Complete Guide to Public Safety Cycling

by Maureen Becker
Executive Director

IPMBA is pleased to announce a new partnership with Jones & Bartlett Publishers (J&B) to produce state-of-the-art training materials, a.k.a., the second edition of the Complete Guide to Police Cycling and accompanying instructor materials.

Based in Sudbury, Massachusetts, J&B is the seventh largest academic publisher in the United States and is known to EMS, fire service, and law enforcement personnel as publishers of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) “Orange Book” series for training First Responders and EMTs. Besides its new partnership with IPMBA, J&B has partnerships with such organizations as the American Society for Law Enforcement Training, International Association of Fire Chiefs, National Fire Protection Association, and the Wilderness Medical Society.

IPMBA is thrilled to partner with Jones & Bartlett, a company well-known in public safety circles as a producer of high-quality teaching and learning systems. IPMBA's already highly-respected training programs will be further enhanced by this affiliation with J&B.

A dedicated team of authors and contributors have already been hard at work compiling content for the new edition. This team, under the direction of IPMBA Education Director Corky Reed, is responsible for updating existing materials and providing information about the latest developments in public safety cycling, including equipment, uniforms, and operations. The project requires teamwork and collaboration among the authors, the steering committee, and the publisher. IPMBA greatly appreciates the efforts of all those who are – and will be – involved with the project.

The Complete Guide was first published in 1996, and over the course of the past decade, public safety cycling has continued to evolve, now encompassing not only police, but also EMS professionals and security personnel. It is only fitting that the 10th anniversary of the book is celebrated with a new edition, written to take public safety cyclists into the next decade, under a new title, the Complete Guide to Public Safety Cycling.

A release date for the new materials has not yet been determined. IPMBA members will be updated on the progress of the new materials throughout the development process.

Supercop: Mountain Bike Maurice

by Nick Britten
www.co.telegraph.uk

Diederik Coetze, who used to patrol the crime-ridden streets of Johannesburg carrying two guns and wearing a bullet-proof vest, has found the criminals of the Ladybrook estate in Mansfield a rather less perilous adversary.

Describing the run-down Nottinghamshire estate as “paradise” compared with what he was used to, he has smashed the British annual record for arrests by a single officer with two months of the year still to go.

He said: “I’ve got to know the criminals, and they all know me. But they don’t even try to run from me any more, because they know I’ll catch up with them. The people tell me Ladybrook was a dump before I came here. It used to be a hotspot for drugs and car crime. But then I got down to work. Things have gone so well that the criminals are leaving.”

Swapping his guns for a baton and mountain bike, so far in 2005 Pc Coetze has made 309 arrests, surpassing the previous record, 305. The existing mark among his colleagues in the Nottinghamshire force was just 242.

The bad news for Mansfield’s criminals is that he is planning an even greater effort next year and wants to crack the 400 barrier.

(Continued on page 26)
As I look outside my window, I can see it is that time of year again. There’s a song in the air from the many birds singing, trees are starting to bud, flowers are blooming, the sun is staying out longer, and those bikes keep calling me every time I go into the garage. I know I shouldn’t be neglecting them like this. I want to take each one of them and wash off the dust, inflate the tires and go out for a spin. But I can’t. As you read this, I’m recovering from rotator cuff surgery and just itching to get back on the bike. However, soon I’ll be back enjoying the freedom we find by taking that spin. Whether you take that ride with your family and friends, or as part of your job, it’s great to be back riding.

Since most of us aren’t on our bikes year-round, it’s important to brush up on our basic cycling skills. Even if we have taken a basic cycling course, it is essential to participate in in-service training each year to maintain our on-bike skills. I know that many departments don’t require annual in-service training – but they should – so if they don’t, make it a part of your own personal training. If you or your department would like information on continuing education, contact the IPMBA office for the IACP (International Association of Chiefs of Police) model bike patrol policies and some great ideas for making in-service training both relevant and fun. You can also check the newsletter page at www.ipmba.org for articles on that subject.

While you’re at it, don’t forget to take care of your ride. A spring tune-up is important for every bicycle. If you ride year-round in a colder climate, you will need to clean the salt and winter grime off your bike frame, the drivetrain, and all the cables and cable housing. Even if you live in a warm climate, your bike will benefit from a spring cleaning. One of the most overlooked maintenance items is the lubrication of your drivetrain. Without proper lubrication, your components will wear prematurely. And that leaves you with a bike that won’t shift properly, and will cost more money to repair.

Your IPMBA board wishes each and every one of you a safe spring. And remember: bicycling is the best and most fun way for all of us to do our jobs!
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VALUABLE EQUIPMENT

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R&B Fabrications, Inc. has developed a complete line of bicycle panniers for basic EMS and the Paramedic system. These were developed around a modular design allowing the user to create a system for their needs. The individual panniers have a slight angular taper near the heel area making them a left or right design, but does not prevent them from being used on either side. Our line of Bicycle Pannier has been designed by James Bowell of Troy Fire Department in Ohio. His expertise as an instructor and experience in this field has helped us to provide you with the best there is. Shown is the Bikers Trauma/O2 pack on top of the Expedition Rack, The side panniers have configurations of O2/BVM, AED, or SIX POCKET. The panniers and packs are easily removed for use and provide ample room for storage. Available in Royal Blue or Black.

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Our last issue was the Fourth Annual IPMBA Product Guide, and it was crammed with information ... but there's still more. So, you have in your hands the continuation of IPMBA’s annual product guide – an excellent source for reviews and news. Please use this IPMBA News to enlighten and educate you – and, most importantly, supplement your last excellent issue! Again, enjoy. Pages 5 - 17.

Volcanic Manufacturing
A New Public Safety Bike Rolls onto the Scene

by John Washington, PCI #461T/EMSCI #037T
University of Pennsylvania Police (PA)

After speaking with Eric and Matt from Volcanic Manufacturing at the 2005 IPMBA Conference in Scottsdale, Ariz., and riding their bike around at the show, I decided to contact them to find out more. Their recently introduced public safety bicycle had been adopted by the Seattle Police Department, but was unheard of on the East Coast. So in the interest of marketing and R&D, they agreed to ship me a model for evaluation.

