

Bike Works' (formerly Free Ride Zone)

#3 Fall '00—Winter '01

Flat Tire Flyer

Building communities by educating youth and promoting bicycling.

BIKE WORKS NEWS

New Life for Old Bikes

Hundreds of people clean house and donate bikes to Bike Works every year. Where do these bikes go from here?

Some are earned by Earn-a-Bike students, who work 18 hours for us, then spend 6 hours or more rebuilding the bike they pick out before riding it home. Chrome BMX bikes and small mountain bikes are especially popular with this crew; 50 bikes will go out in Earn-a-Bike this year.

Other bikes are donated to organizations like FareStart (a job training program for homeless adults). We have donated 75 restored bikes, fixed by students and volunteers, in 2000; we're pushing to get another 40 out by year's end. We also sell bikes in the shop—our pro mechanics recondition adult bikes, while volunteers and students fix up kids' bikes for sale. Sales have accounted for 110 bikes so far this year. Another 40 restored kids' bikes were traded at our annual Kids Bike Swap.

Some bikes find new life far from Seattle. In February, we shipped 375 bikes to Ghana, Africa, with the Village Bicycle Project. Our man in Ghana, Dave Peckham, is returning state-side as of this writing—we hope to work with him again soon to ship bikes overseas.

Still other bikes have been crashed or broken and aren't safe to rebuild. Students strip and sort the usable parts, then recycle the aluminum and scrap metal. Certain parts, like old chains, cogs, and small rims, find new life through Resource Revival, an Oregon company that turns them into functional art.

When all that is done, we still have 300 bikes in stock. That means we have an excellent selection for customers. We also need help restoring bikes for donations and getting them back on the streets. See page two for how you can help us close the loop. Call us to add your old bike to the workload!

Summer Cycle Challenge!

Seward Park was the place to be July 29, 2000 for our first ever **Summer Cycle Challenge**. Riders competed in this bike-a-thon for new bikes, jerseys, gear, and other prizes. The winners for dollars raised were Jemae Pope, Jarrita Carter, and Anna Mozer. The distance winners (by age) were Nick Watson, 12 miles in Little Cruisers; Laketa Dulap, 27 miles in Junior Riders; Lafayette Harris, 18 miles in Teen Challengers; Eric Tweet, 30 miles in Prime Timers; and Gerry Heitmann, 15 miles in the Half-Century Club. Congratulations winners! In addition to fabulous prizes,

riders and their families enjoyed a delicious barbeque after, or in some cases in between, tours around the park loop.

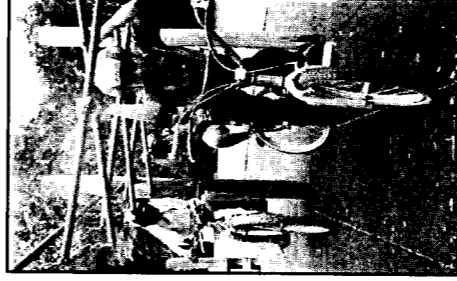


Summer Cycle Challenge

THANK YOU to event sponsors Derby USA, PCC Seward Park, Cliff Bar, True North, Ti Cycles, Jerry Baker, Marymoor Velodrome Association, and FareStart. These sponsors provided cool prizes and great food.

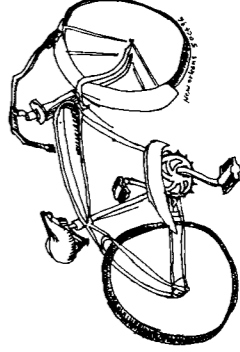
Summer Craziiness

With the combination of sun, kids, and bikes, summer was jumping here. In brief, Bike Works staffed its first Seattle-to-Portland ride support station. We trained a Youth Volunteer Corps crew, who repaired 25 bikes then rode ten of them downtown for donation to FareStart. We ran bike safety rodeos at the Rainier Valley Heritage Festival, Skyway Carnival, and more. Julian Landgraf and Joshua Banks polished their skills as summer interns. Camp Kickstand, our first ever summer camp, was the bomb! Campers went on tons of rides, including a trip to the SeaTac BMX track and a mountain bike boot camp. Amidst all that, the bike shop was open—and busy—daily, banishing flat tires and broken bikes from the greater South Seattle neighborhood.



