

# OH Bike Mini-Newsletter – April 2023

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### Message from the President



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

A year has come and gone for this my 4<sup>th</sup> year as the president of OHB&TC. I let the committee know that I would continue on to year 5 if you, the membership, wants me to continue.

Spring begins this month, and it is beginning to look like a great year for our club's bicycle ride schedule. We have had a wonderful group of board members who are doing a great job with all the club activities. Having a board like we have makes my job very easy.

Jackie and I have been busy collecting door prizes and doing other necessary activities for the Annual Meeting and Election of Officers this Saturday evening. (This will have happened by the time you read this report). This has always been a great event every year. A chance to see old friends, enjoy good food, and reminisce about past rides.

Plans are well under way for popular events as we look to a great year of bike rides and other activities this summer. The May Metric All Class and the Rural Legacy rides are in the final stages of preparation and will soon be ready. Please consider both of these rides to "jump start" your riding season.

If you haven't done it yet, get your bike out, clean it, adjust the brakes, lubricate the chain and moving parts, pump up the tires, and I'll see you on the road and/or trail.

Rabbi Randy

## Oxon Hill Bike and Trail Club Board Meeting Minutes

<b>Date/Time</b>	March 13, 2023 7:00 PM
<b>Attendance</b>	Randy Schoch, Joan Oppel, Ellen Goodwin, Diane Harris, Walt Roscello, Jessica Hirschhorn, Jim Hudnall, Jane Hudnall, Jackie Schoch, Steve Forman, Wally Huie
<b>Absent</b>	Board members: None

President Schoch called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the February 13, 2023 meeting were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report – Walt Roscello**

Walt reported that for the year to date the club has a positive cash flow but that fluctuates with timing of expenses and income.

### **Zoom Account – Joan Oppel**

The club purchased a subscription for its own Zoom account last May. The first year cost was discounted as a new subscription, but the renewal fee is \$150. The board voted to approve the \$150 expense to maintain the club's Zoom account.

### **Annual Meeting Update --**

The club's annual meeting will be held in person for the first time since 2020 at Grace Lutheran Church on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. The board approved WOW awards to Sherwood Byers for his leadership of multi-day tours and to Ron Altemus for his "good shepherd" approach when attending or leading rides, that is, shepherding the slowest riders along the route. WOW awards are given to a club member who has done something extraordinary in the past year and include a certificate and a gift card.

Donation to Grace Lutheran Church: The board voted to send \$200 to the church as a thank you for allowing use of the church facilities for the annual meeting.

Nominations and elections: The club constitution requires an annual meeting to elect new officers. Three requests for nominations have been sent to the membership at large. At this time, the current president, treasurer, and members-at-large have agreed to be nominees to continue in their positions. No other nominees have been suggested and the positions of vice president, secretary, and road captain are open and have no nominees.

Panel presentation: Diane Harris has organized and will lead a discussion of different types of cycling tours, including fully supported, partially supported/self-guided, and unsupported. Diane Harris will give a brief introduction and then Joan and Walt who will discuss unsupported touring, Randy and Jackie will discuss partially supported touring, and Jessica will discuss supported cycling trips.

Potluck: We will have a pot luck dinner for the meeting, which Jackie graciously volunteered to coordinate. The meeting registration form asked members to specify a category for what they planned to bring, and Jackie sent several member emails to encourage participation. She will handle any additional purchases needed (drinks, paper products, etc.) as well as set-up at the church.

### **Membership Report – Jim Hudnall**

Jim reported that the membership is up slightly, at 413 members.

## **Rural Legacy Ride - June 10 – Joan and Jessica**

This will be the club's only fund-raising event this year and is open to members and non-members. Planning is ongoing, all the agencies or involved parties for rest stops have been notified, porta-potty vendor has been notified, and volunteers are registering through the website. A number of social media posts have been made to promote the ride and, for March, the "early bird" pricing. Pricing for the ride is \$30 through March, \$40 through the end of April, and \$50 thereafter.

## **All Class Rides Update –**

May Metric – March 14: Janell Saunders is organizing and recruiting ride leaders with route help from Steve Palincsar. For the ride start location, she has reserved the parking lot at Mechanicsville Elementary through the St. Mary's County Public School System, which requested club insurance details but did *not* ask for a Certificate of Insurance. There is no cost for use of the parking lot, but reservations are required. Steve has updated the routes from last year.

