



The Colorado Bicyclist

Newsletter of the Denver Bicycle Touring Club

Jan / Feb 2024

A Last Hurrah for 2023 Volunteers

Before starting our 2024, I'd like to again say a big THANK YOU to some of our many 2023 volunteers.

Cyndy Klepinger was President of our club from 2015 to 2019. Having finished one year as President, I now know how hard a job the Presidency is and Cyndy held that position for five years. I believe this is easily a club record. To her credit, Cyndy has continued to be an active member by continuing to lead rides and, also, being one of the few to lead out of town trips (OOTT) for our club. Having participated in her Albuquerque, October 2022 ride, I know how much time and energy it takes to lead an OOTT. If you talk with Cyndy, she also had ideas for rides in 2024, so she is still in the game. Thank You Cyndy!

Helen Berkman succeeded Cyndy and took the Presidency from 2020 until 2022. Helen successfully helped lead our club through the very difficult times of Covid and all the uncertainties that went along with it. Being President for three years is also quite a feat, and, if not for Cyndy's five year term, her three years would be a record. Helen also continues to be active by leading rides and being head of the DBTC MeetUp site with help from **Tom Fitzgerald**. Thank you, Helen!

Ruby Frederick started on the Board in 2023 and quickly made her mark as a very active participant. She and her husband Wes have led rides in the East Metro area and when Ruby stepped into the Board, she quickly established herself as a do'er and a leader. She took the lead in making our Facebook Page a living site, keeping it updated and putting more current information on the site with the objective of attracting more attention. She continues to do so with help from **Suzy Ward**. Ruby was the lead person in changing the name of the Caramel Apple rides to the Biketoberfest and reorganized the event which also had a new location and new menu. Thank you, Ruby!

Tom Fitzgerald also started on the Board last year. He, too, was already a ride leader and quickly took on several other roles as Event Coordinator of the Spring Picnic, May 6, 2023, held at Clement Park and also helps **Helen Berkman** with managing our MeetUp presence. Look for Tom to work with **Mark Shimoda** to set up seminars and literature to help train new ride leaders this spring. Thank you, Tom!

Merri Bruntz was the ride leader who led the most rides in 2023. Merri has been a very significant participant in leading rides for many

years and it is through her input that we have revised how DBTC now records the number of rides ride leaders are credited with. We hope Merri will be seen at the head of many rides again in 2024. Thank you, Merri!

Patty Gaspar has been Ride Coordinator since the early 2000's and she says she is OK doing the job for yet another year. Patty not only helps line up ride leaders for our calendar but she also leads rides and was the #3 ride leader in 2023. So, Patty not only organizes the Ride Schedule but also puts her name down on the schedule to help contribute to the almost 400 rides per year offered by DBTC. Thank you, Patty!

Cynthia Withers came up to me at an event in 2022, and said she would be interested in helping the club. When I discovered her background as a CPA and accounting software consultant, I immediately knew she would be a fitting successor to **Maria Elena Romo** as Treasurer. Cynthia accepted the challenge and has not only done the traditional job as Treasurer but has also delved into Wild Apricot, our cumbersome event and membership management software. Her work on the DBTC budget has helped us run our club in a fiscally conservative and responsible manner. Thank you, Cynthia!

Last, but not least, I again would like to recognize our Vice-President and Newsletter Editor, **Virginia Dudley**. Virginia is a very active participant in all board activities, she organizes the material that goes into our newsletter and she actively participates at all events helping where more hands are needed. I thank Virginia for all she does as club VP but we all should say a big "Thank You" for making our newsletter as interesting a publication as it is. Thank you, Virginia!

To all the other DBTC members who contribute to our club, I say **THANK YOU!** With the help from all of you, we will make 2024, an even better year with more opportunities to put more miles on our bikes and more opportunities to further our friendships and to make many new friends. Thank you all!

