





Thank you all very much for the lovely retirement card and gift. I appreciate it very much and will put it to good use on the trip. See you all when I get back.

Whit at the Peace Arch starting his bucket list dream. Boarder to Boarder. Wed. he did a trial run with Gary from Blaine and returned home before starting out on Friday for his big adventure. Submitted by Cheryl Minor

### **TOTAL RETRO WEEKEND!** By Ken Rasmussen

The Skagit Bicycle Club Sixth Annual Retro Ride and the Pickford Film Center's Bike In Show and Shine accidentally occurred on the same weekend this year. The Show and Shine was on Friday evening, August 17th, which was also the first day of RSVP (Ride from Seattle to Vancouver and Party).

Kathea and I went up to Bellingham for the Show and Shine. They had a display of bikes with awards in three categories, a very good band named Smokewagon, a beer garden, and a movie "Stop Making Sense" with the Talking Heads, was projected outdoors after dark, so there was quite a bit of dancing off to the sides while the movie was playing.

Bicycles were judged in three categories: Best Custom Bicycle, Best Vintage Bicycle, and Best Decorated Bicycle. Last year Kathea won in the Vintage category with her 1953 Rudge three speed. I came in second with my 1973 Schwinn Paramount Track bike. This year, against much stiffer competition, Kathea showed my wooden Renovo and won in the Custom category. (Second place went to a Calfee tandem weighing nearly nothing, and costing \$20,000. We beat that!) I showed my 1976 Strawberry (I built the frame when I worked at Strawberry Racing Cycles in Portland) and won in the Vintage category. We could scarcely have been more successful. One of the judges came up to me afterwards and was complimenting me upon my taste in bicycles. It must have been nearly identical to his for us to win so consistently. Several hundred people attended the event. I met a lot of cyclists and collectors that I'd never met before, as well as many others that I had met. There were some fantastic bicycles on display.

Retro Ride Continued on page 2

### **KEEPING THE TOMMY THOMPSON TRAIL "SHELL FREE"!**

The many users (bicycle and pedestrian) of the Tommy Thompson Trail have noticed a big reduction in seashells dropped by seagulls, remaining for long on the trail. We owe a big "THANK YOU" to not only the dedicated and hardworking Anacortes Parks and Recreation Staff, but the Skagit Bicycle Club volunteers who sweep additional days. These volunteers are organized by Marcia Hunt and include: Roy Pringle; Tony Pestarino, and Kent Stelby. If you would like to join their efforts, Please contact Marcia Hunt- 360-293-0983 THANK YOU ALL!

Steve & Dian Jahn Skagit Bicycle Club Members



Okay, August is a crazy month! We have prime riding weather upon us, work, vacations and only 31 days. I vote August should be 45 days long!

Mark your calendars, SBC Annual Meeting, October 17th, 6:00 PM, Sedro Woolley Senior Center.

Bill Thayer will be cooking Mexican dinner. Okay, ordering Mexican dinner. So please let Bill know if you will be coming, 757-2679 or e-mail bhthayer@frontier.com in order to have enough food.

If you have suggestions on club donations for this year email me the info or give me a call, jimf@wabulb.com or 424-8511.

I have said before, this is your bicycle club. We still need a few good people to step up and volunteer. We need a ride coordinator, VP and President. Thank you to those who have stepped up and for you on the fence, it is time to take the leap. Jump on in and volunteer. You will find it fun and rewarding.

Our Keynote speaker will be Mike McQuaide. Mike is the local author of 75 Classic Rides – Washington. This book has maps and que sheets you can print and take on your ride, it's really great. We even have a photo in the book from the Darrington Loop by our own Scott Rittscher.

Mike has ridden all of the rides in his book and offers good insight to each route. He has written 5 guidebooks on trail running, hiking and travel. He is also a frequent contributor to the Seattle Times Outdoor section and was an award winning features writer with the Bellingham Herald.

There will also be a slide show or two, of trips by other members during social hour. Hope to see you there.

Ride Sa fe....Jim Finch

Retro Ride Continued from page 1

The Retro Ride started at the Skagit County Historical Museum in La Conner on Sunday, August 19th. The weather was threatening rain, which suppressed the attendance a little, but we didn't actually get any rain. The weather turned out to be very comfortable, and absolutely windless—perfect for cycling.

