



2015 UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

With the new year and subsequent Board and Officer elections, plans are afoot to develop a fun and interesting year for our members. However we invite you to join with us in planning.

At the January 7 meeting of the 2015 Board of Directors, new officers were elected and committee chairs were named. Gary Shaff continues as President, Viki Brown changes her position to Secretary, and newcomer Dominic Barth is taking over as Treasurer. Matt Walker is heading the Membership Committee and Tom Ryan volunteered to lead the Social Events Committee. A complete list of these positions as well as ride captains is on page 8.

Contact information is listed, and we encourage all members to be in touch with Club leaders to express your thoughts about how our Club is doing and what we can do to better reflect your wishes. On that note, I repeat myself in encouraging you to complete the questionnaire which will be emailed to all Club members in mid February. We have been working closely with the SOU Applied Business Research team and will finalize the questionnaire at our February 4 Board meeting. The subsequent survey will serve to shape future Club direction and policy and help the Club respond to member concerns and opinions,

The next Membership Meeting is on Feb 11 at 6:00 at 2Hawks Winery at 2335 North Phoenix Rd. This will be fun and different, with 4 of our members speaking about their recent negative experiences (aka crashes) on the bike. On a lighter note, bring your favorite bicycle tool for a Show & Tell. 2Hawks serves excellent wines, beer and food and are eager to host us. We'll socialize for the first half hour, listening to guitar music by Tom Ryan, and then we'll start the meeting at 6:30.

Organized rides and Club social events are looming in the Spring, so be sure to take a look at Upcoming Events on page 4 for things you'll want to put on your calendar. One is the Family Fun Ride series that the Velo Club is sponsoring with RVTD. We would love to get lots of family involvement in these. Also Phil Gagnon has scheduled three introductory 1-night tours.

On a similar note, we have had 13 different members lead 28 rides in January! Well done! Stay warm, stay dry and keep riding!

NEXT VELO CLUB BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, February 4, 6:00 p.m.

Walkabout Brewery

921 Mason Way, Medford

All Club members are welcome

For minutes of previous meetings, contact the Secretary at coyotexing@gmail.com

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

Please, members, take a moment to update your profile on the Velo website: siskiyouvelo.org.

Once you have logged on, click on your *Member Profile* in the upper right corner and make sure that your information is correct. If you have changed your email address without notifying us, you will not receive a reminder to renew your membership (alas, we will lose you), and you will no longer get the reminders of newly published newsletters or Googlegroups notices of upcoming rides. If you change your email address, we will automatically change it in the Googlegroups database.

Also, under *Additional Information*, please complete the age data., as it is the same as when you first joined, No, we won't notify your friends, but we will use it in our demographic data when we get the survey results.

If you're new to the website, explore around and see what you think. Let us know. And don't forget our Facebook page.

RULES OF THE OREGON ROAD

A bicyclist is passing a slow-walking pedestrian within a crosswalk. Is the bicyclist required to give the person walking an audible signal that she is about to pass on the left?

YES !

The bicyclist is required to give an audible warning before overtaking and passing a pedestrian..."

OR 814.410(1)(b)

—Thomas & Coon
Attorneys

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THINGS THAT GO BUMP: Stories & Lessons

SHOW & TELL: Members' Favorite Bike Tools

2Hawk Winery

2335 N. Phoenix Rd., Medford

Wednesday, February 11 6:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 4 | Board Meeting | Walkabout Brewery, Medford | president@siskiyouvelo.org |
| 11 | Membership Meeting | 2Hawk Winery, Phoenix | president@siskiyouvelo.org |

March

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 18 | Scenic Bikeway Workshop | The Grove, Ashland | Travel Oregon |
|----|-------------------------|--------------------|---|

April

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| 18 | Community Bike Swap | The Grove, Ashland | lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us |
| 26 | Chico Wildflower | Chico, CA | http://www.chicovelo.org/ |

May

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | Applegate Lake Tour | Ruch | star@mind.net |
| 9 | Tour of the Unknown Coast | Ferndale | tuccycle.org/ |
| 16 | Family Fun Ride | Central Point | http://rvtd.org/ |
| 16 | Rogue River Tour | Medford | star@mind.net |
| 21 | Mohawk Valley Metric Century | Eugene | www.mohawkvalley100k.org |

-denotes a Velo Club event -all Club events for the coming month are highlighted elsewhere in this issue

Ride, Party, Ride, Party

Hello fellow Velos,

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Tom Ryan and I am the new director of social events for the Club. A lot of you know me from group rides. Those who don't know me, I hope we can meet through some of the upcoming events that the club will be putting on throughout the year.

