



Bicycle Access Council News & Digest

www.BicycleAccess-PA.org

February / March 2013

Hello Members and Supporters of the Bicycle Access Council.

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S BICYCLE SAFETY LEGISLATION...

Signed into law on February 2, 2012. Effective April 2, Act 3 of 2012, the Vehicle Code amendment says:

- * ***Bicyclists may "control the lane position" on two-lane, two-way roadways***
- * ***Bicyclists must keep to the right as far as practicable —
(unless unsafe to do so or to change lanes)***
- * ***Motorists must allow a minimum of four-feet to pass a bicyclist***
- * ***Motorists may cross a centerline to maintain a four-foot passing distance —
(when safe to do so)***
- * ***Motorists may not interfere with bicyclists proceeding straight —
(“right hook” prohibition)***
- * ***Bicyclists may not be cited for impeding traffic —
(while operating at a reasonable speed for conditions)***

11th ANNUAL BIKE CLUB CONFERENCE...

Date announced — April 13. Information to clubs was mailed with details and registration forms. This is an open invitation for bike club officers and individuals who want to learn more about active club issues from across the commonwealth. Attend to learn and share. Advocacy topics are covered as well to help clubs deal with media and the public.

A featured speaker this year is Dr. John Scala, meteorologist for Lancaster based WGAL TV. He will share valuable weather observations and safety information to consider while riding on the road.

A “SHARE THE ROAD, SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY” Panel will discuss and examine how to utilize the newest bicycle safety legislation (Act 3) and promote better bicyclist behavior while interacting with traffic. What clubs can do to help educate their members and the public.

US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE JOINS FLOYD LANDIS...

In a lawsuit against Lance Armstrong. NBC News reported on the DOJ's basis of intent to sue for defrauding the government when Armstrong was sponsored by the US Postal Service. See: <http://tinyurl.com/bcqxjxy> A summary of Lance's career appears with the online link.

NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT...

Changes dates to March 4-7, 2013. Previously scheduled as March 5-8. Workshops will now be held on Tuesday and Capitol Hill lobby day is Wednesday. Congressional Bike Caucus Ride to be held Thursday. BAC will be at the Summit.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGHS AND LOWS...

In court decisions are in the news. Two cases that were worthy of national coverage were recently resolved.

A Colorado town Bike Ban was overturned by the state Supreme Court. The town of Black Hawk banned bicyclists in 2010 from the only reasonable route through the casino business district. This prevented individuals and groups access for touring through without dismounting. Many advocates fought to overturn the ban. See: http://www.denverpost.com/ci_22517938

The 75 year old driver that harassed a pace-line of cyclists by blaring his horn continuously for several minutes was plea bargained down to be sentenced to twelve months probation after submitting a guilty plea for two counts of harassment and two traffic offenses. James Ernst must also perform some community service and undergo anger management. The incident went viral on YouTube when captured by one of the bicyclists. Police easily found the driver to cite. Read the story at: <http://tinyurl.com/bgg4b5z>

MAY IS BIKE MONTH...

With Bike-To-Work-Week, May 13-17.

Dates to remember...

March 14 PPAC (Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee), Harrisburg, 1 PM
Open to the public. Contact BAC for details.

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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