

The Cyclist's Vehicle


Greetings from the Prez

Hello, My name is Michael Kalmanovitch and I am serving as the current president of the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters.

EBC is a fantastic organization - built by the work, volunteer hours, and love by many people over the past 27 years. A special thanks to all our volunteers! This year, we are fortunate that we have some excellent people working on the board and I look forward to working with each of them over the next year.

I believe EBC has the potential to become an even greater catalyst to create a healthier world by working more closely with the City of Edmonton, suggesting improvements to infrastructure, highlighting the need for roadway users to behave better, sharing the wealth of knowledge of our active members with an ever greater number of people through workshops, courses, and the media, and to have fun doing it.

EBC has grown over the past year and it is my intention to continue to encourage more people to join our group. If you're not a current member, come join and show your support. Help EBC remain viable and vital! The number of commuters has grown greatly over the years. Are you one of them? I invite all bicycle commuters to become more active in the community and help to effect greater change. Joining EBC would be a good first step!

If anyone is interested in becoming more active with EBC please get hold of me at [info\[at\]edmontonbikes.ca](mailto:info[at]edmontonbikes.ca) or leave a message at BikeWorks 433-BIKE (2453). There are a range of volunteer opportunities: from people to help run BikeWorks to summer bicycle parking monitors; from one-time blitz shop cleaning events to ongoing commitments as bicycle mechanics; from advocacy and organizing to helping out during our fund raising casino or Bike Month in June. You can volunteer a little or a lot ... as much as you feel comfortable doing. We welcome people to join us in making EBC as effective as possible. 

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Kent McPhee
Editor 



PRESENTING THE NEW EBC LOGO!

Over the last year and a half or so, the EBC board has been busy updating the face that the society presents to the public. In the fall of 2006, we saw the birth of www.edmontonbikes.ca and at the last AGM we saw the unveiling of the new logo. Selected from several designs, the new logo designed by Graphos presents a bolder, simpler design that better reflects the club's role as the star of Edmonton's bicycle commuting scene. That, and it works way better when reproduced on things like stickers and patches (available soon at BikeWorks)! Also in the works are new outreach materials which will be ready to hit the streets come spring as we gear up for the busy part of the cycling season in Edmonton. 

THE EBC MISSION

... is to promote and facilitate cycling as everyday transportation to Edmontonians by advocating for cyclists and by providing bicycle-related services and resources.

THE BOARD

Every year at the fall AGM, a new board of directors is elected. This year there was a lot of enthusiasm and we saw a large board elected. As of this writing a couple of people have had to reduce their involvement and we've settled down to the current board:

Michael Kalmanovitch (President)
 Scott McAnsh (Vice-President)
 Christopher Chan (Treasurer)
 Ang McCartney (Secretary)

Scott Harris (Advocacy liaison)
 Steve Andersen
 Adam Millie (BikeWorks liaison)
 Alex Hindle

BIKEWORKS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

February 24 - Shop Clean Up from 1 - 4 PM (pizza and beverage provided). This time will be spent organizing the shop in preparation of bicycle fixing. Washing, sweeping, tidying, and organizing - would you like to participate? Email Michael at [kalman\[at\]interbaun.com](mailto:kalman[at]interbaun.com) and use Subject: EBC Clean up volunteer February 24

March 9 - Bicycle Repair-O-Palooza from 1 - 4 PM (pizza and beverage provided). Help EBC get bicycles ready for the season. Take a bicycle and fix it up. Don't know much about bicycle building? That's OK, this gives you a great opportunity to learn and help out EBC at the same time. Practice your bicycle mechanicking skills on one of our donated bicycles. Would you like to participate? Email Michael at [kalman\[at\]interbaun.com](mailto:kalman[at]interbaun.com) and use Subject: EBC Bike repair volunteer March 9th.

Stay tuned - There will be a major yard cleanup, weather permitting, prior to April 1st so that we can be good neighbours and comply with a notice from the City of Edmonton to get our yard in tip top shape.

