Remembering Scott Ritchie
by Joyce Knox

Many of the older RABA members will remember Scott Ritchie. He was the Club’s vice president in 1979 and in October of that year, took over as president. Scott continued in this capacity through December of 1980. He was often seen pulling his son, Hunter, in a trailer on Club rides. He also administered to copying the The Pedaler and helped the newsletter editor, me, with the addressing and mailing. The newsletter was a lot more physical work in the days before personal computers. For a number of years after he left the presidency, he remained as the Club’s registered agent for incorporation. Those who remember him know how cheerful he was no matter what the weather or number of cyclists who attended a ride. We will all miss him.

Scott became interested in motorcycling and like bicycling he collected many antiques. He was living further from Richmond and commuted some by motorcycle instead of bicycle. On October 5th, 2005—while on his R-65 BMW motorcycle—he was hit by an automobile that ran a red light near the Nation’s Capital. Scott was the second vehicle through the light. His leg was badly broken and the wound opened due to swelling. While at home healing, sepsis—a bacterial infection—set in and quickly spread via the blood stream. The leg was amputated, but his heart failed while in recovery. He leaves a wife, Lynn, and two children, Hunter and Stuart.
Ling Whitworth and Chip Ford are both making good progress in recovering from their spills. Chip is now back driving again and will have returned to work by the time you read this.

If you haven’t seen Morty Norman at the ABC rides on Saturday mornings, its because he’s been having severe back pains, which have finally been diagnosed as spinal stenosis. Surgery is scheduled for December 5th and we’re all pulling for it to go smoothly and for him to be back out with us by the time the weather gets nice again. (Its actually been unbelievably nice all Fall.)

We also haven’t seen Nick Sipli since his wife Linda gave birth to twins Jesse & Grace, who are now ten weeks old and doing fine. Sounds like we won’t be seeing him for a while longer, either, since he has left Capital One and they are taking this opportunity to travel to the West Coast and Wisconsin to visit family before getting another job, which we hope will see them back here again.

Saw a few other members at the Marriott on the evening of November 8th, to help RABA member Tim Kaine celebrate his election victory. Congratulations to Tim as the first member of the club ever to be elected Governor!

Interested to see the ad for the Mini-Cooper Rally and Wine Festival at Cooper Vineyards back on October 22nd. Cute gimmick to make the connection with the names at former member Dr. Geoff Cooper’s vineyard out in Louisa, where we started a ride, planted some vines, and had our club picnic, back in 2000.

Best turnout for an Adopt a Highway that we’ve had in a while made the job go pretty quickly back on November 5th, even though the segment was very dirty and yielded 34 bags of trash. Thanks to Rickey Davis, Barbara Marx, Bob Carlson, Jim Walsh, Brenda Hubbard, Doug Harrel, Debbie Gleason, Steve Crozier, Mark Gregory, and Kim & Mike Moore, for joining me in getting the job done by 10:00 a.m. and proving that many hands make light work. Our next pick up won’t be until spring, and it would be nice to see an even larger turnout so that we could get the work done by 9:00 or shortly thereafter.

Not too much to report on the Advocacy front locally, as we await the appointments of the Transportation Secretary and VDOT Commissioner by our new Governor, and the upcoming legislative session. Henrico county has approved my request to install signs on Interstate Bike Route 1, and am working to secure the same from the City of Richmond, as well as some route changes from them and from Chesterfield county, as we keep pressing to see if we can get some of the recommendations from the Regional Bicycling and Pedestrian Study implemented.

Nationally, the SAFETEA reauthorization (which establishes how the Highway Trust Fund, which is fed by the 18.4 cents of federal tax per gallon of gas that we all pay, gets distributed for the next six years) finally got approved by both houses of Congress after a little over two years of wrangling. President Bush tried hard to keep costs down, and the pork barrel projects to a minimum, but ended up losing the battle, as evidenced by the $700 million bridge in Alaska that will serve an island with 50 inhabitants that now has frequent ferry service. It wasn’t a coincidence that their congressman is the Chair of the House Transportation Committee. We saw another good example right here in Richmond as Congressman Cantor got over $700,000 included in the bill for the Art Museum’s drive from the street into their new parking deck, as part of their current expansion project. One segment of the bill that the cycling advocacy community is pleased about is the inclusion of over $600 million for the Safe Routes to School Program, which will be used for such things as sidewalks, bike racks, bike lanes and trails, within two miles of schools that will enable students to walk or bike to school. I’ll report as any specific projects get funded in our area.

