



LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

Adventure Cyclist's 40th anniversary content



→ In 2016, Adventure Cycling Association will celebrate its 40th year inspiring and assisting people to travel by bicycle. From where the organization is today, looking back over the 22 years I've been on staff can be a real eye opener in many ways, and often pretty entertaining. So much has changed yet the core elements of Adventure Cycling have remained true and have positioned the organization

to thrive well into the future. 2016 will feature many a chance for celebration, and you can read more about the specifics in Executive Director Jim Sayer's column on page 6. We hope you will consider joining us next year for one (or all!) of the many chances to participate.

I've been here for the 20th, 25th, and 30th anniversaries but the 40th anniversary celebrations will be much more substantial and extensive, so you may be wondering what role *Adventure Cyclist* will play during this period? As many longtime readers know, we've quite consciously kept *Adventure Cyclist* from playing the role of a house organ — in other words, we don't want it to be a glorified newsletter that does little more than inform Adventure Cycling Association members what the organization is up to. Instead, we want members to enjoy stories and articles about the wider array of bicycle travel and adventure opportunities too numerous to count. And while we understand not everyone will be interested in trying to

replicate the far-flung exploits of many of our feature writers and photographers, the purpose is to emphasize that just about anything you can think of can be turned into a bicycle adventure. Once you know that Zand Martin can overcome the difficulties he faced in remote central Asia (page 20), you'll realize that the bike tour you've been planning for years but unable to execute for various reasons is now demanding to be undertaken.

But back to the question as it pertains to the 40th anniversary of Adventure Cycling. We will, throughout the 2016 editorial volume, be featuring more stories about the organization than we typically do but, in this case, from a historical perspective. And, actually, we're not waiting for the 2016 volume but begin in this issue with a profile by one of Bikecentennial's co-founders, June Siple, about one of the relatively unknown characters from the formative years, Scott Warner, which you can read about on page 48. Warner is emblematic of many people who were instrumental in the early planning and organizing period of Bikecentennial, relatively unknown to the vast majority of *Adventure Cyclist* readers but extremely important to where we are today and where we're going in the future. Of course, we'll also be publishing extended profiles of the founding couples (Siples and Burdens), but we'll also be telling more stories about the unsung heroes like Warner throughout 2016. We hope you'll find them not only enjoyable but enlightening as well.

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