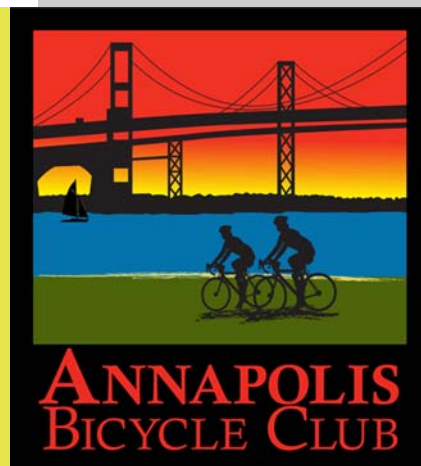


Tailwind Express

Winter Edition 2016

The Club with a place for every pace.

annapolisbicycleclub.org



ABC Officers

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President's Column



2016 welcomes in a slightly new Board of Directors to ABC. We wish a heartfelt thank you to Jim Van horn who will be stepping down after four years of service as the club's Vice President. We have ensured that Jim will continue to bring his enthusiasm to all club events and rides by making him a "Special Advisor to the President of ABC"! Please remember to thank Jim for his contributions the past four years, and also congratulate his successor, Susan Robinson, in her new role as VP.

We enter 2016 with 179 members!! As the year progresses, please help me in welcoming all current and potential members to our family – truly "the club with a place for every pace"!

And be sure to read about my 2015 summer vacation at the end of this Newsletter!

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Meet the ABC Board Members:

Starting in this edition, we will be introducing you to the ABC board members. Who knew we even had a board—or that they actually do more than just schedule rides and drink beer?!? Now that we know, let's get some insight as to what they do for the club. Over the next several issues, we will highlight each person and responsibilities so we know for sure.

In this picture to the right:

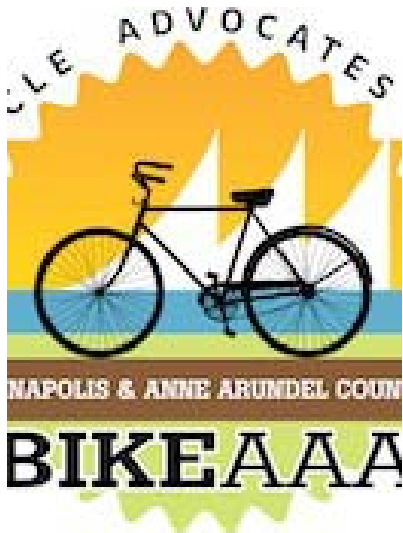
Lynn Mullineaux—Events Coordinator

James Edison—Treasurer
Jim Van Horn—Special Advisor
to the President (ex-VP; can't
figure out how to really retire)

Jim Black—President
Susan Robinson—new VP
Len—lead Ride Leader



BikeAAA



2015 was a very significant year for BikeAAA and Anne Arundel County cycling! Among our highlights were:

- Award-winning Lifeline100 Event drew over 670 cyclists & netted \$21,000 for local non-profits
- Bike Safety programs delivered to more than 1,500 county children
- Free helmets provided to more than 750 children
- County Executive Schuh Launches Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission

More than 500 BikeAAA members and over 1,000 contacts To learn more about our 2015 accomplishments and 2016 goals, please click [2015 Annual Report](#).

Steve Miller Named Bike Maryland Volunteer of the Year!

Kudos to BikeAAA board member Steve Miller receiving Bike Maryland's volunteer of the year award for initiating and leading the bike safety program delivered to 4,000 county children this year and now set to roll out through all Anne Arundel elementary schools. His partner in this, BikeMD's Brian Kopp, presented the award at the Maryland Bike Summit held at the Miller Senate Office Building. The program will be replicated across Maryland.

Thank you Steve!



Update on Legislation to Eliminate the 3 Foot Narrow Road Exception

Many don't realize that the current 3 foot passing law has an exception for narrow roads. This means that on nearly all single lane roads the law does not apply. House Bill 214 sponsored by Delegate Lafferty and co-sponsored by Anne Arundel Del. Mark Change and others would eliminate the exception. A hearing in the House of Delegates was held on February 11th to discuss this. The hearing went well, but there are many steps yet to conquer. Stay tuned...

Upcoming Rides/Events

Refer to the Events calendar on the ABC website for all events, dates, times, happy hour specials, etc.

