

BIKE WORKS
FLATTIRE
BIKEWORKS.ORG
FALL 2008
ISSUE #14
FLYER



Building sustainable communities by educating youth and promoting bicycling

RIDE IT LIKE YOU EARNED IT!

Where the Rubber Hits the Road

ANGELO SANCHEZ: *Bicycle Touring Ride Leader*

"Today was fantastic — we rode a GREAT 47 miles! The trip so far has been both mentally and physically challenging, and I have also seen some pretty magnificent scenery. I love seeing the bald eagles; they are just so majestic. Lake Crescent was the most impressive view, even I was astonished. It was like an aquamarine heaven, it was crazy. I can't wait to see what the world's scenery shows me tomorrow."

Angelo, age 15, wrote this passage in the Trip Leader notebook on our Olympic Loop Bicycle Tour this past summer. This is our longest and most challenging camp we offer — an epic two-week, 425-mile self-supported trip around the Olympic Peninsula. This camp is designed for our older and more experienced youth, and builds confidence and physical endurance, while also focusing on experiential education, leadership, map reading, and safety.

Angelo first came to Bike Works through our Earn-a-Bike class two years ago. He worked hard to build up his mechanical skills, and was eager to jump into our rides and activities. This was the second summer he signed up to go bike touring with us. After last summer's San Juan Island one-week trip he knew that the 2008 12-day Olympic Loop journey would be a challenge, but he didn't realize how amazing the sights would be either.

This past summer marked our third and most successful year of bicycle touring camps. We offered a range of camps from beginner to advanced:

- **RAD (Ride All Day) Camp:** (9 – 12 yrs, one week)
- **South Kitsap Bike Tour** (10 – 13 yrs, one week)
- **MAD (Mountain-Bike All Day) Camp** (11 – 14 yrs, one week)
- **Hood Canal Bike Tour** (12 – 15 yrs, one week)
- **Olympic Loop Bike Tour** (14 – 17 yrs, two weeks)

Congratulations to Angelo and all our summer camp participants for their great accomplishments — we'll see you next summer for another bike touring adventure! And of course, a huge Thank You to all our supporters who make these trips possible — we couldn't do it without you!



The Beacon Hill "Bike Works Scholars" pick up their hard earned bikes!

HENRY JACKSON-SPIEKER: *From Student to Teacher*

Going on six years at Bike Works, Henry has pedaled the distance to get to where he is now. At the age of 12, Henry began the basic Earn-a-Bike class where he was first introduced to wrenching. After that it seemed he couldn't get enough and proceeded to take every single class and camp that we offered. Henry was an integral part of the very first Bike Works bike-touring trip. After facing the challenges of leaving home for the first time, camping in the woods, cycling 50 to 70 miles a day, day after day — Henry developed a love of the outdoors. He became a true leader for his peers and set a great example — that no matter how daunting the task, one can persevere, overcome, and wind up stronger when the sun sets.

Last summer Henry landed his first job as a bicycle mechanic at REI's Flagship store in downtown Seattle — and we quickly received feedback from his supervisors that his mechanical skills were outstanding, and quite frankly, that he was one remarkable 17 year old.

Coming full circle during the winter of 2008, the month he turned 18, Henry began teaching an Earn-a-Bike class of his own at Bike Works. Big eyed and squirmy, the 9- to 12-year-olds gathered in the classroom, soaking up his every word. They idolized him and his story, and he in turn learned that he liked to teach, and developed a newfound respect for those who had taught him — both here and at school.

This summer Henry copresented at the national Pro Walk/Pro Bike conference in Seattle on behalf of Bike Works, sharing his advice on how to successfully engage youth in bicycling programs. In the fall Henry will head off to Western Washington University to pursue a degree in glass-blowing and engineering. While we're sad to see Henry graduate from our programs, we couldn't be prouder of Henry and we look forward to what he will do in this world.



Henry teaching at Bike Works.

