

BBTC BOARD RETREAT NOTES

BBTC's charter is simple. It is summed by these three words: Recreation, Education, and Advocacy. We just had our annual retreat this year and, as always, those words set the focus for the agenda. We set a pretty aggressive agenda this year and last in order to capitalize on the successes the club has been enjoying in the past decade.

Some of the issues we discussed at our retreat were:

- Board leadership, follow through, focus, and continuity
- Financial goals and fundraising opportunities
- Effective long range use of resources available to us
- Volunteer recruitment and professionalism

It's clear we're doing well. It's also clear that in order to continue to do well and a) increase our trail miles b) maintain our trail miles, and c) promote a wide variety of club rides and boot camps, we need to increase our volunteer numbers as well.

What makes all of the above work or not depends on one thing: The dedication, knowledge, and professionalism of BBTC's volunteers.

BBTC is in need of folks to carry out the many volunteer opportunities that come with a growing, successful club. Because we are doing well, we can no longer rely on a small number of people to make the club work. We need a variety of talented people who are willing to

See Retreat on page 9



TIGER MOUNTAIN TRAILWORK

Thanks to Ellen Wittmond, Chris Alef, Kinsey Smith, Todd Frazer, Robert Miller, and Erika Benson for braving the rain, mud, one mile of hiking in the snow, and navigating myriad blow-downs to get to the designated work site on the Preston trail on Saturday. Chris told me I'd be getting a reputation for these hard core work parties if I kept this up. I hereby solemnly promise that it will never happen again . . .

We survived the hike, where every 100 yards or so I'd mistakenly say "I think the snow is going away, come on!" I think we were able to trudge through the snow and run-off, due in no small part, to the excellent cookies Robert made. I'm not sure anyone knew what was in them even after many of them had been consumed. They will; however, become the official Tiger Work Party Guerilla Trail Bars. They were tasty

See Tiger on page 3

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TRAIL CLOSURES

Please respect the seasonal trail closures out there. You may not agree with all of them, but in many cases, unfortunately, it's either a seasonal closure or it's closed for good.

TIGER: Remember that the Iverson and Preston Railroad Grades on Tiger Mountain are still closed for the season. But both trails open up again on April 15, before the next newsletter goes out. The BBTC objective is to get Tiger open year round. If this sounds good to you, turn out for one of the work parties scheduled up there.

VICTORIA TRACT: This area, known also at The Glass School and 300th, is closed from November 1 through April 30.

SUNTOP: This trail is buried in snow and won't be suitable for riding until June at the earliest. But whenever it opens, remember that the Forest Service closed it last summer for maintenance work. It's scheduled to reopen this season, but you should call ahead to confirm because the FS hands out \$100 tickets for riding closed trails.

ST EDWARDS: St Eds is open year round, but due to the heavy use it gets and the wet winter weather, try riding somewhere else until June. And watch the calendar for work parties there as well.

SNOQUALMIE TUNNEL: The tunnel is closed until May. But the rest of the Iron Horse Trail is open, unless snow turns you back.

MIDDLE FORK: The Middle Fork Trail will likely be open to bikes sometime this summer on an every-other-day basis, and then it will be seasonally closed. So right now it's closed. We'll keep you posted.

John Zilly

MEMBERS!

This is your club! All of the folks on the board and the committee chairs are accessible. And we are passionate about mountain biking. Give us a call to find out when the next cool ride is, ask questions, raise concerns, or just chat about trails and mountain biking. We love that. Also, if you enjoy your membership—the free rides, the newsletter, the BBTC email list—please encourage your friends to become members. Better yet, buy someone else a membership for their birthday. The BBTC does some vital stuff that keeps the sport fun and the trails open. Have fun out there.

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BBTC Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month. Call the Hotline for location and time (206) 283-2995.

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

In the Pacific Northwest, winter weather precludes much of the riding we attempt. We try to ride—just look at the BBTC website. There are plenty of rides listed. There are also plenty of rides cancelled because it's, uh, raining or the trails are too wet to sustain user traffic. <<Caution: What follows is an unabashed plug for giving back to the trails>> Work parties, of course, happen rain or shine and occasionally in the snow. So, are you itching to get out and do an activity which is at least bike related? Try a work party. <<End of plug>>

As a Northern California native, I tend to look at March as the time the weather gets nice and the temperatures regularly hit the 60's and 70's. In the PNW, it's at this time that I start searching for any inkling that spring is on its way. Here are my top ten, er, twelve indicators:

- 1) Tulips are sprouting
 - 2) Miner's Lanterns are just starting to peek out
 - 3) The bike swap happens
 - 4) Fewer and fewer rides are "cancelled due to rain and snow."
 - 5) Cherry trees start blooming
 - 6) The County finally picks up all the discarded Christmas trees
 - 7) We don't have to hike through a mile of snow to get to a trail work party site
 - 8) My Californian brother starts sending me weather forecasts about how nice it is in Sacramento.
 - 9) Bike Expo happens
 - 10) The Swainson's Thrush starts its lonely call
 - 11) You stop seeing listings for "Snowboard day at Crystal" on the BBTC ride list
 - 12) Art Tuftee schedules his annual trip to Moab
- And the number one reason I know spring is here:

Enjoy your spring.

TIGER, CONT

and also large enough to be utilized as edible snowshoes if conditions had worsened.