In spite of the threatening skies, we had an enthusiastic turnout. Bikes were venerable, crusty, exquisite, or sometimes all three at once. Last year Marshall Will tried to judge the bikes, but had difficulty because the bikes were so diverse that no standards could be made to apply fairly to the field of entries. I thought about that, and this year we issued three beans to each participant or spectator. White beans could be used to vote for the Most Wonderful Bike. The meaning of the word "wonderful" could be interpreted in any subjective manner that the voter preferred. Black beans were used to vote for the Most Wonderful Costume. Pinto beans were used to vote for the Most Wonderful Overall Effect. I was a little concerned because I was afraid that most of the exhibitors would get no beans, thereby restimulating childhood memories of being the last one picked when choosing teams. I pointed out that this was really not like picking teams in elementary school nearly so much as it was like contemporary economic reality, in which a tiny percentage of the very wealthy get all of the beans, leaving the rest of us feeling depressed, almost like being the last one picked to be on a team in elementary school. That cheered everyone up, I think.

Honorable mentions went to Bill Pfeffer with his Falcon, John Kamp with his '50s Schwinn Cruiser, Jeff Rombold with his '73 Colnago and his '80 Alpina, and to me with my '73 Schwinn Paramount Track bike. Alex Moll of Marysville won in the Most Wonderful Bike category with his R.O. Harrison bicycle. Jennifer Brown of Arlington, with her formal dress/leather aviator helmet ensemble won in the Most Wonderful Costume category. The Most Wonderful Overall Effect category was won by John Bolton of Bellingham with his impeccably restored Bartali bicycle and matching wool Bartali jersey and shorts. A particularly nice touch was the button up neck on the jersey, instead of a zipper-true retro style, that! The only way to get the jersey was to belong to the Italian racing team that John belongs to. He's the only American on the team. Good job John!

The awards were a hoot. I'd been busily saving odd stuff for a year, and the prizes were very peculiar. There was a skull and crossbones flag that plugged into the end of a handlebar, a clip on card for buzzing against one's spokes, a taillight shaped like a rocket ship, a cycling murder mystery series, a derailleur adjusting sledge hammer, a couple of cycling novels, some brass bric a brac, old cycling trophies, and my personal favorite: Three consecutive issues of "Reid Fleming, World's Toughest Milkman" comic book. Please donate your unwanted stuff for next year's awards!

I was almost dreading the two hour out-and-back ride because I was on my track bike with an 88 inch fixed gear and super low track racing bars. It was a combination that was assured to cause me problems while climbing, descending, and riding on the flats. As it turned out the bike felt fine. It seemed to go fast whenever I wanted it to, and I enjoyed the position and the gear. I noticed that the fixed gear was better for climbing because momentum carries the cranks past the dead spot in the pedaling cycle. I hadn't known that before. The old inch pitch gear system felt very smooth and efficient.

We concluded with a great lunch at the La Conner Pub Tavern. There were lots of great stories and new friendships by the time we were done. I just wish I could have sat down by all of the tables and visited with everyone.

Our thanks go to the Skagit County Historical Museum for their hospitality. They waived their usual (very reasonable) fee for riders who wanted to tour the museum. They had quite a nice exhibit on the three Murrow brothers (one of whom was Edward R. Murrow) of Blanchard, that I found particularly interesting.

# "Duarte -- Serialized Cycling Fiction, Part Twelve By Hen Rasmussen

"This is your painting," said Duarte.

Emily looked at it. It wasn't what she had expected—she had asked for one of Duarte's concealed paintings, which this was not, but she could see that it was equally original. She gazed at it in silence for some minutes. Finally she spoke.

"This is mysterious," she said. "I understand how it was painted, but I can't see how you achieved the emotional effect." She held a hand over the lovers. "Even with the lovers obscured the mood is powerful. You've painted your emotions into the background of the picture."

"I developed the ability by doing my concealed paintings. In learning to keep my feelings out of the obvious part of the painting, and by putting triggers in the subliminal part, I learned how to work with emotion. What was difficult was getting up the courage to do it."

She took his hand in hers. "You've loved me for a long time haven't you?" she asked. Emily could feel his hand tremble.

"I've loved you ever since we met," he said, "but I never believed we would be lovers."

"Why not?" asked Emily.

"I'm old and damaged, and you're young and beautiful. You can easily do better. Why would you want me?"

Emily saw the painting through a mist of tears. "Duarte, you're everything I want in a man." She turned and burrowed her head into his chest. "This painting is the most beautiful thing anyone has ever given me," she mumbled into his shirt.

Duarte held her, and felt tears forming in his eyes. He stood there, with head upraised, and allowed his tears to flow. He wished the moment would never end.

