

# Chainwheel Chatter

The Monthly newsletter of B.I.K.E.S. Club of Snohomish County

Your Snohomish County Cycling Club

[Next B.I.K.E.S. Club meeting is March 11th @ 7:00 pm](#)

## Prez Sez

March 2021

### March BIKES Club Activities

Spring officially kicks in on March 20<sup>th</sup> when the day is as long as the night. The days this month are getting longer faster than any other time of the year. There might be a final winter weather blast before the feel of spring sticks around for the season. March usually brings some good bike riding days too.

There are BIKES Club rides scheduled through March on the [Calendar](#), plus more rides on short notice when Ride Leaders see a good weather opportunity. Rides can also be cancelled when weather conditions are forecast to be sufficiently foul. The determination of how "foul" the weather is varies among Ride Leaders and which forecasts they think may be accurate. Keep up with ride changes by subscribing to [Ride Updates](#).

### A Few Changes:

Changes in the COVID-19 requirements of Washington state has caused changes in our club.

- BIKES Club has increased the club limit from 5 to 8 maximum riders per group including the Ride Leader.
- Each ride description will specify the maximum number of riders for that ride.
- BIKES Club rides remain temporarily for BIKES Club members only.
- Rides on the website Calendar page will be visible for the public to see our activities and perhaps join.

**All rides require online registration as described in the ride posting on the website Calendar page.**

We all need to continue our vigilance in maintaining good social distancing of 6 feet or more between each other with all activities until further notice. The primary social contact opportunities during a bike ride are check-in, traffic stops, and rest stops where social distancing of at least 6 feet is needed. Social distancing during a ride is easy when at least three (3) bike lengths of open space between bikes is maintained.

### Next BIKES Club Meeting

BIKES Club has monthly club meetings for members on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from September to May. No meetings in the summer or December.

The next BIKES Club meeting is set for 7 PM March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will be via Zoom due to COVID-19. BIKES Club members will be e-mailed the agenda and Zoom meeting details.

Stay well and have a great ride!

Rick Proctor  
President, BIKES Club of Snohomish County  
[BikeHound@comcast.net](mailto:BikeHound@comcast.net)

**MARCH 2021**  
**VOL. 499**

## RIDE GUIDE

### PACE

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| <b>Easy</b>      | under 10 mph |
| <b>Social</b>    | 10–12 mph    |
| <b>Steady</b>    | 12-14 mph    |
| <b>Moderate</b>  | 14-16 mph    |
| <b>Brisk</b>     | 16-18 mph    |
| <b>Strenuous</b> | > 18 mph     |

### TERRAIN

**"A" Mostly flat:** Flat or gentle grades only (trails, Norman Rd)

**"B" Rolling:** Most climbs are short and easy (Granite Falls, Kitsap)

**"C" Hills:** Frequent steep-er and/or longer hills (Whidbey Island)

**"D" Difficult:** Many hills, long, steep grades (RAMROD, Mt. pass)

*Pace is based on speed on flat ground. Contact the Ride Leader if you are unsure whether a ride is right for you.*

## Pedal Pushers

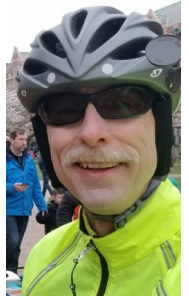
B.I.K.E.S. partners with the Lynnwood Senior Center to welcome and encourage older adults to bicycling. Bring your bike if you like and we'll do minor fit and safety checks. **Lynnwood Senior Center** Wednesdays. See the [Rides calendar](#) for details.

Opportunities

Rick Proctor

When I retired from work in 2014, I saw enormous opportunities to pursue hobbies. After several months I realized I missed some of the social interactions that came with a career of engineering and project management in the aerospace industry. Bicycling is my main hobby, and I felt a need for some positive social interaction associated with my hobby. I tried a couple of senior centers which left me feeling like I did not fit in. Cindy and I were members of a regional bike club, but their rides were huge and not nearby. I began a search for a bicycle club with local recreational rides that Cindy and I could participate in.

Our first BIKES Club ride was on a Tuesday about 6 years ago on a social paced recreational bike ride that ended with a coffee stop at the French Bakery – all within local riding distance from home. We were hooked and joined BIKES the same day. The local ride route and the after-ride coffee stop with opportunities to chat was what we were looking for. I soon became a Ride Leader which served to further set the hook.



After a few years, another opportunity came up to become president of the club. Over the next year and a half several club improvements were made, and a plan was being formed to replicate the rapidly growing “Tuesday” experience for other ride start days and locations to help grow club membership after the 2020 McClinchy Mile season. Then COVID-19 showed up to rearrange everything.

