

Chainwheel Chatter

B.I.K.E.S. Club of Snohomish County
July 2022



Prez Sez

BAD NEWS AND GOOD NEWS AND A THIRD THING

First the bad news.

A customer comes into the shop looking for a new bike and I ask "Do you have a bike now?". Very often, the answer is "I had a bike but it was stolen." This conversation happens on a daily basis at the bike shop.

The bad news is that bikes are stolen. They're stolen out of home garages, bike parking chain link areas, from in front of stores ("I just went in to get an energy drink!"), and anywhere else a bike might be left unattended.

What can you do to prevent this? Here are some strategies which I use for on the road.

1. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER leave your bike unattended. Yeah, like that never happens - I've never seen unattended bikes (sarcasm). But when you do leave your bike unattended ...
2. LOCK IT UP. Just keep in mind that good locks are very heavy and very expensive. The really cool light weight locks just don't offer the the security as the very heavy expensive ones. And all locks are really just deterrents. A determined thief can get through any lock. A nice feature of Kryptonite locks (the heavy and expensive ones) is that you can also get an insurance policy with the lock purchase.
3. If you leave your bike unattended and you don't have a lock, CREATE A DETERRENT to slow down a grab-and-go thief. For example, you can clip your helmet strap around the front wheel and frame, use a short nylon strap to tighten your brake levers (preventing the wheels from rolling), remove the quick release skewer from your front wheel and see how far the thief gets when he tries to ride away at a furious clip. These won't prevent theft but can slow the thief down enough that you can react.
4. If you're in a group, make sure your bike is on the inside of the stack. Bike thieves aren't shopping for the nicest bike ... they're looking for the easiest to take. Make your bike the most difficult one to get. Now you know why, on my rides, I always offer to place a fellow rider's bike on the outside with mine on the inside. "Oh, your bike is so nice. We don't want it to get all beat up. Let's put yours gently on the outside so it doesn't get squashed!"
5. If all of the above aren't going to do the trick, just take your bike with you into the store or cafe. Just boldly walk in and place it in a corner out of the way. Grocery store aisles are usually wide enough for a person and a bike. I have done this a lot and I have never had anyone tell me I can't bring my bike in to wherever I go. (I do admit that getting through a checkout line with a bike can be a challenge.)

Apart from preventing a theft, what else can you do?

6. Take photos of your bike and serial number for your records.

7. Keep the serial number written someplace where you can find it if you need it.
8. If you ever need to call the police to report a bike stolen, be prepared to answer their the question "What's the serial number?" That's how they track all recovered bikes. From my experience, they don't care about the brand name, model, color, or cost. It's the serial number or nothin', baby!
9. Register your bike with 529 Garage (www.529garage.com) and/or Bike Index (www.bikeindex.org). There may be other sites, too, but these sites can help recover a stolen bike through their network of contacts.

In conclusion, what's the ONE THING THAT'S MOST RELIABLE IN PREVENTING BIKE THEFT? See No. 1 above.

Now the good news, finally!

The club picnic is coming to Hauge Homestead Park on Saturday, July 30. Put it on your

calendar as you won't want to miss it.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE register for the picnic, where? ...

you guessed it ... on the club calendar! See below

Registering for the picnic will makes the job easier for those who do all the work to make the picnic a great fun event.

Third Thing

When you go on a club group ride, be sure to say THANK YOU to your ride leader. It takes some effort and dedication to be a ride leader and our Ride Leaders help make BIKES Club the great club it is. And besides, saying thank you is just a polite thing to do, anyway.

So until next time ...

Keep on pedalin',
Drew

News You Can Use...

Name Your Bike

If you are reading this, you probably like your bike and want to protect it from loss. Returning to where you parked your bike and not being able to locate it can quickly escalate into a significant emotional event. Seeing a bike that looks like yours in the hands of someone else can also trigger a primal urge to confront the person. Before going into an emotional outburst, are you sure it's your bike? Mass production of bikes has provided lots of bikes that look alike leading to mistaken identity. Bikes sold today typically have a unique serial number on the bottom of the bike under the bottom bracket. This is a rather inconvenient means to quickly

Identify your bike
if there is any confusion or disagreement as to whose bike it is while you are
out and about
having an otherwise great day.

[Read More >>>](#)

BIKES Club Picnic

The annual BIKES Club picnic is back in the plan for this year on Saturday, July 30st at Hauge Homestead Park in south Everett next to Silver Lake. This event is typically 11 AM – 3 PM. More details will be provided via e-mail to members and the event link on the [Calendar](#) page. No alcohol allowed per Everett Parks rules. The restrooms at this park are open. Please register online so we will know how many plan to attend. Club rides before the lunch are expected.

New Membership options:

[Membership Benefits>>>](#)



Coming Up...

