

Tailwind



“George Washington rode here”

November 2008

Careful on the new MD 450 Bridge!



BAD NEWS: The new bridge on Maryland 450 (Defense Highway) over the headwaters of the South River has two of the notorious 'bicycle trap' drainage grates installed on the westbound shoulder – one just at the beginning of the newly paved area, and one (shown) after you pass over the bridge.

GOOD NEWS: The problem was spotted by a local cyclist, Ed Caldeira, who notified the State Highway Administration. Mr. Rager promised to look into the matter, and also asked for the opinion of the Annapolis Bicycle Club. We checked and responded that the gratings were indeed dangerous...and two days later, Mr Rager notified us that new gratings were on order and would be installed within the next few weeks!

Mr. Rager was our source for progress on the bridge work this summer. He and the Highway Administration are to be congratulated on fast and effective action on this one. And thanks to Ed, too.

Club Elections – Wednesday, November 19, 730 PM

Do you want more Sunday rides?

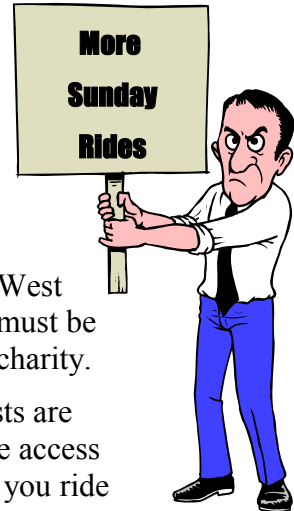
Do you want more evening rides during the week?

Do you want a newsletter?

Do you want a Bicycle Club?

Club elections will be held at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1300 West Street in Annapolis (see map, page 2). This is crucial election – a new president must be found or the club will be shut down and the treasury donated to a bicycle related charity.

Bicycles are becoming more important as the economy slows and fuel costs are unstable. There are movements afoot in Maryland and Annapolis to improve bike access and safety (see preceding and following articles). And your health will benefit if you ride – but we need a bicycle club to be sure our interests are heard.



All Club Officer positions will be open

A New President is needed – No President, No Club!

Bicycle Commuter Act

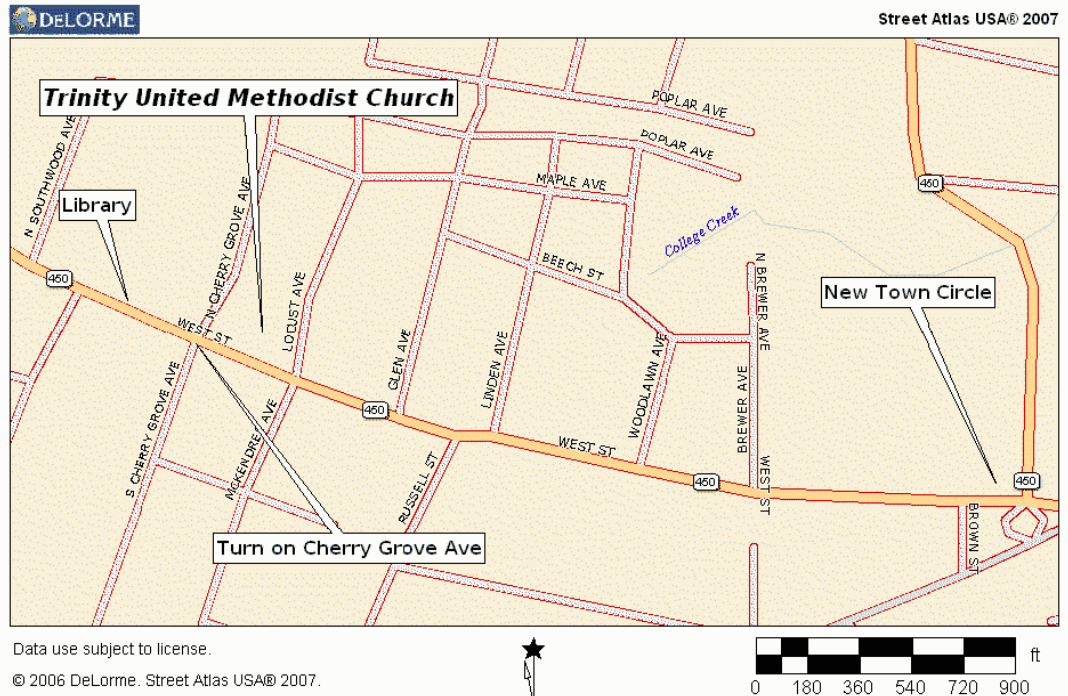
Starting with the 2009 tax year, your employer can reimburse you tax free for “reasonable” expenses related to using your bike to commute to work. That includes bike and equipment, storage, repairs, as long as you use it for a “substantial part” of your commuting. Info will be posted on www.bikeleague.org as it becomes available.



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**Meeting
Wednesday,
Nov 19, 7:30 PM**

**Trinity
United
Methodist
Church
1300 West St
Annapolis
Maryland**



Another Great Seagull...

