



MBBC

More Bicycling = Better Community!

Mount Baker Bicycle Club Newsletter, Vol 23 No 10, Dec 2014-Jan 2015

Happy Winter!

**Final rides for 2014,
first events for 2015**

Lighted Neighborhoods

Night Ride, Wednesday December

17. We'll spread some cheer together via two wheels, listen to holiday tunes and see some great decorative yard lights. Put your lights on, decorate yourself and your bike, and be jolly with the MBBC! Depart 6pm from Depot Market. Ride leader Patti Mullin.

New Year's Day Ride - Pedal

in the new year, **Thursday, January 1, 2015!** Meet: 10 am, depart before 10:30 from Fairhaven Park for The Old Edison Inn where owners John and Lynn will be expecting us. We can leave our bicycles in the beer garden and enjoy the warmth and dry inside.

Nobody will be left behind on this group ride. We pedal 13.8 miles along Chuckanut Drive. Return the same way or via Colony Road and Lake Samish, or even Bow Hill Road and Old Highway 99.

Each year this ride attracts more and more participants, regardless of weather. Start your new year off right! Questions? Ride leader MarkWheatley@msn.com.

MBBC Annual Members' Reception

Join your MBBC Board for the annual *start-the-new-year* members' meeting and reception, **Sunday January 25.** This year's reception will again be held at the Jeckyl & Hyde restaurant at 709 Orchard PI (jhdeli.com, corner of Orchard Drive, off Meridian). Arrive between 5 and 8 pm for food, beverages, and to meet other club members and potential members.



Members' Reception activities include:

- **Membership renewal party:** MBBC memberships are calendar-year based, so everyone's renewals are due in January. Some have renewed already, for others a reminder email will go out in December. Your first drink of the evening is complimentary with your new membership card - renew, pick up your card, and your drink ticket!
- **Bike Gear & Clothing Swap:** Bring your extra bottle cages, components, saddles, jerseys, and other miscellanea that's cluttering up your bike closet, put it on the hand-me-down table for others who can use it. Left over gear will be donated to Sterling Bike Works.
- **Plans for 2015:** Hear some good stuff from Hilary and other speakers as you get excited for the 2015 riding year!

RSVP to: bikebeham@gmail.com

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This month's contributors:
Mary Anderson,
Hilary Higgins, Rodd Pemble,
Mark Wheatley. Thanks All!



the club online:

www.mtbakerbikeclub.org
www.chuckanutcentury.org

and our social sites:

 facebook.com/
mountbakerbicycleclub

 sports.groups.yahoo.com/
group/MtBakerBicycleClub

 twitter.com/mtbakerbike

 flickr.com/
mtbakerbikeclub/

WEEKLY AND GROUP RIDES the "put your mitts on, it's winter" edition

Sunday Edison Social Ride starts from Edison Elementary School parking lot. 30-40 miles, 10-14 mph, route varies. 10 am start time. For additional info:

Alfred Arkley arkley@comcast.net or 360-527-8638

Sunday Rabbit Ride: 32mi road ride, South on Chuckanut, back via Colony and Lake Samish. All welcome; come prepared to push yourself. Pace varies by individual. Small similarly-paced groups leave from Fairhaven Bike & Ski. Those who estimate a 2-or-more-hour ride time leave at 8am. Faster groups leave every 5 minutes thereafter. Info: John Hauter, johnh@fairhavenbike.com 733-4433.



Tuesday Ferndale Social Ride: starts from Pioneer Park in Ferndale, 30-40 miles, 13-16 mph route varies. Start time either 9am or 10am. To check time and other info: Bob Parker rmp-4724@hotmail.com or 360-671-6910

Wednesday Group Workout Ride: Winter ride is a fast trail ride with lights. 20 mile distance, meet at 5:45 pm, leave by 6pm from Boundary Bay Brewery at Railroad Avenue. Trail-capable bikes. Gather at brewery afterward (7:30p). - In Spring/Summer this ride is a fast road ride. We will be on the trails until sometime in March 2015 then will switch back to road. Contact: Tim Ryan, t.ryan.2009 at gmail.com.

Thursday South Social Ride starts from Edison Elementary School parking lot. 30-40 miles, 10-14 mph, route varies. 10 am start time.

Info: Alfred Arkley: arkley@comcast.net or 360-527-8638

Saturday Donut Ride: 24 – 45 miles, race pace, departs from Kulshan Cycles, beginning March 1st will be back to the 7am start time. Goes to Ferndale and return, or if you wish continue to Birch Bay and return. Every week of the year!!

