



SBC's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Sharon Doak, Spokane Bicycle Club newsletter editor

One Sweet Ride 1973-2023

The Spokane Bicycle Club celebrated their 50th anniversary at a gala event on September 16, 2023, in the Mukogawa Commons Event Center. The celebration was the culmination of a year-long planning process by a dedicated SBC committee. Margaret Watson was the heart and soul of the committee, with her vast knowledge of the history, people, and activities of the club; Stacey Sorg was our fearless leader, who worked with the team to steer us in the right direction and was attentive to the many details; and Terry Harwood worked diligently with the caterer to ensure a lovely meal that was shared by all attending.

This edition is a special 'keepsake' to highlight our history, the honorees, and the memorabilia posters that were presented at the celebration. So at your leisure you can remember that evening and all the information that was presented! Also, we hope that those members who could not make it to the 50th anniversary celebration enjoy looking back at our history and those special individuals who lead the club over those years.

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SBC 50th Anniversary Committee

*Stacey Sorg - Chair
Sharon Doak
Terry Harwood
Eileen Hyatt*

*Garry Kehr
Sally Phillips
Mary Rosner
Margaret Watson*

President's Club

1973-78	Alice Hostetter (Founder)	2001	Kathy Bailie (Denton)
1979	Jan Monroe	2002-03	Kay Putnam
1980	Marion Peterson	2004	Liz DeNiro
1981	Gary Gunning	2005	Jon Rascoff
1982	Jim Grant	2006	Melanie Johnson (to April)
1983	Tom Carroll	2007	Kathy Denton
1984	Bruce Thomson	2008-09	Cyrus McLean
1985-86	Betty Winkler (Ledlin)	2010-13	Don Carlton
1987	Betty Carpenter	2014-15	Garry Kehr
1988-89	Margaret Watson	2016	Barb Kehr
1990-91	Steve Rowse	2017	Scott Schell
1992	Sally Phillips	2018	Gerry Bergstrom
1993	Steve Rowse	2019	Bill Olson
1994-95	Barbara Hinzman	2020-21	Jim O'Hare
1996-97	Steve Sauser	2022	Blair Strong
1998-99	Gordon Savatsky	2023	Tim Hunt
2000	Marv Feist	2024	Terry Harwood



SBC History

(Speech by Mary Rosner)

Hi, I'm Mary Rosner. I joined the club in 2010. I wanted a bike box so I could take my bike on a plane and you had to be a member to rent one. I'm going to share a brief history of the Spokane Bicycle Club.

In 1973 – Alice Hostetter moved to the Spokane Valley from Sacramento. At that time Spokane didn't have any recreational bicycle clubs like she had been able to ride with before. She still rode, but by herself. Soon 4 other neighborhood women started to ride with her. Their first rides were about 4 miles long and they gradually worked up to 10-15 miles. They became the Spokane Valley Bicycle Club. Dues were, I believe \$1/year! Now 50 years later they are \$20 and \$25 for a family per year.

By 1976 – monthly meetings happened during lunch break on a ride! There were 25 members, most were in their early 20's, but Leo Payne was 84 and still riding. Let's see if our demographics are still about the same...How many of you are in your 20's? Wave your napkin....30's? 40's, 50's, 60's, 70's or older? Okay, well our oldest active rider is Don Carlton. Is it ok, Don if I tell them you are 88?

Members were now from all areas of town so the club dropped the Valley and became the Spokane Bicycle Club in 1978. Wave your napkin if you were a member then!!

In 1980 the club had a logo! A penny-farthing bicycle with Mt. Spokane in the background. There is an example on the table over there. The ride schedules were printed off by mimeograph and mailed or handed out at the meetings and also left at the bike shops – now we get up-to-the-minute ride information online through Meet-up!

There were many different types of club rides to appeal to the varying interests and abilities just like there are now. Some members became interested in endurance cycling. In 1981 the Spokane Bicycle Club Double Century ride was held. 14 riders finished the 200 miles and one of them was a woman, Anita Boyden! I believe that she is here tonight, Anita? Another member, described as a formidable endurance rider and known as Mr. Bicycle, held bicycle maintenance classes at his house including changing a tire, which can be a very valuable lesson! Other members were interested in racing and put together the Spokane Summer Racing Series. In addition, there were mountain bike rides and overnight trips of different duration and distances. Even a week-long tour of the San Juan Islands. We still do multi-day touring events...Colville is coming up next week.

