

Saddle-Post Intelligencer

The Voice of the Skagit Bicycle Club -Skagit County-Washington

April 2013

Special Olympics Cycling

Special Olympic practice will be held all Tuesdays in April and May at Skagit Valley College truck track, at 5:30. Heavy rain cancels.

Skagit Bicycle Club members have supported this group for 20 years, financially and by donating time as volunteers. Please consider riding with this group, contributing companionship and sharing skills. Questions?? Call Jane Monroe 360 424 4619

IT'S SPRING BRIDGE SWEEP TIME AGAIN!! (AND CLUB RIDE AFTERWARDS)

Spring is approaching with warmer weather and more daylight. It's time to start spring training rides and...YES...clean the bike lane of the "BERENTSON-TWIN BRIDGES"!!!. This has been an SBC event for years and appreciated by many riders. The first sweeping of the bridge after winter is usually the most difficult, and having a good turn-out assures it will go quickly and easily!(usually about an hour) As a reward for sweeping, we will have a fun, 35ish mile (MRR) group ride afterward, that will include a lunch/snack stop. This is always a fun group event, so we want to see you there!!!

WHEN: Saturday, April 20, 2013. 9 AM bridge sweep start. Ride departs afterward from same location.

WHERE: Hwy 20 ,the east side of the bridge, at the Twin Bridges Marina exit. Park just to the east of the exit.

WHAT TO BRING: All brooms, shovels, wheel barrows supplied. (but if you have your favorite at home...bring it!). Gloves and "sweeping shoes" suggested. Sweeping the bridge usually takes about one hour.

RIDE: 35ish miles. MRR. Map provided. We will stop for a light lunch/snack as part of the ride. Ride leader: Steve Jahn 425-830-4981 stevedianjahn@gmail.com

NOTE: Thank You Bill Woyski - SBC "Broom Poet Laureate" for 4+years of leading this event for SBC. We will miss your poems and leadership!

In This Issue:

The Pace Line by Gordon Odegaard	Page 2
Freewheeling	Page 3
Ride Descriptions/Ride Reports	Page 4
Board Briefs Etcetera	Page 4
Ride Calendar	Page 5
Club Info & Membership Form	Page 6

SBC ATTENDS THREE EVENTS TO PROMOTE MEMBERS AND SKAGIT SPRING CLASSIC

For the first time SBC attended three events to promote SBC and our Spring Classic.

We gained new members, signed up Spring Classic riders, and gave out lots of rider forms. If you didn't get to participate

You did miss out on a lot of fun and entertainment. To those who did volunteer thank you very much.

These activities were organized by Steve & Dian Jahn, Marshall & Jean Will

EVENTS

Seattle Bike Swap-Skagit Cycle Center Spring Bike Sale
Seattle Bike Expo

VOLUNTEERS

Roy Pringle, Kathy Thornburg, Kit Rawson, Janice Lisherness; Phil Smoots; Lou Rivetti; Janice Mathis; Jim Finch; Dana Finch; Jamie Wells; Mike Tallering; Tim Light; Gordon Odegaard; Jerry Ziegler; Whit Whitford

Thank you all very much and a special thanks to Gary & Bernie Santiago for hosting us at the events they sponsored.

Thank you Dan Sandstrom



TIPTOE
through the
TULIPS

Skagit Spring Classic

*A Skagit Bicycle Club Event
May 11th 2013*

For More Information Visit
SkagitSpringClassic.org

Use your Head. Always wear a helmet



<http://www.facebook.com/SkagitBicycleClub>



The Pace Line

By Gordon Odegaard



A Bicycle Trip to Remember

During the summer of 1975 I returned to the University of Iowa to complete writing my thesis for my Ph.D. in Science Education. I had taken my bicycle with me, a 25 ½ inch Peugeot which I had purchased from the bike shop in Anacortes owned by Tom Clelland. We had bought at least 4 bikes from Tom by then and I had one more bike to buy from Tom. The last time I had seen the Peugeot it was hanging from a wall at the Snohomish Bike Shop. My son, Bruce, had wanted to refurbish it for commuting from Lake Stevens to the train station in Everett. He has been unable to obtain parts for the repairing the main crank so it had been at the bike shop for a rather long time. The French always do something different.

After a month of writing and rewriting the thesis at the U of I, I returned to Mount Vernon to carry out the plan to bicycle, self contained, from Mount Vernon to Prince Rupert, B.C. with my family. Bruce was 14 and Kristin was 9. Bruce, Joanne; my wife, and I were loaded with panniers full of camping gear, tools, and spare tires; however; Joanne always carried the food feeling we would not drop her if she had the food! The paceline consisted of Bruce pulling, Kristin behind Bruce, me and Joanne. Where was Child Protective Services when the kids needed them? It ended up being the trip of a lifetime and one we often talk about at family gatherings. I would like to share a few of the highlights with you.

