



The Wheel Truth

Online at www.vbc-usa.com

**Vancouver
Bicycle Club**

February 2012

From our President:

What a year 2011 has been for the Vancouver Bike Club! We saw our newsletter go from print to cyber (and now back again!). We invested in new club jerseys and gave out caps at the Ride Around Clark County (RACC). We were wowed by Mia Birk's speech. We updated the bylaws to show free membership for 70+ folks and board members. We even instituted a flower policy, so any member may nominate another member to receive flowers or other gifts during a life crisis. We are more than just a riding club – we're a family that cares about each other and this is just one way to show it.

Your bike club also cares about the greater cycling community at large and donated to many worthwhile causes in 2011 (names in parentheses indicate coordinators): \$1000 for the Bike Safety Program (Joe Greulich), \$1000 for the Christmas Promise Program (Ayla Gokturk), \$500 to the Volcano Rescue Team (Dennis Funk) and \$1 for each RACC registrant to the Bicycle Alliance of Washington.

The VBC also matches up to \$50 toward any fundraising event ride you participate in. And we reward our ride leaders with socks, jerseys and gift certificates. It's a wonder we stay "in business" with all this money going out! It shows how important RACC is to our club. Please volunteer for it. You'll help the club, earn a ride leader credit, have some fun and get to ride in the supported volunteer ride with post-ride pizza party for volunteers the following weekend!

I'm also excited about getting more involved in bicycle advocacy in the city of Vancouver and Clark County. This is fertile ground for us to be heard as cyclists! Eric from Bike Clark County will be speaking at our March club meeting. He can clue us in on easy ways to get involved. The Vancouver Bicycle Club has a lot of credibility and we should use it.

Another big goal for 2012 is more rides! Bicycle riding rules! You know it, I know it, we all know it. We always need more rides on the calendar. Think outside of the box on this. Do you crave a Sunday afternoon 10-mile social spin? Create it! Are you sad if you don't race to Bridge of the Gods and back every month in summer? Log in and toss it on the calendar. Make awesomeness happen!

Maria Schur, President VBC

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Next Club Meeting Wednesday, 7 PM MARCH 14

Bortolami's Aero Rm
9901 NE 7th Ave

**Guest Speaker:
Eric Giacchino from
Bike Clark County**

Congratulations to
Chit Winners for November
and December
**Pete Lyall
And
Mary Ann Teague**

**Welcome to new
members:**
John Wylder
Nathan Lomas
Karie LeFebvre
Jonathan Hall
Jan Bazala
Davie Maxwell
Marcus Griffith
Patricia Green
Greg Garrett

We want you to ride with us. Find our **Ride Calendar** online. For February we have **DAILY RIDES** Tuesday thru Friday. Saturdays and Sundays have at least 1 ride and some have 2 or 3 rides. **THIRTY-TWO RIDES TOTAL** as this paper goes to print. (Monday can be your day off!) Read the shorty article on page 5 for our "Highlighted Ride of the Month": The Mini-Quake.

Want more info about us? Find us online at www.vbc-usa.com

Ride Calendar
Our RACC Ride

Time Trials
Our Sponsors

Buddies List
NW Events Calendar

Contact Us Info
Ride Maps

To our Man of the Hour, **Jeff Beilfuss**, THANK YOU for that incredible Awards Night Video. You are the best.

Good-bye and Hello

As the 2012 VBC leadership team comes on board, we say goodbye to 4 long-term contributors.

First, **Nancy Cook** who has been our Treasurer, too, is stepping down from her most recent position as Time Trials director. Holding that job meant weekly responsibility for hauling gear, lining up crew, crunching numbers and getting data to the website and our assistant road captain. Somehow Nancy rounded up 6 -10 faithful volunteers a week since 2007. What did she say to these folks? "Hey, do you like standing around in the wind on cold spring evenings? How about the feel of melting asphalt under your feet, not a breeze in the air, in the hottest part of the day in August?" You'd think that wouldn't work after the first year or two. Whatever she said, it did work because Nancy and her roughly 30 volunteers a month made the VBC Time Trials happen for about 175 riders this year. Nancy is not quitting the job entirely and will still volunteer there Thursday nights. That's on top of holding down her full-time job, designing, coordinating, and leading bike rides, and taking interesting trips. Thank you, Nancy!