A big milestone occurred in 1985. The Spokane Bicycle Club was registered as a non-profit organization. Thank you, Betty and Ian Ledlin.

In the 90's there was a great deal of bicycle advocacy and fundraising. Margaret Watson and Julian Powers collaborated with Spokane Transit Authority to put bike racks on the buses and in 1994 Spokane was the first city in the state of Washington to have them.

Other members encouraged the city to purchase abandoned railroad beds as commuter bicycle routes to Cheney and the South Hill. Some of those results are the lower Fish Lake Trail, the Don Kardong Bridge and parts of the Centennial Trail. Members participated in the events of Non-Polluter Commuter Week leading rides to encourage others to bike to work all the time.

I appreciate that the Spokane Bicycle Club was able to help raise over \$10,000 for the Centennial Trail that most of us, I imagine, ride regularly!! We also have an adopted mile. Mile 31-32. It's the hilly part. We clean it up every Spring. I went this year -and it was a good time. We swept the trail with brooms and cut back some vegetation. Gathering for a beer after made it even better.

Eileen Hyatt along with the League of American Bicyclists held Effective Cycling Education classes in our area middle schools. We do occasionally have bike safety classes. I went to one and it was very helpful to me.

Some of the other causes and events we continue to be involved in are Spokane's Bicycle Advisory Board or the BAB, the Bloomsday Bike Corral, Bike Everywhere Month, Bike Swap, Washington Bikes, and the Centennial Trail. I'm sure I've forgotten some but we've always been advocating for bicycle use locally, across the state and nationally.

We've come a long way from Alice and 4 others in 1973. Today we have 284 paid members plus 717 people in the Meetup group. We have come a long way from our meetings first being held on a ride during a break, then at Coors Distributing on East Trent, then at the Pizza Haven in the Flour Mill. After that it was the Police Guild and on to Riverview Terrace Retirement Community, as well as Mountain Gear...HMMMM! Now we are meeting at St. Mark's church...I wonder what's next.





The club honored 10 individuals at the celebration - below are the accomplishments of the 10 honorees, presented as a certificate to each.



***ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD
1973-2023***

In appreciation for your creation of the Spokane Bicycle Club

Alice Hostetter

Alice and her husband Lynn migrated to Spokane from Sacramento, CA in the early 70's. Bicycling had experienced a resurgence all over the country just prior to the nation's bicentennial. Alice and her family had enjoyed riding on a trail in the Sacramento Valley.

In 1973 she started riding near their home in the the Spokane Valley. Along with a handful of like minded women, they called themselves the Spokane Valley Bicycle Club. For the next five years they would mostly ride in the Valley with distances of approximately 4-15 miles at a leisurely pace.

As the club grew, it ultimately included men and flourished. By the late 1970's a board of directors was formed, a competitive bicycle racing program was started as well as 100 and 200 mile events.

Alice served as the ride coordinator and ride leader for over 40 years for the Spokane Bicycle Club's most popular and well attended ride.....the Scenic Tuesday series!

In 1984 Alice and Jan Whaley, who then administered the Scenic Tuesday ride, were among the first SBC members to cycle unsupported on a Trans America ride.



ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Don Carlton

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION

TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB

- SBC Club President for an astounding 4 years, 2010 - 2013.
- Frequent Ride leader
- Introduced Wild Apricot app and Pay Pal into our improved website
- Twenty-seven year member still riding at 88!

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Steve Sauser

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION

TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB

- Served as a club officer for 14 years:
 - Vice President & Rides Director - 1993 & 1994
 - President - 1996 and 1997
 - Treasurer - 2001 to 2009 - 10 years
- Rode the Cannonball Ride from Seattle to Spokane in one day on I-90 - 300+ miles in one day.
- Chaired SBC Mid-Summer Nightmare double century ride 5 times
- Ride Leader - Led most rides in 1994 (26)
- Rode most SBC club rides in one season (85) - 1995

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Barbara Hinzman

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION

TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB

- Vice President and Ride Director 1992 and 1993
- President 1994 and 1995
- Member - City of Spokane Bicycle Advisory Board 1992-96
- Hosted Golden Girls Touring Society Tour - Whistler B.C. Tour - 1995
- Treasurer 2010 and 2011
- Frequent Ride Leader
- Consistent volunteer for club and community events.

