

Pennsylvania Bike Advocacy Update

By Josh Karns, Executive Director, Pa Walks & Bikes

The federal transportation bill, including bicycle and pedestrian proposals, remains uncertain. Congressman Oberstar, a very influential supporter of bicycling and pedestrian funding and policy, was voted out of office. The future of Complete Streets, Safe Routes to School, and other bike and pedestrian programs is up in the air.

Over the summer, Congress funded a jobs bill by pulling \$2.2 billion out of transportation funding. To meet Pennsylvania's share, the state cut disproportionately from programs that fund biking and walking. While PennDOT maintains that no active projects were canceled, PA Walks & Bikes is pushing the state to spend active transportation funding as aggressively as they spend on highways.

At the state level, safe bicycling legislation—including a 4-foot passing requirement—is now considered a priority in the next legislative session. This bill has attracted 65 cosponsors, showing strong support. Cell phone usage legislation is in final negotiations and also on hold until next session.

PA Walks & Bikes has met with General Assembly leaders to advocate for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects and programs.

PennDOT has been asked to prioritize Safe Routes to School projects, asked to adopt national standards for bicycle and pedestrian traffic control, and asked to remove permit obstacles for adding bike lanes to state roads. PennDOT is identifying and repairing dangerous rumble strips.

To make PA a better place for bicycling and walking, join at pawalksandbikes.org. Contact Josh Karns at pawalkbike@gmail.com or 717-856-2814. P.O. Box 156 Swarthmore, PA, 19081 www.dvbc.org

Monday December 6 DVBC BANQUET and ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

See Page 7 for details and registration form ************

Annual Ride Reports Wanted

New Editor Needed

For DVBC Newsletter, 10 times a year, no experience necessary, just the desire to do an important job for the club. Current editor will work with you to learn the programs and shortcuts. For more information contact Adam Levine at adambomb99@gmail.com.

The last I reported in, fall was just beginning and the lovely **Babs** and I were looking forward to some autumnal travel after the **Fightin Phils** won another World Series. Well, that wasn't to be, but we did sneak off for a couple weekends and had a marvelous time riding on scenic back roads in PA and VT. When we got back we were dismayed to hear that some of our favorite club members have had a tough fall (not meant to be a play on words but sometimes it just happens).

Jill on Bike fell into a tree pit on an Olde City sidewalk the first

BIKE DIRT by F.X. Pedrix

week of October, breaking her hip. She's recuperating well and no one could stop her from attending the grand opening of the **South Street Bridge** on Nov 6th. She borrowed a friend's hand bike and rode across the brand new bridge during the ceremonies.

The second mishap occurred during **Dreamer**'s Columbus Day MTB Ride at White Clay Creek State Park. The dreamy one rode up onto a log ramp and crashed at the end of it. **Grey Wolf** was at the spot, having just turned off his camera, and reports that she went flying through the air and landed hard on her left collarbone, breaking it into two. The next day she had the same surgery Lance Armstrong had last year. The rumor is their "after" x-rays are near identical including the pins and plates. A steady supply of beer, from sympathetic club members, has been showing up at Dreamer's door ever since. Her insurance company gave her a rebate because she didn't have to fill all the prescriptions for pain meds. Someone tell Obama: what a great way to reduce costs of medical coverage for everyone.

Delaware Valley Bicycle Club P.O. Box 156 Swarthmore, PA 19081 www.DVBC.org

Membership in DVBC is encouraged, but non-members are welcome at all our rides and events. Except for the Bonkers Metric, Brandywine Tour, Club Banquet and Bonkers Picnic, all club events are free. Money raised from rides and membership dues is donated to a variety of cycling-related organizations.

DVBC welcomes articles, photographs, and ride reports for the newsletter. Please submit materials to the Editor before the 15th of each month. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of DVBC.

Monthly board meetings are open to all, and are usually held the 1st Monday of the month (except December) at 7 p.m., at the Swarthmore Public Library. Contact the President to confirm.

