



1Q2018 – January/February/March 2018

Volume 11 – Issue 1

Table of Contents

Editors’ Comments	2
Prez Says:	3
CSCC Kicks Off the New Year in Style!	4
CSCC Holds Annual Business Meeting	6
For the Record – Here’s the Club’s 2017 Ride Statistics	8
Northern Argentina Bike Tour.....	11
Disabled Colorado Springs Vet Gets Inventive Boost from Colorado School of Mines	13
Legacy Loop Fontanero Trailhead - Ribbon Cutting Confirms Vision for Connectivity	15
Team CSCC – Start Preparing for the 2018 National Bike Challenge.....	17
Require Automated Vehicles to See Bicyclists and Pedestrians	19
Pedaling for Saint Pat’s Ride – CSCC Was There!	20
Upcoming Activities & Rides of Interest!.....	25
New eBike Rules for Trails and Parks	25
Ridge Road Permanently Closes - Makes Way for Pedestrian and Bike Plaza.....	26
Closures Coming on New Santa Fe Trail	27
Midland Trail Closure.....	28
Help Wanted – Newsletter Reporter.....	29
Membership Update	30
Cycling Thoughts to Ponder	31

Editors' Comments

Sharon Boyd & Dale Campbell: Editors

Welcome to the first edition of 2018 for the Bent Fork Chronicles. And this is also the first edition supported by the new website. Note that the format for the newsletter is a bit different than previously published editions from the past 8 to 10 years. With the switch to the new platform, in lieu of using the only editing tool provided by the previous website support company, we now have quite a bit more flexibility in how we publish the newsletter. For this first edition on the new platform, we've taken a basic approach – to use Word to create and publish the newsletter as a PDF file. In addition to reading it on-line, you'll also be able to simply print the PDF file and read the newsletter offline at your leisure!

One thing hasn't changed from previous editions. We've continued to include a variety of articles that we believe will interest Club members and cyclists in the Colorado Springs community. These include:

- ♦ Prez Says updates and comments
- ♦ Summaries of Club events and rides
- ♦ Travelogues from Club members
- ♦ Interesting articles about Club members
- ♦ Trail and bicycle access updates from around the city and county
- ♦ Membership updates, and
- ♦ Cycling Thoughts to Ponder

Take a look at what we've provided for you with this 1Q2018 edition. Let us know if you have any suggestions for improvement. In the meantime, we'll continue to investigate various publication techniques to better improve the appearance and content of the Bent Fork!



Sharon & Dale enjoy their first ride of 2018 with the Sunday Social Lite Ride on 11 March.

Prez Says:

Randy Susman: CSCC President



Winter 2018. With our mild weather, do you have more miles so far this year than normal? Or like many of our Club members, perhaps you just continued your riding from 2017, but were able to wear fewer layers while riding!

As many of you are aware, the Colorado Springs Cycling Club, aka CSCC (www.bikesprings.org), as a not-for-profit organization, is the largest and longest-running organized cycling club in Colorado Springs, with over 30 years of recreational cycling support for the community. With close to 400 rides scheduled throughout the year, there are a variety of rides to enjoy and share with cycling friends. And, thanks to Charlie Czarniecki's support, the Club has records of the number of miles ridden and the level of participation/number of miles individually ridden by each Club member. Take a look at Charlie's article in this newsletter for the details.

This year, there is a great opportunity to expand the influence and benefit of our Club and increase our positive impact on our community. We have 337 paid CSCC members but over 1,200 members on Meetup. As you may know, our Club insurance allows us to include non-paid guests on their first ride with us (i.e. Meetup members who have not yet joined CSCC), but these guests need to join the Club for subsequent rides. This protects both our guests, Club members, and the Club. Our new website makes it simple to become a Club member. Direct your friends and fellow cyclists to www.bikesprings.org to join! Besides the insurance benefits, there are numerous other events and opportunities for Club members.

Looking forward, we have several fun opportunities to serve our community and introduce CSCC. Our Club supported the Pedaling for St. Pat's ride on March 17 (see the photos in this newsletter) and will support a pair of gravel grinders—one in Fountain (May 12) and the other in Palmer Lake (June 9)—as well as our traditional rest stop at the Starlight Spectacular (June 16). These events provide opportunities for the Club to support cycling in the community as well as enable volunteers to have some fun while assisting other cyclists. Watch for notices and website updates for how you can join in the fun!

In the meantime, log into Meetup or the Club website, check out the Ride Calendar and sign up to participate in some of the upcoming rides.

Come along for the ride!
Randy

CSCC Kicks Off the New Year in Style!

Dale Campbell: Co-Editor

Two CSCC events in January helped to kick off 2018 with a bang. First was the 32 Annual Frozen Water Bottle Ride, held on –of course – January 1st! Led by Charlie Czarniecki, the ride took the typical route that has been used in previous years. While the weather was clear, it was on the cold side. By the time everyone finished the ride, all were ready for a hot meal at BJ's Brewhouse in the University Village Colorado Center.



