

Pedal Power

March 2020

www.BayViewBikeClub.org



Join us at the March membership meeting to learn what's new for 2020! Please note the location – does two years in a row count as a 'tradition'?

Date: Monday, March 23rd

Location: Total Wine and Spirits @ '84 South'
8700 W. Sura Lane (84th and Layton), Greenfield 53228

Time: 6:30PM Free Wine Tasting
***** RSVP REQUIRED - SEE BELOW**
7:00PM Membership Meeting

The meeting will be held in the classroom located in the back right corner of the store. Total Wine offers this room free of charge to community groups though **they do ask that no outside beverages be brought into the store.**

Following our usual business meeting, we'll unveil the 2020 ride schedule and announce some exciting plans for the upcoming season! Join us to hear about:

- Route changes ranging from 'tweaked' to 'reworked' in a continuing effort to enhance safety, broaden our horizons, and improve rest stop options
- One brand new route (and a Scrumptious location to stop afterwards!)
- New opportunities to earn Rider Points
- An overview of enhancements to our cue sheets and maps
- A chance to stump the 'experts' with your Ride with GPS questions

*****Optional complimentary wine tasting at 6:30PM (RSVP REQUIRED).** Enjoy two sample pours of featured wines prior to the club meeting. **You DO NOT need to RSVP to attend the meeting, but if you'll be joining for the wine tasting, please send a note to ajsikorski@hotmail.com no later than March 20th** so we can provide the store with a count.

Hope to see you there!

The Prez Sez

By Joe Fischer

In case you missed it in your haste to get to this monthly article (understandable) our next monthly membership meeting is Monday March 23rd. Which is NOT our traditional “third Monday of the month”. It is in fact the **fourth** Monday of the month. Is nothing sacred? Is that an earth tremor I just felt? Or a Harley rider out rumbling around in the warm weather for all to hear?

It’s a Harley. Spring is in the air.

And speaking of changes.....we are thinking of changing the general membership meetings to something other than a Monday. (gasp) We will be discussing that at our March 23rd meeting; this is your opportunity for input on that subject.

We are also going to be discussing ideas for improving the riding experience for new members and guests based on feedback we have received. Nothing formal, no new rules or policies, just some things I think we can do to be more welcoming.

You should have noticed we are including safety tips in the newsletter. (Thanks to Jill for putting those together). We will also be discussing how we can provide a better emphasis on rider safety: in general, and in a group ride situation, without being heavy handed about it.

I hope you will attend and provide your input on these topics.

You have received some ad hoc emails from the board lately so we could get you time sensitive information quicker. We are including that information in this month’s newsletter.

Ride Marshal opportunities for the UPAF Ride for the arts. Because we were given an exclusive opportunity to register to Ride Marshal, the Ride for the Arts will again be on our ride schedule. See the details in the article below.

Memorial Day Weekender update including ADDITIONAL/NEW lodging options. Blocks of rooms are being held until March 31 at **two** hotels. There are rooms available at both. Linda and Andy are busy putting together the routes that will be available. Also, this year riders will receive rider points for the Memorial Days rides. See the article below.

Hope to see you on a ride.....and at the March 23rd membership meeting.

And remember, let’s have fun out there.



Pizza Party!



Riverfront Pizzeria

We had a nice turn out for our annual Pizza Party last month at Riverfront Pizza in the Third Ward. A total of 38 members and guests attended. It was nice to see all the familiar faces and do a little catching up, and welcome several guests, many of whom plan to join our club (at least that is what they said before the pizza was served)



Also attending was special guest, Abbey Bornemeier. Abbey is the Development Manager for the American Diabetes Association Central Division, and responsible for planning the Milwaukee Tour de Cure annual bike/run/walk.

Club members Mark Sandler and Linda Roessl are members of the Tour de Cure planning committee. Mark is responsible for planning the bike routes, route marking, ride marshals and sentries, etc. Our club will again be participating as ride marshals and staffing at least one rest stop, maybe two. This year's event will be Saturday, August 8. More details to come.

Special thanks to Rich Heller, Andy Sikorsky and Carl Manteau for donating raffle prize packages from Goose Island Brewing, Continental Tire, and the Milwaukee Bucks. Thanks guys!



Membership Notes

By Rich Temple

It's time to renew your membership for the 2020 ride season. Remember, current memberships expire at the end of March. If you renew now, I can give you your new membership card at our March meeting (if you're there of course – and why wouldn't you be, I mean Andy's going to be announcing the ride schedule which has got to be the most scrumptious day of the year... except for the first day we start riding).

I encourage you to use the club website to renew your membership, I think it's easier for you and it's definitely easier for Dean, Joe and me.

