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RIDE ON

Edited by Kenneth Fletcher

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phone :: (202) 518-0524

fax :: (202) 518-0936

email :: waba@waba.org

website :: www.waba.org

Send requests, changes of address or general messages to the WABA office. Address submissions to RIDEON, or email: rideon@waba.org.

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WABA Welcomes New Executive Director Shane Farthing

After ten good years at WABA, former Executive Director Eric Gilliland has moved on to direct the National Association of City Transportation Officials, where his knowledge of urban transportation issues is being put to good use. Still in the District, Eric remains in touch as a valuable resource for WABA.

A national search for a new WABA Director produced a large pool of well-qualified candidates, from which WABA's committee selected Shane Farthing. A D.C. local, Shane is a lawyer, policy analyst, bicycle commuter, and avid recreational cyclist. Before joining WABA, he headed the D.C. Department of the Environment's Office of Green Economy.

"WABA was able to attract many well-qualified and highly motivated applicants for the position," explains WABA Board President Barbara Klieforth. "Shane impressed us as a leader with vision and a lot of knowledge, energy, and passion for bicycling as well as equity among all modes of transportation."

Shane offers an in-depth understanding of how major projects are conceived, designed, and approved in the District. And with a background in law and a passion for advocacy, he is well-prepared to continue WABA's push for legislation that protects the interests of cyclists.

"Like many cyclists, I've been hit by cars, shouted at, run off the road, stranded by poorly planned infrastructure, left hanging by insurers, and derided by people who view my transportation and lifestyle choice as a waste of money," Shane wrote in his job application to WABA. "Whether justified by social justice, environmentalism, public health, individual freedom, or any combination of the above, I believe that making cycling a viable transportation option for all in the Washington, D.C., region is an important goal."

Shane plans on ensuring that WABA expands and progresses in the achievement of its mission to create a healthy, more livable region by promoting bicycling. All of us in the WABA family welcome our new director with great enthusiasm. Shane, we're glad to have you here.



Washington Celebrates BIKE TO WORK DAY

More people than ever participated in D.C.'s Bike to Work Day on May 21. Thousands of cyclists took a break from their morning commute to fuel up on food and drinks at 35 pit stops in Maryland, Virginia and the District.

Bike to Work Day is marked annually nationwide, encouraging people to experience the many health and environmental benefits of riding to work. In our region, WABA partners with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in an extensive effort to encourage people to commute by bicycle. This year WABA registered 9,124 participants, a nearly 15 percent increase compared to last year.

This year's event brought warm, sunny weather; a perfect day for riding to work. Many cyclists joined one of 26 commuter convoys around the area. These group rides, most of which went from the suburbs to downtown, made the trip easy for both first-time riders and commuting veterans.

WABA organized an 8 a.m. downtown rally at Freedom Plaza, where more than 1,800 cyclists enjoyed free food courtesy of Einstein Bros Bagels and Whole Foods. DJ Josh Cunningham from BIG 100.3 played music and acted as master of ceremonies, while City Bikes raffled off three brand new commuter bicycles. Lipton Tea, Zipcar and the Embassy of Switzerland also helped make the celebration possible.

D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty and U.S. Reps. Earl Blumenauer and Sam Farr cycled down the new Pennsylvania Avenue bike lanes to Freedom Plaza. There, the politicians addressed a large, bicycle-clutching crowd that was clad in suits, skirts and Lycra.



Photo courtesy of Brandon Bloch

"Thank all of you for being here today as a visible expression of the most efficient form of urban transportation ever designed," Congressman Blumenauer said. "Nowhere is this growing national movement more in evidence than in Washington, D.C."

Other notable speakers included Roy Kienitz, undersecretary for policy at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Buddy Roogow, executive director of the D.C. Lottery, Rear Admiral John Korn of the U.S. Coast Guard and Daniel Poneman, deputy secretary of energy at the U.S. Department of Energy.