Holiday Kids Bike Sale!

We're blowing out rebuilt kids' bikes for the holidays from \$15-60.



Check out stocking stuffers for bike geeks. And remember us for affordable repairs every day.

Saturday December 16, 10 am-6 pm
Sunday December 17, 11 am-5 pm

YOUTH FORUM

Stories from Bike Class

The five kids in the Sa' family are working their way through Earn-a-Bike. First, John and Bhakti learned bike repair and got bikes. Then Dharma came through and earned one, but hers was stolen. Now, she's back for a second time around with Christopher, who at nine is just old enough to take the class.* Patrick, the youngest, is surely next.

When I was little my bigger brothers and older sister got to go. I couldn't wait until I was older so I could go, too. I once got to work. I filled tubes for an hour and got a water bottle! I used to just hang around the bike shop during the class and eat bagels. And so I like bikes. I like the bike shop. I like fixing bikes and I like your bagels. And I like you.

CHRIS SA', Earn-a-Bike, Fall '00

I want to do earn-a-bike because I like biking, and fixing bikes is fun. I've been in this class before and had a lot of fun. I've forgotten most of the stuff I've learned, so this time I'm going to tell my mom how to fix bikes and then we can remember together. Last time I earned a bike I learned a lesson because I left it outside and it got stolen. Now I know not to do that.

The cost of bike repairs for kids is no cheaper than for adults and that's plenty, so it's a good thing to know how to repair a bike. I'm looking forward to getting my own bike because then I can join my family on bike rides to Alki and other places like Seward Park and Lincoln Park.

DHARMA SA', Earn-a-Bike, Fall '98 & Fall '00

***Once a student completes the prerequisite repair class, he or she can continue doing Earn-a-Bike for life. Dharma chose to refresh her skills with a second class.**

Camp Kickstand

WE FIX BIKES

Most of the beautiful fall days are gone, but that's no reason to stop riding. One basic truth about bicycling is that when it's cold, dark and soggy, no matter how bad it seems from inside, it's easy to enjoy yourself once you are out there. Provided, of course, that you and your bike are well prepared: Fenders, lights, rain gear and a smoothly-running bicycle make all the difference.

Bike Works has the **commuter love** you need. New and used fenders (SKS/Esge, Zefal, etc.) are between \$15-35 per pair; headlights (Cateye, Planet Bike, Niterider, et. al.) start at \$18; Jackson & Gibbens waterproof/breathable pants & jackets offer great value at \$40-50. Don't let our modest appearance fool you—we have or can order all the crazy bike gear!

For professional repairs, we're still the best deal in town: a **Full Overhaul** is only \$80, a **Full Clean & Tune** is \$50. Custom wheelbuilding is available, too. Remember, folks, all shop proceeds support our programs.



Learn Bike Repair

Learn how to repair and maintain your bike in our four-session **Adult Bike Repair Class**. The class includes flat repair, overhauling bearings, adjusting gears and brakes, and more. All skill levels are welcome. At \$50 for all four sessions, this class pays for itself in no time. We can also teach you **Wheelbuilding**, if you like. Next classes start February. Call us.

About Donating

BIKES: We take mtb. bikes, BMX, kids', nicer road bikes, cool old cruisers. Call first, please.
MONEY: Please send in a tax-deductible gift; \$97 underwrites students like Dharma & Chris.

THANK YOU, DONORS!

Many thanks to everyone who donated money and goods to Bike Works since July 2000. This crew keeps the wheels spinning!