And we continue to patiently wait for DMV to issue our “Share the Road” license plates.
RABA Holiday Celebration and Gift Exchange

Wednesday, December 7
6:00 p.m. for hors d’oeuvres
6:45 p.m. for meeting

*Please bring a dish to share and a camp/folding chair*

Conte’s Bicycle and Fitness Equipment
8818 W. Broad St
935-0500

Parking available in the Conte’s parking lot

For the first time in many years, the site of the annual holiday party has moved from Downtown Richmond to the West End! Conte’s Bicycle and Fitness has graciously offered lots of space and tables for RABA to have their holiday party. Conte’s has also invited bicycle industry sales representatives to mingle with the club during the hors d’oeuvres portion of the party. The store will close to the public at 7 p.m. so that the club can continue without interruption on the voting for the 2006 board, presentation of awards and gift exchange.

If you wish to come early for the food portion of the meeting, just bring a small appetizer or dessert to share; the club will provide soft drinks and paper products. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped bicycling related item - suggested spending limit is $10 to $15. The exchange involves “stealing” gifts from one another and fills the evening with laughter. Rules for the swap will be explained at the party.

Note: There will be no January meeting — have a happy new year!

2006 Board of Directors and Volunteers

It is with pleasure that the Nominating Committee and President Brenda Hubbard present the following individuals to serve for 2006:

President Brenda Hubbard
Vice President Kim Moore
Treasurer Cindy Evans
Secretary Jack Huber
Director-at-Large Debbie Gleason-Morgan
Director-at-Large Gary Faison
Fast Ride Captain Mike Moore
Membership Chair Kristin Andrs
Newsletter Editor Bill Varjabedian
Off-Road Captain Andrew Mann
Social Ride Captain Bud Vye
Program Chair Kim Moore
Century Chair Open
Advocacy Chair Bud Vye
Publicity Chair Open
Statistician Al & Lois Farrell
Website Admin Doug Harrel

Positions that are required to be voted upon will be presented to the members attending the RABA meeting on Wednesday, December 7. Many thanks go to those returning to the board for another year of service and welcome to those new to the group. All are encouraged to attend our December meeting!
### December Rides

**Ride Ratings:** (Distance-Pace-Stops-Hills)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Pace</th>
<th>Stops</th>
<th>S/M (some/mild)</th>
<th>M (moderate)</th>
<th>S/S (some steep)</th>
<th>M/S (many Steep)</th>
<th>Ride times listed are departure times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### SOCIAL RIDES

**Coordinator:** Bud Vye 262-9544  
bdvye@comcast.net

PLEASE NOTE—If there is any question in your mind about whether the ride might be canceled, call the ride leader the night before, or the morning of, the ride. If you cannot reach the ride leader, call RideLine (262-2453), option 3, since Social Ride cancellations are usually posted on there by 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the ride.

#### December 4 (Sunday) 9:30 a.m.  
**North and West from Rockville**  
[50/40-14-S-S/M]  
**Leader:** Bill Whitworth, 285-9193

Bill has a nice circuit through the pretty country of far western Hanover and eastern Louisa counties, with a nicely placed stop shop, so meet him at the Rockville Little League fields, 1.2 miles west of Rockville. From Richmond, my preferred route is west on I-64 to the Rockville/Manakin exit, south on Rt. 623 a half mile to a right on Rt.622/Rockville Rd. where 5 miles will bring you to the heart of Rockville, and a left on Rt. 620. After a mile, 620 goes left, but you go straight on 676 for another 2 mile to the parking lot on your left.