The above events are outside of normal opening hours and BikeWorks won't be open to the general public. Check the website - www.edmontonbikes.ca for more dates and details. If you'd like to volunteer anytime drop a line to [info\[at\]edmontonbikes.ca](mailto:info[at]edmontonbikes.ca) or call BikeWorks at 433-2453. 

Call for Experienced Cyclists!

Every year EBC runs free Children's Special Needs Learn To Bike courses at Gold Bar park. The head instructor is an occupational therapist and we need at least one volunteer instructor for every student. The Spring course will run Thursday early evenings from May 1 through to June 12. The Fall course will run Thursday early evenings from Sept. 4 through to Oct. 16. If you are interested in helping out, please contact John Collier at [jbcollier\[at\]shaw.ca](mailto:jbcollier[at]shaw.ca) or phone 433-1270. (photo by highwaygirl67 at flickr.com).




AND OTHER UPCOMING STUFF

Bike Month Keep checking the Bike Month Bikeology website for changes. As plans are being laid for another exciting Bike Month, we'll be posting on www.bikeology.ca so that you can plan your June around EBC sponsored bikey fun.

Winter Vid Coming soon - check out the EBC website for a wee tour of the Bikework's yard in February.

Bike Lit The EBC website, www.edmontonbikes.ca, will soon have another section. Stay tuned for "Under the Helmet" - a section of the website full of creative endeavours: short story, poems, drawings and more ... complete with information on how you can contribute!

Winter Cycling Seminars In January, EBC held its second winter cycling seminar of the season [*watch www.edmontonbikes.ca for future events*]. There were three members there to lead the discussion and 6 people came to learn and share information. People attend to learn new tricks for clothing, route finding and for keeping their steed running and a little less rusty. We've had a couple people attend who haven't cycled in winter, and many who are experienced, but have come up against some problems. Feedback is always good and everyone goes away with a sense of camaraderie. 


GRAINGE AWARD GOES TO LONGTIME EBC VOLUNTEER

Awarded in memory of Jack Grainge, an EBC member loved by all. Jack contributed to cycling in Edmonton and to the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters in countless ways with selfless hard work, humility, humour, and dedication. If you know of somebody who personifies cycling, has worked to raise the profile of cycling, and has been a role model for cyclists, you can nominate them for next year's award by contacting anyone on the board or e-mailing [info\[at\]edmontonbikes.ca](mailto:info[at]edmontonbikes.ca).

Thanks Karly!

Last fall, longtime EBC board member Karly Coleman became MEC's new Sustainability Coordinator. Seeing as how EBC has often been the recipient of MEC community grants awarded by the sustainability coordinator, she decided to step down from the EBC board.

Over the years Karly has worked tirelessly and cheerfully to advance the cause of bicycling in Edmonton. She has used her administrative skills to raise tens of thousands of dollars in funding for bike projects around Edmonton, including Bike Racks on Buses, Bike Month, Bikeology, and other EBC sponsored events. Karly loves to think big, make plans, and make things happen - three characteristics that are rarely held by one person. Bike festival? - sure! Done. Whole month of Bike events? - sure! Done.

Karly has served on the board of directors in many positions over the years (most recently as Treasurer). During her term as President she encouraged and succeeded in increasing women's participation in events and increasing the number of women on the board. She was around when EBC ran out of a Quonset hut, and remembers burning paperwork in the winter to keep the hands of the mechanics from freezing solid! Through the years, she has been there for EBC, happily volunteering for countless events. 



ALLSOPP AWARD GOES TO BIKEWORKS VOLUNTEER

The annual Allsopp Memorial Award is given to a deserving contributor who contributes to EBC mission with a blend of technical / mechanical / hands on skills and the people skills needed to support the desire of others to learn more about cycling. Dale Allsopp was a dedicated EBC member who contributed his skills to the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters with selfless hard work, humility, humour, and dedication. The award is given to a member of the bikey community in Edmonton who exhibits those qualities in the service of promoting utilitarian cycling in Edmonton.




