

THE LOUISVILLE BICYCLE CLUB

Founded in 1897

www.louisvillebicycleclub.org

January/February 2007

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The Louisville Cyclist is a bi-monthly newsletter of the Louisville Bicycle Club.

Please submit articles, copy, ads and photos to Sara Ferebee, 2900 Cannons Lane, 40205, editor@louisvillebicycleclub.org, 502.473.7447.

Deadline for the March/April 2007 issue is February 1.

Please let us know what you think this newsletter needs. After all, it's your newsletter!



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION *by Earl Jones, LBC President*

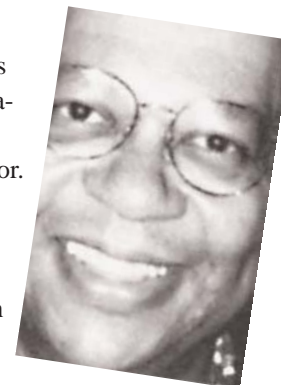
At the end of last season I lamented that I had so few club miles that I hadn't reached the 1000-mile mark. (As careful observers of this space will recall, my November 2005 article incorrectly reported that I barely had 100 miles! That was obviously a typo but too many have repeated the error so often that it seems truer than the facts.)

So I set two modest goals for this season: to accrue at least 1000 club miles and to be in the top 150 members in terms of mileage. Well, the facts are in. I "batted" .500, i.e., I made it into the top 150 in terms of mileage (number 144 to be precise) but missed the 1000-club miles goal, having racked up only 820. (I had a friendly rivalry with a club member who, early in the season, had about the same miles as I did. But she left me in the dust and went over the 2000-mile mark.)

I looked back over my records and figured out that about 90% of those 872 miles were logged at the Sunday afternoon ride, the one that usually leaves from Heine Bros. on Chenoweth Lane. So next year, if I make a point of leaving work at a decent time at least one day a week, I should be able to double that total. (In 2006, I made just two weekday rides!)

Last year, I attributed this low-mileage state of being to overwork. That was true this year, too. But something else must be going on. I think age must be a contributing factor. Looking at club members who are quite a bit older than me, and who have racked up significantly more miles than I have, I

know that this must be a relative, not an absolute, factor. It's probably aging's frequent corollary condition – arthritis – that is having a larger impact. Anyway, the combination sucks.



A change in my cycling focus is also a factor. I've found that working to improve facilities and a better environment for cycling is more stimulating than actually riding. (There's something awry in this statement that I should think about during the off-season.)

Putting it all together I have a real challenge in front of me to reach my next cycling milestone: becoming one of the very select group of 25,000 lifetime mileage members. As of the November 19, 2006 statistics report, my lifetime mileage is 23,550, just 1,450 from the goal.

If I just added one ride a week to last season's anemic routine, I'd be in that elite group, of which there are approximately 30 since the club began its statistics program. That would be something to celebrate. It even comes with its own jersey.

So that's my New Year's resolution. I'm sure I'll need help getting there. I'm sure I can count on you all to help me not forget.

Candidates for LBC Offices in 2007

President - Earl Jones

When I first ran for LBC president for 1998, I said I would focus on a comprehensive review of the club's strategy, increasing the coordination of the Club's programs and activities, including the Old Kentucky Home Tour, and growing membership and revenues.

I believe we've made significant progress in each of those goals. Every LBC program – Touring, Advocacy, Education, Racing and Communications – is in very good shape. Membership is almost 1,000 and revenues have more than doubled.

I think, working together, we can do even better in 2007 as we strengthen our partnership with Metro Louisville. I hope you'll agree and support my re-election.

Treasurer - Jim Tretter

In our upcoming January election I'll once again ask you to elect me as treasurer of the Louisville Bicycle Club. I joined this club in 1983 and am one of its ten most senior members. I've earned most of the awards the club offers, some multiple times: yellow jersey, blue jersey, red jersey, gold jersey, silver jersey, Mad Dog jersey, club volunteer of the year, and others. The club has been one of my primary pastimes and has awarded me with numerous friendships and acquaintances, memorable tours and experiences, and a healthful lifestyle. The Club has given me much over the years as I'm sure it has for many of you, and I feel obligated to giving back.