Riders and non-riders gather after the 2018 Frozen Bottle Ride to enjoy Warm food, beverages and good conversation.



More food, drinks and conversation



Continuing the food, drinks and conversation theme

The second event in January was a first for the Club. In lieu of a usual Christmas Party, the Board opted for a get together in early January. Held at Tap Traders, the Saturday afternoon 2018 Kickoff provided an opportunity for Club members and guests not only to enjoy the ambiance at Tap traders, but also to catch up with fellow cyclists and to begin looking forward to the 2018 riding season. From the positive comments received, the Club will be planning more events and get-togethers at Tap Traders in 2018!



President Randy Susman cuts the cake with several of the Club members joining in the celebration!



A sweet treat seemed like a good way to kick off 2018 for the Club!

CSCC Holds Annual Business Meeting

Ruth Sharp & Sharon Boyd: CSCC Secretary & CSC Newsletter Co-Editor (respectively)

Editor's Note: *Below is a summary of the discussions at the 2018 Annual Business Meeting. The Club bylaws require the organization to conduct this business meeting annually in March. If you have any questions about the information provided below or about other aspects of the Club, please contact any member of the board.*

At this year's meeting, Connor Houtchens, Assistant Manager at Performance Bicycle, the Club's newest sponsor, provided an overview of the company and also discussed the a variety of aspects about bicycle tires. The store also held a raffle for a Bike Care Kit. Jessica Fraser was the luck winner of the raffle.



Jessica displays her prize with help from Connor (right) and another member of the Performance staff.

CSCC Annual Meeting Summary March 6, 2018 - Summary

Location: Westside Community Center

Attendance: 18 people

Social time: 6:00pm

President, Randy Susman opened the meeting at 6:30pm

Featured Speaker: Connor Houtchens/ Performance Bicycle (CSCC Sponsor) Assistant Manager

Presentation on Bicycle Maintenance: *Where the Rubber Meets the Road*

Board Committee Officers and Chairs – Randy Susman

- **Elected Officers** – Randy Susman, President; Dale Campbell, Vice President; Jessica Fraser, Treasurer & Ruth Sharp, Secretary
- **Social** – Vacant
- **Community Outreach** – Allen Beauchamp
- **Membership** – Sara Hill
- **Ride Planning** – Heather MacDonald
- **Internet Committee** – Randy Susman
- **Bent Fork Editors** – Sharon Boyd & Dale Campbell
- **Immediate Past President** – Janine Hageman
- **At Large ('17)** –Torie Giffin, Charlie Czarniecki

Treasurer–Jessica Fraser

Reviewed the club's finances and made recommendations for positioning CSCC funds for improved investment returns.

Membership – Sara Hill

The club moved to a new website for improved functionality. Members can enable renewal notices to be emailed automatically and set up recurring credit card payment of dues. Shortly, a club store will be added. Sara will be attending bicycling-related Expos and requests participation of club members.

2017 Club Mileage– Charlie

To-date 266 Club Riders participated on 361 Club rides. Since the club established MeetUp in 2017, the trend is increased riders and miles. In 2017, the Shady Lane Ride, Spud Ride and Balloon Ascent Ride had the greatest number of cyclists. Bob Foster was Ride Leader for 68 club rides. Charlie will post the rides and rider miles stats on the club website. The National Bike Challenge will be held again this year and Charlie will be the club point person and provide CSCC team information.

Bent Fork Chronicles Newsletter – Dale Campbell

The next CSCC newsletter (March/April 2018) will be published before the end of March. The editors seek articles and ideas. The newsletter serves as an official archive of the Club. The new newsletter format will be a blog containing links to individual articles on the new website.

Upcoming events – Dale Campbell

Regular scheduled club meetings will be held in June, August, September and October. Additionally, the club will have once a month get-togethers at Tap Traders, possibly in starting in April. Starting May, the plan is to move the club's Sunday Social Rides start and end location to Tap Traders. The club's July Summer Picnic will be held at the Buffalo Lodge on Sunday, July 22.

St. Pat's Ride – the club needs Course Marshals, Rest Stop Volunteers and Finish Line Help.

For the Tour of Colorado (Gravel Grinders) on May 12, 2018 and June 9, 2018, the club has been asked to help by providing volunteers for rest stops and course marshals.

For Starlight Spectacular on June 16, 2018, the club will be supporting the rest stop at Bancroft Park. The theme this year is The Wild, Wild West.

For the Record – Here's the Club's 2017 Ride Statistics

Charlie Czarniecki: Past President & Mileage Manager Extraordinaire

Looking at the summaries, it's easy to see that 2017 was a significant year for Club rides. In fact, the year was the second best in total mileage when compared to the yearly totals for the last 11 years. Below are a number of perspectives about the ride mileage and participation data gathered for 2017. Note that these statistics reflect the 2017 ride sheets gathered of 5 March 2018. If you have an outstanding ride sheet from last year, please make sure to get it to me (via email or USPS or via hand delivery).