CLUB AFFILIATIONS

*League of American Bicyclists *Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia *Adventure Cycling Association *Bicycle Access Council *East Coast Greenway *Friends of the Chester Creek Branch Rail Trail *PA Walks and Bikes **Board of Directors** and Volunteer Staff

Dominick Zuppo, President 484.483.7456 or president@dvbc.org

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Adam Levine, Newsletter Editor 610.891.0780 or adambomb99@gmail.com

Newsletter Contents © 2010 by DVBC

RIDE GUIDELINES & CLASSIFICATIONS

- 1. Arrive early and **be ready to leave on time**.
- 2. Make sure your bike is in proper working order **before** you arrive. Ride leaders are not expected to be bike mechanics.
- 3. A helmet is mandatory for all DVBC rides.
- 4. Carry a spare tube, patch kit, and water bottle.
- 5. 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 unsure of and work your way up.
- 6. Practice safety and obey all traffic laws.
- 7. Each rider assumes his/her own risk on all rides.
- 8. Those who ride ahead of the group are on their own ride.
- 9. Always notify the ride leader before leaving the group.
- 10. Ride leaders should adhere to the advertised speed of the ride.

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: 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. Delaware Valley Bicycle Club: Serving Delaware County and the Western Philadelphia suburbs

Winter 2010-2011 Ride Calendar



Check the ride calendar at <u>www.DVBC.org</u> for late additions to this list. Occasional ad hoc rides are posted on the DVBC listserve. Winter weather can be unpredictable — so please

CONTACT THE RIDE LEADER IN ADVANCE

to make sure a ride is still on!

For tours and rides sponsored by other clubs and organizations, check out the event calendar at <u>www.suburbancyclists.org</u>

