



Bike Officer Captures Escaping Inmate

By Sgt. Terry Howell

Medical University of South Carolina, Dept. of Public Safety (SC)

In the early hours of February 5, 1998 the radio call we all dread went out, "Shots fired, officer down." A department of corrections officer guarding an inmate had been shot in the Medical Center Trauma unit. The inmate, convicted of armed robbery and serving a 30 year sentence, was being treated for self inflicted injuries when he took the corrections officers .38 caliber revolver and wounded the officer in the abdomen. Hospital security officers radioed the "shots fired" call to campus police dispatch. Officer Warren Sholl, a bicycle patrol officer of the Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Public Safety was on bike duty when the call went out. Arriving on the scene in less than two minutes Officer Sholl entered the Trauma Unit. Officer Sholl observed the armed inmate in a hallway of the trauma unit, Sholl drew his weapon and took cover as he ordered the inmate to drop the weapon. The inmate had been sprayed with MACE by the wounded corrections officer and was disoriented. The inmate, realizing

that further resistance was futile, lay down the weapon and surrendered.

The Medical University of South Carolina Campus is a sprawling campus in Charleston SC. It is surrounded by one way streets and a complex of large interconnected building making access by motor patrol difficult. The Medical University of South Carolina's Department of Public Safety is a 113 officer force of which 37 officers are on the bike patrol. The addition of the bike patrol to the patrol division of the campus police greatly increased the officers mobility and shortened response time to calls for assistance.

The swift response by Bike Officer Sholl and other members of the MUSC campus police resulted in the satisfactory resolution of a potentially deadly situation. All too often campus police do not receive the respect or recognition for the job they do in providing a safe and secure campus, but they face the same threats and dangers as officers in more traditional law enforcement agencies. I'd like to say "Well done!" to Officer Sholl and the other men and women of the MUSC Department of Public Safety.

HAS IT BEEN EIGHT YEARS ALREADY?

By Sgt. Joe Martin

Hayward Police Department (CA)

All of 'em. Yes, I've been to all eight of the Police on Bikes conferences. Yes, I'm a police cycling dinosaur (yeah, I know, I should really get a life, but I love these guys and gals). It seems like just yesterday that former IPMBA chair Tom Woods was wondering what was wrong with that guy from California (me). Why was the left coast cop so bent out of shape when all sixty of us attending the first "Police on Bikes" conference in Tucson took to the road together. Tom recalled in later years that once he learned about Effective Cycling, he realized exactly what was wrong with 60 cops taking up the entire road, running red lights, and generally behaving like a herd of armed sheep riding through the greater Tucson area. That

first get together of bike cops and those who wanted to be bike cops, took place on the campus of the University of Arizona, Tucson, and was sponsored jointly by the University cops and Tucson PD. There were only a few workshops, and a handful of vendors. Some of those folks are still with us today!

In 1992, continuing the southwest desert theme, our conference was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The exhibit hall grew, but most of the workshops were held in general session. Las Vegas

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It is with bittersweet emotions that I am writing my first Chair's column. I feel the inevitable loss of involvement and frequent contact with my good friends, and fellow Board members, Tom Woods and Andy MacLellan. The work that these two fine gentlemen have done to put IPMBA on the map is best appreciated by the people who know them well. I was glad to hear that Andy will continue his work editing the IPMBA News as well as continuing IPMBA's Product Purchase Program he helped initiate. These two charter members of the IPMBA Board have experienced many of the proverbial "blood, sweat, and tears" over the years. I will miss their counsel and friendship.

The second loss is that of Education Chair Gene Miller. Many of you may know that Gene was promoted to Detective and has left the Tacoma bike unit. Unless you have seen Gene in action you can't possibly understand the true meaning of his unofficial title "The Hardest Working Man in IPMBA." His caring, energy and attention to detail were incredible. Those of you lucky enough to go to the conference in Tacoma know what I mean. Good luck as you move on with your career Geno, IPMBA will always be indebted to you. I have a hunch that Becky and the kids will be the real beneficiaries of your promotion.

It will be said that the 8th Annual IPMBA/LAB Police on Bikes conference—the TACOMA conference—set the new standard which future conferences will have to beat. I don't envy Tom Northfell and his Chicago crew as they prepare for May 1999. While the number of attendees was smaller than we had hoped, their level of enthusiasm and participation was marvelous. The workshops were well attended and well received. Those of us known as "flat landers" discovered a new and exciting experience - hill climbing. I had heard that Tacoma had hills, but I never thought that when one is six blocks from the harbor you are actually six blocks UP.

This conference introduced what is likely to be the last multi-day training course we initiate for a few years. The new course was the Advanced Police Cyclist

Course, put together by the inimitable Gary McLaughlin of the Advisory Board. It featured super tight cone courses, a full day at the firearms range and ample opportunity to experience those previously mentioned hills. The reviews of the course were excellent. It can only get better as it is honed and tuned. It is definitely a challenge for you hot shot bike cops. Co-instructors included Mike Johnston of Park City UT PD and new IPMBA Board member Kathy Vonk of Ann Arbor PD.

Over the next few months look for new Education Chair Mike Goetz of Seattle PD, and his new Education Committee, to evaluate the Police Cyclist Program and make suggestions to make it more efficient. New PCIs, and those looking to get certified as instructors, will hopefully see the fruits of their labor soon. LAB Director Jody Newman has made it clear that the program and its processes will be examined from top to bottom. She realizes that "customer service" is membership benefit NUMBER ONE. I can't agree more. It must be stated, however, then when glitches or delays occurred in the past it was more often than not because the applicant or candidate did not send in complete

packets or required information. We won't hold LAB employees responsible for your omissions.