When asked how he felt receiving the Allsopp award, Keith Hallgren replied "I was shocked. I'm just a newcomer really." While it's true that Keith is a relatively new volunteer with EBC, he has proved to be one of the most dedicated and knowledgeable people to don the mantle of volunteer BikeWorks mechanics.

Drop by BikeWorks at any time (always call to confirm hours first!) and it's likely you'll find Keith there helping members with expert advice and hands-on work.

Keith is known for his love of the single speed cycling experience. He has built countless single speed bikes and is often seen working on yet another single speed bicycle when he's not needed by BikeWorks visitors.

Keith's quiet efficiency is appreciated by everyone who knows him. His bikey knowledge is deep. A machinist in "real life", Keith has on occasion

even suggested that he can make or recondition parts that are hard to find!

He hears this a lot but it can't be said enough: Thanks Keith for all your help! 

Sigh, if it were only true.....

"The ordinary "horseless carriage" is at present a luxury for the wealthy; and although its price will probably fall in the future, it will never, of course, come into as common use as the bicycle."

Literary Digest, 1899



Editors note: The following is a column by the highly-esteemed automotive journalist Sandor St. Hughes. Mr. St. Hughes typically reviews luxury and sports automobiles for newspapers that subscribe to the Richmond International syndicate. However, an unfortunate "incident" at a staff party has resulted in his "promotion" to reviewing economy vehicles. As few sponsors could be found for the economy section this week, Mr. St. Hughes' column is being supplied for free to worthy newsletters.

CAN THE 2008 BICYCLE SAVE THE PLANET? (or Is it All Just Spin?)

By Sandor St. Hughes

I must admit to you that I was somewhat indignant when my editors informed me that I would not have the responsibility of test driving the newest Jaguar XJ-12 this month. After all, who but a skilled professional could inform you, the discerning automobile customer, about the subtle differences between using Argentine or Spanish calf leather for dashboard trim?

Still, I swallowed my pride and realized that not all of you out there can afford top-of-the-line craftsmanship, an On-Star GPS, or refrigerated cupholders. I asked myself, should that mean you deserve less than the best in automotive reporting?

Perhaps.

But not this month, I said. Bring on this year's Volkswagens, I shouted. Send me your Hyundais and Toyotas, I exclaimed with gusto.

My enthusiasm grew when our reception desk informed me that the 2008 Bicycle had arrived for me to review. Bicycle? Never heard of it. Must be new, I thought. How exciting!

I immediately went outside to the parking lot to look for it, but I couldn't find a vehicle with such a name. I concluded that it must already have been stolen, so I returned to the building, sat at my desk and was in the process of telephoning the police when I spied an unusual piece of machinery leaning against my desk.

The 2008 Bicycle. Oh how my heart sank!

I tried to stay positive. Bicycle's design is innovative, I told myself. It saves weight by dispensing with an outer body and only having two wheels instead of four. There is no steering wheel -- only a steering bar. Very economical!

But maintaining my sunny disposition in the face of such impossible cruelty couldn't last. Bicycle didn't even have a radio, for heaven's sake. There was only one cupholder, and it was mounted at an angle! How stupid could the engineer possibly have been?

I regret, dear reader, that I cannot even tell you where Bicycle is made. You see, most reputable automobile companies provide reviewers like myself with plane tickets so we can meet with spokespeople who answer such questions. (This may sound inconvenient, but spokespeople are usually based in pleasant places like Hawaii or Vale, so it's really not really so bad.)

The makers of Bicycle, on the other hand, didn't even include instructions on how to start the thing. Fortunately, I was able to observe as one of our office interns left on her Bicycle at the end of the day. The method for starting the motor -- and I know this sounds crazy -- is to place your feet on the foot platforms while spinning your legs in a sort-of rotational movement. This got me started alright, but whenever I stopped moving my legs, I coasted to a stop. Bicycle's motor is clearly unreliable.