DECEMBER 2010

	*****Recurring Weekday Ride*****		
Wednesdays 10 am Miles:30-60 Class:C+ Docs' Ride	Ride starts and ends at the 320 Market Cafe parking lot in Swarthmore (except Dec. 29th, which will leave from Rose Tree Park). Possible lunch destination. Foul weather and temperature <45F cancels ride. Contact Larry Green at 610-544-5799 <u>largreen@earthlink.net</u> or Woody Kotch at 610-566-2736 <u>hrkotch@comcast.net</u> . CONTACT RIDE LEADERS NIGHT BEFORE TO CONFIRM!		
Sat, Dec 4 10:00 am Miles:10-12 Class:C M&M MTB in Brandywine	Try my new "M&M" mountain bike ride. Loop will be in 2-3 hour time range. M&M is for moun- tains and macaroni. Meet in Macaroni Grill lot at 4157 Concord Pike (Route 202). Post ride eats at Macaroni Grill (Misty's personal favorite). Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>		
Sunday, Dec 5 9:00 am Miles:35 Class:C/C+ Art Museum	Meet in Rite Aid lot across from Drexel Hill Cyclery. Brief bio break in city. No lunch stop. Winter rules. Optional post-ride Ming's meal. Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>		
Saturday, Dec 11 9:00 am Miles:33 Class:C+/B- 33-1/3 (Leave your old LPs at Home)	Point of departure: Front & Olive Sts., Media (under Civil War soldier, free parking in the lot); Des tination: Westtown, Paoli area, Newtown Square, back to Media; Special instructions: No one dropped. Rain or sub 35 degrees cancels ride. Contact Cliff Edgcumbe at <u>cedgcumbe@msn.com</u>		
Sunday, Dec 12 9:00 am Miles:30 +/- Class:C+ Chadds Ford Hilly Loop	Let's enjoy a hilly winter ride to Chadds Ford. Meet at Rose Tree Park in Media and we'll find as many hills as we can to keep us warm. Bring \$\$ for short stop at convenience store in Chadds Ford. Contact Mary Huis at <u>familymail233@comcast.net</u>		
Saturday, Dec 25 10:00 am Miles:25-30 Class:C+ Merry Christmas	Meet at the Daylesford train station (1/2 mile east of Performance in Paoli). Destination and route to be determined, but expect to see roads which are too busy to ride the rest of the year. Contact Lewis Neidle at 610-722-5823 or <u>ljn1427@yahoo.com</u>		
	January 2011		
	*****Recurring Weekday Ride*****		
Wednesdays 10 am Miles:30-50 Class:C+ Docs' Ride	Ride starts and ends at Rose Tree Park, Providence Rd., Media. Possible lunch destination. Rain, hail, sleet, snow, or temperatures below 40 degrees at 10 am cancel the ride. Contact Woody Kotch (610-566-2736 or <u>hrkotch@comcast.net</u>) night before to confirm that this ride is on!!		
Sunday, Jan 2 9:00 am Miles:35 Class:C/C+ Art Museum	Meet in Rite Aid lot across from Drexel Hill Cyclery. Brief bio break in city. No lunch stop. Winter rules. Optional post-ride Ming's meal. Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>		
Sunday, Jan 9 10:00 am Miles:25 - 30 Class:C Winter in Westtown	Let's celebrate the new year with a (hopefully) not too frosty ride out to Westtown. This ride is not too hilly, not too flat, but just right for a winter excursion on a bicycle. Meet at Rose Tree Park in Media. Wet roads and extreme weather (too cold and/or windy) cancels. Please contact ride leader before ride. Contact Mary Huis at <u>familymail233@comcast.net</u>		
Monday, Jan 17 10:00 am Miles:10-15 Class:All MLK MTB	Meet at Jake's Way Back restaurant (formerly Jake's Hamburgers) on Route 202 in Chadds Ford. It is right on Pa-De state line. We park in empty lot beside the sea food store. Expect a 2-3 hour ride, no one dropped. Mountain bike needed. Wet snow or recent rain will change mountain bike ride to a DVBC hike. Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>		
Saturday, Jan 29 10:00 am Miles:30 +/- Class:C+ Winter Paoli Loop	Meet in Rose Tree Park for a winter ride out to horse country. No planned stops so bring a snack. Wet roads and extreme weather (either too cold and/or windy) cancels. Please contact ride leader before ride via E-mail. Contact Mary Huis at <u>familymail233@comcast.net</u>		

	February 2011			
*****Recurring Weekday Ride*****				
Wednesdays 10 am Miles:30-50 Class:C+ Docs' Ride	Ride starts and ends at Rose Tree Park, Providence Rd., Media. Possible lunch destination. Rain, hail, sleet, snow, or temperatures below 40 degrees at 10 am cancel the ride. Contact Woody Kotch (610-566-2736 or <u>hrkotch@comcast.net</u>) night before to confirm that this ride is on!!			
Saturday, Feb 12 10:00 am Miles:6 +/- Class:All Pie Hike	Meet at Linvilla Orchards (137 W. Knowlton Rd, Media) for a hike on their great trails. Expect some hills and a few small stream crossings. Water resistant or waterproof hiking boots a good idea (but not a must). Optional post hike pie from Linvilla market. Rain will cancel hike but not the pie. Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>			
Sunday, Feb 13 9:00 am Miles:35 Class:C/C+ Art Museum	Meet in Rite Aid lot across from Drexel Hill Cyclery. Brief bio break in city. No lunch stop. Winter rules. Optional post-ride Ming's meal. Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>			
Monday, Feb 21 10:00 am Miles:14 Class:C/C+ White Clay MTB	Enjoy some presidential type single track in White Clay and Middle Run Parks near Newark, DE. Meet in Zingo's shopping center lot on Polly Drummond Hill Road. We park in front of Dunkin' Donuts. Hopefully Dreamer will be back (in full body armor) for this ride. Recent rain or snow wi cancel ride (unless snow is dry powder type). Contact Dan Dillon at 610-494-4949 or <u>Grey48Wolf@verizon.net</u>			
Saturday, Feb 26 10:00 am Miles:30 +/- Class:C+ It's Almost Spring	Let's celebrate spring on the horizon with a late winter ride leaving from Rose Tree Park. Bring \$ for food stop at convenience store. Wet roads or extreme weather cancels (too cold and/or too windy). Contact ride leader Mary Huis before ride at <u>familymail233@comcast.net</u> to confirm.			