The worksite:

Being that the Preston Railroad trail is in fact an old timber railroad line, it tends to be bermed on both sides with four foot high mounds. The challenge is how to move water off the existing tread without ditching the entire length of the railroad section of trail. This is especially true on the section we worked on Saturday.

The work site was a fifty yard long section of trail that we've been improving. The trail is lower than the old ditch alongside it so water from up trail, as well as seepage under the trail, would just run unobstructed down the tread for the length of the section. Ditches, though sometimes necessary, don't work well on the Preston for a couple of reasons: ditches require constant maintenance and don't always collect water seepage flowing onto the trail. The seeps tend to migrate, weekly, from one spot to the next and always re-position themselves just downhill from the beautiful ditches that do exist. So, instead of ditching, we try to re-design the trail to sheet water off of it whenever possible. We also build in low maintenance features like rolling, grade dips or bike friendly rock water bars to re-route any water that does come down the trail.

This section of the Preston doesn't have any way to move water off the trail, so we built a few bike friendly check dams to slow water and catch dirt. They will gradually build the tread back up. We also did one small re-route, sweeping the tread up around a tree. This serves two purposes: it breaks up the long straight section, adds additional challenge while reducing speed, and also re-locates the tread to higher ground so water will stay off the trail.

After all that work, we hiked back to the cars, got rid of as much of our muddy clothes as possible (no, we weren't naked), and warmed back up to normal body temperature again. This was definitely a cold winter work party.

Thanks again everyone!
Brian

TRAIL REPORTS

TOLT MACDONALD

JANUARY 17

The weather gods were smiling on us. Well, the rain god was, but the cold weather god was out in full force. The parking lot in Carnation felt much colder than the park&ride in Seattle. usually i'm a hardass about ride limits, but last night we went by the "more the merrier" theory, and 9 riders set off from the middle school parking lot for the grind up the hill. The new reroutes are quite nice, and with the dry-ish week, the mud wasn't as bad as it was a few weeks back. We regrouped at the 5 way and headed for the trails. We avoided worst of the mud. We rode (i'm sure i'm missing some) shot put, mystery trail to oxbow to double bypass, number 9, tour de stump, ice rose, nessie, 76, perimeter, blair witch and toothpick. We lost joe shortly into the ride due to battery issues, but otherwise we stayed together through all the twists and turns. There were hoots and hollers, and nessie was especially well liked. Even by peter when he went OTB. Never leaving the well drawn lines on the map, there was little straying from a well planned 2 hour micromanaged night ride. The ride down the hill was trecherous as we were attacked from all sides by killer water bars. However, we all survived to return safely to the cars.

Beth

LAKE WILDERNESS LOOP

JANUARY 9

Well Rich Smith and I did a great loop yesterday. It was a beautiful, warm sunny day. Perfect for riding. We started in Covington, rode through Cedar Creek Park to the Lake Wilderness Trail. From there we headed out to Landsberg. There are old rail bridges that are cemented now that go over the Cedar River along the way. After the last bridge we took a detour to ride the single track along theriver, then back up onto the rail trail to Landsberg. There we crossed the Cedar River and turned left onto the Pipeline. There is some single track along thesides but they were pretty mucky from all the rain. We turned onto the route I usually take. Made it about 3/4 way through the clearcut and came upon a brand new school. Had to ride over the grass to get to the Summit Landsberg rd. From there we rode to 4 corners to hook up with the Lake Wilderness trail back to Lake Wilderness then back down the Cedar Creek Park trail to where we started. Its a total of 20 miles, 3 good hill climbs, and fast flat rail trail, and some single track. Rich thought the connector between Covington and Maple Valley was great. It kept us off any major roads and goes through some incredibly beautiful forest with springs pouring out of the sides of hills, cedars towering into the sky, and afeeling of being in the wilderness.

Lisa Parsons

NIGHT CRAWLERS

JANUARY 10

Thursday night is ride night and I look forward to it all week. This week we were riding at the trails affectionately lumped under the name 'the worm'. Dave S. and I decided to start early to get a bit of extra riding in before the others arrived. We rode parasite in both directions. Trail conditions were excellent, without a single puddle. I had been a bit worried since it was raining when I left home. Logs were a bit slimey, but you couldn't really ask for more considering it is January in Seattle. I hadn't been on my bike in over two weeks - a very very rare occurrence, and my bike was feeling a bit wonky. I tightened the headset a bit, but later realized it was just me, not my bike that was wonky. Eventually I got back into the flow of riding and we swooped through the tight singletrack. We made it back to the cars just as the others were ready to ride. Dave Rossman and Jon Kouremetis joined us. We headed off to 'dna' to warm up. We were riding a good, fast pace. After dna, we headed to 'the tapeworm'. still holding a fast pace, I tried unsuccessfully to get over the first rock. I only tried it for a first time a few weeks ago, and did get over it, but that wasn't in the dark. One attempt resulted in a near endo, but I managed to step over the handlebars and land on my feet. While catching our breath at the octopus, Mark caught up to us. And then we were five. We finished with another romp through 'the parasite'. Lights weaving through the trees like an x-files episode. It was good to be on the bike again.

