

March-April 2007 Newsletter

Volume 25, Issue 2

SVBC OFFICERS

President: Ben Wyse 432-3696
Vice-President: Jack Leetun 234-9934
Secretary: Marshall Hammond 434-1609
Treasurer: Marcia Lamphier 432-3312

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are in Luigi's (Original Rt. 42 location) back room. If closed, we'll meet at El Charro on S. Main St.

April 9th 7:30 pm Monthly meeting

January 2007 Club Meeting Minutes

The January SVBC meeting was held at Luigi's Rt. 42S on January 8th at 7:00 P.M. President Ben Wyse presided. There were 11 members present, including all officers. The treasurer reported a balance of \$6206.80. The club renewed membership in the Thunderhead Alliance and contributed \$100 to the Joe Hiney Memorial Fund. Annual assessments of not in-kind support were received from Mole Hill Bike and Mark's Bike Shop. Thanks to ALL the local shops for their continued support of SVBC.

Due to the recent loss of his Father, Robert Cone was not able to host the Annual Pot Luck supper. No decision has been made for a new date. Internet postings and message boards will be contacted once a decision has been made. Our thoughts are with Robert and his family during this time.

A very big thank you goes out to Matt Styer for the excellent Jan.-Feb. newsletter. Everyone agreed it was nicely formatted and well edited. We all hope Matt passed his freshman math class exam. Wait, hasn't he graduated? Good job Matt. MAKE FUN OF YOUR EDITOR AND HE HOLDS YOUR NEWSLETTER FOR RANSOM.

If you did not receive your newsletter by mail or electronically, let Marshall Hammond know. There may have been a breakdown in deliveries and mailings for this edition.

Ballots for unification have been passed out and/or mailed to members of both clubs. Please return by mail to the

address on the ballot (SVBC PO box) by February 1st. Thanks for your participation.

In SMBC news the Hillandale Trail system is beginning to take shape with work started Jan. 9th. Look for volunteer needs posted on the SMBC web page or SBC web page in the VERY near future. February 3rd will be a Super Hero Alley Cat from Court Square. If you would like to help foil the dynamic duo call Thomas Jenkins or Jack Leetun. The Super Bowl Sunday Ride is February 4th. Check web pages for details. Most folks ride from the Briery Branch Community Center around 10 A.M., but there will be a posse going from Mr. J's South at 9 A.M.

Ben reported on the Rockingham Bike Path that was the subject of a DNR article. The Harrisonburg Public Works Dept. is still working on completing the path. Plans are for the path to proceed north on Chicago behind a car barrier then across Waterman and exit on Greystone Street up from the intersection. Work will continue as labor is available. Councilman Chenault is a vigilant activist for cycling and has kept this project, as well as other cycling improvements, on the watch list. Thanks. There will be a "Formal Opening" of the path after its completion. Look out Harri-Roubaix riders you may all have to squeeze down the pave on the way out of town.

On a less than positive note VDOT has not included alternative transportation needs into the RT 644 improvement from 33E to Massanutten Four Seasons Resort. Al-

though the Virginia Bike Federation and local cyclists living at Massanutten have complained it may be too late to get any bike lanes added. Basil is still discussing these issues with the Rockingham Board of Supervisors representative for Eastern Rockingham County. Improvements like this that miss the opportunity to have bike friendly engineering are one more reason for the club to put cycling interests before all the governing agencies.

Art has scheduled a 25th Annual Shenandoah Valley Century meeting for Wednesday February 7th, 7:30 at his house. The address is 1043 Chestnut Drive. The 2007 edition will be "A Quarter Century of Centuries". The club will need increased support this year to make this the very special event it needs to be.

Happy anniversary Neups and Robin, it has been 2 years but we're not counting.

During the last few years the SVBC has offered free one year membership renewal to members who volunteer for

three club activities. Those in attendance feel it unnecessary and that this practice should be discontinued. However, in deference to the full membership, no decision has been made. Members can voice their opinion by contacting any of the club officers. A decision will be made during an upcoming monthly meeting.

Good wishes go out to Dave Frye for his speedy return to the bike after an encounter with a car/truck mirror. No serious injuries but another close call for a cyclist riding in traffic. Dave was wearing a helmet and credits it with limiting his head injuries to a pretty good bump. Helmets work, do not ride your bike without one on your head!

The next meeting will be February 12th at 7 P.M. in the back room of Luigi's on 42 South. Look for news on the Pot-Luck ASAP.

