

BAC MONTHLY UPDATE

February 2025



Florida's Suncoast and Nature Coast Winter Defrost Tour 2025

Chuck Feerick, Jeff Hollansworth, Alan Kailer, and Glenn Rudolph with their mermaid at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park. Ride directors Roy and Kristi Brubaker. Photo submitted by Joan Feerick.

Hello BAC Members,

Welcome to the February 2025 BAC Monthly Update. On the first business day of each month, we'll be sending you the latest BAC news.

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR Barb Rudolph February 2025

2025 is well underway with two tours having been completed and two underway. It is definitely going to be an exciting year of cycling and traveling with over 50 tours proposed! In addition, tour proposals for 2026 are starting to roll in! Be sure to check the New Rides Preview section of the website before the first business day of the month to see what new tours will be available for sign ups on the first business day of the month.

Your BAC Board continues to work diligently and in the best interest of the club. Board member elections are underway. Please see the information below regarding voting. Also, we would like for you to join us via Zoom for the BAC Annual General Meeting on February 16th. More information can also be found below. Please use the link to register.

BAC BOARD ELECTIONS 2025

Solicitation of proxies for the BAC Board of Directors election is still in progress. Thank you to all who have already cast their proxy. If you have not submitted your proxy as yet, please do so by Feb 10th by logging in to the BAC website, clicking on the 'We Need Your Vote' link at the top of the page, and then indicate how you would like your proxy to be voted by the Board Chair at the Annual General Meeting Feb 16, 2025.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BAC's Annual General Meeting will be held Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 4:30 pm PST/5:30 pm MST/6:30 pm CST/7:30 pm EST via Zoom. Agenda items will include the receipt of reports highlighting the Club's activities over the past year, approval of the 2024 financial statements, and an opportunity for Club members to ask questions and make comments.

You must register for this event in advance by going to the following web address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/0Wr-fCDoQaGrTvyzMGoBTQ> . After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. A detailed agenda and supporting materials will also be sent out to those who register for the meeting. If two members from a household plan to participate and use the same connection, please only have one of the two register.

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RLP&G Policy and Guidelines Update by Maria Nelson, Member Relations Chair

BAC caters to independent, experienced cyclists on our tours. As a result, many of the BAC members who express interest in becoming a ride leader often bring a wealth of experience beyond the number of BAC trips they have participated in.

For that reason, the BAC board has reviewed and updated the criteria for new ride leaders to lead a commercially supported tour. Exceptions will now be considered based on factors such as: the ride leader's overall tour and leadership experience, their familiarity with the region where the proposed tour will be located and the BAC ride leader training they have completed.

The Ride Leader Training & Development committee will review and decide on these exceptions.

The board hopes this increased flexibility will help to support new ride leaders and continue to expand the exciting new tour options available to our members.

The new provision in the Ride Leader Policy & Guidelines is:

To become a Ride Director and lead directed tours for the BAC:

- *You must be a BAC member.*
- *You must have participated as a rider in at least one BAC directed tour to gain a firsthand understanding of how a BAC tour is conducted.*

To become a Ride Coordinator and lead commercially assisted tours (CATs) for the BAC:

- *You must meet the requirements to lead a BAC directed tour, and*
- *You must have participated in at least one BAC CAT*

If a member does not meet these requirements, the BAC Ride Leader Training and Development Committee can allow an exception based on considerations such as a member's past experiences related to:

- 1. Leadership experience and organizational skills related to work, cycling, or other personal experiences.*
- 2. Past experience and travels, such as non-BAC cycling tours, years of riding experience, knowledge of the proposed tour area, and prior travel with a commercial tour operator.*
- 3. Training completed related to BAC directed or commercially assisted tours.*

To request an exception please submit an email with background information to the BAC Tour Review Director for review by the Ride Leader Training and Development Committee.

Environmental Stewardship by Joan Feerick, Ride Leader Training and Development Chair.

One of our BAC values is, "We value our environmental stewardship while cycling." The average passenger vehicle emits about 400 grams of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per mile. At 60 miles per hour, that's 24 kilograms in an hour. When riding a bike, an average person breathes out approximately 0.081 kilograms of CO₂ per minute, which translates to around 0.372 kilograms per hour of cycling. Twenty four kilograms (car) versus less than half a kilogram (bike) - that's a huge difference. Just riding a bike when exploring the world is a great act of stewardship. So I thought I was doing a pretty good job when, in addition to riding (and not driving), I provided reusable mugs for everyone to use at Happy Hours on my tours. Then I asked some ride leaders what they do and my mugs seemed, well, kind of inadequate.

Here are just a few ways our ride leaders suggested you, as riders and as leaders can honor our environmental stewardship value.

