

Quick Releases

The Monthly Bulletin
Of the Portland Wheelmen Touring Club



January 2017 Vol XLVI No 1



Top Talk

By Chip Kyle President

As I sit here and write this just before Christmas, I realize that the last two Decembers have not been favorable for our club's activities. Here is an excerpt from last January's Top Talk: "... we have been washed out of our club rides with a deluge of rain. Portland received a record amount of rain for the date on a series of days; our Christmas Lights Ride was cancelled due to flooding at PIR; and rising streams, creeks and rivers inundated many of our usual routes." This December we have been wiped out by two successive snow storms - one of which paralyzed the city of Portland. I have never seen our ride calendar where for three successive days the word "cancelled" was posted beside every ride. This included this year's Christmas Lights Ride! The last time I was on the bike, I suffered two flat tires from the gravel laid down on the streets. I don't know about you, but I am so looking forward to somewhat better weather, and much better riding conditions.

At the end of this month on the 29th, we will all face a significant challenge: to see if we can recognize our fellow bike riders in street clothes without their riding kit and



Don't forget to register for the Banquet: http://pwtc.com/2016Awards

Check out an article new member Kevin Van



Dyke wrote on his blog Bike Dreams: A lunch ride with PWTC

http://the-whir-of-spokes-inair.blogspot.com/2016/12/alunch-ride-with-pwtc.html

Submit

Ride Leaders:

Email your Ride requests to

roadcaptain@pwtc.com

Club Meeting

No Club Meeting this month!

Come to the Annual Award

Banquet!

Sunday, January 29, 2017

Monarch Hotel

No host bar 4:30

Dinner 5:30

Board Meeting

Date: Monday, January 23, 2017 Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Legacy Emanuel Hospital 2801 N. Gantenbein Ave Room 1035

All club members may attend Board Meetings. Submit items to be considered in writing by the preceding Club Meeting to Chip Kyle at 503-387-3940 or cvkyle109@gmail.com

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bike helmets. (Please try to refrain from saying "hey, I didn't recognize you with your clothes on". It gives rise to unfortunate misinterpretations!) The Awards Banquet is one of the events to which I look forward. We take the opportunity to recognize members who have made significant contributions to the club as well as highlight those individuals who have been most active on club rides. We also typically have a few humorous awards, identifying a few individuals' distinct characteristics. It's a fun time, I encourage you to attend.

I look forward once again to serving with a strong, capable and dedicated board. We have a talented group who have been with the club for a considerable time. Their institutional knowledge and club history makes my job much easier. I am especially appreciative of Ann Mor-

row, our long serving Vice President. I have full confidence that despite my straying hither and yon, she, and the rest of the board, will keep the club going in the generally right direction.

The first event for the club President is the New Year's Day Ride. I'll be there and hope to see you there as well. Until then, stay warm, avoid the ice and safe riding!

Chip Kyle, President



SnoCAP

By Joan Cullen

Thank You for Your Generosity! Every year Dave and I get the joyful pleasure of dropping off the donations collected at the December Club Meeting to SnowCAP. No matter what the size of the donation, we are always met by SnowCAP's enthusiastic staff at the drop off door. Some years we've been in a line up of cars, some years it has been just us and the receiving staff in a cold breezy driveway. No matter which, your donations have always been received with the utmost gratitude. This year our collection event produced 95# of food, 31# of warm coats and socks, and a very generous \$550 in monetary donations. On SnowCAPs behalf, thanks to all who participated!

(Want to know more about Snow-CAP? Check out their website atwww.snowcap.org)

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(Please call before 9:00 pm)

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Event Coordinators

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Newsletter Deadlines

Announcements, Events, and Classified Ads for consideration of publication should be submitted to Kimberly Morehead by the 20th of the month to be in the next QR. Publishing of letters is at the sole discretion of the Editor and dependent upon space available. Opinions expressed are those of the individual and not representative of the PWTC or the Editor. Classified are run for 2 months unless other arrangements are made. Articles and classified from members have priority if space is limited.