We've had one new member join since the last newsletter, please welcome **Patricia McBride** to the BVBC. Including the renewals that are starting to come in, we are up to 34 members for the 2020 season so far.



Ride Control Central

By Andy Sikorski

Off Season Ride Opportunities All Rides Start at 11:00 AM



Saturday, March 21, 2020- St. Patrick's Day Ride - 16 miles

Mostly a flat ride through Franklin. - Starts behind Pantheon Restaurant on 76th St and Rawson Ave (same lot as Pick'n Save). Restroom options are at local businesses.

**March 7th Riders – Mike Dix led the riders on the
“Newly Revised Historic Milwaukee Bike Route”**



Click on this link <https://bayviewbikeclub.org/> to access specific ride details



Expo Booth Volunteers Needed

Do you love to ride your bike?

Do you love to ride with your friends in the BVBC?

Does your face light up when you get the chance to tell people about the fun times we have at the BVBC?

If you answered "YES" to these questions, we have the perfect volunteer opportunity you!! The Wheel and Sprocket Bike Expo will be held this year on April 2nd – 5th and the Bay View Bicycle Club will once again have an informational booth set up to answer questions about our club. We are looking for volunteers to fill time slots on each day. Each of the time slots will be 2 – 3 hours long and we would like to have two volunteers for each shift. This is a terrific opportunity to share your love of cycling and to possibly help our club grow.

If this sounds interesting to you, feel free to contact me by email (rtemple161@gmail.com) or phone (262-366-6371) to volunteer or to see which spots are still available. I will also have information (and a sign-up sheet) at our March membership meeting.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Rich Temple





Memorial Day Weekender

By Linda Roessll

Come ride with the Bay View Bicycle Club members, their friends and family for the Memorial Day weekend, May 22 thru 25th, 2020. We will be riding the scenic Vilas County, WI paved bike trails and neighboring roads. The routes have cue sheets or use RwigPS. Most routes have two distances to choose from with mileage ranging from 25 to 50 miles, most of the routes have a planned rest stop at a convenience store, laundromat or a random boat landing with a pit toilet. Bring some cash to purchase your own snacks and water since I don't provide beverages along the way, even though that has been a frequent request. I plan to start the weekend on Friday afternoon with a paved 24 mile ride on the Vilas County bike trail starting from the Corner Store in Sayner, WI. No trail pass is required on these county trails. Other routes will venture around the Rainbow Flowage, to Lake Tomahawk, through Manitowish Waters, passing near Presque Isle, start from Boulder Junction and a new route starting at Three Lakes mostly on rustic roads. Since we are on vacation, rides will start at 10:00 AM unless the group decides otherwise.

Feel free to email me at roessll@hotmail.com or text me at (414) 764-2513 if you have any questions. Come join us for a getaway weekend and enjoy the Northwood's.



HEART OF VILAS COUNTY PAVED BIKE TRAIL SYSTEM

Published: March 16, 2016

One of the best ways to explore the 12 unique communities of Vilas County is on two wheels. And one of the finest routes for two-wheeled travelers is the Heart of Vilas County Paved Bike Trail System. In total, riders can explore 45 miles of paved trails connecting St. Germain, Sayner, Boulder Junction and Manitowish Waters. No need to be an experienced mountain biker, or own any special equipment – the trail system features smooth pavement suitable for all types of riders. All you need is your sense of adventure.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKENDER MORE LODGING AVAILABLE

We now have a block of rooms reserved at **two hotels**, the Northwoods Rest and the Rustic Manor.

Northwoods Rest

8083 St Hwy 70
St Germain, WI 54558
715-479-8770

Rustic Manor Motor Lodge

6343 Highway 70 East
St. Germain, WI 54558
800-272-9776

We have a block of seven rooms reserved at the Northwoods Rest, and 14 rooms at the Rustic Manor. These rooms are being held until **March 31**.

We have always stayed at the **Northwoods Rest** in St. Germain. Besides the fire pit in front they have removed the wall between the office and what was the living room to make a lounge and breakfast space. Continental breakfast is included. They are located on the Vilas county bike Trail. Rates are \$60 for a single and \$70 for a double.

The **Rustic Manor**, which is the next hotel down the road, about a 5-minute walk from Northwoods Rest. The bike trail is immediately behind their property and has an exit/entrance to the bike trail. They have an indoor pool and hot tub and a fire pit at the back of the property. They also have horse shoes and a couple of other games. They have a large community/breakfast room and hot breakfast is included. There are only double rooms available and the rate is \$89 per night.





