph average moving speed with rest stops every 45-60 minutes. No obligation to wait for stragglers if cue sheets or maps are provided.
Class B-: For more experienced riders: 14-15 mph average moving speed with rest stops at the discretion of the ride leader. No obligation to wait for stragglers if cue sheets or maps are provided.
Class B+: For strong riders: 16-18 mph average moving speed with rest stops at the discretion of the ride leader. No obligation to wait for stragglers if cue sheets or maps are provided.
Class A: For very strong riders: 19+ mph average moving speed with rest stops at the discretion of the ride leader. No obligation to wait for stragglers if cue sheets or maps are provided.
8. Each rider assumes his/her own risk on all rides.
9. Those who ride ahead of the group are on their own ride.
10. Always notify the ride leader before leaving the group.
11. Ride leaders should adhere to the advertised speed of the ride.
12. Ride leaders are not expected to be bike mechanics.

Note: In the case of questionable weather or road conditions, the Ride Leader may decide to cancel the event. Call the ride leader if in doubt. The general public is invited to all events organized by the Delaware Valley Bicycle Club. Except for the Freedom Tour, Brandywine Tour and Club picnic, all club events are free to the general public. The general public is welcome!

(Number Crunchers Check In,
Cont. from p.1)

PA, 450 miles Finger Lakes Region Ride.

Bill Freeborn: Long ride: 130 mi., 7 centuries, and 146 rides totaling 7358 miles (editor's note: That's an average of 50.4 miles per ride!).

Bob Leon: 4862 miles in '99, fastest '99 ride: 17.5 for 126 miles (Shore Ride). Highest '99 month: 980 miles. Decade statistics: Highest year ('98): 5620 miles. Fastest ride: '97 A.C. ride: 65 miles @ 20.2. Longest ride: 198 miles in '96.

Proudest accomplishments: Leading DVBC rides, 17 centuries in '99, over 40,000 miles and 73 centuries in the 90's. "...And untold miles of leading the friendliest people I have ever met."

Tony Rocha: 1999 miles: 5038.2. Fastest: 29.3 mi. @ 19.0 mph. High month: 726. Long ride: 150.3 @ 17.5 mph (Avalon ride).

Proudest: Being able to ride 150 miles. Joined club in Nov. '98 on a Bob Leon ride. ("You changed my life forever, Bob!").

Woody Kotch: "After 1998, when I did my highest mileage ever (4500), I vowed not to keep a log in '99. I stuck to it but, being an obsessive-compulsive like the rest of you, I didn't like it. I have started my log for 2,000...."

I do recall doing 150 to Avalon and I'm quite proud of it. I want that 200 this year. Two hundred in 2,000. Catchy, huh?

The accomplishment that I am quite proud of is completing at least one century ride every year since 1974."

Dave Trout: "I guess I must enter this display of anal retention and list my mileage: 4726 (A neck injury cost Dave almost 3 months of riding), Total

spinning miles: 1560. Longest ride: 128 miles on Bob Leon shore ride. Four centuries.

Gotta go to my ARA meeting (Anal Retentives Anonymous)."

Jan Chadwick: 5025.3 miles in '99. Fastest: American Cancer Ride (110.9 miles @ 17.5—my first century). Highest month: 828 in July.

Proudest accomplishment: Getting back on my bike and having a great year in spite of doing a Superman over the trunk of a car and landing on my head in May. Started riding in '90 as transportation while living overseas. Quit riding in fear of roads when I returned home in '92. Started riding more seriously in '97. Began logging in June '97. Log ended decade with 9820 miles. Not bad for being a relative couch potato for most of my life.

Jan praised Mike Toof as being the ride leader whose patience helped her through early DVBC rides.

Shelly Stiefeld e-mailed: "Come on, all you 'smell-the-flowers' riders. Come out of the closet and show us the mileage. Mine: 1286 for '99. Fastest: probably about 13 mph. Longest: the Montauk Century. I am in Florida right now (72 degrees here today—how's that for a statistic?)"

Ira Josephs: Miles: 4001. I got the last five miles riding around Philly on New Year's Eve. Fastest: Covered Bridge, 62.2 miles @ 17.9 mph. High month: 487 in September. Long ride: 100. Highest year: 4440 in '98. Longest ride: 126 in '97. Ten-year total: 29385.

Proudest moment in '99: Not freaking out when I realized I was going to be under my '98 mileage totals. And riding to almost all the bike club meetings after Bill Hoffman rode to our meet-

ing from Lancaster to be our speaker, then, at 10 pm, eschewed a ride in a car to bike to a member's house to spend the night, then biked to the airport the next morning.

