



Spare Parts and Links of Interest

Sheldon Brown Memorial Ride
Thursday, July 3

New Belgium Urban Assault Race!
Sunday, July 27

watch bikedenver.org for more details...

BikeSnobNYC – love him or hate him, it’s always amusing
<http://bikesnobnyc.blogspot.com/>

Share the Road Tips for Bicyclists

SIDE-BY-SIDE RULE:

Ride no more than two abreast; move to single-file if riding two abreast impedes the flow of motorized traffic.

RIDE PREDICTABLY:

Scan the road, anticipate hazards, and communicate your moves to others.

SIGNAL FIRST: Use hand signals to alert nearby vehicles to turns or lane changes.

BE AN EXAMPLE: Bicyclists have the same rights, rules, and responsibilities as other vehicles on the road.

For more about Share the Road, Safe Routes to School, and related projects, visit: bicyclecolorado.org.

Monthly Meeting

BikeDenver meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Alliance Building at 1536 Wynkoop. Our meetings are in the 2nd floor Conference Room. Please join us!

It’s Bike To Work Month— Did You Bike Commute Today?

by Will Handsfield

Colorado’s Bike To Work Month runs throughout June every year, a month later than most of the nation due to our “interesting” spring weather. It is a great time to take the plunge, and start riding your bike to work regularly. I have yet to meet a bike commuter who says they will soon quit bicycling to start driving—it is always the other way around. The drivers state their intention to get healthier, relieve stress, or just have fun by biking to work, and many who do dust off their two-wheeler don’t go back. There are a lot of great reasons to bike commute; some may even surprise you:

Odds are, if your commute is seven miles or less, you will get there about the same time, and **often faster by taking a bicycle** rather than a car. The sad fact is that our roads are gridlocked at rush hour with car traffic, and while this can lead to us cyclists sucking down more exhaust than we care to, it also means that while a car might wait 2 or 3 light cycles to make it through an intersection, a cyclist

will make the light first time, every time. If you can plan a route that includes a bike path, you won’t have to stop for cross traffic during the majority of your commute.

Riding your bike is a surefire way to **lose those extra winter pounds**. When I started bike commuting, I lost 10 pounds in about two months, and I got to eat whatever I wanted. Bike commuting burns calories while building muscle. I know this sounds like an infomercial, but bike commuting is better because it is easy, fun, and actually gets you someplace.

You will relieve stress. For all the stress I get from cranky drivers, it’s nothing compared to the “it’s been five minutes and I haven’t moved” stress of driving in rush hour traffic. If you are on a bike, you have all sorts of great alternate routes, alleys, bike paths and city streets, which allow you to get out of the heavy stuff in a hurry.

While there is lots of talk about electric vehicles, hybrids, and other low emission vehicles,

your bike is a NO EMISSION vehicle. While drivers can ponder that for every gallon of gas they burn, they produce 22 pounds of CO₂, along with other more noxious ground level pollutants, you don’t ever have to have a guilty conscience while riding a bike.

You form a community. I frequently see people I know on the bike paths of Denver, if you aren’t in a hurry, a popular move is to hang a U-turn and ride with them for a few blocks to catch up; when was the last time you heard of such a thing in a car?

I realize that if you are reading this, I’m probably preaching to the choir, so I’ll end on this. Becoming a full-time bike commuter genuinely changed my life for the better, and I honestly believe it can do the same for anyone who gives it an honest try. So tell your friends, be an advocate for bicycling and cyclist rights, and keep riding!

Comings and goings

By Carillonator

Brendan Leonard was elected to the board in February, and was elected BikeDenver’s secretary in May. He is a year-round commuter whose bike has never been outside the Denver metro area. During the day, he is a program coordinator at local nonprofit Big City Mountaineers, and a freelance writer for several publications and websites.

Gary Rossmiller is back on board, and taking on more bike parking than ever before.

He, and we expect to be parking a record number of bikes this summer, especially with the DNC in town this August. Shoot him an email at bikeparking@bikedenver.org if you’re able to come downtown and help out.

Tracy Halasinski has resigned her board seat in order to have time to chair both the MBAC and the DNC Bike Committee, but remains an active member of BikeDenver.