Second, **Dennis Funk** is leaving the board. Many of our club ride routes exist thanks to FunkyBoy's creativity and leadership. Did you know—Dennis mapped the Earthquake route and was leading it (unnamed) when—we had an actual earthquake and this popular weekly ride was christened. He started leading this ride the first year he joined our club. He also led others weekly for many years, vying with Clay and Vern for most rides led. Dennis has served on the board since God invented dirt (ok, 7 years) as Member-at-Large in addition to his 2 years as our champion arm-twister Road Captain. He and his wife Nancy were Mr. and Mrs. VBC Picnic for 8 years coordinating the food and games and rides—and volunteers. He served as WSSB tandem rides mechanic for 4 years. Dennis and Nancy had helped out at RACC since 2003 and 2001, respectively. That's 20 years combined. In 2009, he decided there was only one mountain left to climb (Basket Flats?) and became our RACC Coordinator (Nancy was Mrs. RACC), which involves dealing with over 100 volunteers, city and county governments, and a lot of detail, explaining his little known middle name "Excel". You've heard Nancy call him "Den E", which you probably thought was "Denny". Nope. Dennis "Excel" Funk. Thank you, Dennis! (There are many other stories to tell about Dennis, but they are best shared over an adult beverage, sitting in the sun somewhere... RAO at night, playing doctor, and so forth.)

Third, is **Dennis Johnson**. Take a deep breath. President, Vice President, Secretary, Member-at-Large, committee liaison between VBC and the city — say all that 3 times fast. Dennis has served our club since God invented whatever came before dirt (2000). Dennis also organized our club library. He collected, stored, and hauled these boxes faithfully to each club meeting. He was also responsible for mailing the Wheel Truth and delivering our newsletter to the many various bike shops and other sponsor locations. Dennis is a prolific route creator and ride leader, leading his first club ride toward the end of the last century. The one that I will never forget was the year he unveiled the Padden Pedal, somehow convincing a pack of riders out into intense rain. (Dennis has a lot of faithful fans.) By the end of the ride, most were drowned rat look-alikes and we dubbed his new ride the Padden Puddle. He also got many of his VBC buddies wet again organizing several canoe/kayak outings. For 10 years Dennis coordinated the bike ride event of Vancouver's Discovery Walk. He and St. Joey Toscano co-organized the VBC part of Battle Ground's Harvest Days bike ride event. He was chief potato hauler for RACC delivering potatoes to our doors for us to cook. He served yearly on the RACC food distribution team, but every time I observed this group they were yakking and eating doughnuts. OK, just kidding. At least some of the time they were hauling Nancy Funk's enormous RACC grocery lists around town and loading their trucks with bagels and whatnot. He also organized, researched, wrote and produced the club's Lifetime Achievement Awards Program. Thank you, Dennis!

Also stepping down in 2012 from her board position is **Carolyn Kalish** who took over from **Brenda Buchanan** who got a new job and many responsibilities in 2011. Carolyn was very new to the VBC when she volunteered to take on one of the most detailed and important jobs we have, Membership Director. Thank you, Carolyn and Brenda!

We wave to the top of the mountains to say good-bye to **John Cole** as he leaves the board. He served as Assistant Road Captain and then as Road Captain in 2011 while he continued hiking and climbing mountains and travelling the world. It was a busy year as John was also a RACC volunteer and crewed for VBC race teams, all the while pursuing his climbing interests with travels to Thailand, Nepal and other exotic spots. Thank you, John!

Dick Gordon is leaving the board, but with his new knee he will probably give Clay a full 12 months of ride-leading competition in 2012. Watch out, Clay! Always a RACC volunteer, Dick is shouldering the huge job of RACC permits this year as well as barricades.

Assistant Road Captain was **Bob Verrinder**. Bob was Road Captain in 2007 when a car hit him in October of that year. He was hospitalized and away from his home for one year. In 2008 he returned home with a lot of help from

VBC friends. It was a long road to be able to sit once again at the 2011 VBC Awards meeting and present the statistics he kept all year for the over 700 credits members accumulated. Thank you, Bob!

Bob Seth will step away from the Editor job he held for 2011, but remain as our webmaster. Bob very enthusiastically plunged into both positions, but realistically settled on one. Thank you, Bob for your Newsletter Editor work, cranking those beauties out month after month and for sticking with us as Webmaster.

Now we welcome the new members who will be helping the club this year.

Stepping into leadership positions for 2012 we welcome **Mary Ann and Glenn Teague** as our new club librarians. We are also glad to have our new Members-at-Large volunteers **Bill Ryckman, Clay Kind, Greg Shaw and Jan Verrinder**. Hello again to new long-time volunteers, **Anita and Tim Cannell**, who are our new Membership Team. And yes, it's true, Bill is back as our new Road Captain! **Bill Moyers** served as our Road Captain at the end of 2007 and through 2008. Joining Bill as Assistant Road Captain is **Jim O'Horo**. **Maurice Carroll** is taking on Time Trials. Many thanks to all of our new volunteers.