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Paul Eichen

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION

TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB

- Vice President and Ride Director - 1988 and 1989
- Chairman of the Spokane Bicycle Club Annual Autumn Century Ride - 5 years - funding the Centennial Trail
- Ride Leader
- Hosted club summer picnic & ride at his Green Bluff orchard multiple years
- Completed self-contained worldwide bicycle tours - in 45 countries with over 100,000 miles ridden

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Garry Kehr

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION**TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB**

- President - 2014 and 2015
- Newsletter Editor - 2013
- Author of Member Profiles column for SBC newsletter
- Registered Agent for non-profit status for SBC with State of Washington
- Member Spokane Bicycle Advisory Board
- 2015 SBC Tour Director - Organizing Bozeman Loop Tour, Trans Washington with Cyclist of Greater Seattle (COGS) 2014 and 2015, Weiser River Trail, and Colville Spoke and Hub tours.
- Created the SBC Sponsorship Program - 2017
- President - Friends of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail/Palouse to Cascade State Park
- SBC Ride Leader
- Current Ride Director
- SBC Board Member 2023



2023 SBC President Tim Hunt, 2024 SBC President Terry Harwood,
Rides Director Garry Kehr

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD***Eileen Hyatt*****IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION****TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB**

- Vice President and Ride Coordinator in '86 and '87
- Co-founder of Saturday morning rides.
- Consistent ride leader for 40 years - currently coordinator of Women's Rides
- SBC meeting program director for 10 years
- City of Spokane Bicycle Advisory Board - Chair 1994; member 1992-1995
- League of American Bicyclist Effective Cycling Certified Instructor - taught Cycling 101 for adults many years.
- League of American Bicyclists - 1995 - National Educator of the Year
- Introduced Basics of Bicycling curriculum for 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes into Spokane Public Schools PE classes with aid from SBC member Jane Schelly.
- Bicycle Safety and Education Quarter Century Award - Spokane Bicycle Club
- Bicycle Alliance of Washington Board member plus "Citizen Advocate of the Year" Washington State
- Served on the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element Committee 2005
- Author of Washington State Curriculum for bicycle traffic skills for middle school students. Trained teachers in school districts around the state through WSDOT/ USDOT grants



ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD***Ian & Betty Ledlin*****IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION****TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB**

- Club President - 1985-86 - Ian
- Founders of the Labor Day Tandem Rally - 1986 - Breakfast ride to Rathdrum, ID in support of the Rathdrum Lion's Club, still going 37 years!
- Organized the Border to Border Canada to Mexico Tour - 1987 incorporating the Seattle to Portland (STP) en route.
- Volunteered last minute in 1987 to organize the Autumn Century Ride - Betty
- Organized two Cross State tours - one via U.S. 2 and the other via North Cascades Hwy.
- Newsletter Editor - Ian
- SBC Board member - Ian
- Membership Director, developing computer databases - Ian
- 1985 - helped to obtain SBC's non-profit status with Washington State - Ian
- Served as club Registered Agent - 30 years - Ian
- Member of the City of Spokane's Bicycle Advisory Committee/Board - 1991-97 - Ian
- Chair 1998 Northwest Tandem Rally in Spokane - Betty
- Volunteers of the Quarter Century - 1998
- Created, coordinated & led Wednesday Women's Ride/Walk beginning in 2007 - Betty
- Organized the Women's Ride/Walk Weekend annually in Harrison, ID - Trail of the CdA's - Betty

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Sally Phillips

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION**TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB****50TH ANNIVERSARY INSPIRATIONAL AWARD**

- SBC President 1992
- SBC Vice-President and Ride Coordinator 1998 and 1999
- Newsletter editor bringing us into the computer age along with her husband Loyd.
- SBC Treasurer - 2012 to present (12 years)
- 2000 & 2001 developed SBC Diversity Ride Challenges providing shirts for all who rode every category of club ride.
- Bike Everywhere Coordinator
- Secures volunteers for SpokeFest and Bike Everywhere
- Year round all-weather bicycle commuter
- Founder & organizer of the Bike Coral at Riverfront Park - 27 years!
- Revived the club Midsummer Nightmare double century, organizing and riding it.
- Organizes the Steptoe Butte ride
- Editor: Government Affairs Column - SBC Newsletter - reporting on bicycle projects from the city, county and state transportation agencies
- Revived Sunday Progressive Dinner rides: lead Poker Rides.
- Only woman in SBC to ride the Cannonball ride on I-90 from Seattle to Spokane - 276 miles in one day.
- Has coordinated and led Saturday Brisk rides for many years.
- Helped to coordinate the City of Spokane Commute of the Century and Parkway rides.

