



# *Bicycle Access Council* News & Digest

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

March 2011

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

It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

## **FAST-TRACKED LEGISLATION MOVING VERY SLOWLY...**

Regarding HB 170. That's the Bicycle Safety bill introduced in July 2008, which has been re-numbered for the third time for the current legislative session. Expectations were to have this voted on by January 2011. Latest commitment is to have action announced by March 31.

## **9th ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA BIKE CLUB CONFERENCE...**

Is scheduled for Saturday, March 26 in York, PA. This annual event brings bike club representatives together for networking and discussions of bike club issues. This year's special guests include Dan McKay, State Representative Ron Miller, Gwen Loose, and a PennDOT representative (TBA).

Dan McKay will offer information on ride waivers and bike club event risk management planning. Ron Miller is the state representative who initially sponsored HB 170 and will discuss how to work with the General Assembly. Gwen Loose is the Executive Director of the York County Rail Trail Authority and will share experiences on getting trails developed and built. PennDOT will provide background on policies and statewide initiatives affecting bicyclists.

Registration deadline is March 21 for bike clubs and interested individuals. Contact BAC for details.

## **"WE DON'T NEED NO STINKIN' PENNDOT PERMITS"...**

To host a bike ride. A township official, who believed that permit approval was required by PennDOT to conduct a bike ride traveling through that municipality, contacted one Pennsylvania Bike Club planning an annual ride event. After checking with several sources, the Bicycle Access Council was able to determine that this does not apply to typical one-day club events that use open public roadways, will not block off or create detours for normal traffic, and won't use an overhead banner across a state roadway. PennDOT's Central Office and a District Traffic Engineer confirmed this requirement did not apply for club rides. Contact BAC if your club or organization is asked to submit a permit application.

## **THE NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT...**

Will convene March 8-11 in Washington, DC. BAC will be there representing Pennsylvania bicyclists and networking with many Pennsylvania advocates for a strong showing on state wide issues with Congress.

### ARE YOU READY FOR BIKE TO WORK WEEK...

Which is **May 16-20**? York County, PA, is hosting its first **Bike-To-York Week** program with a kick-off event on Sunday, May 15. A short organized ride from the York Expo Center to the downtown minor league baseball stadium will allow bicyclists to enjoy an afternoon baseball game for \$5 admission and provide valet bicycle parking. A website will be available soon with registration and detailed information on related events. Contact BAC for more details.

Ideas and resource information for Bike-To-Work Week is supported at the PBIC (Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center) website. See: [www.pedbikeinfo.org](http://www.pedbikeinfo.org)

### WHEN IT RAINS, IT "PORES"...

Or rather it's the surface pores that hold oils and fluids that rise soon after it rains that makes the roadway slick for bicyclists and other vehicles. It's most slippery in the center of any lane, so it's best to steer out of the area.

### WE CAN NEVER HAVE SO MANY FRIENDS...

That we can afford to lose one. The bicycling community lost a good friend on February 14 when 21 year old Derick Schubert succumbed to brain cancer. Derick was the son of proud parents John and Anne Schubert, Coopersburg, PA. John is technical editor of *Adventure Cyclist* magazine and a long time Pennsylvania advocate. Please join the Bicycle Access Council in offering your thoughts and prayers to the Schubert family. An obituary may be found here until March 18. <http://tinyurl.com/64vz94c>

### Dates to Remember

March 13      2.00 a.m., **Daylight Saving Time** begins (now the second Sunday in March)  
March 26      **9th Annual Pennsylvania Bike Club Conference**, York, PA  
March 31      **PPAC**, Harrisburg. 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.

### Think Spring!!!

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