The history of Bike to Work Day in Washington stretches back to April 1977, when WABA organized 29 convoys from neighborhoods in Virginia, Maryland and the District, which converged for a downtown rally on the Ellipse.

*Watch a U.S. State Department video about D.C.'s Bike to Work Day featuring WABA <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=boHzU6EYvhs>

Thank You, U.S. DOT Secretary Ray LaHood



Cyclists now have an important ally at the U.S. Department of Transportation. In March, Secretary Ray LaHood declared that bicycling and walking should be treated as equal to other forms of transportation, signifying an important shift away from decades of car-centric planning. In an official policy statement, the Department stated that "every transportation agency, including DOT, has the responsibility to improve conditions and opportunities for walking and

bicycling and to integrate walking and bicycling into their transportation systems."

At this year's Bike to Work Day, hundreds of local cyclists covered a thank you poster to Secretary LaHood with colorful signatures. On May 28, WABA joined national cycling organizations on a ride from Freedom Plaza to the Department of Transportation in Southeast D.C. There Secretary LaHood accepted the thank you poster and addressed the dozens of cyclists who had gathered.

"Bike and pedestrian paths are part of a cleaner, greener future for American transportation," he said, "I want to thank everyone... helping us make that future a reality."

THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS

**Bike to Work Day
Gala & Benefit Auction
Bike Prom**

Aaron Schreiber - Stainthorp	Kat Bogel
Alison Horton	Kelly Gross
Anant Agrawal	Kim Mentel
Anil Konanki	LeAnne Shaffer
Bruce Dwyer	Linda Dwyer
Chris Whipps	Marie Powers
Christina Tiffany	Mark Powell
Craig Annear	Mary Jane Davis
Dave Rees	Nina
David Medina	Noah Patterson
David Ramos	Norene Syrek
Erin Boland	Paul Barringer
Harry Tompkins	Phil Lyon
Iolaire McFadden	Richard Koris
Jackie Keller	Sara Amaral
Janice Sims	Scott Dempsey
Jason Clock	Steve Mohr
Jen Johnson	Susan Hartwell
Jerod Brown	Susan McFadden
Jessica Hall	Wei-Ting Chen
Julie Parker	Will Clarke



Dear WABA Office Volunteers,

You arrive at the office, week after week, with a smile on your face, eager to help assist us with an abundance of administrative tasks. You do this because you support WABA and believe in our mission. We can't thank you enough for your brilliant efforts and want you to know how much you mean to all of us here at WABA. We are so lucky to have you.

Most sincerely,
The WABA Team



WABA VOLUNTEERS
are the muscle behind the machine!!



VOLUNTEER CALL

Volunteer nights are a great way to meet other members of the local cycling community and maybe even run into some old friends. Volunteer nights typically occur on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Some volunteer nights are filled with admin tasks while others are trainings and meetings for future events. Check the volunteer calendar at www.waba.org/volunteer/ for accurate times and dates. WABA will provide food and beverages, and if you attend three volunteer nights in one year, you will receive a one-year WABA membership, or membership renewal!



flickr.com/photos/waba

- Check out photos of current events.
- Share your photos in the WABA Event Photos pool



facebook.com

- Join the WABA group on facebook.com
- Connect with local riders.
- Have fun!

» FROM MY SADDLE

As the newest guy "in the saddle" here at WABA, I want to start by saying thank you to the WABA Board and members for entrusting me to help lead the organization. I've had the chance to meet many of you at various community events and have received many welcoming emails filled with constructive ideas and suggestions for the organization. As I continue to learn the inner-workings of WABA and its breadth of activities, I continue to be struck by just how much this organization has accomplished since its founding, and how it has evolved into a substantial force for better, safer cycling in the region.