Brendan Leonard

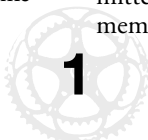


Tracy Halasinski

Genevieve Hutchinson also resigned recently, and is now working especially hard on completing the FasTracks system expansion.



Genevieve Hutchinson



Chain of Events

& Volunteer Opportunities



Gary Rossmiller (& friends) at the Green Apple Fest in City Park, April 19.

Ride your bike and join us at these festivals and concerts.

- **City Park Jazz Concerts**
Ten Sunday evenings, starting June 1. Casual evenings in the park; bring a picnic, meet cyclists and enjoy great jazz
- **The People's Fair**
June 7 – 8. Civic Center; arts, entertainment and food with a local flavor.
- **Cherry Creek Arts Festival**
Fourth of July weekend, July 4 – 6. One of the biggest arts festivals in the nation. Excellent food and music.
- **Dragon Boat Festival**
July 26 – 27. Our first year serving this popular event at Sloan's Lake.
- **New Belgium Brewing Urban Assault Ride**
Sunday, July 27. Our second biggest fundraiser of the year; we need 30 of you!
- **Democratic National Convention**
Week of August 25. 1,000 bikes available to the conventioners; details still in

progress. You better believe we're going to need some help.

- **Taste of Colorado**
Labor Day weekend, four days, Aug. 29 – Sept. 1. Four days of food and concerts ending the summer; come celebrate with us.
- **New Belgium Tour de Fat**
Saturday, September 13. Our biggest fundraiser and the most fun you can have in a day! Join us and become a believer!
- **VeloSwap**
Saturday, Oct. 25. Biggest garage sale on the planet and it's all about bikes.

We need over 250 volunteers this year; we rely on *you* to make this service a success.

Contact us at
bikeparking@bikedenver.org
See you this summer!
www.bikedenver.org

Serving Denver cyclists and the planet Earth for over six years.

BikeDenver is a 501(c)3 organization registered with the state of Colorado. Donations to BikeDenver are tax-deductible.

Bicycle-Friendly Business program off to a quick start.



Get to know the BikeDenver board members. This newsletter we'll hear from Josh Barker, Marketing Committee chair.

light rail stops, or bus stops? Does your business offer a special discount to cyclist customers? Does your business promote cycling as a healthy form of transportation? If so, go to the registration form on BikeDenver's website and submit your answers to a short questionnaire. Some recent recipients of our Bicycle-Friendly Business award are: REI, Alliance for Sustainable Colorado, RTD, Watercourse Foods and The Denver Athletic Club.



Your business should be recognized publicly as one that promotes smart transportation choices.

by Josh Barker

Area businesses are quickly taking notice of BikeDenver's newest program. Since the launch earlier this year, more than 20 Denver businesses have qualified for the Bicycle-Friendly Business recognition. Is your place of employment easy to access from bike trails,

Go online today and register: www.bikedenver.org/bikefriendlybiz



Will presents BFB award to Dan Hanley of WaterCourse Foods.

A membership to BikeDenver makes a great gift, AND it's tax-deductible! Join today on our website, bikedenver.org (paypal-enabled), or by mailing a check to BikeDenver, 1536 Wynkoop St., Box 801, Denver, CO 80202.

• As a bonus, members who volunteer are treated to a fabulous end-of-season party!

City & County News

2008 Ride of Silence



The May 2008 Ride of Silence toured Capitol Hill, City Park and Downtown Denver, including taking the right lane down 17th Avenue. Communicating mainly by hand signals, lights, and reflectors, the 30+ riders attracted notice from many bystanders and motorists.

On Wednesday, May 21, about 30 cyclists participated in the Ride of Silence in downtown Denver.

The ride started with a gathering at Civic Center Park, and those present were invited to memorialize fellow riders who had been injured or killed on local roadways.

The Ride of Silence is not advertised, nor are there t-shirts or ads announcing its existence.

It exists To HONOR those who have been injured or killed;

To RAISE AWARENESS that we are here; To ask that we all SHARE THE ROAD.

Step up and volunteer!