The Annapolis Bicycle Club was well represented at this year's Seagull Century – around a dozen ABC riders showed up for a beautiful day on the Eastern Shore. Everyone had a great time, except possibly those who got to the last rest stop a little late, expecting cherry pie and ice cream. Well, bananas were available and got us to the finish line. As you can see from the above photo, many of our riders were showing the club colors!

Dump Trucks on Patuxent River and Sands Roads

A Special Exemption has been granted for 15 more years of mining near Sands Road, and an increase of heavy truck traffic by 50% on both Sands and Patuxent River Roads. This had been winding down, but the exemption was granted without nearby residents hearing about it in time to object. They are now trying to see if it can be revoked. Contact lisa.fairbank@eds.com if you're interested.



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Annapolis Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 224
Annapolis, MD 21404

<http://www.annapolisbicycleclub.org/>

The Annapolis Bicycle Club is a not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to the interests of recreational cycling enthusiasts. Our interests are recreation, exercise, safety and camaraderie. We don't pollute or block traffic and we encourage cyclists to adhere to traffic laws.

The Annapolis Bicycle Club is affiliated with the League of American Bicyclists.

Members and prospective members are encouraged to call any of our officers to answer any questions and obtain information about Club activities.

President – Jim Claffey
[president](mailto:jim@annapolisbicycleclub.org) at
annapolisbicycleclub.org
410-956-5219

VP
[vicepresident](mailto:jim@annapolisbicycleclub.org) at
annapolisbicycleclub.org

Secretary – Treasurer
[secretary](mailto:jim@annapolisbicycleclub.org) at
annapolisbicycleclub.org

Newsletter/Webmaster
Jim Claffey
[vicepresident](mailto:jim@annapolisbicycleclub.org) at
annapolisbicycleclub.org
410-956-5219

Saturday Rides

Please **check** with a buddy to verify the ride in the winter months

March – May; September – December 9:00 AM

June – August – 8:00 AM

January & February – 10:00 AM

Davidsonville Rides – Multiple rides; speeds from 13 – 20+ mph.
35+ mile rides

Meet at the Davidsonville Park 'n Ride, Routes 424 & 50 for rides to Deale, Galesville and around South Anne Arundel County.

Fall Rides

With autumn weather, rides will usually go. But remember, changeable weather may cancel a ride. So call and check with your buddies to be sure you'll have company. Don't give up because of a small possibility of rain, but don't be foolish either – wet roads can be slippery and dangerous, especially after a long dry spell. And remember, there are lots of well sagged rides available this time of the year – now's your big chance to try a well-run Century!

Annapolis Bicycle Club Activities

- Tuesday morning - Meet at Charlie's at 9 AM, call for directions - 410-841-6269. *Call first to verify the ride.*
- **Occasional Membership meetings** with programs on bicycle topics. To be announced in the newsletter and on the web site.
- **Special event rides** and other bicycle related social activities
- **Group participation** in regional bicycling events

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Membership Application and Renewal Form

In consideration of accepting application for membership and being permitted to participate in any way in the activities of the Annapolis Bicycle Club, ("ABC"), I/WE, for myself/ourselves, my/our personal representatives, assigns, heirs and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree and represent that I/we understand the nature of Bicycling Activities and that I/we am/are qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in such activities. I/we further acknowledge that certain of the activities will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the activities and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I/we further agree and warrant that if at any time I/we believe conditions to be unsafe, I/we will immediately discontinue further participation in the activity.

2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that (a) bicycling activities involve risks and dangers of serious bodily injury, including permanent disability, paralysis and death ("RISKS"); (b) these Risks and dangers may be caused by my/our own actions, or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the activity, the condition in which the activity takes place, or the negligence of the "RELEASEES" named below, (c) there may be other risks and social and economic losses either not known to me/us or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I/we fully accept and assume all such

risks and all responsibility for losses, costs and damages I/we incur as a result on my participation in the activities of ABC.

3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE ABC, their administrators, directors, agents, officers, volunteers, and employees, other participants, and sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which activities take place, (each considered one of the RELEASEES herein) from all liability, claims, demands, losses, or damages on my account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the RELEASEES or otherwise, including negligent rescue operations; and I/we further agree that if, despite this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT I/we, or anyone on my/our behalf, makes a claim against any of the RELEASEES, I/we will indemnify, save, and hold harmless each of the RELEASEES from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim. I/we have read this agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I/we have given up substantial rights by signing it and have signed it freely and without any inducement or assurance of any nature and intend it to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law and agree that if any portion of this agreement is held to be invalid the balance, notwithstanding, shall continue in full force and effect

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one and circle fee)

FAMILY = Annual Fee: \$18 email newsletter, \$28 US mail newsletter

SINGLE – Annual Fee: \$10 email newsletter, \$20 US mail newsletter

Membership Year runs from March 1 to February 28. New memberships begun between November 1st and February 28th terminate February and are half price.

NAMES AND SIGNATURES OF APPLICANTS OVER AGE 18:

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____ City, State _____ ZIP _____

email Address _____ Phone _____

Annapolis Bicycle Club

P. O. Box 224

Annapolis, MD 21404