I am glad that I made the inquiry and was given the opportunity to “wear-test” the bicycle. In addition to riding the bicycle myself, I took it to three IPMBA bike training sessions – one police and two EMS – to obtain the non-biased opinion of the bike from new riders. The Volcanic, available in either white or black frame, came complete with top-of-the-line components.

Sporting SRAM-9 rapid fire shifters (grip shift is also an option) matched up to LX/XT front/rear derailleurs and a 44-tooth big chain ring, the gearing system operated smoothly at all times, even with the additional weight carried in panniers by the EMS personnel. Equipped with Marzocchi Bomber front shocks, a Cane Creek threadless headset, Avid disc brakes (160mm calipers) and industry standard Continental Town and Country tires, the bike handled more than competently in all phases of use.

Stair ascent and descents, static and dynamic dismounts, curb-hopping, trail riding, performing quick-turns and emergency braking drills, and general riding on the road presented no challenges for the Volcanic. The bike was nimble and maneuverable and held up to the rigors of the various crash survival skills that the officers were taught, including “crashes” into fixed objects and being pitched over the handle bars.

The only minor issue we encountered was during our attempt to equip the bike with pannier bags for use during the EMS class. The tapered struts of the gear rack that was supplied with the bike did not prevent the bags from contacting the disc brake caliper. A simple change-out to a different manufacturer’s rack quickly solved the problem.

Volcanic bicycles can be ordered with various features, depending on the needs of the rider and the department. Several levels and types of shifters are available, and it can be equipped with either regular platform pedals or a clipless pedaling system. During the course of the evaluation, Eric from Volcanic remained open to our comments – they are clearly interested in providing a top-of-the-line public safety performance bicycle, and in my opinion, they have achieved that goal.

While some departments might not have the financial ability to step up to a top-of-the-line bicycle like that produced by Volcanic Manufacturing, there is no doubt that it is an excellent performer and worth the costs in the long run. I look forward to their continued involvement in the public safety bicycle field.

For more information, call 360-943-8613, email volcanicmfg@reachone.com, or visit www.volcanicbikes.com (this website was under construction when this newsletter went to press.)

John joined the University of Pennsylvania Police Department in 1988. He has been assigned to the bike patrol since its inception in March 1991. He has trained some 700 police, security, and EMS bike personnel from 75 agencies in the United States, Argentina, Australia, and Canada. He has won 12 gold medals in the Pennsylvania Police Olympics in running and mountain bike events and several medals in the International Law Enforcement Games. He also has 25 years of service in the fire, EMS, and hazardous materials fields. He can be reached at johnfw@publicsafety.upenn.edu.

Volcanic Manufacturing
A New Public Safety Bike Rolls onto the Scene

See page 12 for specifications.
Visit www.volcanicbikes.com, call 360-943-8613 or e-mail volcanicmfg@reachone.com.
Product Reviews

Enlightened! Lighting Solutions from CatEye® and Nite Ize®

by Mitch Trujillo, PCI #244T
Boulder PD (CO)
IPMBA Industry Relations Committee

While on nighttime bike-ops this past fall, I tested some unique products using some of the latest LED technology. What is an LED? Essentially, LED is an acronym for light-emitting diode, which according to online LEDs Magazine, is “a semiconductor device that emits light when an electric current is passed through it.” More importantly, the highly adaptable LED bulbs are appearing in many illumination products suitable for patrol. Why? Several reasons. Longer run times, better performance, and durability are some common traits.

Some Boulder-based companies are manipulating the LED technology in products suitable for bike patrollers. Cateye Electronics and Nite Ize Innovative Accessories are two that are producing some bright ideas. I’ll try to shed some light on their creations.…

Cateye Electronics Triple Shot

Over the span of a few weeks, I had the good fortune to trial-test Cateye’s flagship, triple-LED headlight, aptly named the Triple Shot.

First, the Triple Shot headlight extracts high power from its LEDs due in large part to Cateye’s proven Opticube lens and crystal-like reflector technology. The process works. The light pattern cast on objects reveals no dead spots and beats the clarity and broad beam performance of our other fleet headlights. This, with only three LEDs! The company claims the headlight has “the brightness of a 20-watt halogen and a wide beam.”

As far as features go, the whole package is relatively light at 710 grams. The lamp body is die-cast aluminum and the compact NiMH (Nickel-Metal Hydride) battery comes encased in a black neoprene bag. The lamp body swivels on its mounting base to center the beam. The only way to move the lamp up or down is to loosen the handlebar bracket enough to rotate it, but not so much that the unit shifts due to road vibration. There are a few battery-mounting options, but I like the security of mounting it in a vacant bottle holder. The only nit to pick about the battery bag was that it started to show some wear from the repeated use of the hook and loop straps (Cateye has said they are looking into means to address the bag surface wear.) The cables come in different lengths to allow for bikes of different sizes and configurations and have locking cable connectors for unexpected blackouts.

On the subject of “blacking out,” I was pleased that it was not necessary to cycle through light levels. The light is either push-buttoned ‘on’ or ‘off’. Simple is stealth is best. I mounted the switch on my handlebar and didn’t have much difficulty manipulating it with full-fingered gloves.

I also liked the ease of setup on my patrol bike. In fact, I neglected to read the directions (gender-specific of me, I know) and still had no installation problems. Once you charge the battery overnight and fit the right handlebar shim, you’re set to go. While on the prowl, there were no deficiencies in lighting up the path or people. I went most of an evening (five hours) with the light activated in order to deplete the battery, to no avail. This came in handy when my fellow patrol cyclists lost their battery charges and needed my beam to show the way. It seems the LED bulbs don’t run hot enough to warrant much juice. The literature claims an LED lifespan of 100,000 hours.

