

The Village Bicycle Club 09/Jan/2012 Meeting Minutes

The January 9, 2012 meeting of The Village Bicycle Club was called to order by President Ed Hankwitz and per custom was begun with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Two new members were introduced at the meeting and paid membership is currently 75 families. Treasurer Jamie Schwartz reported that there is a balance of \$1284 in the treasury, and that anticipated upcoming expenses, primarily for insurance, League of American Bicyclists, and web site, is \$380. No additions or corrections were made to the published December, 2011 meeting minutes.

Vice President John Schwab spoke about opportunities for a joint ride with the Sumter Landing Bicycle Club, and a ride to Yalaha Bakery. He reminded riders to be cautious of the fog early in the morning, and to be extra alert to the high volume of traffic this time of year. Be patient, courteous, and share the road.

Ed announced a new cold weather ride policy: If the temperature is below 40 degrees at 7 AM, scheduled club rides will begin 2 hours later than the standard time. He also reported that Sumter County has increased the traffic patrol from 2 to 6 and warned cyclists to expect to be cited for "drifting" through stop signs. He also reported that Sumter County has obtained a legal opinion that cyclists may be cited for obstructing traffic while riding two abreast on a four lane road, this despite what is stated in Florida Statutes 316.

At the February 13 club meeting, guest Mike Staton will be present selling helmet mirrors made from bicycle spokes and bottle caps. The price will be \$10. Final total of bicycles received during the annual Christmas collection is 181. Many thanks to many people who donated, collected, cleaned, and repaired.

Guest speaker Dr. Gabe Mirkin gave a slide presentation called "How To Be A Better Bicyclist". The theme of the presentation was the benefits of exercising intensely.

Remember the March 10 charity Ride For Kids. Information about this ride can be found at: www.werideforkids.weebly.com.

Help is still needed for the 30 and 60 mile routes. Please contact Wally Kurz or Ron L'Huillier if you can help.

Bob Kraus
Secretary