



Spokes

The newsletter of the Edmonton Bicycle and Touring Club

January/February 2010

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EBTC

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, March 6, 2010

Delwood Community League Hall
7515 Delwood Road
Edmonton, Alberta

4:30 pm Socializing
5:00 pm Dinner
6:00 pm AGM

RSVP: Chris Chapman by March 1 at cjlion@shaw.ca with number attending the dinner.

Check out the [map for directions](#).

EBTC Executive Members

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Education and Safety Co-ordinator

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Past President

Alan Schietzsch 780-455-1924

We welcome your comments and suggestions - especially if you have an idea for a trip or outing you think your fellow club members might enjoy!

Newsletter Enquiries and Submissions

The deadline for the newsletter is the 22nd of each month. Enquiries and articles can be e-mailed to guru1@shaw.ca. Articles **must** be submitted in Word format and any pictures may be scanned and e-mailed.

Moving?

If you're moving, please send your name, old address, new address and new phone number(s) to the Membership Co-ordinator at the mailing address above. This information will ensure that you receive your newsletters.

E-mail?

The EBTC maintains an e-mail directory of members. Occasionally, e-mail or other items received by EBTC considered to be of interest to the membership are forwarded via e-mail. If you wish to be added to this electronic mailing list to receive updates, please send your request via email to info@bikeclub.ca

To save costs and valuable executive time, all club members receive e-mail notification when **Spokes** is posted on the club website and are expected to access it online. Members who cannot access the Internet readily can get **Spokes** in hard copy by sending in a written request to the EBTC post office box noted below. Remember that it costs \$2.00 for each copy we print and put in the mail.

Publisher Information & Policies

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Fees for non-members to advertise in *Spokes* is \$25 for a quarter page, \$50 for a half page and \$100 for a full page.

Opinions expressed in **Spokes** are those of the contributor and are not necessarily shared by the Edmonton Bicycle & Touring Club. The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity, brevity and content and is the sole judge of suitability for all articles and advertisements.

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Edmonton Bicycle &
Touring Club
P.O. Box 52017
Garneau Postal Station
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2T5

Thoughts from the bike path ...

A lot of things have changed in the last couple of years in my life, and given the current demands at work, and the changes in my parents health, I will be stepping down as the president of EBTC. It has been an interesting two years, and as you may have guessed from the lack of columns the last few months, I have found making the time to write a full page of interesting things to read a hard task.

Being president has been a opportunity for me to learn new things, (including Robert's rules of Order) and to meet and work with a lot of wonderful people. An interest in cycling has also had the great side benefit of finding a group that believes that the social side of a ride is just as important as the kilometres ridden. This club is a great place to meet new people.

I have really enjoyed the wonderful group of people who have been a part of the executive over the last 2 years. Our club is very fortunate that a number of very skilled and talented people have stepped forward to give their time and talents to the club. A huge thank you to the folks who have been on the executive with me.

I would also extend and invitation to others to think about joining the executive. You do not need to be a long time member of the club to be on the executive, and you can likely find a post that interests you, or gives you a chance to learn a new skill.

Ernie Mah is also stepping down as Supplies and Equipment Coordinator. The good news is that we now have a storage locker for the club equipment, so having space to store the gear is no longer a requirement to take this position! This year has made 20 continuous years that Ernie has held a position on the EBTC executive. Ernie has been a great person to talk to when I need to know about previous history. His artistic talents have also given the club and TDA some wonderful unique jersey designs.

Ellen Ainsley is also stepping down as the Newsletter editor. She has those special set of eyes that make our newsletter a visual treat. If you have ever thought about learning some editing and layout skills, this might be the post for you. Contact Ellen if you would like to know more about what is involved.

Have a look at the executive positions in the newsletter -- see any you might be interested in please contact myself (nordiskater@albertacom.com) or Sid Bennett (sid.bennett@shaw.ca) if you want more information.

I would like to give Chris Chapman and her family a big thank you for the great job they did in organizing the volunteer appreciation event. Chris is new to the club, so it certainly would not have been easy to organize an event that you had never attended before. Chris had sorted though many photos to have a visual reminder in order to put together a slide show

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday March 6. Please come and join us then. Hope to see you there!

Eileen Hall

CALLING ALL MAPS!

Further to an earlier message, the EBTC is still making an effort to gather as many of the varied route maps and corresponding notes for both day and overnight trips that may still be available from those who have co-ordinated a ride with EBTC over the years or who have participated and kept a copy.

Notes would include things like directions to the starting point and any comment about the route that a co-ordinator may have prepared.