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2008 & 2009 Program Calendar

September – November 2008

Earn-a-Bike Class: All-Girl (9 – 17 yrs), Tuesdays 4 – 6 pm, 8 weeks
 Earn-a-Bike Class: All-Boy (9 – 17 yrs), Wednesdays 4 – 6 pm, 8 weeks
 Internship with Seattle Girls School, Wednesdays
 Earn-a-Bike Drop-in Hours, Thursdays 3 – 6 pm, every week
 Internship with Bush School, Thursdays
 Partnership Class with Orca Elementary, Fridays
 Partnership Class with Hawthorne Elementary, Fridays
 Earn-a-Bike Drop-in Hours, Saturdays 2 – 5 pm, every week
 Street Burner Rides, TBD monthly, check website/call

December 2008

Secondary Bilingual Orientation Center Holiday Earn-a-Bike Day Camp

January – March 2009

Earn-a-Bike Class (9 – 12 yrs), Tuesdays 4 – 6 pm, 8 weeks
 Earn-a-Bike Class (13 – 17 yrs), Wednesdays 4 – 6 pm, 8 weeks
 Earn-a-Bike Drop-in Hours, Thursdays 3 – 6 pm, every week
 Partnership Class with Beacon Hill Elementary, Fridays
 Partnership Class with Hawthorne Elementary, Fridays
 Earn-a-Bike Drop-in Hours, Saturdays 2 – 5 pm, every week
 Street Burner Rides, TBD monthly, check website/call

March – April 2009

Leadership Ride Training Camp (15 – 17 yrs)

April – June 2009

Earn-a-Bike Class: BEG (9 – 17 yrs), Tuesdays 4 – 6 pm, 8 weeks
 Earn-a-Bike Class: ADV (13 – 17 yrs), Wednesdays 4 – 6 pm, 8 weeks
 Internship with Seattle Girls School, Wednesdays
 Earn-a-Bike Drop-in Hours, Thursdays 3 – 6 pm, every week
 Partnership Class with Hawthorne Elementary, Fridays
 Partnership Class with Seattle Girls School, Fridays
 Earn-a-Bike Drop-in Hours, Saturdays 2 – 5 pm, every week
 Street Burner Rides, TBD monthly, check website/call
 * Annual Kids Bike Swap Saturday May 9th

June 2009

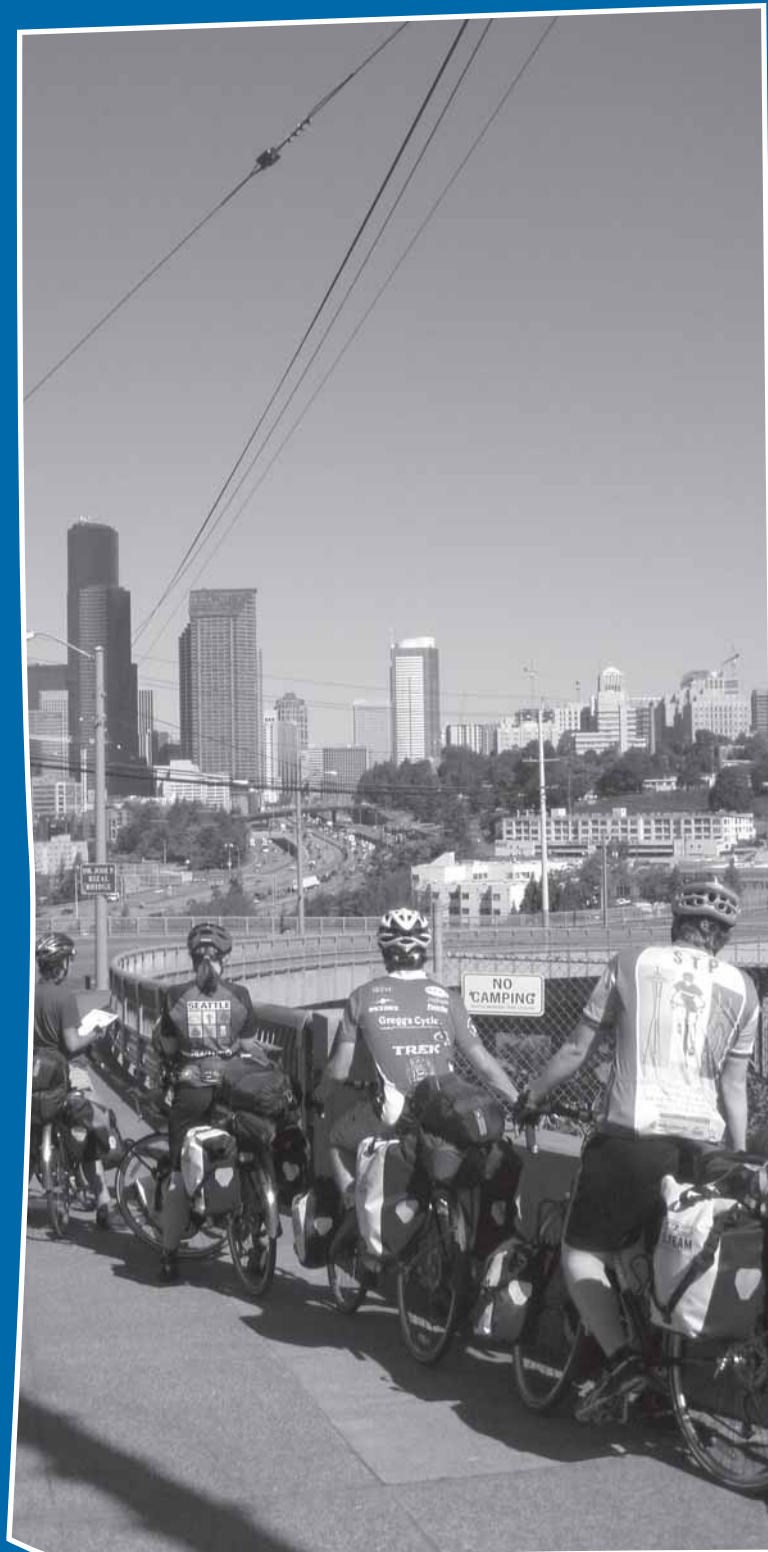
RAD (Ride All Day) Camp (9 – 12 yrs)