Our first day was rather uneventful making very good time with nice weather. We camped at Cultus Lake, B.C. and ventured on toward Hope, B.C. the second day. As we cycled up the Fraiser River Canyon the traffic and the road became progressively worse so we turned back toward Hope and found a youth hostel along the highway. We were really hungry at dinner and all that was served was a salad. Luckily, someone was having a birthday and cake was served to ward off the hunger pains. Our family was assigned a small cabin for sleeping which was great except in the middle of the night someone else thought they were to sleep in the cabin as well. Once that was resolved we did manage to get some sleep.

The next morning we cycled back to Hope where we discovered we could take the train to Prince George via Banff. The train was scheduled to arrive rather late at night and we had to put up a marker to stop the train so passengers could board. We arrived at Banff the next day a bit tired. Finding a very nice campground we set up the tents and took an afternoon nap. I noticed that a number of the

campers had packages hanging from the trees. Thinking nothing about it, we went to lie down. Joanne put some metal dishes in the tent, what for I thought? In the middle of our nap I heard what sounded like the largest dog I had ever heard. I immediately grabbed those dishes and make as much noise as I could. As luck would have it the noise scared off the bear. The lesson, take note what the natives are doing and why they are doing it. **DO NOT STORE FOOD IN YOUR TENT!!!**

That night we boarded another train, loading our bikes in the baggage car and arrived at Prince George the following morning where we splurged and got a motel. From Prince George we ventured toward Prince Rupert usually making one small town after another. August 3rd, 1975 was my birthday and the weather was becoming wetter by the day. We finally had to camp just off the road between Burns Lake and Smithes, B.C. Joanne and the kids picked some berries and made a cake. A few days ago we were celebrating several family birthdays when I asked Bruce and Kristin, "What was the most memorable part of the trip?" They both said, "My birthday in the pouring rain." One day it rained so hard we had to take refuge under a bridge. We finally arrived in Terrace, B.C. when I announced the road should be rather flat to Prince Rupert since I had heard a lot of complaints about the hills since leaving Prince George. Little did I realize that there is a pass with a 6% grade just before entering Prince Rupert. Once we arrived in Prince Rupert, we got a motel and celebrated with a great halibut dinner and we were ready for the ferry ride to my home town, Petersburg, Alaska.

We rode our bikes on the Alaska Ferry and headed for the dining room for breakfast after which we claimed some reclining chairs in the main cabin. After stops in Ketchikan and Wrangell we entered the Wrangell Narrows which is very narrow and shallow. The "narrows" as we called it, is marked my numerous buoys and markers. With a big ship going through this passage smaller vessels need to be really careful.

Finally, after arriving in Petersburg late at night, by entire family was at the dock to meet us. I was a bit incensed that my brother wanted to put my bike on his truck to take it to the house. I was a biker! We had just biked a hundreds of miles, I was not going to put my bike on the back of a truck just to go a few blocks to the house where I was born and grew up!

To be continued for the ride back home including one more bear experience!

Freewheeling

LETTERS TO SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: HELP IMPROVE OUR POOR QUALITY CHIP SEAL ROADS!

By Steve Jahns

Hello fellow cyclists! Your club is trying to improve the road quality of our bike route roads with Skagit County Public Works. SBC member representatives have been working with SCOG/ACT: Liz McNett-Crowl. Perhaps you have read of activities in past SBC Newsletters.

We are at a phase that would be helped by citizen input...AND THAT IS YOU!!! We are asking YOU for a "steady stream" of communications (email or letter) to the people listed. We suggest your communication be brief and emphasize a few main issues. You may reference that you are a member of SBC if you wish. however, the club desires you act as independent citizens....so include any friends who also feel the same as you!... THANK YOU! , and if questions, please contact Steve Jahn 425-830-4981 stevedianjahn@gmail.com

CONSIDER

It is spring and soon, road resurfacing in Skagit County will begin CAN IT BE IMPROVED THIS YEAR!!!...especially cycling routes

ISSUES

- Rougher road surface after chip seal than the previous chip seal.
- Roads are chip sealed that are in perfectly good shape and do not warrant resurfacing.
- Roads chip sealed only a few years ago are not wearing well and show extensive areas worn away to the previous surface, making the road worse!
- Course chip seal over fog lines onto shoulders leaving an unsafe surface for cyclists.
- Course chip seal does not adhere and becomes loose debris on the road, which is dangerous to cyclists and damaging to cars.
- Roads are not adequately swept clean of loose chip seal after application, and is left on the shoulders/edge of the road, where cyclists ride.....this is unsafe and unnecessary!
- Other counties roads are superior to Skagit County...Island County...Whatcom County....Jefferson County....why?????
- Other cyclists complain of the quality of road surface in Skagit County compared to their county...although they enjoy the area of Skagit County to visit and ride.

DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS TO:

Skagit County Commissioners
Ron Wessen- District 1
Ken Dahlstedt- District 2
Sharon Dillon- District 3
County Commissioners:
1800 Continental Place, Suite 100
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 336 - 9300
email: commissioners@co.skagit.wa.us

SEND COPIES TO:

County Administrator: Tim Holloran
1800 Continental Place, Suite 100
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 336-9300
email: admsrvcs@co.skagit.wa.us
CONSIDER SENDING TO:
SKAGIT HERALD

Submit Letter button on goskagit.com under the Opinion tab.
https://goskagit-dot-com.bloxcms.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/

Or send email to: letters@skagitpublishing.com

NOTE- 300 word max.

Public Works Director: Henry Hash
County Engineer: Paul A. Randall-Grutter P.E.
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Phone: 360-336-9400
Fax: (360) 336-9478
email: pw@co.skagit.wa.us

PLEASE: BCC to:

Steve Jahn stevedianjahn@gmail.com
Liz McNett Crowl
LCrowl@skagitvalleyhospital.org

Ride Opportunities

June 5th -June 9th

Central Oregon 500+

"Eat, Sleep, Ride and Repeat"

5 days of Classic Central Oregon road Rides

Mount Bachelor Sports Education Foundation (MBSEF)

for an entry form contact Janice @bikerjan1@hotmail.com

This is the 10th year that five western Washington bike clubs have sponsored the Ride Around Puget Sound (RAPSody) as a fundraiser for the Bicycle Alliance of Washington. RAPSody has raised more than \$100,000 for statewide advocacy and education programs. In honor of the 10th anniversary, the organizing team is challenging clubs around the state to help get participants from all 39 counties. Learn more about the event at www.rapsodybikeride.com.

June 15

there is a 2 day ride from Vancouver BC to Seattle that has an overnight stop in Mount Vernon on June 15th. They are looking for volunteers to help setup a camp site the Friday before on June 14th. I wanted to pass as something club members may want to help with and show our cycling community support. I've included the email I received so you could see it. Is this something that can be posted online on in the newsletter? I found this when looking at volunteer opportunities through Community Action of Skagit County (see link below). There is a volunteer form that I have available.

http://www.skagitvolunteercenter.org/HOC_Volunteer_Opportunity_Details_Page?startURL=%2FHOC_Volunteer_Opportunity_Details_Page%3FId=a0CU0000007x6bPMAQA@A&id=a0CU0000007x6bPMAQ

....Board Briefs....

....Et•cet•er•a.....

SKAGIT BICYCLE CLUB GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2013

Present: Chris Hanson, Marshall Will, Dan Sandstrom, Colby Plagge, Shaun Bridge, Gordon Odegaard, Janice Lisherness, Phil Smoots, Jill Langley, Jim Finch, and Marci Maulden

Welcome to new member Ken Oates from Anacortes.

Ride Coordinator's Report:

Janice Lisherness presented a list of starting locations for the Wednesday night rides running from April thru September. After review, the meeting participants came to a consensus of the following start locations: Mount Baker Middle School for April; March Point Park and Ride for May; Skagit Valley Gardens for June; Shaun Bridge's House for July; Edison Elementary School for August; and Burlington Maiben Park for September.

Old Business:

Jill Langley volunteered to build some maps in Map-My-Ride to be used for the April Wednesday evening rides starting from Mount Baker Middle School. Jim Finch volunteered to make some also.

After discussion, it was decided the Seattle Bike Swap was not a good venue for advertising the Spring Classic or seeking new club memberships; however, Jim did have some success in signing up new members at the Skagit Bicycle sale. As a tool to measure success of being represented at Bike Expo, Marshall Will will order green Spring Classic fliers to be used there so we can see how many come back to us as registrations.

Marshall is looking for ideas to add special pizzazz for the 2013 Spring Classic registration area. One thing noted was how important it was to clarify the difference between the area for pre-registrations and day-of registrations.

New Business:

Gordon brought up the subject of riding the different San Juan Islands this summer. As an example, ride Lopez Island in June; San Juan Island in July; and Orcas Island in August. There was discussion as to whether they should be weekend or during the week rides. Discussion was tabled for future consideration.