Mark Shimoda
President

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If you have questions, if you want to contact an officer or have items to sale in the DBTC Marketplace, send an email to:

DBTCinformation@gmail.com

DBTC's Officers

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Treasurer Cynthia Withers	720-480-4766

Board Members at Large

Maria Elena	720-364-0149
Ruby Frederick	303-522-3573
Tom Fitzgerald	303-424-1082
Simone Caruthers	720-636-2884
Fred Tarbell	630-888-5290

Directors and Staff

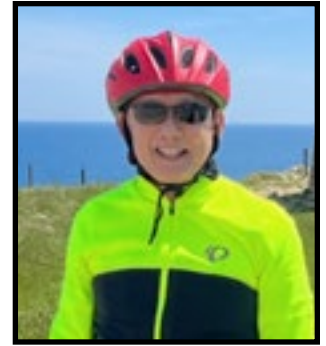
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MTB Coordinator Steve Thomas steve.thomas001@yahoo.com	303-419-2531
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Leisure Ride Coordinators Jill McMahon Marcy Rodney	
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Communications Director Kathleen Shelton	303-264-9878
Guest Relations Tricia Lee	513-283-1274

WELCOME NEW DBTC MEMBERS

Karen Betstadt
Marianne Curtis

President's Message

Mark Shimoda



Your DBTC Board has been working in December in preparation for the 2024 riding season. I would like to share some thoughts with you about the direction of the club for 2024.

Is DBTC a bicycle riding club or a social club or both? We, the Board, think DBTC is both and a listing of events would say that we are both a riding club and a social club. Yes, one might say that at our core, we are a bicycle club with social activities peripheral to the riding. However, if riding were the core of the club, then members could ride on their own. Members would not need any club to ride. But without bicycling, would we be socializing together? Probably not. **DBTC is both a riding club and a social club.**

The DBTC Mission Statement mentions nothing about socializing being a big part of our club. The Mission Statement has us "promoting recreational and commuter cycling, bicycle safety, and bicycling education to the general public." According to our Mission Statement, we should also be "advocating and supporting bicycling routes with local governments in the Denver Metro area." At this time, we are doing none of this. The Mission Statement for DBTC must be changed to fit the needs of the club members today and tomorrow. This will be done in 2024.

Since socializing is such an important part of our club, the right blend of emphasis on riding and socializing must be found. The continued decline in attendance at social events tells the board that perhaps there has been too much emphasis placed on social events. Or, perhaps the types of social events need to be adjusted slightly. To this end, we have eliminated the Biketober Fest event and will look at ways to compensate for eliminating this event. Maybe smaller events (15-20 people) held in different places in the metro Denver area.

You will see your Board focused more on strategic planning-planning for the future of our club, helping ride coordinators and ride leaders offer more rides to our members and provide social events in places that members like, at times of the day they prefer, with activities they like.

– Mark Shimoda

DBTC Mission Statement - 2020 and Beyond

The Denver Bicycle Touring Club (DBTC), a non-profit corporation run by volunteers, is the original bicycling club of the Denver Metro area.

The Mission Statement of the Denver Bicycle Touring Club is to:
Organize and sponsor all levels of rides for bicycling enthusiasts. Promote recreational and commuter cycling, bicycle safety, and bicycling education to the general public.

Advocate and support bicycling routes with local governments in the Denver Metro area.

A Big Thank You to Our 2024 Sponsors!

Steel Horse Rescue - SteelHorseRescue.com

Steel Horse Rescue is your resource to help you ride longer & easier! Professional Bike Fitting at a fraction of the cost of some other fit systems. Take advantage of over 30 years' experience, including 7 years' experience at the dedicated fit studio at Bicycle Village. Training at New England Cycling Academy now Fit Kit, Trek bicycles 40 hr course, 16 hr course at Fit Kit, 4 hr course at BBI in Colo Springs. Want to learn more about maintaining your own bike? Ongoing Maintenance Classes, both group and individual, are available, all tools supplied! Certificates held from BBI, Shimano T.E.C., Professional Bicycle Mechanic Assoc, Yamaguchi Bicycles Frame Building School.