Saturday Recumbent Ride: Second Saturday of the month at 10 am. 14 mile intown course begins at Kulshan Cycles. Weather-dependent. Robert Parker at rmp-4724@hotmail.com or 360-671-6910

everybodyBIKE

everybodyBIKE will depend on volunteers for more events in 2015

SMART TRIPS

You may have read the Bellingham Herald article about 2015's *Bike to Work and School Day* a few weeks ago. As stated in the article, Whatcom Smart Trips will not be coordinating the event anymore. Due to budget constraints, Smart Trips and everybodyBIKE will be cutting back on the number of events we run, including Bike Day and the Summer Rides series. We are pleased that the Mount Baker Bike Club has stepped up to work with Woods Coffee and coordinate the Woods to Woods Giant Redwood Ride. Happily the Whatcom Smart Trips trip diary and incentive program will not change and we will still provide bicycle safety education to over 3,000 elementary school students next year. We will also continue our outreach to local employers and to middle school

students. We thank the MBBC for its past support and thank the individual members who have volunteered for Bike Day and the Summer Rides. The success of these events has always been dependent on the hundreds of amazing volunteers we have. Thank you!

-- Mary Anderson

MBBC note: as Mary mentioned here, the MBBC and Woods Coffee have agreed to partner to assure the fifth annual Woods-2-Woods "14-coffeeshop-stops" ride will take place in 2015 (the ride is set for August 30). The MBBC also plans to host one or more Bike to Work Day Celebration Stations on May 15.



EVENTS INTO JANUARY 2015

Classes & Training

Fairhaven Fitness/Cycle Moles eleven-week winter training/spin classes begin the week of December 1st. See below, also cyclemoles.com.

11 Week Winter Cycling to keep you FIT
Starts week of 12/1/14

***New* Indoor Cycle**
Mondays Only 6:30 - 7:30pm
- 5 bikes left -
15% off for MBBC Members!

CYCLE MOLES Cycle Moles
2X per week

Level 1 Mon & Wed 6:45 - 7:45am
- 5 bikes left -

Level 2 Tue & Thu 6:45 - 8:15pm
- 1 bike left -
- 3 trainers left -

800 McKenzie Ave.
Bellingham, WA 98225
360.733.5050
www.cyclemoles.com

Register online!





Rides

Lighted Neighborhoods Ride: December 17 (see p. 1)

New Years Day Ride: January 1, 2015 (see p. 1)

Stinky Spoke Poker Run: : January 17, stinkyspoke.org

Races

Cyclocross: cascadecross.com -

Dec 13 - Zombie Cross

Jan 10, 2015 - Bandit Cross

Jan 24 - Alley Race, Season-ending Party

Gatherings

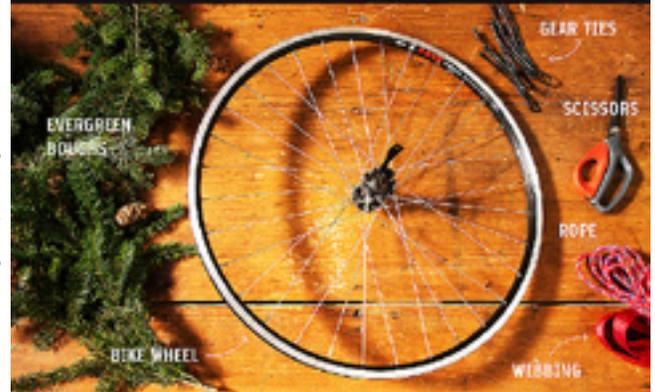
January 25: MBBC Annual Members Reception, 5-9pm (see p. 1)

Trail, Parks, and Track Work Parties

- Bellingham Parks Dept. 360-778-7105 and cob.org/government/public/Volunteer/parks/schedule.aspx
December 6: Happy Valley 9am
- Washington Trail Association wta.org/volunteer
Dec 13-14: Oyster Dome, Samish Bay Connector Trail
Dec 20-21: Larrabee State Park, Clayton Beach Trail

TURN A BIKE WHEEL INTO A WREATH

Have an extra bike wheel? Convert it into a wreath to decorate your front door.



Turn a Bike Wheel into a Wreath: Shamelessly swiped from the REI Blog: <http://blog.rei.com/social/holiday-hack-turn-bike-wheel-wreath/>

THE HOUSE THAT BOB BUILT

by Rodd Pemble



In 1997, when I began working as Recycling Manager at Sanitary Service Company, I inherited from the previous manager a set of amazingly detailed maps for the more than fifty-five different curbside recycling routes our drivers traced every other week across Bellingham and Whatcom County. The maps were streets and landmarks only, black and white, perfect for highlighting for each driver. Soon enough though, a new street would go in off Northwest, or a new subdivision off Britton Road, and I needed the maps updated. Thus was I introduced to Bellingham's map guy, Bob Lindquist.