Start the Season Right-April 15: Randy and Jackie will lead this ride from the Indian Head Town Green Pavilion and Randy will check on use of the bathrooms in the building.

## **Advocacy Report – Walt Roscello**

Walt reported that the Tri-County Council had a recent meeting and discussed various bicycle and pedestrian projects to bring to the State legislature. Diane reported that she will be attending a quarterly meeting of the Capital Trails Coalition on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Diane gave a short presentation including a discussion of how Prince George's county, Maryland, and DC have submitted a funding request to the U.S. Department of Transportation to improve trails in MD and DC.

## **Social Media Update – Jessica Hirschhorn**

Jessica mentioned that she updates the club's Facebook account regularly. Chris Roell maintains the club's Instagram account. Jim advised that Facebook ads have been effective in the past, and Jessica presented a motion to spend \$100 on Facebook ads for the Rural Legacy ride on Facebook. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

**Next Meeting:** April 10, 2023, 7:00 pm, via Zoom.

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## **2023 Annual Meeting Minutes**

The Oxon Hill Bicycle and Trail Club Annual Meeting was held on March 25, 2023 at Grace Lutheran Church in Fort Washington. After a pot luck dinner, and a raffle of OHBike water bottles and various items of club clothing to members, the meeting came to order.

### **Elections**

The first order of business was the election of officers for the coming year, as required by the Club constitution. Board of Directors positions are president, vice president, secretary, four members-at-large and road captain.

Nominations were received prior to the meeting for the following positions:

- President – Randy Schoch
- Treasurer – Walt Roscello
- Members-at-large – Ellen Goodwin, Diane Harris, Jessica Hirschhorn, and Joan Oppel.

All were elected by acclamation.

During the meeting, Steve Palincsar and Dan Donohoe volunteered to serve as Co-Road Captains and were duly elected. The vice president and secretary positions remain open.

### Treasurer's Report

Walt Roscello delivered the treasurer's report. (The financial summary appears [here](#).) Because the club has not run any paid events since 2019 due to the pandemic beginning in March 2020, income has not been sufficient to cover expenses. Thus, reserves have been used to cover expenses, and the club has been operating at a deficit. Club reserves are sufficient to maintain this for some years into the future but a return to income-producing events is prudent. This year the club will hold one paid event, the Patuxent River Rural Legacy, so a return to profitability is expected.

### Advocacy

Walt Roscello delivered the advocacy report. Notably, regarding the construction of the new Nice Bridge on MD Route 301 which was approved *without provision for bicycle and pedestrian lanes*, the Maryland DOT must still vote on the days and hours during which the Nice Bridge will be open for bicycle access.

### WOW Awards

President Randy Schoch presented [WOW Awards](#) to two club members, Ron Altemus and Sherwood Byers. Along with the recognition, each received a certificate and a gift card.

### Presentation

The meeting concluded with a presentation on various options for bicycle touring. The presenters and their topics were:

- Self-Supported Touring – John Oppel and Walt Roscello
- Self-Guided Touring – Randy and Jackie Schoch
- Fully Supported Touring – Jessica Hirschhorn

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## 2022 WOW Awards

### Ron Altemus

When Ron comes on an Oxon Hill ride, he quietly assumes the role of ride shepherd. Whoever, wherever the last rider is - Ron is there quietly riding behind them, stopping with them if they need to stop, never intruding, just always there until everyone has returned at the end of the ride.

Trying to find a way to describe Ron, we found this particular online description of a good shepherd - and since it fits, quoting it is appropriate:

*A good shepherd is a large, agile, muscular person of noble character and high intelligence - loyal, confident, courageous and steady.*

There are club members who only sign up for rides after they note whether or not Ron will be there.

### Sherwood Byers

Sherwood is being recognized for the multi-day rides he has offered to club members in recent years. These rides require a lot of planning to make sure riders have a good experience - choosing locations, daily mileage, lodging and food opportunities, road and trail conditions and points of interest. Sherwood often rides or drives a route beforehand for first-hand information.