The next serious difficulty I encountered was where to put the gas. I thought it might be underneath the seat, but it wouldn't move when I tried to lift it. I pushed the only button that was there, but that just made the brake light flash. Amazingly, I never ran out of fuel during the entire test period, which I suppose is proof enough of Bicycle's efficiency.

Climate control? None. Safety systems? Minimal -- Bicycle's crash protection system consists of a crash helmet!

...continued on pg. 5

EBCer PROFILE

EBCer Profile welcomes a rookie member of EBC.

What is your name?

Cal.

When and why did you start commuting?

Except for one foolish year during my youth, I have always commuted by bike. I hate cars. Hate them. The ultimate transportation was invented more than a hundred years ago, but it may take some time for folks to re-learn this.

What bikes do you ride now?

I'm riding a lightly-used green SPECIALIZED bike that was given to me for free! It has been customized with shifters and I put a new super slim chain and new brake lines on it.

Have you ever had a really good wipeout? Did it hurt?

Last fall I was riding around a corner on some well-mulched leaves and lost traction. I slid a ways on my left thigh, lots of road rash. The most painful part of this kind of wipeout is the spectator-induced embarrassment. "Hey dude, are you all right!?" (Big thumbs up; slink away)

How much do you ride, in a week, say?

About 40 to 60 kilometers, 10k there and back at least twice a week.



What is your riding style? Cruiser? Fast and safe? Courier crazy?

Ermm, well I probably take some risks. I had a woman honk at me when I tried to turn left at a flashing green. I guess she didn't think cyclists were allowed to do that.

What do you like to do (or must do) when you aren't cycling?

Vid out!

What's the best part of EBC for you?

I think BikeWorks is a great idea, and the friendly people there have helped me learn how to do basic tune-ups. I'm always amazed by the commitment that volunteers give to total strangers.

What cycling gear is a must have for you?

I am a 'found gear' cyclist. Most everything I have besides my helmet was a hand-me down or second-hand. I must have a lightweight light, like the Lumotech Topal, but instead I have a Nitehawk that weighs about as much as the rest of my bike!

What type of lock do you use?

It's a standard grey U-lock, long enough to reach through the quick-release wheel.

What are your favourite rides/routes around town?

Anything around the river valley is pretty nice, and there's always a few good hills. The ride down 97th street towards Hazeldean also seems to be fairly clear of traffic no matter what time of day.

Any bicycle commuting advice?

Pack a spare shirt; spare your sedentary coworkers! 

2008 BICYCLE (continued from pg. 4)

Bicycle has a few plusses, despite it's many faults. Parking is a breeze and usually free, although be prepared for condescending looks from valets. It also has a lovely horn that produces a charming dingley-dingley noise when you flick a switch on the steering bar. I've asked my Mercedes dealer if such a horn could be installed on my S-Class, but sadly, the technology appears to be proprietary to Bicycle.

The best plus, however, was something I didn't even notice until the last day of my test drive. I'd been so busy cursing Bicycle's shortcomings that I hadn't bothered to see all the other Bicycle drivers on the road. They nodded jolly greetings to me from across intersections, or said hello if they passed me.

Motorists mostly give each other the finger, but Bicycle owners clearly have a sense of community.

I'm not saying you should rush out and purchase a Bicycle for yourself. My suit got sweaty one day, my loafers got wet on another, and the crash helmet always mussed up my hair. Still, a new Bicycle costs less than what you'd pay to fix a fender on a Honda Civic, and used ones are cheaper than some drinks I've ordered.

My happiest Bicycle experience happened during the final hour of my test drive. It happened to be a Friday at the end of the month, and I encountered a group of several dozen Bicycle drivers who were holding a parade. They invited me to join in, and it ended with all of us cheering and lifting our Bicycles into the air.