As a member, I had little sense of the amount of work the organization undertook. While I was aware of the major advocacy initiatives, I didn't think about the hundreds of hours of meetings that led to every decision or the dozens of activists and volunteers contributing their time and input. I knew that WABA had an educational component, but had no idea that every day Glen and the education staff are not only helping kids to be safer cyclists, but are introducing people with life-long fears of bikes to the joys of cycling by teaching them to ride (and not in the "run along holding the bike then let go method" my dad used) and are then teaching the skills to bike safely in the urban environment. Meanwhile, others at WABA are working as part of a national network to develop community and facility approaches that enable and ensure that our children can safely bike and walk to school. And our Bike Ambassador travels the District promoting the virtues of cycling in the boldest manner we could find: towing a giant trailer behind his specially outfitted cyclocross bike and teaching the basics of biking and bike maintenance wherever he goes.

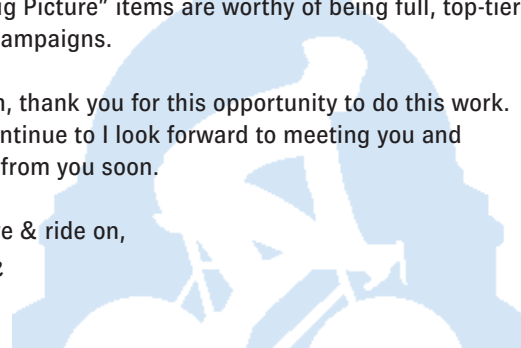
And of course, we can't forget our Events and Membership folks who keep the member lists updated so we can reach you when action is needed, look for new and exciting benefits for our members, coordinate the rides that bring us together, and throw the parties that keep morale high.

I'm excited to be working with these folks, and I'm excited to be working on your behalf on issues that I find interesting, engaging, and important.

But as I continue to learn WABA from the inside, there is one source of information that I'm missing. I have decades of files on advocacy and finances and WABA actions. But what I do not have, and what I need, is information on your goals, your priorities, and your willingness to be an engaged partner in our shared mission. So in the coming weeks, we will be sending you a short survey that is not necessarily geared toward learning about demographics or behaviors, but about your cycling goals and willingness to help achieve them. I want to know what issues our members are engaged in, and what skills you have that you would be willing put toward the achievement of results. So I'm asking you to think a bit about those questions. I want to know what "Big Picture" items are worthy of being full, top-tier WABA Campaigns.

So again, thank you for this opportunity to do this work. And I continue to look forward to meeting you and hearing from you soon.

Take care & ride on,
Shane



Pierre Summerville *Rest in Peace*



Pierre Summerville was a dedicated WABA member, serving for years on the Board of Trustees. Also a member of the Maryland National Capital Volunteer Park Police, he worked

tirelessly for bicycle safety education in the region, especially for the youngest cyclists. For many decades, he helped thousands of children in Prince George's County through the bike safety education program he created with volunteer help and donated equipment.

Many at WABA offer ringing tributes, including:

WABA Treasurer Paul D'Eustachio: "Pierre pushed, cajoled, argued, and ultimately convinced the WABA Board of the importance of kids' bike safety education. If it were not for Pierre, a program that is now at the very heart of the WABA operation likely would not exist and thousands of kids would be less safe because of that. Once the program was established, Pierre was always there to staff an event, or there with his truck to haul a trailer full of bikes and safety gear to the next stop, or to do whatever else needed to get done. Every time a D.C.-area kid straps a helmet on his head, that buckle click says 'Thanks Mr. Summerville'".

Former WABA Executive Director Ellen Jones: "Pierre was the WABA bike safety program for many of the years I spent there. He was down to the bone committed to children's bike safety. He had his formula for a successful event and hit the mark at every single one I attended. I don't think he ever said 'no' to any of the ridiculous favors I asked him for."

WABA Grants Coordinator Dorcas Adkins who worked with Pierre for many years establishing WABA's education program: "Together we experimented with different systems for hanging 25 bicycles from the flimsy rafters of three lightweight bicycle trailers. When one system fell down we tried another, eventually welding steel assemblies and bolting them in. We talked by cellphone before dawn and after dark as we learned the hard way that coordinating trailer deliveries to overworked teachers involves more than reading maps- reading minds is one of the talents required. Pierre was often working two jobs and so tired he fell asleep between classes, sitting in his beloved Ford F-250 truck. I had never before had the privilege of working with anyone who gave so generously of his time. I won't say tirelessly, because I know he was often tired to his very bones. He didn't say no because he couldn't. He knew his precious kids needed him.