#### December 10 (Saturday) 9:30 a.m.  
**Sussex/Southampton 4-H Center Ride**  
[37-15-S-F/G]  
**Leader:** Jack Huber, 282-3872

Meet Jack at the Tavern’s parking lot in Waverly to ride another of his circuits on the quiet country roads of Sussex and Southampton counties. This one will pass the Wakefield 4-H Conference Center for a look at their Christmas decorations, which are well known in that area. As usual, plan to have lunch after the ride at the Tavern.

From the Richmond area, take I-95 or I-295 south to Rt. 460 east (toward Norfolk). The Tavern is at the intersection of Rts. 40 and 460 in Waverly.

#### December 11 (Sunday) 10:00 a.m.  
**Eastern Henrico Circuit**  
[40/30-25-12-S-S/M]  
**Leader:** Joyce Knox, 737-8125

It’s been a while since we’ve called upon Joyce to lead one, but she has a wide assortment of enjoyable routes from the Highland Springs area, through the flatlands of eastern Henrico and into New Kent county, so she’s picked one that we haven’t done for a while. Meet her in the parking lot of Highland Springs High School (from Nine Mile Road, turn south on Oak Avenue which will take you into the lot, which is just south of Nine Mile and just west of Airport Drive/Rt. 156).

#### December 18 (Sunday) 9:00 a.m.  
**Wayne’s Birthday and Breakfast at Stuart’s**  
[30/25-13-S-S/M]  
**Leader:** Wayne Shipley, 737-7176

As we’ve done off and on in the past, we’ll again help Wayne Shipley celebrate his birthday by treating him to breakfast at his favorite restaurant (Stuart’s on Nine Mile Rd. in Highland Springs) following which the group will proceed to the front parking lot at Dorey Park for an east end ride of about 30 miles on a route of his choosing. (He reserves the right to shorten it, if the weather is not so nice) If you’ve not been to Stuart’s, take the Nine Mile Road East exit off I-64 and follow Nine Mile Road about 5 miles where you’ll see Stuart’s on your right. If you are coming on I-295, exit on Airport Drive/Rt. 156 toward Highland Springs and the Airport, turn right on Nine Mile Road, and Stuart’s will be about one mile on your left.

If you’ve got other plans for breakfast, but want to join the group for the ride, it’ll be starting about 10:30 a.m. and Dorey Park is on Darbytown Road, about a mile east of Laburnum.

#### December 31 (Saturday) 12:00 noon  
**Laurel Park-Coatesville Loop**  
[50 or less - variable - S - S/M]  
**Leaders:** Ron Corio, 804.643.6452 or rcorio@verizon.net and Bill Whitworth, (804) 285-9193 or wmwhitwo@mail1.vcu.edu

End the year with a ride that includes some hill work. The route will take us to Coatesville, the only store stop, by way of Fire Training Hill and the Three Sisters. We will return by way of Horseshoe Hill.

Those familiar with the various ABC routes may choose a shorter or less hilly route. Meet at the Laurel Park Shopping Center at the corner of Woodman and Hungary Roads.

#### January 1 (Sunday) 10:30 a.m.  
**King William Ride from Zoar State Forest**  
[41/31/25-all speeds-S-S/M]  
**Leader:** Bert Wright, 804 769-8526

Very well received, on a very nice day, when we rode this one last New Year’s Day, so Bert once again is inviting us to come up to his and Linda’s not so new neighborhood for a ride through the pretty country of rural King William county. This is a totally different combination from any other one we do, but it hits several segments of some familiar rides like the Frog Level Metric and Beulahville or Bust. We’ll meet at the parking lot of the Zoar State Forest, which you can reach by taking Rt. 360 east approx. 20 miles beyond Mechanicsville to Aylett. Turn left at the blinking light onto Rt. 800 (River Road) and go 1.5 miles to the forest entrance and parking lot on the right.