Ride Information

Ride information is to be submitted to the Road Captain. Ride leaders wishing to create their own ride descriptions or to sign up to lead a ride for the following month need to provide the Road Captain with pertinent information two weeks ahead of the ridel

Contact either Patrick Cecil or Bill Hamilton at PWTC Road Captain email: roadcaptain@pwtc.com

PWTC Web Site: http://www.pwtc.com



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Elvis GranFondo

Cartoon submitted by Mike Hassett



PIONEER CENTURY VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED:

Long time club members Cheryl Speer (Pre Registration) and Karyn Mardis (Food Planner extraordinaire) have elected to step aside from their long term, value added service to the club's signature event, the Pioneer Century. For 2017, the Pioneer Century cocoordinators (Brian & Ann) would like to encourage any and all interested club members to contact either ourselves, Cheryl, or Karyn directly regarding the details (time demands, process how to's etc) of these available positions.

Kind Regards, Brian Hammer / Ann Morrow Co-Coordinators, 2017 Pioneer Century

Spotlight on Safety - January 2017

By Bill Hamilton

Helmets

Happy New Year to Everybody. Let's make 2017 a safe cycling year.

I've been writing this column for a year now and the topics keep presenting themselves far too frequently. Sometimes, an accident happens through no fault of the rider, and the riders fate is a matter of luck. There are steps we can take to influence the outcome in these situations, and one of those steps is to wear a

helmet. Fortunately, it is a Club requirement that ALL riders on a club ride wear a helmet, and I have not heard any pushback on that policy.

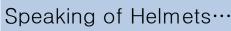
In mid-October the wisdom of that policy was demonstrated in the most dramatic way when Benn Schonman collided with a car that turned left in front of him at the intersection of SE Duke and 77th. As you can see from the picture, this accident caused a lot of damage to the car. This damage done by Benn's body and head, and could easily have caused fatal head injuries. But because Benn was wearing a helmet, his head injuries were minimal.

The Cleveland Clinic says "All bike riders should wear bicycle helmets. Each year in the United States, about 800 bicyclists are killed and another 500,000 end up in hospital emergency rooms. About two-thirds of the deaths and one-third of the injuries involve the head and face. Wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of head injury to bicyclists by as much as 85 percent."



So, take it from the PWTC founding mothers and fathers, and the Cleveland Clinic and wear your helmet. Encourage anyone you meet who isn't wearing a helmet to get one and wear it. If you meet anyone who doubts the efficacy of wearing a helmet, tell them there is someone you'd like them to meet!

"Let's be safe out there"



John & Jan got the new Lumos helmets for Christmas. They light up and even have turn signals.

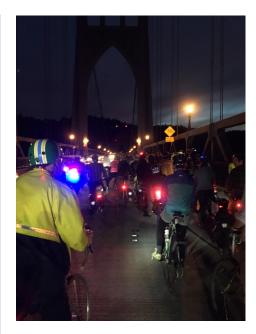






Happy Safe New Year 2017 PWTC cyclist!

Fact! It takes courage and true grit, to get out there and ride your bike during these colder days. Portland Wheelmen Touring Club members are *not* in short supply of this ingredient called courage or grit. We have a ride every day of the year! As we go into 2017, old man winter is still here. We go through great lengths to be safe, and sometimes it can be a tough call to determine exactly what routes are safe to ride and what routes should we avoid. Sometimes we are left to create our own routes that deviate from the vetted club map routes. We are so lucky to have seasoned cyclists in our club that know the lay of the land and can take charge to assist in modifying our routes to ensure a safe ride for our members. In some cases, we're up against main roads having too much gravel and deicing agents, while the side roads are often riddled with ice, bad roads in general, and wet slick roads in general threaten us cyclists. While some would opt out of riding all together. We have a large percentage of our cyclists that ride in most all conditions.



This is a risk many of us take and most of the time, we have a great memorable ride! Go PWTC!

We are no competition for the cars or inclement weather that hits the Northwest. We as cyclists must keep riding strong, communicate with each other, wear visible gear, and be ever mindful of our own habits and surroundings always.