Let's see now...Did we forget someone...RACC Director! **Mary McLaren**, past Prez and VPRez and Club Clothing Maven has stepped into these shoes and is off and running. Word has it that she has cajoled her major buddy **Laird Clow** into being Mr. Assistant RACC. She has already started recruiting RACC Team Leaders (thank you everyone) and grabbing volunteers wherever she can get them. **Contact Mary NOW to volunteer at racc@vbc-usa.com or call 360-450-1882.**

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**Bob and Jan Verrinder** wish to thank the club for the honor of receiving the club's 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award. This club offers us all many ways to participate, including unlimited opportunities to make connections and friends, have a lot of fun, and volunteer.

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Ride Leader & Volunteer Awards 2011

Our big, big thank you's go out to everyone who led or co-led a ride in 2011. We ARE a bicycle club. We gotta have YOU to be a bicycle club.

Top Rider Leader/Volunteer for 2011 AGAIN – Clay Kind. Once again Clay broke the century mark with **109 rides** and volunteer events. How does he do it? Clay leads two rides every week, The North Ride and Two Bridge Loop alternate on Sundays. Every Tuesday he leads Tour de Friends. Most people start with one of Clay's rides. He also leads tandem rides for the Washington State School for the Blind students. Clay logged 6500 personal miles this year, which he terms "starting to slow down in my young age." We also want to thank **Janice**, his wife, for once again letting us borrow her husband and so much of his time.

Giving Clay good competition was **Dick Gordon with 69 rides**. Dick subbed the Earthquake for Bill and led his own weekly ride, Salmon Creek Brush Prairie. This man led 10 rides in January of 2011. *Who rides at all in January besides Dick?* OK, Clay, obviously, *but who else?* Sometime along in October, Dick decided to give Clay a break. He found a really good excuse for not riding--knee surgery. Dick managed to get in his 69 rides using only 9 months of 2011. If I were Clay, I'd be a little nervous about keeping my title for 2012.

Bill Tymer is our last truly year-round ride leader which accounts for his total of **42 rides** this year. He adopted the route Dennis Hatton created, Throbbing Thigh Thriller, and led that one and the Non-Throbbing Thigh Thriller weekly, January through December. Bill rides everyone else's rides too and at a good clip. He logged 6,140 miles in 2011. John has a great story about the time they were in Portland and Bill crashed fortuitously near a doctor's lawn. After some quick bandaging and attempted repairs of Bill's wonky wheel, they rode home. John was thinking this was his best shot at beating Bill's butt up Bliss. Bill was riding while bleeding (the doc's bandage fell off after the first two pedal strokes) and his wheel was whacked. John looked in his mirror and saw that Bill was trailing at a pretty good distance. "Yes! Now is my chance!" John took off, giving Bliss everything he had left. Well, apparently Bill did, too. Nearing the top, John heard this odd noise. Holy cow, a tornado? A train? He glanced in the mirror again. Bill! breathing heavily. They were now neck and neck for the last few feet of Bliss. You'll have to ask those two for their versions of the ending since I'm not sure I trust John's. I've heard he counts cribbage points about as well as Lap counts hills...

Ride leaders with 20-35 points are **Suzie Wardell** (35), **Ayla Gokturk** (29.5), **Roxane Sutherland** (26) and **Anne Moyers** (26) and **Bill Moyers** --yes, very closely related-- (25). Suzie led our weekly spring though fall Monday evening ride out to Kelley Point. She also volunteered on the WSSB tandem rides. Ayla directed and led our Ladies Beginner Rides and our Wednesday night Camas ride as well as others. Roxane led Vancouver Loop starting in February --brr! Anne took the early winter and spring off to explore warmer climates and still managed to lead 26 rides starting from the last week of May through December. Bill and Anne led the Earthquake and the Mini-Quake for us this year along with various other rides and substituting jobs.

Now in 2012, if every club member led one ride... Be part of our Ride Calendar Solution. Get your own pair of clean socks in 2012. **Lead a ride!**