### WEEKLY RIDES

#### Sunday 1:00 p.m.  
**Powhatan Courthouse**  
[mileage varies-14 and up-S-F/G]  
**Leaders:** Martha and Barry Pullen 561-3950

Meet at Powhatan CH on Rt. 13. Route changes every Sunday, as a route will be selected depending on the weather, and the distance desired by the group. Maps will be available for slower riders. Call to confirm that the leaders are riding that weekend, if the weather is doubtful.

#### Sunday 2:00 p.m.  
**East End Excursion**  
[30 to 60-17/20-S-S/M]  
**Leader:** Randy Rosemond, 966-5472 or velosalsaman@aol.com

During winter 2005-06 this ride is on hiatus as a club ride unless someone volunteers to alternate as co-leader. Randy still plans to lead this as a pick-up ride at least a couple of Sundays each month during the winter. If you are interested in riding at this time—or better yet, in serving as an alternate co-leader to help keep the ride going for the club on a weekly basis—please call or e-mail Randy.

The ride starts from Dorey Park on Darbytown Road, one mile east of Laburnum Avenue. It is targeted toward fast riders but slower cyclists are welcome to ride at their own pace with provided maps, preferably with a buddy.

#### Mondays w/Mary 9:00 a.m.  
[30 to 40-16/18-S-S/M]  
**Leaders:** Mary Falterman 741-2116  
Barry Pullen 561-3950

They meet at a different part of town each week, and the meeting place and time are decided on Sunday evening at about 8:00, depending on Mary, Barry, and Chris Walke’s schedule. To obtain the location, time and any additional information, please contact one of the ride leaders on Sunday evening.
December Rides

Wednesday 9:30 a.m.
Retiree’s Mid-Week Ride and Lunch
Meets at a different location each week for a ride of 25-40 miles, followed by lunch. Each week's location will be announced on Rideline (266-2453). All riders invited.

Saturday 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
The Ashland Breakfast Club
Thanks to November ride leaders Dave Bloor, Debra & David Gardner, Rickey Davis, and Alan & Maureen Cooper.

December Ride Leaders Are
Dec. 3  Debbie Gleason 755-3039
Dec. 10 Dave Talley 746-9142
Dec. 17 Gene Golden 266-3635
Dec. 24 Wayne Cox 264-8897
Dec. 31 Bud Vye 262-9544

OFF-ROAD RIDES
Coordinator: Andrew Mann, 266-9048, rabamann@aol.com. Jim Temple has stepped down as of December 1 and Andrew is taking up the duties through the end of 2006.

December 3 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m.
James River Parks & Buttermilk Trails
Kristin Andrs Cell 536-1805
Meet Kristin at the Tredagar Iron Works parking lot on the river. Take 5th Street strait toward the James River, when it runs out make a right & then another right into the parking lot after passing the National Park for the ironworks from Civil War. This is a great workout going up and down the hills along the river. There are some fairly technical sections of this trail.

December 4 (Sunday) 10:30 a.m.
Byrd Park
Leader: Mike & Kim Moore 358-0935
luvs2cycle@yahoo.com
Meet Mike & Kim at the Carillon at the end of the Boulevard for a off road tour thru Richmond. Mike will lead a faster pace group & Kim will sweep up with us regular folks. We will travel all over the James River Park System. There will be some pretty technical sections but should be shortcuts over the roads & nothing you cannot walk.

December 10 (Saturday) 1:00 p.m.
Poor Farm Park
Leader: Andrew Mann 266-9048
Take 95N to Rt54West to you see sign for Liberty Middle School and turn left onto Rt. 810 & follow out to the end of the road. We will be taking it easy & probably breaking up into a couple of groups. The upper section is flat and easy. The back section has lots of climbing and is medium on technical rating. I will ride if it is cold but not if it is wet.

December 11 (Sunday) 1:00 p.m.
Pocahontas State Park
Leader: Jim Temple 266-8694
There is a very good beginner trail that is about 3 miles & an intermediate trail that is about 4.5 miles & makes for a good work out. If it has been a while (or never) since you have been on single track this is a good place to get back in the groove.
Take 95 south to 288 to Iron Bridge Road south to Beach Road. Take a right onto Beach till you see the entrance to the park. Pay your $2 and follow the main road till you see a sign for a left hand turn to Heritage center. Please call if you have questions.
The park closes the single track when it is raining or very wet.