\* \* \*

He kissed me! Emily said happily to herself. It took us a long time to get around to it, but it was good when we did. I doubt if he's older than Dimitri, it's just the white hair and his playacting. It all vanishes when he's on his bike. I'll bet he's in his forties.

I wonder why he guards himself so carefully? He's awfully soft when he comes out of his shell. I like that.

\* \* \*

She kissed me! Duarte said happily to himself. I didn't think she would want me, but she does! She must be in her late twenties. I'm nearly twenty years older. If she doesn't mind neither do I.

Gigi took a glass of champagne from the white haired man who was serving the drinks. She noticed that the roots of his hair were dark, and wondered why he'd dyed it. She felt his admiring gaze and preened self-consciously. He wasn't as old as he seemed. She wondered if Emily was here. She strolled around the gallery and studied the paintings. Here was one, a nude posed in front of a mirror, painting herself. It was Emily! She admired the picture. Emily's figure wasn't as good as hers, she thought with satisfaction, but she was nice looking for a slender woman. She looked critically at the painting. It was very good. Having her picture painted by Emily would be a good thing. Was she here? She ought to be, it was the opening night of her show.

"Giqi!"

Gigi turned. "Emily!"

They embraced.

"You came to my show!" said Emily.

"Yes, I want to see your work, to see if I want you to paint me. It is very good. I want you to paint me like this," she pointed to Emily's nude.

"It will be a beautiful painting," said Emily. "Then everyone can come to see you at a show like this."

"Yes," said Gigi, nodding. "Yes, I would like that."

"Emily!"

"Dimitri!"

Emily embraced him. "I see you brought your 'assistant' with you. I thought you might. Good job!"

"You're not upset with me?"

"I got over it. I'm happy for you both. I'm going to paint Gigi. She's very beautiful."

"I'm glad you're not upset. It will be good for Gigi to have a friend here. She doesn't know anyone yet."

"How do you like the show?"

"This is very nice. I've already bought several of your paintings from Duarte, and I'll put them in my show. I notice that he's got a new painting on display, a sort of reprise of the moonlight painting I got from him a few months ago. A very powerful work. I wanted to buy it, but he said you'd already acquired it. You have a knack for getting there first. I suppose I'll have to pay your price again on this one."

"That painting," said Emily, "is absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably unavailable forever. Forget it."

"Well if you change your mind. . ."

"When pigs fly," said Emily. "Further efforts to get that painting will be unproductive and will create a strain between us."

"OK," said Dimitri. "You've been sufficiently clear."

Duarte: Continued on page 5



### September 1

It is the third and last day of a "series of 50s". We'll meet at the Conway Red Barn at 9 AM, head to Bryant then get on the Centennial Trail and ride until we reach 25 miles then head back. Depending on how we feel at the turnaround we may continue further. Jennifer McCoy, 336-2528.

### September 16

Ice cream ride to LaConner

Meet at 2:00 pm at RLH for approx. 20 mile ride from Fir Island to LaConner. (Ride from home for more miles) We'll stop for ice cream either in LaConner or at Snow Goose Produce.

Jeannette Folkertsma 360 445 5924

### San Juan Island Ride--July 24, 2012

Submitted by Cindy McGuiness & Jeannette Folkertsma

What a fun day with some unique memories. 13 riders enjoyed a nice summer day on San Juan Island. Club member Phil Smoots took a vehicle and had his cousins along. They regaled us with stories of growing up on the island. We found out that several roads there are named after his family. Upon arrival, we split into 3 groups, Janice Lisherness and Linda White; Kari Barrett along with the Arnolds and tandem riders, the Testermans and the DeJongs; and the "dead end sisters", Cindy McGuiness & Jeannette F. riding with Whit Whitford & Jennifer McCoy. Whit's friend John Stimpson, who lives in Friday Harbor came along as our personal guide exploring the back roads and dead ends on the east and north sides of the island.