ONE SWEET RIDE ~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD***Margaret Watson*****IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVOTION****TO THE VITALITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR CLUB****50TH ANNIVERSARY INSPIRATIONAL AWARD**

The best thing that happened to bicycling in Spokane is when Margaret Watson quit playing tennis.

Margaret joined the Spokane Bicycle Club in 1986 and quickly became our leader as president, vice president and rides director of SBC, then organizer of the annual Autumn Century Ride. She rode thousands of miles and shared what she learned.

She reached out to local government where so many meetings and committees needed a voice for bicyclists. Of note, she was the first chair of the Spokane Bicycle Advisory Board to the City of Spokane, advisor to Spokane Transit for the bike racks on buses program, and chair of Citizens Advisory Committees to the Spokane Regional Transportation Council. She was sought after for her knowledge of needed designated routes and her patience with the slowly grinding wheels of bureaucracy.

In her Comstock neighborhood she worked on the transportation committee to see that there were bike lanes on 29th Avenue.

She rode many, many miles around Spokane County and leaves a legacy of bike maps and routes for others to enjoy.

But most of all, Margaret has been our cheerleader. She encouraged the SBC involvement in our statewide bicycle organizations. She nominated other members to receive state and national awards so they would keep on working hard for bicycling. She made sure that groups bicycling into Spokane were welcomed, and guided through our area.

Margaret organized the SBC 25th Anniversary party, and made tonight's event happen to celebrate our 50th anniversary. She made sure other exceptional members were honored.

Thanks to our cheerleader, Margaret Watson!

SBC HONORS

- 1992 “Best Bike Rides in the Pacific Northwest Guide” - 2nd Addition
B.C. Canada, Washington State, Oregon and Idaho
Three SBC Bike routes featured including Autumn Century Classic
- 1994 League of American Bicyclists Award - Autumn Century
Top 3 Century Rides in the U.S.
- 1995 League of American Bicyclists - National Educator of the Year
Eileen Hyatt
- 1996 League of American Bicyclists - Spokane - Bicycle Friendly City
(first in state)
- 1998 Book - “Greater Spokane and Palouse Region” Backroads Cycling Guide
David Heflick - SBC Members acknowledgment and permission to use
cover art on SBC vest.
- 1999 Book - Mountain Biking - Spokane and Coeur d’Alene - acknowledgement
- 2002 Bicycle Alliance of WA - Regional “Squeaky Wheel” award
Margaret Watson
- 2003 National Senior Games - Bicycling
Gold Medal - 70+ Kathy Erickson
Silver Medal- 70+ Viv Owens
- 2009-
present League of American Bicyclists
Spokane - Bicycle Friendly City - Bronze Level

SBC BICYCLE EDUCATION

- 1989 SBC Member Lawrence Walters introduces LAW (League of American Cyclists)
Effective Cycling classes as a League Cycling Instructor (LCI)
- 1992 Eileen Hyatt becomes an LCI for adults and introduces “The Basics of Bicycling”
to 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes at Farwell Elementary School in Mead, WA
- 1992 Firefighters and Police Guild purchase 30 BMX bikes for school use.
- 1992 SBC members begin tuning up bikes twice a year for elementary classes
- 1994 Jane Schelly writes a pilot study to introduce Basics of Bicycling to Spokane
Public Schools.
- 1995 League of American Bicyclists award Eileen Hyatt the National Educator of the Year
- 1995 NOWBIKE “Citizen Advocate of the Year” Washington State - Eileen Hyatt
- 1998 SBC’s Bicycle Safety & Education Quarter Century Award - Eileen Hyatt
- 1995 Qualmed Health Plan, Rotary Club, Spokane Public Schools and Kiwanis Club
purchase two 30 bike sets for elementary schools.
- 2001 Mountain bikes were purchased by Spokane Public Schools for middle school
P. E. classes.
- 1995-
2012 Eileen Hyatt trains teachers while working with classrooms - Grades 4-12

