

# OH Bike Mini-Newsletter – December 2022

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### Message from the President



[ohbike.org](http://ohbike.org)

Well, the summer of '22 riding season has come to a close with all the cold temperatures we have been experiencing lately. But an occasional warm day will permit us to ride during the winter. So take advantage of any nice days when you can.

Our monthly meeting on Nov. 14 was short and sweet and went well.

- Our financial situation is sound, and the club insurance was renewed for another year.
- We are planning for our Annual Meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Hudnall's church's dining hall when they get approval
- The Rural Legacy Ride is set for Saturday June 10th.
- The IH 100 is Labor Day. I plan to stop by the Town Hall to get us approved to use the picnic area near the pavilion.

Our monthly meetings are open to all members and not very long. If any of you would like to be club officers, plan to come to the Annual Meeting for the elections (and good food).

On a personal note, Jackie and I pretty much stick to the old club weather guides of "no go below 40° or above 90°" but it's up to the ride leader's discretion. I have been riding my old Schwinn Spinner here at home as I watch TV. Riding spinners/exercise bikes at home is boring, but the TV and daydreaming help keep a level of fitness for next year. Later.

See you on the road/trail,  
Rabbi Randy, President

### Oxon Hill Bike and Trail Club Board Meeting Minutes

<b>Date/Time</b>	November 14, 2022, 7 PM
<b>Attendance</b>	Randy Schoch, Joan Oppel, Jessica Hirschhorn, Harry Kidd, George Martin, Jane Hudnall, Jim Hudnall, Walt Roscello, Ellen Goodman, Diane Harris.

<b>Absent</b>	Leslie Tierstein
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President Randy Schoch called the meeting to order at 7:04.

**MINUTES** from the October meeting were APPROVED by all.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Walt Roscello said he had been out of town was unable to access current data and did not prepare a report. He informed the board that the annual liability insurance premium of \$1380 was paid and that the Certificate of Insurance for the club has been received.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Will be on Saturday March 25.

Jane H will ask Grace Lutheran Church if we can use their facilities.

**RURAL LEGACY RIDE:** will be on Saturday, June 10.

Jessica H and Joan O have agreed to be co-chairs of the event. We will need lots of volunteers, better offerings at rest stops, and there will be a fee for the ride so members and nonmembers will be welcome. Jim has agreed to help us with the PAY button. The Pavilion is already reserved and paid for. We discussed the need for additional insurance for the event. Jane mentioned that there is an excellent article in the June 2019 newsletter about the Legacy Ride, complete with a list of volunteers that served the 2019 event, as well as descriptions of the rest stops.

**INDIAN HEAD 100:** Labor Day, 2023. We agreed that this would be, similar to 2022, a non-paid ALL CLASS ride followed by a picnic. Randy S will reserve the Indian Head Village Green facility.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Jim Hudnall

For the month of October:

21 Renewed

2 New

12 Lapsed

Current annual total is 408 Active, 76 Lapsed, and 7 pending

Joan asked Jim about sending a personalized email to the lapsed members to encourage them to renew. (All members get a series of four system-generated message reminders through Wild Apricot.) She and Jim had collaborated on doing this earlier this year. They will schedule a meeting to discuss repeating it.

**ADVOCACY:** Walt Roscello: He has resigned as chair of the Tri-County Pedestrian-Bicycle Infrastructure Advisory Committee (P-BIAC); Dan Jenkins is taking his place. The outcome of the Nice Bridge issue is unchanged, as the demolition of the old bridge continues. Walt said that discussions are underway for a possible shuttle service, informal, over the bridge.

Joan noted the Montgomery County Planning Board meeting addressing the Rustic Roads in Western Montgomery County that are heavily used by the biking community.

Joan asked if the club had a presence with the Bike MD advocacy group (which will meet on 11/21), and Walt said that he participates in Bike MD discussions. He explained that Bike MD focuses on state-wide issues and legislation. He said the MD State Highway Commission is trying to revitalize the Safety Plan, which includes issues involving cyclists and pedestrians.