It is my intention to try to bring events to the club that will inspire a lot of you to participate. After all, we are a social organization. As much as we all love to ride our bicycles, there are ways to have fun that do not involve going down the road on two or three wheels.

I would like to draw on some of the ideas of my predecessors and bring in ideas that I have that I would like to see the club do. I have presented a proposal of events for the year to the Board. We will go over these ideas during our monthly Board meetings to see which ideas we can bring forth as actual events. Some of these things will keep with traditions such as the ice cream social and an overnight camping trip where we can all enjoy rides and socializing by the campfire at the end of the day.

One of the ideas behind this letter is to open it up to all of you to put out any ideas as to what you would like to see happen this year. Some of you may have an idea for something that none of us has ever thought of before. Don't hesitate to let me know what you are thinking. You can respond by clicking [here](#).

Thank you for your time and enjoy riding and be safe out there.

Education & Training

The Club's education and training program is currently under development. If you have ideas of classes or courses that you'd like to see the Club offer, please share them. It is simple to do. Just click [here](#) to share your ideas. During the off season you may want to test your bicycling knowledge. Go to bikeed.org to take the test! You'll be surprised what you can learn.

Do you know what vehicles can legally stop or park in a bike lane? You might be surprised. Take a look at the pertinent statute: [ORS 811.560](http://ORS811.560).

3 New Adventures in May

If you wonder what a bicycle camping tour would be like, here's a way to find out. A bike overnight is a short bike tour where you start riding on one day, stop and stay the night somewhere and then ride back the following day.

Bike overnights can be camping trips or getaways to a local inn, hostel or B&B. For riders interested in touring but inexperienced or concerned about what touring requires, bike overnights are an easy way to test the waters before heading out on an extended adventure.

Siskiyou Velo offers three overnight tours in May. These will be self-sufficient which means you carry your own overnight stuff. Usually, having a rear rack with panniers is the most ideal solution. A tent as well as a sleeping bag is essential. Incidentally a 2-person tent can be purchased from Craigslist or from Campmor Inc. at prices under \$50. What to take and how to carry it--how to pitch your tent and take it down are aspects that will add to the adventure of an overnight tour.

May 1. Applegate Lake Tour. Start in Ruch and ride 16 miles to overnight at Hart Tish Park on Applegate Lake's shoreline.

May 16. Rogue River Tour. Start at Bear Creek Park in Medford and ride 24 miles to overnight at Valley of the Rogue State Park.

May 30. Ft. Klamath Tour. Start at Ft. Klamath and ride to Chiloquin for lunch and overnight at Collier Park. 16 miles.

For details on each tour, contact Phil Gagnon (star@mind.net)



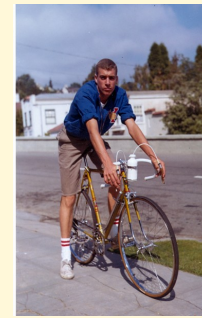
Crank It Up riders on January 24



John Bullock's 70th birthday ride on Jan 10. Congratulations!

Who are you?

John Bullock is the new ride leader for the VeloShip group. He also has just celebrated his 70th birthday by riding 70 miles.



←
Then



→
Now

How long have you lived in the Rogue Valley, and where did you come from? My wife and I moved to Ashland in 2005. We were teachers in Santa Barbara County for 30 years and retired to the Scott Valley in 2000, where the cycling was great, but the social/political climate was not. We were visiting Ashland most every weekend, and after five years, we made the obvious choice.

How long have you been a SVC member? I've been a member for two years. I never lived close to a cycling club and my riding was always solo, even when I moved to Ashland. I'm glad I joined Siskiyou Velo for several reasons. Riding in a pace line is a new experience, and once I cautiously figured out how to behave, I realized how much fun it can be to work as a group. I also appreciate being pushed. Riding alone, one can inflict pain, but I'm finding that the riders on the more brisk club rides find ways of dialing up the heat. Then there is the camaraderie of the club members who come from all walks of life, with various ability levels, to enjoy such a great sport.