SBC BICYCLE ADVOCACY INVOLVEMENT

- 1979 * Spokane Pedestrian and Bicycle Path Coalition
- 1980 * Non-Polluter Commuter Week
- 1980's * City of Spokane Signed Bicycle Routes
- 1981 * Bicycle Federation of WA Affiliate
- 1984 * WSDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee Representation
- 1988 * Bicycle Alliance of WA Affiliate
- 1988 * League of American Wheelmen/Bicyclists
- 1990's * Bike to Work Week - Sally Phillips
- 1990's * AITrans - Alternative Transportation Coalition Affilate
- 1991 * City of Spokane Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) organized
- 1992 * City of Spokane Bicycle Board (BAB)
 SBC Members: Ian Ledlin, Cyrus McLean, Julian Powers, Michael Conley,
 Charlie Greenwood, Gerald Schuldt, Garry Kehr, Barbara Hinzman
 Chairwomen: Margaret Watson and Eileen Hyatt
- 1993 * Probike Northwest - Gonzaga University - NW Bicycle Advocacy Conference
- 1994 * Bike Racks on STA buses committee
- 1980 * County and Regional Bike Maps Input
- 2006 " " " " " "
- 2009 " " " " " "
- 2014 " " " " " "
- 1992 * Spokane City Bicycle Plan
- 1992 * Underwrote 2nd Edition - Spokane River Centennial Trail Map
- 1994- * SRTC (Spokane Regional Transportation Council)
- 1999 * Citizen's Advisory Committee - Transportation (CACT)
- 2002- Margaret Watson Chairwoman and Hank Greer Member
- 2005 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
- 2016- " " " "
- 2018 " " " "
- 1994 * Spokane City and Spokane County Comprehensive Plans
 Committees on Transportation Element - Eileen Hyatt and Margaret Watson
- 1995 * WSDOT and Spokane County Alternative Bike Routes to Interstate 90 and
 State Highways
- 2002 * Bicycle ride with U.S. Congressman George Nethercutt re: bicycle funding
- 2005 * Active Living Task Force - Member - Spokane Regional Chamber of Commerce/
 Inland Northwest Trails
- 2013 * Government Affairs Column - Newsletter - Sally Phillips
- 2016 * Bike Everywhere Event - May - Sally Phillips
- 2018 * WA Bike Summit - SFCC
- 2020 * WA Bike Summit - Gonzaga University

SBC BICYCLE AMBASSADORS

- 1994 Kamloops B.C. Rotary Club Tour - Escorted tour into Spokane from Davenport, WA and hosted breakfast at Cottonwood Inn
- 1994 Biking Vikings "Round the World in 90 days Tour" - Oslo, Norway
Escorted Norwegian tandem riders (blind and sighted) into Spokane from Davenport, WA. on their trans-America portion of tour.
Collaborated with Spokane Mayor's office, Sons of Norway, The Blind Foundation, Spokane City International Development Office, Spokane City Parks and Recreation and Spokane Police Bicycle Patrol.
City provided lunch at Riverfront Park shelter
SBC made housing arrangements for tour in Davenport and Sandpoint, ID
Escorted tour toward Sandpoint.
- 1998 Cross Canada Cycle Tour Society - Vancouver, BC. Canada
Provided one week of touring in Spokane region with SBC Members
Tour members volunteered to aid in NW Tandem Rally

SBC provided service to: Spokane Marathon - "sweep" duties
"Summer Parkways" Rides
"Commute of the Century"