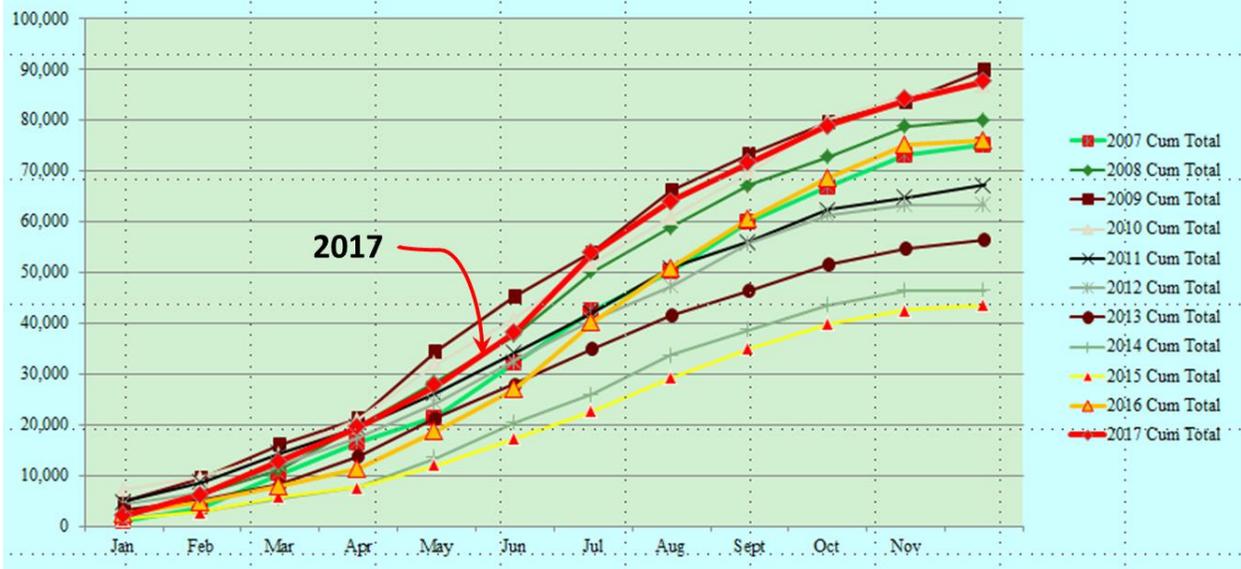
Overall Totals and Outstanding Rides & Riders

- ♦ 266 Club Riders out in 2017 on 361 Club Rides
- ♦ 87,691 miles (2nd highest in 12 years)
- ♦ Bob Foster led with 4,953 miles and 167 rides
- ♦ Ginny Barber led ladies with 2,619 miles and 104 rides

Biggest Rides (Date/Ride Name/# of Riders)

- ♦ 7/4 Shady Lane Ride - 66
- ♦ 3/19 Spud Ride - 57
- ♦ 9/4 Balloon Ascent Breakfast Ride – 55
- ♦ 7/9 Picnic Rides – 40
- ♦ 7/16 Sunday Social Ride – 37

CSCC Total Annual Mileage – 2007 through 2017



CSCC Annual Mileage Comparison – 2007 through 2017

	Miles	Rides	Riders	Avg Miles	Avg Rides
2006	79,781	326	217	367	14.2
2007	75,055	317	182	412	13.6
2008	80,118	385	213	376	13.3
2009	90,054	312	234	358	11.8
2010	86,985	375	231	377	13.3
2011	67,205	275	195	326	11.9
2012	63,289	269	247	256	10
2013	54,813	277	196	322	10.5
2014	46,516	252	207	225	9.7
2015	42,538	248	198	215	9.9
2016	75,926	357	295	257	11
2017	87,691	361	266	330	12.5

2017 Ride Leaders

NOTE: The ride leaders listed here led 323 of the 361 rides posted in 2017 (**ALMOST 90%** of the Club Rides!)

<u># of Rides</u>	
68	Bob Foster
34	Jim Sledz
32	Sid Rubunow
29	Mike Mannebach
27	Torie Griffin
23	Sara Hill
18	Charlie Czar
17	Rick Rodriguez
13	Jennifer Hanson
13	Doug Moyes
13	Larry Wilson
12	Janine Hegeman
9	Ruth Sharp
8	Sam Sharp
7	Skip Fleming

2017 Ride Sweeps

NOTE: The ride sweeps listed here swept 75 of the 125 rides swept in 2017

	<u>SWEEPS</u>
<u># of Rides</u>	
14	Jeff Cowen
10	Bob Foster
6	Dick Timberlake
6	Kerry Hefta
5	Al Cavin
5	Barb Czar
5	Doug Moyes
5	Larry Wilson
4	Ruth Sharp
4	Sam Sharp
4	Sharon Richards
4	Wes Cunningham

Northern Argentina Bike Tour

Dennis Struck: CSCC Member

Editor's Note: Typically when we think of Argentina, we tend to think of Gauchos, Malbec wine, Mate and Buenos Aires. As you'll learn from checking out the trip report URL listed below, Dennis and Terry Struck thought cycling. Take a look at the photos and descriptions that they've posted to their travelogue website to get a better idea of what sights and experiences international cycling can provide. If you have any questions about this adventure or any of the other ones included in their website postings, I'm sure they would be glad to talk with you about their experiences!