Beth Reyburn

VICTOR FALLS

JANUARY 20

The Pacific NW SS (singlespeed) Clan ride went off without a hitch today despite the best plans of mother nature. It was a wet and muddy ride with lots of puddles to go through but once under the trees, you didn't notice the fact that it was still raining. 14 singlespeeders and two geared riders had a good time, dare I say a blast, riding through the twisties of Victor Falls. Of the two geared riders, one was up from California on business so it was easier for him to borrow a bike than to bring his singlespeed. We rode for about 2.5 hours then most of us retired to the warmth, food, and brew of the Powerhouse Brewery in Puyallup. Thanks to all the riders who came out (Ballard, Langley, Longview, and Yakima were represented) and put up with my loose organization. Thanks to the locals who showed us through the maze of trails.

Kevin Axt

Find more Trail Reports on page 8

MARCH / APRIL 2002 RIDES & EVENTS

**TO LEAD A RIDE:
CONTACT JOHN LOOMIS**
loomisjc@home.com

☞ Heavy rain cancels.
☞ RSVP minimum 48 hours in advance

**CALL THE BBTC HOTLINE
FOR UPDATES & ADDITIONS**
206-283-2995

Come Join us! BBTC rides are free and open to the public. Riders must wear an approved helmet. Riders under 18 need written permission from a parent or guardian. All riders must be self-supporting, i.e. carry a patch kit, spare tube, pump, and tools.

BBTC RATING SYSTEM

1 Flat or rolling terrain - no sustained climbs
2 Hills - lots of ups and downs
3 Mountains - sustained climbs and descents

A Easy, well-graded logging roads & trails
B Tough, technically challenging
C Difficult, extremely technical trails


* Leisurely pace with frequent stops
** Moderate pace with few stops
*** Strenuous pace with minimal stops


**RIDES AND EVENTS ARE OFTEN ADDED AFTER THE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
CHECK THE HOTLINE (206-283-2995) OR WWW.BBTC.ORG.**


CAMPOUT

BOOT CAMP


TRAIL WORK

 Friday, March 1st - 8:30 AM
WTA Grand Ridge New Multi-Use Trail Section
Join the WTA's work party. This is a continuation of last year's effort in re-routing a section of trail. This is new trail building. This is multi-use trail and it's important we do our part in building the trails in this area. Make sure and join the work party on the WTA site too. Also, it's great to get mountain bikers out on these work parties. It helps other trail users get a feel for what we like to see in trail design and gets you some trail building experience too. Get Directions and Join at the WTA website (www.wta.org). by Brian Jones (smithjones@seanet.com).

 Saturday, March 2nd - 10:00 AM - 2B*
Harmony Convergence SS
Another in a (hopeful) series of SS rides/gatherings in the Pacific NW. This one is "hosted" by Bob (aka Red-Haze) out of Longview, WA. Trail riding on the Stella trails in the sleepy little town of Longview, WA. We will depart from the Longview YMCA parking lot (map posted later) at 10am sharp for a short 10 minute drive to the trailhead. I highly recommend gearing somewhat easier than 2:1. I run 32:18 and some hills. Most trails will be tight, twisty and narrow. Ride Leader Kevin Axt (mtnwuff@yahoo.com).


 Saturday, March 2nd - 8:30 AM
WTA Grand Ridge Trail Work Party (day 2)
See description above. Ride Leader Brian Jones (smithjones@seanet.com)

Sunday, March 3rd - 11:00 AM - 1B*
Social Paced Ride
Social paced ride for the slower folks. We'll try and hit all of it. Everyone welcome, no one gets left behind. Ride Leader denise nerison (denijoe@earthlink.net).


 Sunday, March 3rd - 8:30 AM
WTA Grand Ridge Trail Work Party (day 3)
See description above. Ride Leader Brian Jones (smithjones@seanet.com).

Sunday, March 3rd - 12:00 PM
BBTC Race Team 2002 Meeting
If you are interested in joining the race team this is a good time to meet some of the current BBTC racers. We will meet at the Bike Expo at the BBTC booth at 12 noon and go to the local brewery for lunch and discussion. Ride Leader Lisa Parsons (parsons00@earthlink.net).

Wednesday, March 6th - 11:00 AM - 2B*
Kanasket Trails
Come ride til your tired. Plan on riding for 2-3 hrs on trails and logging roads. Ride Leader Lisa Parsons (parsons00@earthlink.net).

 Thursday, March 7th - 8:30 AM
WTA Grand Ridge Trail Work Party (day 4)
See description above. Ride Leader Brian Jones (smithjones@seanet.com).

Thursday, March 7th - 11:00 AM - 1B**
Exploring Metcalf Trust
Let's go explore the area. Great single track. Plan to take the 10:00am Mukilteo ferry. Bring radio. Food afterwards in Langley. Check web site for any changes. Ride Leader Julie C (jsppeace@hotmail.com).

 Sunday, March 7th - 8:30 AM
WTA Grand Ridge Trail Work Party (day 5)
See description above. Ride Leader Brian Jones (smithjones@seanet.com).

Saturday, March 9th - 10:00 AM - 1C*
Twistin' Round Tolt
One big climb, lotsa fun twisty single track. Group dynamics determines pace and duration, etc...but this ride is typically mellow pace with few stops. Email for information, directions, confirmation. This ride will be open to adv. beginners/mellow intermediate riders. There are a lot of bail out points if you don't know if you can "make it" for a full ride. Mexican and cervezas after. Yeah! Ride Leader Valerie Sargent (sargentvl@hotmail.com, Cell Number (206)550-7812).