What’s the asking price for the Cateye Triple Shot? MSRP is around $300 (depending on the retail source), but Cateye offers IPMBA members the Triple Shot for $169 and the Double Shot for $139, plus shipping. Contact Cateye for more details and to place your order.

Given the effectiveness of Cateye’s lens-reflector-LED combination, I highly recommend the Triple Shot as a primary headlight source. It’ll outshine the competition. See the full range of lights and computers that Cateye offers on their website.

CatEye Electronics is not listed in the IPMBA Product Purchase Program. Contact: CatEye Service & Research Center, 1705 14th St., #115., Boulder, CO 80302 USA, (303) 443-4595, (800) 5-CatEye, fax (303) 473-0006, email service@cateye.com or via the web at www.cateye.com.

Nite Ize Innovative Accessories: Combo Upgrade, Marker Band, and Helmet Marker

Nite Ize produces some novel gadgets targeted towards work and leisure. During some bike patrol last fall, I sampled a few of their LED products.

The Nite Ize Marker Band is a nifty, reflective and flashing LED band for securing a loose pant leg or wearing on the upper arm. The Marker Band utilizes highly adjustable, elastic straps on each end of the band, which are secured via a quick-release buckle. There is a push-button power switch to cycle through flash and glow modes and you get long battery life from a three volt button battery. When the unit is switched ‘off’, the band material is red reflective. I got the most use from the Marker Band when on a traffic accident or directing traffic. The Marker Band is great for public safety

(Continued on page 10)
The Falcon LE (Law Enforcement) bicycle helmet is patent pending, first-of-its-kind, and the most innovative bicycle helmet on the market today. Building lightweight and almost undetectable LED lighting into a bicycle helmet is a “no-brainer” and has been needed for some time. The CPSC-certified helmet is manufactured in China specifically for Falcon helmets. The lithium ion rechargeable battery includes a proprietary circuitry protection chip that guards against over-charging and is low voltage. The battery has a shelf and usage life of three years and will maintain its charge even when not in use. It has an impressive 13-hour continuous use life when fully charged and one can only imagine how long it would last with only periodic usage. Product representative Kerry Harris pledges that they will replace the entire helmet free of charge if there is ever a problem with the battery.

This system was designed to be used in any helmet platform – bicycle or motorcycle – and they offer products for both. It was designed specifically as a safety feature providing illumination during darkness, but the applications for this technology are seemingly endless and only limited by one’s imagination. This application has been adapted to two other helmet designs, although the Falcon LE and in-mold Predator Series will have designs specifically catering to law enforcement. These helmets come in two basic colors for law enforcement (white/black) or may be requested in red for EMS personnel. Lettering on the helmets can be requested in reflective or non-reflective material.

This product was extensively tested, not only by my Targeting Neighborhood Threats Unit, but also by Officer Steve Bazany and his fellow bicycle officers in San Antonio, Texas. After five months of use, Steve has already placed a substantial order.

The helmet was utilized during both day and nighttime hours and was put through rigorous testing. During daytime hours, the lighting is obviously less visible than at night, but the two red LED lights on the back of the helmet can be seen even in bright sunlight. During darkness, the lights are extremely bright and the small headlight can often be used for limited tasks as well, even though it was not originally designed for that purpose. Steve added that the light can be used when approaching vehicles to both temporarily blind the driver and illuminate the interior of the vehicle as well.

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The Falcon LE far exceeds its intended use as a safety product and is even more remarkable when you consider that it has limited usage as a task-oriented light source.

Acting on suggestions from different agencies, the company has begun working on task lighting that may be used in conjunction with the helmet to fit specific needs. For instance, they are currently designing a moveable LED light that can be positioned to provide sufficient lighting for writing tickets, reading paperwork, etc.

The helmet is recharged via a plug-in charger that plugs directly into the helmet. This helmet plug has been designed to also be used as a power port that can facilitate other lighting as new technology is designed. We are eagerly awaiting the auxiliary task-specific light currently in development. We’ve also suggested that they install another switch on the helmet that would allow independent use of the headlight and rear lights. Because the company actively solicits ideas from officers that might make their helmet better for the law enforcement professional, we expect them to follow up on this suggestion.

The Falcon LE helmet is expected to have a $70 price tag while the Predator Series in-mold helmet will be a bit higher at $120-$130. If you are interested in learning more about the Falcon LE bicycle helmet or purchasing them for your department, visit one of the A.S.C.A. Technology websites at www.ascatech.com or www.ihtechnology.com. For more information from a representative, contact Kerry Harris at kharris@amakosiglobal.com or (877) 497-1666. In my opinion, we can’t have too many tools to ensure we go home safely at the end of our shift. It makes perfect sense to have this one, especially since you’ll never even know it’s there… until you need it.

Rob is an IPMBA PC Instructor and a Conference Workshop presenter. He has been a bicycle officer for six years and is a founding member of the Targeting Neighborhood Threats Unit. He can be reached at rpeterson@las-cruces.org.
Most public safety cyclists use cycling gloves during their patrol shifts in an effort to reduce road shock and prevent pressure and vibration on the nerves in the hand that can lead to numbness. There are many different manufacturers of cycling gloves available, including Ironman Cycling Gloves by Spenco. Spenco has been providing cycling gloves to the world-class athletes participating in the Hawaii Ironman Triathlon for 25 years and have recently expanded into the public safety arena.

Bill Paine, Sales Manager of Ironman Gloves, attended the 2005 IPMBA Conference in Scottsdale, Ariz., to promote this new glove to the public safety marketplace. Because Bill is a “local guy” who lives in the Philadelphia area, where I work, I quickly developed a professional relationship with him and was asked to evaluate his glove. Shortly after the conference, Bill stopped in on a combined IPMBA Police and EMS Cyclist course, which I was teaching with John Russell, EMSCI #093, in Bristol, PA. He was gracious enough to bring along various samples of his gloves for the participants to try.