To enjoy the photos and descriptions of the Northern Argentina Bike Tour (Salta City, Salt Flats, Quilmes Ruins) and Peru side trip (Nasca Lines, Machu Pichu, Inca and Pre-Inca Ruins), go to <http://www.struck.us/BikePics/BikeStories65.html>

Itinerary for the 13 Day Trip September 2016

- ◆ Arrive at Salta, Argentina (via Houston, Texas and Buenos Aires)
- ◆ Bike Tour the Northwest Provinces of Salta, Jujuy & Tucumán:
 - Visit Salta, Cloud Forest, Jujuy, Purmamarca, Cuesta de Lipan (4170m), Salina Grande (Salt Flats), Salta la Linda, Dique Cabra Corral, Cafayate, Quilmes, Amaichá, Infernillo Pass (3042m), Tafí del Valle, Tucuman
- ◆ Depart via Tucumán Aeroporte to Lima, Peru



Packing the Tandem Bicycle for Airplane Travel out of Colorado, USA



Reassembled in the hotel courtyard in Salta, Argentina



“Somos Bike Friendly” – translated as “We are Bike Friendly.” Always a good thing to know!



Dennis and Terry leaving Salta, to begin their journey on Route 9, the Pan-American Highway (from Panama to the tip of Chile, on the East Side of the Andes)

See more at <http://www.struck.us/BikePics/BikeStories65.html>

Disabled Colorado Springs Vet Gets Inventive Boost from Colorado School of Mines

Tony Peck: The Gazette
21 January 2018



Retired Air Force Staff Sgt. Velette Britt, who was paralyzed in 2015 will get a curb-climbing device for her wheelchair and improvements to her hand-cycle thanks to engineering students at the Colorado School of mines. (Courtesy Photo)

A paralyzed Colorado Springs veteran will receive student-designed custom wheelchair equipment this spring from the Colorado School of Mines.

Staff Sgt. Velette Britt was medically retired from the Air Force after a mountain biking accident in August 2015. The injury left her without the use of her legs.

The equipment is designed to give her freedom and a boost in Paralympic competition. For the engineering students, it's a classroom project that has more than academic value.

"It would provide an actual impact, instead of being theoretical," said Brandon Wehl, who is leading a team designing a device that would allow Britt's wheelchair to climb over curbs. "It actually has some purpose."

It's a new step on a long road for Britt.

Velette and her husband Charlie Britt, also an Air Force veteran, joked about the first months of her recovery. "She is real stubborn," Charlie Britt said, explaining his wife's drive to carry on with her life.

The first month of recovery consisted of physical therapy, eventually introducing Velette Britt to the handcycle. Her first major outing after her injury came just two months after the accident. "The first time I was on a handcycle was for a 10k in November of 2015," she said.

Over the next couple of years she tried to ride every day, eventually traveling by herself to Milwaukee to compete in a race ending in Chicago. "It's been huge," Velette Britt said. "It has helped me with my independence."

But there are still daily issues that she struggles with. Those problems are what the seniors at Colorado School of Mines are working to solve.

The students are working on two separate projects for Britt sponsored by the Quality of Life Plus Program, an organization that helps improve quality of life for veterans.

Weihl's team is building a curb-climbing attachment designed to be hooked to the back of her daily-use wheelchair. "We are trying to create a design that is as light as possible," he explained.

The device would allow Britt to independently navigate curbs and places such as downtown Colorado Springs.

The second team is building handcycle grips.

"Velette wants to do the Paralympics," said project lead Megan Koehler. "Her hands kind of cramp up when she goes long distances." In addition to fitted hand-grips, the team is also considering creating specialized gloves with a rigid skeleton.

"Working with veterans is a humbling thing," said Koehler, who hopes to work with prosthetics when she graduates.

The teams will present their final projects at the Colorado School of Mines Trade Fair this spring.

For Britt, the School of Mines inventions are part of her mission to lead a life unencumbered by her injuries.

"So she is in a wheelchair," Charlie Britt said of his wife. "She's the same person. There really is no difference."

Velette Britt stays away from saying her recovery should serve as some kind of example. "Whenever people say, you're an inspiration," she says rolling her eyes, "I say you need to get out more."