We sat for a couple hours that first day in his office, mostly talking shop. It looked like a bomb had gone off – piles of rolled up maps, desks overflowing with projects, and cycling memorabilia. Over the next decade, Bob faithfully adapted and refined our maps, zooming in or out (take that, Google Earth!) so each driver's route filled a page each day. I've loved maps since I was a kid hiking in the Great Smokies, and Bob made me laugh, so I always hated to leave his warren. It was Bob who loaned me several years of Tour de France videos, my first exposure to professional road cycling, and with Doug Schoonover, was one of the first to greet me on my inaugural Wednesday night ride, and my first Donut Ride, back when there still was a donut stop at the Ferndale Bakery.

Bob died suddenly on a dark Wednesday night ride, just behind Little Squalicum Beach, February 7th, 2007. "Doing what he loved," is what we heard ourselves say, but his loss was devastating for anyone who knew that wild look in his eye, his passionate support for all things cycling, and for his friends. The MBBC collected money in Bob's name, intending to erect a suitable memorial, a sculpture or his map of the Bellingham trail system perhaps.

Fast forward to 2013 – my daughter Jessie is completing her senior project, turning three donated WTA bus shelters into bike shelters at Bellingham High. With the help of Cindy Campen and Rupert Stoneheart at WTA, BHS Principal Jeff Vaughn, Paul Carlson at Carlson Steel, Hardware Sales, and the Mount Baker Bicycle Club (MBBC), Jessie and a group of her friends installed racks in the shelters and secured storage for 32 bicycles. The shelters were used immediately and heavily, even during evening events by parents and community members. (To their credit, most of the folks mentioned continue to be involved in keeping the project moving forward.)

Sadly, in March of 2013, the MBBC lost another bright light far too young, when our friend Mike Ratajczak passed after a short illness. Jessie and the bicycle club gathered with Mike's family in March of 2014 to dedicate the BHS shelters, to the memory of Mike's energy and care for everyone he touched.



Meanwhile, another legend in the local cycling community, Mark Peterson, trail builder and former president of the Whatcom Independent Mountain Pedalers (WhIMPs, now the Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition), had taken up a position with Sustainable Connections, working with businesses on waste reduction. He and I had talked about

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Fairhaven Middle School's WTA shelter is lowered by crane onto its pad.

continued from p. 4

the dozens of other aluminum and Plexiglas bus shelters WTA would be pulling in 2014. Was there a way to save them from the scrap heap? After all, they're in pretty good shape, and new they're \$8,000 each. A few hundred dollars per shelter for bike racks and cables, a bit of work to anchor them to a concrete slab, and voila – resource reuse **and** a dry seat for the ride home! Mark was also working on a *Bike Corral Collaborative for Safe Routes to Schools* grant, to encourage and support kids riding bikes to school, instead of the endless line of cars dropping junior at the school's front door, complete with clouds of exhaust. What if we joined the two goals?

The Sustainable Connections proposal found support from Mauri Ingram and her staff at the Whatcom Community Foundation, which contributed grant funds to begin the process of sourcing and installing bike shelters at Bellingham schools. Along with WTA, Mike Anderson, Bellingham Schools Director of Facilities & Grounds, arranged to store a few of the old shelters, then transport and install them when a slab was available at each new location. Fairhaven Middle School was first this fall, with a shelter anchored against the strong winds by early November. Bar stock from Carlson Steel, and *MiniMum* hooks from Vermont Manufacturing are being welded by volunteers in the cycling community, and should be installed before the Christmas break.

The NW Chapter of the Cascadia Green Building Council is another project partner supporting each school location. PTAs at Fairhaven, Whatcom, and Columbia Elementary are raising money to help with the costs of the shelters at each school. Cascade Montessori and Explorations High School hope to do the same. By the spring of 2015, we plan to have 10 shelters installed at six schools across Bellingham, providing space for close to 100 bicycles at a time. As importantly, we will have a process in place for adding new locations without reinventing the, ah . . . freewheel.



Jessie Pemble, who got the project started with installation of the first BHS shelters, along with her proud dad.

Bottom line? Costs run about \$450 per shelter for the racks, cables, and hardware for installation, only about half of which is covered by the original Whatcom Community Foundation grant.