It was delightful. 

CALAMITY JUDE SERIES #1 - Jude Wakes

by Molly Turnbull

Awake. It wasn't a conscious choice, certainly. The dull ache of Jude's head and right shoulder was an irritating contrast to the bright sun on the purple wall. She wondered if she should move to relieve the pain in her shoulder and risk finding more pain elsewhere. Shift legs, brace with hand, briefly lean on the shoulder while hips moved up, slide over and around - everything felt fine. How many times in her life had she shifted her weight to turn over in the night?

She woke fully with thoughts of outdoor fun buzzing in her head. She looked around her room - a two drawer dresser, a box of winter clothes (some used in summer), a closet with books and more winter clothes, a memento box, spare linen. It was a room that contrasted with the clutter and dust of the rest of the house. Sitting on the side of the bed, she slid on a pair of loose shorts, her favourite plaid shirt with buttons from her Gramma's button tin, and boots. This got her to the bathroom without embarrassment and she loved the sound of those boots on hardwood.

After showering, she felt ready for the day. "That's a morning routine" she thought. It felt good to have such a simple start to the day. She was ready for one last spontaneous day before she started job searching.

Her roommate, Glory, grumbled past her in the hall, stopping at the closet to pour her daily vitamins into her 'vitamin cup'. When the house was built, this closet held a full set of outdoor clothing for a family. The light wood doors bent vertically in the middle on piano hinges and rolled on tracks to open with a squeak. Glory had explained most of the vitamins to Jude when they first moved in together. Jude was quiet. She found herself unable to state what she felt, which was "Why do you think this is interesting just because I'm too polite to walk away? Why can't I stand up for myself and just walk away?" She passed the time during the vitamin lecture by calculating how many bikes she could buy for the money invested in that closet. It amazed her to listen to people with charisma and conviction state their opinion. Some did it so well that they could repeat themselves frequently in a way that compels

people to listen and reflect anew. Glory wasn't one of those people. The conversation this morning in the hallway was unavoidable and predictable.

"You look like death. Do you want something to stimulate your endocrine gland?" said Glory fumbling with a plastic bottle.

Jude couldn't help but notice that Glory looked like death too. "Um, no. I just have to wake up."

"All right, do it the hard way."

"What? Are you pushing stims now?" Thought Jude as she headed for the kitchen, dipping her shoulder and bowing her head to avoid contact.


Her coffee made, Jude made an escape to sit on the sunny cement front steps. As her foot landed on the first step down, pain seared her calf muscle, sending her body in to a convulsion.

"(#!&?!)" Bent in pain, covered in coffee, she could only wait for it to relent. This was a bad one. As the charlie horse eased and she was able to massage it a bit, she thought this was worse than when it had happened in bed, not holding a scalding beverage. Then again, at least she didn't have to hear Glory deal out a subscription of self-righteousness. Those lectures usually started and ended with a verbatim account of detox regiments - otherwise known as purging regiments.

Jude resolved to eat a lot of bananas as they have something that prevents charlie horses, like potassium or magnesium or some such. She decided that coffee smelled pretty good, and she just wasn't a two shower-a-day kind of gal.

Now her beautiful morning was a bit more mentally cloudy. As she cleaned up the broken mug, she wondered what to do that day. Several pieces of unfinished business rattled around in her head.

On her second banana, she made a long list, stuck it in her back pocket and made for the door. Wallet, bike, ready. She flung her leg gracefully over the rear wheel as it rolled into the street, her butt slid on the saddle like hand in glove.

Ten minutes and a good sweat later and it was going to be a good day after all. 

THREE FOR FREE *We waste time surfing the net so you don't have to.*

What better way to while away those cold winter nights than by checking out the plethora of Internet bikey videos. Here are three sites that give you something a lot better than your average YouTube fare.

www.streetfilms.org

Filming the city streets renaissance. Short films from around the world.