Sunday, March 10th - 10:30 AM - 2B**
Anacortes, Cranberry Lake
We will meet at Cranberry lake at 10:30 and ride Anacortes forest lands. These are great trails and a lot of fun. Bring some food for a snack and cash for a late lunch if we want. Two to three hours of riding. Call or e-mail for car pool. (206) 706-3913. Ride Leader Randy Lee (speedfreak0048@msn.com).

Monday, March 11th - 11:00 AM - 1B***
Lake Sawyer Trail Run and Ride
Come to either run and ride or just ride. Will run approx 5 miles and then hit the trails for a 10+ mile ride. Ride Leader Lisa Parsons (parsons00@earthlink.net).

CHECK THE HOTLINE (206-283-2995) OR BBTC.ORG FOR LATE ADDITIONS

MARCH & APRIL RIDES AND EVENTS

Tuesday, March 12 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area

Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops for tired people like me. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of- Steel" micro climbs. we'll cover all the various sections, including (if time & energy allow) BOTH phases of "Blaine's World". Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Thursday, March 14th - 7:00 PM - 1C**

Night Crawlers

Parasitic adventures this week. Same deal as usual: carpool from the 65th P&R at 6:15. Really soggy weather cancels. Ride Leader Beth Reyburn (breyburn@u.washington.edu).

Saturday, March 16th - 8:00 AM

WIM #1 "Mudfest" in Spokane Washinton

First WIM race of the season on one of their classic short tracks. Feeling the luck of the Irish? Riverdance into the season on this tight 75% single track course. A fast 3.5-mile loop with only a few short climbs will be the perfect way to start the new season. You may want to bring your mud tires, as things are sure to be oozy on the banks of Latah Creek this early in the season. For more info go to: www.roundandround.com. Organizer Lisa Parsons (parsons00@earthlink.net)

Saturday, March 16th - 10:00 AM

Proposed Tolt Work Party

Upon approval from KC parks. Organizer Craig McKinnon (craigsmckinnon@cs.com).

Saturday, March 16th - 10:30 AM - 2B**

Dirty Girls Ride

Sorry guys, girls only on this one. Intermediate level ride. Ride Leader Beth Reyburn (breyburn@u.washington.edu).

Sunday, March 17th - 10:30 AM - 2B**

Fort Ebey

Ride time is 10:30 at the park. We will ride 2 to 3 hours. There are lots of bail out points so you can ride as long or short as you want. Lunch on the bluff. Ride Leader Randy Lee (speedfreak0048@msn.com). Call or e-mail for car pool. (206) 706-3913.

Tuesday, March 19 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area

Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of- Steel" micro climbs. Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Wednesday, March 20th - 4:30 PM - 3B***

Enumclaw Training Ride

Hill climbing on logging roads. Bring your night light, if there's a view we'll climb to elevation, watch the sunset (big view of Mt. Rainier) and bomb down before dusk. Ride Leader John Loomis (loomisjc@home.com)

Thursday, March 21st - 11:00 AM - 1B**

Armstrong

Meet at the 164th st Park and Ride at 10:00am to carpool. Bring radio. Plan to ride +15 miles. Mexican food afterwards. Check web site for any changes. Heavy rain cancels. Ride Leader Julie C (jspeace@hotmail.com).

Thursday, March 21st - 7:00 PM - 2B***

Night time at Tolt -

2 hr burn time required. Park at the middle school across the street from park entrance. Carpooling from 65th P&R at 6:14. Really wet weather cancels. Ride Leader Beth Reyburn (breyburn@u.washington.edu).

Saturday, March 23rd - 8:00 AM

WIM #2 "Olympic Meltdown" Port Angeles

Even in the mud these are some of the most well manicured trails you will ever ride. Up or down, this loop will leave you with a tired, yet great big smile. Gearing choices – with a tough dirt road climb and twisting descents, plan to use the whole cluster. The race will take place on the Foothills Trail which is located on southwest of Port Angeles about 20 minutes. For more info go to:

www.roundandround.com. Organizer Lisa Parsons (parsons00@earthlink.net).

Saturday, March 23rd - 10:00 AM - 2B*

Mist and Mystery -

Enjoy single track in the mist and mystery of Eocene intrusions midst Pleistocene glacial outwash, right next to that new housing development. Ride Leader Peter Partel (mtb_gonzo@hotmail.com).

Sunday, March 24th - 10:00 AM - 3A*

Road Pain Train

Road Pain Train on Tiger Mountain w/ a SS. The Test Of Metal is not that far off and I need the miles. Anybody is invited to join. Ride Leader Kevin Axt (mtnwuff@yahoo.com).

Monday, March 25th - 6:45 PM

Regular March Board Meeting

The March 25 board meeting will be held in Room 4, 6:45-8:45pm at the Bellevue Regional Public Library, located at 1111 110th Ave. NE, in Bellevue. Organizer Tom Fitzpatrick (cherylandfitz@attbi.com).

Tuesday, March 26 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area

Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of- Steel" micro climbs. Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Wednesday, March 27th - 4:30 PM - 3B***

Enumclaw Training Ride

Hill climbing on logging roads. Bring your night light, if there's a view we'll climb to elevation, watch the sunset (big view of Mt. Rainier) and bomb down before dusk. Ride Leader John Loomis (loomisjc@home.com).