**The club
with a
place for
every
pace.**

Feb 18—**TTGT**: Third Thursday Get Together, Killarney House, 584 West Central Ave, Davidsonville

Mar 17—**TTGT**: Ellie's Place, 8421 Veterans Highway, Millersville

Apr 9—Talbot Special Riders Spring Classic, 25, 50, and 62-mile options. See <http://tsrspringclassic.homestead.com/>

Apr 10—Cherry Blossom Ride—TENTATIVE DATE

Apr 16—Ocean to Bay Bike Tour, Bethany Beach, DE. 30, 50, and 100-mile options. See <http://oceantobaybiketour.com>

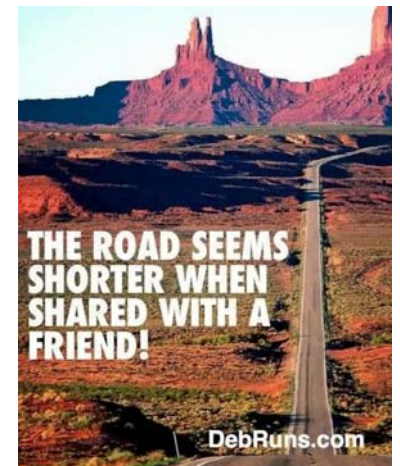
Apr 21—**TTGT**: Nando's Peri-Peri, Westfield Annapolis, 2002 Annapolis Mall Rd, Annapolis

April 30 - Urban Adventure

May 7 - 6 Pillars, 11, 37, 56, and 100-mile courses. See <http://www.6pillarscentury.org/default.asp>

Special Event—Summer 2016 Finger Lakes Bicycling/ Wine Tasting Adventure

Two members of the ABC family, Ken and Linda Kisling, have generously offered to coordinate a long weekend this summer for cycling and wine tasting (not necessarily in that order) in the Finger Lakes region of New York State. Ken and Linda Kisling have a house on the north end of Keuka Lake at the town of Penn Yan, approximately 315 miles from Annapolis.



For **General information** on the Finger Lakes, go to: <http://www.fingerlakes.org/>. The Finger Lakes region is large, so you may want to focus in on Keuka, Seneca and Canandaigua Lakes.

Bicycling Information: There is a lot of Finger Lakes bicycling information available; for starters, look at: <http://www.ilovethefingerlakes.com/recreation/bicycling.htm>, and <http://flcycling.org/maps>.

Dates: The following dates are being proposed:

o Long Weekend of July 23 (Thursday July 21 – Monday July 25)

o Long Weekend of August 13 (Thursday August 11 – Monday August 15)

Please let Ken know by March 1 if you are interested in this adventure, and if so, which weekend you prefer. Also contact him directly if you have questions or need additional information about the area, hotels, logistics, etc: Ken Kisling at kisli@yahoo.com or at 240 476 7630.



Cold Ride!

37 degrees, 15 mile per hour head winds, threat of snow. Who would ride in these conditions?

The Philistines of the Tuesday/ Thursday group would! (and did).



One of the rides to Ellicott City was like a "Where's Waldo" poster.

SOMETIMES
I PRETEND
TO BE
NORMAL.

but it gets boring.
SO I GO BACK
TO BEING
ME.

Best Aid Station in AA

The Sunday ride to Galesville made an unscheduled stop at the home of Tailwinds Co-Editor, Sandi Delcore, where Hawkeye was provided with a restorative beer while other riders entertained her dog, Kela. (It may have only been 10:30 in Davidsonville, but it was 5:00 somewhere!)



Bike Alternative

What to do to keep fit when the roads are covered with snow and the parking lot at the gym has not been plowed.

Larry Dieren constructed several cross country ski trails in the woods near his abode. Then he invited those ABC members who had skis to come and enjoy the snow.

Larry's cat, Boo, followed along but could not ride on a ski because of a lack of gripping surface on the top. Because of her determined participation Boo was proposed for honorary membership,



Third Thursday Get-Togethers

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Drinkers with a biking
problem



WHEN I GET OLD
I DON'T WANT PEOPLE
TO SAY
"SHES SUCH A
SWEET LADY"

I WANT THEM TO
SAY
"OMG WHAT THE
HELL IS THAT CRAZY
BITCH UP TO NOW"

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Old Stein Inn, Edgewater, MD



Grotto Pizza, Gambrills, MD



Winter Party

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The 2016 Club Winter Party went upscale this year at the Elkridge Furnace Inn! Many of you are familiar with the Inn from the Wednesday evening rides, which pass by the Inn on Furnace Road in Elkridge, sometimes stopping for the water that they keep out front for cyclists and joggers.

