

# THE CueSheet

October 2007

The newsletter for affiliated organizations of the League of American Bicyclists



League of  
American  
Bicyclists

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## Trek Commits \$1 Million to Bicycle Friendly Communities

The League of American Bicyclists is pleased to announce a \$1 million commitment from the Trek Bicycle Company to the League's Bicycle Friendly Community Campaign. Trek will contribute more than \$300,000 a year over the next three years (one dollar from each Trek bicycle helmet sold through bicycle retailers) to the BFC campaign, a recognition program which inspires communities to improve conditions for bicyclists.

This August, Trek launched the One World, Two Wheels Initiative at their annual dealer event in Madison, Wis. At the League annual meeting in March, Trek's President John Burke challenged the bicycle industry to "send more marketing dollars on advocacy." Burke is meeting his own challenge by contributing significantly to the BFC program.

The BFC program also receives significant support from Bikes Belong, the Education Foundation of America and the Ruth Mott Foundation.

## League Honors BFCs

The League awards a four-year Bike Friendly Community designation to communities that have made impressive, measurable efforts to integrate bicyclists into the community. There are four levels—platinum, gold, silver and bronze—awarded twice each year.

The Bicycle Friendly Community program is revolutionizing the way communities evaluate their quality of life and transportation network. This month the League has honored seven communities with this prestigious designation.

- Silver: Santa Cruz, CA and Steamboat Springs, CO
- Bronze: Lexington-Fayette County, KY, Liberty Lake, WA, New York City, NY, Santa Clarita, CA, and Spartanburg, SC

Thirteen communities renewed their designation, with one, Arlington, Va., moving up from bronze to silver. These communities are:

- Platinum: Davis, CA
- Gold: Palo Alto, CA
- Silver: Arlington, VA, Chicago, IL, Folsom, CA, Santa Barbara, CA, Tempe, AZ
- Bronze: Auburn, AL., Bloomington, IN, Brentwood, CA, Chattanooga, TN., Vancouver, WA, Washington, DC

Honorable mentions were: Baton Rouge, LA, Honolulu, HI, Iowa City, IA, Knoxville, TN, Little Rock, AK, Los Angeles, CA, Oceanside, CA, and Tampa, FL

The five categories local and national reviewers look at are: Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Encouragement, and Evaluation. Since the program's inception in 2003, 174 communities have applied and 70 have earned the designation.

## Welcome New Clubs & AOs

These are the bike clubs and advocacy organizations that have joined the League since May 1, 2007. Welcome!

511 Contra Costa  
Bike Amici  
Bike Denver  
Bike Fresh Bike Local  
Carol For Heart  
Central Indiana Bicycling Assoc.  
Circle C Ranch Cycling Club Cutters  
Dogwood Alliance Cyclists  
Eugene Bicycle Coalition  
Flagstaff Biking Organization  
Friends of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail  
Greenville Area Social Pedalists  
Intermountain Orthopedics/ Lost River Cycling  
La County Bicycle Coalition  
Las Cruces Metropolitan Planning Organization  
LM Team Cycling  
Loose Caboose  
Major Taylor Bicycling Club of Minnesota  
Major Taylor Foundation of Greater Kansas City  
Metro East Cycling  
Mints Rides  
News Pedalers Bicycle Club  
Oasis Bike Works, Inc.  
Paramount Cycling Club  
Pednet Coalition  
Pink Ribbon Trailblazers  
Plainfield Cycling Club  
Rider Sports Innovations, Inc.  
South Jersey Rc & O  
Spree Touring, Inc.  
Squeaky Wheels  
Third Hand Bicycle Co-Op  
Tour De Whatcom  
Tri-County Bicycle Association  
Washington County Bicycle Transportation Coalition  
Westerville Parks & Recreation  
World Cup Ski & Cycle Team

# Key 2007 Advocacy Initiatives

## National Bike Summit

Record number 450 participants.

## House Passage of Commuter Tax Benefit Legislation

Commuter tax provision was rolled into the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2007, (H.R. 2776), which passed the House on August 4, 2007. Awaiting Senate action. Outreach produced record number of co-sponsors 65 House Members (53 D/12R). The Senate version also had record number of 16 co-sponsors (9D/5R/2I) but their bill hasn't moved.