The Twin Bridges Sweep is next month (April). Steve Jahn is in charge of coordinating the effort.

The Edison Bakery has placed a port-a-potty at their business site so we don't need to order one there for this year. Ideas are being sought as to where we might need one in our area for summer riding.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm. The next SBC Board Meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Tuesday, April 2th at Dimensional Communications on 1220 Anderson Road, Mount Vernon.

Respectfully submitted by Marci Maulden

Rides, Ride Reports & More!

MONDAY RIDES

First 4 Mondays in April (NOT MONDAY, APRIL 29) , March Point Park & Ride; NEW SPRING/SUMMER START TIME!!- 10 AM, Moderate Pace. Bad weather cancels. Question-Contact Dan Sandstrom dan.sandstrom@comcast.net 360-708-7108 or Steve Jahnstevedianjahn@gmail.com 425-830-4981

Tuesday Rides: Family and beginning riders . Nick Stowe and Carolyn Moulton of BikeSpot, Anacortes, will be leading leisurely paced rides on the Tommy Thompson Trail for beginning level/families/kids . Rides depart EACH TUESDAY EVENING, 6:15 PM from BIKESPOT, and ride to the end of the Tommy Thompson Trail and back. Contact: BIKESPOT; 210 Commercial Ave Anacortes, WA 98221 (360) 588-1676 bikespot28@gmail.com

April Joy Rides are from the Allen Play Fields in Allen at 11:00 am. It's a stay together social ride. Lunch is always an options during or afterwards.

April 13

We want YOU and your Friends
Husbands...get your wife on her bike
Wives...get your husband on his bike
Ladies...get your girlfriends out for a ride (we need more gals)
Guys...get your buddies out (guaranteed to make you feel better than any Saturday morning sports TV)

Conway Red Barn

For riders of ALL road cycling abilities to---
Meet new ride buddies--Flat, social speed for the first 4 miles. No one dropped!

Work a cycling pace line at moderate 15 mph speed--mile 4 to 13.
Stop (optional) in La Conner for riders who choose to break for coffee
Sprint Snee Oosh--mile 13 to 21. Ride at your own pace.

Regroup at Reservation RD/Hwy 20 for pace line work back to Conway --21 to 42

Ride Leader is Brigitte Rittscher 360 652-7668. Maps will be available.

April 21

North Snohomish County Foothills Loop- 11 AM. MRR- Start location-downtown Arlington at the restroom/tourist info center directly next to the Centennial Trail in the middle of downtown. Parking is adjacent to trail at the city hall parking lot. 11 AM 40-50 miles. Bring food- only short break stops. Rain cancels. Call 425 446 9019 if questions. Ride Leader Lou Rivetti.

April 27

Spring Classic Preview Ride:
8:00 am Bayview Elementary School on Josh Wilson..Choose your miles, 25, 45, 62 or 100..
Ride at your own pace, bring plenty of water and food, especially for the 100 mile route.. Rain Cancels
Questions call Jean 360 710-9577 or e-mail cesiwill@msn.com