The wide variety of activities the Club offers is only available because of the willingness of the many volunteers it takes to make it work. Ten thousand man-hours are needed each year to plan and execute our many programs; unfortunately we always seem to be searching for willing, qualified candidates to fill the lead roles. Please consider undertaking a responsible role as an officer, director or member of a committee. I invite you to discuss your interests with me or any of the Executive Committee so that through your leadership we can ensure the LBC continues to remain one of the best bicycle clubs in the country.

VP of Touring - Chad Green

I have been the VP of Touring for the past year and have enjoyed every minute of it. I am once again requesting that the LBC membership elect me for this important position. If reelected, I will continue to work on producing a robust touring schedule that includes rides for everyone from the person just getting into cycling to the Mad Dog who wishes to ride centuries as much as possible.

Secretary - Barbara Tretter

I have been a member of the club since 1985. I have been a part of OKHT every year thereafter & have volunteered for all the different programs in the club. I have served as secretary since 2002. In that time, the club membership has grown & the club dues have increased. I will be happy to run for Secretary of the LBC again.

VP of Communications - Packman

Most people in the club who know me, particularly those I have not had the pleasure to ride with, know me by one name: Packman. In real life, my name is David Ryan. I have 8129 club miles from 1993-1998. I last rode with the club at the Old Kentucky Home Tour in 1998 where I also played the devil on Pottershop Hill. Shortly afterward I was struck by a truck while cycling and disabled. I have since remained in contact with the club mainly via its Kycyclist mail list.

Now it seems I am to be nominated as the club's printer's devil and be responsible for the newsletter, as well as preaching to some who may not be the choir. My writing to the mail list has caused some to believe I am qualified for this job. You can check the Kycyclist archives and decide for yourselves. It will at least show that I still have a passion for cycling and cyclists. And I would be honored for the opportunity to communicate that.

VP of Racing - Mark Luking

Over the past year, Team Louisville has continued to fulfill its unique mission of providing the club members with the opportunity to learn about and participate in the sport of bicycle racing. Team members have competed in road races, criteriums, time trials, mountain bike and cyclocross races, winning some and placing well in many of these events. We have hosted the Le'Sprit Road Race, which is one of the Spring Training races, a 40k Time Trial as part of the Mad Dog Tour, and the Iroquois Cyclocross race, one of the Ohio Valley cyclocross series. I have enjoyed working with our team members and look forward to continuing to build on our successes by serving another term as the VP of racing.

VP of Education - Steve Sarson

I have been VP Education for the past four years. I am a League of American Bicyclists certified League Cycling Instructor. During the last four years, a lot has happened on the Louisville bicycling scene. I believe bicycle education is critical for all cyclists, from beginning novice to seasoned veteran. I have worked with the city of Louisville to expand bicycle education over the last year, reaching over 275 new cyclists through our Monday night New Riders classes. There is still a lot of work to be done. I would like to be a part of it.

LBC Annual Awards Banquet January 27, 2007

6:00 p.m. Reception & Cash bar
7:15 p.m. Buffet Dinner
8:00 p.m. General Meeting: Awards, Election of Officers for 2007
10:00 p.m. Adjournment

Please join your cycling friends at the LBC Annual Awards Banquet to reminisce on the year's activities, acknowledge our volunteers, celebrate our achievements, update our by-laws and elect club officers for the upcoming year. The banquet will be held again at Big Spring Country Club, 5901 Dutchmans Lane on Saturday, January 27, 2007. Cost is \$10 for the buffet dinner.

To provide an accurate count of attendees **I must have your reservation by Sunday, January 21.** Please send to: Jim Tretter, 9004 Willowood Way, Louisville, KY 40299.

Candidates running for office in 2007:

(Please review the candidate statements on Page 2.)

President - Earl Jones	VP Advocacy - Ed Tonini
VP Communications - David Ryan	VP Education - Steve Sarson
VP Racing - Mark Luking	VP Touring - Chad Green
Treasurer - Jim Tretter	Secretary - Barbara Tretter

Yes, I will be attending the Annual Awards Banquet. Enclosed is my check (payable to the Louisville Bicycle Club) for \$10 / person.

Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____

Number attending _____ @ \$10/ each = _____ Total Enclosed
 (must be received by January 21)

The 2nd Annual Wheelie Awards

(please write in the name of the person/people who you think should walk away with these coveted awards):

Best Hill Climber _____

Most Flats on a Ride _____

New Romance _____

Most Vocal Whiner _____

The Moonpie Award, formerly the Thinnest Shorts Award _____

The Craziest Bike Trick Award _____

The Most Creative Use of a Cue Sheet Award _____

YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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30TH ANNUAL OKHT *by Cathy Kinberger, OKHT Director*

Chris Cakes is back.

We heard the feed back, you miss the show, and we have confirmed Chris Cakes for the 2007 OKHT. So be careful on that Sunday morning, or you may be the victim of flying pancakes.

Happy New Year.

It's 2007 and time to start gearing up for the 30th OKHT. I have found it's never too early to start getting ready; it is also never too early to help and be a volunteer. Next time you see Carl or Sandy Davis, give them a big thank you. They have stepped up and are taking on a larger role in this year's ride. Sandy will now be our Volunteer Coordinator, and where Sandy helps, Carl helps. I have every confidence that you will make the job easier for them by volunteering early. There is no need to wait for the registration form to volunteer, the earlier you sign up the more choices you will have.

I still have opportunities to volunteer and be on the OKHT Team. I need your help or this year's ride will not be as special as it could be. Remember, Team positions help shape the ride; they make the decisions on how the ride goes and what the ride includes. If you have ideas of how to improve the ride, this is the way to get them heard. Help me, Join the Team.

One of my goals this year is to have themes at all the sags. It would be great if you get a few people together and sign up for

a sag. You can decorate the sag and make it fun for the riders and yourself also. Ask the Sarson's, they are already planning the Harmony Habitat sag for the ride. If we get all the sags decorated we will have a contest to see who gets voted best sag. As I said in the previous newsletter, Volunteering for a Team position or a sag does not mean you don't get to ride.

Who is coming back for the 30th ride?

We already have entertainment and sags confirmed. Bag Balm is coming back, with John Gonzalez as the entertainment. Molly and the Dulcimers will be at the cookie stop with our new sag leader. Leslie Neidig has already volunteered to take over the cookie stop for the Davis's. I have the steel drums back this year; look for them at the lunch stop. The Boy Scouts will be serving us lunch again. Join the Team and you can help decide what the boy scouts will serve, and the rest of the entertainment for this year's ride.

It's easy to join in the fun, go to the OKHT web page and click on the info link. I can give you all the details as to where I need help and what you can do for your bicycle club.

I look forward to hearing your suggestions and ideas. It's not a Club event if only a few make all the decisions.

Let's make this the best and biggest ride to date.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES *by LBC Executive Committee*

By-Laws provide documented rules about how an organization is to be run. The LBC By-Laws, which were adopted in 1994 and last updated in December 1998, are in need of revision primarily to provide more flexibility. The Annual Banquet, for example, must be held in November according to the By-Laws so we're recommending more adaptable wording. The proposed changes also recommend the creation of a new Executive Committee position: VP Commuting Programs. Article VIII states that

"These By-Laws may be amended by a majority of the membership at any membership meeting at which a quorum is present, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment is given at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting." At the Annual Awards Banquet on January 27, 2007, we'll be formally asking the membership to adopt these By-Laws recommendations. Please go to the LBC website to review the current By-Laws and the proposed changes.

Trainer Tours are Back!

The Trainer Tour Spinning Classes will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm in January and February.

Broadway Baptist Church
4000 Brownsboro Road

Polar Bear Ride & Chili Lunch

January 1, 2007, 11am

Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Road

The LBC invites you to the Polar Bear Ride, a tradition started by Gil Morris. This ride is held each New Year's Day, regardless of weather. It is actually more of a social event than a ride. Mileage is determined by the weather. The distance has been as little as four blocks and as much as 20 miles. The average distance is about five miles.

All club members are invited; non-riding spouses are also welcome. Even many otherwise serious riders stay inside and drink coffee and socialize. The event is free. No reservations are required. Call AB Sandefur 425-9463 for ride information.