Bicycling on Ice (SOURCE: *Harper's Weekly*, February 26, 1881)

he use of the bicycle on the ice is a rather hazardous kind of sport, even for the best riders. Unless the surface is slightly roughened, the wheel is apt to slip sideways when a sharp turn is made, or when the rider puts on a sudden spurt; and some of

the most experienced and skillful masters of the art have declared, after a fall or two on the slippery surface, that they will not risk another attempt.

Our sketch shows a race that took place recently on the Schuylkill between skaters and bicycle riders. The ice had been considerably roughened by skating parties, and was pretty well fitted for bicycle practice, and the riders made excellent time. Only the best skaters could keep up with them. Trips were made on the Delaware from Philadelphia to Trenton.



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(Bike Dirt, continued from page 1)

A third accident occurred when **Yellow Shoes' son, Jeremy Thomas**, was riding to work near the Art Museum and had to ride through some leaves to avoid a car. Unfortunately, a log was under the leaves and he crashed hard, hit a tree and injured his shoulder and broke his wrist. Hope all of you recover quickly.

Grey Wolf and **Misty** have taken to wearing protective padding while out mtbing lately. They say it feels great and doesn't bother them at all. GW likes it so much Misty has found him wearing it during those impromtu naps he often enjoys post-ride. Might be a good idea to get a whole body set for Dreamer.

Speaking of GW, he's been organizing all sorts of things lately



and is becoming a sort of social director. He got a group together for dinner at Red Robin and to see the movie "Leadville 100: Race for the Sky." Another outing was to the MTB Jamboree at Fair Hill MD where Cate C. tested new mtbs (she loves mtbing and was bummed she had to quit the day Dreamer got hurt) and Yellow Shoes joined them on the ride led by the Trail Spinners. Of course GW's been leading lots of mtb rides and his usual Manayunk Rides with a happy ending at **Ming's**. On Veteran's Day GW led a mtb ride with two of our veterans, Misty (Army) and Steve Crashrock (Navy), all three wearing military jerseys.

Buckeye recently bought a Ford 150 truck and a trailer that he said will fit bikes, a motorcycle, and lots of gear. He's already put the truck to use moving **President for Life**'s furnishings. Maybe next summer another TOPA tour may be in the works. Sadly for Buckeye, **Gigi** won't ride in the truck though. Speaking of Gigi, I heard she just landed a new job thereby ending her summer vacation and weekday rides. Good luck in the new position.

A few Sundays ago, Babs and I were out riding our tandem enjoying the warm and sunny weather when **Ride Away** blew by us along with three other riders. When we found out what he was up to, he yet again flabbergasted us mere mortals. RA and friends 20 years his junior rode a 165 mile hammer fest from Wayne to Jim Thorpe and back in a mere 8.5 hrs at an average of 19.3 mph. After-(Continued on page 6)

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Dear Gear Grrl,

I would like to stay in shape over the winter months but really hate riding in cold weather. What do you do? *Hibernating in Media*

Dear HiM,

I've got to agree with you that riding in cold weather really stinks sometimes. It takes forever to get dressed and unfortunately for me, my fingers and toes always seem to be cold. The last few years what I've learned to do is mix things up. I ride on-road when conditions allow, and have learned what and how many layers

to wear in the various temperatures and conditions. For my toes, I basically wear wool socks, chemical foot warmers and booties over my shoes. That works pretty well especially if I warm up the shoes by my heater before I put them on. I also heat up my gloves by the heater in my car and the gloves are Gortex and the warmest rated ones I could find. Since the woods are usually warmer than the road, I also have been mountain-biking, since you can get a good workout in a relatively short time and you don't get as cold because you don't feel the wind as much. I also hike and occasionally go to the gym, which I hate, but I find it's a necessary evil since you just can't go without doing some weight bearing exercises, which are good for your bones. You might want to try spinning classes which can be fun. I've ridden a few times on my trainer but don't last long since it bores the heck out of me. If all else fails, book a Caribbean vacation and workout down there where you can bike, swim, eat and drink in the warm sun.