Lew Ryan: 4948 miles in 1999. Highest month: 534. Fastest ride: 2.25-mile time trial in 7:48 (BBC club record). Longest ride: 102 miles. Decade totals ('93-'99): 17,828. Proudest: MS-150 and broke 5000 miles in '98

Bob LaDrew: 7783 miles in 1999. 58,932 miles in the decade. Fastest ride in '99: 21.0 (not counting lengthy pie stops) on tandem in SeaGull Century ("We could have ridden faster if I'd helped Judy pedal."). Proudest: 300 fifty-mile rides in last six years.

Walt Linton: 4031 total 1999 miles, two centuries, seven metrics, and Pedal PA.

David Bennett: 4678 miles in '99. Longest ride: 148. Highest year: 7303 in '94. Longest ride of decade: 202 miles in '94 (Swedesboro-Cape May-Swedesboro).

Finest moment: "After reaching the summit of Mt. Mitchell during the 'Assault on Mt. Mitchell' in 1995, we climbed the observation tower and had a crystal clear view of the whole 360 degrees. It seemed like we could see the whole state of North Carolina."

Best anecdote: "Charlie, Ken, Doug, and I had finished the 'Bridge to Bridge Tour' and were waiting for Gina to reach the summit of Grandfather Mountain. After she passed the last switchback and was halfway up the final ascent, she seemed to do a wheelie which became a full loop-the-loop. She managed to land with the rubber side down and just kept on riding like nothing happened with a big grin, with us and about 200 other riders cheering and applauding."

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DELAWARE VALLEY BICYCLE CLUB

RIDE CALENDAR

March 2000



Ride Descriptions

Wednesday, Mar. 1, Morning Miles: 30-35. Class C- <i>Mornin' Ridin'</i>	Join us retired, part timers, evening workers, etc., for a leisurely morning ride to various places in western Delaware & Chester Counties. Bring money for lunch. Call Fran DeMillion prior to ride for time and meeting place. 610.431.2675.
Thursday, Mar. 2, 7:30 am Miles: 10-25. Class C <i>Pancake Breakfast</i>	7:30am on each Thursday leaving from our Havertown home in the Oakmont section. Weather permitting. This is an easy-paced ride of 10-15 miles with a pancake place in between. Please don't forget money and a helmet. We're generally back to start by 9:45 am. Please call Joel at 610-789-7673, the night before, to confirm departing place and time.
Saturday, Mar. 4, 10:00 am Miles: 40+. Class B <i>Fort Mott</i>	Meet at the Kingsway High School, Routes 322 & 551, for a ride to Fort Mott, located along the Delaware River in South Jersey. Bring food and plenty of water. For more info call Bob 610-833-2096.
Sunday, Mar. 5, Call for time Miles: 10+. Class: all <i>Sunday ATB Ride</i>	Greg Cymbala of Cyclefit Bike Shop will be leading All Terrain Bicycle rides for all classes of riders every Sunday. The exact location and time will vary each week so you must call Greg at 610.876.9450 to confirm and also to discuss your ride class.
Sunday, Mar. 5, 10:00 am Miles: 28+/- . Class C+ B- <i>Northbrook Orchards</i>	Meet at the Chadds Ford Elementary School, ¼ mile south of Route 100 in Chadds Ford along Route 1. We'll stop at the Orchard, if it is open, before meandering back to the start. Call Bob 610-833-2096
Monday, Mar. 6, 7:30-9:00 pm <i>General Membership Meeting</i>	Delaware County Peace Center, Springfield Friends' Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Rd. in Springfield. The meeting is open to everyone. Bill Hoffman, LAB Board Member and Effective Cycling Instructor, will speak on Effective Cycling. Contact Ira Josephs at 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com.
Tuesday, Mar. 7, Evening Miles: 10-20. Class C <i>NightRiders</i>	We just can't give up riding in the evening. Weather permitting we will ride Tuesday and Thursday evening. We will meet at various places and times in the Swarthmore & Ridley areas. You must have lights both front and rear. Call or e-mail ahead of time for arrangements. Dave Trout 610-368-0760 or dtwave@home.com
Wednesday, Mar. 8, Morning	<i>Mornin' Ridin'</i> . See March 1 for details. Miles: 30-35. Class C-.
Thursday, Mar. 9, 7:30 am	<i>Pancake Breakfast</i> . See March 2 for details. Miles: 10-15. Class C.
Thursday, Mar. 9, Evening	<i>NightRiders</i> . See March 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Saturday, Mar. 11, 9:30 am Miles: 40+/- . Class B <i>Just Out Pedaling</i>	Meet behind the Dunkin Donuts in Woodlyn, Fairview Road & MacDade BLVD. The ride will go anywhere and somewhere just as long as we get out and pedal. Call Bob 610-833-2096.
Sunday, Mar. 12, Call for time	<i>Sunday ATB Ride</i> . See March 5 for details. Miles: 10+. Class All
Sunday, Mar. 12, 10:00 am. Miles: 21+. Class C <i>Manayunk</i>	An easy-paced ride starting from the Drexel Hill Cyclery on Burmont Rd. in Drexel Hill. We'll start there and travel to Manayunk with an optional loop to the Art Museum. Expect some hills, but no one will get dropped. Bring money for a snack. Call Bob Martin at 610.352.2114.
Sunday, Mar. 12, 1:30 pm Miles: 25+/- . Class C <i>Warmest Part of the Day</i>	Join me for a ride in the warmest part of the day. Meet at the Swarthmore train station for a ride in the surrounding areas with a possible trip to Ridley Creek State Park. Bring money for a coffee and muffin stop to warm up. If weather is questionable, call Jan Chadwick Sat evening or Sunday before 8:00am to confirm. 610.541.0784.