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday																							
1 10:00 am March Point Park & Ride MRR Dan Sandstrom 360 708 7108	2 5:30 pm SVC Truck Track Special Olympics Jane Monroe 360 424 4619 6:15 pm E Bikespot -Anacortes Nick Stowe Carolyn Moulton 360 588 1676	3 5:30 pm RR-All Levels Mount Baker Middle School M.V. Med/Long Shaun Bridge 360 854 7926 Short Dian Jahn 425 830 5381	4 11:00 am MRR Joy Ride Allen Playfields Rain Cancels Janice Lisherness 360 391 3931	5	6 10:00AM MRR Mount Baker Middle School MV Colby Plagge 360.540.4554	7																							
8 11:00 AM MRR March Point Park & Ride Steve Jahn 425.830.4981	9 Board Meeting 6PM Dimensional Communications 1220 Anderson Rd Mt.Vernon Gordon Odegaard 360.421.0573 6:15 pm E Bikespot -Anacortes 5:30 pm SVC Truck Track Special Olympics	10 5:30 pm RR-All Levels Mount Baker Middle School M.V. Med/Long Marshall Will 360 929 5003 ShortJennifer McCoy 360 540 1694	11 11:00 am MRR Joy Ride Allen Playfields Rain Cancels Linda White 360 770 1050	12	13 10:00 am RR-All Levels Red Barn Conway Brigitte Rittscher 360 652 7668	14																							
15 11:00 AM MRR March Point Dan Sandstrom 360.708.7108	16 5:30 pm SVC Truck Track Special Olympics Jane Monroe 360 424 4619 6:15 pm E Bikespot -Anacortes Nick Stowe Carolyn Moulton 360 588 1676	17 5:30 pm RR-All Levels Mount Baker Middle School M.V. Med/Long Shaun Bridge 360 854 7926 Short Kathea Rasmussen 360 766 8720	18 11:00 am MRR Joy Ride Allen Playfields Rain Cancels Jane Monroe 360.424.4619	19 Newsletter Deadline 	20 9:00 am Berentson Bridge Hwy 20 Bridge Sweep/RR Steve Jahns 425 830 4981	21 11:00 am MRR Foothills Loop-Arlington (see newsletter) Lou Rivetti 425 446 9019																							
22 11:00 AM MRR March Point Park & Ride Steve Jahn 425.830.4981	23 5:30 pm SVC Truck Track Special Olympics Jane Monroe 360 424 4619 6:15 pm E Bikespot -Anacortes Nick Stowe Carolyn Moulton 360 588 1676	24 5:30 pm RR-All Levels Mount Baker Middle School M.V. Med/Long Bill Thayer 360 757 2679 Short Whit Whitford 360 757 2679	25 11:00 am MRR Joy Ride Allen Playfields Rain Cancels Jennifer McCoy 360 336 2528	26	27 8 am RR Bayview School Rain cancels Spring Classic Preview- all routes- Jean Sattler-Will 360 710 9577	28																							
29	30 5:30 pm SVC Truck Track Special Olympics Jane Monroe 360 424 4619 6:15 pm E Bikespot -Anacortes Nick Stowe Carolyn Moulton 360 588 1676					<table border="1"> <tr> <td>RR</td> <td>Road Ride</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MTB</td> <td>Mountain Bike</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TT</td> <td>Time Trial</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RLH</td> <td>Ride Leader's Home</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Ride Pace:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>Easy under 10mph</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>Social 10-12 mph</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M</td> <td>Moderate 12-16 mph</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>Brisk 16-20 mph</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ST</td> <td>Strenuous 20+ mph</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">If weather is questionable call the ride leader</td> </tr> </table>		RR	Road Ride	MTB	Mountain Bike	TT	Time Trial	RLH	Ride Leader's Home	Ride Pace:		E	Easy under 10mph	S	Social 10-12 mph	M	Moderate 12-16 mph	B	Brisk 16-20 mph	ST	Strenuous 20+ mph	If weather is questionable call the ride leader	
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Skagit Bicycle Club Membership Form

Club Information

Annual Dues: Individual \$15.00 Family \$20.00

Check One: New Membership
 Renewal

MAIL TO:
Skagit Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 363 Burlington WA 98233
OR

Use PayPal to join or renew your membership
online at www.skagitbicycleclub.org

Name

Address

City State Postal Code

Phones

Email:

You will receive your Newsletter via Email
...Unless you CHECK HERE
to receive the paper version (not in color)
via US Postal Service



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bikerjan1@hotmail.com
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Marshall Will/Jill Langely
Bridge Sweep Coordinator:
Steve Jahn
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cesiwill@msn.com

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Saddle-Post Intelligencer
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The Skagit Bicycle Club
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dutchpedaler@yahoo.com
See Ride Calendar for Deadline

Bike Travel Cases: Deposit is \$100 and is refundable upon the return of the case. The borrower is responsible for the pickup and drop off of the case.

Bike Travel Trailer: "BOB" bike trailer with a water proof duffel
Club Bike Racks: Four Yakima bike carriers attach to a roof rack 1 inch round bars front and rear. fork mount/ mounts for the front wheel. Currently kept in the Storage Unit in Mount Vernon. To check out and arrange a pick up of any of the above items contact Bill Thayer 360 757 2679 or Jane Monroe 360 424 4619

If you are having issues with the email edition of the Newsletter please contact us through the website or via Marshall Will at 360 929 5003 or cesiwill@msn.com. Copies of the newsletter will be mailed upon request.

Membership benefits include 10% off at the following businesses:

Bicycles NW
31531 SR 20
Oak Harbor 360 279 8919

Skagit Cycle Center
1704 S Burlington Blvd
Burlington 360 757 7910
1620 Commercial Ave.
Anacortes 360 588 7910

Arlington Velo Sport
Bicycle Shop
401 N Olympic Ave
Arlington, WA 98223
360-629-6415
www.stanwoodvelosport.com

Club Members:
Please remember to show your membership card to receive your discount at the above businesses.



<http://www.facebook.com/SkagitBicycleClub>