(Bike Dirt, continued from page 5)

wards he said his neck was hurting him, but he thought it was due to GW's **Pool Boy** Ride the day before. Uh huh, keep thinking that, RA. I bow down to you , but I wonder if you were able to bow down after that ride. Way to go!

NY Andy Marzano ran the Philly Marathon on Nov 21st and had a personal best by beating his NYC Marathon time from last year by 25 minutes. He thinks that all those climbs up and down Old Gradyville with Mary the Cycling Gourmet got him in shape. Good job NY!

The ranks of DVBC mtbers is



growing by leaps and bounds. Shelley E. is now the proud owner of a new Trek mtn bike. On a recent ride down at White Clay Creek State Park, Dominator, Jittery Jo and Juror #6 came out for the first time and Dom was heard exclaiming how much fun it was. Juror #6 was impressive on the trails although he still didn't buy the Dunkin Donuts afterwards. Boy, that fat tire table at the DVBC banquet is going to be crowded!

A few weeks ago during a weekday Three Parks Ride, **Smitty** and Grey Wolf ran into **The Legend, Walt Linton**, on the Schuylkill Trail. Walt said he rides out there on a regular basis. Still going strong after all these years!

The Bike Coalition held the first annual Philly Bike Expo at the Armory on October 30th. **Alex M.** led a ride there joined by **Len D.** and **Doug M. Soy Boy** and **Don Larsen (aka AstroMan)** also biked there and Buckeye, Gigi and Dreamer all drove in together. It was a great event which hopefully will continue and get even bigger.

Pending the sale of their house **Clarence & Myrtle** are moving to Coatesville. Rumor has it that Clarence has been dallying with Brandywine Bike Club rides already.

Cycling Gourmet has been keeping busy leading lots of fall rides, always with a food destination in mind. The ride reports and chatter on the list serve are very positive from the throngs of riders partaking in the fun. She's doing a splendid job on the ride calendar —and has begun posting weekly messages of upcoming events. Thanks for all your hard work, Mary!

It's been good to see all of the new rides and new leaders stepping up lately. Peter S, the Real Professor, graciously led Dreamer's recent Northbrook ride. Dave Alfe has been leading some great rides and posting great ride reports and Dave Cunicelli has been leading some get out and get back quickly type rides. And of course you've got Buckeye who may have led the Shortest Ride **Ever.** The ride was supposed to go to Annamarie's for breakfast, but after only one mile, Buckeye and **Tom G.** decided to head back because they were freezing. To her credit, Gigi hung in there and rode nine more.

The **Mad Russian** was sited recently out near Cheyney. He was in shorts and standing and was shirtless as usual on a 50ish degree day.

Two years ago at the club banquet the **Cycling Gardener** was given the first-ever Rotten Apple Award, for allegedly filching apples from a tree on Gradyville Road. Well, the CG wants to report that this year he finally saw the tree's owner, who gladly gave him permission to take as many apples as he could stuff into the pockets of his jersey (usually about five or six at a time). CG no longer thinks he deserves this award, but FX has heard from more than a couple of spies who have reported seeing the CG "borrowing" (his term) apples from other trees this fall. One of these trees was in the vicinity of the Delaware County Prison, which is where CG might end up if he keeps up these larcenous ways. Word is that they have a couple of old stationary bikes at the prison, and a good print shop,

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so CG could stay in shape and still produce the club newsletter while incarcerated.