Chili and drinks (coffee and tea) are free. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Poor Richards' Almanac says that what you do the first day of the year, you will be doing for most of the next 364 days. Sitting on the couch or riding — your choice.

Third Annual Bike Swap Meet

Even if you don't plan to ride the Polar Bear Ride on New Year's Day, come to the post-ride swap meet to look for bargains or to sell cycling-related items that you no longer need. If Santa made a mistake and left something that was too big or not your favorite color, bring it to swap for something more to your liking. If Santa forgot you, maybe you can find something that suits you. Mark all items with your name and the suggested price.

NEW MEMBERS

Bailey, Andrew	1111 Springside Ct	Louisville, KY	40223	
Burke, Gwen	2924 Brownsboro Rd	Louisville, KY	40206	502 899-1378
Callaway, Nathan	1641 Cedar Creek Rd	Louisville, Ky	40229	502 957-3721
McLarty, Scott	5003 Sumerline Ct	Buckner, KY	40010	502 225-9350
Nevitt, Chris	202 Crescent Ave Apt 2	Louisville, KY	40206	502 500-6864
Plappert, Alan, Morgan, Matthew, Cindy	1431 Goddard Ave	Louisville, KY	40204	502 451-8852
Vaesa, Alan	PO Box 7611	Louisville, KY	40257	502 345-5189

EMAIL NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

The LBC 2006 budget for newsletter costs is \$5,000, which represents nearly 25% of our total program costs. In an attempt to reduce this cost so monies can be used by other programs, the Executive Committee has introduced email newsletter delivery. This optional service began with the newsletter for May/June 2006. The newsletter is sent in PDF format to those who have signed up for this service. Each delivery saves the club \$1.25 in printing and mailing costs per issue per membership. Those who choose email delivery will typically receive their newsletter 4-7 days before those who receive their newsletters via regular mail.

Club membership applications and membership reminder post-cards will be modified to include this option. If, after trying email delivery, members don't like this method, they may revert back to regular mail delivery.

More than 100 LBC members have already signed up to receive the e-newsletter.

To sign up for this option please go to <http://www.louisvillebicycclub.org/forms/enewsletter.htm>.

Thanks for your cooperation.
LBC Executive Committee

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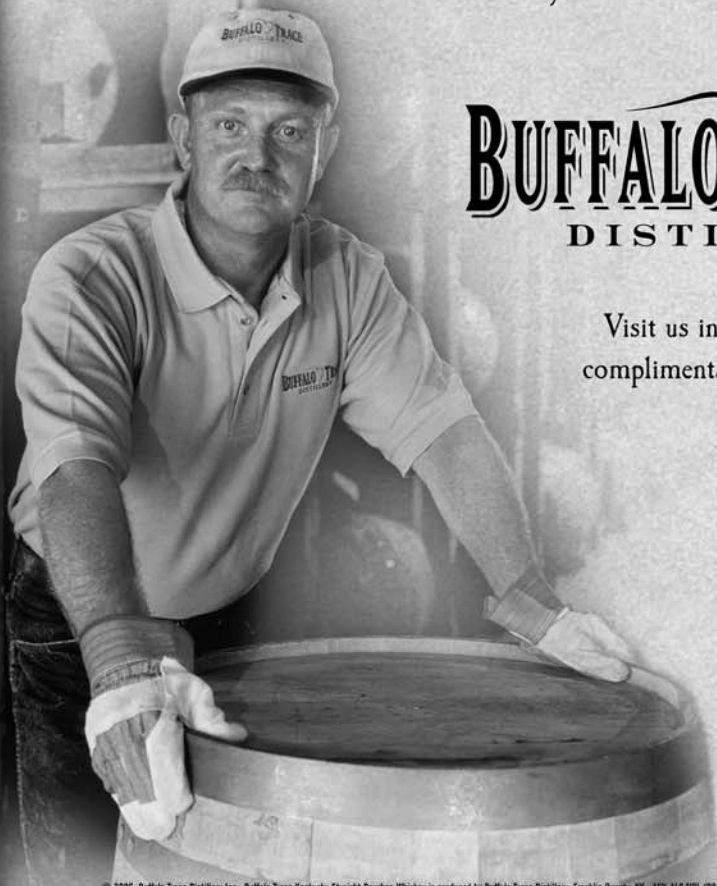
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So here's a toast to the hard-working craftsmen of Buffalo Trace Distillery who make Kentucky shine around the globe.

