

THE CUESheet

December 2008

The newsletter for affiliated organizations of the League of American Bicyclists



Almanac & Ride Guide

The new year has started and we're already looking forward to some great rides in '09. We are also producing the 2009 Almanac and Ride Guide, and as a benefit of membership we publish one signature event of all affiliated organizations and clubs for free. We want to accurately promote your organization and your signature event in this issue, so please follow the below steps to make sure your club information is correct. Remember, if we don't hear from you, we may print dated information.

Organization Listing Guidelines:

- All League-affiliated clubs and organizations must be current as of January 1, 2009.
- The following information will be displayed in the Club Listing: organization, website, contact first and last name, contact email, and contact phone.
- Entries without an email will be printed with the phone number; if there is no website or email address, the club will not be listed.

Ride Listing Guidelines:

- Compile the following information about your ride or event: ride/event name, start date, registration and website, state that ride or event takes place.
- Send it to the League...that's it! The easiest way to make sure that your information is received is to e-mail it directly to the League: matt@bikeleague.org.

Membership Survey Reminder

Have you had a chance to take the 2008 membership survey? The survey is a vital tool for gauging the satisfaction of our membership, and we will use all member feedback to help improve and strengthen our organization for the coming year. To thank our members for their time and input, all survey participants will be entered into a raffle for a NiteRider Flight 2.3 (worth \$399!). Please visit bikeleague.org to participate in the survey.

MORE:

'08 in Review

Free League Memberships

Be a Club of the Year!

Dates to Remember

Insurance update

American Specialty Insurance has put together a comprehensive general liability and special event insurance package for League affiliated clubs for 2009. Club insurance rates will remain at the same level as last year. In addition, Director and Officer liability insurance will be available again this year, which can help protect individuals on your board from liability issues. Policy purchase for the 2009 year will be available beginning in mid-January.

If you have additional questions, contact Robin Fagen at American Specialty:
260-673-1252 or
RFagen@amerspec.com.

2008 League Accomplishments

Thanks to the support of our members, the League experienced incredible success in 2008!

Bicycle Commuter Benefits Act Passed

After seven years of letter-writing, Congressional visits, position papers and e-mail alerts, Congress has offered bicyclists the same transportation benefits that transit users and car-drivers have enjoyed for years. This bill is now law because of the support of your organization — thank you!

2009 Resolution: Make sure you are claiming your commuter benefit.

National Bike Summit

More than 500 bicycle leaders and advocates were in Washington last March to speak up for cyclists, involving more than 300 House and Senate offices. As a result of the Summit, the National Bike Bill was introduced by Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR). This resolution called for a national bicycling strategy and was later passed by the House of Representatives.

2009 Resolution: Attend the '09 Summit; speak up for funding for bicycle improvements.

Education Success

This year, the League certified a record number of cycling instructors. We conducted 35 League Cycling Instructor (LCI) seminars this year and added 400 new instructors to our ranks — we had 400 in 2004 total!

These new League Cycling Instructors will have an updated and rebranded curricula from which to teach from. The core bicycle education program, now called “Smart Cycling”, features a new Traffic Skills 101 course.

2009 Resolution: Sign up for a Smart Cycling class; attend the education conference in June.

Bicycle Friendly America Continues to Explode!

In 2008, the League launched two new initiatives: the Bicycle Friendly State (BFS) and Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB) programs.

The BFS program ranked all 50 states on more than 70 different criteria. Top ranked was Washington, while West Virginia was ranked last. Several states are working on legislative initiatives to try and climb the rankings in 2009!

2009 Resolution: Improve your state ranking in '09.

The first round of BFB applications included bike industry leaders like Clif Bar and Quality Bicycle Products, as well as government agencies, a software company, and even a seaside amusement park.

The Bicycle Friendly Community Program (BFC) continued to grow in 2008. More than 80 communities applied for or renewed their BFC status, and 21 communities received the coveted designation. Portland, OR and Boulder, CO moved to Platinum level. Additionally, the League has continued to work with dozens of cities, provide technical assistance, inspiration and support.