Saturday, March 30th - 10:00 AM - 2B*

Armstrong Tract? the easy way...

I've ridden here once. This ride will be a mellow intermediate ride or for advanced beginners with a lot of stanima—in case we get lost and are biking around in circles for an hour ...you never know when an 8-mile ride might turn into 15 miles. Email for questions, directions etc. Heavy Rain cancels. If you have limited web access, please call my cell phone 206.550.7812 for any questions, but email is best. Ride Leader Valerie Sargent (sargentvl@hotmail.com).

MARCH & APRIL RIDES AND EVENTS

Sunday, March 31st - 11:00 AM

RCMP

DNR has given permission for a trailwork party to ride the trails in order to clear blow down and access winter damage to the trails before they reopen. Roving work will include flagging areas for future work parties, draining puddles and clearing blowdowns. Must bring your own, portable tool. Must have trailwork experience. This event will be used as a trailwork reward. If you have already done some work this year, you are eligible. Organizer Beth Reyburn (breyburn@u.washington.edu).

Tuesday, April 2 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area

Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of- Steel" micro climbs. Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Wednesday, April 3rd - 5:00 PM - 3B***

Enumclaw Training Ride

Hill climbing on logging roads. Bring your night light, if there's a view we'll climb to elevation, watch the sunset (big view of Mt. Rainier) and bomb down before dusk. Ride Leader John Loomis (loomisjc@home.com).

Thursday, April 4rd - 5:00 PM - 2B*

Thursday Night at Ed's

St. Ed's trail ride. No one left behind. Heavy rain cancels. Ride Leader Jimmy Bucher (ValveFace@aol.com)

Saturday, April 6th - 11:00 AM - 1B***

WIM Series #3 Battle in Seattle

Come race with team BBTC on our home turf at the 3rd WIM race. Organizer John Loomis (loomisjc@home.com).

Sunday, April 7th - 10:30 AM - 2B**

Anacortes Cranberry Lake

We will hit the trail there again. There are lots of trails and you can not hit them all, so we will just have to keep going. There are lots of bail out points here as well so you can ride as long as you fill like. Ride Leader Randy Lee (speedfreak0048@msn.com). Call or e-mail for car pool 206 706 3913.

Sunday, April 7th - 11:00 AM - 1B***

Girls Love Dirt

Fast ride in hopefully not too much mud...and maybe coffee and goodies at the Honeybear Bakery (Third Place Books) after? Ride Leader Sharon F. (sharon_f_n@hotmail.com).

Sunday, April 7th - 11:00 AM - 1C*

Social Paced Intermediate Ride

Back at the WORM this week. Everyone welcome, no one gets left behind. Ride Leader denise nerison (denijoe@earthlink.net).

Tuesday, April 9 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area

Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of- Steel" micro climbs. Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Wednesday, April 10th - 4:00 PM - 1B*

Tolt: info ride

Informational ride. Pace as slow as the slowest rider. Max miles for 2-3 hours riding. Will go into too much detail about the trail system and provide copious quantities of information for you to digest. Will try to cover as many of the trails as possible. Chalupas and cervezas in town after. Ride Leader Bob Bournique (bbtcrides@aol.com). Call or e-mail for additional details.

Saturday, April 13th - 10:00 AM - 1C*

Twistin' Round Tolt

One big climb, lotsa fun twisty single track. Group dynamics determines pace and duration, etc...but this ride is typically mellow pace with few stops. The date may change depending on my personal schedule, so be sure to check up the week of this event if you've signed in early. Email for information, directions, confirmation. Ride Leader Valerie Sargent (sargentvl@hotmail.com). Cell Number 550-7812.

Saturday, April 13th - 10:00 AM - 2C*

Tiger Mountain Opener

Ride all the mt. bike trails on Tiger Mountain on the first day the trails are open. Be sure to check in before the ride for potential extended closure. Tom Fitzpatrick (cherylandtfitz@attbi.com).

Sunday, April 14th - 10:30 AM - 2B**

Victor Falls

Well, on this one I can get us in and out, but we might do some trails more than once. But I know we will have fun. Ride time 2 to 3 hours, there are some bail out points. Ride Leader Randy Lee (speedfreak0048@msn.com). Call or e-mail for car pool. (206) 706-3913.

Tuesday, April 16 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area

Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of- Steel" micro climbs. Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Wednesday, April 17th - 5:00 PM - 2B*

Finding Paradise

Informational ride. Pace as slow as the slowest rider. Max miles for 2-3 hours riding. Will go into too much detail about the trail system and provide copious quantities of information for you to digest. Will try to cover as many of the trails as possible. Maltby Pizza, home of the disappearing Greek pie, after. Call or e-mail for additional details. Ride Leader Bob Bournique (bbtcrides@aol.com).

Saturday, April 20th - 10:30 AM - 2C**

Spring in Moab

Preliminary announcement. Save the dates. More details as the ride gets closer. Ride Leader Art Tuftee (arttuftee@aol.com).

Monday, April 22nd - 6:45 PM

April board meeting

The April 22 board meeting will be held 6:45-8:45pm at REI, 222 Yale Ave N, in Seattle. Email Tom Fitzpatrick at cherylandtfitz@attbi.com if you need driving directions. Organizer Tom Fitzpatrick (cherylandtfitz@attbi.com).