Contact us now through our website Steel Horse Rescue FB page [Steel Horse Bike Rescue](#) or at wrenchrandy@centurylink.net



Slo-Hi Coffee + Bike

We're Steve, Adam, Anne, Tom, Sam and Alexis from Slo-Hi. We carry the bikes we like to ride and service. We love riding bikes of all shapes and sizes, on-road and off, with our families, friends, and sometimes all by ourselves.

We service and sell any and all of the following types of bikes:

- Cargo and Kids
- Commuters, City, and Hybrid
- Electric and E-Bike Conversions
- Mountain, Road, and Gravel
- Touring

We'd love to talk to you when you come visit our shop!
See you soon at Slo-Hi Coffee + Bike.



Mike's Bikes

Mike's Bikes has four stores in the Denver metro area, an online store, and 14 stores in the Northern California area. Mike's Bikes was established in California in 1964. In May 2022, Elevation Cycles, a local 4 door bike shop in the Denver metro, joined forces with Mike's Bikes. Our Denver locations now have the pleasure of selling Santa Cruz, Cervelo, Cannondale, Pivot Cycles and Giant. Whitney Tabaina and Phillip Brown were previous owners of Elevation Cycles and have stayed on to help run the Colorado region. Mike's Bikes is excited to continue to provide top notch hospitality, support and inspire the rider, and help grow our cycling community.

Carboy Winery and Angelo's Taverna

In March of 2013, Craig Jones bought Angelo's Taverna and partnered with Chef Scott Hybbeneth to bring the best of old world Italian pastas and pizzas with added modern favorites, such as chargrilled oysters and balsamic glazed ribs, making the eclectic menu that you see today.

When a parcel of land became available in Littleton, Craig saw an opportunity to bring the Angelo's concept to his neck of the woods in the south suburbs, with a twist, Carboy Winery. They built a sister restaurant with a 10,000 square foot full scale urban winery thus bringing together the best food and wine to your table without pretentious prices or attitude. The newest Carboy location, in Palisade, Carboy Winery's Estate Vineyard, has a tasting room for welcoming Apres Bike guests to their rooftop patio.

Come visit us to share our collective experiences and make them yours at:

- Angelo's Taverna in Denver and Littleton
- Carboy Winery in Denver, Littleton, Breckenridge, and Palisade
- Logan Street Restaurant and Bar in Denver
- Gold Pan Saloon in Breckenridge



Volunteer Recognition Dinner



On Saturday, November 4th 2023, club members ventured to Windsor Gardens to celebrate our awesome volunteers!



Leisurely Leisure



On Sunday, September 24th, 2023, Marcy Rodney led a ride to Oscar Blues, Sandstone Ranch, and the Hygene Lolipop. (above)

On Sunday, September 3rd, 2023 Ellen Fitzpatrick led a group of 10 riders to the Parker Farmers Market. (right)



MTB Waterton Canyon Dam



Many big horn sheep and two bears were spotted on the Oct 6th MTB ride up Waterton Canyon led by Jennifer Saxhaug and Cathy Pimm. DBTC President, Mark Shimoda brought a surprise birthday cake for his travel partner and friend, Jerry Baer. The cake almost slipped onto Jerry's lap but a rescue (some amazing acrobatics by Mark) saved the cake for all to enjoy!

Poudre River Adventure

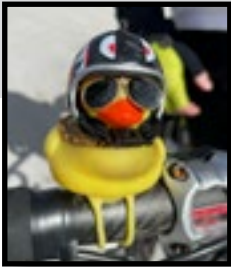
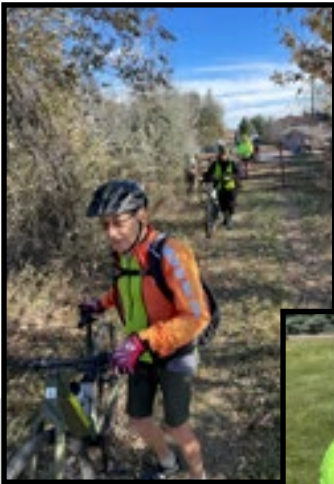


On Oct 20th Lauren Delle led a 38 mile adventure from River Bluffs open space Trailhead in Windsor along the Poudre River Trail in Larimer County for 19 miles to the Poudre Ponds and circled back to the start.