We'd like to thank Pierre's family for sharing him with us and with thousands of children throughout the Washington region. We are all better off because of knowing Pierre.

Thank you and farewell, my friend.

WABA Continues Ghost Bike Tradition

Tragically, traffic accidents killed several cyclists in the region this spring. Constance "Tancy" Holden, 68, was struck by a National Guard truck on New York Avenue on April 12, the day of the Nuclear Security Summit. David "Poochie" Williams, 42, was hit by two cars on Southern Avenue on June 4. And on June 25, Stan Miller, 48, was struck from behind by a car on Ridge Road in Damascus, Maryland.

Whenever possible in the wake of a cyclist fatality in the region, WABA locks a "ghost bike" near the crash site.

These bicycles, painted white, serve as a visible memorial to the victim, a somber reminder of the consequences of such collisions, and a quiet statement in support of cyclists' right to safe travel. The ghost bike phenomenon, started in the early 2000s, has spread to cities around the world. WABA is also installing permanent "ghost bike" bike racks with memorial plaques at some accident locations.



★ **Pennsylvania Avenue Bike Lanes Now Open**

New bicycle lanes opened on Pennsylvania Avenue this summer, allowing cyclists to ride down the center of "America's Main Street" from the White House to nearly the Capitol. This symbolic change on one of the country's most famous streets emphasizes the importance of accommodating cycling on our roadways.

The District officially opened the lanes to the public at a June 22 ceremony, where Mayor Adrian Fenty, DDOT Director Gabe Klein, U.S. DOT Secretary Ray LaHood and U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer praised cycling as a form of transportation.

Unlike most D.C. bike lanes, which run along the edges of the road, the Pennsylvania Avenue lanes follow the previously unused center median to avoid conflict with turning cars and parked vehicles. There are also clearly marked bicycle turn lanes, where cyclists can easily complete both right and left turns at pedestrian crosswalks.

D.C. Bike Ambassador Dan Hoagland, who has been riding the lanes with the highly visible ambassador trailer, says they offer a safe and easy way to get around downtown. "The bike lanes have transformed Pennsylvania Avenue from being car-centric into a complete street with accessibility for all road users," Dan says. Cyclists on Pennsylvania Avenue have given Dan overwhelmingly positive feedback.



Photo courtesy of Matt Johnson

The lanes were originally scheduled to open in May with a slightly different design, which replaced a vehicular lane in each direction with slightly wider bicycle lanes. DDOT says that safety concerns prompted a last-minute redesign, as confused drivers were driving in the unopened bicycle lanes.

The changes on Pennsylvania Avenue are part of DDOT's Downtown Bike Lane Pilot Project. WABA will continue to monitor the new lanes for safety and effectiveness and be in touch with DDOT regarding any concerns. What we learn from this pilot program will be used to keep expanding a network of bicycle lanes across the District. Of course, the best way to show the importance of these lanes is to ride them, so get on your bike and head downtown!

★ **New Met Branch Trail Section Opens, Connecting Silver Spring to Union Station**



Photo courtesy of M.V. Jantzen

Local children take their first ride on the trail at Meet the Met.

Since the late 1980s, WABA has advocated for the installation of the Metropolitan Branch Trail, an 8-mile trail running from Union Station to Silver Spring following the old B&O Railroad through D.C. A new section of off-street trail is officially open, creating prized cycling infrastructure in Northeast D.C. Currently, about half of the trail is off-street, while some follows streets with bike lanes. The "Met" is planned to eventually connect with the Capital Crescent Trail in Silver Spring and the Anacostia Tributary Trail System in Hyattsville.