SOURCE: <http://gazette.com/disabled-colorado-springs-vet-gets-inventive-boost-from-colorado-school-of-mines/article/1619418>

Legacy Loop Fontanero Trailhead - Ribbon Cutting Confirms Vision for Connectivity

Lisa Bachman: Bachman PR Legacy loop March 2018 Newsletter



Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Staff Celebrates Legacy Loop Fontanero Trailhead Ribbon Cutting

Editor's note: Besides the successful construction of this Legacy Loop trailhead, more is happening. For example, construction has begun on the Legacy Loop Phase 1 Uintah underpass project. Read more at <https://www.trailsandopenspaces.org/2018/01/18/construction-begins-on-uintah-underpass/> on this part of the Phase 1 work.

City founder General William Palmer once dreamed of a vibrant, livable Colorado Springs in which the essential functions of mobility and access were integrated with parks, trails and open spaces. That dream became more of a reality when the ribbon cutting for the Legacy Loop Fontanero Trailhead took place November 9. The Greenway Fund and City of Colorado Springs hosted the official ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of Fontanero Trailhead, a major point of entry to the 10-mile Legacy Loop trail. The trailhead includes 81 parking spaces, bus pull-ins and easy access from Interstate-25 at the Fontanero exit, creating a space that will accommodate large events and races.

More than 100 citizens, neighbors, trail and parks advocates, and bicyclists attended the event. "The Legacy Loop is both a continuation of Palmer's dream and the creation of a new vision for connectivity and access to parks, recreational amenities and natural areas that are so important to the quality of life and charter of Colorado Springs," said Karen Palus, City Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services in her opening remarks.

The Greenway Fund partnered with the City of Colorado Springs on the funding grant provided through Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) for Phase 1 of the Legacy Loop project. "This grant was a part of a unique Paths to Parks initiative by GOCO that seeks to connect people to parks, trails and open space. Connectivity is indeed what this project is achieving," said Palus. "The Legacy Loop project is therefore

about connecting people to their city, creating opportunities for people to connect to one another, and about creating recreation, transportation and economic development. Those opportunities are key and would not be possible without GOCO," Palus said.

Other speakers at the ribbon cutting ceremony included Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers, GOCO Board Member Warren Dean and Greenway Fund Chairman Gary Barber. Each conveyed their commitment to these types of projects and excitement about this project in particular. "Projects like these are making our community better by enabling us to build a city that matches our scenery," said Mayor Suthers.



Demonstrating usability by all, local bicycle group Bike Colorado Springs hosted a bike ride to the Fontanero Trailhead from Acacia Park. Following the ribbon cutting event, the bicyclists headed back to Acacia Park accessing the new Midland Greenway connection created as part of the I-25/Cimarron Interchange project recently completed by the Colorado Department of Transportation. The interchange project is a new gateway to downtown Colorado Springs and the mountain corridor to the west. In addition, it created a new connection to the City's trail system with a Midland Greenway connection (from America the Beautiful Park to Manitou Springs) to the Pikes Peak Greenway.

The first completed phase of the Legacy Loop project is the parking area and trailhead providing increased access and a centralized location for special events.

Experience Legacy Loop - Phase 1 - Self-Guided Tour

https://coloradosprings.gov/sites/default/files/self_guided_tour_text.pdf

Legacy Loop Self-Guided Phase 1 Tour Description

https://coloradosprings.gov/sites/default/files/self_guided_tour_text.pdf

Want more information about the Legacy Loop? Go to <https://coloradosprings.gov/legacyloop>

Team CSCC – Start Preparing for the 2018 National Bike Challenge

Charlie Czarniecki: Past President & Team CSCC Coordinator



While Team CSCC had a pretty good year in 2017, the online mileage logging and support were challenging. From what we've been able to find out for this year, it looks like the going will be a little easier on us to log rides and keep track of the Club's standings.

One of the biggest changes will be the sponsorship of the National Bike Challenge (NBC). Love to Ride (<http://partners.lovetoride.net/>) is partnering with the league of American Bicyclists to support the 2018 NBC. As indicated on the website (<https://www.lovetoride.net/usa?locale=en-US>), "We've made some improvements to the National Bike Challenge in 2018 to make it more exciting, punchier, and ultimately more successful at encouraging more people to ride, more often."

Here's some additional information that's provided at that 2018 NBC Love to Ride website:

The Challenge Format

We've made some improvements to the National Bike Challenge in 2018 to make it more exciting, punchy, and ultimately more successful at encouraging more people to ride, more often.

