

## SPOKE

## Notes

Newsletter of the Cyclonauts Bicycle Club, Springfield, MA

**THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

*Biking or Hiking: Be **VISIBLE**, Be **SAFE***



With sunset coming earlier and earlier, remember to stay as visible as possible. Headlights, flashing taillights, and reflective gear will help drivers see you at dusk and help to keep you safe.

As we move further into fall, we also experience changing temperatures. When you head out for those end of season rides or enjoying the trail, make sure to dress in layers and have a pack you can store outer layers in.

Leaf peeping is in full swing and I can't wait to see you all on the hiking trails.

James DeSellier  
President



## EDITOR'S REST STOP



Hi everyone,

**Just a reminder:** If you wish to contribute, please don't hesitate to submit information you think will be helpful or of interest to the other club members. Send letters to the Editor, or feedback to me at [donna.katz56@gmail.com](mailto:donna.katz56@gmail.com) regarding how SpokeNotes can be more interesting or useful to our members.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

*This is a place for club members to share their ideas and opinions with respect to all aspects of cycling and our club. Please limit letters to less than 200 words.*

In the spirit of our president's urging for **Visibility** and **Safety** while biking or hiking consider the following.

### **BLAZE ORANGE: is the most visible color in the woods**

According to some resources, avoid wearing red, blue, white and black because these colors are associated with male turkeys.

**HUNTING SEASON:** In MA, hunting season for the remainder of 2023 - in general - for black bear, deer, fox, bobcat and turkey, etc. is somewhere between 10/2 thru the end of 2023 (and beyond). The dates vary depending on the species and implement used to hunt. If interested, see the following link for details:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/wildlife-management-zone-map>

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/2023-hunting-season-summary/download>

HUNTING in MA is prohibited on Sunday.

**Enjoy the hiking season!!!**

# THE WEBMASTER'S CORNER

When ride or hike leaders need to cancel due to weather, I am happy to send out the ride cancellation notice. All notices should be sent to [spfldcyclonauts@gmail.com](mailto:spfldcyclonauts@gmail.com).

This was a particularly rainy cycling season resulting in many canceled rides. A few rides were canceled the evening before based on weather forecasts, only to have the forecast change for the better the following morning. This can be very frustrating but it is always best to err on the side of caution, and members can always choose to do their own ride.

As we start hiking season, I want to make it clear that it is not necessary to cancel the evening before. Hike leaders are welcome to wait until morning to make the final decision. I am an early riser and can send out a note in the morning if necessary. It has always been the responsibility of hikers (and riders) to check their email or contact the leader if in doubt. Again, we want to err on the side of caution as morning temperatures get much colder in hiking season and hypothermia becomes a concern. Temperatures below freezing, particularly with high winds, is also a reason for canceling a hike.

Betty Siwinski  
Webmaster