Let me welcome aboard new Board members Kathy Vonk and Mike Goetz. I look forward to a fruitful year as we guide the good ship IPMBA toward more members, increased regional organizations, better training and more interaction with manufacturers. Finally, if you are ever

in Olympia, Washington you may see a silver streak on a mountain bike ride by. You may be tempted to sarcastically shout out "Where's the fire?" Don't be surprised if the rider can actually tell you. It may well be Olympia fire fighter/paramedic James Brown, winner of the overall title (and a beautiful new TREK Y-frame bike) at this year's fantastic 3 event competition. Needless to say Ol' James can really ride. It was nice to hear him say that our police members made the EMS folks feel welcome. That's what IPMBA is all about.

-Kirby Beck



Yet More Companies Added!

PRODUCT PURCHASE PROGRAM

We've added two new companies to our program, Quentin Distributing and Sportworks Bicycle Racks. Maxit Design has stepped up and is now offering IPMBA members the benefit to purchase at wholesale prices. You must provide your IPMBA membership number to all of our Vendors participating in the Product Purchase Program. As this program grows, IPMBA News may not be able to print all of the details from all the companies in every newsletter. PLEASE KEEP YOUR PAST ISSUES FOR REFERENCE. And please, don't forget to keep your membership current so you can continue to take advantage of this program. **You must provide your IPMBA membership number to all manufacturing participants of the Product Purchase Program.** Any questions or suggestions can be addressed to IPMBA News Editor Andy MacLellan at andymacl@aol.com.

<p>Company: Paradigm Products, 6024 S. 300 W. Suite A, Murray, Utah 84107. (PH) 800-923-5625</p> <p>Contact: Todd</p> <p>Benefit: Lock/Pump 2 (\$29.95) and Lock/Pump 2 Mini (\$27.95)</p> <p>Payment: Certified Check, Money Order, Visa, MasterCard or American Express.</p>	<p>Company: PFI Spokeswear, 7831 196th Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98020. (PH) 800-523-7558</p> <p>Benefit: Extreme Glove (Retail \$30.00, IPMBA Price \$15.00); the Extreme Glove is a 1.5 mm Neoprene Glove with Gripper Dots for Winter Riding.</p> <p>Payment: Visa, MasterCard or Certified Check</p>
<p>Company: Hi-Tek Racing, 7365 Main Street, 183, Stratford, CT 06497. Hi-Tek produces general fitness related products including Gatorade products, BTU Stoker energy bars, Polar Heart Rate Monitors and more. (PH) 203-378-5210; (E-MAIL) HIITEKRACE@aol.com (WEBSITE) http://members.aol.com/hitekraace.</p> <p>Benefit: By presenting your IPMBA membership number, you'll receive 10% off your purchase.</p>	<p>Company: Maxit Design Inc., P.O. Box 1052, Carmichael, CA 95609. Maxit is the official supplier of thermal wear to the USCF, U.S. Cycling Team and the NFL. Their most popular cycling products for bike cops are Headgators, Msoxx, and Dandit sweatbands. (PH) 800-55-MAXIT (FX) 916-489-7031</p> <p>Benefit: IPMBA members can buy at straight wholesale. But you can buy from their entire thermal wear line.</p> <p>Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Certified Check or money order.</p>
<p>Company: Vredestein Bicycle Tyres @ www.vredesteinusa.com; (PH) 800-578-5790 (FX) 408-394-4721. Vredestein has been the bicycle tyre in Europe for 100 years.</p> <p>Contact: Click on the badge at the bottom of their home page to enter their law enforcement page. Put your IPMBA membership number in the space for your badge number and state that you are an IPMBA member in the comment box. Once you enter your number, click on the "Submit" order box to send your order. Vredestein will charge you the IPMBA price when they receive the order.</p> <p>Benefit: Vredestein Special Edition Law Enforcement Tyre to IPMBA members for \$18.00 (10% off of their wholesale price of \$20.) This tire is an excellent road combination tyre with Vredestein's patented Puncture Resistance System (PRS)</p> <p>Payment: Visa or Mastercard</p>	<p>Company: Chiba Gloves, 13750 McConnick Dr., Tampa, FL 33626. Chiba is a 144 year old German glove manufacturer and official glove supplier of the U.S. Cycling Team and NORBA. Catalogs are available upon request. (PH) 813-855-3400 (WEBSITE) www.chibagloves.com (E-MAIL) Chibagloves@aol.com</p> <p>Benefit: IPMBA members can purchase direct from Chiba at up to 35% off retail prices. No minimum order.</p> <p>Payment: Visa, MasterCard, Discover or personal check.</p>
<p>Company: Taya Chain, 2525 Arapahoe Ave., Suite E4-147, Boulder, CO 80302; Taya Chains, a chain manufacturer for over 26 years, feature unique stan-punched pins for maximum side plate load rating and double chamfer plates for quicker, smoother and quieter shifting. (PH) 800-344-8292 (E-MAIL) tayachain@aol.com</p> <p>Benefit: Special Club pricing on their chains and clothing. Examples: Pro Extreme chain: \$20.00; Pro Relief Chain: \$15.00; TB-700: \$9.00; T13-600: \$7.77</p>	<p>Company: Bike Control Inc., 9640 SW Sunshine Ct. #700, Beaverton, OR 97005. Bike Control makes Shockster™ Add-on Rear Suspension. Fits standard mountain bikes and accepts standard bike racks. Available colors: Graphite Grey, Aluminum Silver. (PH) 888-BIKE-911 (FAX) 503-672-7445 (E-MAIL) info@bikecontrol.com (WEBSITE) www.shockster.com</p> <p>Benefit: Special IPMBA price of \$199.00 (suggested retail is \$329.00) includes rack adapter kit and USA shipping. Call or e-mail for an order form.</p> <p>Payment: Visa, MasterCard, check or money order.</p>
<p>Company: Phoenix Trading International, Lake Cycling Shoes. Makes police-specific cycling shoe, based on feedback from IPMBA membership (black, small retro reflective material at heel, breathable leather, airprene collar at ankle to keep debris out and keep ankle stable. (PH) 847-491-9205; (FX) 847-491-9269; (E-MAIL) lake@phix-int.com</p> <p>Benefit: IPMBA Product Purchase Price: \$85.00 (suggested retail: \$105.00)</p> <p>Payment: Visa or MasterCard, call or E-mail for an order form.</p>	<p>Company: Sportworks, 15500 Wood-Reel Rd. NE, Blly, C 600, Woodinville, WA 98072. Sportworks manufactures the quick load bike racks that were displayed at POB '98 in Tacoma. Designed after the bike racks that have been used on transit buses for the last 5 years--bikes can be loaded or unloaded in less than 10 seconds without removal of any wheels. (PH) 425-483-7000 (FX) 425-488-9001 (WEBSITE) www.bicycleracks.com</p> <p>Benefit: IPMBA members benefit- 20% off of retail price. Two bike model—IPMBA price: \$216.00 (suggested retail \$270.00); four bike model—IPMBA price: \$344.00 (suggested retail \$430.00). Shipping not included.</p> <p>Payment: MasterCard, Visa, certified check or money order.</p>
<p>Company: Quentin Distributing Co., 845 Carol Court, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Quentin is a full line bike part and accessory distributor. (PH) 800-323-1741, 630-653-0869, (FX) 800-873-32993.</p> <p>Contact: Call or write J.P. Morgan for catalog and application</p> <p>Benefit: IPMBA members can purchase from their catalog at wholesale prices, the same prices that bike shops receive. New catalogs will be available in June.</p> <p>Payment: Major credit card or through your department after credit approval.</p>	<p>Do you know a company that you think would like to be a part of IPMBA's Product Purchase Program? Contact Andy MacLellan at andymacl@aol.com.</p>