The Ironman gloves come three models: the entry level Tour, the mid-grade Pro and the top-of-the-line Elite. All models feature a patented groove over the carpel tunnel nerve protecting the median nerve, in addition to standard protection of the ulna nerve. The Tour and Pro model have three protective pads (foam and gel, respectively), while the upgraded Elite boasts a five-pad gel system. All of the gloves have a reinforced thumb crotch and overlap stitching around the finger holes to prevent unraveling. The hand backing comes in either Lycra mesh or nylon spandex, and the wrist closure is a hook-and-loop.

During the IPMBA course, an EMS cyclist from St. Croix tore the wrist hook-and-loop closure while performing a glove-doffing exercise. Bill immediately replaced the glove – but he did not stop there. I made some suggestions on how to extend the “pull-tab” of the closure for easier manual dexterity and he relayed that information to the manufacturer. A design change was made based on the recommendation from the field trial. At the same time, Bill was busy collecting feedback from members of other agencies, including Temple University and LAPD, and incorporating their ideas into the design of the products.

In recognition of the year-round nature of many bike patrols (and the personal preference of some), Bill began to pursue the possibility of introducing a long-fingered fall and winter weight glove to the public safety cycling field. After much discussion with the manufacturer regarding the desired features, and a little longer than anticipated time period, the gloves were finally delivered. The word “police” was added to both the short- and long-fingered gloves, and the wear test of the new long-fingered gloves proved them to be of the same good quality as the first generation gloves.

Over the course of this year-long, continual evaluation phase, Spenco has produced a glove system that should accommodate a wide range of public safety cyclists – and budgets. The effort that Bill has put in, his willingness to accept critique, and his ability to make changes based on our feedback is truly appreciated. It will have benefits to both and shows that it is not about a working relationship but about a relationship that works.

For more information about Spenco Ironman cycling gloves, visit www.ironmangloves.com or contact Bill Paine at 215-335-9218 or painews@aol.com. Spenco participates in the IPMBA Product Purchase Program, offering more than 50% off the suggested retail prices.

John joined the University of Pennsylvania Police Department in 1988. He has been assigned to the bike patrol since its inception in March 1991. He has trained some 700 police, security, and EMS bike personnel from 75 agencies in the United States, Argentina, Australia, and Canada. He has won 12 gold medals in the Pennsylvania Police Olympics in running and mountain bike events and several medals in the International Law Enforcement Games. He also has 25 years of service in the fire, EMS, and hazardous materials fields. He can be reached at johnfw@publicsafety.upenn.edu.

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**Another take on Ironman Gloves**

by Jan M. Tazelaar

The word that most aptly describes the Ironman half-fingered bicycle gloves made by Spenco Company is substantial. In just one glance, wearers can tell these gloves are well-made and meant for serious riders. They are made with a combination of leather, nylon and cotton and include special trademarked Shock-Tek rubber gel pads that fully outline the palm of the hand. These “shock absorbers” not only protect the palms from bumps but also allow for a more secure grip of handlebars. We’ve all experienced paying too much for mediocre bicycle gloves that wear too easily and seem flimsy toward the ends of their short lives. In contrast to the norm, these well-stitched Ironman gloves will probably last two to three times longer while ultimately giving hands more protection but still allowing for finger flexibility.

Jan is the cycling spouse of an IPMBA member who prefers full-fingered gloves, leaving his half-fingered ones up for grabs.
Product Reviews

MOCEAN Uniforms

by Mark Stanish, PCI #697
Long Beach Township Police (NJ)

Last fall, when my Chief asked me to train officers from another area department, my initial response was, “Chief, it is almost Thanksgiving…not exactly riding weather here at the Jersey Shore!” I quickly realized I was not being “asked” to do this; instead, I was being told to “get it done.” Thoughts of the cold winter wind whipping off the ocean and cold, clear nights consumed my mind. However, before depression could take hold, one name came to mind: Bill Levitt.

For those of you who are not familiar with that name, Bill is the President of Mocean, an IPMBA Corporate member and supplier of bicycle uniforms to the Long Beach Township Police Department, among many others. I thought of Bill because his uniforms would be keeping me warm and comfortable over these four training days. It was also a great opportunity to put to a few new uniform items to the test. I knew that my jacket, a waterproof Code-B jacket with a zip-in liner, would be great for the first line of defense against the elements. These jackets are designed specifically for bike patrol. The cut is form-fitting but allows room for body armor. The front zipper is hidden by two flaps that block wind and rain and help maintain a neat appearance. Mocean pays extra attention to all the seams on the jacket to further reduce your chances of getting cold and wet. Perhaps the most practical feature of this jacket is that it is cut to waist length and has built-in belt keepers in the back to keep it in place for your entire tour.

Under the jacket I would be wearing a long-sleeved Metro-Polo shirt, done in my department’s yellow-over-black color scheme. These shirts utilize Mocean’s Vapor-Pique technology with Q-Wick treatment. What Vapor-Pique means for you is a comfortable, double-sided fabric with great comfort and durability. Our uniform shirts are as bright as the day we got them about four years ago. The Q-wick treatment that is applied to the inner fabric of the shirt pulls moisture away from your body to the outside of the shirt where it can aid in keeping you cool during a long ride. The Vapor-Pique design as the jacket and shirt, but the material is soft and slippery, making it perfect for under your vest. It also has an advanced moisture transport system that you can read about on the Mocean website. These shirts are made of a Nobel Peace Prize-winning material (seriously), and in my opinion, they deserve it. The P3 Vapor shirts follow the same form-fitting design as the jacket and shirt, but the material is soft and slippery, making it perfect for under your vest. It also has an advanced moisture transport system that you can read about on the Mocean website. These shirts are easy to take for granted until you get stuck wearing a cotton shirt under your vest and begin cursing yourself for leaving the Vapor shirt at home.