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Jessica H. We have a robust presence on Facebook, with a OHBTC page as well as GROUP. Jessica will continue to publicize and post about upcoming and past rides to attract new members.

**FestiVelo:** Walt R attended this 4-day cycling event in South Carolina and enjoyed it a lot. He will write up a brief ride report for the next newsletter and suggests putting together an OH contingent for next year. It is about a 7-hour drive to the start.

**MEETING Adjourned** by Randy S at 7:38

**NEXT MEETING** Monday December 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Hirschhorn and Joan Oppel

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## Ride for Your Life - Report

*Submitted by Leslie Tierstein*

On August 25 Sarah Langenkamp was killed by a truck while bicycling home from her sons' elementary school in Bethesda. On November 19, there was a bike ride to Congress beginning with the route in Bethesda Sarah took the day she died. 1500 people were registered, and it certainly seemed like that many showed up.



Ride for your Life served not only to mourn bicyclists and pedestrians whose lives have been lost due to motor vehicle crashes but also to raise awareness (and money) to address infrastructure and vehicle enhancements. Excellent talks by the Langenkamps (father and son), US Representative Jamie Raskin, & others. Thanks to Trek for sponsoring. I was also moved by this interview with Dan Langenkamp on NPR. <https://tinyurl.com/5n79dcdh>

And here's a link to a Washington Post article that appeared the Sunday after the ride <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2022/11/19/langenkamp-bicycle-ride-road-safety/>

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## Wheel Nuts Bike Store Going Out of Business

After 25 years of business in Alexandria, Wheel Nuts Bike Shop is closing. They are offering terrific bargains at their clearance sale.



**Wheel Nuts Bike Shop**  
**Store Wide Clearance!**

We are closing the store after 25 years of business. The block has been purchased by a developer and all occupants have been asked to close up for demolition this Summer.

Don't feel bad, I beat the odds and met all my goals in business and made wonderful friends!

**ALL in-store bikes are 30% off**  
**Everything else in the store is 50% off**

Helmets, fenders, bags, lights, clothing, shoes, saddles, pumps, racks tools, tires, pedals, locks, high/mid range road&mountain bike components, wheels and more!!

This is an incredible offer and we have a lot of good stuff left. SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FRIENDS, RIDE BUDDIES, & WORKMATES. We will have other items specially marked in the shop.

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## FestiVELO Recap, or "Dodging Hurricanes Once Again"

*Submitted by Walt Roscello*

This November I attended FestiVELO for the second time. It takes place in Walterboro, South Carolina, about 7 hours of driving from here. Back in 2016 or so I started doing fall tours down south in October and November, which provides a nice extension of riding in warmer weather when motivation to be outdoors starts to wane. (Early spring trips are also a nice way to get started for the year.) Out of six years I've ridden in Oct and Nov, working around hurricanes has been a factor in three of them. Luckily, it turned out better than threatened this time.

FestiVELO is more than four days of riding. You can also sign up for meal packages and evening events like wine, cheese, and chocolate sampling or oysters, and they provide snacks and beer all afternoon after the rides. This all happens at the headquarters building so there are always people there to hang out with. You can also tour the small shopping district downtown or the local nature preserve in your free time.

As it turns out, in the week leading up to the event we became aware that Hurricane Nicole was expected to affect the area on Days 1 and 2. Mid-day on Day 0 (traveling locally to the event) I decided to get a quick ride in, in case we didn't ride the next two days (the eating and social events would still go on), so I arrived early and did most of the first Day 1 loop for 24 miles. It was a nice preview, and I got another day of riding in, then started meeting people at the headquarters and dinner.

## Day 1

Due to the expected weather, the organizers secured indoor space at the town civic center for two nights for those of us planning to camp. So I packed up my tent to keep it dry and moved all my gear indoors, then headed out for a remote start on day 1 since I had already done the first loop. The forecast had the rain arriving between 10 and 12 so I started early on the second 31 mile loop, finishing at the lunch stop / remote start about 9:45. It had started sprinkling and as I relaxed with an early lunch the rain started, a steady but not heavy rain. As I was relaxing at the HQ later that afternoon, a group that had persevered with the century rolled in - luckily, there was mist most of the time after the initial period of rain. (There is a century route every day, so if you've ever wanted to do four centuries in a row with support and one sleeping spot, this might be it. You also get a trophy if you do it, or your first century here.)