South Carolina Amends Emergency Vehicle Code

By Sgt. Terry Howell

Medical University of South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SC)

South Carolina has joined the growing number of states that recognize the significant contributions of the bicycle patrol. In a bill signed by the Governor on June 15th, 1997, Article 27, Chapter 5, Title 56, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 was amended by adding Section 56-5-3515. (A) An authorized police patrol bicycle used as a part of a police bicycle patrol may exercise the privileges of an emergency vehicle provided in Section 56-5-760. (B) An authorized police bicycle may be equipped with a siren or the officer may utilize a whistle in the performance of his duties. (C) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 56-5-760 (C), an authorized police patrol bicycle acting as an emergency vehicle to the exemptions of an authorized emergency ve-

By giving the police patrol bicycle the same status as other emergency vehicles, the state has given much needed legal protection to the officers that operate them.

hicle if it makes use of an audible signal meeting the requirements of Section 56-5-4970 or visual signals meeting the requirements of Section 56-5-4700. By giving the police patrol bicycle the same status as other emergency vehicles the state has given much needed legal protection to the officers that operate them. At the same time officers are put on notice that they must not operate their bicycle in a reckless manner that would endanger the public. The provisions allowing a police bicycle to be equipped with a siren or whistle in the performance of their duty amends an earlier law that prohibited a siren being used on a bicycle. Now if the legislature will mandate training for police bicycle patrols we can get everyone working off the same page. 

Call In!

Please call Jennifer or Marthea if you have an interesting story or piece of information you'd like to share with your fellow bike officers. We'll let you know how you can get your piece into IPMBA News! We'd love to hear from you. 202-822-1333

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Someone Other than IPMBA News is Seeking Articles from YOU!

Dirt Rag Mountain Bike Magazine is the only grassroots magazine written by mountain bikers for mountain bikers. Known for featuring articles and artwork submitted by its readers, Dirt Rag is interested in hearing some stories from the "beat" written by cops while on duty on their bikes. Stories of interest might include arrests that were made because of the bike's mobility (for instance, through traffic or sidewalks, where a cruiser couldn't follow), or humorous anecdotes of life on a bike while in uniform, or even personal angles relating the advent of mountain bike cops to some change in your life (Hey, it could happen!).

Send materials to: Dirt Rag Magazine, 181 Saxonburg Rd., Pittsburgh PA 15238, or send a S.A.S.E. for our writer's guidelines. Call 412-767-9910 or fax 412-767-9920 or e-mail dirtrag@dirtragemag.com with questions. Thank you, and in the immortal words from Hill Street Blues, "Let's be careful out there."

Continental Ribbon Ride

The Continental Ribbon ride will take place August through October 2000. The event will attempt to include the active participation of every state as the ride progresses from the west coast to Washington, D.C. The ride will be limited to 200 officers and firefighters from each state. For more information about this exciting event, you can contact Sam Knight at BicycleUSA@aol.com (no relation to *Bicycle USA*, LAB's magazine) or write him at Continental Ribbon Ride, 56579 Hidden Gold Drive, Yucca Valley, CA 92284-4381 or call him at 760-228-9899.