Cyclists are united and are going to keep fighting for safer streets. Sadly, last year we had an unfortunate tragedy happen to a cyclist by the name of Mitch York on the St. Johns Bridge in North Portland. A silent protest ride was put together November 3rd, 2016 as a memorial to celebrate Mitch York's life and with strong hopes of bringing awareness to compel ODOT to make changes



to make it safer for cyclists. I personally attended this event, and I was glad I did. I found it was a very respectful, well organized protest. I only took these two pictures with the intentions of doing an article for the QR to bring awareness to our club what our cycling community is trying to accomplish after this unfortunate tragedy. The Portland Police were very supportive throughout the memorial/protest ride. I hope we sent the message intended to ODOT. Mitch York was an



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an avid cyclist logging hundreds of miles weekly as many of us do. In this case, a repeat offender with a less than stellar driving record, was driving a car that had bald tires and tragedy struck. Let's be safe out there and keep visible! We won't stop fighting for safer roads. For more info on the memorial/protest, Jonathan Maus of bikeportland.org was present at the silent protest and contributed a more in depth article about this event. Click on the link:

- http://bikeportland.org/2016/11/03/at-protest-ride-st-johns-bridge-carries-weight-of-hundreds-and-of-recent-tragedy-194714

Respectfully submitted by,

A Tip re: cleats By Barry Emmerling

Most PWTC members use one of the so called "clipless" pedal systems such as SPD (Shimano Pedaling Dynamics), Look, Speedplay, Crank Bros, etc. So do you remember the last time you replaced your cleats? If not, it may be time to replace them. Cleats take a lot of abuse and do wear out over time. (btw - pedals can also wear out but will typically last through several sets of cleats at a minimum).

Signs of worn cleats may include: difficulty engaging/disengaging with the pedal - or conversely, coming unclipped at inopportune times, (e.g., under hard pedaling), or when you start noticing excessive "float" where the connection between shoe and pedal feels sloppy. With a bit of trouble-shooting you may discover you only need to tighten the cleats, or clean cleats & pedals, or adjust the release tension and the problem will disappear.

If none of this works, however, it's probably time to spring for some new cleats. They don't cost a lot and can make your cycling safer and more enjoyable – you'll really feel the difference!

Note: When installing new cleats be sure to align them correctly for a neutral pedaling position. Better yet, visit a local bike fitter for a professional cleat fitting. Here's a detailed and informative video on what a proper cleat fitting involves:

http://www.cyclingweekly.co.uk/videos/bike-fit-and-maintenance/cleats-explained-how-to-set-them-up-correctly



Member Mirror : Jeremy Wilson

When did you begin biking and why? When did you join the PWTC and why?

Around second grade my father put me on a 24-inch coaster brake bike and ran alongside me holding the bike by the seat. Then he let go and I headed toward the back of our parked car. He called out for me to brake but I froze and had my first crash.

I liked biking with my neighborhood friends and in about fifth grade saw a racing bike for



sale at the local bike shop. It was a 9-speed (three-speed internal hub bike fitted with three cogs) with drop handle bars, a style popular for a time in the late 1950s. I didn't have the money but the shop let me buy it on a time payment plan. There were ads in comic books encouraging kids to order a case of Christmas cards, sell them door-to-door, and that was my plan to earn the payments. After several afternoons of dismal sales the Christmas cards went back and so did the bike.

I've always owned a bike and have enjoyed cycling. I began to increase my distance with European 10 speeds with sew-up tires in the early 1970s. In 1989 I moved to Portland and began doing event rides in 1992, joining the Wheelmen in 1994 as I have always liked riding with groups.

How many miles do you typically ride in a year? Club rides, or independent rides?

Almost all of my rides these days are club rides. I lead three rides per week and that works well as it forces me to take breaks from my projects. When I can, I join in on the eastside rides and figure I'll ride a little over 5000 miles this year.

You must have a favorite bike in your "stable." What bike is it, and how many others do you have?