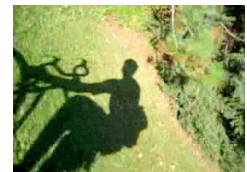
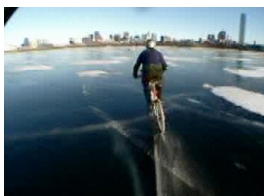
www.crankmychain.com

Dan Kaufman hosts this Internet television show by, about, and for cyclists.

www.thebicyclist.tv

A wind blown and rain soaked comedy series from the hipster streets of counter culture Portland, Oregon - twenty four hilarious

episodes. 



DEFENDING DERAILLEURS

by Robert Drinkwater

I have noticed over the past year at BikeWorks that many cyclists are choosing to remove their derailleurs and replace them with single-speed freewheels. One mechanic, Keith, provides compelling, fact-filled and logical arguments as to why they should do this. He tells them that there will be no more fiddling with adjuster barrels, and that their pulleys won't clog in the winter.

But really, did you take up bicycle riding because it was logical? Of course not! That's why I am presenting an argument for keeping your derailleur that is based entirely on emotion.

The derailleur allows every cyclist, fit or unfit, the correct gear for the conditions he or she may face. Got a chinook at your back? Great! Take advantage of the unexpected tailwind with a bigger gear. Need to climb out of the river valley after your workout at the Kinsmen Centre? It's as easy as pie when you click into that 32-tooth freewheel cog that we helped you install at BikeWorks.

Sorry? What's that, you say? Keith convinced you to go single-speed? Oh well. You can always get off and push.



Some winter riders abandon derailleurs because they think muck and goo in their gears will freeze in cold weather. Don't let them scare you. These poor souls have the sort of nightmares where they're being chased by slush monsters, and hard as they pedal they can't escape because their cranks won't budge. (I suspect these people also have a lot of dreams where they're naked and have to write exams they didn't study for.)


I admit my derailleur gets dirty in the winter. And once or twice a season, it gets cold enough that gunk actually prevents the derailleur from moving. But so what? The derailleur gets stuck in the gear I use most of the time anyway. The worst that happens is I get a single-speed bike, which is what I'd have anyway if I removed my derailleur.

A few of you out there may be discouraged by fear that you won't be able to adjust your derailleur if your shifter cable stretches, a condition which causes a clickety-clickety sound. This noise means you need to turn the adjuster barrel that's located right where the cable goes into the derailleur. It's a lot like tuning a radio knob. Do you remember how to tune radios with knobs? It's back there in your memory somewhere, next to how to use rotary-dial phones and 45 records.

Now, there is ONE bad thing that about derailleurs -- they are prone to damage from roving youths who are attempting to demonstrate coolness. Kids have strange ideas of what's cool. When I was a teenager, we thought it was cool to wear Iron Maiden t-shirts and skin-tight jeans. But I digress...

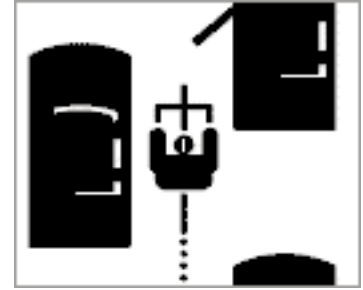
A few months ago on a Friday night, this jackass who thought he was really, really cool, stomped on one of my locked bikes on Jasper Ave. The derailleur was trashed, and the frame hanger it was attached to was also bent. Weaker souls would have interpreted this as a sign from the cycling gods that I should say "So long, shifters!" and convert to single-speed. But not me. I've been riding for like, 70 years, and this is the only time this has happened. Besides, removing derailleurs out of fear of vandalism would just be giving in to the terrorists.