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Simple Ways to Strengthen Police on Bikes

By Corporal Greg Pickens

Marshall University Police Department

While reading the Spring '98 *IPMBA News*, it struck me how our organization is in a true transition. Andy MacLellan's article, titled "Out With the Old, In With the New," really emphasized the importance of newer members of IPMBA stepping up and making an active contribution to our outstanding organization. I wasn't there when a very small, but dedicated group of officers got together with an idea and proceeded to make it the professional body it is today that is literally known around the world. However, if we wish

However, if we wish to continue the tradition of excellence which has been established before us, then we all need to contribute.

to continue the tradition of excellence which has been established before us, then we all need to contribute. From the newest PC member to PCICs, PCIs and advanced instructors, it is imperative we all work together to take IPMBA into the next century.

How do we do this? One way has already been pointed out in previous

newsletters. Simply write an article or drop a suggestion to *IPMBA News*. Any of us regardless of police or cycling experience have come across situations or incidents that we had to come up with creative solutions to solve. Why not share those experiences or funny stories with your fellow officers? Your information might just prevent another officer from being injured or even killed so don't be shy when it comes to sharing the wealth of information that we all know is out there in the IPMBA Community.

Promote yourself as a bike officer, promote your department, and promote IPMBA. Let people you come across in your communities know you are proud to be a police officer who does his job from a bike. Also, let them know your department was concerned enough about the job you do to send you to an IPMBA Training Course. Finally, give them a mental picture of what the IPMBA training is like and the professional standards our organization is built upon. If we don't continually educate and inform the people we are sworn to protect then some of them might continue to think anybody can hop on a bike and do our job.

Strive for excellence. As police officers we are always under a microscope. As bike officers it is even more so because of our continual contact and exposure to the public. We are usually the first officers kids or adults are likely to approach to voice their questions or concerns. WE are also usually some of the first officers to roll into crime ridden neighborhoods, drug deals in progress, and other dangerous encounters. As such, we have to perform a high wire act where if we fall, everybody sees it. This is why it is even more critical for us to be knowledgeable of our communities and

proficient with our equipment and tactics. In this manner, we are able to provide useful information and assistance to the concerned citizens looking for ways to ride their neighborhood of abandoned houses or protect ourselves and others when we ride into dangerous encounters on the streets.

Network with other bike officers. In case some of you have not noticed yet, we are a little different than most officers. Call it crazy, stupid or just plain funny, but most of us probably never entertained the thought of becoming a police officer so we could trade a dry, comfortable cruiser for two wheels and pedals. Believe it or not, we are a rare breed. Our numbers are growing but there still are not a whole lot of us out there so be sure to let other bike officers know who and where you are and that you do not mind being contacted. We can do this through the IPMBA newsletter, the Internet, and at our annual conference. Also, as a PCI, I always invite other bike officers and departments in our area to join the fun in our departmental training rides. They usually return the favor and the benefits are enormous. Plus, we get to see if others can crash as gracefully as we do.

There you have it! Just a few simple ways amongst the many that are out there to try. So what are you waiting for? Don't just think about what you can do, start doing it.



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IPMBA News

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Submissions are welcome and encouraged.
Please send to: IPMBA News, 1612 K Street, NW,
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Association (IPMBA) is \$40.00 per year. Please
call (202) 822-1333 to join or contact League
headquarters for more information.

Bike Cops Have All the Luck...

Or so it appears to this Tacoma bicyclist.

The evening of Monday, the fourth of May, after two grueling days of clean up Gene Miller and I were able to finally sit back and take a break from the Eighth Annual Police on Bikes Conference. All the AV equipment was put away, all the garbage was tossed out, all the leftovers were picked through, and we were able to take a breather. So I began relaxing by opening the News Tribune (local newspaper here in Tacoma) to see if there were any last words about our Conference. I was not disappointed.

There in the Letter to the Editor section was what I thought was a humorous sendoff to us all. Mr. Alan Steele Tiger of Tacoma noticed our attendees as they toured Tacoma during the Conference and he took that opportunity to speak out for all cyclists. I am glad he did, as I know we have all been there. With tongue in cheek and pen in hand Mr. Tiger wrote what Gene and I felt was a humorous piece about cyclist and bike cops. I hope you get as much a kick out of this as we did.

—Stu Brucken, Tacoma P.D.

BIKE LANE RAGE

BY ALAN STEELE TIGER

There I am, riding my bike along Cedar Street, lost in thought and satisfied that I am exercising as I transport myself from Point A to Point B while running on nothing more than the fuel generated by the bagel I had for lunch. Just then, I hear a car approaching from behind. The road is safely wide, so I feel unconcerned. But as the car rolls past, two teenagers lean of the windows on the passenger side and scream something unintelligible at me from a distance of about two feet. I instinctively lurch and almost careen

against the curb. As I struggle to regain control, I hear laughter that indicates to me that those kids got exactly the reaction they wanted. For the next few miles, my delightful ride has been ruined. I fume and curse silently at the insensitivity and stupidity of people who revel in menacing cyclists.