Moving into the civic center turned out to be a lot of fun. There were about 10 folks there (3-4 decided to still camp) and we were able to socialize more than in individual tents. It also had lights, chairs, WiFi, and power - all things you typically don't have in a tent.

## Day 2

The forecast had improved even more for Day 2. (This was the day I originally thought was a definite rain-out.) It looked probably clear until 1 pm, so I planned to do two loops for 58 miles. Unfortunately, I found a flat as I prepared to go to the start, so I had another day of not starting with the group. Once out of town it was a pleasant, quiet ride. This is lowland South Carolina, so the scenery is not dramatic but rather long stretches of calming forest or farmland. As I



arrived at the rest stop 30 miles in, two people were leaving (I was behind most of the longer groups) and later, shortly after turning onto a busier highway, I caught up to one of them. Turns out they were not together, and the rider seemed less comfortable being alone, so I slowed down and switched from fight-the-wind mode to conversation mode. It was a nice change of pace and helped a fellow rider. At another rest stop I caught a group I knew from the camping, and we rode the last 15 miles or so back to town. I played the weather roulette well - I finished about 1:30 with just some mist on the course, but as I was walking to the shower truck it started raining and was a real downpour moments after I got in the truck. Luckily, the heavy rain only lasted about 10 minutes longer than my shower, and I was able to walk back to the civic center in light rain. (Of course, I hadn't brought my raincoat, hat, or umbrella to the showers as it wasn't raining when I started walking 5 minutes earlier.)

After another night of dinner, confection tasting, striking up a conversation with the organizer's girlfriend in French, and socializing in the civic center ended the day.

### Day 3

We got the best weather day of the event for Day 3: clear skies and warm weather. I decided on the spur of the moment to replace the remote start and 60-ish mile route with a Frankenstein mix of three routes for about 75 miles. Finally starting in the group start, we went straight down a local highway and ended up in some pacelines, making quick work of the first 14 miles to the remote start. The route from there is unique - an out-and-back on a dead-end road that is 16 miles long! Think Riverside Road if it had no cross roads and ended up in wetlands. The turnaround rest stop was adjacent to a shrimp and seafood company with the boats unloading right there. Lunch was Thanksgiving-themed with a slice of turkey, stuffing, and cranberries along with a roll. Did I mention there is a real cooked lunch on each day, not just snacks? Doing 75 miles left me a bit more fatigued and with less free time that afternoon, though I still finished about 3 pm.



### Day 4

Having moved back outdoors for the last night, the final day started with me packing everything up and a remote start (which gave some more time). It had turned colder overnight, though it was still above 50 all morning. The Day 4 map is three loops starting from the same point, so you can ride anything from 17 miles to 60 (or 80 or 100 if you ride to the start). I did two loops since I was also heading home. It was more quiet countryside, but I also visited two Methodist Camp Meeting sites (look it up) and some other historic structures. The wind had come up again, which was still fine for comfort but made riding more difficult in certain directions. Fortunately, as I was about 2/3 of the way through my final loop and about to turn into the wind, I was overtaken by a group of about 12 folks. It was a struggle at times to stay on their pace, but just as I thought I would have to let them go, I realized we were on the outskirts of the start town, so that put a nice finish on my event. Well, that and the shrimp with grits being served at lunch. In the end I got five consecutive days of riding and about 230 miles (plus some other rides on my extended trip).

## Wrap Up

This event is a lot of fun in ways that are hard to report - from just hanging out to enjoying mild weather when it has been iffy at home. The host town, while a bit quiet, also has some local history and culture to it. (For instance, some of the Tuskegee Airmen were stationed at the airport and there is a monument there). It is also nice that the profits from the event go to the Palmetto Cycling Coalition, instead of an unaffiliated organization. From my through-ride on the East Coast Greenway, I am happy to see folks working on conditions in SC.

If you're interested in going in future years, info is found at <https://festivelo.org/>