

BCNM aiming to find 1,000 new members!

The Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico would like you to join our organization. Gail, our Board President, has been traveling around New Mexico this summer talking to bicyclists in many locations. She saw new Share the Road plaques attached to speed limit signs in Silver City (see p. 4), and the road in Las Cruces that lost shoulders when the Department of Transportation added a center turn lane (Las Alturas). In Corrales she talked to local advocates about the challenges of connecting a trail through Corrales. And she has been working in Santa Fe to improve connections across St. Francis Drive and to build support for a better bikeways network. She plans to visit Taos and Farmington in the Fall.

In our Board discussions this summer we have focused on the need to more assertively promote bicycle safety, whether it is in roadway or trail design, or in bicyclist and motorist education. We find ourselves doing everything we can to understand and promote bicycle safety. In September Board Member Khal Spencer will travel to Madison, Wisconsin, for the annual ProBike/Pro Walk conference, where he will give a presentation on how to make transportation systems as safe for bicyclists and pedestrians as airplanes are for passengers. He is basing his research and ideas on ALARA principles (As Low as Reasonably Achievable), which are routinely applied in risk reduction practices at the DOE laboratories in New Mexico.

BCNM has also formed a committee to create a Legal Guide for New Mexico Cyclists. Lawyers, law enforcement and others knowledgeable about insurance and related topics are involved in this project. (New members welcome.)

Finally, we are joining forces with many new partners. We are seeking to create a collaboration between the Department of Health and the Department of Transportation to create a Healthy Transportation Network (as California has done). We are working to support

the regional trails network proposed by Governor Richardson, including a trail from Las Cruces to Bernalillo. We are working with schools, Community Bicycling Programs and different riding groups to encourage better and safer riding.

To make New Mexico the best bicycling state in the union, we need your support. Join us now as we start a membership drive to enroll 1,000 New Mexicans in the Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico and its member groups. Membership benefits under development include discounts on rides like the Albuquerque Century and on goods and services at various shops. The big benefit, though, is knowing you are helping support a voice that makes sure bicyclists in New Mexico have safe and accessible places to ride, whether they are commuting or simply enjoying the scenery. When we have full-time experienced staff on board, we will be able to expand our efforts immensely. So please, become a dues-paying member and help us change New Mexico and the world.


meet BCNM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Khal Spencer, Los Alamos. Khal is a Technical Staff Member at Los Alamos National Labs. Prior to that he was a geology professor at the University of

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Hawaii at Manoa. He currently chairs the Los Alamos County Transportation Board and serves as a member of the Bicycling Subcommittee thereof. He has been a commuter cyclist since 1978 and was a pathetic (his description) USCF racer from 1989 to 1991. Aside from serving on various transportation committees around Honolulu, he was president of the Hawaii Bicycling League from 1999 thru 2001 and active in their affairs from the early 1990's.

[Board Members Diane, Gail, Trina, David, Mike and Elena will be presented in future issues.]

Talk to Us!

The Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico really does want to hear from you. Please tell us (via email, phone or letter) what topics you'd like to see covered in our newspaper and on our website. And please write to us about bicycling in your part of New Mexico. We use all this information when we talk to elected officials, road planners, trail planners and others. And if you're feeling chatty, please also write to your local Mayor or your local legislator, and let them know that you want New Mexico to be more bike-friendly. Thank you!



The Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico

As New Mexico's statewide bicycle advocacy organization, the Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico works with many interests to promote cycling. We are comprised of individuals and local bicycle groups.

Around New Mexico we are working with:

Health Agencies, Schools and Community Groups to:

- ◆Teach safe bicycling to children and adults
- ◆Encourage children and adults to bicycle for exercise
- ◆Promote choices in transportation
- ◆Promote a Safe Routes to Schools program

State Transportation Dept. and local Public Works Depts to:

- ◆Prioritize bicycling needs and funding
- ◆Provide information resources on good bicycle practices and facilities

Law Enforcement to:

- ◆Promote lawful, safe riding and effective enforcement of traffic laws
- ◆Develop and promote a "Share the Road" message

the Department of Tourism to:

- ◆Promote bicycling as a destination activity for New Mexico

Vision

By 2020 New Mexico will be the best place to bicycle in the United States.

Mission

To increase the number of bicyclists in New Mexico by promoting cycling, providing safety education and advocating for the rights of cyclists.

Values

- ◆We have a positive attitude about bicycling and its benefits.
- ◆We promote bicycling as a choice.
- ◆We believe that bicyclists have the obligation to ride responsibly.
- ◆We value the economic, social and environmental contributions of bicycling.
- ◆Bicycling is an activity that is in harmony with New Mexico: it helps preserve our clean air, it allows us to enjoy our breathtaking views, and our sunshine and low humidity enhance the ride.
- ◆Bicycling is fun!

For more information contact:

Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico
PO Box 23961, Santa Fe, NM 87502-3961
Ph. 505-820-1365 email: info@bikenm.org



YES! I want to help make New Mexico a better place to bicycle!

Please rank the following program areas according to how much effort you think the Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico should give to each one.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bike-to-Work/School Days | <input type="checkbox"/> "Share the Road" Campaign |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Safe Cycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail and Road Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promoting bicycle tours, a Bike Swap, other events | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your suggestion: _____ | |

Annual Memberships

Clip this form and mail it to us. (Online payment options will be available in mid-Fall '06) You will receive our newsletter and be eligible for discounts on our trainings and special events and with sponsors we develop (current info will be posted on website.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Champion | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Multi-bike household |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Strong supporter | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Amount: \$ _____ |

Are you a Recreational Bicyclist? []
Commuter Bicyclist? []

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Thanks for your support! BCNM is a 501(c)3 organization.