The COVID situation triggered the need for a BIKES Club survival strategy. Growth would have to wait. After a couple of months of lockdown where no club rides were allowed, BIKES Club started small group members-only club rides in June 2020 with new rules to meet government regulations and recommendations regarding COVID-19. Our daily rides program has been successful, but bike tours and the McClinchy Mile event for 2020 and 2021 have been cancelled. Keeping up with the changes in government regulations and recommendations, and what that means for the club, has provided new challenges to being a club president. Somehow, out of the chaos and turmoil of 2020 emerged the online registration process, thanks to the forward thinking of a few dedicated and knowledgeable club members.

Bicycling everywhere has grown tremendously over the past year because of the COVID situation. Bike shops worldwide sold out of new bikes and have trouble getting more to meet demand. Old bikes are being refurbished into riding condition. BIKES members already know it’s fun and interesting to explore our Pacific North West region by bike. It’s likely many of those new and returning riders will want to join a bicycle club like ours as the COVID situation eases up, perhaps more than would otherwise occur.

Every bicycle club has a culture. What is the BIKES Club culture? Organizational cultures vary due to different people and different infrastructures. I see the BIKES Club culture as a group of friendly people who like a variety of recreational bike rides and our key chunk of infrastructure is our website with the online registration process. We also track Rider Miles and have a monthly Chainwheel Chatter newsletter e-mailed to members. These are user-friendly competitive advantages that can be leveraged as elements of a growth strategy as we come out of the COVID crisis. We have new opportunities before us. Do you want a role in the growth plan?

**B.I.K.E.S.-Membership** P.O. Box 5242, Everett WA 98206

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

|                   |                                 |                   |                          |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Membership</b> | <b>\$25 Annual (INDIVIDUAL)</b> | <b>New Member</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>DUES</b>       | <b>\$35 Annually (FAMILY)</b>   | <b>Renewal</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Member benefits:** 10% discount at local bike shops with your member card (see website for list), low-cost bike box and trailer rentals, Frequent Rider Club, monthly newsletter, social and advocacy activities.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE!

Editors Note: In the spirit of community I am including in this month's newsletter the following update from Sharing Wheels.



### **Parking Lot Sale at the Shop ...**

We're starting our spring cleaning early this year and have lots of bikes (adult and kid), parts, and accessories priced low and ready to sell. Join us on **Saturday, March 20th, noon-4pm** in our parking lot. Our inventory is growing and taking up too much room in our shop so everything will be priced to move. Don't miss out!!

**Note:** Although this event is outdoors and well-spaced, we will still abide by all COVID restrictions currently in place on the day of the event.

### **Can You Fix Your Own Bike?**

Getting your bike fixed in a shop these days is a challenge and can take multiple weeks. Let us teach you the basics so you can manage your own minor repairs. Our [Basic Bike Maintenance Classes](#) are limited to 3 students and taught by our Instructor (Bruce McLachlin) who promotes hands-on learning in a friendly and safe environment. Next class is [Wednesday, March 10, 6-9pm](#). Bring your own bike or practice on one of ours.

### **WE GOT PICKED...**

Please help [Sno Isle Food Coop](#) help Us in the month of March. Every month our local Sno Isle Coop "gives back" to another local non-profit by asking customers to round up their purchase to the nearest dollar in support of the chosen non-profit. All round ups during March will be donated directly to Sharing Wheels!  
[Follow us on Facebook](#) or check out our [website](#) to see the latest Sharing Wheels news.

**BIKES Club of Snohomish County****February Minutes****February 11, 2021**

**Note:** This meeting was held online via Zoom.

**In attendance:** Rick Proctor, Debby Grant, Drew Ellision, Jack Willis, Bill Weber, Mitch Pico, Kristin Kinnamon, Cindy Proctor, John Carlin, Viv Biesiedzinski, Lou Rivetti, Dan Scott, Mike Dahlstrom.

**Budget/financials:** Debby went over the balance sheet. January incurred more expenses due to club insurance renewal which is coupled to the club's membership in League of American Bicyclists. Insurance for directors and officers is part of this. Yearly web renewal, and storage locker rental are additional expenses in January. The budget showed a negative balance due to monies being held in reserve per club rules.

Total Assets: \$13,393.30

Total Liabilities: \$13,985.00

Net Available Cash on Hand: -\$591.70

**WA state COVID-19 conditions:** Last month the club decided to continue with the 5 rider registration limit for club rides. The state guideline changes do allow for up to 10 riders. Discussion ensued about making this change. After much discussion Debby stated that she would check into the Wild Apricot system on the feasibility of letting ride leaders set their number of riders based on their comfort up to the state limit.