Next in line was keeping my lower half warm. There are a lot of choices out there if staying warm was my only concern, but being able to ride a bike comfortably and stay both warm and dry are tops on my priority list. Our unit members have been wearing Mocean pants since our inception four years ago, and save for minimal adjustments to our sizes, we are all using the same pants we got back then. For bad elements, we have been switching to our BDU pants so we would have room to wear something underneath, but now Mocean has that covered, too – the Approach and the Summit pants, with an extra pair of optional fleece liners. These pants are loose-fitting in the thigh area and tapered down to an elastic cuff; evidence of the attention to detail Mocean uses in designing these clothes. The loose-fitting thigh area accommodates the cycling motion perfectly while the tapered elastic cuffs keep your pants around your ankles and out of your chain. The vented knees help cool you off, which is great, as long as you are not riding in November! All of the pants offered by Mocean have numerous pockets for pens, notepads and other necessary items. Take your pick on these pants – there is no wrong decision. It basically comes down to preference.

Bill Levitt and the crew from Mocean have it all when it comes to uniforms for bike patrol and beyond. The clothing mentioned barely scratches the surface of what they have to offer to police, EMS and security personnel – visit www.mocean.net to see their extensive selection.

Perhaps the most valuable thing Mocean has to offer is not for sale on their website, or anywhere else. I’m talking about the outstanding personal customer service provided by this company. My first experience with Bill was at the conference in West Virginia. I explained to him that we had some issues with our uniforms and were looking to go in another direction. He took all my information and after the conference was over he went to great lengths to make sure our department stayed with his company. This is even more impressive when you (Continued on page 10)
Product Reviews

MOCEAN

(Continued from page 9)

consider the fact that at the time we only had a six person bike unit. Whether you have one guy on your unit or fifty, Mocean and Bill Levitt are going to see that you have what you need – when you need it – so you can remain effective in your community.

In 2004, the Mocean Grant for Public Safety Cycling was established. This grant provides an opportunity for IPMBA members to apply for funds to attend the Annual IPMBA Conference. The first year, they offered one $1000 grant. The second year, they offered three $500 awards, and ended up giving three $650 awards and three $350 awards. They continued the program in 2006 – see page 16 for a list of the lucky winners! Mocean also participates in IPMBA’s Product Purchase Program.

Mark has been a police cyclist since 2001 and an IPMBA Instructor since 2003. In addition to teaching IPMBA classes, he organizes 2-3 bicycle rodeos each year. His department is actively involved with Best Buy in a “Bicycling Safety Award” program, in which police officers carry five-dollar gift certificates to give to helmet-wearing kids. He can be reached at danandmark@comcast.net.

Lighting Solutions

(Continued from page 6)

bicyclists who need some extra conspicuity at night. The Nite Ize Marker band retails for roughly $15, which seems reasonable for its value and benefit.

The Nite Ize Helmet Marker is similar to the Marker Band in that it uses a reflective band incorporating a long life LED lamp. However, the Helmet Marker has a different job – its band is attached via hook & loop material to the front, back, or sides of a bike helmet. Weather and shock resistant, the Helmet Marker has the same, easy, push button ‘on-off’ as its brethren Marker Band, which activates the flash or glow modes. I found the Helmet Marker enhanced my conspicuity in vehicular conditions. The $15 price is a reasonable investment given the flexibility of affixing the Helmet Marker onto just about any smooth surface.

The item I came away most impressed with was the Nite Ize Combo Upgrade Kit for an AA battery-powered Mini Maglite® flashlight. The kit includes an LED bulb conversion along with a push-button switch that replaces the end cap for a Mini Maglite. Given that many service workers use Maglites, and often times the AA Mini Maglite finds itself in a CSI kit, medic bag, etc., I find the stock AA Mini mainly serves as a cheap backup. But for those patrollers who carry an AA Mini Maglite, the kit upgrade is a significant improvement. Three bright, white LEDs take the place of a dull yellow incandescent bulb and a rugged push button end cap conveniently displaces the cumbersome twist-on-off method.

The question is, “Is it worth upgrading a $10 light with a $10 accessory?” You be the judge. When the battery life is improved, the lamp life is extended, and the LED lamps are notably sturdier and brighter, it’s hard not to justify an upgrade to a flashlight you depend on. When I compared the Nite Ize LED bulb upgrade to another manufacturer’s upgrade for the same Maglite, I found the Nite Ize version was cheaper and brighter!

So there you have it. Nite Ize is a company that is introducing their LED products to bike patrol. You can find Nite Ize Innovative Accessories on the web, in your local hardware store, or contact them below for more info. The “Ize” has it and their ideas are enlightening.

Nite Ize Innovative Accessories is not listed in the IPMBA Product Purchase Program. Contact: Nite Ize, Inc., 5735-E Arapahoe Ave, Boulder, CO 80303 USA, (303) 449-2576, (800) 678-6483 (US & Canada), fax (303) 449-2013, email info@niteize.com or via the web at www.niteize.com.

Mitch is an IPMBA Instructor Trainer, an IMBA National Mountain Bike Patroller, and has a penchant for singlespeeds. He can be reached at trujillom@ci.boulder.co.us.

BIKE PATROL SIREN

CycleSiren Features:

- Sound modes are Walk, Yelp and Horn (Whistle sound available).
- Powered by a 9-volt NiMH RC battery that fits into the Police red or side gear pack.

For Police & EMS Bike Patrol.

Accessories:

- LED Tailights: Blue/Amber, Red or Blue.
- Ultra-Bright White LED Pared Light.

Please visit our web site:

www.cyclesiren.com

Or telephone us at:

714-628-8935.

COMBO UPGRADE KIT

NITEIZE

WWW.NITEIZE.COM

MOCEAN

DAN AND MARK

(Continued from page 10)
Product Reviews

The Inova 24/7 Multi Function Emergency Light

by Charlie Irvine, PCI #752/EMSCI #143
Metropolitan Police Force, London, England

I was first introduced to this light by PC Rob Simpson from Cheshire Police. He had acquired his in the States whilst on holiday, but after a quick search on the internet I discovered that it was being distributed in this country by Edgar Brothers of Macclesfield, Cheshire. Guess where Rob is based? Macclesfield!