Unfortunately, a person yelling at me is not the only danger I've experience while riding my bike. Cars, at the moment they pass, turn in front of me without a turn signal, causing me to slam on my brakes and skid sideways

to avoid a collision. These drivers proceed without even knowing how close they've come to spilling me on the street. Then there are the drivers who seem to have a problem with spatial orientation. Drivers pass so closely that I have been grazed by side mirrors, even with plenty of room to give me a wide berth. However, the drivers that particularly concern me are those who can't stand a bike in any way impeding their progress along Tacoma streets. These jerks have intentionally run me off the road as a way of retaliation. These control freaks have stepped out of their cars to threaten me and have slowed down to spit on me for some perceived slight.

I remember reading about tales of people who use guns to act out their rage on California freeways and thinking "only in California." But I have to tell you that after dangerous encounters I have found myself plotting to get even. Though weapons don't figure into my vengeful plans, I have thought about pulling up to an offending car at a light, reaching through the open window, yanking out the keys and riding

... A blast from a police siren from time-to-time would be just the thing to lift my spirits and lift unsuspecting drivers from their car seat ...

NOTE FROM TACOMA

away with them. Ah what sweet, sweet revenge. What keeps me from this bold action had to do with my visions, in more rationale moments, of being pulled into the car through the window and beaten to a bloody pulp.

The question remains, what can cyclists like me do to protect ourselves? I have considered and then rejected a few options.

Though I have never been a proponent of the death penalty, drivers who menace cyclists would meet special conditions that would warrant such action. However, not death by firing squad or lethal injection, but death by forcing the convicted to wear cycling tights in a red-neck bar with a sign on their back that says, "I buy Japanese."

Although this and other suggestions would quickly make a difference in favor of cyclists, I'm not sure of the practicality, what with laws and the constitution the way they are. But I did chance upon a great solution when I was riding along Rustin Way the other day. A group of cycling police officers here as a result of the Police on Bikes conference, were taking a tour. As they rode by me in uniform, I noticed how polite and courteous drivers were as they rode s-l-o-w-l-y passed them. The officers were given ample room, cars went out of their way to signal turns and give the officers the right-of way. That's when it dawned on me. If all cyclists were to wear police uniforms, the problem would be solved (not to mention increasing police visibility in the community).

And if it wouldn't be too much to ask, how about giving cyclists a loud siren? A blast from a police siren from time-to-time would be just the thing to lift my spirits and lift unsuspecting drivers from their car seat. Hey, turnabouts are fair play.



If you read the last *IPMBA News*, Education Column, you already know that Gene Miller stepped down after six years as the Education Chair. I have been appointed to take the position. I say take the position, because no one could take Gene's place. Gene worked very hard at this job over the years and the great programs we have in place are proof of that. Thanks Gene!

Now let me tell who I am. I am Officer Mike Goetz (pronounced Gets) of the Seattle Police Department (WA). I have been a police officer since 1977 and I am planning on being one until 2007. I have been working on bicycles in my Department on and off since 1989. I am currently the lead bicycle instructor for my department. I have been teaching bicycle training since 1991, when I started teaching with Stu Bracken and Gene Miller at the Washington State Cops on Bikes training. I have been with IPMBA since 1993. I am currently a PCIT and co-taught the first MOCC course and EMS course. At last count I have instructed over 1,500 police/public safety officers in various public safety biking programs.

That's who I am, and as you can see I have some experience in this field. I hope you can also see that I did not get this far by myself. I had, and have, a lot of help to get a lot of things done. I hope that everyone in IPMBA can think about the phrase, "many hands make light work". I am hoping that everyone that has a complaint, can take a minute and propose a few suggestions to fix

New Education Chair

it. This way we always move forward to the goal and do not spend any time fighting about things in the past.

I do not want my first column to run a full page, so I will wrap this up now. At SPD we have a saying at the top of our criminal information bulletins that I am going to take for this column, because I think it fits. "KNOWLEDGE IS USELESS, UNLESS IT IS SHARED"—be safe—Mike Goetz

WANTED

A department/organization sponsor for a proposed Training Week in the fall. We have received many requests to teach the "certification level" courses more often than once a year. We are currently trying to organize a training week in October or November. We would probably offer the PCID, MOCC, Advanced riding, and EMS courses. What we need now is a sponsoring city/department/organization. This would NOT be a mini-conference. There will be no vendors, no workshops, no competition etc. This would be the 4 days of class and whatever else you wanted to do. The sponsor needs to be able to supply classrooms, a bike friendly hotel/motel (near the classroom, but not necessarily in the same building), good riding areas (on road and off road) and technical support from a well stocked local bike shop or dealer. There are other things, but these are the major ones. IPMBA will be supplying the talent, and you will be supplying the production stage and staff. If you are interested, please contact me or any board member to discuss the possibility of you being the host of the first (of many I hope) "Training Week." *I am also open to suggestions to a snazzier title.*