July 2009

Introduction to Bike Touring Camp (10 – 13 yrs)
 Earn-a-Bike Camp (9 – 15 yrs)
 Bike Touring 101 Camp (12 – 15 yrs)

August 2009

RAD (Ride All Day) Camp II (9 – 12 yrs)
 MAD (Mountain-Bike All Day) Camp (11 – 14 yrs)
 Advanced Bike Touring Camp (14 – 17 yrs)



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Street Burner Page Turner

At Bike Works we believe that if youth would talk a little bit more, and adults would talk a little bit less, the world would be transformed. To honor this, we're devoting a column of our newsletter to words written entirely by Bike Works youth participants. Street Burners is the name of our youth riding club; club membership requirements: you love bikes and you've taken our Earn-a-Bike class.

Dear Mayor Nickels,

My name is Maya Riser-Kositsky and I am a sophomore at Garfield High School and a bicyclist, like yourself. As you know, Garfield is being remodeled and when it is complete it will be better than ever. I know that you have been working on the Bicycle Mastery Plan, the main focus of which is to make our area more welcoming to bicyclists so that more people will ride their bikes. Since you have taken such an interest in promoting bicycling, I thought that you would be interested in an opportunity to create lifetime bicyclists and healthier students.

The designers of the new Garfield have included only two bike racks that hold six bicycles each in their design. These bike racks are located on opposite ends of the campus and one of them is in a very remote and secluded location. Neither is covered. As a bicyclist yourself I know that you will feel the annoyance of the bicycling community at Garfield. Many of the teachers ride their bikes to school and some students do also. The Earth Corps is continually trying to get more students to ride their bikes to school by offering hot chocolate and refreshments on certain days to bicycling students. The lack of racks in the design completely undermines their campaign and the goal of the school program to create healthy and educated individuals.

Bike racks are not expensive. A covered, central bike rack area would keep bicycles safe and dry. Having adequate bike parking will be even more important as Garfield will not be serviced by yellow buses next year. Many students, including myself, will want to ride their bikes to school occasionally, or instead of riding the Metro buses. Being healthier early in life leads to healthier lifestyles later on.

I participate in several bicycle maintenance and riding programs at Bike Works. I enjoy working on and riding bikes and over the past two years I have gone on several self-sustained bike trips and am part of a higher level mechanics program. I think that bicycling is the best way of transport which allows you to get exercise and be ecologically friendly. Thank you so much for your support of bicyclists. I hope that you will continue in this vein and support bicycling in high schools by asking that more bike racks be added to the design of Garfield.

Best regards,

Maya Riser-Kositsky
 Sophomore, Garfield High School
 Bike Works Alumnus

The Latest About Bike Racks at Garfield...

Students return to the newly renovated Garfield High School building on Wednesday September 3rd, 2008! Congratulations!

On that first day back there are still no bike racks.

Three Ways Bike Works Has Changed My Life...

BY HOMER, AGE 14

1. Bike Works has given me the opportunity to build and earn my own bikes, which also let me gain a new source of transportation.
2. Bike Works taught me how to build bikes.
3. Bike Works helped me better myself at all my biking skills.