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CYCLOCROSS SEASON IS WELL UNDER WAY! *by Mark Luking, VP Racing*

On December 3, the Ohio Valley Cyclocross Series held the 14th race in its fall series, here in Louisville, on the grounds of the old River Road Country Club. This race was also the Kentucky State Championship race, with medals being awarded to the top finishers from our state.

I am pleased to report that members of Team Louisville came away with their share of these awards. Winning gold medals, as well as finishing in first place in their categories, were Marcus Moran (Men's B), Nancy McElwain (Women's B) and Brad Wunderlich (Masters 45+). Perry Finley (Men's C), though a relative newcomer to the sport, won a silver medal and was sixth overall in his race.



Perry Finley, Nancy McElwain and Brad Wunderlich
Photo courtesy of Craig Dooley, Kentucky Backroads Photography

Team Louisville's successes throughout this series caps off what has been a very good year for our team. Team members have traveled throughout the region, competing in road, mountain bike, track, cyclocross, time trials and even some duathlons and triathlons.

Here is a sample of some of their accomplishments this season:

Brad Wunderlich has competed in 19 events so far this year: 7 road races, 2 mountain bike races and 10 cyclocross races. He won 9 CX races, and was 4th in the road race and 6th in the criterium in his category at the Tour de London.

Dan Loescher competed in 17 road races with four top 5 finishes.

Walter Lay did 24 races; half of which were on the track at the Major Taylor Velodrome in Indianapolis. He, along with Tim Omer, won gold and silver medals at the Senior Games this summer.

Joe Collins did 2 road races, 9 mountain bike races, and 10 cyclocross races in 2006. He also won a gold medal at the Bluegrass State Games in the sport 40+ division.

Charles Garner, who just began racing bicycles this year, competed in 11 races with four top 5 finishes.

Linda Burry, who suffered a significant injury in the first race of the Spring Training Series, came back in July to place second in the Novice division at the Woodmont Triathlon and in August she won first place in her age group at the E.P. Sawyer Triathlon. She went on to compete in two more road races later in the year.

Matt Staub competed in 10 races including a first place finish at the Pike-Gibson Road Race, he tied for first place with teammate Sean Steele at the Tour da Vinci Criterium and had top 10 or better finishes in all his other races.

These are just a few of the Team's accomplishments for 2006. The 25 most active members of our team competed in races nearly 200 times over the past season. A quick poll of members indicated that they each logged from 3,000 to as much as 6,000 miles riding and training to get ready for this season.

But not all the credit for this success goes to the team. Without the support of our sponsors: Clarksville Cyclery, Nextel, Bosse Mattingly Construction, Train Smart, Justsocks, First Egg and Allegra Printing, we would have a difficult time funding the Team Louisville racing program. Just the entry fees alone for last year came to nearly \$4,000! Members must still pay for most of their uniforms and all of their travel expenses themselves. As our team continues to attract new members (for 2007 we have nearly 50 people on our roster) and, as we look for ways to expand and improve our program, we must also find more sponsors to help cover the costs. If you or your company would like to be a part of Team Louisville's exciting future, please contact me, or any of our team members for more information.

I would also like to thank the many members of LBC who have volunteered at our races and who have cheered us on during the races. We couldn't do it without you!



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REMEMBERING GIL MORRIS *by Joe Ward*

We're going to miss Gil Morris. Talk about one of a kind. All you had to do was hear that laugh or spend some time over one of his chicken-scratched Tour de Gil invitations to be persuaded of that. I think the deal was that he never grew up – and I mean that in the positive sense of the expression. He spent his childhood on Edgehill Road, near the old mansion called Lauderdale, and he ranged widely, first on foot and then by bike. He told me once that he was hacking his way through honeysuckle in the park one day and, way back in the brush, he came on the Daniel Boone statue, like some Mayan relic. It had been erected off the road down the hill from Hogan's Fountain, and then forgotten for years. Later it was moved down to Eastern Parkway where people would see it.