A couple of years ago I started buying Italian frames from eBay, usually 1980s frames that had never been built up. I like the process of finding the parts for the build and the joy of riding the bikes once they are done. They probably deserve period-correct Campagnolo components but instead they get Ultegra 9/10 speed parts because that's what I know and like to ride. I guess I have somewhere over ten bikes and my favorite is always whatever bike I just built.

What do you find most enjoyable about biking? Is there anything about the activity that you don't like?

If I had to choose my favorite aspect of biking it would be that it makes me feel good while riding and for hours afterward. That's not only because of the endorphins, but the group camaraderie, the motion through time and space, a dose of Vitamin N (N = nature), the shiny toy nature of bicycles, and last but not least I can eat a whole lot more. I don't mind an occasional flat but not patching tubes in the rain when it's dark and 35 degrees.

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Member Mirror Cont...

In addition to cycling, are there other "hobbies," interests or pursuits, that you engage in?

I worked my way through college as an auto mechanic and restored a 1946 Packard Seven Passenger Sedan eight years ago. It took two years to complete and I take it to car shows when the weather is good. I restored a second Packard but realized one is enough and sold it. I'm sticking with bikes from now on.

While we would all like to be biking full-time, unfortunately, we have to work to support this and other "habits." What kind of work did you do, or what do you currently do, in your "day job?"

I was a software engineer, then became a manager and Vice President for a couple of startups in Beaverton creating network analysis software. I have several websites of my own (jazz and car restoration) and am the webmaster for the Classic Car Club of America Museum.

What is a surprising fact about you that your fellow Club members might find interesting.

I grew up in San Diego and moved to Utah, Oregon, Montana, the Bay Area, Oregon, Idaho, and then Oregon. I figure after moving here three times I might as well stay put.







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West/Eastward Loaded Tour June 26 - July 1

West/Eastward Loaded Tour begins MONDAY, June 26 with a 9:30 a.m group rendezvous at Hillsboro's Manaia Coffee House (203 E. Main) near the end of the Max Blue Line for "second breakfast" to fuel up for a ride of 40 miles through Banks and Vernonia for lunch then onward to Big Eddy, a no reservation Columbia County campground on the Nehalem River.

Early TUESDAY at 7:30 a.m. we start a 60 mile day sadly without "second breakfast" on the scenic Nehalem River Highway (Hwy 202) into Clatsop State Forest to Youngs River Road through Warrenton to camp at Fort Stevens State Park's Hiker/Biker.

After an exploration of the Clapsop Spit on Jeffy road at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday's "Second Breakfast" awaits us in Astoria. We will travel highway 101 and across the famous Astoria Megler Bridge to Illwaco and to camp at Cape Disappointment Park's Hiker/Biker. This short 30 mile day loaded might include an unload exploration of Long Beach Peninsula bike trail and/or roads.

THURSDAY 7:30 a.m. we travel north on Hwy101 along infamous for kayakers Willapa Bay then turn back southeast on Naselle River Road to "second breakfast" at Naselle (we hope). We head east on Hwy 4 to Skamokawa (a no reservation county park on the Columbia River) for a total mileage of 50 miles.

FRIDAY at 7:30 a.m we follow the Columbia to Cathlamet for "second breakfast" before we cross for a ride-around Puget Island and our boarding of the new ferry to Westport. We'll navigate some country roads to Rainier's non-reservation Hudson-Parcher County Park for camping after a 40+ mile trek.

July 1, SATURDAY may have two optional routes but both certainly with "second breakfast" (1) a quicker, flatter highway 30 to Portland for 50 miles (2) a slower, hilly and longer route through the country roads to St.Helens before joining highway 30 to Portland.

Costs will include your camping each night at approximately \$10.00 plus "second breakfast" that has become our tradition on loaded tours.

