



SNEAK PREVIEW

2016 – our 40th anniversary – is shaping up to be an extraordinary year

→ LAST FALL, we asked members for ideas to celebrate Adventure Cycling's (and Bikecentennial's) 40th anniversary in 2016 – and we were hit by a mini-avalanche of replies. Thanks to all who shared your thoughts – and I hope you like what is headed your way. Based on a lot of work and feedback from national, state, and local leaders, I think 2016 is shaping up to be not only our 40th birthday, but the Year of Bicycle Travel.

We are still putting the finishing touches on our plan, but here's the overview: Above all we want to celebrate our history and the future of bike travel. We are in discussion with National Park Service leaders about ways to highlight cycling in the national parks in 2016 (the 100th birthday of the NPS!). We're also working with tourism and transportation leaders in Montana to make 2016 the Year of Bicycle Travel and to host a major party and reunion in Missoula mid-summer. Finally, we are planning a National Bike Travel Weekend; our goal is to encourage folks to plan bike overnights – one-to-two-night trips – on the same weekend all over North America. We'll be a portal for information and guidance, but the idea is to get people to plan their own adventures in the same DIY spirit as Bikecentennial. Of course, we would love to have at least one bike overnight in every state, plus the District of Columbia. Thanks to life member Steve Powell for inspiring this grand idea.

Another highlight will be the publication of a special photo-rich book on the TransAmerica Trail, authored by Greg Siple and Mac McCoy. (We already have one member who is helping underwrite the cost of the book; let me know if you are interested.) By popular demand, we will be creating some retro-themed Bikecentennial apparel and gear, and we will soon meet with



Jim with two next-generation cyclists at the 2014 RATPOD: his daughter Samantha (center) and her friend Miranda Foster.

some of our business members on ideas for commemorative items (perhaps including a beer!). We are also exploring development of a documentary on Adventure Cycling and bike travel.

Finally, in the spirit of Bikecentennial, we will reach out to young people, with low-cost TransAmerica tours and memberships. I am seeing more young folks traveling by bike than at any time since I started this job nine years ago – and we want to sustain that momentum! In late June, I had the pleasure of riding with two of my teen daughters on the epic one-day 130-mile Ride Around the Pioneers in One Day (in the heart of Montana) – and seeing their joy at the end was yet another reminder that bicycling and bike travel is for everyone. That's a message we want to share during our 40th anniversary – and we look forward to celebrating with you.

Jim Sayer
Executive Director
jsayer@adventurecycling.org



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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.

EMAIL

memberships@adventurecycling.org

SUBSCRIPTION ADDRESS

Adventure Cycling Association
P.O. Box 8308
Missoula, MT 59807

HEADQUARTERS

Adventure Cycling Association
150 E. Pine St.
Missoula, MT 59802

STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jim Sayer
jsayer@adventurecycling.org

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

Sheila Snyder, CPA

MEMBERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

Julie Huck Paul Hansbarger
Amanda Lipsey Thomas Bassett
Gage Poore Josh Tack Meghan Holler

MEDIA

Winona Bateman Michael McCoy Alison Riley

PUBLICATIONS

Michael Deme Greg Siple Rachel Stevens
Cassie Nelson Alex Strickland

IT DEPARTMENT

John Sieber Richard Darne David Barth

TOURS

Arlen Hall Darrah Rogers Lydia Hess
Michael Lessard Mandy Hale

ROUTES AND MAPPING

Carla Majernik Jennifer Milyko
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