Stacy Sorg presented Inspirational Award to Margaret Watson



Eileen Hyatt presented Inspirational Award to Sally Phillips

SBC CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- 1984 Burlington Northern Bikeways Bridge Plan (Don Kardong Bridge)
- 1984 Olympic Road Cycling Trials - Road Marshals and food stop aids
- 1984 Hosted Bike Shows with dealers at the Police Guild
Annual Bike Swap Booth
Bloomsday Trade Shows Booth with North Division Bicycle
- 1990's MS 150 Tri-State Bike Events - SBC Members served on committee to give input on development of ride
- 1990 Spokane River Centennial Trail - Board of Directors: SBC Members
Jon Rascoff (Chairman), Clyde Anderson,
Margaret Watson, Jim O'Hare
- 1990's Spokane County "Oil Smart" Wednesdays
- 1990's University District Master Plan Committee - Bicycle Bridge/Sprague @ Sherman
- 1990's Downtown Plan - Input re: bikeways and bike facilities
- 1992 KSPS - Public TV fund raiser phone volunteers
- 1992 SBC helped fund dedication ceremony for the Centennial Trail
- 1993 Maple St. Bridge Re-opening to bicycles (after 35 year prohibition) City asked SBC to be first riders to cross bridge.
- 1996 Bloomsday Bike Corral - Riverfront Park - Sally Phillips - operating for 27 years
- 1996 Lilac Community Bike Program - SBC helped refurbish donated bicycles for public use downtown - Gerald Schuldt and Ann Johnson
- 1997 "Air of Excellence" - American Lung Assn. Award to 6 SBC members
- 1990's Spokane County Valleyway/Sprague Couplet Bike Lane Grand Opening
SBC members invited to be first bicycle riders on new bike lanes.
- 2002 SBC adopts Mile 31-32 on Spokane River Centennial Trail
- 2004 Sandifur Bridge dedication - SBC members first to cross the bridge.
- 2005 Grand Reopening - Monroe Street Bridge - SBC invited to cross bridge on bicycles
- 2007 Spokefest - SBC provided volunteers for registration, etc.
- 2016 Friends of the Palouse to Cascade Trail - Garry Kehr, President of the Board
Helped secure 501c non-profit status - Jim O'Hare - Board Member

EXTRAORDINARY BICYCLE TOURS - SBC MEMBERS

- 1984 Trans America tour - Winslow, WA to Kingston, NY - 4,364 miles unsupported - Rick and Ellen Peller
- 1984 "The Bicycling Grannies" Spokane to Knoxville TN - Expo to Expo; 2,850 miles Kathy Erickson and Ginny Monroe - representing the City of Spokane
- 1985 Trans America tour - northern route to Boston - unsupported Alice Hostetter and Jan Whaley
- 1986 Cannonball - Seattle to Spokane on I-90 in one day Dave Aguilera and Don Ware
- 1996 Cannonball - Seattle to Spokane on I-90 in one day Steve Sauser and Sally Phillips - 276 miles in one day. Steve decided to ride home for a distance of 300 miles - a triple century in one day!
- 2000 The Odyssey Round the World Tour - Kay Putnam - 12,000 miles
- 2002 Circumference tour of USA - Amina and Barry Giles - unsupported - 12,500 miles
- 1987-45 Countries - most self supported - U.S., Mexico, Canada, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, South America, Middle East, Australia, New Zealand
2017 Well over 100,000 miles ridden - Paul Eichen
- 2013 Newport News, VA to Florence, OR - 4,100 miles - 90 days - unsupported Garry Kehr
- 2014 Long time member - Jeannette Hill completed a century ride at age 87!
- 2015 Great Divide Mt. Bike Route - Canada to Mexico
46 days - 2,286 Miles - 147,000 vertical feet
Garry Kehr, Paul Brunton and Jamie Sutherlin
- 2017 San Diego, CA to St. Augustine FL - Paula and Jamie Sutherlin and Paul Brunton
3,000 miles - unsupported
- 2018 Trans America tour - unsupported - San Francisco to Virginia - Jim O'Hare
and Amina Giles - 4,146 miles
- 2018- Rode in all 50 states after retiring - Hank and Kathy Greer
2019
- 2023 Santiago, Chile thru Argentina to Antarctica province of Chile - Jamie Sutherlin and Paul Brunton - 1,200 miles unsupported