I phoned the company and was impressed by their staff who were friendly and knowledgeable. I ordered one of the lights over the phone, and received it three days later. The light comes with a host of accessories, a neck lanyard, headband, magnetic mount and even a wall mount. The light itself is amazing. It is smaller than a mobile phone, and has eight different functions.

The light itself is octagonal shaped and is operated by turning the outside face to the required light. The lights range from low level white to high level white to a three-colour Distress strobe. It also has a locator beacon which has a run time of up to 15000 hrs!

On the work front, I wore my Inova 24/7 the day it arrived, and its baptism of fire was not long in coming! We attended a road traffic accident, and I was doing traffic control. I put the light on to the two-colour Emergency Beacon, and started directing traffic. As I did so, one driver leant out of his window and said to me, “Turn that down a bit mate, it’s a bit bright!”

The lights themselves have a two-mile signal visibility (important for our County colleagues when they’re out in the fields!), and a 50-foot effective range.

From a police perspective, another important thing about this light is that it allows you to have both hands free when dealing with a stop. No longer do you have to hold a torch awkwardly as well as your pen and pocket book. The Inova light clips onto one of the radio holders on your jacket and beams directly onto your book. Overall, I am very impressed with this “Swiss Army knife” of flashlights, and would recommend it to anyone doing Bike Patrol/EMS.

The company’s website is at www.inovalight.com. Edgar Brothers can be contacted on 01625 613177.

Charlie is a member of the Whitechapel Bike Unit. He has been an IPMBA Instructor since 2004 and maintains www.bikesquad.org, an online resource for bike personnel with a focus on the United Kingdom. He can be reached at cfb920@aol.com.
IPMBA welcomes Cycle Source Group as its newest corporate member. The Long Island-based Cycle Source Group is the U.S. supplier of Smith & Wesson Bicycles, available in four models – Perimeter, Tactical, Custom, and Full Suspension. They also carry Bushwacker rack bags, the Bell public safety helmet, and lights by Alert Systems, Lightman, and NiteRider. A long-time supporter of IPMBA and its members, CSG participates in the IPMBA Product Purchase Program, offering 20-35% discounts to IPMBA members. Contact Peter Carey at 631-205-1430 or peterc@cyclesg.com, and visit http://www.cyclesg.com/sw/ for more information.

Volcanic Bicycles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beta</th>
<th>Alpha (upgrades appear in italics)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>Volcanic (5 year warranty)</td>
<td>Volcanic (5 year warranty)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fork</td>
<td>Rock Shox Judy J2</td>
<td>Marzocchi MX Comp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headset</td>
<td>Cane Creek STS (ball bearing)</td>
<td>Cane Creek S1 (sealed cartridge bearing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riser Bar</td>
<td>Truvativ Hussefelt</td>
<td>Truvativ Hussefelt</td>
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<td>Stem</td>
<td>Truvativ XR</td>
<td>Truvativ XR</td>
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<td>Seatpost</td>
<td>Truvativ XR</td>
<td>Truvativ XR</td>
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<td>Bottom Bracket</td>
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<td>Truvativ XR</td>
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<td>Disc Brakes</td>
<td>SRAM BB5</td>
<td>SRAM BB7</td>
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<td>Brake Levers</td>
<td>SRAM FR5</td>
<td>SRAM FR5</td>
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<td>Trigger Shifters</td>
<td>SRAM X7</td>
<td>SRAM X9</td>
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<td>Rear Derailleur</td>
<td>SRAM X7</td>
<td>SRAM X7</td>
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<td>Front Derailleur</td>
<td>SRAM X Gen</td>
<td>SRAM X Gen</td>
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<td>Cassette</td>
<td>SRAM</td>
<td>WTB Speed V</td>
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<td>Saddle</td>
<td>WTB Speed V</td>
<td>Shimano XT disc hubs with Sun Rhyno Lite XL rims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubs</td>
<td>Shimano Deore disc</td>
<td>Shimano XT disc hubs with Sun Rhyno Lite XL rims</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>Cross</td>
<td>Continental Town &amp; Country (and other options)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grips</td>
<td>Serfas</td>
<td>Serfas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pedals</td>
<td>Redline with plastic toe clips</td>
<td>Shimano 424 Clipless (other options available)</td>
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<td>Rear Rack</td>
<td>Planet Bike Eco Rack</td>
<td>Planet Bike Eco Rack</td>
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<td>Water Bottle Cages</td>
<td>Planet Bike (2)</td>
<td>Planet Bike (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kickstand</td>
<td>Rearmount</td>
<td>Rearmount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>$1199.99</td>
<td>$1499.99</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Product review appears on page five*
Welcome to the IPMBA Product Purchase Program! Since its humble beginnings in 1997 with just four members, the Product Purchase Program has grown to include nearly 70 fine companies, including several from beyond the U.S. borders.

These companies provide a wide variety of goods and services, but they share a commitment to IPMBA members. By taking advantage of these discounts, you can pay for your membership with just a few purchases!