Still not convinced to keep your derailleur? Let me conclude with this. A derailleur is more than just a device that allows you to change gears. Hanging off the lower portion of your bicycle, it is a mechanism akin to a phallus. And like that portion of anatomy, it may at times prove unpredictable, or on rare occasions fail altogether. That hardly means you should cut it off.

Don't let anyone neuter your bike. With only minimum maintenance, your derailleur can -- almost always -- perform like a champion. 

BICYCLING EDUCATION

Children's Bike Safety Instructor Training Course - Concerned about the children cycling in your neighbourhood? Then why not run a children's bike safety course? EBC will be holding a one-day course to teach anyone how to run a basic children's bike safety course. The course will include a manual and sources and how-tos for necessary resources. The course is FREE and will be run only once every year. This year's course is scheduled for **Saturday, May 4, 2008** in Edmonton. For more information, please contact John Collier at [jbcollier\[at\]shaw.ca](mailto:jbcollier[at]shaw.ca) or phone 780-433-1270.



CAN-BIKE - Would you like to feel comfortable cycling on the road? Are there traffic situations you are not sure how to handle? EBC will offer the Canadian Cycling Association's CAN-BIKE courses this spring and fall. The CAN-BIKE course is a practical, largely on-road, course where you will learn the principles of how to cycle safely and effectively. You will start out on quiet roads and gradually build up to busy, complex situations. For more information, please contact John Collier at [jbcollier\[at\]shaw.ca](mailto:jbcollier[at]shaw.ca) or phone 780-433-1270. 

poem 1:

Darwinist reflects on the bird flipped to the December
bike commuter

he's in the driver's seat
bare-midriffed girl beside him
exposing taut tanning bed belly
to heater's blast

his own unpadded jeans pull
against gym-toned thighs
he knows he works hard for this hold
on the good life

in the muffled biker's lumpen form
he doesn't see a threat

but it enters his hindbrain
via pheromones like crystal knives
cutting away civilization
with the urgent message:

here is a stronger male animal.

Anna Marie Sewell




CITY TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Impending Quesnell Bridge Construction Starting this year, the city will undertake a major project on Whitemud drive between 53 Ave and 170 St. This project will include major work on the Quesnell Bridge, impacting bicyclists that use that bridge to travel between the west and south sides of town. Initial plans included measures to support automobile traffic flow during construction with little mention of cycling/ pedestrian access. In responding to concerns put forth by EBC, the city has indicated informally that bicycle and pedestrian access will be maintained with limited exceptions during the three year construction project. EBC is working to ensure the project's management understand the importance of that route to commuting cyclists. You too can help by calling to voice your concerns! Contact Carole Cej at the City (944-3727) or Al Parsons at the Gray Scott Consulting Group (434-9322) and let them know how important it is that they don't sacrifice bicycling access!

Bicycle Transportation Plan Update The City's updated Bicycle Transportation Plan is tentatively scheduled to head to City Council in June of this year. At present, a draft report is being put together by Stantec, which will include stakeholder input gathered through the summer and fall of 2007, an expanded on-road bike route network and updated City cycling policies including maintenance, engineering and construction standards, connections to transit, end-of-trip facilities, etc. As the final report comes together, further info will appear at www.edmonton.ca/bikeplan, where there is already extensive project background available.

Bike Racks As reported earlier, we witnessed the disappearance of public sidewalk bike racks last summer. New bike rack production has been delayed by a couple of months due to delays in the City's purchasing process. Materials have now arrived at the local metal shop where they are being fabricated, and the first round of racks are expected to be ready around mid-March. The racks are a post-and-ring style, and streets with existing concrete sidewalk will be targeted for the first installations. When the weather is warm enough to pour concrete, areas with paving stones will be targeted to pour small concrete piles onto which the racks can be installed.

3-1-1? Roadway Maintenance Hotline? There have been some rumours that the 24-hour Roadway Maintenance Hotline will be changing from 496-1700 to 311. While this is true, you can still call 496-1700 for all of your gravel/glass/snow clearing requests until **Spring 2009**. 311 is not yet operational, but will eventually become the City's one point of contact for all inquiries. 