SBC TOURS

- 1976 San Juan Islands
- 1979 Sullivan Lake
- 1980-83 Sandpoint - Newport - Spokane
- 1988-96 Golden Girls Touring Society - B.C. Canada, Alberta, Canada, Canadian Gulf Islands, Yellowstone Park Areas
- 1987 Canada to Mexico - Border to Border (with Seattle to Portland ride en route)
- 1990 Aladdin Valley to Deep Lake and Canadian Border Tour - starting in Colville
- 1991 Valley to Rally - National LAW/LAB Rally - Spokane to Olympia, WA
- 1998-02 Holland Bike and Barge Tours
- 2005 Plumber ID to Mullan ID and back - Trail of the CdA's
- 2008 Canada Tour - 9 days (Radium Hot Springs, Ice Field, Banff, Castle Junction)
- 2009 Glacier Park "Going to the Sun" Tour
- 2011 Montana - 7 days from Bozeman - 350 mile loop tour
- 2012 Walla Walla Tour - June
Rossland B.C. Canada - July
Leavenworth Tour - August
- 2014 Trans WA (with Cyclists of Greater Seattle/ COGs bike club)
- 2015 Trans WA (with Cyclists of Greater Seattle/COGs bike club)
- 2016 Oregon Coast (Astoria to Florence)
- 2016 Tri-Cities - March; Newport - September
- 2017 Nelson B.C. Canada - 6 day loop tour
- 2017 Clearwater & Snake River - Lewiston
- 2018 Plumber ID to Mullan & back - Trail of the CdA's
Weiser River Trail Ride Tour
- 2019 Colville Tour
- 2020 Sunnyside Cycling Tour; B.C. Canada Rail Trail Tour; Colville Tour
- 2021-23 Spoke and Hub Tours - Colville, WA

SBC EVENT RIDES and SPECIAL EVENTS

- 1976 Sunday Progressive Dinner Rides
- 1980-1983 Club racing organized with a Twilight series
- 1980-2005 Annual Autumn Century Rides (Inland Empire Autumn Century)
- 1981 Annual Midsummer Nightmare Double Century Ride
- 1986-present Tandem Rally Breakfast Ride (in support of the Rathdrum ID Lions Club)
Ian and Betty Ledlin - founders
- 1988 Spoke Rides to '88 Olympic Road Cycling Trials
- 1988 Fund raiser for Colville, WA's Michael Trail - 1987 Silver Medalist
R.A.A.M. (Race Across America) - San Francisco to Washington, D.C.
- 1988-91 Centennial Trail Backroads Fund Raiser Rides
Overnights @Bear Lake County Park ('88 & '89)
Liberty Lake County Park ('90 & '91)

SBC raised \$10,000 for trail w/REI sponsorship
Helped Fund McClellan Trailhead and Overlook - Riverside State Park
- 1998 Organized Pacific Northwest Tandem Rally
- 1998 SBC 25th Anniversary Dinner
- 2003 & '04 Donated approximately \$1,300 to Centennial Trail from Autumn Century rides
- 2003 SBC 30th Anniversary Dinner
- 2011 Pacific NW Tandem Rally - aided Emde Sports with road marshals and food

Annual SBC Dinners

Annual SBC Summer Picnics



Here is a bit of SBC nostalgia from over 25 years ago.....

HILLS, HEATWAVES, HEAT EXHAUSTION
AND
HEARTY T.O.B.'s (tough, old broads)

When T.J. and Mary Badger volunteered to lead the Tuesday morning ride on May 11, 1993, they probably expected to enjoy a mild Spring day along with the usual crowd of weekday riders. Though pre-warned about the intended route, we did not expect the decided turn in the weather from Spring to August. That Tuesday turned out to be a record-breaking day for highs.

The Badgers knew that our troop of Tuesday a.m. regulars could withstand the rigors of a good part of the challenging "Course of the Seven Hills" with its 700 plus feet of elevation gain in about 3 miles of roadway. This course had been used for years to test the mettle of world-class racers during both the '84 and '88 U.S. Olympic road trials as well as a number of pro-circuit races during the decade of the 80's.

On this morning, the Badgers were joined by Jo Goertz, Barbara Hinzman, Joyce Johnson, Jane Van Sickle, Ann Johnson, Penny Moore, Maureen Schmahl and Margaret Watson. Discounting the youthful Badgers, the average age of the gang of eight was 58. The "short" ride to Clayton was a mere half metric century, or about 31 miles, but it required climbing the "Double Trouble Hills" twice! Only two decided to tackle that job. The rest of us opted to avoid those hills on the return on by taking the Loon Lake/Springdale/Ford and Tum Tum metric century. By 2:00p.m. and at 85 plus degrees, we were making good time on the 12 mile stretch from Springdale to Ford when, and in spite of a decent tailwind, we were all seeking shade.