Respectfully submitted,
Marshall Hammond
Secretary SVBC

February 2007 Club Meeting Minutes

The February SVBC meeting was held at Luigi's Rt. 42S on the 11th at 7:00 P.M. President Ben Wyse presided. There were 16 members present, including all officers. The treasurer reported a balance of \$6150.80. Expenses were \$350 for the 2007 Bike Summit registration. \$68 in membership dues was received and Ben Wyse presented a check for \$50 from the Christmas Parade where the club received Honorable Mention for creativity. Good job. Thanks for the truck battery Thomas.

Mundane business was reported on membership, the newsletter, and the web page in the absence of Robert and Matt. There seems to be some disconnect between the SMBC and SVBC on dual memberships and getting on the newsletter list. A better job will be done in the future to insure members receive the newsletter. Neups and Matt have been in contact with Robert on web page access.

Art reported on the Century planning. Being the 25th Century more and different activities will be taking place such as a double metric offering, reduced price, favors, party, etc. All this means there will be many more jobs to be filled. Step up by contacting Art to volunteer your services. There will be a planning meeting at Robin and Neup's house on March 14th at 7:30. Some food sampling will take place to test possible recipes for the Century.

Ben and Neups previewed a LAB DVD from the League of Illinois Bicyclists and felt it would be a good addition to driver education classes in our area. The DVD shows how vehicles and bicycles should interact on the roads. It seems to be free, Ben is going to check on its availability while Marcia is finding out who to contact in each school system.

The Regional Transportation Safety Commission has received a grant for \$15,000 to promote bike and pedestrian safety in and around Harrisonburg. Anyone with ideas on how to best use these funds can contact Ben Wyse, Greg Deeds (HPD) or Lyn Van Wyk. In other bike issues Ben has been in contact with Charlie Chenault about multi-use paths proposed for the city. There has been some progress on the Arboretum Trail planning and the Rockingham Trail is partially done. There has been damage already to the Rockingham trail access on Chicago Ave. by a car. The Dept. of Public Works knows about the damage.

Donovan Branch, the new Hbg. Transportation Planner, has been invited to the pot-luck supper scheduled for Feb. 20th, 6 P.M. at 310 Ohio Ave. or better known as the Carpenter's. Everyone is invited to this first ever SVBC/SMBC consolidated gathering. Someone, who will remain anonymous, asks for LOTS of non-dairy no nuts desserts. Please.

The "official" vote tally for or against consolidation was read by Marcia. There were 25 yes with comments, 46 yes without comments and 3 no votes. The merger is approved. There will be a meeting for all members of both clubs at the Cecil Gilkerson Community Activities Building at Westover Park on Wed. February 28th beginning at 7 P.M. This meeting will be for brain storming on the path forward and to appoint committees to explore different options. Please plan on attending so the clubs can begin the new era successfully.

Jason S. reported on preliminary discussions concerning a North River Trail to connect Stokesville to Bridgewater along the old RR right of way. This idea was first introduced in 2000. With renewed interest in bike travel and alternate transportation paths this may be the right time to revisit this idea. If you wish to discuss possibilities contact Jason Sajko at gjsajko@yahoo.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Marshall Hammond
Secretary SVBC

EDITORIAL: (my prerogative as secretary as long as I announce it is not the official club stance). There

is WAYYYYYY TOOOOO MUCH business being discussed at the SVBC meeting for justice to be done in these minutes. Other items discussed that affect almost everybody include RT. 644 upgrade into Massanutten, Regional Bike Planning and VDOT open forum (6:30 to 8 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Augusta County Government Center, 18 Government Center Lane), Earth Day Clean-up Crews from both clubs working along Tillman Road (April 21st), more discussion about the North River Trail (what a wonderful possibility), new ideas for the 25th Century ride, the Rocktown Trails (which ROCK by the way), County Board of Supervisors being contacted to bring the county up to speed on VDOT new road requirements and bike lanes, etc.

What is happening at the meeting now is a grass roots organization with energy and enthusiasm for bike riding, bike safety, and bike advocacy. I can't do justice to all the energy present. You have to witness this group to appreciate the commitment. Come join others that are passionate about bicycles and be a part of something wonderful and exciting.

End of editorial. Sorry. It really is exciting!

March 2007 Club Meeting Minutes

The March SVBC meeting was held at Luigi's Rt. 42S on the 13th at 7:30 P.M. Vice President Jack Leetun presided. There were 7 members present, slim attendance but quality input. The treasurer reported a balance of \$5880.33. 7 members renewed in March.