It is always interesting to see fellow bikers in attire other than spandex and helmets. Thanks to the club, members, and sponsors for supplying some great door prizes.




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Although the crowd was quite lively and entertaining, the absence of the Jim and Sandi Karaoke team was sorely missed! Perhaps they will reappear again at a future event...

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Cycling through Tuscany with the Bi- cycle Adventure Club Jim Black

On Labor Day weekend Martha and I flew off to an Italian adventure; three days exploring the canals and sights of Venice and then a 10 day cycling tour of Tuscany with the Bicycle Adventure Club. Venice was beautiful and exotic, and it exceeded its reputation as a unique and special city on the water, but my search for the Venice Cycling Club was in vain. There were many gondolas for hire, but we were not impressed by their typical cargo of selfie stick wielding tourists, so we kept to the Vaporetti; the shuttle boats that ply the Venice canals like metropolitan transit buses.

And then it was time to take a train across Italy to [Hotel I Ginepri](#), located on the Tyrrhe-

nian coast about an hour south of Pisa, to start the cycling tour.

Bicycle Adven- ture Club

Our tour, called *Tuscany on the Med*, is a fixed base tour which means that we stayed in the same hotel for the entire tour. The group's leaders were Stephen and Linda Kiel, and the ride leader and weatherman was ABC's Ken Keeler, so we felt



right at home! There were 40 of us altogether, hailing from all around the USA with a couple of clusters from Colorado and the San Francisco bay area.

Hotel I Ginepri



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Beach chairs and umbrellas greet the morning light.



The view from I Ginepri's rooftop - spectacular!

Our hotel, the Hotel I Ginepri in Marina Di Castagneto Carducci, is a wonderful seaside resort on the Mediterranean about 10 kilometers from the better known Castagneto Carducci. Our visit was during their shoulder season so we missed the very hot weather and most of the crowds. The early September weather was similar to that of the US mid-atlantic area with highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s (Fahrenheit).

Family Time

Martha enjoyed the seaside resort while I was cycling and did some exploring of local towns with my sister Christina, who joined us for the last week of the tour.

Dining

Each evening our group had a "business meeting" with wine and snacks to review the route for the next morning's ride and check the weather with expert weatherman Ken Keeler. Then it was time for the gourmet dinner prepared and served by the I Ginepri staff and accompanied by unlimited wine from a local vineyard. Our group of 40 occupied more than half of the dining room and we were very social, and as the wine continued to flow we got louder and louder. I feel sorry for the other dining vacationers who struggled to hear each other!

Some of the desserts we enjoyed:



In Castagneto Carducci



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Cycling

We rode on 8 of the 9 full days of the tour, with one rest day - like the Tour de France but less competitive and quite a bit slower. Most of our rides were 40 to 45 miles and included a lengthy food & drink stop in a scenic town. I developed a liking for a bar and restaurant in Monteverdi Marittimo but a dislike for the steep climb on the southern approach to that town. Most of the climbing was long and gradual, and I knew I was doing more climbing than usual but the numbers were surprising: With consistent monthly mileage around 400, my local monthly climbing averaged 8,000 feet but over 8 days in Tuscany I climbed 14,000 feet !

The Tuscan countryside was full of natural beauty and picturesque towns. I stopped frequently to take in the sights and take photos; here are a few.



Jim with Ken Keeler on a rest stop in Monteverdi



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Special Excursions

The Bicycle Adventure Club arranged two very special events: the first - my favorite - was a luncheon at the olive grove same owned by the family that owns and operates the Hotel I Ginepri; the other ride stopped for a tour of a futuristic winery called Petra.

The Olive Grove Luncheon



Tour of Petra Vineyards



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Back Home

A few days after the tour of the Petra winery it was time to fly home. We had a great time and I would participate in another BAC tour in a heartbeat! Only one thing needs to change: Next time I will drink more wine!

Jim Black

Until next summer!



A sign in the Monteverdi bar: *We don't have the WiFi, talk amongst yourselves*



Annapolis Bicycle Club