Rides continue on page 9

CYCLE VICTORIA!

On February 9, 2002 the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition opened the Cycling Resource Centre at 1056A North Park Street (at Cook St.). The opening event was well attended by many enthusiastic supporters including Bruce Burgess and Mary-Alice Rath from the US National Centre for Bicycling and Walking, as well as Chris Causton, the Chair of the Capital Regional District and Mayor of Oak Bay. Over 150 visitors attended.

Almost 800 strong, the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition celebrated its tenth anniversary of community service last year, appropriately coincident with the "international year of the volunteer." Our status as the "Fittest City in Canada" and the "Cycling Capital of Canada," according to our national census bureau, really gave us something to cheer about. It helps that our cycling season is year-round and the scenery is unparalleled.

The Cycling Resource Centre ushers in a new era for the GVCC and all other cycling organizations in the area, as we take the provision of cycling information and services to our community to new heights. The storefront is in an accessible, visible location on the edge of downtown where you can get materials on any cycling activity. Come in and pick up a copy of Victoria's Cycling Map and GVCC's Bike Sense, our official Provincial bicycle operator's manual, browse the library of bicycle engineering texts or cycle touring guides. Find out about local riding groups, or the easiest ways to get around town or up-Island. The "Blue Whale," the GVCC's mobile, human powered kiosk now lives at the Cycling Resource Centre. It takes cycling information to the community during Bike-to-Work-Week and other events.

In the months to come, we will turn the Centre into an active service hub for local and visiting cyclists. As municipalities in the region make changes, we'll be displaying their plans for your review. The Centre will anchor our recreational rides and safety education programs. It will be the distribution centre for Cycletherapy (GVCC's newsletter). It will also serve as the center for our ProBike/ProWalk 2004 Conference bid (the largest cycling and walking conference in North America). We look forward to better serving everyone in our community, even those who do not ride, by our continuing effort to make the Capital Regional District a healthier, wealthier, happier place for all to live and recreate. We will also assemble the support and expertise necessary to ensure through a successful campaign that we reach 15% of all commute trips by 2015, in other words, that Victoria remains the Cycling Capital of Canada for many years to come. We encourage you to drop by whenever you are downtown Victoria.

For further information, call 250-480-5155 or check our website: www.gvcc.bc.ca

MORE TRAIL REPORTS

BEGINNER / INTERMEDIATE RIDE JANUARY 13

Once again we had a great turnout! Thanks everyone for showing up. We had 10 people in the group this Sunday with a few return riders and also some new ones. We started out of the parking lot a little slow today, mostly mechanical problems on several bikes. Mainly brakes that were not functioning in a stopping manner. Much thanks to Jason who had the hydraulic bleeding kit with him! Once again we made our way through the mud to Big Finn, where we actually split into two groups, one led by Jim and Jason crossed the road over to the soccer fields. The rest of us stayed and tried out some trails around the water bar section, along with the top. We made it back to the cars with about 2 hours + on the bikes, some of it just talking, making new friends to ride with in the future. We will continue these rides at a slower pace. Come and join us!

Denise

FORT EBEBY FEBRUARY 24



Doing that Fort Ebey thing.

12 hardy (and not-so-hardy) mountain bikers showed up for the Old Farts Fort Ebey ride this morning. Mother nature greeted us with nearly perfect riding weather — cool and clear. Keith Cecil had laid out a fun and challenging ride for us — even more challenging than he expected (that's what he claims, anyway). There were a couple of long, steep climbs that had "slipped his mind." Or was he just enjoying our groans and whining? Keith paid for his sins with mechanical problems that finally knocked him out of the ride. Other than that, there were no flats or problems of any kind, except for when the ride leader, whoever that was, got lost.

Continued on next page

MORE TRAIL REPORTS

EBEY, CONT

The trails were in great shape, in spite of the recent monsoons. Apparently, the gravelly soils that make up most of the trails perc very well indeed.

Lunch break at the gun battery gave us a chance to enjoy fantastic views of the Olympics and a whole lot of blue water.

I'm sorry to say that we don't have the "social" pace thing perfected, yet. I made the mistake of giving the faster riders a map. As a result we didn't see much of them until the lunch break. We need to work on being more "social" during the actual ride — as in pacing ourselves more appropriately in order to accommodate the slower riders.

One minor issue was a problem with the BBTC radio frequencies. The 10-10 channel recommended by BBTC is not common between GRS and FRS radios. Only channels 1 thru 7 are. As a result, I couldn't use my two best radios. Maybe the club could shift to recommending a channel that will work on both types of radio.

Thanks to all who participated. And, many thanks to Keith for all his efforts in setting up this ride. Hopefully, we can do it again in the not-so-distant future, and Keith's bike will hang together for the entire ride. Now, where did I leave that bottle of Advil?

Waid Reynolds

RETREAT, CONT

start giving back the to the trails. Meetings, marketing, volunteer coordinators, events coordinators, graphic artists, ride leaders, teachers—you name it, we need it.

From this point out the success of the club depends on how effectively BBTC grows and how we manage our failures, and most importantly, our successes.

As we identify positions that will be opening up within the club, you will hear from us. What you can do now is take a minute to two to decide how you can set some time aside to help the club continue to achieve your goals.