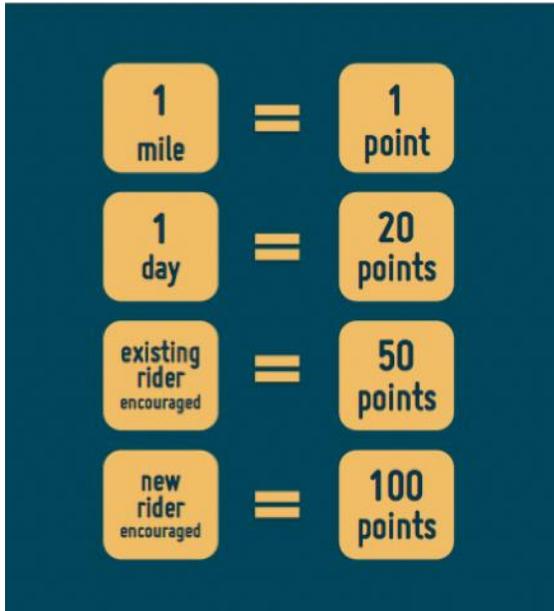
1. May 2018 - the National Bike Challenge - join a team (of up to 8 riders) and have some fun riding and encouraging others to ride too. There are points, leaderboards, and prizes!
2. September 2018 – Cycle September – your organization compete against others of similar size. Rally your colleagues to ride, anytime, anywhere in September. Earn points to climb the leaderboard.
3. Year Round and May-September Individual Leaderboards - - you can also use the Love to Ride website (on which the National Bike Challenge is being run) to record your rides and compete on monthly individual leaderboards (e.g. Top Rider, Top Commuter, etc). The League of American Bicyclists will also be giving away some Top Rider awards for the summer riding season (May - September).

How to Earn Points

You earn points by:

- Riding; and
- Encouraging others to ride.

Team points are the sum of all of the individual team members' points. The points system has been carefully developed, tried and tested, over the last 4 years to ensure a fair and exciting competition, and to strongly encourage teams to engage new riders if they want to secure victory. Here's how individual points are earned:



1 mile	=	1 point
1 day	=	20 points
existing rider encouraged	=	50 points
new rider encouraged	=	100 points

Additional 2018 NBC FAQs can be found at https://www.lovetoride.net/usa/pages/info?locale=en-US&page=2_faq

Sign up today for the 2018 Challenge at <https://www.lovetoride.net/usa/signups/new?locale=en-US> and stay tuned for additional details about Team CSCC. Be ready to begin riding and logging those miles in May!



Require Automated Vehicles to See Bicyclists and Pedestrians

League of American Bicyclists



On March 19th, an autonomous vehicle hit and killed a pedestrian in Tempe, AZ, as she was walking her bicycle across the street. While we don't know the details of this particular crash, the League is concerned that automated vehicles need more testing to first prove their ability to recognize and respond to people biking and walking in our streets.

Regardless of the details of this crash, recent articles in IEEE Spectrum and in Slate magazine report that detecting bicyclists is one most difficult problems Automated Driving Systems (ADS) technology faces, and testing for bicyclists lags behind other ADS technology tests.

When human drivers apply for a driver's license we have to pass a vision test. The League believes that all automated driving systems should first have to pass a "vision test" as well — requiring a safety performance standard determined and regulated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association— proving their ability to recognize and respond to people bicycling and walking, before they are on community streets.

Right now the Senate is considering S. 1885: AV START Act to set guidelines for automated vehicle manufacturers to test their vehicles on our streets. Please join the League in asking Senators to require AVs to pass a vision test proving they can see bicyclists and pedestrians. Let your thoughts be known by going to http://p2a.co/Oy2UjKv?utm_source=Bicycle+Friendly+America&utm_campaign=18503e689d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_11_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_7b4ab70cf6-18503e689d-138976421



Pedaling for Saint Pat's Ride – CSCC Was There!

Sharon Boyd: Co-Editor

As anyone who's ridden it or supported the ride, Pedaling for Saint Pat's is a delightful ride, especially at this time of the year. Held on 17 March this year on the real St. Patrick's Day, the cycling opportunity consists of three rides: Ride in a family fun bike ride, an intermediate bike ride, or challenging 50k bike ride course that extends from beautiful downtown to the north end at Blodgett Peak and back. All entrants for the bike rides were also eligible to join in a leisurely ride in the Parade! As you can see in some of the photos with this article, folks were "Dressed to Impress!"

Anyone who participated in any of the rides could have noticed that the Colorado Springs Cycling Club provided a significant part of the support staffing for the three rides. Club members volunteered for any one of a variety of roles. We would like to express many thanks to our CSCC Volunteers, who served as Course Marshals, Rest Stops support, Logistics/Supplies support and Sweeps for the Family, Intermediate and Challenging routes.

We also want to thank Sara Hill for organizing the CSCC participation in the CSCC Pedaling for St. Pat's event, facilitating the Volunteer Meeting on Volunteer Meeting on March 10th and coordinating the CSCC representation at the St. Patty's Sports & Wellness Expo. The Club appreciates all of the volunteer efforts on behalf of CSCC.

Take a look at the photos and you'll see what volunteering at this and other similar events will put a smile on your face!



Charlie Czar manning the CSCC booth at the Bike Expo



Cyclists and participants preparing to ride







Charlie and Barb Czar alerting riders that they are approaching a rest stop





A bit of entertainment to be included in the parade.