***Our second edition calendar will go to the press in July.
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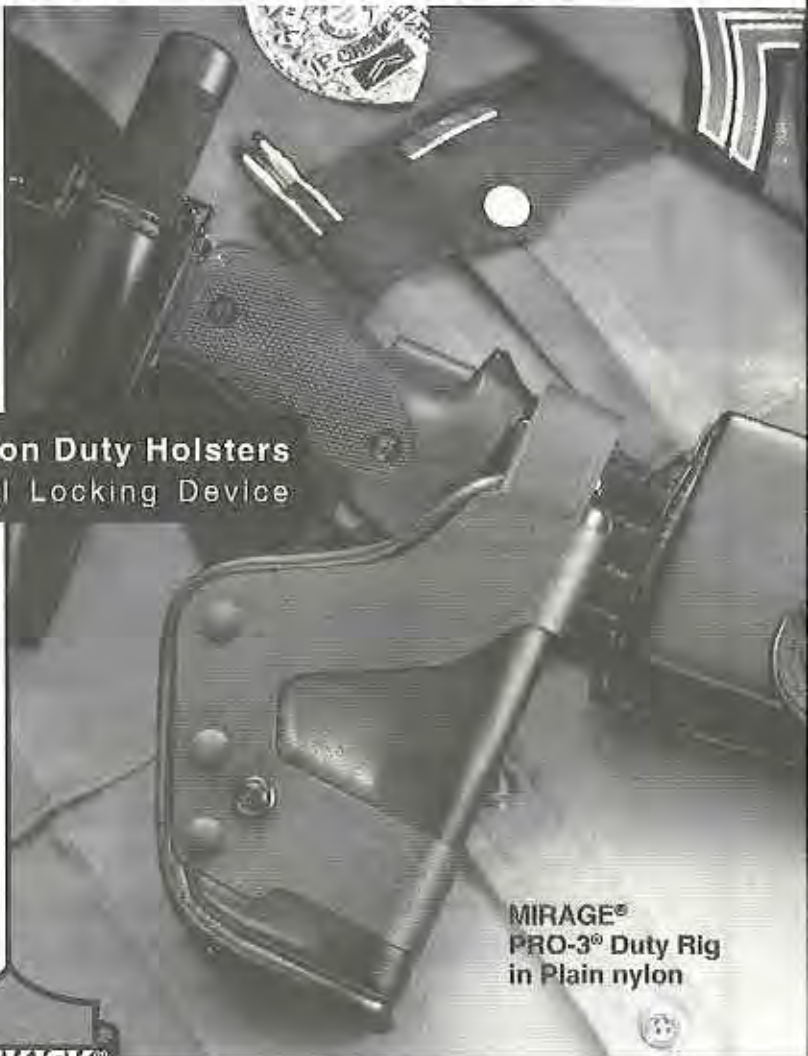
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Microscopic photo compares fibers of Nyltek (left) and leather (right).

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I was asked during the past Police Cyclist Instructor Development Course in Tacoma to set up an e-mail list for PCIs & PCICs similar to the one that the Louisiana Police Mountain Bike Association has. I have set up this list! It is named ipmbapci-1@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu and is for IPMBA PCIs, PCICs and IPMBA staff only.

With this list, Instructors, Instructor Candidates, and IPMBA staff members can share information and ideas in an effort to build a strong pipeline with each other.

In order to get on this list, you must be either an IPMBA Instructor, Instructor Candidate, or IPMBA Staff/Board member. You should submit your request for inclusion on the list to me at tinman@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu. I will be compiling names and addresses and starting the list on June 15, 1998. After that, I will be adding names and addresses as I receive them.

Like any mail list custodian, I reserve the right to remove anyone at any time for misuse of the list.

Information needed to get on list send the following: E-Mail Address, Real Name, PCI Number.

Attention PCIs & PCICs

The second edition Police Cyclist Instructor manual is now available for current Police Cyclist Instructors & Instructor Candidates. If you paid \$125.00 for your PCI application, you need to request by fax or letter to receive a manual (no phone requests will be taken). If you paid the \$25.00 application fee, then the cost to you is \$25.00 + \$4.00 (s/h). Payable by Visa/MasterCard or check. Call Marthea at 202-822-1333 with questions or fax your request to: 202-822-1334. Mail requests to IPMBA/LAB, 1612 K Street, NW, Suite 401, Washington DC 20006.

Tacoma Conference Goers! (And any other interested parties)

Muni TV of Tacoma has created an absolutely outstanding video about the conference. There are two versions. The first is a 22 minute narrated, flashy video. (A "must have" for memorabilia) Cost: \$15.00. The second is about a 2 hour version that is all the video shot by Muni with no narration or edits. Cost: \$30.00.

Requests need to be sent to: TV Tacoma (IPMBA Tape), 747 Market St./MSC, Tacoma, WA 98402. Orders need to be in no later than June 30th, 1998. Please allow up to six weeks from June 30th for delivery.

IPMBA Welcomes New Full-Timer

IPMBA welcomes new manager, Marthea Groff! We're excited to have her. Marthea is your contact for all things, especially if you have questions about PC Certification or concerns regarding PCI applications and instructor status. She can be reached at 202-822-1333 ext. 232.

Important Notice about The Complete Guide to Police Cycling

Sales of IPMBA's The Complete Guide to Police Cycling exceeded our projections for 1998. As a result, we are currently out of books. We're quickly getting them reprinted, and the delay shouldn't be long. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. In the mean time, PCIs should rely on the student material from the original PCI Manual.

Thank You!

