

2011-11 Focus on Members

This month's Focus is on Barbara Clancey – member since 2001 and active charity organizer.

I bought my bike 10 years ago this summer. I hadn't been on a bike in a very long time and never used pedals like these! After a week of practicing clipping in and out and using gears, but only one ring, I ventured out onto the streets of Pennington. Two weeks later I was riding with some friends who said I was ready for Poor Farm Road ...and my love of climbing hills began.

Shortly after that, an employee at Hart's encouraged me to ride with a group starting from the bike shop on Wednesday evenings. So I show up and realize it's Hart's Racing Team. Well, I start out with them and within 2 miles I couldn't see them! I sort of knew where they were going but never caught up. As I'm heading back home, some friends riding in a car stopped me. I explained that this was my first group ride.... They asked, "Where's the group?" I said, "I'm looking for them!"

And that is when I decided to join the Princeton Free Wheelers - immediately. I looked in the book, called Noreen Barish and began riding with Bob and the crew. It has been a wonderful experience: fun riding, great new friends and wonderful relationships.

I enjoy riding in charity rides like Anchor House and recently formed a team to ride for Catholic Charities in the Battle Against Hunger Ride. Charity rides are unique vacations. Not only do they raise much-needed funds for good causes – there is no cooking, cleaning, work or chores to do: only eating, sleeping and riding! They're terrific get-aways where everyone becomes family.

Princeton Free Wheelers has become a major part of my life – thanks!