Ride Leaders: Don Spencer (donaldwspencer@gmail.com John Burkhardt (jhburkh@hotmail.com



Steens Mt. Scenic Loaded Tour September 5 - 11

Steens Mt. rises in a long ridge more than 5000 feet above the desert floor with awesome sunrises and sunsets for willing wilderness campers. To enjoy Tuesday's sunset cars leaved Portland Sept 5 at 7:00 a.m.for "second breakfast" in Madras. Our destination will be the top Steens Mt. for a night of car-camping without services. On the drive up we'll assess the condition of the gravel road to determine the possibility of a morning descent on our bikes.

On Wednesday, Sept 6, after a majestic sunrise we hopefully will descend 20+ miles on unloaded bikes for "second breakfast" at rustic Frenchglen Hotel. John claims the blueberry pancakes were some the best I've ever eaten. With loaded bikes (leave cars at Hotel) we'll ride Catlow Valley Road for 50 miles to Fields where a cafe, groceries, and motel rooms (reservation) and/or camping await.

"First Breakfast" at the Field's cafe or your stove begins Thursday, Sept. 7. Stock up (No "second breakfast" today) on supplies for two days as we then travel 40 miles of the pavement then hard packed gravel of the Fields-Denio Road thru Andrews (the old school houses a world famous desert artist) to Alford Hot Springs for a \$5.00 soak. Destination Mann Lake campground.

Sadly no "second breakfast" on Friday, Sept 8 as we follow Fields-Denio Road to Hwy 72 (Steens Highway) into Crane's cafe/grocery and finalize the 70 mile day with a soak (\$??) at Crystal Springs Hot Springs and camping.

"Second Breakfast" will happen after a 28 miler into Burns on Saturday, Sept 9. Then we'll head 23 miles on Hwy 205 to camp at Narrows and an unloaded gravel road ride of 18 miles round-trip to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters.

From Narrows on Sunday, Sept. 10 we travel 35 miles directly to Frenchglen for "second breakfast" or add a 30 mile round trip to the famous Diamond Hotel for "second breakfast". After retrieving the cars, we return to Crystal Springs for another (\$??) soak and camping

Monday, Sept 11 Drive home by way of John Day or Bend

Costs: Hot Springs (\$30?), Camping (\$60?), "Second Breakfasts," (\$????) Travel (riders split gas cost about 40 gals at \$2.30 gal for approximately 750 miles; drivers pay other the car expenses.

Considerations: Nights and early mornings in Sept. can be cold.

We start peddling each day before 7:30 a.m. Some travel will be on gravel roads of unknown condition until we arrive therefore new tires and a spare recommended.

Ride Leaders: Don Spencer (<u>donaldwspencer@gmail.com</u> John Burkhardt (<u>jhburkh@hotmail.com</u>

The Bullards Beach Weekend

July 28-30 2017



Journey to the southern Oregon coast this summer for three days of riding in places that you don't often see. Dates are July 28, 29 and 30. The rides will be starting at Bullards Beach State Park, 2 miles north of Bandon, OR. Friday mornings ride takes a loop south of Bandon, with a lunch stop in town, and has multiple distances from 25 to 40 miles. Saturdays 45 mile ride goes up to the town of Coquille on one road and returns on another. On Sunday we ride east and north and re-

turn on roads through Bandon Dunes Golf Course. This is a 26 mile route with shorter options.

This is a camping weekend. Make your own campground reservations at <u>1-800-452-5687</u> or at <u>oregonstateparks.org</u>. If you aren't a camper you can still enjoy the rides. Bandon, OR., with many motels, is just 2 miles south of the park. Each campsite at Bullards Beach has water and electricity. Oregon State Parks fill up very quickly so book your space ASAP. Event headquarters is at campsite C55. For more information contact Bud Rice at <u>503-667-0683</u> or at <u>bikebud@spiretech.com</u>.

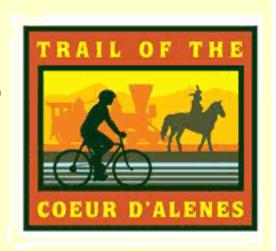


Idaho Tour

August 27-31, 2017

The Idaho Tour is on again for 2017. The dates will be Sunday, August 27 through Thursday, August31. There are three days of riding on the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene with a fourth optional day on the Route of the Hiawatha. The Coeur d'Alene is a paved rails to trails, 75 miles long, that runs across the northern Idaho panhandle. We ride it in both directions. The Hiawatha is a 17 mile, gravel, rails to trails that goes through 9 tunnels and across 8 tall trestles.