Upcoming Activities & Rides of Interest!

Dale Campbell: Co-Editor

The Club continues to plan rides and events, several of which can be enjoyed by all registered/dues paid Club members. Some of the upcoming rides and events for 2018 include:

- ♦ Scheduled Club meetings in June, August, September and October
- ♦ Once-a-month impromptu get-togethers at Tap Traders, potentially starting in late April
- ♦ Sunday Social Rides starting and ending at Tap Traders, also planned to start in late April
- ♦ Annual Summer picnic on 22 July. Once again, the Buffalo Lodge Bicycle Resort will be providing the venue for the picnic. Remember that the Buffalo Lodge is one of the Club sponsors!
- ♦ Annual Progressive Dinner Ride in October. The ride will potentially be on the westside. So, if you're interested in hosting one of the courses for the progressive dinner, please contact one of the Club Board members.

Stay tuned for more details on each of these items. AND, if you have a suggestion for an additional ride/social event, be sure to let one of the Club's Board members know what you've got in mind.

One additional request for our readers and Club members. If you enjoyed a particular ride/social event, be sure to let the Newsletter Editors know. They appreciate your input – including any photos taken during the ride/event - as potential articles for upcoming newsletters!

New eBike Rules for Trails and Parks

Eileen Healy: Trails & Open Space Coalition

Editor's Note: By the way, a Class 1 eBike is defined as one where the electric drive system on the eBike can only be activated through a pedaling action and is limited to relatively low speeds. Read more at <https://electricbikereview.com/guides/electric-bike-classes/>

Colorado Springs allows Class 1 eBike to operate on Urban Trails. These trails are typically described as local commuting and recreational trails which traverse neighborhoods and connect to the core of the City of Colorado Springs. At this time eBikes are not to be operated on what is commonly known as multi-use trails. These trails are always soft surfaces and are part of large Regional Park or Open Space property infrastructure.

Class 1 eBikes are permitted on the following trails:

Cottonwood Creek Trail • Homestead Trail • Midland Trail • Pikes Peak Greenway • Rock Island Trail • Sand Creek Trail • Shooks Run Trail • Sinton Trail • Stetson Trail • Templeton Gap Trail • Woodmen Trail • Foothills Trail • Skyline Trail • Rockrimmon Trail • Mesa Valley Trail • Bear Creek Regional Trail • New Santa Fe Trail • Fountain Creek Regional Trail

FAQ

Q: Can I ride my Class 1 eBike on soft surface trails in Monument Valley Park?

A: Yes, the parks department is allowing eBikes on trails in MVP because it is part of the Pikes Peak Greenway.

Q: Are eBikes allowed in Red Rock Canyon Open Space?

A: No, at this time eBikes are not allowed on soft surface trails in any of Colorado Springs' open spaces or large parks (Palmer, Ute Valley).

Q: Are eBikes allowed on trails in Pikes National Forest?

A: No, the Forest Service considers them motorized vehicles and does not allow them on non-motorized trails.

Q: Are eBikes allowed on El Paso County trails?

A: Yes, Class 1 and Class 2 eBikes are allowed on Tier 1 and Tier II Primary Regional Trails. The Bear Creek Trail that traverses east-west through Bear Creek Park is a Tier I trail.

SOURCE: <https://www.trailsandopenspaces.org/2018/02/09/new-ebike-rules-for-trails-and-parks/>

Ridge Road Permanently Closes - Makes Way for Pedestrian and Bike Plaza

Westside Avenue Action Plan Team March Newsletter



In January, a major milestone for the Westside Avenue Action Plan (WAAP) construction project occurred when the City of Colorado Springs permanently closed Ridge Road between Colorado and W. Pikes Peak avenues. The short stretch of road is being transformed into a pedestrian and bicycle plaza. The concept for the plaza came as a result of a City of Colorado Springs traffic study that the road closure would improve intersection operations and result in increased safety for both drivers and

pedestrians. "The plaza serves as a pedestrian, transit and bicycle node along the corridor and will improve the aesthetic of the area. It will also improve overall traffic flow with the addition of a bus lane for pickup and drop off that will be coordinated with the traffic signal phasing," said Dennis Barron, WAAP project manager for El Paso County.

The pedestrian and bicycle plaza will include a new aesthetic wall between Pikes Peak and Colorado avenues, street lighting, sidewalks, landscaping, bike racks, a bike repair vending machine, and a Mountain Metro Transit bus queue jump. A queue jump is a separate lane for buses allowing safe passenger loading and easy merging back into traffic with a new coordinated signal system. "This new bus stop will enhance safety for those using the bus service and will provide an additional pull-off lane so as to not interfere with traffic on the road," said El Paso County Commissioner, District 3, Stan VanderWerf. To get around the closure of Ridge Road, motorists can take Colorado Avenue to S. 36th Street or S. 34th Street to connect with W. Pikes Peak Avenue and Ridge Road. The cost of the plaza, expected to be completed and open by this Fall, is included in the \$31-million budget for the Westside Avenue Action Plan construction project.

