

SPOKE

Notes

Newsletter of the Cyclonauts Bicycling Club, Springfield Massachusetts

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



I want to *thank all of you* who volunteered to lead a ride for the club this fall. *Thanks* as well to those who participated. Although it was a limited schedule, with very small

numbers of riders (average was 3), it did provide an opportunity for interested club members to ride safely as a group again. For those who did not want to ride with a group, the cue sheets for "Solo Rides" remained on the web site.

I am pleased to announce that we will have a hiking season, although we are again starting out on a limited basis with only the Saturday hikes and a maximum of 10 hikers. A big

thank you to Mary Ann Siron and James DeSellier for coordinating the November, December and hopefully the January hike schedules. Our board will continue to monitor the available Covid-19 data as well as State and CDC guidelines so we can either modify or possibly expand our hikes. The results of our fall cycling season have been encouraging. Special *thanks* to Ray Siwinski, our hard working webmaster for emailing out the ride and now the hike descriptions each week and notifying participants. The hiking guidelines are given below. I hope you all are enjoying the beautiful fall weather.

- Betty Siwinski



Hiking Guidelines during Covid-19

The following rules are meant to minimize the risk of infection during Club hikes, but ***no rules can guarantee that infection will not occur***, so it is each member's individual responsibility to decide to participate or not. **The Club does not imply or guarantee the safety from infection of any hike participant.**

The Cyclonauts, at the discretion of the Board, may modify these rules or shut down group Hikes with no prior notice if problems should arise.

In General/Registration:

1. Do not attend a hike if you are experiencing any symptoms of the Covid-19 disease
2. Hike descriptions will be emailed to Club members by Monday of each week. Hikes are limited to 10 participants. Interested participants must email spfldcyclonauts@gmail.com to sign up by Thursday prior to each hike. Slots will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. If more than 10 people sign up for a hike they will be notified that the hike is full.
3. If a registered hiker needs to cancel their participation, they should make a courtesy call to the hike leader so that someone else can use their spot.
4. No car spotting allowed on hikes. Loop hikes only.

Pre-Hike and Post-Hike:

5. No group breakfasts or lunch gatherings before or after hikes.
6. Carpooling is discouraged.

During the Hike:

7. Hikers must maintain six feet of separation between them.
8. Masks are mandatory when hikers cannot be six feet apart.
9. Dogs may be welcome depending on location.



EDITOR'S REST STOP



Hi everyone,

Just a reminder, if you wish to contribute, please don't hesitate to send in any information you think will be helpful or interesting to the other club members, letters to the Editor, or feedback to me directly at regarding how SpokeNotes can be more interesting or accessible to our members. Send correspondence to donna.katz56@gmail.com .

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.

No letters or contributions this issue BUT AN ANNOUNCEMENT.

VINNIE MANDOLINI has moved to Maine. His contact info is:

99 Preble St. Apt. 506

S. Portland, ME 04106

Vinnie, we will miss you! ❤️



THE WEBMASTER'S CORNER

Following a truncated and limited bicycle ride season, the Cyclonauts will conduct a similarly limited hiking season starting the first weekend in November. There will be only one hike per weekend and each hike will be limited to 10 participants including the hike leader. This is necessary to ensure that the special Covid pandemic hike guidelines can be maintained and everyone can remain safe during club hikes. In order to accomplish this, hikes will not be posted on the website and the following procedure will be used:

By Monday evening of each week a description of the next weekend's hike with the starting town, but without the specific starting location, will be e-mailed to all club members.

By Thursday evening of each week, those that want to participate in that weekend's hike should respond to the Monday e-mail with their name and a short statement that they have read and agree to the guidelines provided in the club's hike resumption announcement letter (and posted on the club website). "Yes, I have read the guidelines and I agree" will be sufficient and each participant only needs to respond with this statement once.

The first 10 respondents will be notified by e-mail as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, that they are confirmed to hike, along with the specific start location and time. Please be sure that you will participate in the hike if you are confirmed since participant slots are limited. If you need to cancel your participation after being confirmed, please notify the hike leader.

Additional respondents will be notified by e-mail as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, that the hike is full and they cannot participate.

While this procedure may be tedious, it is necessary at this time. If we find that it can be improved during the next few months we will be happy to make changes. Hopefully next year when the pandemic is in our rear view mirror we will be able to get back to a normal schedule and rules.

Ray Siwinski