Tell us about your first bike. How has your cycling developed since that first bike? I began riding a bike as soon as I could straddle my mom's "lady's bike", and I remember trying to ride my big brother's bike by sticking my leg through the frame triangle, which as I recall, didn't work too well. When I was 10, I got a used bike for Christmas. It was a single speed with 28" wooden rims and tubeless tires. It was a tank, but I didn't know any better. I had a paper route for the Oakland Tribune, and saved money for my first "real" bike, which was a French Terrot. By then I was 14 or 15, and I thought I was very cool, "racing" around Lake Merritt. When I turned 16, I bought a Lambretta motor scooter, and the bike took a back seat, as I was then VERY cool! During my college years I had various cruiser bikes for commuting to classes, but wasn't doing any serious cycling. Early in my teaching career, I had a student who was a junior category racer. His older brother built frames, and so I had him make me a beautiful touring frame, which I rode for nearly 40 years. The Scott Bar Mountains were literally in our back yard when we lived in the Scott Valley, so I split my riding between the road bike and a mountain bike, which I also used to shuttle my truck when steelhead fishing on the Rogue when we moved north. In the spring of 2012, I made the mistake of riding a carbon bike around the Cycle Sport parking lot and adjacent streets. You all know the result.

How often do you get on your bike, and what is an average ride for you? I ride 3-4 days per week and probably more these past two years. I also like to cross country ski, but currently the skis languish, so the bike doesn't. My average ride would be a minimum of 30 miles, which just happens to be the distance of the local climbs from my house. If I'm not climbing, the mileage bumps to the 40-60 mile average.

What do you ride, and what do you like best about it? My carbon bike is a stock Trek Madone 5.2. Having ridden a steel frame for all those years, the carbon bike is truly a delight, as most of us aging cyclists know and appreciate. I've always enjoyed a good long climb, and the difference in stiffness and response between my touring frame and the new bike is remarkable. This winter I

bought a used Specialized Tri Cross bike to ride in the wet. It too seems to languish these days!

How many miles do you ride in a year? In 2014 I rode 7,000 miles.

Tell us about the most difficult day you've ever had in the saddle. In the mid 70's I rode from Lincoln City here on the coast, to Washington DC, and the mini-blizzards of Montana, the hot, dry winds of Arizona, and the corrugated humidity of the Appalachians were trying, but I have a vivid memory of straddling my bike with my head bowed down on the handlebars, on the shoulder of a busy highway somewhere in Kansas or Nebraska in the middle of a raging thunderstorm with semis roaring by, adding sheets of muddy road spray to the misery. On a positive note, I only had ONE flat on that trip: puncture vine under a lunch break tree.

What is your favorite ride in the Rogue Valley? The Lakes Loop. It has it all.

What are your thoughts on cycling in general in the United States, and what do you see for the future of cycling here? I've traveled and lived in Europe, and although I didn't cycle seriously there, it was obvious that bikes are very much part of the culture. Not so in America where they tend to be seen as toys for kids. Over the years, I've seen a slow progression of tolerance for cyclists, but the truckers and motorists will rule for the foreseeable future. When I was touring in the 70's and 80's, especially in middle America, my appearance in small rural communities garnered attention. People were usually friendly enough, but I was seen as an oddity. Hopefully, that is changing. I rode a bike to my school every day, rain or shine, and the majority of my fellow teachers thought I was a bit odd. There are pockets of America where cycling is popular and cyclists are given more respect, and thankfully, Oregon is on that list.

What's the best thing about riding a bike? As I've said, I've cycled most of my life, but I was also a runner. My back bit me about 15 years ago, and I had to give that up. Anyone who runs knows what it feels like both physically and psychologically to be denied the pleasure. So cycling has been my salvation for maintaining that high. As we age, we accept the fact that our bodies begin to let us down, and cycling is allowing me to stay active and young at heart. It may sound corny, but one of the best things about cycling for me is the sound of my own wheels rolling down a smooth, deserted road.