IPMBA would like to thank the Tacoma Police Department, the City of Tacoma, the Tacoma Sheraton and especially Officers Stuart Bracken & Gene Miller for their tireless efforts toward making the 8th Annual Police on Bikes Conference such a success. Thanks is also in order to the following instructors who made the conference the best training & learning event of the year:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Off. Dominic Angiolillo (FL) | Off. Rob Earick (WA) | Off. Karen Kaleta (WA) | Off. Ray Ranne (IL) |
| Off. Kirby Beck (MN) | Off. Jeffery Glaude (CT) | Corp. Andy MacLellan (MD) | Off. T.J. Richardson (TX) |
| Dan Blume (IL) | Off. Mike Goetz (WA) | Off. Gary McLaughlin (CA) | Off. Al Simpson (FL) |
| Vance Blume (IL) | Off. Artie Gonzales (KS) | Sgt. Joe Martin (CA) | Off. David Simpson (OH) |
| EMS - Jim Bowell (OH) | Sgt. Terry Howell (SC) | Det. Gene Miller (WA) | Off. Kathleen Vonk (MI) |
| Off. Stu Bracken (WA) | Off. Don Hudson (CA) | Sgt. Tom Northfell (IL) | Lt. Tom Woods (TX) |
| Off. Dave Brady (CA) | Off. Mike Johnston (UT) | Off. Steve Pigman (WA) | Off. R.J. Worden (AZ) |
| Off. Edward F. Brown (FL) | | | |

1998 WEAPONS AND TACTICAL TRAINING COURSE SCHEDULE (MAY-DECEMBER)

May 4-8	Close Quarter Control Tactics	HK Sterling VA
May 4-8	Tactical Pistol	Rochester, NY
May 4-8	MPS Instructor	New Britain, CT
May 18-22	HK Law Enforcement Conference	HK Sterling VA
May 27-29	Redman Simulations Instructor	HK Sterling VA
June 1-5	Tactical Pistol	Los Angeles, CA
June 1-5	Survival Skills for the Mountain Bike Officer	HK Sterling VA
June 1-5	MPS Operator	Pittsburgh, PA
June 1-5	Survival Skills for the Motor Officer	Lronia, MI
June 8-12	Tactical Shotgun Instructor	HK Sterling VA
June 8-12	Tactical Submachine Gun	Los Angeles, CA
June 8-12	MPS Instructor	Pittsburgh, PA
June 15-19	Rifle Instructor	Los Angeles, CA
June 15-19	Survival Skills for the ATV Enforcement Officer	HK Sterling VA
June 22-26	Tactical Rifle	Spokane, WA
June 22-26	Planning & Execution of Raids and Search Warrants	HK Sterling VA
June 22-26	Emergency Response for Patrol Personnel	Hutchinson, KS
June 29-July 1	Redman Simulations Instructor	HK Sterling VA
July 6-10	Tactical Pistol	Carson City, NV
July 6-10	Precision Marksman I	Columbia, MO
July 6-10	MPS Operator	HK Sterling VA
July 12-17	Precision Marksman II	Columbia, MO
July 13-17	MPS Operator	Spokane, WA
July 13-17	MPS Instructor	HK Sterling VA
July 20-24	Tactical Submachine Gun	HK Sterling VA
July 20-24	MPS Operator	LaCrosse, WI
July 20-24	MPS Instructor	Spokane, WA
July 20-24	MPS Master Instructor	Carson City, NV
July 27-31	Tactical Firearms for the Protective Specialists	HK Sterling VA
July 27-31	MPS Instructor	LaCrosse, WI
Aug. 3-7	Tactical Pistol	HK Sterling VA
Aug. 3-7	MPS Operator	Arapahoe, CO
Aug. 10-12	Redman Simulations Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Aug. 10-14	Pistol Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Aug. 10-14	MPS Instructor	Arapahoe, CO
Aug. 30-Sept. 4	Tactical Team I	HK Sterling VA
Sept. 9-11	Tactical Team Instructor Development	HK Sterling VA
Sept. 14-16	Redman Simulations Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Sept. 14-18	Planning/Execution of Raids & Searches	Spokane, WA
Sept. 14-18	Survival Skills for the Motor Officer	HK Sterling VA
Sept. 21-25	Survival Skills for the Mountain Bike Officer	HK Sterling VA
Sept. 21-25	MPS Operator	Salt Lake City, UT
Sept. 21-25	MPS Operator	Lincoln, NC
Sept. 27-Oct 3	Executive Protection	HK Sterling VA
Sept. 28-Oct 2	MPS Instructor	Salt Lake City, UT
Oct. 5-9	MPS Operator	HK Sterling VA
Oct. 12-16	Tactical Submachine Gun	West Palm Beach, FL
Oct. 12-16	Tactical Emergency Medicine	Palm Springs, CA
Oct. 17-16	MPS Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Oct. 19-23	Precision Marksman I	HK Sterling VA
Oct. 26-30	Concealed Carry/Lowlight Operations	HK Sterling VA
Nov. 1-6	Correctional Emergency Response Team	HK Sterling VA
Nov. 9-11	Redman Simulations Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Nov. 9-13	MPS Master Instructor	HK Star Big, VA
Nov. 9-13	Firearms Deployment during Vehicle Operations	Labeland, FL
Nov. 9-13	Rifle Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Nov. 16-20	Active Countermeasures Tactical Instructor	HK Sterling VA
Nov. 16-20	Tactical Pistol	Irving, TX
Nov. 16-20	Emergency Response for Patrol Personnel	Pasadena, TX
Nov. 30-Dec. 4	Close Quarter Control Tactics	HK Sterling VA
Dec. 14-18	Tactical Team II	HK Sterling VA
Dec. 13-18	Precision Marksman II	HK Sterling VA

1998 Armorers Training Course Schedule (May-December)

May 11-15	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
June 22-26	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
June 27-29	MPS, Trigger Groups, USP	Carson City, NV
July 20-24	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
Aug. 17-20	MPS, Trigger Groups, USP	Arapahoe, CO
Aug. 17-21	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
Sept. 14-17	MPS, Trigger Groups, USP	Portland, OR
Sept. 21-25	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
Oct. 5-8	MPS, Trigger Groups, USP	Salt Lake City, UT
Oct. 19-23	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
Oct. 26-29	MPS, Trigger Groups, USP	NC Justice Academy, NC
Nov. 2-6	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA
Nov. 16-19	MPS, Trigger Groups, USP	Fairfield, CA
Dec. 7-11	MPS, HK Rifle, Trigger Groups, USP	HK Sterling, VA

For information on joining a course, or scheduling training at your site, please call (703) 450-1900 ext. 293



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Continued from page 1

Metro PD were great hosts, setting up ride-alongs and a cool tactics demo on the last day of the conference. It was in Las Vegas that IPMBA was born.