RL/Volunteer	Pts	RL/Volunteer	Pts	RL/Volunteer	Pts
Kind, Clay	109	Noonan, Jim	8	Lai, Lap	2
Gordon, Dick	69	Scholten, Mary Ann	8	Lai, Tammy	2
Tymer, Bill	46	Smith, Becky	8	Lyall, Pete	2
Wardell, Suzie	35	Wayne, Nancy	8	McGivra, John	2
Gokturk, Ayla	29.5	McClaren, Mary	7.5	Parsons, George	2
Sutherland, Roxane	26	Erdmann, Sylvia	7	Rose, Corey	2
Moyers, Anne	26	Johnson, Roger	7	Buchanan, Brenda	1.5
Moyers, Bill	25	Scholten, John	7	Bartholic, Ken	1
Gardner, Harry	19.5	Toscano, Joe	7	Bateman, George	1
Cook, Nancy	18	Woodard, Bill	7	Cannell, Anita	1
Schur, Maria	17	Chrisco, Heather	6	Cannell, Tim	1
Gillihan, Amanda	17	Teague, Glenn	6	Clegg, Denise	1
Kimball, Vern	17	Helgerson, Ole	5	Dollemore, Carole	1
Lusby, Mike	17	Watson, Sue	5	Fowler, Debbie	1
Johnson, Dennis	16.5	Zamani, Mary	5	Hatton, Dennis	1
Martin, Scott	16.5	Burse, Bev	4	Lee, Gabriela	1
Bingle, Mike	12	Funk, Dennis	4	Long, Don	1
Clow, Laird	12	O'Horo, Jim	4	Martens, Britt	1
Hardie, Susan	12	Toscano, Joe	4	Morgan, Diane	1
Rakoz, Karon	12	Trinkle, Steve	4	Rauch, Cindi	1
Cote, Joe	9	Teague, Mary Ann	4	Stanton, Dan	1
Stewart, Chuck	9	Brockway, Patrick	3	Steele, Marlee	1
Wilson, Jim	9	Morgan, Billy	3	Walker, Tom	1
Wilson, Kim	9	Williams, Gary	3	Wills, Jeff	1
Franz, Barb	8	Mandelson, Bob	2.5	Larson, Artie	0.5
Koperski, Liz	8	Abero, Danny	2	Verrinder, Bob	0.5
Lai, Anhthu	8	Bryan, Carol	2	Verrinder, Jan	0.5

Thank you, volunteers. We wouldn't have a club without you.

**RACC—Ride Around Clark County
Saturday, May 5, 2012 Registration**

We are offering 3 ways to register for RACC:

- #1** Online RACC Registration – coming soon to the VBC website at www.vbc-usa.com. Click on RACC.
#2 Download a paper copy of the entry form from the website — coming soon. Mail in.
#3 Register at the start of the ride on May 5th.
#4 Be a RACC volunteer and the RACC is free. YOU STILL NEED TO FILL OUT AN ENTRY FORM. Positions are going fast!
Contact Mary McLaren at racc@vbc-usa.com or call 360-450-1882.

From your Friendly Faces at Membership:

Please check the expiration date on the Wheel Truth mailing label and renew your membership if it has expired.

Remember those 70 and over do not have to pay, but please send in your renewal form.

Help! We need an editor! You can use any program you want. This is MS Word, no special program or knowledge. Look at this little shorty newsletter and **contact Maria now: president@vbc-usa.com.**

Rambling Roads by Capt. Bill

First, a hearty “Thank You” to all who raised their hands and cheered loudly, supporting my landslide election over a prestigious field of candidates for the Road Capt. position for the upcoming year. I promise to earn your trust and confidence.

The theme this year will be “More Rides in 2012”. We need to fill the gapping holes occurring in our ride calendar, especially on the weekends. Many weekends had only a single ride scheduled; either Clay’s Two Bridge or his North Ride. We can do better; we have done better in past years. A cycling club is all about rides; without rides there aren’t many reasons for a club to exist.

A certain group of members tirelessly lead rides year around, generously giving of their time, and effort, mentoring new riders and making them feel comfortable. But, in order to fill-in the ride calendar, particularly the weekends and holidays, we need more folks to step and volunteer to lead rides. We need to expand our base of willing ride leaders.

That said, I will be making an extra effort this year to recruit and train new ride leaders. If you have ever entertained the idea of being a ride leader, now is the time to let me know. I’ll work with you to get logged in on the website so you can submit rides. I’ll work with you to understand the expectations, procedures and responsibilities involved. I’ll ride with you on your first few ride leads, if you like. I’ll find an experienced ride leader to provide you with assistance if I’m unavailable. Just call or email me when you are ready to begin.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A RIDE LEADER !

--Road Capt. Bill

THIS RIDE MAY BE FOR YOU – THE “MINI-QUAKE”

Have you thought about participating in a group ride, but have hesitated? Maybe you are intimidated by the thought of not being able to keep up. Perhaps, you have never done a group ride and are not sure that you are ready or capable. Are you a seasoned rider, but not really in top-shape? Are you new to Vancouver, or perhaps visiting from out of town? Or maybe you are a pretty good rider, but not sure you want to be left behind by the Tour de France Wannabes, that sometimes show up for the regular Earthquake Ride. If you are seeking a casual ride, for any reason, the Mini Quake might be for you.

Both the Earthquake and the Mini-Quake rides leave Wednesday mornings from the coffee shop, at the same time. We ride essentially the same general route as the regular Earthquake, but at a social pace, with short-cuts that make it a bit easier. This is definitely a nobody-left-behind ride. The leader rides towards the back and will stick with you, at your comfort level.

We ride from the coffee shop, north to Salmon Creek Park, where you can use the restroom, munch snacks, visit and rest a bit. Both rides go back to the coffee shop, arriving at about the same time.

Come out and join us. Remember, we appreciate a friendly, social group pace. The first one back to the coffee shop is not the winner!!

--Anne Moyers