What is your most embarrassing experience on (or near) a bike? I live near the University in Ashland, and many of my rides end by winding through the campus. I was slowly following a group of students up a narrow sidewalk, clipped into the pedals of course, when they suddenly stopped to chat with an oncoming group of friends. It was pretty embarrassing laying there on the ground, still clipped in, with these kids grinning down at me!

What's still on your cycle bucket list? The Triple Peak Challenge. This Spring!

Introducing
2015
Family Fun Bike Rides



Join us for family friendly bike rides!
Free Prizes and Safety Instruction Provided!

.....▶ All Rides 10:30am-12:30pm ◀.....

- May 16th : Central Point • September 12th: Grants Pass
- June 6th: Ashland • October 10th: Medford

Locations TBA: Visit www.siskiyouvelo.org -or- www.rvtd.org for more information! Or call 541-608-2411.

.....▶ #RougeFamilyBike ◀.....







Bike parking lot in Amsterdam

JANUARY RIDE LEADERS

John Bullock	Tom Ryan
Dennis Cramer	Ken Kelley
Judy Kerr	Steve Juul
Bob MacCracken	David Chapman
Matt Walker	Rick Berlet
Purk Purkerson	ML Moore
Lorna Chateaufneuf	

CASCADE-SISKIYOU SCENIC BIKEWAY

Our local 'mountain lakes' scenic bikeway is moving forward and is in the *recommended* phase, pending official designation from the State's Scenic Bikeway Committee. See [more information here](#).

The next step is a Bicycle Tourism Studio Workshop, hosted by Travel Oregon, in partnership with the local Cascade-Siskiyou Scenic Bikeway Proponent Group and Oregon State Parks & Recreation. This all-day workshop will be held at The Grove on Wednesday, March 18 from 9 am to 4 pm.



Anyone living/working along or near the Bikeway is invited to attend who has an interest in capitalizing on the growing bicycle travel trend and wants to make this Bikeway the best it can be. **RSVP:** Please [pre-register HERE!](#)

Local Cascade-Siskiyou Bikeway Contact : Katharine Flanagan Cato, Director of Marketing, Sales & Ashland's Visitor Bureau , Ashland Chamber of Commerce, katharine@ashlandchamber.com | 541-482-3486 ext. 106

Oregon Scenic Bikeway Program Contact: Alex Phillips, Bicycle Recreation Coordinator, Oregon State Parks & Recreation, Alex.Phillips@oregon.gov | 503-986-0631

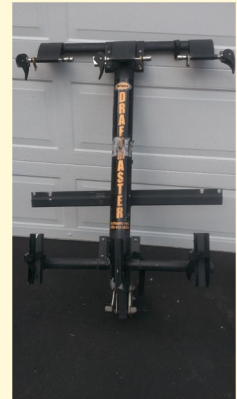
Bicycle Tourism Studio Program Contact: Nastassja Pace, Destination Development Specialist, Travel Oregon, Staj@TravelOregon.com | 971-717-6203

DRAFTMASTER THREE-BIKE CARRIER

This is in excellent operating condition – many years of service ahead. It has the two-inch trailer-hitch attachment with a locking security pin. The quick-release fork clamps are the best Thule has to offer – extremely secure (as long as one is careful to make sure they are fully engaged and tight). Rack folds down to allow for easy loading of bikes at road level, and to facilitate access to hatch or trunk of car.

According to Atoc (now the manufacturer and marketer of the Draftmaster design), fixtures can be added to this carrier to increase its capacity to four bikes. For more information, call Rick Berlet – (541)488-0036

New, the racks are \$615 – You can buy this one for only **\$225**



SISKIYOU VELO CLUB COMMITTEES

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Visit us on the Internet: <http://www.siskiyouvelo.org>
or at www.facebook.com/siskiyouvelo.bicycleclub

Newsletter contributions are accepted until the 20th of the month.

Contact the editor at mlmoore97520@gmail.com for more information. Members are welcome to submit letters, photos, stories, classifieds or other notices of interest to the club.

Siskiyou Velo Club PO Box 974 Ashland OR 97520

REGISTER YOUR BIKES

at

<http://www.ashland.or.us/FormPage.asp?FormID=145>

or

<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/FormPage.asp?FormID=58>



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ML Moore
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Matt Walker



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The businesses above are Siskiyou Velo Club sponsors and offer members a 10% discount.