Welcome New Members!

James Alwine
Glenn Lyons

Jack & Ann Birney
Drew MacDonald

Robert Edmondson
Bill McDonough

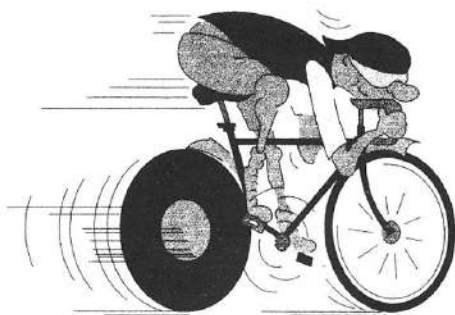
Kathleen Frederick
Paul Minick

Anne Lovatt
Tracy Morse

Monday, Mar. 13, 7:00 pm <i>DVBC Board Meeting</i>	Delaware County Peace Center, Springfield Friends' Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Rd. in Springfield. The meeting is open to all club members. Contact Ira Josephs at 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com.
Tuesday, Mar. 14, Evening	NightRiders. See November 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Wednesday, Mar. 15, Morning	Mornin' Ridin'. See March 1 for details. Miles: 30-35. Class C-.
Thursday, Mar. 16, 7:30 am	Pancake Breakfast. See March 2 for details. Miles: 10-15. Class C.
Thursday, Mar. 16, Evening	NightRiders. See March 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Saturday, Mar. 18, 8:30 am Miles: 37. Class C+ <i>Schuylkill Valley</i>	Join me for a ride from the Art Museum up the Schuylkill Valley. Meet at the Italian Fountain behind the Art Museum. Snow or Temps below 32F cancels. Call Ginny Durham at 215.440.7093 or e-mail vedurham@rcn.com
Saturday, Mar. 18 10:00 am Miles: 13,30+-. Class C and C+ <i>Take Your Pick</i>	Meet at Rose Tree Park, (off Rt. 252), and come do a few miles with us. We will do our usual loop to Swarthmore and return back to the park to complete our first 13 miles. There are no major hills on this ride and we will keep a slow pace. After this first loop as a good warm-up for the faster riders, we will pick up the pace and take a ride to Ridley Creek State Park and beyond. Call Tony Rocha at 610-416-0514 or tony@craftech.com
Sunday, Mar. 19, Call for time	Sunday ATB Ride. See March 5 for details. Miles: 10+. Class All
Sunday, Mar. 19, 9:30 am Miles: 35. Class C+/ B- <i>Kountry Kitchen</i>	Join me for the first official Kountry Kitchen ride of 2000. We meet at that familiar start, Kingsway High School, Routes 322 & 551 in New Jersey. Be there for a relaxing ride to a good breakfast. Call Bob at 610-833-2096.
Sunday, Mar. 19, 10:00 am Miles: 35-60. Class B <i>Westtown & Beyond</i>	Ride some of DVBC's classic scenic hills and creek valleys. Depending on the weather, we will pass the Ridley, Chester and maybe Brandywine taking us through Delaware and Chester Counties, West Chester and Delaware. Bring money and/or food for rest stop. Contact Ira at 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com
Sunday, Mar. 19, 10:30 am Miles: 23. Class C <i>Ridley Creek State Park</i>	Ride to Ridley Creek State Park from Thornton. Meet at the Thornton Community Park, at the corner of Glen Mills and Thornton Rds. This is a joint ride with the Brandywine Bicycle Club. Call Fran DeMillion 610.413.2675.
Tuesday, Mar. 21, Evening	NightRiders. See March 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Tuesday, Mar. 21, 7:00-9:00 pm <i>Delaware County Cycling Committee</i>	Delco Cycling Committee Meeting. At the Furness Library, off of Rt. 252 in Wallingford, PA. Everyone is welcome. Contact Ira Josephs at 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com.
Wednesday, Mar. 22, Morning	Mornin' Ridin'. See March 1 for details. Miles: 30-35. Class C-.
Thursday, Mar. 23, 7:30 am	Pancake Breakfast. See March 2 for details. Miles: 10-15. Class C.
