



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUEGRASS CYCLING CLUB

# OUTSPOKEN

Volume 33 — January-February 2004 — Number 1

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### **From the New President**

*Robert G. Underwood Jr.*

Hello Cyclist,

This is a note from the "new guy" in town. I hope the holiday season treats everyone well. Take some time to enjoy the season, and be thankful for all the wonderful things we all have. I can assure you, in many, many places in the world, the bike club is not working on next year's agenda! The presidency has been passed over to me and I would like to first say thanks to Clarissa and all the previous presidents and officers who have served the club. Your hard work has built a great foundation for the BCC. My hope as the new guy in charge is that I will be able to further the club's missions and broaden the impact we have on the community. I have several goals for the club and a few of them I would like to discuss with the membership. My views of the president's duties are: number 1, to provide leadership for the club, and secondly to guide the club based on the mission and bylaws. In addition, the responsibilities of the president should also include bringing new ideas and optimism to the club and promoting teamwork and unity.

The club is made up of people, and unless you get to ride on every club ride like Joyce or David, you probably have not met many of the interesting people who are members. With each newsletter we will be adding a column "Membership Spotlight" This will be a short write-up about several members. My hope is that you will get to meet and know some folks better by knowing more about them. I guess the first thing that many of you have asked is "Who is Robert

Underwood?" Well yes, I am the guy who leads the Sunday morning Keeneland rides ,but I guess there is a little more to me than the maker of the best banana bread in town (inside joke for the Keeneland riders)

## **MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

(Robert G. Underwood Jr.....New Club President) I am slightly over 30! The father of four girls. I grew up and spent the majority of my life in southeast Georgia, near Savannah. I have always enjoyed athletics and outdoors, and with the south Georgia weather, I have done a bunch of everything. I was fortunate to earn a scholarship and play football in college. My team, Georgia Southern, won two national championships (1AA) 1985 1986 while I was there. I played linebacker, and was All-American in 1986. So, remember that when you speedy guys pass me on the hills, I could have a flashback at any second!

I got married right out of school and had my first daughter, Bethany (14) in 1989. Jennifer (12), Meredith (10), and Meg (8) all came along over the next few years. I relocated to Paducah, Ky., in 1995 and then transferred to Lexington in 1997. Unfortunately I went through a divorce in 1998. But because of that, met the love of my life Kim Elkins (also a BCC cyclist). I have been in the insurance industry for 14 years and have my own brokerage agency. I love to ride and like to ride fast, although my 210-lb. frame doesn't seem to get up those dang hills we never had in south Georgia. I don't have all those fancy gadgets and equipment many of you "Joe-cyclist" do. Nor do I know what type component systems Lance will be using this year. But I have a passion for cycling and the sport, as well as the strong beliefs of the positive impact that an avid cycling club can have on its community.

I hope the membership spotlight will become a fun and interesting part of the newsletter. To follow is a list of some of the issues I plan to promote or work towards in 2004:

- Membership survey, winter 2004 (what does the club really want?)

- Web site and listserv upgrade
- Recruiting new members!!!
- More club PR (We need a PR person, volunteers???)
- Club dues evaluation
- Club and city wide garage sale (spring 2004)

More to come from our goal-planning meeting. Please e-mail me with any ideas or suggestions at [rgunderwoodjr@qx.net](mailto:rgunderwoodjr@qx.net)

In closing, as always...Keep Smiling!

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### **Bluegrass Cycling Club**

#### **OFFICERS**

President	Robert Underwood rgunderwoodjr@gx.net
Vice President	Jerry Johnson
Secretary	Wes Willoughby wes.willoughby@mail.state.ky.us
Treasurer	Dorothy Kern                      859 264-7437 dorothymiller@hotmail.com

#### **COMMITTEES**

Racing	Marilynn Hartman mhrtmn_00@yahoo.com
Horsey Hundred	Bill Daniels wedaniels1@prodigy.net
Time Trials	Dan Morris sbr1dam@aol.com
Red River Rally	David Earle
Statistician	Angela Beal ang4vols@aol.com
Entertainment	TBD
Touring	Bill Fortune

Information	Sam Condor sam@bt3central.com
Community Contact	Byron Bell bvbell@lexmark.com
Newsletter	Woodson Smith            502 320-2798 jwsmith@plangraphics.com

The Bluegrass Cycling Club is affiliated with the League of American Bicyclists, the United States Cycling Federation, the Rails to Trails Conservancy, the National Off-Road Bicycle Association, the Adventure Cycling Association, the International Mountain Bicycling Association and the Randonneurs Mondiaux.