By April of 1993, the first Police Cyclist course had come together, and we taught it to a packed house in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Little did we know that the most difficult part of teaching the course there would be finding stairs! Apparently, in flat areas of the country, stairs just are not that important. Florida has gone on to be one of our strongest membership areas.

IPMBA came west again in 1994, and we did the River Walk with the help of the San Antonio Park Rangers and San Antonio PD. T.J. Richardson defended the Alamo almost single-handedly at that conference, and he's been an IPMBA staple ever since. Did I mention that it rains in Texas? '94 was the first year we had to consider offering SCUBA certification along with the Police Cyclist course. A huge ride to San Antonio's version of the space needle was well done, and we broke our first officer during the competition (he recovered). More and smaller workshops were showing up to better serve our members.

One of the more famous quotes attributed to an IPMBA chairperson was made by Allan Howard in Milwaukee, during the 1995 conference "Why y'all'd want to bring 400 cops into a town full of beer, I don't know. But we're glad to be here." It was rumored that the membership drank the entire weeks allotment of hospitality beer the first night, but somehow they didn't run out... There were some great rides in Milwaukee, although it was a bit cool. Competition was good, and we started our losing streak to the Australians about this time. Milwaukee PD showed IPMBA what an organized conference was all about! By now we were offering an instructor development course to go hand-in-hand with our Police Cyclist courses which we now taught as "pre-conference" seminars. I've got another good story about this conference involving a future conference site, but you've got to buy me dinner to hear it.

Rochester, New York was the place to be in '96. A great conference, but 40 degree weather and rain made the competition a real challenge! In order to avoid hypothermia we took buses back to the hotel from the competition site! We also rode in a parade which impressed the heck out of me! It was raining and cold, but the streets were packed. Californians don't leave their houses when the sky turns gray and the temp drops below 50, much less stand outside to watch a parade!

CALIFORNIANS DON'T LEAVE THEIR HOUSES WHEN THE SKY TURNS GRAY AND THE TEMP DROPS BELOW 50, MUCH LESS STAND OUTSIDE TO WATCH A PARADE!

Looking for warmer weather, we headed south to Nashville, Tennessee in 1997. IPMBA ushered in our new Maintenance Officer Course that year to join our mainstay Police Cyclist and Instructor Development Courses. After hours, IPMBA took over a blues club for the week, where we could hear "Bad Boys" played at least four times a night by a live band that rocked! Those who didn't like country music tried to hide that fact for a week, lest they be killed by rabid fans. Gary Klein (yes, the Gary Klein) attended this conference, and just hung out with the board members for the week. I told him that for a cyclist, this was like a basketball fan getting to hang out with Dennis Rodman (Ya think I should have said something else? I haven't seen him since!). He attended the competition and watched as we continued our tradition of breaking only one officer per year. Nashville PD showed us what southern hospitality was all about, and put on a great show for all the kids that turned out for a "ride along" with our membership.

And of course, last month, our 8th annual conference in Tacoma, Washington. Cops from all over America, Canada, Scotland, Australia, Germany, and I'm not forgetting anyone here, but it was our most "international" conference to date. To prove it, Tom Woods (who by now has learned to ride in traffic) put on a presentation documenting the Police Cyclist course put on in Rwanda! As you'd expect, Tacoma PD took all the best elements of past conferences and added their own touch. Hills--these guys were overcompensating for Florida--and obstacles lovingly built by longshoremen were featured at this year's competition. And yes, we kept to tradition and broke only one officer--I understand his bike will be okay too, thank you very much. One other thing we did break was our losing streak to the Australians! An American team won the competition! I hope the Aussies don't stop coming, we need the rivalry, and I've never met an Aussie I didn't like. An international ride to promote bike safety with kids preceded the conference, and this year we added an advanced course to our resume of pre-conference offerings. We've got some great vendors that have been with us since the very start, and more coming on board each year. Say, is there a Starbucks around here?

Next year: Chicago. Be there.

Facing page, clockwise starting from top left: Conference training -- Landing Techniques; the National Bicycle Officers Mountain Bike Competition, the grueling "hill climb"; conference attendees line up at the site of the obstacle course & sprint competition portions; Topeka officer takes the stairs during obstacles; informative in-class workshop--Bicycle Law Enforcement; Red Man makes an appearance in a course.

CONFERENCE PHOTO GALLERY

All Photos by T.J. Richardson



If you couldn't make Tacoma, you CAN'T miss Chicago

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Call NOW for hotel reservations at 312-836-5000 (Don't forget to tell them you're with the Police on Bikes Conference!)

As an IPMBA member, you'll receive a conference registration packet mid-October.

If you would like to request more, please call 202-822-1333 ext. 232.

Look for details on next year's conference in the next *IPMBA News*.



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