**Got
some fun winter
cycling photos?**

**Want to publish them in a City of
Edmonton Winter Cycling brochure?**

**If you are interested, forward them
and your contact info to
[claire.ellick\[at\]edmonton.ca](mailto:claire.ellick[at]edmonton.ca)**

Volunteer with



The People's Pedal

Edmonton Bicycle Sharing Society

Edmonton's only bicycle sharing society needs YOU. We are seeking volunteers to help us on a number of fronts:

Hub Monitors [includes a free tool kit]
Promotional Aids
Bike Builders [we'll teach you how]

Contact us to find out more.

info@PeoplesPedal.org

Or check out our website at www.peoplespedal.org

Sheldon Brown: 1944 - 2008

In early February of this year, the world's bicycling community lost a legend. Sheldon Brown suffered a heart attack and passed away at his home in Massachusetts. Even after being diagnosed with MS last year, Sheldon's prolific communications did not cease. He often personally answered hundreds of emails per day and online references to his website (www.sheldonbrown.com) are littered with the acronym AASHTA (as always, Sheldon has the answer). A glimpse of the esteem he has earned within the cycling community is apparent from the messages left on his My Space page since his death:

The cycling community has lost a legend, and the world is a much poorer place. You will be sorely missed.

Sheldon Brown my guru, today as do many others, I ride for you. I am a better cyclist and a better person because you made a difference.

May you live on in all people who you have helped.

The cycling world lost a great person.

Rest in peace Sheldon, the bike repair trade won't be the same without your knowledge, wit, and wisdom...

to one of the most influential members of the cycling community, you made the world a better place. your passion for knowledge and benevolent heart are unmatched by any in the field. i freakin' ride fast for you, man.



Edmonton Bicycle Commuters

PO Box 1819 STN MAIN
 Edmonton, AB T5J 2P2
 Phone: 780-433-BIKE (2453)
 Web:
 www.edmontonbikes.ca
 Email:

newsletter[at]edmontonbikes.ca - for newsletter related items
 info[at]edmontonbikes.ca - for general inquiries

THE EBC MISSION

To promote and facilitate cycling as everyday transportation to Edmontonians by providing bicycle services and resources.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The Cyclist's Vehicle is published by the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters' Society. Want to contribute ideas or articles to the Cyclist's Vehicle? E-mail or snail mail your contributions any time. The opinions expressed here are not necessarily the opinions of the EBC Board of Directors or editorial staff.

BIKEWORKS HOURS

433-BIKE (2453) - 10047 - 80 Avenue (in the alley)
 Winter Hours: **Wednesdays 5:30pm-9pm; and Saturdays noon-5pm; all other days = closed**
 Call or check the website or call for up-to-date hours info. Would you like to volunteer at BikeWorks? **CALL**, email or drop by... we'd love to see you!

JOIN EDMONTON BICYCLE COMMUTERS! or RENEW YOUR ANNUAL EBC MEMBERSHIP!

Join the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters in person by dropping by **BikeWorks at 10047 - 80 Ave (in the alley)** or by mailing this form and a cheque to PO Box 1819, Main Post Office, Edmonton AB, T5J 2P2.

Today's Date _____ Name _____ Address _____ City _____ Postal Code _____ Phone Number _____ Email Address _____ New Member or Renewal? _____ Do you want to volunteer? _____ Newsletter? <input type="checkbox"/> Bike Parking? <input type="checkbox"/> BikeWorks? <input type="checkbox"/> Bikeology? <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Membership Costs and Benefits</p> Family: \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Low Income: \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Member: \$55.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Donation: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter delivery preference: Email (pdf) <input type="checkbox"/> Canada Post <input type="checkbox"/> EBC members low-volume email list preference: No emails! <input type="checkbox"/> Email me <input type="checkbox"/>
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