



# Spokin' Times News

SLOW SPOKES BICYCLE CLUB  
P.O. BOX 792  
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48311-0792

December 2023

# Merry Christmas

# Happy New Year

President

Gary Haelewyn

Vice President

Bob Fry

Treasurer:

Clara Herndon

Secretary:

Jim Walter

Newsletter Editor:

Jim Walter

Sunshine Liaison:

Rita Zupan-Wilhelm

Webmaster:

Lora Loche

Website:

[www.SlowSpokes.org](http://www.SlowSpokes.org)

Mailing Address:

Slow Spokes

P.O. Box 792

Sterling Hts, MI 48311

### Meeting to elect officers?

Usually we do this in November. It didn't happen this year. So I guess you are stuck with the same officers for another year, unless one of us quits, in which case there will be a vacancy.

But seriously, if anyone would like to be a club officer, we would love to have you, and we can arrange to have a meeting so that you will be officially elected.

### Newsletter

Sorry that this has been the only Newsletter this year. I had technical difficulties early in the year. First I couldn't get Microsoft Publisher to work anymore. Then my computer quit completely. The first replacement I bought had problems and I ended up taking it back and replacing it.

No one ever asked me why there hadn't been a Newsletter, so I guess no one missed it or they didn't want to take over the job. Since all rides go out impromptu now instead of being scheduled a month in advance, there isn't as much need for a newsletter as there once was. But still, there are a few things that can probably be published in a Newsletter from time to time to keep everyone informed.

### Club Membership Dues

Dues are now being collected for 2024. Checks should be made out to **Slow Spokes of Macomb**. The credit union gave our treasurer a rough time about cashing checks made out to Slow Spokes Bicycle Club. The membership application which you can print from online has been changed to reflect the required name. Fill out the membership application. All members planning on riding should sign it as it is our liability disclaimer. Dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a couple—same as last year.

**Meetings**—Currently meetings are being held whenever the club president calls a meeting.

**Ride Information**—Send information for rides and walks and other exciting events to our event coordinator or newsletter editor.

**Newsletter Information**—Send articles you'd like published to Jim Walter. Email the information to him at [jimwalter46@gmail.com](mailto:jimwalter46@gmail.com). Feel free to call Jim at 248-879-2405. There is no longer a deadline on the Newsletter. Send info whenever and I will publish it when I get around to it.

### Finally, 2022 mileage totals

A year ago, I asked for people to send in their mileage for 2022. Ten people did. The list is as follows:

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Bernie Sustrich | 4693 |
| Jim Walter      | 4428 |
| Bob George      | 3245 |
| John Wood       | 3123 |
| Marge Wood      | 3123 |
| Lora Loche      | 1813 |
| Judy Woodham    | 1400 |
| Rita Wilhelm    | 1102 |
| Don Windhorst   | 910  |
| Irene Walter    | 870  |

Another year has gone by. I don't know if I should ask for 2023 mileage since it took me such a long time to send out a Newsletter with the info from 2022. But maybe I'll do better in 2024. There's always a New Year's resolution. I guess that will be my first for 2024—publish a newsletter more than once.

Irene and I had a great year in 2023 with over 500 miles in Florida at the beginning of the year. I ended up with 5495 and she ended up with 1235.

So if you want to send in your mileage for 2023, send it to [jimwalter46@gmail.com](mailto:jimwalter46@gmail.com).

### Website

Our website runs from July to July. When it was renewed last July, they increased the price from \$648 to \$810. That's an increase of 25%. So we have the site till July. At that point, it probably doesn't make any sense to renew it. At the last count I had, we had 48 memberships in 2023 of which 17 were for a couple. That means we had 65 (48 + 17) total members and collected  $31 * \$20$  plus  $17 * \$30 = \$1130$ . This covers the insurance and post office box, but will not cover the website.

It has been mentioned that there are free Website options or facebook or email list services we could use instead, but all of this requires someone to look into it and figure out how to do it, so if somebody has a talent or an interest in that area, that would be great. Let us know. Any thoughts would be appreciated.

### Upcoming Events

January 5: Anniversary Party. Brian & Shelly and Jim & Irene are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversaries. If you missed the announcement that was sent out a couple weeks ago, and still want to attend, text Jim at 248-376-8924, or call him for more information.

August: Gary would like to put together another Danube bike trip like we did in 2019. Let him know if you are interested. [bluecyclist@yahoo.com](mailto:bluecyclist@yahoo.com) or (248) 930-4075. He's trying to see if there is enough interest to proceed. He will schedule a zoom meeting in January for those who let him know that they have an interest in going.

## The year in pictures



Several members went to Florida last winter. This is a picture of a group that gathered in Inverness to ride the Withlacoochee Trail.

Lora Loche led a ride on the Macomb Orchard Trail every Tuesday night during the Summer. I believe that this was the first one in May. I took the picture, and Lora was up front so we weren't in the picture.

She had a good turnout that night. Sometimes there were fewer riders.





