

Tailwind Express

September 2012



www.annapolisbicycleclub.org

ABC News

Coming soon to the ABC website: We will create a forum for members to post observations about out-of-area rides - which rides are best, worst, and in between. This forum will help members to select the events that are best for them. Thank you to John Richardson for this suggestion!

September 15th: ABC Club Century

Tomorrow is the Bike Doctor Century in St Michaels, MD, our Club Century this year. The Bike Doctor Century offers a well-supported ride through a beautiful and flat part of the Eastern Shore, with options for 25 and 62 mile rides. And, Bob Roll will be there! ABC participants will meet at the start and organize into riding groups.

Registration is through Active.com, and there is a \$5 discount for the first 25 ABC members to sign up - enter the code ABC2012 upon check out.

For more information: croftonbikedoctor.com To register: active.com

September 23rd Sunday: ABC Club Picnic

2pm-6pm at the Dogwood picnic area, Quiet Waters Park.

The Club will provide tasty chicken from Nando's Peri-Peri, and hamburgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks; we ask that everyone bring a side dish to share. Please RSVP by registering for this event on the club website, or send a response to abc_rsvp@me.com

When you arrive at the park, identify yourself as a member of the ABC Cycling group.

September 29: Northern Neck RiverRide

ABC's Susan Robinson invites club members to join her for this scenic ride and the weekend festivities in this beautiful area. Our events calendar has just been updated with information about the RiverRide and the weekend.

For more information: contact Susan and visit www.riverride.org

October 6th: The Seagull Century

ABC will have a group of riders participating in the Seagull Century - please let us know if you plan to join us by writing to abc_rsvp@me.com.

Reminder

Start times for ABC weekend rides are now 9:00 AM.

ABC Officers

Co-President: Jim Black

Co-President: Jim Van Horn

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Treasurer: James Edison

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Web Master: Jim Black, Jim Claffey

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Tailwind Editor: Mark Hanna

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Riding the Covered Bridge Metric

Jim Black

We had a good showing of ABC members for the Lancaster Covered Bridge metric century: Len Jones, Jim Van Horn, Susan Robinson, John Richardson, James Edison, Tina Frye, Ed Kirk, Chris Kernan, Dave Thatcher, and myself. David Raimist of Team Cardiosmart (the MS Society ride) joined us.

John, Tina, and I kept a relaxed pace and stopped for photos at several of the covered bridges. We saw several horse drawn buggies during the ride, and toward the end of the ride we passed several groups of Amish youth who were out enjoying the afternoon. Our relaxed pace caused us to miss the post-ride festivities at a local pub, but we had a great time!



Riding a section of the East Coast Greenway, (a work in progress).

David Bleil

Each thru rider was required to raise contributions for the East Coast Greenway through sponsorships and in addition pay all our own food and lodging. The group of thru riders raised approximately \$25,000 for the ECG. Some riders, including me, camped where possible. Others stayed in motels along the route. We were pioneers on this section of route and were in 5 states averaging at least 60 miles a day for the 7 days. We also had a chance to see firsthand the diversities of the trail, surfaces and some of the challenges ahead as the ECG Alliance lobbies to improve the Greenway route. During the week we rode over the first ECG bridge built over I-95 in Maine, the first covered bridge on our route in Connecticut, and a couple of very modern bike/pedestrian bridges in Massachusetts. About one third of the route was on state or county roads to connect between trails.



We also tested out way-finding with a lot of new trail signs – of all the 5 states we were in Connecticut easily won the signage race with New Hampshire not far behind. Signage in Massachusetts unfortunately was almost non-existent. The bike trail which dumped us out into downtown Boston during rush hour traffic was definitely not appreciated by me. The organizers were able to test a couple of new Garmin 800s with our route. The rest of us struggled a bit with bike wheel odometers and unnamed roads. The ride ended in downtown Hartford, CT with a reception in the park with the Mayor of Hartford welcoming us and promising to educate Hartford drivers to understand and respect bicycles on the roads.