## Congressional Testimony

LAB testified before the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) on proposed legislation related to "Climate Change and Energy Independence. Provided perspective from the non-motorized transportation community, and worked behind the scenes with T&I staff to include bill language on Complete Streets "encouragement" and equal treatment for rescissions provisions. An amendment offered by Ranking Member Mica (R-FL) to strip Rescission provision was defeated by vote of 217-201.

## Greening of Capitol

Met with CAO of the House of Representatives to suggest what changes can be made to encourage more Capitol Hill employees to bike to work. LAB will also participate in a Green Expo on the Hill on October 25, which will focus on transportation. The goal is to educate Members of Congress and Staff on sustainable products & services as it relates to transportation.

## Supported numerous campaigns to engage LAB members to contact their elected officials on issues such as:

- Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Land Program
- N.J. Quick Release Legislation
- C.A. Safe Routes To School Funding Legislation
- Congressman Mica Amendment to strip Federal Rescission provision from T&I Climate Change Legislation
- Secretary Peters negative comments regarding funding of bike projects (resulted in over 1,400 letters and emails)
- Reauthorization of No Child Left Behind to include Safe Routes to School

## National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission

Met with Senator Reid's appointee to the commission, Tom Skancke, to share recommendations for the future of the national transportation policy. Commissioner Skancke also invited LAB to submit comments for the record.

## Recruitment of New Senate Bike Caucus Co-Chair

Met with a number of Republican Senators throughout the summer to seek replacement for Senator Hutchison. Potential candidate is being considered by Senator Durbin's office (Majority Co-Chair).

## Capitol Hill Bicycle Education Class

Hosted a brown bag lunch presentation on bicycle commuting in Washington D.C. Presentation featured League Cycling Instructor (LCI) and National Park Service Ranger, Jason Martz. The hour and a half presentation covered, rules and regulations; riding in city traffic; road and trail etiquette; commuting tips, including route selection, bicycle choice, dealing with cargo and clothing, bike parking, lighting, reflection; foul weather riding; bicycle safety checks; and bicycle maintenance.

# Club Profile & Technology Survey

## Road I Included in Mobility Ed

Please fill out this survey and fax it to the League at 202-822-1334. You can also fill it out online—the link is [www.bikeleague.org/members/club](http://www.bikeleague.org/members/club).

The answers to these questions will provide the League with a clearer picture of the needs of our member clubs.

1. What is the name of your club?

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2. When was your Club founded?

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3. If your Club was formed in the past five years, why was it formed?

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4. How long has your club been League-affiliated?

- Less than one year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11 – 15 years
- More than 16 years
- Other, please specify

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5. How many members are in your club?

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6. Does your club have League Cycling Instructors?

- Yes
  - No
- If yes, how many?

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7. Does your club offer cycling skills classes?

- Yes
  - No
- If yes, select types:
- Riding
  - Racing
  - Safety/Skills
  - Maintenance
  - Ride Leader
  - Other, please specify

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8. Does your club participate in advocacy activities?

- Yes
- No

If yes, briefly explain main activities, actions, etc ...

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9. What issues does your club face?

- Declining membership
- Aging membership
- Lack of volunteers
- Diminishing riding opportunities
- Road conditions
- Hostility of public
- Hostility of police
- Other, please specify

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10. How can the League help with these issues?

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11. Does your Club read the *Cue Sheet*?

- Yes
- No

The remaining questions of this survey will help us understand the technology needs of club members.

12. What is your club website?

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13. How does your club announce rides?

- Club website
- Club newsletter
- www.active.com
- League website
- Other, please specify

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14. How often do you visit the League website?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Once or twice a year
- Never

15. What can the League offer to enhance your Club's website?

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16. Would your club be interested in a League-offered web tool to help with blogging and connecting to other clubs?

- Yes
- No

Additional Comments:

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17. Would your club benefit from a League-offered web tool to improve visibility of rides and member connectivity?