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### **Clarissa's Last Column**

*Clarissa Spawn*

Ahhh...My last column as president. Thanks so much to everyone who helped throughout the year. You are what this club is all about. I know it's trite, but it's true: We are the club. There's not some club control entity doing our bidding. We are each integral in its composite and critical to its success.

I enjoyed seeing everyone at the banquet. There were almost 80 people in attendance! Almost a quorum! For those of you that weren't at the banquet, I want to review a few points (actually I'm just going to rerun my speech). Those of you that were there can sleep through this (if you didn't already).

Some high points of 2003:

1. The IRS excused our past mistakes and chose not to penalize us.
2. It was determined that the vast majority of us accept our club by laws.
3. We've accumulated even more money in the bank.
4. And lots of great members have been active in the club this year and even more have committed themselves to helping in 2004.

Personally, I look forward to 2004. For one, I won't be the

president, but for another, we've got some great committees set up and I look forward to serving on a couple of them. I know committees have a bad rep, but I don't think they deserve it. Committee is the combination of two root words that mean "join together and act." I'm excited about the prospects of group action to better the club and our community. I also think it's going to be fun (especially Mark Medley's social committee.)

Many of you have proposed suggestions and ideas for improvements to the club. Here's your opportunity to replace words with actions-join a committee and get it done !

Next year will be an exciting year for this club. The focus on cycling in the bluegrass is increasing and BCC needs to be a leader in this effort. The addition of committees should free the president to focus on club direction and goals and specifically our place in promoting cycling within our community. I believe this guidance toward our goals is critical if we hope to make this a more cycling friendly place to live.

By the way, our club goal is NOT to enlist the max number of people, to come to rides (riding together is just one of the perks). Our club goals are to: encourage bicycling for health, recreation, and transportation; promote bicycle safety; improve bicycling facilities; and further all phases of cycling. I believe an active focus on these goals has been lacking in the past because it is currently taking all the officers' time just for the club to survive. Bottom line, if we want to promote our goals, and frankly, even if we want to continue to enlist officers, we need to get more club members active in doing what it takes to run this club. Broader division of labor will free up the officers, especially the president and vice president, to do the essential work of guiding the course of this organization.

Although I haven't been able to accomplish what I had hoped for this year, the one thing I do feel good about is the creation of committees-which, I believe, lay the groundwork for more equitable distribution of the work and thereby greater focus on leadership of the club. Many, many

thanks to those of you who have agreed to serve on committees for next year. Especially, those of you willing to serve as committee chairs. Working together, we can move this club forward, beyond just existing, toward our shared goal of making the Bluegrass area an outstanding place to cycle-for a lifetime.

See you on the road !

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### **Thanks, Clarissa!**

*Bill Daniels (President 2001-02)*

As with the changing of the seasons, the club officers change. They come and they go. And as with the seasons, the club continues on its cycle. So before we get too far into our next "season," I want to thank Clarissa Spawn, first of all for stepping up to be club president when we had a blank presidential slate for 2003. If you remember, we didn't have anyone volunteering, selected, or "trapped" into that position, not even at the banquet ceremony. But after two years as secretary, Clarissa decided to take the bull by the horns and go with it.

Secondly, thanks for redefining and implementing the club's business structure. And thirdly, thanks for dealing with a "most interesting" year, to quote a phrase from this year's banquet festivities. I know some things may still need to be addressed by the new officers but that is where the rest of us come into play. We have a lot of head and leg power in this club and I'm sure our new officers are willing to listen. It takes effort on everyone's part to make things work. So once again, thanks Clarissa for your dedication to our club.

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### **New Jerseys? Where Are They?**

*Bill Daniels*

Jerseys? What jerseys? Many of you are wanting to know when the new BCC jerseys will arrive, especially after all the excitement the design contest created. You may wonder, "What happened?" Rest assured we haven't dropped the ball entirely. We lagged behind, but now we're back in the pack with a new plan of attack.

To get a better feel for the sizes and quantities required, I'm asking those who want to buy a club jersey to send an order to me, Bill Daniels, at [wedaniels1@prodigy.net](mailto:wedaniels1@prodigy.net) or (859) 271-600. When you order, include the CUT, JERSEY SIZE, and STYLE of each jersey you want. Your pre-orders will support the jersey's prominent position in the upcoming budget. Please PLACE YOUR ORDER BY JAN. 17, 2004. Payment will be made at the time of actual exchange this spring. We will aim for a 200+ order to get the lowest "at cost" price available; otherwise, prices will be about \$2 more for short sleeve/sleeveless and \$8 more for long sleeves.