A ribbon cutting for the newly completed section of the trail took place on May 3, with Mayor Adrian Fenty and DDOT Director Gabe Klein officially opening the section and taking a ride, where they experienced what a useful facility the trail is.

On June 5, National Trails Day, WABA celebrated with Rails to Trails Conservancy (RTC) and Kaiser Permanente at "Meet the Met." Held on the newly completed section of the trail extending from Franklin Street to New York Avenue NE, the event encouraged area residents and visitors to check out the trail and discover the great connections it provides to neighboring areas. This celebration was a victory for trail advocates who have pushed hard for completion over the years.

The day was filled with family fun activities, including a children's bike rodeo, dance performances, barbecue, community groups exhibiting information, community bike tours, and more. WABA provided support to Rails to Trails Conservancy in planning and promoting the event to neighborhoods near the trail.

"Meet the Met was great! Almost 1,000 people came out to meet the Metropolitan Branch Trail. We had free bike rentals from Bike and Roll, free food, hula-hooping, face painting, garden planting," said Stephen Miller, Urban Pathways Coordinator for Rails to Trails Conservancy. "We surveyed people who came out, and half of them had never been on the trail before. Many also came from nearby neighborhoods to discover this key connection right in their own backyard."

We are very happy to have this rails-to-trails conversion in the District, making it easier to get around the region by bicycle. A big thank you to everyone who came out to Meet the Met and joined the celebration!

2010 ADVOCACY CALENDAR

Find out what's going on in your area, and share your concerns!

Mark your calendars for the following bicycle advocacy meetings in 2010.

★ **Arlington County Bicycle Advisory Committee**

First Mondays of the month, 7:00 pm.
Arlington County Govt. Center (#1 Courthouse Plaza), 2100 Clarendon Blvd. (Courthouse Metro), For more info: David Goodman, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, at **703-228-3709** or **dgoodman@arlingtonva.us**.

★ **Coalition for the Capital Crescent Trail Board Meetings**

August, NO MEETING
September 13, 2010, 7-9 pm, Bethesda Library
October 11, 2010, 7-9 pm, Silver Spring Civic Center
November 8, 2010, 7-9 pm, Bethesda Library

★ **D.C. Bicycle Advisory Council**

First Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 6-8 pm. For more info: DC Bicycle Coordinator, Jim Sebastian at **(202) 671-2331** or **jim.sebastian@dc.gov**.

★ **Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling**

Usually third Wednesday of each month in Vienna. For more info: Bruce Wright at **bruce.wright@comcast.net**.

★ **Metropolitan Branch Trail Coalition**

Second Thursday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm. For more info: Paul Meijer at **202-726-7364** or **meijer@cua.edu**.

★ **Montgomery County Bicycle Action Group (MCBAG)**

August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18 - 6:30-8:30 pm, 100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

★ **Prince Georges County Bicycle & Trails Advisory Group (BTAG)**

Meets quarterly. Contact Fred Shaffer for details at **Fred.Shaffer@ppd.mnccppc.org**.

★ **WABA Board Meeting**

Second Monday each month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact the WABA office for location and agenda at **(202) 518-0524** or **waba@waba.org**.

For a bi-weekly update on advocacy activities, sign up for WABA's e-bulletin "Quick Release" by sending a message to **waba@waba.org**.

www.waba.org

SafeRoutes

Safe Routes to Schools
<http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Safe Routes to Schools • <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/contacts/DC.cfm>
Jennifer Hefferan • jennifer.hefferan@dc.gov • (202) 671-2227.

MARYLAND Safe Routes to Schools <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/contacts/MD.cfm>
Joe Pelaia • jpelaia@sha.state.md.us • 410-787-7620 or 1-800-323-6742.

VIRGINIA Safe Routes to Schools • <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/contacts/VA.cfm>
Sarah Weisiger • sarah.weisiger@vdot.virginia.gov • 804-371-4868

RESOURCES

★ BICYCLING EDUCATION & OUTREACH

WABA education staff has been busy over the past six months not only teaching bicyclists, but also expanding our educational offerings.