Rouleau Road (French for roll) brought us to little known Reuben Tarte County Park. Dead ends on islands usually come with steep descents, but our brakes held up. We found a nice rocky beach and a big rock bluff with great views of the water there. We also had a lengthy debate about some scat we saw. It had fur and cherry pits in it. So....was it a fox that ate a rabbit that ate cherries with pits? The debate continues. We had to push our bikes up the hill to get back to the main road. We rode around Neil Bay to Davison Head and followed Afterglow Drive coming into Roche Harbor through the back door on a neat wooded trail. We found the rest of the riders enjoying lunch there. Afterwards, we stopped by the tasting room at San Juan Island Distillery. We were offered samples of ciders and apple brandy as well as gin that sold for \$110 a bottle. Resumed the ride feeling a bit light headed to explore more roads around White Point Peninsula and Wescott Bay. Returned on Roche Harbor Road to Friday Harbor and took a spin around Pear Point with a sudden stop to check out 2 life-sized elephants (on castors). Now we can say that we walked our bikes under an el-





# Marblemount to Mazama Ride By Jane Monroe

Many thanks to Jamie Wells who has continued to honor Janis Selvig by organizing another Marblemount to Mazama Ride. Saturday, August 4, 2012, was a beautiful day in our amazing North Cascade National Park. It was a little hotter than the riders would have chosen, making it a very challenging bicycle ride.

In 1993 Janis was our club president. She was injured in a collision with a pickup truck and remains at a Sedro-Woolley care facility, greatly impaired from that accident. Jan was an inspiration to many and was instrumental in organizing our club since the very first meeting in 1989. It was her idea to take the trip over Washington Pass in 1990, making this our 23rd annual event. Sometimes hard-core participants choose to start from home and as far away as Sedro-Woolley. Jan was the first to ride the return trip the next day from Winthrop to Colonial Creek. The plan is to return by car after dinner and overnight.

This years event consisted of 11 strong male bicyclists: Jamie Wells, Gary Minor, Marshall Will, Shaun Bridge, Jack McTaggart, John Stevens, Ken Rasmussen, Jim Finch, Colby Plagge, Brian Dowling and Dave Mazarella. SAG drivers Jean Sattler-Will, Cheryl Minor and Jane Monroe (all having experienced participation by bike in past years).

Now is the time to set goals for next year. Let's have the number of women on bikes equal the number of men in 2013. We don't have to be fast! I'm in.....!

Thanks Jamie and thanks Janis.



Duarte: Continued from page 3

You can get it if you really want You can get it if you really want You can get it if you really want But you must try, try and try, try and try

Emily and Duarte slumped in happy companionship at the gallery bar, and listened to the Jimmy Cliff tune blaring from the sound system.

"I've never heard you play anything but Muzak on this before," she said. "I like the reggae at high volume much better."

"Me too," said Duarte, "but Muzak makes the cows give more milk."

"We've gotta keep the cows happy," said Emily.

"We had a stampede tonight," said Duarte. "Most of your paintings have sold already. I expect that you'll probably get some commissions before the show is over."

"I never expected this much success this soon," said Emily. "I thought artists were supposed to suffer."

"You got lucky when you met me," said Duarte, "although I was even luckier when I met you." He slid his hand over hers. Emily slid closer and leaned against him contentedly.

"Our century is next weekend. How's your conditioning?" he asked.

"I rode for ten days in the Dolomites. I've never spent so much time in low gear. I spent hours standing on the pedals. That's the only drawback of the new bike—it's not geared for long steep climbs, although it works if I'm determined enough. I'm in great shape for grinding. I don't know about speed though."

"We'll do fine. So you spent ten days in the Dolomites. What became of Dimitri?"

"I was getting ready to tell him he was history, but I was saved from the inconvenience by the timely intervention of Gigi."

"Was Gigi the sexy woman who was strolling through the gallery this evening distracting everyone?"

"That's her. I've arranged to paint her nude."

"I'd like to watch."

"You can't. You belong to me."

"Ah!" he said. "All right then."