Without you, trails close. Without you, trails deteriorate. Without you, all those awesome rides and bootcamps that BBTC puts on cannot exist. Without you—there is no BBTC.

Brian Jones, President

AN IMBA REQUEST

Hello IMBA listserv:

IMBA is looking to compile a list of useful tips that mountain bikers can follow to help protect the environment. A healthy environment is key to our sport and we'd like to provide folks with simple action steps. It's possible that we'll publish this list in a future IMBA Trail News.

Ideas should relate to cycling, advocacy or trailwork. For example, riding your bike to the trailhead would apply, as would not constructing a trail near a wetland area. However, something like using wind power to heat your home might not correlate quite as well. We're looking for creative solutions that you use to help preserve the planet.

If you have any ideas, please send them to dan@imba.com. Thanks for taking the time to help us out.

Dan Vardamis

Advocacy Coordinator & IMBA Trail News Editor

International Mountain Bicycling Association

ph: (303)545-9011 x 101, FAX: (303)545-9026

e-mail: dan@imba.com website: <http://www.imba.com>

RIDE LIST, CONT

Tuesday, April 23 - 6pm

Lk. Sawyer Trails, Black Diamond area
Meet in the pkg lot @ Sawyer Woods Elem. School, Lake Sawyer Rd. SE. 8 miles or 1.5 hrs max ride time, social pace w/ frequent stops. mostly rolling singletrack, 50% technical sections, easy logs & numerous "Abs-of-Steel" micro climbs. Required for nite rides 1.5 hrs* burn time (*min 30W system recommended) Minimum/max riders: 2/12. Optional post ride scarfing @ 4 Corners: Shakey's Pizza or El Caporal Mexican. MARK Whitehead 253-437-6920, ext 4036 (wk), 253-638-0914 (hm).

Wednesday, April 24th - 5:00 PM - 2B*

Lords of the Hill

Informational ride. Pace as slow as the slowest rider. Max miles for 2-3 hours riding. Will go into too much detail about the trail system and provide copious quantities of information for you to digest. Will try to cover as many of the trails as possible. Call or e-mail for additional details. Ride Leader Bob Bournique (bbtrides@aol.com).

Saturday, April 27th - 11:00 AM - 3C**

All Singletrack Sunday at Tiger

I've always wanted to do Iverson first to see how I do when I'm not worn out. We'll ride Iverson and Northwest Timber both directions. Depending on how much energy folks have, we could do Preston as well. But it's early in the season so we'll see. Ride Leader Sharon F. (sharon_f_n@hotmail.com).

Sunday, April 28th - 11:00 AM - 1C**

Early Season Skookum

Up White River trail and down Skookum. We'll stop to clear downed brush along the way. If there's enough people we'll break into groups (i.e. leisure and fast). Ride Leader John Loomis (loomisjc@home.com).

SEATTLE'S BIKE EXPO STOP BY BBTC'S BOOTH—448

Don't miss Andy Hampsten, John Stamsted, and Dangerous Dan and the Flow Riders. That's right, it's almost time for the 2002 Subaru Seattle Bicycle Expo. Check out the best of the season's new equipment - mountain bikes, trikes, recumbents, folders and road bikes - plus accessories and trips from nearby favorites to distant adventures. See the gear, talk to the builders, test ride the bikes, sign up for the trips. All this and great deals too! It's the Northwest's favorite way to start the cycling season.

- 150 exhibits by dealers, manufacturers, and tour operators.
- Travel the world with Willie Weir
- Ride the Tour, travel Tuscany with Andy Hampsten
- Pedal the Mackenzie River, John Greengo & Tim Bailey
- Mountain bike adventure with John Stamsted
- The ultimate mountain bike stunts with Dangerous Dan and the Flow Riders from the North Shore.
- and much more...

The show runs March 1-3; Friday, 4 p.m.-8 p.m, Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m at the Stadium Exhibition Center, across from Safeco Field.

Get more information by calling 206-522-BIKE or visiting www.cascade.org. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for juniors (6-15 years). Children under six are FREE. Bicycle Expo and the neighboring Golf Show will have a dual ticket for a discounted price of \$12. The Subaru Seattle International Bicycle Expo is a Cascade Bicycle Club event and is presented by NewsRadio KIRO 710.

Dave Shaw

SUPPORT ESTA

The Evergreen State Trails Association (ESTA) is a Federal Non Profit 501-C3. You can write off trail donations on your taxes. ESTA's mission is to provide a non-profit tax exempt venue that supports singletrack trail funding for shared use trails, PRIMARILY MOUNTAIN BICYCLE, but also shared use with hiker/equestrian trails. If you can donate, sent checks to...

Evergreen State Trails Association (ESTA)
PMB 320 13520 100th Avenue NE # 90
Kirkland WA, 98034-5210

If you need more info, call 425-820-3408 or e mail Craig at CraigSmckinnon@cs.com.

Help maintain and build new bicycle-friendly singletrack!

BBTC TEAMS WITH REI AGAIN ON TRAILWORK

I was contacted by REI regarding their bike service project. It's the Redmond store that "sponsors" it, and we've done it for the past few years.

They'll provide lunch and drinks and some simple schwag. We provide the post event bbq and schwag if we have some.