Be a part of the most ambitious bike share program in the U.S.! During the DNC, BikeDenver will be helping to manage a fleet of 1,000 FreeWheelin' bikes donated by BikesBelong and Humana. We are seeking cyclists to volunteer for shifts during the week of Aug. 24 – 29, advance training sessions during June or July will be required.

We really need people familiar with downtown streets and light bike mechanic work (tires & adjustments), and we need a lot of you (200 or more!).

If you want to be one of the first people to get hands-on experience with the FreeWheelin' project, email us at info@bikedenver.org with your contact details.



Mayor Hickenlooper, using appropriate hand signals, test rides FreeWheelin' bikes in the convention center after May 14 DNC press conference. With him are Bikes Belong's Tim Blumenthal and Parry Burnap of the DNC Greening Committee.

Neighborhood Beat

Park Hill Bike Depot Now Open

by Lois Bikelane

The Park Hill Bike Depot, at 2825 Fairfax St., is a new shop where you can learn to fix your bike or even build up a bicycle if you don't own one. The Depot also welcomes volunteers with some mechanical experience to help neighborhood kids and adults learn to work on their bikes.

In addition to the shop activities, the Bike Depot is partnering with nearby Rec Centers as a ride start location, along with other workshops and events. For hours and additional info, visit www.thebikedept.org, or contact shop manager Gabi Tobar at manager@thebikedept.org.



Park Hill Bike Depot grand opening: shop manager, Gabi Tobar expresses the need for interested volunteers.



Bikes belong on park roadways too. Be a responsible rider and announce your intentions to walkers & joggers. Use your bell and yell, "passing on your left!"

Washington Park Safety Fair #1

by BikeRossmiller

The first Spring Safety Fair was held on May 10th in Washington Park. This was a cooperative effort between the neighborhood organization (FANS), Denver Parks, Denver Park Rangers and BikeDenver to address roadway safety issues for all users in Washington Park. These sponsors and Denver Inline Skate Club, Runners Roost, Denver Fit and Campus Cycles had booths with

informational flyers and responded to any questions. The weather was less than cooperative with extremely high winds that morning. We hope to improve safety through education and enforcement. Our initial focus will continue to be on getting all users to follow the basic lane usage rules already in place. If you are interested in this topic, please contact Gary Rossmiller at bikeparking@bikedenver.org.

WORK WITH BIKES!

Volunteer for BikeDenver

Volunteers are the backbone of BikeDenver and we need your help. Meet fellow cyclists, hear free music or witness a celebration of bicycles by volunteering at any of at the following events:

City Park Jazz Sunday Nights through June 1st – August 3rd 6-8 PM

Warm Denver nights, jazz and bicycles combine for a unique urban experience. Tap your toes to local jazz greats while helping park bicycles as families stream into the park for this weekly event.

www.cityparkjazz.org



Capitol Hill People's Fair June 7 and 8, 2008

Handmade arts & crafts, culinary delights, fabulous entertainment and the commitment to raise funds for and promote the missions of non-profit organizations.

Support those who ride a bike to the fair and park with us!

www.peoplesfair.com



Cherry Creek Arts Festival July 4th, 5th & 6th

With 350,000 annual visitors, the festival organizers suggest walking or riding to the 'show' and that is where **BikeDenver** comes in! Enjoy sunshine and art while helping park bicycles at Denver's premier art festival.

www.cherryarts.org/users/



New Belgium Urban Assault Ride & Bicicleta Festival July 27th

Roadies, mountain bikers, and fixie-riding hipsters: this urban race and bicycle festival will have it all. Can you multi-task? If so, **BikeDenver** has lots of things you can do for this one!

www.urbanassaultride.com/inside.php?page=denver&s=3



A Taste of Colorado August 31st – Sept. 3rd

There is no such thing as a free lunch, but this is close. Help us park bikes and you will get enough tickets to sample the local cuisine. This event captures a broad swath of people, so you get to meet every type of cyclist that Denver has to offer!

www.atasteofcolorado.com



Tour de Fat September 13th

Costumes, bike parade and Fat Tire beer! This will prove to be the zaniest bike event that Denver has ever seen. We need set-up, tear down, merchandise and beer pouring help.

Don't miss this one!

www.newbelgium.com/flash