Sherwood's preparation includes encouraging participants to do pre-rides with loaded bikes to get acclimated to how that feels. For the ride, Sherwood designates regrouping points, so riders go at their own pace knowing there will be a regroup so no one is left behind.

The list of multi-day rides led by Sherwood includes:

- Great Allegheny Passage
- C&O Canal
- North Central Rail Trail
- Virginia Capital to Capital Trail
- NEW for 2023: Empire State Trail

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## MDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

As required by law, the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) is updating the statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP), in conjunction with the Maryland Transportation Plan (MTP) on a 5-year cycle. The BPMP will produce a concise, data-driven bicycle, pedestrian, and micromobility master plan to update policies and provide recommendations to improve safety.

After completing an existing conditions analysis, MDOT will conduct stakeholder and public outreach in spring 2023 to help define specific elements and initiatives to include in the BPMP. All are encouraged to take the [public survey](#) available on the [project website](#).

An **online public meeting** will be held **Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 6 p.m. ET** and an **in-person event at the Howard County Green Fest** will be held **Saturday, April 15, 2023**. More information is available at [2050marylandbpmp.com](https://2050marylandbpmp.com).

## 2022 Treasurer's Report

### 2022 OHBTC Budget Recap

### 2023 OHBTC Budget

Category:	Income received	Budget amount		Category:	Budget amount
<b>Income</b>			over/under	<b>Income</b>	
Membership	\$5,960.00	\$6,000.00	-\$40.00	Membership *1	\$6,000.00
Merchandise sales		\$0.00	\$0.00	Merchandise sales	
Rural Legacy registrations			\$0.00	Rural Legacy registrations	\$18,000.00
IH 100 registrations			\$0.00	IH 100 registrations	
			\$0.00		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$5,960.00</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>	<b>-\$40.00</b>	<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$24,000.00</b>

	Expenses spent	Budget amount		Expenses	Budget amount
<b>Expenses</b>			over/under	<b>Expenses</b>	
AffiniPay or PayPal fees	\$265.90	\$250.00	-\$15.90	AffiniPay or PayPal fees	\$275.00
Insurance	\$2,701.05	\$2,500.00	-\$201.05	Insurance *2	\$3,000.00
Website (Wild Apricot)	\$1,188.00	\$1,188.00	\$0.00	Website (Wild Apricot)	\$2,114.00
Storage locker	\$2,238.97	\$3,000.00	\$761.03	Storage locker	\$1,620.00
Volunteers (dinner, gifts, etc.)	\$0.00		\$0.00	Volunteers (dinner, gifts, etc.)	\$1,500.00
Annual dinner (inc. gifts)	\$0.00		\$0.00	Annual dinner (inc. gifts)	\$300.00
Watermelon ride/Club picnic	\$302.51	\$400.00	\$97.49	Club events (watermelon, etc.)	\$400.00
Misc/office/meetings	\$471.43	\$300.00	-\$171.43	Misc/office/meetings	\$400.00
Charities (not event specific)		\$950.00	\$950.00	Charities (not event specific)	\$1,115.00
Dues/memberships	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$0.00	Dues/memberships	\$650.00
Club merchandise	\$0.00		\$0.00	Club merchandise	
IH 100 expenses	\$0.00		\$0.00	IH 100 expenses	\$250.00
Rural Legacy expenses	\$883.97		-\$883.97	Rural Legacy expenses	\$6,000.00
IH 100 charities	\$150.00		-\$150.00	IH 100 charities	
Rural Legacy charities	\$0.00		\$0.00	Rural Legacy charities	\$3,000.00
	\$8,851.83	\$9,238.00	\$386.17		\$20,624.00
<b>Net Income/Expense</b>	<b>-\$2,891.83</b>			<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>3376</b>

Club accounts	2022	2021
Truist Checking	\$5,664.00	\$7,470.62
PayPal reserves	\$118.00	\$909.37
Truist money market acct	\$41,140.00	\$41,135.55
Truist CDs (3)	\$6,303.00	\$6,302.55
<b>Total club monies</b>	<b>\$53,225.00</b>	<b>\$55,818.09</b>

Notes:  
 \*1 - Est. 450 @ \$40  
 \*2 - \$1,500 members + Rural Legacy

**03/23/23**