Closures Coming on New Santa Fe Trail

Eileen Healy: Trails & Open Space Coalition



The United States Air Force Academy will begin a large scale construction project at the South Gate Bridge between January 2018 and June 2019. This construction activity will impact the New Santa Fe Regional Trail, with periodic trail closures.

The New Santa Fe Regional Trail will remain open through the construction site, but all trail users must use the metal connex box tunnel. All bicycles and horseback riders must dismount before entering the

tunnel. Please be aware of your surroundings and reduce your speed when approaching the construction zone.

Periodic trail closures at the South Gate Bridge will be scheduled and posted in advance while construction takes place on the bridge over the trail. Check <https://www.usafa.edu/visitors/hiking-biking-trails/> for information about closures (will be posted one week in advance). Most closures will last only one day, however a three-week closure is scheduled for the beginning of March and again in October. When a scheduled trail closure is in-place the trail will be blocked and closed only at the South Gate Bridge.

The tri-intersection bridge, which will be under construction, is located approximately 0.7 miles north of mile marker 41 and 0.3 miles south of mile marker 42 on the trail. This map will show more detail regarding the location of the closure: <https://www.trailsandopenspaces.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/South-Gate-Bridge-Construction-Closure-Map.pdf>

All trail users are encouraged to check the Northgate Trailhead and Ice Lake Trailhead for information regarding construction and closure information and updates, as well as our website and the Academy's website. These closures are to protect the life and safety of the public while construction activities take place on the bridge above the trail.

For questions regarding the construction project and trail closures please contact:

Construction Superintendent
Fred Langan, Superintendent
Medvolt, LLC
719-213-1332
Fred.langan@Tepa.com

El Paso County
Jason Meyer, Project Manager
719-520-6985
jasonmeyer@elpasoco.com

Midland Trail Closure

Gigi Stolz: Bachman PR

The Midland Trail will be closed through Fall 2018 from Beckers Lane to Columbia Road for construction. The signed detour route is to use El Paso Blvd. via either Columbia Road or Beckers Lane to connect back to the Midland Trail. Please follow the signed detour for your safety.

Help Wanted – Newsletter Reporter

Dale Campbell: Co-Editor



Position: Cub Reporter for the Bent Fork

Job Description: Help Editors with publication of Quarterly Colorado Springs Cycling Club newsletter. Includes searching and composing articles, background research into assigned topics and proof reading of composed newsletter. Requires interest in bicycling and bicycling related activities/issues, desire to help with an all-volunteer organization and some basic background in composition. Position has potential for promotion to Assistant-Editor after demonstrating skills.

Pay: Satisfaction of a job well done, appreciation from Club members, and knowledge that your contributions to the Club through the newsletter make a difference!

Further Comments: Sharon and I have been publishing The Bent Fork since October 2010. We continue to enjoy providing the quarterly editions to the members of the Club. However, we could use some help. If you're interested in assisting with the development of content of the newsletter and composition of articles included in each edition, please contact us. Just email me at dale_campbell_co@msn.com and let us know how you might like to help!

Membership Update

Sara Hill: Membership Coordinator

Each month more and more cyclists in Colorado Springs have either renewed their membership or have become new members of the Colorado Spring Cycling Club (CSCC). To become a member of the Club, annual dues for an individual membership are \$21, and for a family membership, the annual dues are \$28. Membership not only provides you with the opportunity to participate in our many biking and social activities, but also enables you to be covered by the Club's insurance while participating in a Club sanctioned activity.

Note that signing up on Meetup is not the same as becoming a member of the Colorado Springs Cycling Club. Meetup enables those on the Meetup list to view and receive notices about the Club's calendar of events. But, being on Meetup does not enable the insurance coverage and does not enable attending certain Club events throughout the year. Please pass this update along to anyone who might be on Meetup but has not yet joined the Club.

With the new website support, renewal notices will be emailed automatically, including grace period notices. Additionally, when logging into the website, notification of dues will automatically pop up starting in the renewal month. Membership is automatically dropped 60 days after renewal date if the dues are still unpaid. Further, renewal notices are mailed once a month, as are past due notices.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS:

- (1) Family memberships are eligible for two adult online logins. With each login, members can comment on the message boards or respond to surveys independently. If you wish to have a second adult login, please contact Membership at membership@bikesprings.org. Click on the "Join" button on the website homepage. Provide the following information: Name on membership account, secondary member's name and email along with a preferred username. If you have a preference for billing identity, indicate this as well.
- (2) Has your personal information changed? Don't forget you can update your mailing address, phone numbers and email at any time by logging into the membership area and clicking the "Change Contact/Profile Information" link under Member Information. You can even change your username.
- (3) You can check your membership payment status online - and pay online as well.

If you have questions regarding membership, please contact Sara Hill, Membership Coordinator.



