

# Pedal Co-Op

## Monthly Newsletter



*The Pedal Co-op Monthly Newsletter  
December 2008  
Edition #1*

**Think Before You Print...Save Paper!**

### *FIUME – Pedal Co-op's First Customer!*

'FIUME' is an amazing bar, located in West Philadelphia on the corner of 45<sup>th</sup> and Locust St., which has been open for about 8 years. FIUME is an unpretentious, bohemian neighborhood bar with an accent on culture, the arts, politics, and connoisseurship. FIUME has the largest beer selection of any bar in West Philly with over 50 to choose from including beers from Germany, Belgium, England, and of course, local and other American Microbrews. A few featured beers include staples like Franziskaner's Dunkel Weisse, Theakston's Old Peculier, an assortment of Dogfish Heads, Lagunitas' IPA, and occasionally Yards hard-to-find Thomas Jefferson Ale. FIUME also has music event nights, such as the infamous bluegrass night.

FIUME and the Pedal Co-op began their partnership through a conversation in which Woody simply had to ask the question "why not?." As said by Kevin, the man in charge at FIUME, his way of asking is something

### *Bike History: Evolution of Bicycles (2 of 3)* ...So Stay Tuned

... The last section ended with Mr. Stevens riding around the world on a High Wheeler. I thought the Pedal Co-op members were nuts. The pneumatic tire was invented (1888) by an Irish veterinarian, Dunlop, who was trying to alleviate the uncomfortable bicycle ride. Soon everyone was clamoring to ride the smooth riding bicycle. Metallurgy advancement sparked the next wave of bicycles. The Safety Bike was the first of the new wave. This new metallurgy brought about techniques to make strong fine chains, sprockets small and light enough for a human power. Safety bike brought back the original configuration of the two same-size wheel, only now, instead of just one wheel circumference for every turn, through the gear ratios, have a speed the same as the high-wheel. Essentially, the safety bike has the same design as the standard contemporary bicycles. Large numbers of people took up cycling.

that "most of us are unfortunate enough to lose when we turn 4 or 5." He also mentioned that Woody's ideas appealed to his good nature and common sense. When asked about what is appealing about the Pedal Co-op, Kevin replies "you can't get greener without inhaling a cigar... besides that, it's a no-brainer for any business person. The Pedal Co-op is cheaper, gives you a better image, and is just as reliable as any other waste management company." Kevin also mentioned how the Pedal Co-op has grown since our partnership has started, with the acquisition of over 30 new clients and the notable increase in the size of our staff.

As for FIUME's final remarks about their Pedal Co-op experience: "Woody and his staff are professional, cooperative, and easygoing. Wish I could say the same for everyone in my life."

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Gay Nineties were what they were due to the bicycles (1890). The bicycle was a practical investment for the working man transportation, gave the working man a much greater flexibility for leisure. Also, women started to ride the bicycles in much larger numbers.



Betty Bloomer's bloomers became popular since ladies could now ride a much more versatile machine and still keep their legs covered with long skirts. The bustle and corset was destroyed by the bicycle craze for the bicycle craze instituted the "common-sense dressing." So women should thank a bicycle every time they see one.

**Pedal Co-Op** 

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Philadelphia, PA

Phone:  
484.222.1231

E-Mail:  
pedalcoop@gmail.com

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*For upcoming events  
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website!*

- Please check out the *Clip of the Pedal Coop on the Best of the city on Comcast On demand*
- *Monthly Meeting, January 5, 2009 at 8 PM (Clients are welcome to attend)*
- *Holiday Party December 20*

The messengers began showing up in 1894 (I guess they were hip back then too). The messenger business started in a California railway strike that halted mail delivery in the San Francisco Bay area. A Fresno bicycle shop owner came up with the idea of delivering the mail by bicycle, was more of a relay of messengers that would relay the mail from Fresno to San Francisco.



Annie Cohan, a.k.a Annie Londonderry, would pull off the same feat that Mr. Stephen but not on a High-Wheeler. She went around the world on a Sterling Bicycle, leaving Boston in June 1894 and arriving in Chicago in Sept 1895.