If you have any such maps and notes in electronic copy, please email them to Sid Bennett at sid@coachsid.com or if you only have a hard copy please mail them to Sid's attention at:

Edmonton Bicycle & Touring Club
P.O. Box 52017
Garneau Postal Stn.
Edmonton, AB T6G 2T5

Once we have gathered what seems to be all the maps and notes that will be available, the Club will assemble those maps and notes into a booklet or other form to be made available to club members who may be interested in co-ordinating rides and who may find such a resource helpful.

Thank you for your assistance with this EBTC project.



Pictures from the Valhalla on December 13



Dan Boonstra opened his condominium's party room for EBTC members. Looks like a lot of people showed up with gifts in hand. Thank you Dan.

Pictures from ENSC's End to End on December 27

Ya can't beat this!



Did we make all those tracks?



A well deserved break, I'd say!



When I see pictures like this, I wish I were a cross-country skier!



Now..THAT's the way to do it
Mike



Are you just looking pretty or were you actually skiing????

What a beautiful way to start the day

Volunteer Appreciation Evening

The volunteer appreciation dinner was on January 23 and was well attended. Al Carlson won the Volunteer of the Year award, what with organizing Snow n Gos, Show n Gos and any rides in between. He is one busy character.

A comedian was on hand to complete the evening and, because Nancy and Dale Smigerowsky chose to sit at the very front, they were picked on a lot. Hmmmm, intentional or not—I guess we'll never know.

We don't get to see our fellow EBTcErs much in the winter months so this was a nice opportunity to visit.



Al was tongue-tied when it came time to give his acceptance speech!



The comedian that so much enjoyed picking on Dale and Nancy



MS-150: EBTC MARSHALS GEARING UP FOR JUNE 12-13, 2010

by Bob AtLee



It's that time of year, folks! Planning is under way for the 21st Edmonton MS Ride.

Come out and join Sue and our merry band. EBTC has a long-standing relationship with the Multiple Sclerosis Society in the annual MS ride. EBTC members volunteer their time and talents as ride marshals. It's a great ride and weekend to boot.

We're opening up registration again! Take advantage of this opportunity to help people raise hopefully over \$1.5 million in support of MS research and support, and oh by the way, have a lot of fun.

You must register as a volunteer to get fed! And to get a room if you want one.

To register through the Internet ...

Follow [this link](#) and drill down to "Volunteer Application Form" and Download the form (note as of January 10, 2010 it still said "2009" but don't worry). You can either fill it out and send it in electronically, or print and send it by snail mail. GEEKY NOTE: if you are using gMail, Yahoo or other Web-based mail, it's best to do the snail mail thing (or fax or scan-and-e-mail)

What's the scoop this year?

The ride will once again be from the Ritchie Brothers auction site in Nisku to the Camrose Regional Exhibition Grounds, and back the next day.

Overnight accommodation in the Augustana University College dormitory at Camrose will once again be first-come-first-served to those volunteers who get their volunteer registrations in early. The date stamp on the Volunteer Application form (or verbal confirmation you have sent the snail mail copy) rules. Camping is unlimited, and close to the dinner / dance / start / finish at the Exhibition Grounds.

What do I have to do, you ask?

We spread ourselves throughout the pack, a pair of marshals for every group of about 75 cyclists.

Mostly, we just share what we do on a club ride: that is help out fellow riders!

Make minor bike repairs like fixing flat tires, adjusting seats, etc.

Advise about riding technique and etiquette, hydration and so on.

Reinforce cycling safety rules (riding single file, signaling, no iPods, etc).

In case of an accident we do what we can, and phone for one of the numerous support vehicles to attend.

What's the drill?

Starting in Nisku on Saturday morning, we ride about 80 km out to Camrose.

After a huge dinner and a gala party on Saturday night, we sleep in college dorms or camp.

Then bright and early (well, uh, early ...) cycle back to Nisku on Sunday.

Rest stops are set up at roughly 15 km intervals. And yes, for those who remember 2008, there is an extra stop closer to the finish on Sunday!

There are lots of support vehicles from United Cycle, CPRN and St John's Ambulance.

What's In It For Me?

A pleasant weekend in support of a worthy cause. Most people know someone with MS; this is a great way to say "I support you".

Good endurance training for the upcoming summer tours.

Free dorm accommodation (if you register early - space is limited), meals, and admission to the Saturday night gala dinner and dance.

You can still fund raise for MS and you don't need to meet a quota.

You can still be a member of the EBTC "Pre-Descents" corporate team.

Please call Bob Atlee at 464-0603 or John Sisson at 431-0359, or e-mail Bob at atleerj@shaw.ca.