

Skagit Bicycle Club History

By Jane Monroe – 1997

Lately conversations with members, with members asking questions about our club origins inspired me to reflect and do some research. Some facts on our beginnings are already foggy so I'm making an effort to record our history while I can.

The first organizational meeting was held in November 1989, attended by current members Jan Selvig and Thom Gustafson. The name Skagit Valley Cycling Club was changed to the Skagit Bicycle Club at the second meeting in December (which I attended at the Deli by the Co-op) because the initials SVCC were the same as the Skagit Valley Community College.

A newsletter written by Anthony Tenzinski (who coined the name *Saddle-Post Intelligencer*) in January of 1990 mentioned rides by Steve Buxton and a meeting at Peter and Ria Stroosma's house, where Dave Elbert joined the group. Thom Gustafson edited the newsletter from January 1990 to October 1992. April 2, 1990 the first minutes were recorded and show the election of officers. President Thom Gustafson and Secretary-Treasurer Jan Selvig served terms until January 1992. Dues were \$12 and still are.

A membership roster in early 1990 lists:

Cliff McDade, Jim O'Day, Herk St. Germain, Jane Tingley (I returned to my maiden name in 1992), Thom Gustafson, Jan Selvig, David North, Rod Walker, Dave Elbert, Larry Clark, Peter and Ria Stroosma, Dave and Donna Hernley, Del and Tracy Carpenter, Robin Fallihee, Keith Eilers, Janice Lisherness, Ron Wohl and Darcie Morris.

Others who joined while SBC was in its formative years of 1990 and 1991 are:

Cindy McGuiness, Rose Ploeg, Tim Holloran, Linda White, Elliot Johnson, Brice Schafer, Russ Borneman, Ross Bailey, John Christian, Cheryl Calhoun, Jan Wiggers, Keith Wiggers, Mat Irons, Dennis Stanchfield, Phil Green and Phil Stevens.

Significant Skagit Bicycle Club Events

- April 15, 1990, Quad Fest, an SBC sponsored forerunner to the Skagit Spring Classic on Whidbey Island for Washington State Parks
- June 1990, Meetings were on Sunday at Northwest School of Guitar in Mount Vernon. Weekly rides began there. One ride a month was from another location.
- June 1990, Started "lightening rides" from the N.W. School of Guitar led by Thom Gustafson. Wednesday night rides began from Thrifty Foods in Sedro-Woolley led by Jane Tingley and Jan Selvig.
- August 25, 1990, First annual Winthrop ride, 7 riders.
- March 1991, Special Olympic Bicycling practice in the Methodist Church parking lot in Mount Vernon.

- April 28, 1991, First Skagit Spring Classic, Bay View State Park, choices of 22, 35 or 53 miles. There were 66 riders and a profit of \$120.90 was made.
- April 1991, By-laws written.
- July 31, 1991, First release form used.
- September 1991, Club logo adopted.
- January 1992, Full slate of officers installed
 - President Thom Gustafson
 - Vice President Jan Selvig (also ride coordinator)
 - Secretary Jane Tingley
 - Treasurer Janice Lisherness
 - Board members
 - Tim Holloran
 - Dave Hernley
 - Cindy McGuinness
 - Linda White
 - Cheryl Calhoun
- October 24, 1992, Rose Ploeg became newsletter editor.