In addition to serving six schools with over 1,400 students, four recreation centers with 75 participants and providing instruction at sixteen facilities to over 200 adults, WABA has created more opportunities for a greater variety of bicyclists. We now offer at least one bilingual adult class, more Learn to Ride (a bicycle) classes for adults, bicycle instructor training, special trainings to help organizations and communities commute by bike and we teach motorists how to share the road. We also produced two public service announcements focusing on common car-bike conflicts. Check out our website for more information and a calendar of upcoming classes. You can also contact our staff and schedule a special training tuned to your needs: <http://waba.org/events/education.php>



An adult takes his first pedal strokes at a Learn to ride class.

TIPS SAFE CYCLING

As mild weather arrives this fall, many of us will put additional miles on our bikes. Here are a few statistics to keep you safe:

- 50% percent of bicycle crashes are due to "falling" such as losing balance or encountering road surface hazards like metal covers, cracks, bumps, loose gravel or leaves.
- 33% of bicycle crashes involve animals, other bicycles and fixed objects such as poles or barricades.
- 17% of bicycle crashes involve motor vehicles with assigned fault split fifty-fifty between bicyclist and motorist.
- Controlling your bike through careful steering, braking and acceleration will keep you upright. Also, wearing a helmet and gloves will prevent injury in the event of a fall.
- Following the law will prevent common crashes caused by bicyclists. Learning avoidance maneuvers such as stopping quickly and turning instantaneously, choosing the correct lane position and knowing when to control the lane or share the lane will help avoid motorist's mistakes.
- Finally, the more a cyclist rides, the better they ride.

Bike Ambassador Photo Contest



Photo by M.V. Jantzen

Thanks to everyone who entered this spring's Hunt for the D.C. Bike Ambassador photo contest! People who took a photo of Daniel in action and posted it on Facebook won a \$10 gift certificate to Spokes Etc. Bicycles. This year's contest brought out some great entries proving that our BA really gets around!



Photo by John York Whitler

So You Want to be a DC Bike Ambassador?

Well lucky for you, we're actively recruiting volunteer Bike Ambassadors (BAs) to represent WABA and put a smiling face on bicycling. And the next DC Bike Ambassador volunteer orientation is just around the corner.

This is a very simple meeting. It's a chance for Daniel, our Bike Ambassador, to meet volunteers face-to-face and lay out the BA program. Please plan to spend about an hour, and we will provide food. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer Bike Ambassador, please email Daniel at dcbawaba@waba.org and he will let you know when the next orientation meeting is scheduled.

After your orientation, you'll be asked to sign up for one of our FREE Confident City Cycling classes and to commit to helping out at a real live BA event. And that's it! You'll get a fancy BA T-shirt and you'll be able to help out at any future BA events like Farmers Markets, community events like Columbia Heights Day and BA rides.

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WABA's 2010 Spring Gala a Success

The stunning Austrian Embassy in Van Ness hosted this year's WABA Gala and Benefit Auction on Friday, April 23. With over 275 guests attending this year, WABA raised important funds for its advocacy and safety education efforts through ticket sales and the live and silent auctions.

austrian cultural forum ^{was}

Catering by Windows provided a delicious selection of food and drinks, while Sherry Truhlar of Red Apple Auctions served as this year's auctioneer. Sherry got the crowd excited from the beginning with an engaging "Heads-Tails" game. Guests who bought a ticket to play competed for a two-night stay at Lockhouse 6 along the C&O Canal. A coin-flip tournament took place, with participants squaring off and choosing either heads or tails until only one lucky winner remained.



Photo courtesy of Trenton Branson

The Gala's live auction was popular

The silent and live auctions offered an elegant and unique array of auction items, including a private tour for four of NPR studios, a week long stay on Lake Atitlan in Guatemala, bicycle gear, exclusive dining gift certificates, autographed books and bike memorabilia, and more.