Foundation, Government, & Corporate Donors

Alice C. Tyler Perpetual Trust, Satterberg Foundation, US EPA, Metropolitan King County District 5/Dwight Pelz, Chase Bobko, Microsoft Matching Funds, New Belgium Brewing Co., Ok! Foundation, Seattle Foundation, and WRQ

Earn-a-Bike Underwriters (\$97 & up):

Aaron's Bicycle Repair, Janie S. Brown, Richard Conlin, Daniel Charles Sheehan, Stephen & Mona Campbell, Jason Roberts & Cynthia Marshall, James Gale, David Flitegel, Ray Hoffman, Diane Horn, Dany & Sherry Mitchell, Mary Jo Porter, Kristiann Schoening, Sylvia Shiroyama, Michael Teer/Pike & Western Wine Shop, Roberta Turner, Nic Warmenhoven

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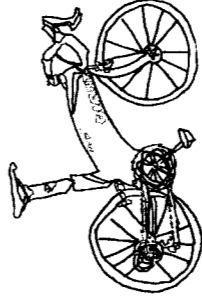
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In-kind Donors:

Center for Career Alternatives, Clif Bar, Derby USA, FareStart, Kryptonite Locks, Marymoor Velodrome Assoc., Noah's Bagels, Rainier Chamber of Commerce, REI, SEED, PCC Seward Park, Ti Cycles, True North, and the hundreds upon hundreds of people who donated bikes!

Partners in Bicycle Revolution:

Backcountry Bicycle Trails Club (BBTC), Bicycle Alliance of WA, BIKEAID, Cascade Bicycle Club, FareStart, First Place School, Orion Center, Ti Cycles, Treehouse, Youth Volunteer Corps of King County



Volunteer Repair Parties

Now Every Saturday, 10 am-2 pm

Turn a wrench for the cause! Bikes, tools, coffee, snacks provided; you bring the skills. RSVP to Tim at Bike Works.

VOLUNTEERS RULE!

Thank you to **Thomas Goldstein**, founding Board member and creative mastermind, who sadly is leaving us. Thanks also to Jean Szeles, retiring Board member and fabulous cook.

Special recognition is in order for **Don Stone**, a bike fan extraordinaire who makes BW his home away from home; **David McLean**, the renaissance man who teaches our adult classes and runs the SAG wagon; **Mark Watson**, a car-free world advocate who commits his time to making it happen; and **Derrek Wittman**, a loyal volunteer who's a big hit with the kids.

A big thank you to many more kind people who fix up bikes, work with kids, staff special events, go for rides, do computer stuff, or serve on the Board of Directors (since July 2000):

Andy Abero, Eden Bassom, David Broustis, Eben H. Carlson, Roberta Carlson, Richard Conlin, Dan Crayne, Rob Crocker, Pierre Crutchfield, Duane Draper, Scott Fisk, Matt Gurney, Jerry Haas, Peter Haas, Jennifer Hodgdon, Sally Jean, Pam Johnson, Mike Jung, Anne Kirkham, Aaron Krohn, Jennifer Leshner, Dave Levy, Craig Lorch, Margaret McCauley, Rick Michel, Robert Mosley, David Mozer, Jemae Pope, Darren Radu, Gerry Ronningen-Fenrich, Dave Schmitt, Cody Sherr, Rebecca Slivka, Charles Smith, Nic Warmenhoven, Maiko Winkler, Timothy Witten, YVCers Lafayette Harris, Bronson Kolde, Chris Maynard, Will Murdoch, Dev Nambi, Whitney Stovall, Neil Vermillion, and Rebecca Larson.

We now have a volunteer coordinator, **Tim Hanold**, who is staffing repair parties every Saturday. Our goal is to fix up another 40 bikes this year; you can help! Tim is launching a mentorship program to match up skilled volunteers with those interested in learning. Now you can volunteer and build your skills.

To get involved, for kids, bikes, and community, call Tim or stop by on Saturdays.

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Bike Works
(formerly Free Ride Zone)

3709 S Ferdinand St
Seattle WA 98118

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