-Use a reusable cup, for happy hour AND for your morning coffee AND to brush your teeth in the hotel bathroom.

- Avoid single use plastic bottles- water, soda, etc.
- Find and use the recycle bins at your hotels. Most hotels offer a bin but many don't so you may have to carry the recyclables a bit.
- If you carry-out leftovers from a restaurant, decline that styrofoam container. Maybe a piece of foil would work just as well - and then the leftovers would better fit in your saddlebag for lunch the next day :-)

Just a bunch of BAC cyclists practicing environmental stewardship won't change the world but it's a start and it will make a difference.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome these new BAC Members who have joined us in Jan 2025. If they live near you give them a call.

Bill Fishman, Rye, NY
Denise Bell, Boulder, CO
Roger and Lynda Mathis, Boulder, CO
Betty Fitte and Harvey Strang, Virginia Beach, VA
Marlene Griffin and Christopher Griffin, Traverse City, MI
Donna Cecilio, Sparks, NV
Monica Pappas, Rocklin, CA
Candy Leblanc, Forestdale, MA
Ruth Cooper, Chico, CA
Karen Moyer, Truckee, CA
Giuseppe Ferrara, Mendham Borough, NJ
Gena Freymann, San Antonio, TX
Sandra Pelzel and Gary Rouse, Captain Cook, HI
Robert and MaryLou Brown, Denver, CO
Christine and Michael Stirling, Rohnert Park, CA
Lynn McIntyre and Lynne Underhill, Perth, ON
Holly Hermansen and Jon Byerrum, Longmont, CO
Cathy and Mike Halvorsen, Santa Rosa, CA

TOURS

New Rides Posted. You can now sign-up for the following rides approved recently and announced in "New Ride Previews" on the BAC website homepage.

- **White Villages of Andalusia 2026 April 17-May 3, 2026** Ride Coordinator: Ron Scheiblauber in conjunction with Iberocycle. Start Location: Granada, Spain. Finish Location: Malaga, Spain. Ride Rating: 3B!

- **Mallorca 2026 - A Cycling Gem** May 9-23, 2026. Ride Director: Nelson Diaz. Start Location: Palma, Mallorca Spain. Finish Location: Palma, Mallorca Spain. Ride Rating: 2B.
- **Canary Islands 2026 May 30-June 13, 2026.** Ride Coordinator: Nelson Diaz in conjunction with Iberocycle. Start Location: Lanzarote, Spain. Finish Location: Tenerife, Spain Ride Rating: 2B!
- **Historic Croatia Island Tour** June 6-25, 2026. Ride Coordinator: Warner Griswold in conjunction with Sitnica. Start Location: Trieste, Italy. Finish Location: Dubrovnik, Croatia. Ride Rating: 3B!
- **The “Other” Netherlands: Cycling North Brabant Fri** Aug 18-30, 2026. Ride Directors: Jan Gleason & Lianna Jones. Start Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands. Finish Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands. Ride Rating: 1B
- **2026 Salzburg to Innsbruck Bike & Hike** Aug 26-Set 9, 2026. Ride Directors: Roy & Kristi Brubaker. Start Location: Salzburg, Austria. Finish Location: Innsbruck, Austria. Ride Rating: 2B!
- **Belgium: Cuisine Culture 2026** Aug 31-Sept 14, 2026. Ride Directors: Bridgette Martinez & Philip Spadaro. Start Location: Leuven, Belgium. Finish Location: Bruges, Belgium. Ride Rating: 1B!
- **2026 Innsbruck to Venice Bike & Hike** Sept 11-27, 2026. Ride Directors: Roy & Kristi Brubaker. Start Location: Innsbruck, Austria. Finish Location: Venice, Italy. Ride Rating: 2B!

RIDES WITH SPACE AVAILABLE

- Cycling in Paradise: Muensterland Germany & Hanseatic NL May 14-26, 2025 1B
- Wild Drome Provencale, Baronnies and Ardeche May 23, 2025 - Jun 7, 2025 3C
- OTET - Cincinnati to Cleveland, Ohio May 27, 2025 - Jun 5, 2025 1B [Space for female to share a room](#)
- Camino del Norte 2025 Jun 23, 2025 - Jul 9, 2025 3B [Space for a Solo](#)
- Norway- Western Fjords by Bike and Boat Aug 9, 2025 - Aug 16, 2025 3C [Space for male to share a room](#)
- Colorado Historic Roaring Fork Valley 2025 Aug 11, 2025 - Aug 21, 2025 2A
- Salzburg to the Adriatic Aug 25, 2025 - Sep 9, 2025 2B [Space for female to share a room](#)
- Wisconsin's Door County Sep 2, 2025 - Sep 11, 2025 1B
- Lake Michigan Ramble Sep 7, 2025 - Sep 21, 2025 2B [Space for female to share a room](#)