Enter the MBBC board, who after being briefed on the project this fall, voted to commit the funds previously raised in honor of Bob Lindquist, to provide matching funds for this small but growing network of permanent bicycle shelters. In this way, Bob's legacy will spread across the community, as a dollar from a school parent or neighborhood business is matched by a dollar from contributors to "Bob's Fund."

Bob was always about bringing the new folks along, shepherding them up hills and down, loaning a light or a tube. So it's fitting these bicycle shelters are all about encouraging kids (and adults) to start bicycling, and then bicycle more - to school, to work, to the store, to the library, to the park. As WTA gradually swaps out its old equipment for new, it will be possible to reuse even more bus shelters to create a true network of bike shelters across the community.

We still use Bob's route maps at SSC – I have an unmarked Master set that I copy from, back when streets like Tremont and Correll Park didn't exist. I thank his steady hand every time I highlight a route for a new driver. Let's raise a glass to Bob, and raise some dough to put the little "Houses That Bob Built," all across the map that he called home.

Send tax-deductible donations to:

Bob's Fund
c/o Mount Baker Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 2702
Bellingham WA 98227

Donations will also be collected at the MBBC's annual Members Reception on January 25 (see p. 1).



Now secured, the FMS shelter awaits installation of hardware. FMS student bikes wait for their opportunity to hang inside the new covered shelter out of the wind and rain.

MBBC ADMINISTRATION

Mount Baker Bicycle Club Board of Directors and Officers:

Hilary Higgins - President
Scott Dorough - Vice President
Jennifer Longstaff - Secretary/Membership
Brian Christensen - Treasurer
Eric Stromerson - Rides Coordinator
Bill McCourt, Tim Ryan -- at large



Club Bike Jerseys

The official MBBC bike jersey is a colorful short-sleeved full-zip jersey, available in men's and women's sizes, race cut and club cut. We keep a small number of jerseys on hand, and if we have requests for more we'll put in a new order. Jerseys are \$60 (including tax) to MBBC members. To inquire about availability of MBBC jerseys and to try on, pick up, or order a new one, contact bikebeham@gmail.com.

Committees:

Chuckanut Century: Doug Schoonover
Media; Bellingham Marathon Escorts: Greg Rehm
Media; New Year's Day Ride: Mark Wheatley
Media; NW Tandem Rally 2015: Jennifer Longstaff
Graphic Design: Tim Ryan

Contacts:

Information-- bikebeham@gmail.com
Chuckanut Century -- (360 410-6431)
chuckanutcentury@mtbakerbikeclub.org
Newsletter -- mbbcnewsletter@mtbakerbikeclub.org
Tandem Rally 2015 - info2015@nwtr.org

2015 Memberships

It's time to renew for 2015. All MBBC memberships are on a full year calendar basis, so everyone's renewals come due each January. Many have renewed already for 2015 (thank you!) -those who have yet to renew will receive an email reminder in December.

Newsletters over fall/winter

The last months of the year are double-month newsletters. This newsletter covers the 2 months of December/January. Monthly newsletters begin again with the February 2015 edition.

Contribute to the MBBC newsletter submission guidelines:

Articles, editorials, photographs, and artwork are welcome for inclusion in the newsletter. Anything related to bicycling will be considered; please discuss ideas with the editor (mbbcnewsletter@mtbakerbikeclub.org) in advance to reserve newsletter space or if you have questions. Final materials are due the last Friday before the last full week of every month, though earlier submissions are appreciated. Text can be submitted in any common format, for example: plain text, HTML, MS Word, etc. Please use JPG, PNG, or TIFF format for photos, and ensure they are at least 250 ppi. Articles may be edited for grammar, spelling, and space considerations.

Please notify the MBBC of upcoming cycling events for inclusion in the events list/calendar. Provide details plus contact information.

Classified ads are a MBBC member privilege and are printed as space is available.

MBBC Membership Form for 2015

see member benefits and download membership form at: mtbakerbikeclub.org/membership

New Member Renewing Member This is a change of address

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postal Code: _____

E-mail: _____

Contact telephone number: _____

Associate member: _____

(An associate member is any person living at the same address as the individual member)

I would like to receive my newsletter via (choose one): on-line or printed & mailed

Would you like to help? Volunteers are our most valuable resource.