It will probably be held at Tiger Mountain again this year. Same format where we have it all laid out ahead of time. The facilities there and type of trail work needed lend themselves well to the style of this event.

The event will be either May 4th or May 11th. Watch the website or call the hotline for details as May approaches.

UPCOMING BBTC TRAILWORK MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Check out the website for details and to sign up for these upcoming work parties:

Grand Ridge New Trail Section w/WTA:
Friday, March 1
Saturday, March 2
Sunday, March 3

Thursday, March 7
Friday, March 8

Tolt-MacDonald Park Work Party
Saturday, March 16

Participating in a WTA work party is a great way to show another user group that we're actively giving back to the trails. It also lets us talk about what we like to see in a mountain bike trail.

Brian



NORTH SEATAC PARK

We attended the council meeting at the City of Seatac this evening regarding North SeaTac Park. It was standing-room only with 70-80 people attending, most of whom opposed the proposed amendment that was being discussed that would basically end recreation in the park.

We did learn things we were not aware of before this meeting, such as the fact that the Park property is already legally owned by the Port of Seattle and the City of Seatac is only leasing it from the Port under 50-year lease agreement. The proposed area to be returned to the Port for future development yet to be finalized consists of 55 acres on the north end of North SeaTac Park, which we learned has 220 acres altogether, a lot bigger than we originally thought.

Except for one person, all of the public comments presented at the meeting were against the proposal. The only comment we heard representing cycling interests (we arrived 30 minutes late) came from Ann Grande who was No. 2 in the nation in cyclocross racing this past season. She, of course, was requesting the council to reconsider this matter.

In the end, council took the vote and the resolution was approved by 3 to 2. The two councilmen who opposed the resolution (they supported the Park, that is) were Gene Fisher and Kay Lasco. While people who took time to attend the meeting were genuinely concerned of this development, they were ill-prepared to strike down a proposal the council had already discussed, although we only found out about it few days ago. A lot of details were still missing, and we couldn't tell if this would be the end of this issue.

Mire & Anthony

THESE BUSINESSES ROCK!

Some local shops and businesses have become BBTC corporate members, showing their support for our club and the work we do. Show your appreciation by supporting—buying gear from—the companies that support the BBTC.

Are you interested in becoming a BBTC corporate member? Contact Brian Jones, smithjones@seanet.com; 206-324-2468.

Bicycle Outfitters

11320 NE 124th St., Kirkland, WA 98034
(425) 820-0104

Bikesale.com / Bothell Ski & Bike

17816 Bothell Way NE, Bothell WA 98011
(425) 486-3747
Sales and Service

Finn Hill Bikes

14130 Juanita Dr NE #1-10, Bothell, WA
(425) 823-1215
Sales and Service

Gregg's Aurora Cycle

7401 Aurora Ave. N, Seattle
(206) 783-1000; www.greggscycles.com

Gregg's Bellevue Cycle

145 106th Ave. NE, Bellevue, 425-462-1900

Gregg's Greenlake Cycle

7007 Woodlawn NE, Seattle
(206) 523-1822; www.greggscycles.com
Sales, service, rentals, and bicycle maintenance classes

Play It Again Sports

1304 Stewart St., Seattle, WA
206-264-9255

"We're looking for a few good mountain bikes."

Play It Again Sports

14339 NE 20th St., Bellevue, WA, 425-643-2599

Performance Bicycle

Redmond, WA
425-643-8122; www.performance.bike.com
Sales and service

REI

222 Yale Ave. N, Seattle
(206) 223-1944; www.rei.com

Simmons Law PLLC

13401 Bel-Red Rd. Ste B5, Bellevue
(425) 649-0508; WSimmons@SimmonsLaw.com

Wright Brothers Cycle Works

219 N. 36th, Seattle
(206) 633-5132
Sales, Service, Bike Maintenance Classes

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To become an affiliate, contact Art Tuttee (206-675-8429), International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) (303) 545-9011, Washington Wildlife Recreation Coalition, I-90 Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Single Track Mind Cycling Club (253) 565-5124, Cascade Bike Club (206) 522-BIKE, Bicycle Alliance of Washington (206) 224-9252
nowbike@accessone.com, Volunteer for Outdoor Washington (VOW)

Bicycle Outfitters, Bothell Ski & Bike, Finn Hill Bikes, Gregg's Aurora Cycle, Gregg's Bellevue Cycle, Gregg's Greenlake Cycle, REI, Play It Again Sports, Performance, Simmons Law PLLC, Wright Brothers Cycle Works

BACKCOUNTRY BICYCLE TRAILS CLUB AFFILIATIONS

BBTC MEMBERSHIP—SIGN UP A FRIEND, IT'S EASY, CHEAP, THE RIGHT THING

Looking for someone to ride with? Want to learn about new places to ride? Want to keep beautiful trails open to bicycles? Join the BBTC today.

_____	\$15 Individual
_____	\$25 Family
_____	\$30 Two year individual
_____	\$50 Knobby Friend
_____	Voluntary Trail Fund donation
_____	\$150 Commercial (per bike shop)
_____	T-Shirt (\$18 each) Lg XL
_____	TOTAL

_____ renewal _____ new member

PO Box 21288, Seattle, WA 98111-3288

Make checks payable to BBTC and mail to BBTC:

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Address _____

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email _____ phone _____