Jonathan from OCP updated the club on plans for the 15th Annual Shenandoah Valley Bike Festival. He has firm commitment from 18 volunteers and feels the Festival will be well supported. The club has agreed to review the course, mark the course, and provide ride leaders. The Festival is Sat. July 28th. Anyone wishing to volunteer please contact Jonathan jonthanschrag@yahoo.com

Bain and Jack announced our bi-annual trash pick-up for May 5th and a rain date of May 12th. Meet at the intersection of Amberly and Skidmore Road at 9 A.M. There will be a road ride afterward leaving Harmony Square Food Lion parking lot at 10:30.

The LAB Driver Training video has arrived. Copies will be made for donation to the area high schools. Anyone capable of copying DVD format please contact Ben Wyse.

The club will buy blank DVDs to copy to if you can provide the technology.

There is a Century meeting Wed. the 14th of March 7:30 at Neups and Robin's.

The second meeting for club organization is scheduled for March 22nd at 7:30 in the Cecil Gilkerson Activity Center in Westover Park. At this meeting a Steering Committee will be assigned to guide the clubs forward. If you are interested in any aspect of club organization you are encouraged to attend this very important meeting.

The "Rocktown Trail System" in Hillandale Park is taking shape. Stop by Thursday evenings at 5 P.M. near Shelter 10 for a look see and trail work. Work will continue on March 15th and 22nd then switch to every 2nd and 4th Thursday. The 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays will be at Massanutten's Westside. Although not road related this is a good opportunity to help the club and get a first hand look at building sustainable trails.

Thomas reported on the recent meeting that described what VDOT is looking for in building alternative transportation systems along roadways. There is a lot of work

that needs to take place to insure bikes and pedestrians are represented in road construction. Along those lines the Harrisonburg Transportation Planner Donovan Branche is holding a meeting for those involved in developing the bicycle and pedestrian plan for the city. The meeting will be March 15th 10-11 A.M. at the Public Works Building 320 E. Mosby Road.

The Tour of Virginia (formerly Shenandoah) is returning to Harrisonburg Saturday April 28th. This time there will be a full day of activities and bike racing. See flyers in area stores and restaurants. Volunteers are needed all day Sat. for traffic control, set-up and tear down, and race support. Volunteers can sign-up on the TOV web site <http://www.touofvirginia.com/>.

Lots and lots of rides happening weekly: Tuesday Fixed Gear 5 P.M. from SBC, Wed. Social Ride 5:15 from HHS, Thur. Fast Ride 5:30 from Keezeltown Elem., Sat. No Sweat Ride 10 A.M. from Court Square, and Sun. Bridgewater Ride 1 P.M. for March. Check the Ride Board <http://www.websitereactions.com/rideboard/> or the SVBC web page <http://www.svbikeclub.org/> for details and contact information.

The next SVBC meeting will be April 9th 7:30 at Luigi's. Don't forget the 22nd meeting for the combined clubs.

Respectfully submitted,
Marshall Hammond
Secretary SVBC

WEDNESDAY EVENING RIDES RETURN FOR ANOTHER SEASON!

March 14th marked the beginning of the 2007 season of the Wednesday Evening Rides. We meet at Harrisonburg High School (1001 Garbers Church Road). Ride leaves PROMPTLY AT 5:15PM. Please join us. We ride for 1 1/2 - 2 hours. Having FUN is our main objective...we DO NOT ride at race pace. Please save that for another time, another ride!! Contact: Marcia (432-3312)

This ride is a great opportunity to meet other cyclists and to learn the less traveled roads of Harrisonburg and the surrounding areas. Thanks to everyone for their continued support of the Wednesday Evening Rides. It is by far the club's most well-attended ride. Mark your calendars for MARCH 2007. The time change for SPRING 2007 will be mid-March. Come join the FUN!!

25th SVBC Century Ride

It is hard to believe that this year the club will hold its 25th century ride; time does fly when you are having fun. Contrary to other years when we finally get around to planning in May or so, we have had two meetings already this year, and are well on our way. It will be a fun year of planning. Since this marks a quarter century of Shenandoah Valley Centuries, we are planning to do a lot of things new and special. There will be giveaways to all riders, door prizes, new treats and more - all for retro prices. It is our hope to get the brochure out by May so stay tuned to see what we have in the works.

Of course, with extra stuff going on this year, extra help is going to be needed. So here is my first plea, of many to

come, for volunteers. The Century will be on Sunday, Sept 9 this year. If you can see that you have nothing to do that day, consider volunteering. No doubt we can find work for you driving sag, registering folks, food service at the checkpoint or Hillandale, etc. Please feel free to call me any time, day or night, if you are inclined to volunteer.