Join Benevolink and Help RABA

Kim Moore-RABA VP and Program Chair

Thank you for your past donations of Ukrops Golden Gift Certificates. RABA has benefitted from those receipts! As you know, nonprofit organizations are constantly challenged to meet fundraising goals without incurring additional costs. Continued support from donors like you is highly valued—now, more than ever.

To help with our fundraising efforts, we have recently enrolled in a new program called Benevolink. This unique concept provides RABA with a perpetual funding source to increase financial support. Now, the simple act of everyday shopping can do more than you ever imagined. In fact, you could earn $100 or more in a year for RABA just by shopping. And best of all...

- It’s free
- It’s easy
- Dozens of quality retailers to choose from
- Up to 13% of your purchase price is deposited into your Benevolink account (in some cases even more!)
- 100% of your Benevolink account is sent to your choice of charity, school, cultural or religious organizations(s).

It’s Giving Made Simple. How Does It Work?

Join. Shop. Give. It’s that simple!

Here’s How To Get Started

Visit the Benevolink website at www.benevolink.com and join online or contact Benevolink at 1-800-681-GIVE (4483) to speak to a Benevolink representative. Don’t forget to tell your friends and family. Working together multiplies the impact for RABA.

For every Ukrops branded item you buy, it goes towards a tally of purchases. From that, you will be able to direct a portion of those purchases to RABA throughout the year.
So take a few minutes and join Benevolink and help RABA raise funds for its treasury!
You buy the things you want. Your favorite charity gets the things it needs.
Contacting Your Board of Supervisors
By Kim Moore

At the November RABA meeting, the state’s new bicycling and pedestrian coordinator, David Patton, encouraged citizens to bring up bicycling, pedestrian, road construction and urban planning issues to their local officials. Communication is key to getting your elected officials’ attention and possible constructive change. If you are silent, then you must agree with what is going on in your county or locality.

With the goal of increasing civic engagement, here is a list of the board of supervisors in some of the counties where RABA members live:

**Chesterfield County**
All Chesterfield County correspondence should be addressed to: P.O. Box 40, Chesterfield, VA 23822-0040

**County Administrator**
Lane B. Ramsey
Office: (804) 748-1211
Fax: (804) 717-6297
TDD: (804) 748-1910
E-Mail: ramseyl@co.chesterfield.va.us

**Bermuda District**
Dickie King
Office: (804) 748-1211
Voice Mail: (804) 768-7398
Fax: (804) 717-6297
E-Mail: kingd@co.chesterfield.va.us

**Dale District**
Kelly E. Miller
Office: (804) 748-1211
Fax: (804) 717-6297
Voice Mail: (804) 768-7528
E-Mail: millerkr@co.chesterfield.va.us

**Clover Hill District**
Arthur S. (Art) Warren
Office: (804) 748-1211
Voice Mail: (804) 768-7396
Fax: (804) 717-6297
E-Mail: warrenra@co.chesterfield.va.us

**Matoaca District**
Renny Bush Humphrey
Office: (804) 748-1211
Voice Mail: (804) 768-7400
Fax: (804) 717-6297
E-Mail: humphreyr@co.chesterfield.va.us

**Midlothian District**
Edward B. Barber
Office: (804) 748-1211
Voice Mail: (804) 768-7397
Fax: (804) 717-6297
E-Mail: barbere@co.chesterfield.va.us

**Hanover County**
**Mechanicsville District**
J.T. “Jack” Ward
Chairman
Home: (804) 746-9126
Fax(home): (804) 730-3546
Email: jward@co.hanover.va.us

**Henry District**
Charles D. McGhee
Vice-Chairman
Home: (804) 779-2875
Fax(home): (804) 779-7765
Email: cmcghee@co.hanover.va.us