In addition to the live and silent auctions, WABA raised close to \$3,000 for WABA's Learn to Ride program. "We need to educate a new, older generation of bicyclists who want to ride in order to get out of traffic congestion, improve their health or go for a bike ride and have fun," said WABA's Safety Education Coordinator Glen Harrison when introducing the special appeal fundraiser. "WABA is in its third year of offering classes for new riders. The first year we taught 5 pedestrians how to ride a bike. The second year we taught 50. This year we will teach 120 new cyclists." This program has been a growing success for WABA and its graduates, and the funding from this year's special appeal will help to bring more classes to future cyclists. Thank you dearly to everyone who contributed to this effort.

The Annual Gala and Benefit Auction is WABA's largest fundraiser of the year, bringing critical resources to the organization that help with operations throughout the year. This year's event was a large success thanks in support to this year's generous sponsors, including Alta Planning, Atlantic Valet, Capitol City Brewing Company, Crystal City BID, and Toole Design Group. Thank you very much to everyone who donated to the event, sponsored the event, and attended as guests. Everyone's ongoing contributions to the Annual Gala have helped make a special and successful evening.

Cyclists Party at the Prom!

On June 26, WABA celebrated its third-annual Bike Prom, a fun-filled fundraiser at the Black Cat featuring a variety of DJs, dancing and, of course, ample bike parking.

About 370 people attended the Mad Max-inspired party, which had a post-apocalyptic theme. Bike Prom offered a variety of cycle-themed ways to raise funds for WABA. Many bought raffle tickets for bike gear, clothing and other prizes. Attendees also paid to race each other on goldsprints, which are stationary bikes hooked up to a video screen displaying speed and time.

At the end of the evening, contestants for the prom king and queen paraded across the stage. The cyclists came out in a host of outrageous costumes, wearing everything from leather to fishnets to a Mexican wrestling mask. After voting narrowed down the finalists, the audience selected the winners by applause.



WABA staff hams it up for the camera at Bike Prom.

This year's bike prom raised around \$2,000 for WABA. The event couldn't have succeeded without the support of generous sponsors that donated resources, prizes and money, including: The Washington City Paper, Knog, Durkl, Bailey Bagworks, PBR, Asylum, Crooked Beat Records, Panda Bicycles, The Red Derby, Smash Records, Mission Workshop, Pitango Gelato, Rocks and Salt Design and The Bike Rack.

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september 25th, 2010

This uniquely Washington DC event is always a WABA member favorite. Choose from the challenging 64-mile 50 States Ride traversing all 50 state streets through each of the 8 Wards; or take on the less challenging 13 Colonies Ride covering the 13 Colonies state streets. The self-guided ride will feature a start area celebration, 3 rest stops along the way, an optional lunch and a post-ride celebration!

register online at waba.org

Report Those **DANGER SPOTS**



Ever come across bike paths like these? If you're in Montgomery County, it just got a lot easier to do something about it. MCDOT has a new link on its website that takes you to a bikeways page that has a well thought out reporting feature. You will be able to pull up the webpage and report a problem with the road or bike path and they will get it immediately. You should get a confirmation email within 24 business hours that your report has been read by a real live human being. If not, you can email them directly at mcdot.bike@montgomerycountymd.gov.

The picture on the left is the bike path next to 7012 Muncaster Mill Rd. in Redland. It looks like the paving guys just didn't finish that last little bit of path on either side of the driveway. It's been like that for a year and a half. And the picture on the right, well, is that really how you want to enter a bike path? Bicyclists must block the lane on N. Washington St. in Rockville while dismounting perpendicular to traffic to pick up the bike and place it on the path. These are the kind of things you can report on the Montgomery County Bikeways Site.

It's kind of hard to find the site from scratch, but I'll try to explain. Start at montgomerycountymd.gov then scroll down to *I Want To* and click. Then scroll to



Find Information and click. Scroll down to *Bikeways Program* and click and you're there.

