



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

May 2010

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

MAY 17-21 IS BIKE-TO-WORK WEEK...

And Friday, May 21 is Bike-to-Work Day. Are you a bicycle commuter for a week? Every week?

For bicycle commuters, it should be noted that 2009 was the first year eligible to claim tax-free transportation fringe benefits for bicycle commuting offered by employers up to \$20 per month for anyone who commuted "regularly" by bike in a given calendar month. Regular is not defined in the IRS code. The Bike Commuter Benefit continues in 2010.

BUILD IT. BIKE IT. BE PART OF IT...

is a fundraising campaign for the U.S. Bicycle Route System, which kicked off May 3, 2010 and runs through May 31, 2010.

Adventure Cycling Association is launching a month-long fundraising campaign to support the creation of the U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBRS), a visionary project that will be similar to the national and international cycling systems blossoming across the globe, such as Euro Vélo. Using social networking platforms, and a team of core supporters, we are asking cyclists in America to donate \$10 to help with the creation of this national system of cycling routes. Our goal is to raise \$20,000. To find out more and donate, visit: <http://www.adventurecycling.org/beapartofit>

ed note: Pennsylvania is a leading state in the USBRS project. The BicyclePA cross-state routes are already developed and will be easily adopted into the USBRS. Your financial support for Adventure Cycling Association will help identify actual routes in other states that are simply wide corridors of potential routes.

NO HANG UPS...

On utility poles. Whether it's a club ride or yard sale sign, it is illegal to use any metal fasteners to attach anything to poles. The statute says:

A person is guilty of a summary offense if he drives a nail or tack or attaches any metal or hard substance to or into any pole of any public utility pole line. 18 Pa.C.S § 6905 (Crimes Code).

BMUFL and SLMs ARE APPROVED BY FHWA...

But not adopted yet by PennDOT. As reported here previously (*BAC News & Digest*, January 2010), the BIKES MAY USE FULL LANE signs and the SHARED LANE MARKING roadway symbols were approved by the Federal Highway Administration in December 2009. However, before they may be used by traffic engineers and highway departments, they must be adopted by PennDOT to be included in its sign manual (Pub 236M). By federal law, all states have two years to act on this. The Bicycle Access Council has formally requested information on when the adoption process by PennDOT will occur.

TOM MILTON...

Who was the man behind the Selle An-Atomica road saddle, died recently while riding the Devil Mountain Double Century in Northern California. Several riders attempted CPR, but Milton, in his 60s, did not respond. He was an avid road cyclist, having completed 11 California double centuries in 2008. His patented Wisconsin-made leather saddles feature a lengthwise slot between the nose and tail.

Source: RBR's 04/29/10 Newsletter #440.

MONTY PYTHON FANS...

May enjoy the following exciting episode of Bicycle Repairman. <http://tinyurl.com/6yp43c>

JAY LENO IS PIMPING ELECTRIC BIKES...

In this Jay Leno's Garage video for Green Gearheads: <http://tinyurl.com/2a23mr6>

ed note: Unfortunately, Jay Leno's advice and recommendations don't apply in Pennsylvania. In August 2008, the House Transportation Committee requested a legal ruling on "electric bikes" from Penn-DOT. Its position is, anything other than a solely human powered bike must be registered, and have all "safety equipment" such as, lights, turn signals, etc., to be operated on the roadways. No further action has been taken on this at the committee level.

Dates to remember:

May BIKE MONTH May 17-21 Bike to Work Week

May 27 PPAC, Harrisburg, 1-3 PM. Contact BAC for details. Open to the public.

Mission Statement...

The Bicycle Access Council is a non-profit advocacy organization that serves as a forum for Pennsylvania bicyclists and as an ombudsman for bicycling issues.

It is the objective of the Bicycle Access Council to make bicycling on roads throughout the Commonwealth safe, respectable and a transportation choice by educating its members and the motoring public.

All funding for the Bicycle Access Council comes from memberships and donations. Annual membership is \$20 per year. BAC does not share membership information.



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