



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2001 NEWSLETTER

SVBC OFFICERS

President:	
Vice-President: Bob McGovern-Waite	828-0954
Secretary: Eric Aschenbach	574-2798
Treasurer: Marcia Lamphier	432-3312

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 12	7:00pm	Monthly meeting at Luigi's.
December 10	7:00pm	Monthly meeting at Luigi's.

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

There was not an official ride prior to the meeting this month due to the diminishing daylight. Stin and

Len had a lot of Advocacy news to report, and Marcia listed the balance in the treasury at \$7,712.06.
Eric

WELCOME BACK RETURNING MEMBERS

Sue Gier	Singers Glen
Harry Glenn, Jr.	Elkton
Marshall Hammond	Harrisonburg
Brent and Judie McNett	Harrisonburg
Steve Purcell	Harrisonburg
Michael Weaver	Mt. Jackson
Mahlon and Alice Webb	Swoope

Thanks to all the above for your continued support of the Club.

Mark's Bike Shop, Blue Ridge CycleWorks, and Mole Hill Bikes
all contribute to the cost of the monthly newsletters.

Please support these local shops.
(Also underwritten by R.R. Donnelley Company)

SVBC ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

<u>Century</u>	Art Fovargue	433-9247	<u>Newsletter</u>	Neups	434-1878
<u>Rides</u>	Bill Taylor	828-6635	<u>Bike Festival</u>	Dan Finseth	438-8063
	<u>Advocacy</u>	Len VanWyk	432-0138		
	<u>Web page</u>	http://svbikeclub.homestead.com/			

THANKS!

A nice thank you goes out to Alice Stecker, Valerie Kramer, Marcia Lamphier, Eric Aschenbach, and Marshall Hammond for their help in picking up trash along our stretch of highway in Penn Laird. We completed our area in record time. Afterwards, John Beeton arrived in time to join us for the ride, though

Alice and Eric weren't able to. It was such a nice day we went a little further than we first thought we might, had some ice cream, and found a new (to some of us) riding road. Thanks again, gang, for your help.

Neups

ADVOCACY

So many issues, so little time...

1. Pedestrian Issues

The "Pedestrian Issues Committee," which was formed after Lynn Miller was hit and killed by a City bus, has had two open forums, one at JMU and one at EMU. Sometime in the next few weeks, the committee (which includes me) will get together and attempt to draft something to bring to the City Council. Time will tell what is generated from the committee and what Council does with it.

2. High School Issues

The Harrisonburg City Council remarkably (for want of a polite adverb) agreed to give the School Board \$41 million dollars to build a new high school, even though there was significant opposition to the plan and even though the School Board doesn't yet know where it will build it. Oy. I am currently trying to convince the School Board to build the school somewhere other than on the City/County border on Port Republic Road, which was (at least initially) their first choice. My main argument is that a site on the fringes of the City will prohibit bicycling and walking to school. Their main problem is that they want at least 60 acres. Again, we'll see what happens.

3. Bike Lane

As you may have noticed, the City put a bike lane on the short stretch of South High Street between the Food Lion shopping center and Erickson Avenue. The reason given for not extending the bike lane north was that the Harrisonburg Bike Plan recommends bicyclists take Dogwood Ave. as far south as possible. So, a lesson can be learned here: plan wisely. Anyway, a short bike lane is better than no bike lane at all.

4. More Bike Lanes

As far as I know, the plan to add bike lanes on U.S. 42 between Bridgewater and Dayton has fallen off of the radar. Perhaps some county residents know more about this than I do.

5. 506 Plan

The 506 Plan has also fallen off of the radar, but I doubt very much if it is gone for good.

6. Bike Plan

Word has it that the Harrisonburg Bicycle Plan Committee (including me and Art Fovargue) will be brought together again to update the plan in light of some VDOT plans, and probably in light of the Blacks Run Greenway plans. I don't have details yet.