Thursday, Mar. 23, Evening	NightRiders. See March 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Saturday, Mar. 25, 9:30 am Miles: 40+/- . Class B <i>Breakfast Ride</i>	Meet at the Kingsway High School, Routes 322 & 551. Join me for the first Kountry Kitchen B ride of 2000. We'll enjoy that good food we've come to like. Call Bob 610-833-2096.
Sunday, Mar. 26, Call for time	Sunday ATB Ride. See March 5 for details. Miles: 10+. Class All
Sunday, Mar. 26, 9:30 am Miles: 25+/- . Class C+/ B- <i>Valley Forge - Manayunk</i>	Meet me at the Valley Forge trail head for a ride down the Schuylkill trail to Manayunk. Bring or buy lunch at one of the many restaurants along Main Street. Call Bob 610-833-2096.
Tuesday, Mar. 28, Evening	NightRiders. See March 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Wednesday, Mar. 29, Morning	Mornin' Ridin'. See March 1 for details. Miles: 30-35. Class C-.
Thursday, Mar. 30, 7:30 am	Pancake Breakfast. See March 2 for details. Miles: 10-15. Class C.
Thursday, Mar. 30, Evening	NightRiders. See March 7 for details. Miles: 10-20. Class C.
Monday, Apr. 3, 7:30-9:00pm <i>General Membership Meeting</i>	Delaware County Peace Center, Springfield Friends' Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Rd. in Springfield. The meeting is open to everyone. Join us to hear "Riders of the Brandywine", a musical journey , presented by DVBC member, David Clark Bennett. Contact Ira Josephs at 610.565.4058 or bikeira@juno.com.

μ Wear a helmet. Dress appropriately. Call the ride leader first to confirm the ride.

μ Email: dtwave@home.com



Bike Dirt 2000

By F.X. Pedrix

Another Christmas has come and gone and still no brand new titanium bike under my tree. I asked Babs, my still ever so lovely wife, when exactly I can expect my new titanium bike and she said, "When heck freezes over." I replied that I thought heck had been freezing over lately. This winter has been extremely hard on even the most dedicated of winter riders. There have been a few reports of people daring the snow, the black ice and the extreme cold to go riding. For the most part we've been trapped inside replacing a good ride with reading the posting on the club's list server and watching our guts and butts getting larger. Babs actually told me she was sick and tired of me pacing around the house moaning about the weather and couldn't wait for the nice weather so she could get rid of me. I could hear the love in her voice.

A few years ago I went out and bought cross country skis for Babs and myself. She claimed I was crazy (when have I heard that before) and that although she likes downhill skiing she wasn't about to trudge around on skis without hills. I told her we could use them if we had a big snowstorm. "You know, instead of biking," I said. She rolled her eyes and said, "We'll see." Well, for the past three years we've had very little snow so they sat in the shed. During the big snowfall this year, I got the skis out and managed to talk Babs into giving it a try. While we were out "trudging" around on our skis, looking like a couple of bank robbers in our ski masks, we noticed a bicyclist out riding in the snowstorm. From where we stood we couldn't tell who it was. Babs asked if it was that "Mad Russian" guy. I said no, that he doesn't ride in this area. Later, I told Babs that the "Rider in the Storm" could have been one of our bike club members who has ridden, at last count, every day for 250 days, and later I found out he did go out riding that day. This is

the same guy who has run every day for over 21 years and who has toured all over the country on his bike. "If he's married", Babs said, "I'd like to talk to his wife."