- Yes
- No

The League's Road I

Certification will be included in a "Mobility Education" pilot course. More than 4 million Americans will turn 16 this year. Will this next generation equate mobility with driving a car, or will they be trained to have a broader mobility repertoire? The Mobility Education Foundation is developing the concept of multi-modal drivers education in hopes of developing the latter. Their first pilot course--in Federal Way, WA--provides students with a Road I certificate alongside the Traffic Safety Education certificate. The expanded curriculum incorporates training in transit, cycling, street design, and using new technology. New drivers trained through the Mobility Education curriculum will have vehicular cycling skills when behind the handlebars and will be more aware and respectful of cyclists when behind the wheel.

## Clubs & Advocacy Organizations

The League acknowledges the difference between bicycle clubs and advocacy organization. The work of AOs is essential in speaking on behalf of bicyclists across the nation and ensuring they are protected. And the purpose of clubs sustains the camaraderie and passion for bicycling by riding. Two different focuses, with one sincere passion to achieve a bicycle-friendly America. Together we can work to ensure this is accomplished.

## League Annual Rally: El Tour!

It has been a while but, the League Rally is back! We've teamed up with a world-renowned ride, El Tour de Tucson, in its 25th year, and we are also offering League only tours on the Thursday and Friday before El Tour. This is a family affair, so bring your children and invite guests. Register at [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org). There are many other activities including: the Wellness Conference, El Tour Bike, Fitness & Health EXPO; Golf Classic (extra fees apply); and more. We hope to see your club there! Encourage your members to register for El Tour de Tucson and the National Rally! Visit [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org) for more information.

# Club Spotlight: Niagara Frontier Bicycle Club

**Location:**  
Western New York/  
Niagara Frontier

**Website:**  
[www.nfbc.com](http://www.nfbc.com)

**Motto:**  
We ride everyday

**Year Founded:** 1969

There is no exaggeration in the Niagara Frontier Bicycle Club motto: "We ride every day." They do ride every day of the week, Monday through Sunday. The club which is New York state's largest bike club, has close to 500 members, and holds daily morning and evening rides. To the north of Buffalo, the terrain is flat and to the south the arduous hills stand waiting for the riders to climb. Typically three rides are held on Saturdays and Sunday. The club's Wednesday night ride draws the greatest number of riders.

It doesn't stop there. NFBC schedules "party

rides" where a member volunteers to host an after ride party. This club continues to party at their club picnic in August and the club banquet in November.

The NFBC enjoys a "Meet at the Museum" ride at the Pedaling History Bicycle Museum in Orchard Park, NY. The club's Can-Am ride offers three different distances for cyclists of all levels and their century ride takes riders into Canada and past Niagara Falls. The NFBC is a club passionate about cycling on a daily basis. They even offer hiking and skiing activities during the winter months!

## Dates to Remember

November 15-17, 2007; League Annual Rally  
El Tour de Tucson – Tucson, Arizona  
[www.bikeleague.org/conferences/rally07/index.php](http://www.bikeleague.org/conferences/rally07/index.php)

March 5-7, 2008; National Bike Summit 2008  
Washington, DC  
Don't miss the League's National Bike Summit. Cyclists like you will be climbing all over Capitol Hill. Pack your suit and discover the power you have as a bicyclist to change national transportation, energy, and health policy for the better: For bicycling.

November 2-4, 2007: LCI Seminar  
Arnold, MD  
Patricia Barnhart - [pdarnhart@aacc.edu](mailto:pdarnhart@aacc.edu) -410-777-2939

November 2-4, 2007: LCI Seminar  
Huntsville, AL  
Dave Stone [dlstone@knology.net](mailto:dlstone@knology.net)

November 2-4, 2007: LCI Seminar  
Houston, TX  
Dan Raine- [dan.raine@h-gac.com](mailto:dan.raine@h-gac.com) - 281-556-0923

# update CLUB REP

## Join Our Club Google Group!

Join the League's Club Google Group today!  
Email [bikeleague@bikeleague.org](mailto:bikeleague@bikeleague.org) and request to be invited to join the group and start sharing tips and information with your peers.

## Keep in Touch

The League wants to hear from you. Do you wish we offered a different benefit? Have you had a great League experience lately? Tell us: Tiffany Payne at [tiffany@bikeleague.org](mailto:tiffany@bikeleague.org).