The BFC and the BFB program is generously supported by program partners Bikes Belong and Trek's One World Two Wheels Campaign. For more information on the Bicycle Friendly America program, please visit the League's website: www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicyclefriendlyamerica.

2009 Resolution: Make your community more bicycle friendly. Ask your city council to act.

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Free Membership for Club Presidents

The League is offering Club Presidents a FREE individual League membership in an effort to familiarize each club and advocacy director with the many benefits of being a League member. Not only will each club president be able to keep up with what's happening at the League through the *American Bicyclist* magazine and our website bikeleague.org, but they will receive all benefits of our traditional membership, including membership discounts at various bike venues. For more information, and to take advantage of the free membership, contact Matt Banks: matt@bikeleague.org. Make sure your president is signed up!

League Clubs of the Year!

If your organization had a great 2008, nominate yourselves to be one of the League's Clubs of the Year and get recognized for all of your hard work! We will accept nominations through January 16. Winners will be chosen from each of the six regions by the regional board member. Please submit all applications to Bikeleague@bikeleague.org, or you can mail them directly. Good Luck!

2008 League Accomplishments,

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Record Club and Advocacy Group Affiliations

The League has had strong growth of affiliated club and advocacy group memberships in 2008. The total amount of affiliated organizations has climbed above 700. This 11% increase of organizations in the past year shows that not only do they value League membership, it also allows the league to expand its advocacy efforts. Thank you!

2009 Resolution:

Please ask sister organizations and your individual members to join the League!

New League Affiliated Clubs & Organizations

Bicycle Coalition of the Ozarks, Fayetteville, AR
Chain Reaction Cycling Club Inc, Paducah, KY
Glamor Cycling, Atlanta, GA
Greater Summerville Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition, Summerville, SC
Lake Orville Bicyclists Org, Oroville, CA
League Of Lancaster Bicyclists, Lancaster, PA
Northwood Riders, Irvine, CA
Omaha Peddlers Bicycle Club, Omaha, NE
Rubber Legs Cycling Club, Bennington, NE
Uphill Grind, Cross Plains, WI
Walk+Roll, Cleveland, OH
West Atlanta Mountain Biking Assoc., Atlanta, GA

Keep in Touch

The League wants to hear from you! If you have questions or comments, please contact us at bikeleague@bikeleague.org or call us at 202-822-1333.

Dates to Remember

2009 National Bike Summit

March 10-12 • Washington, DC

Go for Green: Building Bicycling into the Transportation Bill — 2009 is the year Congress will write the next transportation bill. This only happens every five years, which makes the 2009 Summit the most important the League has ever put on. Bicyclists will have a chance to speak up on Capitol Hill, ask for money to support bicycling nationwide, and to have their voices heard. For more information, email Walter Finch: walter@bikeleague.org.

2009 League Bicycle Education Conference

June 18-20 • San Jose, CA

For more information, contact Preston Tyree: preston@bikeleague.org

2009 League Bike Rally

July 31-August 2 • Winona, MN

To learn more, email Matt Banks: matt@bikeleague.org

LCI Seminars

Jan. 16-18, 2009 • Long Beach, CA • Dominic M. Dougherty • (562) 794-7535

Jan. 16-18, 2009 • Houston, TX • Dan Raine • (713) 598-0008

January 17-19, 2009 • Kona, HI • Laura Dierenfield • (808) 936-4653

January 23-25, 2009 • Seattle, WA • Michael Snyder • michaelsnyderinballard@gmail.com

January 23-25, 2009 • San Diego, CA • Kathy Keehan • (858) 487-6063

February 27-March 1, 2009 • Tucson, AZ • Rich Corbett • kc7ovm@dakotacom.net

February 27-March 1, 2009 • Albuquerque, NM • Craig Degenhardt • (505) 880-8746

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1612 K Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006