I was in my little home office the other day paying bills and getting my tax information organized so I could get my taxes prepared. Babs passed by and noticed all my little files and folders and remarked "Ah, I see 'Anal Retentive Man' is at work again." She thinks I'm a little obsessive about my files as well as my bike riding. Speaking of anal retentiveness and obsession, the list server has been a fountain of it for the last couple of months. First, one of our taller and lankier members announced that he was no longer going to keep a mileage log. He said that in conjunction with his wife and his analyst (I think they're two separate people), he was giving up his obsession with mileage log keeping. This is the same guy who devised his own Excel spreadsheet to record his mileage and significant statistics. Well, that lasted about a week and he announced he was back on the "log" again. Does anyone know of a Log Keepers Anonymous group where we could send him?

All the discussion about log keeping led to a long discussion of obsessive riding and obsessive statistic keeping, which then started a war when someone asked if indoor biking mileage, on rollers or stationary bikes, should count toward total yearly

mileage. This sometimes heated and sometimes comical argument has gone back and forth for weeks now. Just when you think it's over, it flares up again. It all proves one point - WE NEED SPRING - we've got to get away from our computers and go out and ride!!! Soon, real soon.

FYI, this is the only issue of Bike Dirt that will be called Bike Dirt 2000. Since it seems that everything else is 2000 this or Millennium Edition that, I thought I would get on that bandwagon also. So be sure to save this issue, it might be a collector's item some day and you can sell it on Ebay. (The hysterical laughter you hear in the background is Babs reading this paragraph over my shoulder.)

If you have any good Bike Dirt, club news, gossip, jokes, quotes, comments or any other info, e-mail me at fxpedrix@hotmail.com.



Skiers Babs and FX Pedrix could have sworn they saw a club member biking in a blizzard.

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TO SOMEONE ELSE.**

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A MESSAGE FROM BILL HOFFMAN

Dear LAB Members of DVBC,

You will soon be getting your March-April issue of Bicycle USA. It contains a ballot for the election of a portion of the Board of Directors. The at-large seat has two candidates. I am asking you to vote for Fred Meredith. Here's why it's important for you to vote, and to vote for Fred:

Fred is a long-time League member, Effective Cycling Instructor, ECI Regional Trainer, and first winner of the ECI of the Year Award (1997—now the LAB Education Award). He has also been a successful and influential advocate for bicycling in Austin, TX, where he lives and writes an excellent monthly bike magazine. I've known Fred since he became an ECI in 1996. He is very personable, has excellent writing and speaking skills, and a logical mind. He also knows bicycling and would be a strong voice on the Board for protecting cyclists' rights, and helping LAB better use its strong core of knowledgeable volunteers to carry out the organization's mission at the local and state levels, where it counts the most. The latter is something that the current LAB top management has failed to do.

One of the most important things Fred will bring to the board is his belief in what the membership can and should do. In the past five years we have seen the demise of Area Representatives, State Legislative Representatives, Chapter Affiliates, Touring Information Directors and Hospitality Homes. These programs have all been axed by the current leadership in the mistaken belief that LAB should be run like a corporation, getting money from its members and using that money for paid staff to carry out the work. This policy has been pursued vigorously by the current president, Earl Jones. We need Fred Meredith to help strengthen the voices on the other side of the table—to sway the policy back to where it belongs.

Of course, I cannot predict how Fred Meredith will vote on any given issue coming before the Board. But I know I can trust him to honor the League's original structure as a membership organization, and not as an impersonal

corporation.

I have been an LAB member and volunteer for a long time—29 years, to be exact. I do not interject myself into Board elections capriciously. I think it's critical for the present and future of LAB to get someone like Fred on the Board, to support the other like-minded directors and bring a sense of historical perspective that is sadly inadequate among most of the current directors. I won't go into detail here on all that I think LAB is doing wrong these days, but if you'd like more info, e-mail me and I'll fill you in.

It's very important that you vote, for two reasons: 1) to help elect Fred; 2) to let the Board and Executive Director know that there are members who care about what's going on, lest they become rubber stamps for Earl Jones' misguided view of how LAB should operate. I remind you that in 1998, Earl proposed a bylaws amendment that would have removed the Board elect its own slate. He only withdrew his amendment when he saw that he lacked the 2/3 majority necessary to change the bylaws. He might have even had a normal majority—that's how close he came to snowing the other directors.

Be sure to follow the voting instructions exactly, to ensure that your ballot is not invalidated. In fact, since the ballots are to be mailed to LAB HQ instead of to an independent organization, I suggest that you make a copy of your ballot before you mail it, and then e-mail me to tell me that you voted. I plan to ask to inspect the ballots and need a checklist. Thank you for doing your part to return LAB to its roots.