Soy Boy, Cycling Gardener, and AstroMan were on a ride re-

cently when the CG came across a squirrel that had just been hit. The poor nut-lover was mortally wounded but still twitching, and the CG nudged the creature off the road with his shoe, covered it with leaves, and wished it, "Rest in peace." Since the squirrel couldn't speak for itself, Soy Boy protested for it. "It wasn't even dead yet! Didn't you put it out of its misery?" (Sounds like a **Monty Python** skit to me!) Later in the ride Soy Boy added, "If I ever get hit by a car, please put me out of my misery before you push me to the side of the road."

Hope you all had a great **Thanksgiving** and got to spend it how you wanted with the ones you wanted to. Babs and I send our best and would like to say that we're thankful for all of you. DVBC is a great club full of great people!

Enjoy the holidays, stay safe and warm through the winter, and don't forget to keep sending in all those lies, innuendos and halftruths for our amusement.

Monday, December	· 6, 2010		
Reception / Cash Bar at 6	Cash Bar		
Dinner at 7:00 pm	Sit-Down Dinner		
Always a fun time for a	Annual Awards		
Name(s)	Election of Board Members		
Phone #	Number attend	ling	D'Ignazio's Towne House
Meal choices (check one a	(in the Tiffany Room)		
Appetizers: Spring Mix Salad	members &	ized charges for t up to 2 guests: \$10 per person	117 Veterans Sq., Media, PA (610) 566-6141 Directions: www.townehouse.com. On street parking free after 6:00 pm
Escarole Soup		5 for prime rib)	To reserve your spot,
Entrees:		ditional guests:	send payment to
Baked Salmon Béan Vegan selection	maice	\$30 per person for prime rib) Total Enclosed:	Larry Green 315 Maple Avenue Swarthmore, PA 19081
(Contains no meat products)Total Enclosed:Roast Prime Rib au jus (\$5 extra)\$			(610) 544-5799 largreen@earthlink.net



Delaware Valley Bicycle Club P.O. Box 156 Swarthmore, PA 19081 www.dvbc.org

APPLICATION FOR DVBC MEMBERSHIP (expires one year from date renewed or joined) Membership includes: DVBC newsletter (10 issues/year), discounts at most Club sponsors, Club subsidized events. Your membership also helps influence local government decisions concerning bicycle issues.

Annual membership: \$15 per household

CIRCLE ONE: NEW or RENEWING Member Newsletter Preference: Printed copy (via US Mail) or **PDF** (via E-mail—saves trees and \$\$)

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

NAME:_

ADDRESS:_____

CITY: _____STATE __ZIP: ____

PHONE: Birth Date:

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

I wish to contribute (circle appropriate amount):

\$5 \$10 \$15 \$20 \$25 Other: \$ \$1

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

\$15 membership + _____ Safety Fund = \$_____

I will volunteer for (circle all interests)

Ride Leader Tour Volunteer Newsletter Other:

EMAIL:

Please send your check or money order to: Delaware Valley Bicycle Club, P.O. Box 156, Swarthmore, PA 19081

In consideration of the acceptance of my application for entry into the DVBC, I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims for damages for death, personal injury, or property damage which I may have, or which may hereafter accrue to me, as a result of my participation in the DVBC. In addition, this release is intended to discharge in advance the promoters, the sponsors, the Delaware Valley Bicycle Club, the promoting clubs, the officials, and any involved municipalities or other public entities (and their respective agents and employees) from and against any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation in any event, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons mentioned above.

I further understand that serious accidents occasionally occur during bicycle riding; and that participants in bicycle riding occasionally sustain mortal or serious personal injuries, and/or property damage, as a consequence thereof. Knowing the risks of bicycle riding, nevertheless, I hereby agree to assume those risks and to release and hold harmless all of the persons or entities mentioned above who (through negligence or carelessness) might otherwise be liable to me (or my heirs or assigns) for damages. It is further understood and agreed that this waiver, release, and assumption of risk is to be binding to my heirs and assigns.

Signature