There are still some Bike Marshal opportunities (mostly for the shorter distances and the 70 mile route) for the 2020 Ride for the Arts

Use the link below to register. Be sure to include that you represent the Bay View Bicycle Club on the form (there is a blank for that).

Here is the link for Ride Marshal opportunities https://upaf.ivolunteer.com/bikemarshals_020.

If you would like to look at other volunteer positions here is the link to all of the volunteer duties www.upaf.ivolunteer.com

Reminder: Bike Marshals are expected to be able to change tires and make other minor mechanical repairs/adjustments.

"Identified in bright shirts, bike marshals ride the route to make sure riders are safe and wearing their helmets. Marshals should know minor bike mechanic skills, as they may be needed to assist riders who are having problems with a flat or a fallen chain. In case they should need to call on the sag team, marshals should have a phone handy."

Because of this opportunity, the UPAF Ride will be back on our ride calendar and rider points will be awarded. Everyone gets the same number of points regardless of how far you ride.

Historic routes provide the basis for today's Oak Leaf Trail

April 15, 2019 | Topics: [Stories](#) By Jill Rothenbueler Maher



Milwaukee County's Oak Leaf Trail is a beloved centerpiece of Southeastern Wisconsin's world-class natural features. Those who run and ride on the 125-mile route—or simply use it to refresh their mindset—owe a debt to two Milwaukee men who had a passion for bicycling and the ability to coalesce groups of riders.

Harold "Zip" Morgan

Judging from the historical record, Harold "Zip" Morgan was a unique person who accomplished more than the average civic employee. Morgan had a penchant for connecting groups. Today's trail users should be glad that Morgan made the most of this gift.

He worked as the city's director of municipal athletics for forty-two years. He was also vice president of the League of American Wheelmen and founder of the Wisconsin Council /American Youth Hostel. Morgan combined those two interests by running two-day tours with an overnight stay at the Wauwatosa Youth Hostel.



Archival photo courtesy Cudahy Family Library,
Cudahy WI

In 1939, he worked with the Optimist Club and the Milwaukee County Park Commission to route riders through parkways and roads appropriate for riding around the county periphery. It was sometimes called the "Bicycle Tour of Milwaukee" and provided the foundation for future routes. Participants naturally passed the experience along to

others, sparking a contagion effect among friends and family members.

Morgan's contribution to the local bicycling scene is commemorated in the "Zip" section of the modern Oak Leaf Trail. This section is a direct, traffic-free connection from Estabrook Park to Brown Deer Park. It utilizes converted railroad right-of-way and offers a laser-straight option. Those who crave a view of the Milwaukee River choose a more meandering, westerly route.

Gerhardt (Gery) Steinke

Gerhardt (Gery) Steinke was another natural "connector" who took the next step in furthering local distance riding when he organized the first mass event, taking in the entire route as a one-day tour. Bicycling was just gaining popularity for adults and group rides were not the spring and summer ritual common to today's weekend warriors.



Archival photo courtesy Milwaukee County Parks Department

The yearly ride was fairly well attended. A 1973 document describes, "Over the last six years well over a thousand bicyclists from throughout the Midwest have earned their MILWAUKEE 64 shoulder patch by completing the '64' in Milwaukee at least once." The ride was legitimate enough to have a finisher's badge and freebies like a cycling cap or water bottle, predating the swag bags with shirts and giveaways in future decades. Promotional materials make no reference to any charity benefit, which became commonplace for future rides. Organizers encouraged youth to join in as long as they were accompanied by a patient parent.

Riders were encouraged to stay at the Red Barn hostel, located on the route at 6750 West Loomis Road. The 1973 route started and ended at Lake Park Pavilion in Milwaukee County's Lake Park.

The *Milwaukee Journal* printed the cue sheet, which riders carried in order to know where to turn. Many cyclists would have kept the cue sheet in mind and relied on the route for casual rides. Their companions would be

introduced to the joy of riding through the county as city streets and parkways brought riders through several major parks. Multiple generations would experience the parks together for a memorable occasion. Like Morgan's Bicycle Tour of Milwaukee, Steinke's ride would multiply among local riders as they rode together and passed around the cue sheet.

Decades later, many modern Oak Leaf Trail riders would find Steinke's route familiar. It formed the basis for official Milwaukee County Parks routes:

- The Milwaukee 76, which commemorated the country's bicentennial in 1976
 - The Oak Leaf Trail, an expanded version of the Milwaukee 76 which was dedicated in 1996
- Steinke's impact on the cycling scene didn't end with the 64. Working with the League of Wisconsin Wheelmen, he founded a well-known route that lives on. Inspired by Iowa's cross-state ride—called the "Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa," or RAGBRAI—he created a similar ride, the "Sentinel's Active Americans Great Bike Ride Across Wisconsin," or SAAGBRAW. It began in 1978 and continues today.