His most famous – to us – trip by bike was in 1940 when he rode his new two-speed Paramount past Howard "Pop" Jefferis's bike shop. Jefferis, who'd been in the bike business since the bike heyday of the 1890s called out, "Hey, kid! You want a job?" It turned out he did, and the job suited him so well that it took his death 66 years later to get him out of the building.



Gil is the young fellow standing under the sign.

Meanwhile, he preserved many of the routes Jefferis and various clubs had ridden in those days when a cycling event could draw 30,000 cyclists to Louisville. He rode them by himself through some lean years when bicycles had receded to the status of toys, and then gradually attracted other adults back to the sport until he had regenerated the Louisville Bicycle Club as a vital organization.

He explored the world then, on long trips to Europe and Asia, but he was still a kid at heart. One of his favorite stories – perhaps *the* favorite – was about sledding in the heavy snow of that winter of 1977-78. He'd go out at night with his sled and mix with the teenagers, in his heavy coat and stocking cap. One night he was taking a breather with another sledder at the top of a hill, and the other sledder asked, "What school do you go to?"

Gil savored it for a minute. Then he said, "Well, my grandson goes to Fern Creek." He said it caused the kid to look at him a little more closely.

The thing was, he never lost his sense of exhilaration from getting on his bike and flying without wings. For years, he rode the Tour de Gil Route every morning before he went to work. I think his life would have lasted a lot longer if he hadn't been so severely beaten by that robber ten or so years ago. Other people wouldn't have lasted through the robbery itself.

When you really saw the kid in Gil was when he was selling a bike to one. He could communicate with kids in a way you couldn't hear. I watched him one day with a boy who clearly had dreamed through all aspects of owning a bike long before he'd managed to get his mother to the store. He had his eye on one, but there was a problem. No kickstand. He mentioned it to Gil, and Gil said it could be fixed. "Will it go like this?" the boy asked, and he stood by the bike, hands on the bar grips, and moved his right leg back to push the imaginary kickstand into stowed position.

"Just like that," Gil said. And he went to the counter and rang up the sale.

At the close of day, Gil used to go through the shop and turn the front wheels of all the bicycles in the same direction. In the morning, Ted told me once, they'd be every which way. Who moved them? "Nobody knows," Ted said. Now, I think, if they should be discovered all in one direction in the morning, we'd know who did that.

"The family of Gil Morris would like to Thank everyone for all of their kindness and support through our time of sorrow. He will be greatly missed."

**Sincerely,
The Morris Family**

CHERYL BRAWNER



Cheryl Wasmer Brawner, 52, formerly of Hillsboro, OH, passed away peacefully on October 22, 2006. Her passion for showing American Saddlebred horses brought her to Louisville, KY in 1973. Cheryl attend-

ed Stephens College in Columbia, MO and graduated from the University of Louisville. Cheryl has worked in the horse industry, as a paralegal and owned Millennium Sport and Import with her husband Bob.

An avid cyclist and racer since the early 1990's, Cheryl was one of the first women racers in the Louisville area. Cheryl was a coach with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program. She was a passionate advocate for cyclist's rights and was proud of

her involvement in the successful Bike Louisville program.

Cheryl was a past president of the Frankfort Avenue Business Association. She served the Louisville Bicycle Club as VP of Racing and VP of Advocacy. Cheryl served on the board of Bicycling for Louisville, the Metropolitan Louisville Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the Louisville Bicycle Summit steering committee. And she was a charter member of the LBC YaYa Sisterhood.

Cheryl is survived by her adoring husband Bob, her step-daughter Tasha Hellman (Chris) and grandchildren Elizabeth and Will. Cheryl will also be missed by her family of friends within the cycling, equestrian and legal communities.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Do you have something you want to share with your fellow club members?

Send us an article and photos for the newsletter! We can accept hand-written manuscripts, hardcopy print-outs or articles on disk (Word documents preferred), or e-mail.

Send to Sara Ferebee, VP Communications (see cover for addresses) or hand to any club officer.

The Louisville Bicycle Club reserves the right to edit all submitted articles.

See cover for deadlines.

The newsletter is sent third class. The post office will not forward to your new address. Please notify Barbara Tretter, club secretary, of any address changes.

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