7. Dunham-Bush

As you may know, the old Dunham-Bush site is planned to be purchased by a shopping mall developer; they postponed their early October City Council meeting until November for some unknown reason. Whenever they reschedule, Stin Lenkerd will make a case to City Council that a bike path skirting around the "back" of the property should be included in the plan. (Sidewalks are included already.) Talk to Stin to glimpse his vision.

8. Transportation Safety

I am consistently bringing up bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the Transportation Safety Commission meetings. Things are moving slowly but surely in the right direction. The biggest impediment, as always in Harrisonburg, is money. The bike club may want to think seriously about applying for some TEA-21 funding on its own for certain bicycle enhancements. The other impediment is created by bicyclists behaving like idiots; I can't tell you how many stories I have heard from other Commission members about some bicyclist or other that is flagrantly breaking some law or another. Each time this happens, it puts a damper on bike improvements. So, remember: when you ride, someone important may be watching you.

9. JMU

I met with this year's "Student Services Committee" of the JMU SGA, trying to get them involved in improving conditions on campus for bicycles. They seemed receptive, but talk is cheap. I find it a shame that the campus has such pathetic bicycle facilities. There is a lot of room for improvement there, and I hope the SGA starts making noise about it.

10. More JMU

As some of you may know, Anderson Consulting has been hired by the City and JMU to try to solve the "pedestrian problem" on South Main Street in front of JMU. I wrote the JMU representative, copying the City representative, urging them to include bicycle lanes in their plan (my argument: a narrower street will slow traffic down and make it safer for pedestrians to cross, while tossing bike improvements into the mix will increase their chances of getting TEA-21 funding). Again, we'll see what happens.

Well, that's all I can think of at the moment.

Len VanWyk
Advocacy Coordinator

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: SVBC waterbottles. Large, screw top, SVBC logo. Only \$2 each! Yellow, white, red, or gray. Contact Marcia at 432-3312, or e-mail her at marcialamphie@hotmail.com.

FOR RENT: Tricosports bike case/carrier. Good for transporting your bike on plane, train, or bus anywhere in the world. Contact Dick Wettstone at 434-9430 (work) or 433-4884 (home).

FOR SALE: 1998 Mongoose Omega road bike. Steel frame, 54cm, dark green with black bar tape. Shimano RSX STI shifting, three chainrings, Mavic wheels, toe clips. Very good condition. Complete overhaul January 2000. Ridden 4,200 miles. \$200. Call Scott or Diane at 540-248-5810 or e-mail saripley@yhoo.com.

FOR SALE: Tacx Sporttrack Rollers. Foldable to conserve space when not in use, adjustable frame to fit different size bikes, smaller diameter PVC rollers, belts in good condition (incl. extras). Includes magnetic resistance unit with handlebar mount control. Made in Holland. Price new is over \$200, asking \$120. Call Eric at (540) 289-3186 or email airasch@planetcomm.net.

FOR USE: Burley Trailer. The Club now owns a Burley Trailer for loan to members (it is a 2-seater). The first person to borrow the trailer will also store it until the next person wants to loan it. It is currently in the possession of Len VanWyk (432-0138).



-ADVENTURE CYCLING

TIDBITS

“ADDENDUM TO THE 1997 FEDERAL HIGHWAY COST ALLOCATION STUDY, FINAL REPORT”

This FHWA publication calculates the externalized "social costs" of motor vehicle use, i.e., congestion, crash costs, air pollution, and noise. "Social costs" borne by highway users exceed direct highway program costs by nearly a factor of 3, and those borne by non-users come to about 3/4 of highway program costs. Download the addendum at: <http://www.bts.gov/ntl/data/final.pdf> (2mb pdf) The 1997 Federal Highway Cost Allocation Study is available at: <http://www.ota.fhwa.gov/hcas/summary> (for the summary) or <http://www.ota.fhwa.gov/hcas/final/toc.htm> (very large).

A GLOW-IN-THE-DARK BICYCLE?