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
S, E,	P <sub>3</sub> T <sub>4</sub> E	M <sub>3</sub> B <sub>3</sub> 2 <sub>3</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	E, R, 1, 2,	RR Road Ride  MB 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 Strenuos 20+ mph  If weather is questionable call the ride leader	9:00 AM M/RR Conway Red Barn to Centennial Trail Jennifer Mc Coy 360 336 2528	2
10:00am MRR March Point Park & Ride Steve Jahns 360 293 1340	Board Meeting Jim Finch 360 770 5915 WA FED Bank Burlington 6:00 pm M/RR Sweet Cakes Velo Sports Arlington Marcus 360 629 6415	5:30 pm Edison Elementary School Long/Med Routes Jim Finch 360 770 5951 Short Route Kathea Rasmussen 360 766 8720	10:00am Joyride S/RR Edison Elementary School Cindy McGuiness 360 428 1816	9:00AM MRR Conway Red Barn Jean Sattler/Will 360 629 4597	10:00 AM Conway Red Barn Ramble Bill Thayer 360 757 2679	9
10:00am MRR March Point Park & Ride Gordon Odegaard 360 421 0573	6:00 pm =M/RR Sweet Cakes Velo Sports Arling- ton Marcus 360 629 6415	5:30 pm Edison Elementary School Long/Med Routes Bill Thayer 360757 2679 Short Route Jane Monroe 360 424 4619	10:00am Joyride S/RR Edison Elementary School Cindy McGuiness 360 428 1816	14	10:00 B/RR Washington School Mount Vernon Jim Finch 360 770 5951	2:00PM RLH M/RR LaConner Ice Cream Jeanette Folkertma 360 445 5924
10:00am MRR March Point Park & Ride Steve Jahns 360 293 1340	6:00 pm M/RR Sweet Cakes Velo Sports Arling- ton Marcus 360 629 5811	5:30 pm Edison Elementary School Long/Med Routes Marshall Will 360 929 5003 Short Route Kathea Rasmussen 360 766 8720	10:00am Joyride S/RR Edison Elementary School Gordon Odegaard 360 421 0573	NEWSLETTER PEAPLINE	10:00AM Bridge Sweep & Ride M/RR Bill Woyski 360 293 9520	12:00 M/RR RLH-Burlington Rose Ploeg 360 202 1716
10:00am MRR March Point Park & Ride Gordon Odegaard 360 421 0573	6:00 pm M/RR Sweet Cakes Velo Sports Arlington Marcus 360 629 5811	5:30 pm Edison Elementary School Long/Med Routes Gary Minor 360 424 3567 Short Route Kathea Rasmussen 360 766 8720	10:00am <b>27</b> Joyride S/RR Edison Elementary School Gary & Cheryl Minor 360 424 3567	28	10:00 B/RR Washington School Mount Vernon Jim Finch 360 770 5951	12:00 M/RR RLH-Burlington Rose Ploeg 360 202 1716

### **Board Briefs**

### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 7, 2012

Present: Jim Finch, Marshall & Jean Will, Gordon Odegaard, Dan Sandstrom.

Colby Plagge, Shaun Bridge, Justin Dahl, Steve Jahn, Jill Langley, and Marci Maulden

Welcome to new members Bob & Nancy Snead from Sammamish, Sue Dervin from Mount Vernon, Douglas Mc-Claughry from Mount Vernon, Paul Korneliussen from Mount Vernon, Chris Schaffner from Mount Vernon, and Dan Mattson from Arlington.

#### Old Business:

Jim Finch reported for the 2013 SBC Board Nomination Committee. Colby Plagge and Shaun Bridge will be nominated for board positions. We still need nominees for Bridge Sweep Coordinator, Ride Coordinator, and Vice-President. If Jamie Wells wants to give up the position as the Spring Classic Coordinator, Jill Langley and Marshall Will have volunteered to co-lead that effort.

There was discussion about the attendance of Wednesday evening rides and whether there was a downward trend. It was noted that with the regular offerings of rides on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, that perhaps not as many bikers find it necessary to ride Wednesday evenings. In any event, Jill and Marshall will put together a survey for the club to review needs and wants for rides.

A motion was made and passed to pledge \$100 to Skagit County Parks if they are awarded a grant to pave the county's portion of the highway 20 trail.

Jim was approached by Liz McNett Crowl as to whether the Skagit Bicycle Club would be interested in maintaining a proposed park at the McLean Road Roundabout. Jim responded that we could be interested with more information as to what this entails.

Steve Jahn reported that the county is not willing to work with the Active Community Taskforce (ACT), on how they chip seal roads designated as regional bike routes on Skagit County Bike Maps. The county said they had other priorities.

### New Business:

The Annual Banquet will be held on October 17 and author Mike McQuade will be the featured speaker. Mike wrote 75 Classic Rides Washington. The venue for the Annual Banquet is not firmed up yet. The Christmas Party will be held December 2 at Skagit Valley Gardens.

Marshall is working with Bridgette Rittscher for a design on a ride leaders award jersey. The intent is to also make this jersey available for purchase without the ride leader logo. Respectfully submitted by Marci Maulden

## **Club Information**

### Skagit Bicycle Club Officers & Board President

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Saddle-Post Intelligencer Published by The Skagit Bicycle Club Editor Rose Ploeg dutchpedaler@yahoo.com See Ride Calendar for Deadlines **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

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Skagit Bicycle Club P.O. Box 363 Burlington WA 98233

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