Some loyal readers may notice that the listings in this issue are a little shorter than they have been in the past. The listings have been abbreviated somewhat in order to accommodate more participants, however, the full listings can be found in the Industry & Resources section at www.ipmba.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Regular Cost</th>
<th>Cost to Members</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALERTE SYSTEMS INT’L</td>
<td>“Trail-Blazer” Bike Light Kit</td>
<td>$550 GBP + Delivery</td>
<td>£475 GBP + Delivery</td>
<td>Chulan Weeresinghe</td>
<td>++(0)2082419826/Fax: +(+0)2082410999</td>
<td><a href="http://www.alertesystems.com">www.alertesystems.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDUSA &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Montague Paratrooper Folding Bike</td>
<td>£550 GBP + Delivery</td>
<td>£475 GBP + Delivery</td>
<td>Jerry Watley</td>
<td>800-728-1556/Fax: 800-635-1536</td>
<td><a href="http://www.andusa.com">www.andusa.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASLET: AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING</td>
<td>ASLET Membership</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>Nancy Moser</td>
<td>301-668-9466/Fax: 301-668-9482</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aslet.org">www.aslet.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIKE WORLD</td>
<td>Bicycles and bike accessories</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>Mike Beatty</td>
<td>800-928-5558/Fax: 210-828-3299</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bikeworld.com">www.bikeworld.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRATWEAR</td>
<td>Bike Uniforms</td>
<td>$1220</td>
<td>$1096</td>
<td>Justin Kline</td>
<td>877-420-2766/Fax: 714-242-1927</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bratwear.com">www.bratwear.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANE CREEK CYCLING COMPONENTS</td>
<td>Suspension Scatpost</td>
<td>$139</td>
<td>$88.50</td>
<td>Mike Munter</td>
<td>800-527-1527/206-694-1517</td>
<td><a href="http://www.caneecreek.com">www.caneecreek.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASCADE DESIGN</td>
<td>Platypus Hydration Systems</td>
<td>$3100-$4500+</td>
<td>$1800 +</td>
<td>Mike Munter</td>
<td>1-800-344-1256/Fax: 631-205-1435</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cascadedesigns.com">www.cascadedesigns.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTINI TECHNOLOGIES</td>
<td>All Wheel Drive Mountain Bikes</td>
<td>$3100-$4500+</td>
<td>$1800 +</td>
<td>Justin Kline</td>
<td>215-351-9895/Fax: 215-351-9896</td>
<td><a href="http://www.christini.com">www.christini.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CYCLE SIREN</td>
<td>Cyclesiren Trooper, Patrol &amp; EMS minisirens</td>
<td>$49.95 full kit; $29.95 modulator only.</td>
<td>10% off Retail</td>
<td>Bud Nilsson</td>
<td>877-477-4736/Fax: 815-572-0121</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyclesiren.com">www.cyclesiren.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CYCLE SOURCE GROUP</td>
<td>Bikes &amp; Accessories</td>
<td>Contact for Product List</td>
<td>10% off Retail</td>
<td>Jeff Sims</td>
<td>877-533-7245/Fax: 631-205-1435</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cycleesg.com">www.cycleesg.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Product Purchase Program was updated January 2006. The information has been provided by the participating companies and is subject to change without notice. A company’s participation in the Product Purchase Program does not indicate endorsement by IPMBA, nor does it indicate the company’s sponsorship of IPMBA.
**Product Purchase Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Regular Cost</th>
<th>Cost to Members</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cyclops Bicycle &amp; Tactical Operations</strong></td>
<td>Product: Bicycle &amp; Tactical Ops Equipment &amp; Accessories</td>
<td>Cost to Members: 10% off Retail</td>
<td>Ashley Foster</td>
<td>843-259-8368/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cyclopcst@citcom.com">cyclopcst@citcom.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DANALCO</strong></td>
<td>Product: Sealskinz &amp; Chillblocker Waterproof Socks &amp; Gloves</td>
<td>Cost to Members: Not Price</td>
<td>Sam Matthews</td>
<td>800-868-2629/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sman@dananco.com">sman@dananco.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DE SOTO SPORT</strong></td>
<td>Product: Triathlon Clothing</td>
<td>Cost to Members: 40% off Retail</td>
<td>Emilio De Soto II</td>
<td>800-453-6673/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sam@dananco.com">sam@dananco.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DEMAND TECHNOLOGY, LTD.</strong></td>
<td>Product: LightRider Cycle Light</td>
<td>Cost to Members: £27.50</td>
<td>Gill Hawkins</td>
<td>01252 612661/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@demandtechnology.co.uk">info@demandtechnology.co.uk</a></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DESERT SUN</strong></td>
<td>Product: Bike First Aid Kits</td>
<td>Cost to Members: $20 plain; $22 printed</td>
<td>Bertie Anderson</td>
<td>760-468-1800/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bertiea@hotmail.com">bertiea@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DO WRAP PERFORMANCE HEATWEAR</strong></td>
<td>Product: Under Helmet Headbands &amp; Bandanas</td>
<td>Cost to Members: 15% off</td>
<td>John Okon</td>
<td>800-359-2514/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john@dowrap.com">john@dowrap.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DYNAMIC BICYCLES</strong></td>
<td>Product: Chainless Police Bikes</td>
<td>Contact for Product List</td>
<td>Anthony Ociviera</td>
<td>800-935-9553/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:policy@dynamicbicycles.com">policy@dynamicbicycles.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EKO SPORT</strong></td>
<td>Product: Power Grips, Air Suspension, Pumps</td>
<td>Contact Name: Paul Acea</td>
<td>800-999-8277/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paect@ekosport.com">paect@ekosport.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ELHN BADGE &amp; EMBLEM DESIGN</strong></td>
<td>Product: Custom Police Badges, Emblems, Pins, Coins</td>
<td>Contact Name: Seth Leitman</td>
<td>866-343-5551/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Seth@electrictransport.net">Seth@electrictransport.net</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ERGO, LLC</strong></td>
<td>Product: “The Seat” Ergonomic Bike Seat</td>
<td>Contact Name: Thomas White</td>
<td>866-693-9381/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Thomas@ergo.com">Thomas@ergo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EV TECH</strong></td>
<td>Product: Bikes &amp; Accessories for LE and EMS</td>
<td>Contact Name: Doug Canfield</td>
<td>972-851-9990/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dcanfield@evtech.us">dcanfield@evtech.us</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPOSURE/USE (ULTIMATE SPORTS ENGINEERING)</strong></td>
<td>Product: Lighting Systems</td>
<td>Contact Name: Jonathan Sharpe</td>
<td>++(0) 1798 344477/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@exposurelights.com">info@exposurelights.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FUJI AMERICA</strong></td>
<td>Product: Bikes &amp; Accessories</td>
<td>Contact Name: Steve Harad</td>
<td>215-824-3854 x1111/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sharad@fuji-bikes.com">sharad@fuji-bikes.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GITA SPORTING GOODS</strong></td>
<td>Product: Giordana Apparel</td>
<td>Contact Name: Nelson Frazier</td>
<td>800-FON-GITA x 319</td>
<td>800-FON-GITA x 319/Fax</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IMBA: INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION</strong></td>
<td>Product: IMBA Membership</td>
<td>Contact Name: Scott Gordon</td>
<td>888-442-IMBA x106/Fax</td>
<td>847-437-8478</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IONSO PRODUCTS</strong></td>
<td>Product: Cleaners &amp; Lubes for Guns &amp; Bikes</td>
<td>Contact Name: Marianne Iosso</td>
<td>888-747-4332/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ionso@ionso.com">ionso@ionso.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LANE SUNGLASSES</strong></td>
<td>Product: Protective Eyewear &amp; Goggles</td>
<td>Contact Name: Neal Dykstra</td>
<td>800-542-7850/Fax</td>
<td>lanesunglasses.com</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LEONARD CONSULTING GROUP</strong></td>
<td>Product: S&amp;W and Fuji Bikes, Lightman Strobes, Duty Gear</td>
<td>Contact Name: Mark Leonard</td>
<td>501-517-5338/Fax</td>
<td><a href="mailto:LCGInc@bcglobal.net">LCGInc@bcglobal.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LENNON PRODUCTS</strong></td>
<td>Product: See Website</td>
<td>Contact Name: 30% off Retail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eyewear@netnitco.net">eyewear@netnitco.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LEONARD CONSULTING GROUP</strong></td>
<td>Product: See Website</td>
<td>Contact Name: 30% off Retail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eyewear@netnitco.net">eyewear@netnitco.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION</strong></td>
<td>Product: IMBA Membership</td>
<td>Contact Name: Scott Gordon</td>
<td>888-442-IMBA x106/Fax</td>
<td>303-545-9026</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEOKO PRODUCTS</strong></td>
<td>Product: Protective Eyewear &amp; Goggles</td>
<td>Contact Name: Neil Dykstra</td>
<td>800-542-7850/Fax</td>
<td>219-956-2112</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NITRO PRODUCTS</strong></td>
<td>Product: See Website</td>
<td>Contact Name: Mark Leonard</td>
<td>501-517-5338/Fax</td>
<td>501-653-2969</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POWER PRODUCTS</strong></td>
<td>Product: See Website</td>
<td>Contact Name: 30% off Retail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eyewear@netnitco.net">eyewear@netnitco.net</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Product Purchase Program