Jersey style price: SHORT SLEEVE \$38, SLEEVELESS \$36, LONG SLEEVE \$41. Prices shown include Pedal Power's sponsorship. Please specify a "men's" or "women's" CUT, the SIZE, and the STYLE for each individual item ordered. The following sizes were taken directly from the Hincapie Web site: chest size: S (36-38), M (38-40), L (40-42), XL (42-44), 2XL (44-46). 3XL (46-48).

Jerseys have a European styling, not American club sizing, so order larger if in doubt. These jerseys have a FULL

ZIPPER and RUBBER GRIPS around the waist. For more info on the material, etc., look at [www.hincapiesports.com](http://www.hincapiesports.com) .

Our new design can be viewed at [www.bgcycling.org/jersey/](http://www.bgcycling.org/jersey/) and it is a preliminary sketch. The side logos will reflect Pedal Power's actual logo. Colors may vary slightly. Sleeves will be raglan rather than the set-in style shown-this will affect the design slightly. Please place your order / intentions as soon as possible. Thank you!

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### **Horsey Hundred Kicks Off!**

*Bill Daniels*

Horsey Hundred 2004 will be here in no time, and we are ready put the wheels into motion! We have some changes and improvements in store for this year's Horsey and you are welcome to come and listen. We'll answer any questions as well, and hopefully you will get involved in this exciting event held during Memorial Day Weekend. We will be meeting at the Beaumont Library in Lexington (in the Beaumont Center area at New Circle and Harrodsburg roads) at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004. Hope to see you there! We'll keep the meeting short, we promise!

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### **A Foam Buffalo**

*Jerry Johnson*

The Hunting Archery Club is literally located on the side of a mountain in West Virginia. Their shooting range consists of 30 foam animal targets. They are spaced out at different intervals ranging from 20 yards to 50 yards. The idea is not to hit the target, but to hit a quarter-sized circle inscribed on each one. To imagine this, try taping a quarter to a wall and walk back 50 yards. You would be lucky to see it, much less hit it with an arrow. The better archers can hit that quarter!

I'll never forget the time the "target committee" decided to move the foam buffalo. For years, the buffalo was in the middle of a field and at 35 yards. It was an easy shot. They moved the buffalo 9 yards back and put it in the shade under a pine tree. In case you don't know, arrows start to lose their energy at about 40 yards. Plus, the buffalo target is black. The shade makes it VERY hard to see where the little round circle is located. Now the shot was incredibly difficult. To make a long story short, the members in the club went ballistic. Sides were formed both pro and con. Talk started about closing the club. I even saw two guys come to blows over this issue. All over a foam buffalo...on the side of a hill...in the middle of a forest...somewhere in West Virginia.

I kind of get the impression that our club had some foam buffalo issues floating around last year. You know what? I couldn't possibly care less. Those who can't learn from the past are doomed to repeat it. Let's press on. Robert is going to be a great president and leader. Personally, I'm going to

do everything in my power to make the club better.

Let's ride more in 2004!

Jerry Johnson-New Vice President

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### **New Year's Day ride, 2004!!!**

*Alan Mullins*

What better way to start the New Year, but on a bike!! A brisk ride will also help clear any toxins from your body that were induced on New Year's Eve! As always, it will begin in Frankfort at the Paul Sawyer Gallery on US 60. Start time will be 1:00 P.M.

Two or three mileage options will be available based on weather. So come on out. No matter how far you ride, you can say you did a ride on New Years Day!!!

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### **Copy Due Dates**

Submissions for the March-April issue are due Feb. 1, 2004.

Submit copy to Woodson Smith, 224 W. 4th St., Frankfort, KY 40601, (502) 320-2798, [jwsmith@plangraphics.com](mailto:jwsmith@plangraphics.com)

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### **If You Move...**

Let club secretary Wes Willoughby know your new address so you'll get your newsletter; they are not forwarded by the post office, and if BCC forwards them, it costs us extra postage.

Contact Wes via e-mail at [wes.willoughby@mail.state.ky](mailto:wes.willoughby@mail.state.ky). us, or send a change of address card to the club address: BCC, P.O. Box 1397, Lexington, KY 40588-1397.

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### **Racing Info**

Check the [racing pages](#) on the BCC web site for up-to-date race information, schedules, and results. Also check out area racing at: [www.ohiovalleyracing.org](http://www.ohiovalleyracing.org) or [www.truesport.com](http://www.truesport.com).

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### **Check your label!**

Look at your mailing label **RIGHT NOW** and see if your membership is about to expire. If so, renew it now with the form included in this newsletter, or with the form on the web site.

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