Cycling Word Jumble

BY DANIEL, AGE 11 and NICK, AGE 15

CBYLCEI = _____

HEWLE = _____

RSTEI = _____

CRKA = _____

KBIE-PLOO = _____

AHIGLER = _____

PCEILIADEZS = _____

XBM TKI = _____



Annual Report to our Community AND 2007 Program Highlights

EARN A BIKE: Kids, Bikes, & Sweat Equity

It was during the frosty winter that a 10-year-old named Daniel stepped into Bike Works for the first time, enrolled in our Earn-a-Bike class, and kicked off his life at this place. Since completing the classes he's been unable to stop his mechanic frenzy and comes here every chance he can. For the first eight weeks of the class Daniel barely spoke a word; little did we know what an information sponge he was. Once he graduated he came back for drop-in twice a week and completely blew our minds. Thus far, Daniel has earned a whopping six bikes for himself, his brother, and multiple other family members. In just a year and a half he logged 200 hours of community service, whipping out bikes at record speed with the thoroughness of a professional. Coming from a long line of hands-on mechanics, Daniel has decided that he would like to be a mechanical engineer when he grows up — while continuing to work on bicycles. A role model, a community hero, and a master mechanic — all of us at Bike Works know that Daniel will go far in this lifetime, and we are blessed to be a part of his journey. Last year, 63 youth participated in our Earn-a-Bike classes, and 92 youth came to our drop-in hours; together they logged over 2,378 hours of community service and helped Bike Works repair and donate 138 bikes to families in need.

Community Partnerships

Last winter Bike Works and Beacon Hill Elementary School partnered for the first time ever to connect 10 fabulous and dedicated 5th grade students with some dazzling chrome BMX bikes. It started out with the entire school and Mr. Otis, the PE teacher, and Bike Works staff running Bike Safety Rodeos in gym class. Some of the youth even learned how to ride a bike for the first time! After the Rodeos were completed and everyone learned some new skills, the 10 youth were chosen. They were called "The Bike Works Scholars." These bright-eyed youth came to Bike Works for six weeks and learned how to repair their very own bikes. The joy of getting a bike for the very first time, plus the reward of putting the hard work into it made the final prize 10 times better. Nice work, Bike Works Scholars!!!

Last year Bike Works reached 86 youth through our community partnerships with six community organizations and schools, including Aki Kurose, The New School, Powerful Schools at Hawthorne, Seattle Girls School, JustServe AmeriCorps, and Hawthorne School Special Needs.

“This camp changed me by allowing me to know what is possible for me!”

Travis, Age 11

Summer Camps

When Alex decided to move on from the Ride All Day Camp to an overnight Introduction to Bike Touring Camp we were excited for him to have an opportunity to spend more time with his peers and instructors at Bike Works. Alex has always been a team player and a pleasure to be with so we were not surprised when he became the recipient of our "Best Attitude & Helper" award during our stay at Manchester State Park. He rode hard during the day, helped with the fire at night, and read out loud to his two tent-mates Soren and Quentin each night. We can't wait to see what he is able to accomplish next summer. Three Cheers! In the summer of 2007, Bike Works offered a one-week Ride All Day (RAD) camp and three unique bicycle-touring camps.

STREET BURNERS: Ride It Like You Earned It!

Almost every Saturday morning throughout the year, and often several weeknights too, Bike Works youth can be found tearing it up on the streets and exploring the city of Seattle. Our "Street Burners" bike club (named by the youth) has been in effect for six years and has been an insider secret here at Bike Works for too long! Every month since its inception in 2001, youth-run meetings create calendars full of activities such as local road rides, mountain-bike excursions, BMX tricks and alley-jump sets, trips to parks and museums, swim nights, and our always-popular bike polo meets. In 2007, 546 youth participated in over 100 free activities — and rode a total of 6,975 miles! As the youth say: "Ride it like you earned it!"

Community Bike Shop

Marcy recently started doing triathlons and upgraded to a faster bike. She donated her old mountain bike to Bike Works. Ben started high school this fall and needs a bike to ride to school. The Bike Works shop refurbished Marcy's mountain bike, replacing the worn drivetrain and changing the knobby tires out for street tires. Marcy's old bike is now Ben's new bike and he got a rugged commuter bike for a lot less than he would have paid for a new bike. He used some of the money he saved to buy lights, fenders, and a really strong bike lock! Last year in our bike shop we served 4,435 customers, sold 250 refurbished bikes, sent 1,410 bicycles to villages in Ghana, and recycled many tons of scrap metal!

Educating Youth!

- 276 youth served in our Earn-a-Bike classes, drop in hours, camps, & community partnerships
- 2,378 hours of community service logged by youth
- 40% of youth earned bikes and 90% earned parts and accessories
- 59% youth were youth of color
- 45% of youth received scholarships to cover class fees

Promoting Bicycling!