The trouble started when M. Watson felt lightheaded and overheated. A convenient and nearby roadside water-filled ditch was eyeballed as a cool down source. However, a tombstone-shaped historical marker provided a sliver of shade. Thanks to the assembled group, there was enough water to douse a pale-faced, nauseous rider who was finally convinced by Dr. Mary Badger to remain behind till T J could retrieve his vehicle at the ride start and pick-up the disabled and weary rider. Only missed the last grueling 20 miles! Experienced long distance rider, Barbara Hinzman, declared...."This was the hardest ride I've ever done!"

The best part of this tale is the remarkable (and modest) Maureen Schmahl, a finisher of many long distance rides such as the Seattle to Portland, the grueling TOSRV (Tour of the Swan River Valley in Western Montana), a winner of her age group in Bloomsday, participant in such prestigious events as the New York City Marathon, the B.C. Marathon and a variety of regional triathlons. Maureen was 72 years old at the time and put us all to shame on that Tuesday morning. Not only did Maureen ride from home that day to the Suncrest start, she also, climbed "Big Sandy" in the process and chalked up an additional 15 miles before the ride even started, completing nearly 80 miles that day. Talk about T.O.B.'s....Maureen topped the list!

Our dear friend, Maureen, passed away at age 85 on January 27, 2006. We thought she was invincible! She was an inspiration to so many for over 25 years and will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

from the "Memory Closet" of Margaret Watson
SBC Member since 1986

Spokane Bicycle Club

The Next 50 Years

Our website says the Spokane Bicycle Club is a recreational and social organization that promotes lifelong cycling for fun and health. That is our mission. We do this by organizing group rides for many different skill levels, organizing multi day bike tours, advocating safe cycling through many events and activities, educating riders about safe, enjoyable local cycling routes, sharing innovations, legislation, and personal adventures with each other, and of course providing great social opportunities with our fellow riders during our rides and events. This club is incredible, and I am so blessed to be a part of it.

So, what does the next 50 years for our club look like? That's tough one. I'm sure when Alice started riding with some friends in Spokane Valley 50 years ago, she probably had no idea what a wonderful organization she was starting and where it was going to go. The opportunities are endless for what we can do. We have an incredible environment for cycling. And yes there will be challenges. Population growth, urban growth, and constant building could bring some limiting factors in our rides due to increased traffic and government limitations. But I believe that most people are supportive of cycling and outdoor activities in this area and as long as we stay involved in decision making, we can expand our opportunities.

One thing I'm so excited about is the advancement in technology for cycling. Our regular pedal pusher bikes have become super comfortable and efficient. E bikes have come in and have allowed riders of all skill levels to ride together. This allows people that might have too busy of a schedule so they can't train consistently to ride with those that might be a bit more experienced. I personally love it; my wonderful wife now rides with me and dusts me on the hills with a smile on her face. I also think that e bikes can help many that may have a condition which might limit their ability or confidence to ride with our group. E bikes can extend our cycling career, thus keeping us active well into our later years. The technology is going to get better, and we are going to be able to ride further and more comfortably as time passes. It's an exciting time to be part of this club.

Our club, with the leadership of Sally, does our annual Bike Everywhere Month in May. Where we not only provide many rides to introduce new people to our club, but run the bike corral at Bloomsday, provide a pancake breakfast at Riverfront Park, organize energizer stations for bike commuters, introduce people to e bikes and have a fun wrap up party.

Gary has been analyzing our databases and with a team have been coming up with strategies to increase our exposure and active membership.

There's a lot of opportunity. We have 307 members in our club and 724 members in our meetup group. That gives us a great chance to bring more people and experience into our club.

Ride with GPS was introduced this year in our club and that allows people that may not know the routes so well to be less worried about getting lost in they were to get separated from the group.

As far as the next 50 years, I feel we need to embrace the technology and teach people how to use it, we need to prioritize safety as we will likely encounter more people without a lot of cycling experience as well as keep ourselves thinking safety. We need to welcome new members and try to appeal to some younger members to join so we can continue to provide a great group to ride with for years to come. And finally, we need to stay involved with our government officials to promote a safe and pleasurable bike experience for all.

Terry Harwood

President 2024



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