



# Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

[www.BicycleAccess-PA.org](http://www.BicycleAccess-PA.org)

July 2011

***Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.***

**It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!**

## **THE "RIGHTS" OF PASSAGE FOR BICYCLISTS...**

Was established by this Supreme Court decision from 1920: *United States v. Wheeler*, 254 U.S. 281. This is the fundamental right to travel on which advocates for bicyclists depend upon the Constitution's *Privileges and Immunities* clause.

A synopsis (in part), ... "In all the states, from the beginning down to the establishment of the Articles of Confederation, the citizens possessed the right, inherent in citizens of all free governments, peacefully to dwell within the limits of their respective states, to move at will from place to place therein, and to have free ingress thereto and egress therefrom. A consequent authority resided in the states to forbid and punish violations of this right. ..."

*ed note:* An appropriate reference during this month of Independence, not to mention the irony of the decision against a party named Wheeler.

## **A DIFFERENT KIND OF STATUS SYMBOL...**

With the United States Internal Revenue Service is the Exempt Organization (EO) recognition for not-for-profit entities. That's the tax status that allows donors to claim charitable contributions to groups, such as, the Bicycle Access Council. The "exemption" is for federal taxes; however, it is not an exemption for annual tax filing requirements. BAC maintains its EO status by complying with filing requirements.

Many organizations have lost their EO status for failure to file in the last three years. Some bicycle clubs may still assume they are tax exempt and are unaware of the filing requirements. What's *your* bicycle club status?

## **IF YOU WANT TO RIDE IN A RURAL PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY,...**

How many choices do you have out of the Commonwealth's 67 counties? The answer depends on who is asking and what criteria is used, but generally it comes down to the county population density compared to the statewide average. Using 2010 census data, that is 284 persons per square mile. With no change in the number of rural counties since the 2000 census, the number of rural counties is 48.

More numbers? In 2010, Penn's Woods total population: 12,702,379 over 44,743 sq miles!

**HERE COMES THE SUN IS MORE THAN A BEATLES SONG...**

When it warns about skin exposure. From the Bicycle Newswire (July 11, 2011),.... "People who bicycle a lot have several strikes against them when it comes to skin cancer, notes Dr. Economou. Because many cyclists ride near their homes, they think they're not at risk if they don't put on sunblock — even for a short ride. The problem is that cyclists tend to expose more skin than other athletes because of the clothes they wear (shorts and short-sleeve shirts). In addition, many cyclists may not realize that water, sand, and asphalt streets reflect dangerous UV rays."

For the full article that includes prevention tips, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/6xu73k7>  
Or, <http://www.bicyclenewswire.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.showrelease&cid=267&id=1122>

**HE'S NO LANCE ARMSTRONG, BUT...**

Mr Bean will thrill you with his challenge to the peleton: <http://tinyurl.com/6xr5ha8>

**Dates to Remember**

- Aug 21** Lancaster Bicycle Club ***Covered Bridge Metric Century*** [www.lancasterbikeclub.org](http://www.lancasterbikeclub.org)  
Pre-registration only—**deadline was July 1. No day of ride walk-ins.**  
**BAC will be there — stop by for information.**  
**REMINDER — NEW RIDE START LOCATION**
- Aug 27** **Shoo-Fly Classic Bike Ride, Oley, PA. Berks County Bicycle Club**  
**20, 40, 60 mile options. BikeReg.com registration, or (610) 670-4875 for info**
- Oct 9** 31st Annual Central Bucks Bicycle Club ***Covered Bridge Ride. Choose from 20, 30, 33, 50, or 63 mile options. Ride starts at Tinicum Park, Erwinna, PA***  
**Registration now open on-line at: [www.cbbikeclub.org/cbr](http://www.cbbikeclub.org/cbr)**

**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 roadways 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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