



GIVERS

The people who power Adventure Cycling

→ I JUST FINISHED a terrific book by Adam Grant called *Give & Take*. Grant makes the case that people with a giving disposition are the most successful in life, business, and relationships. His book offers some guidelines on how to be an effective and authentic giver, and I encourage you to read it — but even before I cracked the book open, I knew the power of giving at Adventure Cycling. Every year, I hear stories of incredible generosity, of people helping cyclists as they travel by bicycle throughout the world. And then there are those who donate their special talents to improve Adventure Cycling.

For example, during a recent trip to the northeast, I had lunch with Rami Haddad, a new life member who is also a technology expert. Rami has combined two of his passions — bike travel and digital maps — into a volunteer project for Adventure Cycling: how to transform our fantastic maps and GPS waypoints into digital navigation tools. Rami has already given many dozens of hours to develop several digital prototypes — and he'll volunteer many more hours as we test these prototypes and create useful digital-map offerings for our members and other bike adventurers.

On the same trip, I met another new life member, Mark Wasden, who is working to make bike travel more accessible to Boy Scouts — and yet another, Don Dolben, who is sharing his extensive expertise with capital campaigns (especially with the Appalachian Mountain Club) to help Adventure Cycling secure its financial future.

In New York City, I met Shelia Martin. Shelia and I rode on Adventure



Jim with Shelia Martin, Adventure Cycling Life Member and monthly supporter.

Cycling's first supported tour on the Underground Railroad Bicycle Route, from Buffalo, New York, to Lake Huron, in 2007. What I remember about Shelia is that she gave so much encouragement to other riders, especially new cycle tourists, along with a ready smile and a hug. The experience meant enough to her that she became a Life Member and a monthly donor (and now she's on the hunt for a new bike for another adventure taking place next year).

In my job, I'm so lucky to enjoy great bike tours, but even luckier to meet the many generous people who make spreading the joy of bicycle travel possible. Thanks to all of our members for all you give — from notes of encouragement to donations, from volunteer time to a cup of cold water to a hot, tired cyclist. We greatly appreciate all you do and wish you a fantastic 2014!

Jim Sayer

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MISSION

Adventure Cycling Association inspires and empowers people to travel by bicycle.

AREAS OF FOCUS

• Provide the premier tools and inspiration for people to travel by bicycle. • Expand and integrate bike travel networks for North America. • Create the best possible conditions for bicycle travel.

HOW TO REACH US

To join, change your address, or ask questions about membership, visit us online at www.adventurecycling.org or call (800) 755-2453 or (406) 721-1776.

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