**BIKES website updates:**

**Calendar ride visibility.** Debby brought up the idea of setting the rides calendar as visible to the public (it's currently only visible to members who are logged in) as a way of promoting the club. It was decided to make rides visible to all going forward. Ride leaders will select visible to 'public' instead of 'restricted' when setting up their rides. However, only club members can register for these rides at this time.

**Online registration for non-members.** Discussion ensued, no changes at this time. Non-members cannot register for our rides at this time. Debby will look into the capability for non-members to register for a ride just like members do now. This would provide one standard paper-less process for adults for all rides.

**Community Stuff** is the new heading for the former Members Forum under Community on the website. This can be subscribed to in the same manner as Ride updates, so that members can receive email notifications in a timely manner.

**Events for 2021:** The BIKES club picnic tentative date is August 14th.

**Elections:** Club officer nominations need to be in place by the April club meeting, with the election of officers and board members following in May. No volunteers made themselves known for the nominating committee. Rick and Debby urged folks to get involved, especially those who haven't done so before. In particular a vice president candidate is needed, both for that office and continuing on as president in the future.

**Trail news:** Rick showed an **East Side Trail** map, which shows the work timetable for various sections in King county. The main trunk follows the old dinner train route on the east side of Lake Washington. Snohomish County parks is working on plans to tie this together with the Centennial Trail.

**Palouse to Cascades Trail:** Rick shared a video flyover of this cross state unpaved rail trail, and mentioned the progress on fixing two important bridges, one of which will provide a safe way of crossing the Columbia River south of Vantage.

**Advocacy:** Lou asked about lobbying at the state legislature. Interested parties should check the Washington Bikes website for information.

**Next meeting:** March 11, 2021 at 7 pm (online via Zoom).

**B.I.K.E.S. CLUB MEMBER RIDER MILES**

|           |            |     |         |               |    |
|-----------|------------|-----|---------|---------------|----|
| Dan       | Scott      | 338 | Leslie  | Strickland    | 52 |
| Rick      | Proctor    | 280 | Fred    | Koch          | 50 |
| Debbie    | Kawamoto   | 217 | Fred    | Norouzi       | 50 |
| Lou       | Rivetti    | 210 | Rick    | Dermody       | 46 |
| Brian     | Elmore     | 203 | Hilary  | Heath         | 45 |
| Earl      | Bardin     | 197 | Cindy   | Proctor       | 45 |
| Steve     | Linari     | 181 | John    | Deninno       | 28 |
| Christine | Tweedy     | 181 | Ji      | Kim           | 28 |
| Bill      | Paul       | 165 | Jack    | Willis        | 28 |
| Paul      | Vermeulen  | 165 | Dale    | Iverson       | 27 |
| Cheryl    | Walchli    | 164 | Mitch   | Pico          | 26 |
| Adrienne  | Dorf       | 137 | Tim     | Wise          | 25 |
| Bob       | Nyberg     | 136 | Alison  | Ahlgrim       | 24 |
| Drew      | Ellison    | 125 | Bob     | Pahlman       | 23 |
| Cheryl    | Funkhouser | 124 | Jim     | Stewart       | 22 |
| Pidge     | Hopper     | 120 | Bob     | Biesiedzinski | 18 |
| Linda     | Thiem      | 120 | Viv     | Biesiedzinski | 18 |
| Debby     | Grant      | 94  | Kristin | Kinnamon      | 18 |
| Elaine    | Scott      | 90  | Kristin | Knodell       | 18 |



**How are BIKES Club Rider Miles Calculated?**

Are you tracking your miles for the year? So are we - but only on official club rides. What qualifies for B.I.K.E.S. Rider Miles? Club rider miles are only counted for those rides and tours that are posted in the newsletter and website ride calendar or on the Ride Updates page. The idea is that club miles apply on rides where club members were notified in advance.

# Ride Pictures from the B.I.K.E.S. Club Members!



February had many great club rides where everyone stayed safe! Thank you to all who posted photos of what we love to do...  
RIDE OUR B.I.K.E.S.!

If you would like to see your pictures in the newsletter you can send them directly to [editor@bikesclub.org](mailto:editor@bikesclub.org) or post them on the [BIKES Club Facebook Page!](#)

## Facebook!

Club members -- join [BIKES' Facebook group](#). We've set the page up to share photos, ride reviews, bike or travel discussions, etc. Thanks to Dan Scott for managing our page, and to the many members who contribute interesting posts.



[Check the Road Condition Before You Go!](#)

[Snohomish County Roads Central Updates](#)

[WSDOT Weekly Snohomish County Roads Weekly Update](#)