We visited the Birwood Wall in May. The wall divides a neighborhood in Detroit. It was built in 1941 to segregate a black community from a newly constructed white subdivision. Today it has been painted with murals and a little park has been created.



Mary W. led us on a ride to Mexican Town over Memorial Day weekend.



In June, the Friday morning rides started. This picture is at the Stage Nature Center in Troy.



Another June ride took us from Royal Oak to Sylvan Lake.



Ron took us on a new trail under development in Detroit in June. Oops! We ran out of pavement. I guess that's what "under development" means.

Last Sunday in June. Some of us rode in the Blue Water Ramble. Here we are waiting for the ferry to Harsens Island.





July. After several attempts at patching a sidewall blowout in Detroit, Sally called Uber. It worked out ok.



July. Ron takes us to another construction site. This is the Gordie Howe International Bridge to Canada. He promises to take us over it when it's done.



Another one of Ron's rides, sort of. We attached to the tail end of the EJ Levy memorial ride in Ferndale, and followed them to the fist on the riverfront. Most of the riders were from the Cadieux Bike Club, the Wolverines, etc. 16-20 mph all the way down to the riverfront—slightly downhill.



My last big ride of the year. We rode from 29 and Van Dyke to Yates Cider Mill, then back to Romeo for lunch and a visit to Tillson Street to see the Halloween decorations.



## YOUR FAVORITE BIKE SHOP!!!

The following bicycle stores offer a discount on equipment and accessories. Be prepared to show your Slow Spokes membership card when making a purchase to receive the discount.

|                              |                        |                               |              |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Allied Cycle                 | 23101 Gratiot          | Eastpointe, MI 48021          | 586/772-3411 |
| American Cycle & Fitness     | 29428 Woodward Ave     | Royal Oak, MI 48072           | 248/542-7182 |
| American Cycle & Fitness     | 39900 W. Fourteen Mile | Walled Lake, MI 48390         | 248/960-1371 |
| American Cycle & Fitness     | 203 N. Perry Street    | Pontiac, MI 48342             | 248/333-7843 |
| American Cycle & Fitness     | 20343 Mack Avenue      | Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 | 313/886-1968 |
| American Cycle & Fitness     | 18517 Hall Road        | Macomb Twp. MI 48044          | 586/416-1000 |
| Anchor Bay Bicycle & Fitness | 35214 23 Mile Road     | New Baltimore, MI 48047       | 586/725-2878 |
| Bike Tech                    | 18401 E. Warren        | Detroit, MI 48236             | 313/884-2453 |
| D & D Bicycles               | 8383 N. Middlebelt Rd  | Westland, MI 48185            | 734/522-9410 |
| D & D Bicycles               | 121 N. Center Rd.      | Northville, MI 48167          | 248/347-1511 |
| D & D Bicycles               | 9977 E. Grand River    | Brighton, MI 48116            | 810/227-5070 |
| D & D Bicycles               | 4141 W. 12 Mile Road   | Berkley, MI 48072             | 248/547-0770 |
| D & D Bicycles               | 7330 Highland Road     | Waterford, MI 48327           | 248/461-6550 |
| East Side Bike Shop          | 26210 Van Dyke Ave     | Centerline, MI 48015          | 586/756-2001 |
| Fraser Bicycle & Fitness     | 34501 Utica Road       | Fraser, MI 48026              | 586/294-4070 |
| Hamilton Bicycle             | 69329 Main Street      | Richmond, MI 48062            | 586/727-5140 |
| Macomb Bike & Fitness        | 28411 Schoenherr       | Warren, MI 48088              | 586/756-5400 |
| Main Street Bicycles         | 5987 26 Mile Road      | Washington, MI 48094          | 586/677-7755 |
| Main Street Bicycles         | 622 S Lapeer           | Lake Orion, MI 48362          | 248/236-9100 |
| Metro Bike-N-Sport           | 36649 S. Gratiot Ave   | Clinton Twp., MI 48035        | 586/791-3488 |
| Paul's Bike Depot            | 28057 Gratiot          | Roseville, MI 48066           | 586/776-9165 |
| Stoney Creek Bike            | 58235 Van Dyke         | Washington, MI 48094          | 586/781-4451 |

### Club Information

For more information about our club, please see our website at [www.slowspokes.org](http://www.slowspokes.org)

Most of the information on the website is visible without signing in. If you are a member, you can use your email address as your login ID and create a password. This gives you access to some information that non-members cannot see.

If you wish to join the Slow Spokes, there is a membership application on the website that you can print out and fill out.

You are welcome to come for a meeting or try out a ride before joining the club.

### DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS?

If you want email notification of impromptu rides and other information of special interest, you must include your email address on your membership application. If there is a problem, email Tom Miller at [tmiller793@gmail.com](mailto:tmiller793@gmail.com)

#### Notes from the Newsletter Editor:

Every attempt will be made to include all articles as they are submitted, and in their entirety, in the newsletter. However, due to space constraints, this may not always be possible. If you do not want your article edited in any way, shape or form (even if typos and/or grammatical errors are apparent) please make a note of that when the article is sent.