According to an October 19th story in Science Daily, "Nighttime cyclists may soon have a dramatic safety improvement that's sure to get glowing reviews: a bike that glows from stem to stern, wheels included. Using the same technology that makes wristwatch faces light up in the dark, researchers at the University of Florida have created a bicycle with electro-luminescent panels on the frame and tire rims. The devices make the average bike visible from up to 600 feet away, significantly reducing the risk of a collision for cyclists and motorists, said Christopher Niezrecki, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering who, along with two undergraduate students, created the system..."

"Drivers need to detect that there is something in the road, posing a hazard," he said. "Second, they need to recognize that what they have detected is a bicycle..."

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com:80/releases/2001/10/011019074352.htm>

COMMUTING IN THE SNOW

Taken from an article written by Dorian Grilley and found in the newsletter of the Oak Park Cycle Club, Oak Park, IL

Tips for a commuting bike.

Choose a frame geometry with relaxed tube angles. This distributes more weight onto the back wheel and increases the likelihood that the wheel to slip out from under you will be the back wheel, causing you to land on your butt and back rather than on your head.

Long fenders keep the bike and you clean, lowering maintenance costs on both.

A front mud flap that hangs 10" from the ground reduces the splash on to the chain, gears, and derailleurs.

Letting out some of the air of the tires improves traction.

Grease everything to prevent corrosion from salt.

Oil the inside of frame tubing to prevent rust.

Leave the bike in the cold to prevent condensation and rust inside the tubing.

**The usual safety rules apply and ordinary experience should warn you off busy snow covered or slippery streets: automobile drivers can be amazingly clueless when it comes to driving in snow. And remember these less obvious points.

Motor vehicle tire tracks leave a hard and slippery hump of snow that throw you when you cross them. Use caution.

Streets can become effectively narrower when plowed, particularly if there are cars parked along the side. Choose your route with this in mind.

Always make sure you keep enough energy in reserve to return to warmth.

from Adventure Cycling

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Helmets are required on all **Club rides**.

SATURDAYS

10am. We will continue the Saturday Rides throughout the season when there are no other scheduled rides on the calendar. Call Marcia (432-3312), Marshall (434-1609), or Bill T. (828-6635) for location and other details.

SUNDAYS

Rides leaving from Bridgewater College at 9am. We ride 2-3 hours to have fun! Please contact Rich Harris, 828-2380, e-mail harrisra@jmu.edu or Marcia, 432-3312, e-mail marcialamphier@hotmail.com each Saturday for latest ride information.

November 4

MTB ride to the Woodstock Tower on fire roads led by Robert Golightly of the Winchester Wheelmen. 15 miles. Robert's phone number is 540-723-6485. *from the Winchester Wheelmen's newsletter*

Jan 26-Feb 12, or Feb 19-Mar 6, 2002

Cycling the Most Scenic Parts of Vietnam. More information can be garnered by calling Hans Krausche at 1-800-613-0390, going to their web site at www.discovervietnam.com, or e-mailing them at hkrausche@aol.com.

DUES

Remember to pay your dues when the date on your mailing label is either highlighted or marked through. The newsletter deadline is the third Monday of each month, so have your check in before then.

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING NOVEMBER/January

<u>ERIC & KRISTY ASCHENBACH</u>	<u>DEBBIE & BRIAN BAUER</u>	<u>ROBERT BROOKSHIRE</u>
<u>JUDITH FREUDENTHAL</u>	<u>STIN LENKERD</u>	<u>TAMER MOUMEN</u>
Al & Sue Clague	David Lorenzen	John Maxfield
Randy Simmons	Len VanWyk	

REMEMBER that the Newsletter is available for delivery via e-mail, fax, or regular mail. The same can be said for articles submitted for the Newsletter. The deadline for articles is the second to last Monday of the month. Just e-mail to Neups at SVBC-NL-editor@att.net or fax articles to 564-9505. You may use the Club's P.O. Box 1014 for regular mail. Thanks.