"Let me tell you what I think of bicycling. I think it has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world. I stand and rejoice every time I see a woman ride by on a wheel. It gives woman a feeling of freedom and self-reliance." Susan B Anthony.

Woody's favorite cyclists all time (besides the Great Eddie), Major Taylor, was the American cycling sprint champion as well as the European champion. Major was the first black athlete to become a world champion in any sport in 1898. What a sprinter!



Ignatz Schwinn and Adolph Arnold formed the Arnold, Schwinn & Company that began producing large quantities of bicycles in 1897 and those dreaded internal hub gears was invented by Sturmev Archer in 1903. By 1930, all manufactured bicycles used the Sturmev Archer internal hub and this dominance lasted until the 1950s when the parallelogram derailleur was introduced by Campagnolo. Unfortunately, the planning and development of transportation infrastructure was the private automobiles. Thus, bicycle use was declining and the bicycle was considered as a child toy. Kids bikes were introduced after the First World War. Companies began to implement new designs call "classic," that featured automobile and motorcycle elements to appeal to kids who, presumably, would rather have a motor. These kids bikes evolved into glamorous, fabulous, ostentatious, heavy designs. It is kind of unbelievable that a 14 year old kid could do tricks on those 65 pound machines. By the 50's these kid bicycles had taken on the design elements of jet aircrafts and even rockets.



By 1930 Tullio Campagnolo patented the quick release hub and during that time Schwinn introduced the fat tire, spring fork, streamline excelsior that was designed to take the abuse of teenage boys (proto-type mountain bike). By 1938, Simplex introduced the cable shifted derailleur.

We will end in the Women bicyclist in the French Resistance. The Women bicyclist was a hazardous role that many politicized women took up; a role so new that it had not yet been "gender-tagged" and was thus widely available to women. They acted as intermediaries for members of the Resistance, delivery documents, orders and weapons, and coordinating work and coding reports.

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The rest of the bicycle story is to be continued with the modern era of bicycles so please stay tuned....

## *Member Bio of the Month: Dalton Hance*

Dalton Hance has been a member of the Pedal Co-op since August of 2008. When asked about how he became a Pedal Co-op member, Dalton replies "I used to deliver vegetables by bicycle in State College...I passed Woody carrying a trailer one day and chased him down to ask how I could get involved." Dalton mentions that he has a general in using bicycles to power your life. He states that it must have been "Boredom mingled with a taste of insanity. He was looking for a volunteer opportunity that wasn't directly about bicycle advocacy or education. That is when the Pedal Co-op made its way into the picture! Dalton further describes the Pedal Co-op as having a "pretty unique model for achieving change in the community through direct action.

When Dalton was asked about what he enjoys most about the Pedal Co-op he replies "All the perks. Like flat tires halfway between here and there; sweating in a February rain; the smell of the recycling plant; the honks, stares, and rolled eyeballs of 'Are you f-ing nuts!?' Seriously, though, my favorite project is the composting initiative. It's bacteriological alchemy!"

Dalton's responsibilities in working with the Pedal Co-op include " a lot of paperwork and organizational groundwork."

His main focus currently is working on the composting initiative. He also helps the director keep track of the income and costs of the Pedal Co-op. Dalton also covers runs for other members when needed and helps out with special events. When asked about his vision for the future of the Pedal Co-op he states it is to "redirect all of Philadelphia's food waste away from the landfill...An army of bicycles hauling food from urban farms to restaurants, and picking up the waste and taking it back to become next years vegetables."

Dalton is also a Full-time clinical research coordinator with the department of physics and astronomy at Penn. He further mentions his job is to "shine lasers in people's brains." In his spare time he enjoys "fighting gravity, whether on bicycle or on trail." He is also currently working on a project to use an antique apple cider to supply himself with all of the alcohol he needs for the Spring!

### ***Message from the Director:***

Our first multi-day event, the Net Impact Conference, went smoothly. We hauled all of their bio-waste to our composting facilities and their recycling to Blue Mountain. We are almost ready to build three more composting machines. The Pedal Co-Op is giving its first set of lectures/presentations to students that are part of UNI. We are gearing up for the dreaded cold, Woody has already put on his Union Suit which is not coming off till March. Wish us luck as we push through the winter, we made it through the first batch of snow.