You should be looking at a nicely laid out page with different buttons. You can get to the Division of Transportation Engineering Calendar just by clicking on *Get Involved* and then *Calendars*. You can find maps behind these buttons, request bike racks, and even request new paths. The *Bike Projects* button takes you to a list of the latest bike projects and clicking on more down at the bottom right gives you status information about each project. If you want to find out about the budgeting, click on the *Capital Funding* button to find out how much they plan to spend in each fiscal year and on what, exactly. There's a button for bicycle resources and a button to get involved. And of course, there's also a button for print-your-own bike maps. I think Aruna Miller over at MCDOT Planning has done a great job reworking the website for us, so let's show her how much we appreciate it.

—Alison Horton

Montgomery County Bikeways Site (subject to change): <http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-DTE/BikeWays/BWHome.aspx>



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Bike to Work Day on TWITTER

hamblinj

@WABADC Yeah, no excuses to not bike to work this year. It will be gorgeous for Bike to work day in #DC!

Re BTWD: pblegere @WABADC Rode from Capitol Hill to Reston Pit stop in about 1:40 - What a great day for it - even car drivers seemed to be into it.

PeteMasonDC

@wabadc - it's like being back in holland, except with better weather. congrats waba! and thank you

ESlammy

@wabadc Bike to Work day 2010. Great work! I bike most days. Get fewer cars and more bikes out there! Keep it up - catch you on 11th St. NW
[harperpb](#)

@WABADC My ride was enchanted today: I hit almost every light from 13th and Harvard NW to 6th and E. SW. Commute took five fewer minutes!

CEMcFarland

@WABADC what a fantastic morning to bike to work. Loved seeing the cyclists out for Bike to Work Day



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Photos courtesy of M.V. Jantzen



WABA staff Chantal Buchser and Daniel Hoagland give tips to cyclists at Meet the Met on the Metropolitan Branch Trail.

RIDE N

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A PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON AREA BICYCLIST ASSOCIATION

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*denotes a WABA Partnered Event. Contact chantal@waba.org for more information on WABA's Partnership Program.

*** Eunice Kennedy Shriver Challenge**  **October 23, 2010**
Coming to DC for the first time this year, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Challenge has something for everyone, including a 20-mile bike ride, 5K run, 3K walk, Youth Fun Run, and a series of races all on the National Mall. In addition to friends and admirers of Mrs. Shriver, hundreds of Best Buddies participants and Special Olympics athletes are expected to take part in this recreational event that will celebrate Mrs. Shriver's love of sports and friendship. Visit www.ekschallenge.org for more information.

WABA's Annual 50 States and 13 Colonies Ride.  **September 25, 2010**
Everyone's favorite ride is back this year! Are you to the challenging 60+ mile 50 States route, riding on every state street in the District? If not, don't worry, there's the 13 Colonies route too. With rest stops along the way and an optional lunch, this ride is not to be missed! Visit waba.org for more details about this WABA member favorite event.

*** Potomac Peddlers Back Roads Century.**  **September 19, 2010**
With distances of 65, 50 and 25 miles, riders of all abilities have something to choose from. The Virginia countryside is an ideal setting for riding, with gently rolling hills and historic landmarks. Visit backroadscscentury.org for registration information.

*** 24 Hours of Booty.**  **August 28-29, 2010**
This is the official 24-hour ride of the Lance Armstrong Foundation, which brings cyclists of all abilities together to raise vital funds for cancer research and survivorship. The Booty Loop in Columbia is a 2.1 mile loop with a mixture of hills and flats that will challenge riders over the 24 hours. For more info, visit 24hoursofbooty.org

*** Tour de Lions.**  **August 21, 2010**
Benefiting the Children's Miracle Network, this ride offers 75, 50, 25, and 12 mile routes available through Ashland's scenic countryside. This ride is fully supported and includes a post-ride meal. Visit waba.org for more information.

www.waba.org

EVENTS CALENDAR: 

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