July Club rides

There will be a variety of BIKES Club rides scheduled through July on the [Calendar](#). Some rides may be posted the day before the scheduled activity. Rides can be cancelled or changed when weather conditions are forecast to be sufficiently foul as determined by the Ride Leaders and which forecasts they think may be accurate. Keep up with ride changes by subscribing to [Ride Updates](#).

[Rides Calendar >>>](#)

Next BIKES Club Meeting

The next BIKES Club meeting is set for 7 PM September 8th, 2022. Details to follow

BIKES Club has monthly club meetings for members on the 2nd Thursday of each month from September to May. No meetings in the summer or December.



Ride Leader Corner:

Ride Coordinator thoughts

Ride leaders, it's wonderful to have so many rides listed. If you find yourself wanting to list a ride on a day when there's already a ride listed at that same pace, check to see if they're filling up before you list. It's okay to list if you're going to ride in a different area, but communication is still good. Talk with that other ride leader, see how they feel.

The above doesn't apply if you're listing a ride at a different pace of course.

But communication amongst ride leaders is a good idea. And having lots of willing ride leaders is a plus for our club.

Have a safe and fun ride!

Dan Scott, Ride Leader Coordinator

leadaride@bikesclub.org

COVID-19 persists

[Temporary Precautions for BIKES Club Ride During the COVID-19 Crisis.](#)

Max Group Sizes

Ride groups may now have 12 riders or less as determined by the Ride Leader. The number includes the Ride Leader. The ride posting and registration page should indicate the maximum number of riders for the ride.

[Online Reg - Step by Step>>>](#)

[Ride Leader Guidelines>>>](#)

[Online Registration Process for Ride Leaders >>>](#)



Rider Miles

Top riders for June

Linari	Steve	1293
Proctor	Rick	1162
Kawamoto	Debbie	966
Heydron	Paul	836
Tweedy	Christine	831
Walchli	Cheryl	777

[How many Club miles do you have?](#)



Club meeting minutes

Catch up here to read the most recent meeting minutes. Log on to the club website to access all meeting minutes.

[Meeting Minutes >>>](#)



Sharing Wheels

Sharing Wheels News

B.I.K.E.S. Club at Everett Farmers Market

Volunteers are needed the third Sunday of each month to help staff a biking-related booth at the Everett Farmers Market. Sharing Wheels provides tent, bike trivia, and table. B.I.K.E.S. has donated some prizes (you might recognize from McClinchy) and volunteers should bring your own chair and weather-appropriate attire (from raincoat to sun hat). Help educate the community about bike helmets, bike routes, and BIKES Club.

Upcoming dates are July 17 and Aug. 21. [Sign up for a 3-hour shift here.](#)

Learn basic bike mechanics

Learn the basics of bike maintenance and repair every bike rider should know: how to fix a flat, chain care, adjusting gears and brakes, and identifying when to take your bike into a shop.

This 3-hour, \$35 class is offered every month at Sharing Wheels Community Bike Shop in Everett. Advance signup is required. [Next classes are July 13 and July 27.](#)

Help with mobile bike repair

Sharing Wheels is bringing free bike repair out of the shop and into the community this summer, and they need our help. Bike repair clinics are being offered each month in south Everett, at the Evergreen Branch Library and at the Mariner Library.

This is a great way to practice basic bike maintenance and help people in need. Habla español? There's also a July 15 clinic on Casino Road that needs Spanish speaking volunteers.

The most common repair is fixing a flat, so advanced knowledge is not required (we refer people to the shop for that). Volunteer "Greeters" are also valuable (no repair skills needed). [See upcoming outreach dates and volunteer.](#)

Sharing Wheels wants customers

Sharing wheels wants customers

Did you know that in addition to refurbished used bikes, Sharing Wheels has both new and used parts and accessories for sale? If you need a bike bag, rack, replacement shifter or bike-related doo-dad you didn't even *know* you needed, shop your local nonprofit first. Sharing Wheels is open Wednesday through Sunday at 2531 Broadway Ave., Everett, WA. Parking and entrance at the back.

See all the events at [Sharing Wheels Calendar](#)

[Sharing Wheels Website >>>](#)

Other Links

League of American Bicyclists

Click on the link below to read the League blog and catch up on League efforts around the country. BIKES is a member of the League of American Bicyclists and it is through the League that we purchase our club insurance.

[League of American Bicyclists>>>](#)

Adventure Cycling

Whether you like your adventures in the saddle or from the armchair, Adventure Cycling will inspire. You might also find reviews of new bikes and equipment and tips on how to enjoy or improve what you already have.

[Adventure Cycling >>>](#)



bikesclub.org

Comments or suggestions? Send an email to:

[Newsletter Editor](#)