While they could never have predicted it, the routes developed by Morgan and Steinke became the groundwork for the beloved Oak Leaf Trail, which entices thousands into the outdoors.

Jill Rothenbueler Maher is a local writer who toasts the trail at the website oakleaflove.com. Her 2019 book "Milwaukee County's Oak Leaf Trail: A History" is available from The History Press at arcadiapublishing.com. Maher will present her new book at [Historic Milwaukee](http://HistoricMilwaukee), 235 E. Michigan St., on Friday, June 7 at 6:00 pm.

Featured photo of group on tandem bicycles is courtesy Cudahy Family Library, Cudahy WI.

Thanks to Katie Fisher for sharing this article with us all!



Bicycle Safety



Group Riding Information from the Wisconsin Bike Federation WisconsinBikeFed.org

“Share & Be Aware is a statewide campaign to increase pedestrian and bicyclist safety by educating all road users.”

GROUP RIDING

By following these basic rules, group rides can be one of the most enjoyable, exhilarating and safe bicycle experiences. Because group rides are so visible to motorists, they are opportunities to either be billboards for exemplary behavior, or these rides can reinforce the stereotypes that cyclists break the law. When out on a group ride it is crucial that you take utmost care to insure the safety of fellow riders, motorists and yourselves.

COMMUNICATE

Point out road hazards with your fingers to alert the riders behind you.

Use hand signals to indicate turns (left or right arm straight out), hazards (point), or stopping (arm down with palm to the rear).

Announce turns and stops in advance of the intersections to give riders a chance to position themselves.

WATCH OUT AT INTERSECTIONS

Be aware that most crashes with motor vehicles occur at intersections.

Treat stop signs as stop signs.

Cyclists should NOT follow others through intersections without first scanning and following all traffic signs and signals.

Do not announce “Clear” or “Good” at intersections. It is the responsibility of all riders to determine if the intersection is clear.

BE PREDICITABLE

Follow all traffic laws.

Hold your line. Ride in a predictable manner in a close but safe distance slightly to side of the rider in front of you.

It’s not a race. Maintain an even speed. Don’t “attack” when it is your turn at the front and don’t brake suddenly.

Ride bar to bar. When riding two by two, it is dangerous to half-wheel your neighbor. Work to keep handlebars in the same line.

BE A STRONG LEADER

The safety of the group depends greatly on the eyes, ears and behavior of the lead riders.

Be aware that riders in the back of the pack do not have full view of the roadway.

Proceed slowly through an intersection until all riders have rejoined the group.

DON'T IMPEDE TRAFFIC

Under state law bicyclists can ride two abreast unless traffic is impeded.

On higher volume two-lane roads with little or no shoulder you should ride single file in one pace line, a few feet from the edge of the rightmost travel lane.

On higher volume, multilane roads with wide shoulders and on low volume town roads you can ride two abreast. Keep groups to around 20 riders or fewer. If your group exceeds 20 riders break up in to multiple groups. Larger groups make it difficult for motorist to find safe passing locations.

BE A STRONG FOLLOWER

The riders at the back of the pack should announce the presence of a passing automobile with “car back”.

The pack functions best when it stays together. If riders are dropping off the back notify the front riders to adjust the pace.

The Board Members



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Newsletter

By Diane Yurasovich

Don't forget, all club members are welcomed **and encouraged** to submit articles of interest and pictures to the newsletter.

Newsletter@BayViewBikeClub.org



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Club Website



Thanks Dean for keeping our website updated!
www.BayViewBikeClub.org



Facebook

Check out our club Facebook page for up-to-date information and events.

Bike Fed Group Riding Information



Please see the link below for the Bike Fed's brochure on group riding safety. It is a great learning tool for new riders and a good refresher for seasoned riders. Let's be safe out there!

<http://wisconsinbikefed.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/2013-GROUPRIDINGREV.pdf>

A Word About Your Electronic Information

Your privacy is important to us. We don't share any of our membership information with anyone. We don't sell or forward your email address to any outside organizations. The BVBC board has decided not to make our member names, addresses or e-mails available electronically to members. We will continue to print a paper membership directory available in June. With very few exceptions, all of the e-mails you get from us will be directly related to club activities

Please don't ask us to forward any e-mails to our membership. We don't do that. If you would like to share your experiences about a particular ride, feel free to do that in the newsletter. Many bicycle event organizers ask us to forward information about their ride to our members. In order to limit the number of e-mails you get from the club, we don't forward e-mails from outside organizations. We will publish information about rides, events etc if it is submitted to the newsletter.



Let's Be Safe Out There!