Please check any of the boxes that appeal to you and we will be in touch:

- Board Member Ride Leader Newsletter
 Chuckanut Century Bike to Work and School Day
 Special Events Tandem Rally 2015 Education
 I can provide discounts on _____

Membership type:

Individual: \$15 _____

Family/Associate: \$25 _____

Additional Donation: _____

(donations support community bicycling programs)

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Please enclose a check payable to:
Mt. Baker Bicycle Club

Mail to: Mt. Baker Bicycle Club
attention: membership
Post Office Box 2702
Bellingham, Washington 98227

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE MBBC HEADING INTO 2015

Dear MBBC members,

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Hilary Higgins and I'm the new president of the Mount Baker Bicycle Club. For those of you who do know me, I'd like to thank all of you for your support and kind words of encouragement as I take on this new role. I have some big shoes to fill and I will do my best to keep the club moving forward in the spirit of its mission and the needs and wishes of you, its members, and the community.



To that end, I have a few thoughts on how I want to make 2015 a great year for cycling. During our last board meeting, we did some brainstorming and discussed the idea of organizing a few new club rides and expanding our horizons beyond the roads and trails of Whatcom county. Ideas we're exploring include organizing a ride around eastern Oregon; I'd love to do some rides around Bend, OR, as well as perhaps Idaho. Organizing the North Cascades Highway ride to Mazama or Winthrop. And even abroad to places like Italy? If you have ideas on areas you'd like to explore, let your board know and help us make it happen! Speaking of help, we have a dedicated board that does a great job of keeping things going, but we are few in numbers, so we would love to have more of our membership get involved with the running of the club. It is not a huge time commitment, usually 4 meetings per year (including beer and pizza) and taking on/helping with a project as big or small as you feel comfortable handling.

Other things we are working on is the WTA bus-to-bike shelter project that Marie spearheaded last year. We are

working with Rodd Pemble at SSC and Tim Ryan is the club contact person for this project. (see Rodd's article on p. 4-5.) Jennifer Longstaff continues pumping out the newsletter and is working hard with a growing committee that is organizing the 2015 Northwest Tandem Rally which Bellingham is hosting in July 2015. And Doug Schoonover is already looking ahead to the 2015 Chuckanut Century.

Lastly, in the spirit of our fantastic bicycling community, I would like to promote a closer club relationship with our local bike shops. Each one has a slightly different focus and emphasis, but all are absolutely dedicated to this cycling community, so I thought it would be a nice idea to invite them to our annual meeting, which will be held at Jeckyl and Hyde (709 Orchard Pl - see p. 1) on January 25, doors to open at 5pm. I hope it will give all of us a chance to socialize and network, learn about the bike-related activities they host and they might enjoy hearing more about the activities/rides we support. This will give everyone a chance to talk at length about our favorite topic: cycling and bicycles. That's what we're all about, right? Well, except maybe for the beer!



Welcome

Welcome new members

Kevin Covey

Ken Gass

Susan Taylor

We're glad to have you in the MBBC!



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	December 1 Cycle Moles Winter Sessions	2 Ferndale Social ride	3 Wed Group Ride	4 Edison Social Ride	5	6 Donut Ride
7 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride	8	9 Ferndale Social ride	10 Wed Group Ride	11 Edison Social Ride	12	13 Donut Ride Recumbent Ride WTA Trail Work Zombie Cross
14 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride WTA Trail Work	15	16 Ferndale ride <i>Hanukkah Begins</i>	17 Lighted Neighborhoods Ride	18 Edison Social Ride	19	20 Donut Ride WTA Trail Work
21 Rabbit Ride <i>Winter Solstice</i>	22	23 Ferndale social ride	24 Wed Group Ride	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27 Donut Ride
28 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride	29	30 Ferndale social ride	31 Wed Group Ride	January 1 <i>New Year</i> New Year's Day Ride	2	3 Donut Ride
4 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride	5	6 Ferndale social ride	7 Wed Group Ride	8 Edison Social Ride	9	10 Donut Ride Recumbent Ride Bandit Cross
11 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride	12	13 Ferndale social ride	14 Wed Group Ride	15 Edison Social Ride	16	17 Donut Ride Stinky Spoke
18 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride	19 <i>Milk Day</i>	20 Ferndale social ride	21 Wed Group Ride	22 Edison Ride	23 MBBC February Newsletter Deadline	24 Donut Ride CX Alley Race
25 Rabbit Ride Edison Social Ride MBBC Annual Party	26	27 Ferndale social ride	28 Wed Group Ride	29	30	31 Donut Ride



Mount Baker Bicycle Club
Post Office Box 2702
Bellingham, Washington 98227



Welcome to Bellingham
Now Get on Your Bike!
www.mtbakerbikeclub.org

If you are a club member and wish to receive a printed version of the newsletter rather than online, please inform mbcnewsletter@mtbakerbikeclub.org. Club members are entitled to a printed/mailed version sent to a US address.