Also, we will need help with publicity and other jobs prior to the ride. If you want to get involved in that, our next meeting is on Wed, April 18 at 7:30. Shoot me an email or call & I'll give you directions. Tell your friends about our quarter century of Centuries!

Art Fovargue | 433-9247 | century@svbikeclub.org

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR USE: Performance Hard Shell Bike Case. The Club now owns a bike case for loan to members (it should fit a 60cm, 24" bicycle). Neups will store it and loan it out on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to loan it (FREE), call Neups at 438-1488.

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 Shenandoah Bicycle Company. Please let the Newsletter Editor know if you'll be using it.

FOR SALE: Make me an offer - 25" 1993 Cannondale T700 bicycle. Total bike or frame only. Shoes - Avia size 10 men's road; Specialized size 43 (European) men's mountain/touring; Performance size 9-1/2 men's road. Pedals - MKS mountain/touring; Sampson racing with spare cleats; Sampson racing old-style (non-rotating until you're clipped in). Tires - 27 x 1-1/4 (3); 700 x 28 Tri-cross knobby (2). Call Neups at 438-1488.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAYS

WEDNESDAY EVENING RIDES. We meet at Harrisonburg High School (1001 Garbers Church Road). Ride leaves PROMPTLY AT 5:15PM. Please join us. We ride for 1 1/2 - 2 hours. Having FUN is our main objective...we DO NOT ride at race pace. Please save that for another time, another ride!! Contact: Marcia (432-3312)

THURSDAYS

FAST RIDE. Thursday Night Fast Ride The fast ride will be starting on March 15th, which is the first Thursday after the time changes. We'll be heading out at 5:30pm from old Keezletown Elementary, at the intersection of Indian Trail and Mountain Valley Rds. (This location might change due to the building being purchased - we'll discuss it if it becomes a problem.) For the first few weeks, we probably will do some tempo riding, instead of going all out, to give our bodies some time to wake up after the winter. If it is raining or below 40 degrees, Chris probably will not be there, but feel free to ride yourselves! Give Chris Meyer a call at 289-9472 or email her at cmeyer@websitereactions.com with any questions.

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY RIDES. Rides leaving from Bridgewater College at 1pm. We ride 40-50 miles, or 2-3 hours+ to have fun! Please contact Rich Harris, 828-2380, e-mail harrisra@jmu.edu or call Marcia at 432-3312 each Saturday for latest ride information.

APRIL 8TH

HARRI-ROUBAIX GRAVEL ROAD RIDE CELEBRATION - Meet at Court Square April 8th at 12:00pm. This annual celebration of gravel roads is Harrisonburg's version of the Paris-Roubaix. All are welcome for this casual event. A group ride will leave from Court Square to the Singer Glen Area where a 10-15 mile loop will be mark. Ride as many laps as you woud like, the winner of the first three will be crown the Roubaix winner!! Fix gear, road, mountain, single speed, tandems bikes are all welcome. For info call Thomas 434-9943

APRIL 28TH

TOUR OF VIRGINIA BIKE RACE & MOVIE NIGHT. Downtown Harrisonburg & Court Square Theater. The annual downtown Crit race returns this year with the Tour of Virginia. There will be amatuer races from 12:00- 4:30 then the big dog race at 4:45. Also that night will be the showing of new Documentary of Chris Eatough and his attempt for his 8th 24 Hour World Solo Title.

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 MARCH & APRIL

SUE GIER
THOMAS & JULIE JENKINS
BRENT McNETT FAMILY
BILL & ELLENPAINTER
PAUL JOHNSTON ***
KURT H. ROSENBERGER
MATTHEW STYER

CHRIS HAMILTON
DICK & LOIS WETTSTONE
DENNIS HERR
STEPHEN ROSSI / KRISTIN WILSON ***
DUSTY WILLIAMSON
TERRY WARD FAMILY
MARK & KATHLEEN McCOY ***

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 news_editor@svbikeclub.org or fax articles to 564-9505. You may use the Club's P.O. Box 1014 for regular mail. Thanks.

ALL THE AREA SHOPS CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLUB

Thanks to
Mark's Bike Shop
Mole Hill Bikes
Shenandoah Bicycle Company
East Coast Bicycle Academy.

Please support these local shops.