- 546 youth engaged in Street Burner rides and activities
- 101 free activities offered, including neighborhood rides, mountain biking, BMX trick riding, track racing, safety rodeos & community events
- 6,975 miles ridden by youth on Bike Works rides, and another 1,566 miles with family & friends

Recycling Bicycles!

- 4,435 customers served in our community bike shop
- 1,990 bikes donated to Bike Works
- 98% (1,960 bikes) returned to the community (2% recycled), including:
 - 138 bikes donated to nonprofits
 - 250 bikes sold through our shop
 - 162 bikes distributed to youth in our programs and Kids Bike Swap event
 - 1,410 bikes sent to villages in Ghana

“This camp helped me see people, and realize they could be coming from very different backgrounds than me.”

Angel, Age 14

Financial Report Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/2007

REVENUE

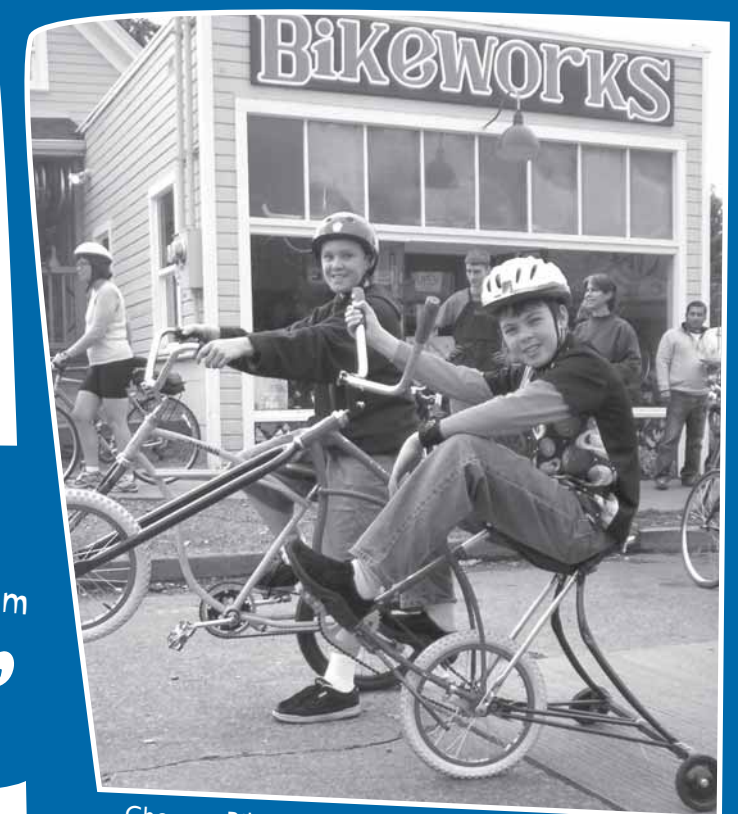
Earned Income from Shop & Programs	170,633	46%
Foundations	67,230	18%
Corporate Sponsorship & Matching	8,837	2%
Individual Contributions	63,130	17%
Special Events / Auction	62,855	17%

Total Revenue **\$372,685** **100%**

EXPENSES

Programming	296,532	83%
Administration	28,623	8%
Fundraising & Special Events	34,191	9%

Total Expenses **\$359,346** **100%**



Chopper Bike-inspired smiles!

A Huge THANK YOU to our 2007 Donors

Foundations & Corporate Grants

Act of Giving Foundation • Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation • Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation • Group Health Community Foundation • John Griswold Foundation • King County Steps to Health Initiative • New Belgium Brewing Company • Putnam Foundation • Raven Foundation • REI • Seattle Foundation

Matching Gift Programs

Adobe Systems • Attachmate/WRO • Microsoft Corporation • NMS Communications • Real Networks • REI • Safeco • Starbucks

Individuals & Local Businesses

Aaron's Bicycle Repair
Steve & Diane Adam
Douglas & Susan Adkins
Adventure Cycling Association
Adventure Medical
C. Harley Ahrenius
Alchemy Goods
Alki Bike & Board
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American Diabetes Association
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Jeff Anderson
Lucius Andrew
Anonymous
Iris Antman
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Banya 5
Barrett Kimball & Alexander Barnett
Aubin Barthold
Renee Barton
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*Current or former Board Members



Closing the shipping container packed full of bicycles on their way to their next adventure in Ghana!

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Build bikes at Volunteer Mechanic Tuesday nights

Volunteer at our events

Make a contribution!

Make an online contribution at

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Make a corporate matching gift

Donate an item for our Auction

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