This is not a camping event. We will be staying in motels for four nights. The trip starts in Wallace, Idaho on Sunday, August 27. On Monday, August 28 we ride 50 miles down to Harrison, Idaho, on the bank of Lake Coeur d'Alene, where we stay for 2 nights. On Tuesday, August 29 we ride 35 miles round trip to Plummer, Idaho for lunch. On Wednesday, August 30 we ride the 50 miles back to Wal-



lace. Thursday, August 31 is the optional ride on the Hiawatha.



Cost for the trip is \$280.00 per person. There is no sag for the trip. You need to carry enough with you for two nights in a motel. You also need to sign up with a roommate. For more information contact Bud Rice at 503-667-0683 or bikebud@spiretech.com.



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Reserve Now for Your Spot on the San Juan Island trip – August 6-10, 2017

by Cindy Bernert-Coppola

After organizing and leading this trip for many years, Bud Rice has passed the baton to me and to Ann Morrow for 2017. Although we can't hold a candle to his amazing organizational skills, he has promised the share his wealth of knowledge, and we'll do our best!

Reservations have been made for a group campsite on San Juan Island at the Lakedale Resort and Campground. Most folks will leave their car at the marina in Anacortes and bike to the ferry. We will, however, need at least three people to volunteer their vehicle (preferably a truck or van) to ferry our gear to the campground. If you are one of the vehicle owners, you will be reimbursed for the ferry crossing fee.



The itinerary is roughly as follows:

Sunday, August 6: Meet at the marina and transfer your camping equipment to one of the drivers. Bike to the ferry landing (just a few miles) and take the ferry to San Juan Island.

Arrive at Friday Harbor and bike approximately 4.5 miles from the ferry landing to the campground

Monday, August 7: Enjoy pedaling around San Juan Island, including scenic Roche Harbor and the lavender fields.

Tuesday, August 8: Board the ferry to Orcas Island and follow one of several maps either just into town or on to Moran State Park and up Mt. Constitution. Ferry back to San Juan Island.

Wednesday, August 9: Board the ferry to Lopez Island and follow one of the maps ending at Lopez Village and a great bakery (if it's open) or another eating establishment.

Thursday, August 10: Pack up your equipment & bike to the ferry landing for the return to Anacortes. Meet at the marina and transfer your belongings from one of the vehicles to your car and head home.

The cost per person for the trip will be \$60/person to cover campsite fees, ferry crossing fees for the three vehicles, and a little extra for shared campsite items. We are limited to 25 people for the shared campsite. To reserve your spot, send a 50% down payment to Ann Morrow at 13207 NE 2nd Ct, Vancouver, WA 98685.

Additional expenses to plan for will be your passenger+bike ferry fee (a one-time round-trip fare which includes interisland trips), food (eating out or cooking at the campground), and showers.

Questions? Contact Cindy Bernert-Coppola, cindybco@gmail.com, or Ann Morrow, anniedmor@gmail.com.

RIDING IN TUCSON 2017

Tired of the rain? Yearn for those days of summer when you could ride with just a jersey and shorts ... not all the rain gear, booties, heavy gloves etc?

Once again, there is an opportunity to ride for any PWTC members who can get to Tucson, AZ, this spring anytime between January and May.

As many of you know, there is wonderful weather and bicycling

during the winter and spring in Tucson. Tuc-son is a superb city for cycling with wide bike lanes on the main roads, over 100 miles of bike paths, a national Park filled with majestic saguaro cactus at the edge of town, Mount Lemon with its significant climb and many other routes.

You are encouraged to contact Roger Harris for more information at 503-341-6385, or rch2815@gmail.com .









We're on the web! PWTC.com Check your membership expiration date.
Is it time to renew?
Online: http://pwtc.com/

December's Club Meeting