Bill Hoffman, Lancaster, PA

sgpc@lancnews.infi.net

LAB member since 1971; life member #34 (since 1976) LAB Regional Director 1974-82; Secretary 1974-75 and 1978; Treasurer 1976-77 and 1979 Touring Information Director for NY 1977-90, for PA 1990-? Touring Information Committee Chair 1992-95 Effective Cycling Instructor #33 (since 1980) Education Committee Member 1994- , Chair 1996-.



EVENTS LISTINGS

March 25: Icicle Metric. 16, 31 or 62 mi. Hollingsworth Parking Lot, U. of Del. \$16 or (pre-reg.) \$12. Registr. at 7:30 am. <<http://www.delanet.com/~wcbe>> or Bruce Poole, 104 Maple Hill Rd., Wilmington, DE 19804.

April 14-16: The Great British Bike Week-end in Philadelphia. Rides, Rallies, Sturmeys, Archer Hub Workshop, Bike and Pub Crawl, and more! Note: This year the Brit Bike Swap moves to the Church Walkway, 1/2 block north of Market Street (enter next to 319 Market St.) Swap is open to all. Dealers invited to register. Via Bicycle and Trophy Bicycle will have rare English bikes on display from April 11-17. For info, email mcget@aol.com or call Trophy Bikes at 215.625.7999.

April 15: Ocean to Bay Tour, Fenwick Is. DE 302-539-2100 or 800-962-7873. <info@bethany-fenwick.org> Internet: www.bethany-fenwick.org

April 16: Taxing Metric, Warwick County Park. Brandywine Club.

April 30: Tea Burner Ride, out of Carmel NJ. April 30. \$13 pre-registered, or \$15 at the gate.

April 30: Rotary River Ride, Horsham, PA. 20, 35, or 63 mi. Frank Gerome 215-542-7974 camps@I-bob.com

May 19-20: Tour de Chesapeake. Scenic, flat family tour by Chesapeake Bay in Mathews County. Routes from 10-64 miles. www.bikevirginia.org

Thank You from Gina

Many of you have heard that I resigned last December from my positions as Vice President and Tours Coordinator. Many members and friends have shown their appreciation with a special gift yet to come. I am in the process of acknowledging their generosity. Thank you!

One last note to all regarding our annual DVBC banquet held in Dec. It was a great evening! It was well attended and included many new faces. There was a delicious assortment of potluck foods and lots of friendly conversation. Thanks to all who ended my year with this successful and joyous event.

Delaware Valley Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 156
Woodlyn, PA 19094-0156



Exp: 9/30/00

Bob & Judy LaDrew
139 Gabel Road
Coatesville, PA 19320

19320-1284 07



The Delaware Valley Bicycle Club (DVBC) is a non-profit corporation formed to educate the public as to the safe use of the bicycle through lectures, seminars, planned rides, and other activities promoting the bicycle as an efficient and enjoyable means of exercise, recreation, and transportation. Non-members are welcome on rides, but are urged to consider their ability and experience when selecting a ride (see the "Ride Guidelines" on the inside cover). Helmets are mandatory for all rides. The club cannot accept responsibility for accidents or injury when participating in a DVBC event.

Application for DVBC Membership

(Expires 1 year from date joined/renewed)

Please print clearly and use your 9-digit zip code, if known.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Annual Membership: \$15.00 per household.

Check one: ☐ new member or ☐ renewal

Membership includes: DVBC Newsletter (10 issues per year), discounts at most Club sponsors, Club subsidized events. Your membership attracts advertisers and helps influence local government decisions concerning bicycle issues.

The DVBC Safety Fund is used to promote issues regarding cycling safety in the Delaware Valley. I wish to contribute:

☐ \$1 ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$15 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$25 ☐ other: _____

Amount enclosed: \$15 (membership) + _____ (safety) = _____

Interest Survey

Your Ride Pace:
(check one)

- ☐ Class D: *slow* ☐ Class A: *fast*
☐ Class C: *average* ☐ Off-Road
☐ Class B: *brisk*

I'll volunteer for:
(check all interests)

- ☐ Ride Leader ☐ Newsletter
☐ Sag Wagon ☐ Typist
☐ Tour Food Stop ☐ Newsletter
Delivery



Please send your check or money order to the:

Delaware Valley Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 156
Woodlyn, PA 19094-0156