- The Sunny Side of the Alps Sep 9, 2025 - Sep 25, 2025 3B [Space for both female to share a room and for a male to share a room](#)
- Virginia Horse Country, Mountains Valleys 2025 Sep 30, 2025 - Oct 13, 2025 3B
- Adirondacks 2025 Oct 10, 2025 - Oct 21, 2025 3B [only rooms with 1 bed available](#)
- Southern California bike the Coast and coastal Hills Oct 10, 2025 - Oct 17, 2025 2B [Space for male to share a room](#)
- Washington DC–Museums & Monuments, Madness and Mayhem Oct 13-21, 2025 1A [Space for both female to share a room and for a male to share a room](#)
- Morocco 2025 A Nomads Journey Oct 18, 2025 - Nov 1, 2025 3B
- Bhutan - The last Buddhist Kingdom Nov 9, 2025 - Nov 19, 2025 4B
- Ride With The Gods - A Greek Odyssey May 16, 2026 - Jun 1, 2026 3B

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

We are considering planning 2 tours for Fall, 2026: **French Pyrenees Foothills: Atlantic to Mediterranean** and **Western Swiss Lakes, Bernese Oberland Lac d'Annecy**. The cost of the tours is not known yet. You can see the complete description and survey of each tour on the BAC website, as we last led the [Pyrenees tour](#) in 2017 and the [Western Swiss Lakes tour](#) in 2023. Please send an email to Lucy Glover at lucy.glover49@gmail.com if you are interested in going on either tour.

SINGLES LOOKING FOR ROOMATES

Members, if you are signed up or trying to get on a bike tour and you are looking for a roommate, you can send in a note to me at the office and let me know and I will include your request in this section of the newsletter each month.

Leaders, if you have someone on your ride looking for a roommate drop me a note to include here.

If a roommate has been found, let me know so the notice can be removed.

Note to get it in the monthly update I will need to receive the notice prior to the first business day of each month.

OTET - Cincinnati to Cleveland, Ohio May 27, 2025 - Jun 5, 2025 1B [Space for female to share a room](#). Contact leader Robyn Saur robynlee4@aol.com

Camino del Norte 2025 Jun 23, 2025 - Jul 9, 2025 3B [Space for a Solo](#) Contact leader Karen Hass karenbikes2@gmail.com

Norway- Western Fjords by Bike and Boat Aug 9-16, 2025 3C [Space for male to share a room](#) Contact leader Pam Kelly pskcnm@yahoo.com

Salzburg to the Adriatic Aug 25, 2025 - Sep 9, 2025 2B [Space for female to share a room](#) Contact leader Warner Griswold jwarner-griswold@att.net

Lake Michigan Ramble Sep 7 - 21, 2025 2B Space for female to share a room Contact leader Catherine Bradley cathybradley54@gmail.com

The Sunny Side of the Alps Sep 9, 2025 - Sep 25, 2025 3B Space for both a male to share a room and for a female to share a room Contact leader Warner Griswold jwarner-griswold@att.net

Virginia Horse Country, Mountains Valleys 2025 Sep 30, 2025 - Oct 13, 2025 3B Space for female to share a room Contact leader Karen Hass karenbikes2@gmail.com

Adirondacks 2025 Oct 10, 2025 - Oct 21, 2025 3B only rooms with 1 bed available Contact leader Julie Leever jrleeever@gmail.com

Southern California bike the Coast and coastal Hills Oct 10-17, 2025 2B Space for male to share a room Contact leader Carolyn Laird tennismom1@charter.net

Washington DC–Museums & Monuments, Madness and Mayhem Oct 13-21, 2025 1A Space for both female to share a room *and* for a male to share a room Contact leader Christopher Leach cleachva@gmail.com

MEMBERS CORNER

BAC Embroidered Apparel



LL Bean is set up to embroidery the BAC Logo on apparel!
The BAC Logo design # is: **360687**. Use this number when placing an order with LL Bean if you would like your item embroidered.

RIDE with GPS (RWGPS) club discount for BAC members extended! The 20% discount for BAC members on paid RWGPS memberships has been extended through the end of 2025 – **use discount code bacrocks2025**. RWGPS has 3 levels of membership: free, basic (\$50 per year), and premium (\$80 per year). Their website (<https://ridewithgps.com/help/compare-plans>) compares the three levels of membership and provides explanations of the features included in each. BAC members with FREE RWGPS membership, while on a BAC tour, enjoy the enhanced features of subscription RWGPS membership. Purchasing a personal subscription will provide the enhanced features on all your rides.