Halloween Ride with Jeff



After being rescheduled several times due to weather Jeff Krinsky led the annual spirited Old Towne Arvada Scary Graveyard Ride to three cemeteries.



Rocky Mountain BEST Thanks DBTC

by Patty Gaspar

Thank you to DBTC for donating the leftover hamburger and sausages to Rocky Mountain BEST. We sponsor a robotics competition for middle and high school students. (www.rockymountainbest.org) We used the brats and Beyond Meat Sausages to help feed the 30 volunteers at our Practice Day. With 17 schools and 200 students, the volunteers need lunch!

Then we sponsor a Regional Championship with 450 students from 25 schools in five states competing. It takes about 70 volunteers to make everything work. We used the hamburger and Beyond Meat burgers to make ziti for our Regional Championship. The grilled flavor added an interesting accent to the ziti. Of course, we had to add additional stuff, but since we are an all-volunteer organization depending on donations, it helped keep our costs down.

We also want to thank our DBTC members who volunteered to help: Carolyn Bauer, Ellen Fitzpatrick, Carl Gaspar, Patty Gaspar, Ida Sansoucy, and Sally Swartz. Here is a [link](#) to some of the action!



Cherry Creek to Castlewood Canyon



On Dec 9th the good weather allowed Lin Hark to lead an additional fun ride from McCabe Meadows Trailhead near Parker south on the Cherry Creek Trail to Homestead Trailhead in Castlewood Canyon near Franktown.

Training for New Out of Town Tour Leaders

Out of Town Tour Director, Kathy Stommel, has scheduled an introductory training session for potential new Out of Town Tour Leaders on Monday, January 22 beginning at 1:00pm.

If you are interested in becoming an OOTT leader, please consider attending! The future success of DBTC depends on offering a variety of events for our members, including interesting tours.

You must register in advance for this training! Please communicate by email to Kathy Stommel at cyclekats@gmail.com.

2024 Small Venue DBTC Events

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH OF 2024

Here are some ideas your board is working on for Winter 2024. We envision these seminars to be small, 4-10 people, possibly in the home of members, afternoon and/or evenings, no cost. Information will be disseminated via our Newsletter and via blasts.

Bike Maintenance - basic bike maintenance classes to be led by DBTC Members.

How to set up an Out Of Town Trip (OOTT) for DBTC. Kathy Stommel will lead a couple of seminars which will prepare members for leading OOTT's.

How to use Ride with GPS. DBTC has a club membership with RWGPS. Members are encouraged to use this to plan rides, retain rides, check mileage and elevation gains of rides, etc. Marilyn Choske will lead two seminars on this topic.

Exchange ideas of future bike trips. During Covid, DBTC held meetings via Zoom in which members shared ideas of their bike travels, local, in state, in the USA, and international.

*Mark Shimoda
President*



E Bike for Sale

Magnum Navigator S. Practically new. Unsize bike but fits 5' to 6' height person. Removable battery. It has so many premium features and add-ons. \$995.

Contact Marty or Jill, 303 888-0314 or jillmm7@gmail.com for more information.



Riding from fall into winter can be challenging but there will be some beautiful days for rides.



KEEP ROLLING YOUR WHEELS

Winter rides will be announced through Meetup. Check it out for the latest rides and especially for rides that will be rescheduled because the weather is changing.

Go to [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) and checkout "Denver Bicycle Touring Club" in Groups for the rides.

If you would like to lead a ride, send your ride to either Jeff Krinsky jkrinsky2003@yahoo.com or Patty Gaspar patty@gasparjones.com to get it posted.

If you have never led a ride and would like to lead one, contact Patty Gaspar patty@gasparjones.com to learn more about how to do it.