Printing courtesy of Basil E Hangemanole, Realtor. ERA Kline & May

ATTENTION, ATTENTION, ATTENTION

The Shenandoah Valley Bicycle and Mountain Bike Club (for want of a new name) is (singular, i.e. ONE CLUB) looking for volunteers (plural, i.e. MORE THAN ONE) for a STEERING COMMITTEE. This STEERING COMMITTEE will develop a vision statement for the newly formed club composed of the SMBC

and SVBC. Help the combined clubs begin the process of combining shared activities and reaching out to the cycling community, and beyond. Anyone interested please attend a kick-off meeting on March 22nd at 7:00 P.M. in Room 1 of the Cecil Gilkerson Activities Center Westover Park.

Tour of Virginia Volunteers

Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye. The Tour of Virginia is coming to town (Harrisonburg) again this year on April 28th, but for a full stage and other fun racing. Volunteers are needed and many more this year as we will be involved in the amateur and pro stages. You can sign up as a volunteer on the Tour of Shenandoah web site (<http://www.tourofvirginia.com/>) and your name will automatically be added to my list. Please sign

up early so we can begin planning for assignments. Looks like we'll need a couple of shifts unless you want to work all day, That's ok too. First shift from about 11:30-2:45 and the second from 2:45 - 6:30. Also we'll need set up and teardown folks. Thanks in advance. E-mail me with any questions but register on-line, please.

Wilderness 101 and Shenandoah Mountain 100 Registration is open

The Wilderness 101 - Aug 4th ----- Shenandoah Mountain 100 - Sept 2nd Active.com has registration going for the Wilderness 101 and for the SM100. Snail mail entry forms are available on the mountaintouring.com website. Both events are part of the NUE Series for 2007 with the SM100 being the series finals yet again. (NUE = the new name for the National Ultra Endurance Series) New for 2007 is a group training partnership in the DC area with The Bike Lane and Principle Fitness for the SM100. Training starts April 1st - info can be found on the Bike Lane's website - Thanks Anne Mader and Eric Sorensen!! We have been working on a few other project for 2007 as well. The Mt. Nittany Wheelworks boys are hell bent on the Stooooopid 50 idea. Why?, because there is so much more sweet singletrack closer to State College that the 101 doesn't even touch. It looks like we are going to make

that one fly on June 10 - more info to follow in the next week. And if you thought that was iffy.... then the Woodstock, NY Catskill 50 project is full on dreamy. But we are chasing that one down too! Once the snow melts we will know more - June 30th anyone?? - keep that date open!! Thanks to everyone who helped make the 2006 events so much fun!! - volunteers, racers, and sponsors!! See ya soon,
Chris Scott
540.434.2087
MountainTouring.com
Shenandoah Mountain Touring, LLC.
IMBA State Representative - Virginia

SMBC NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

Meeting on the third Tuesday of every month at 8pm at Dave's Downtown Taverna.

SVBC ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

Century:.....Art Fovargue 433-9247
Newsletter:Matthew Styer 560-2844
Advocacy:.....Len Van Wyk 432-0138

Web page: www.svbikeclub.org
Message group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/svbikeclub>
Ride board: www.websitereactions.com/Rideboard

Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Club Membership Application

Please Type or Print

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Annual Dues _____ Individual \$10.00 _____ Family \$15.00 _____ Send Newsletter by e-mail? _____

_____ Joint Shenandoah Mountain Bike Club membership Annual Dues: Individual \$5.00 _____ Family \$8.00 _____

I am interested in (one or more of these activities):

<input type="checkbox"/> Commuting/Utilitarian Riding	<input type="checkbox"/> Touring	<input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Biking
<input type="checkbox"/> Riding for Fun & Fitness	<input type="checkbox"/> Racing	<input type="checkbox"/> Ride Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Time Trial Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Century/Festival Comm.	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/> Others (list) _____	

INSURANCE RELEASE

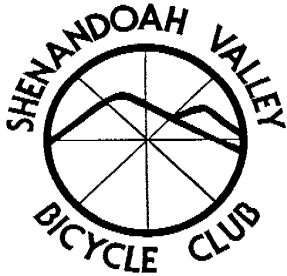
In signing this release for myself, or the named entrant, I hereby agree to absolve and hold harmless the Club, the Club officers, the members, and any other connected with events sponsored by the Club in any way whatsoever, for blame or liability for any injury, misadventure, harm, loss, or inconvenience suffered. I understand that the Club is not responsible for, and is not an insurer of, my personal safety. I also hereby consent to and permit emergency medical treatment in the event of injury or illness. I shall abide by traffic laws and practice courtesy and safety in bicycling, including wearing an approved helmet at all times.

Member Signature

Date

Signature of parent/guardian (under 18)

Send to Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Club, P.O. 1014, Harrisonburg, VA 22803-1014



P.O. Box 1014
Harrisonburg, VA 22803-1014