**Ashland District**
Timothy E. Ernst
Home: (804) 798-9333
Email: ternst@co.hanover.va.us

**South Anna District**
John E. Gordon, Jr.
Home: (804) 798-3879
Fax(home): (804) 752-2040
Email: jgordon@co.hanover.va.us

**Beaverdam District**
Aubrey M. Stanley, Jr.
Home: (804) 449-6606
Fax(home): (804) 449-6606
Email: amstanley@co.hanover.va.us

**Chickahominy District**
Robert R. Setliff
Home: (804) 746-5553
Office: (804) 746-8476
Fax: (804) 746-9209
**Remembering Charlie Martin**

*by Davy Hazlegrove-Blackwater Bike Shop*

Over the last three years I’m sure a lot of you had the opportunity to meet and get to know Charlie Martin of Danville, VA. He has been a regular customer of the shop and someone who got into cycling late in life, but enthusiastically none the less. Some of you know him quite well and others may have met him at some Saturday morning group rides.

Charlie passed away on Monday morning, August 22, 2005 after completing a preride of the course for the State Time Trial road race. It came as a surprise to all that Charlie would ever have a heart attack with his level of fitness and excellent eating habits.

Charlie captured my attention about three years ago when, just shy of 70, he came into the shop and said he had always wanted to build a bike completely from the frame up. He said he had wanted to do this since he was a kid. I found a road frame laying around and began talking to Charlie about all the different levels of components and helped him pick a variety of parts that would be compatible. Charlie has basic mechanical and engineering skills but turned out to be quite good with a set a bicycle tools as well. It wasn’t long after picking up his parts that Charlie was bringing back the complete bike for me to check over. The bike was built nearly flawlessly—only off on a few torque settings. The most amazing part is he handbuilt the wheels for the bike with little knowledge of proper wheel building techniques. As if that wasn’t enough it was on a wheel truing stand that he had made from aluminum and various hardware. It was obvious that Charlie was one of those people who could do anything he set his mind to.

It wasn’t long before the addiction set in and Charlie bought and built up several other frames and really got into the sport of cycling. It was a weekly event to see Charlie on Friday stopping by the shop with fortune cookies from China Royal for the guys. He drove here from Danville in a van every week to have Chinese, talk about bikes, and visit his son. Charlie was a man who always had a good joke and some helpful advice on life that he’d picked up along the way—and you could always count on 2-3 bikes being inside that van that would be ridden soon.

With Charlie’s character, it was no surprise that he would want to raise the bar and tackle a new challenge. He wanted to do a bicycle race and had made up his mind that he would do the State Time Trial scheduled for this weekend. For anyone who might be doing that race this weekend I hope that you will think of Charlie.

Charlie is someone that everyone here at the shop, myself especially, respected and looked up to. We will all miss him dearly and appreciate his last bit of advice that he gave that day preriding the course. Make sure you go doing something that you love.

Our prayers go out to his family and those who will remember him.
Membership Information- Annual RABA membership dues are: $15, individual; $18 family. Subscription to The Pedaler is included. Submit membership applications or renewals to: RABA Treasurer, PO Box 6565, Ashland, VA 23005. Go to www.raba.org and click on Membership tab to download a membership form.

Note: Membership dues must be accompanied by a completed, signed membership application and waiver of liability.

Submissions for The Pedaler- The Pedaler welcomes submissions in any form, email preferred. All submissions will be confirmed. All become property of The Pedaler. E-mail: idzn@comcast.net. US mail: The Pedaler, c/o Bill Varjabedian, 2216 Ewell Ave. Apt E, Richmond, VA 23221. Submission Deadline: Midnight the 15th of the Month

Advertising: Rates are: $198-full page, $99-half page, $67-quarter page, $48-eighth page. Two bicycling classified ads are free to member; non-member rates apply thereafter. Non-member Classified Rates: $5 for 1 item; $10 for 3-5 items; $15 for 6-9 items, $25 for 10-15 items—all with a reasonable amount of text per item. Send check or money order payable to: RABA Treasurer, PO Box 6565, Ashland, VA 23005