LIFT & STORAGE SYSTEMS, INC.
Product: Automatic Bike Lift Storage Systems
Regular Cost: $4,295 (30 bikes); $6,590 (60 bikes)
Cost to Members: $4,000 (30 bikes); $6,000 (60 bikes)
Contact Name: Shawn Jones
Phone: 800-825-4777/Fax: 651-777-1535
Website: www.liftstore.com
Email: sjones@liftstore.com

LIGHT CYCLES
Product: Bicycle Parts & Accessories
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 20-25% off Retail
Contact Name: Bob Light
Phone: 518-420-4666
Email: lightbr@plattsburgh.edu

LOUKA TACTICAL TRAINING LLC
Product: Video: Firearms & Training Issues
Regular Cost: $25, incl. shipping
Contact Name: Liz Williams
Phone: 800-4MAXXIS/
Fax: 651-776-7055
Website: www.maxit-inc.com, www.headgator.com
Email: bgorton@headgator.com

MOCEAN
Product: Bike Patrol Uniforms
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 25% off Retail
Contact Name: Bill Levitt
Phone: 877-662-3680/Fax: 949-646-1590
Website: www.mocean.net
Email: mocamb@aol.com

MONTAGUE BIKES
Product: Paratrooper Tactical Folding Mountain Bike
Regular Cost: $645
Cost to Members: Free Folding Pedals & Kickstand with Purchase
Contact Name: Joe Solomon
Phone: 800-736-5348/Fax: 617-491-7207
Website: www.montagueusa.com
Email: jsolomon@montagueusa.com

NUGO NUTRITION
Product: Nutrition/Energy Bars
Regular Cost: $1.59/bar; $23.85/box
Cost to Members: $1.02/bar; $15.25/box
Contact Name: Keith Rohrlick
Phone: 888-421-2032/Fax: 412-781-4120
Website: www.nugonutrition.com
Email: krohrlick@nugonutrition.com

OLYMPIC UNIFORMS/J. MARCEL
Product: Bike Patrol Uniforms
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 10% off Retail Prices
Contact Name: Julie Cruise/Rachel Peterson
Phone: 888-722-9222/Fax: 206-722-1521
Website: www.olyuniforms.com
Email: reps@olyuniforms.com

OPENHOUSE PRODUCTS
Product: Panniers, Cycle Bags, Lyteline High-Viz Products
Regular Cost: $10 - $500
Cost to Members: 15% off Regular Prices
Contact Name: Bruce Burns
Phone: +44 (0)1422 824777/Fax: +44 (0)1422 824666
Website: www.openhouseproducts.com
Email: Bruce@openhouseproducts.com

PARADIGM TACTICAL PRODUCTS
Product: FRISKER PRO Hand Worn Metal Detector
Regular Cost: $194.95 + S&H
Cost to Members: $155 + S&H
Contact Name: Camilla Cutler
Phone: 978-352-6633/Fax: 978-352-7799
Website: www.frisker.com
Email: sales@paradigmtd.com

PATROL CYCLE LLC
Product: Patrol Cycle Shoe
Regular Cost: $109.95/Web Direct $79.95
Cost to Members: $67.95
Contact Name: Mark Eumurian
Phone: 800-208-2032/Fax: 651-773-8762
Website: www.patrolcycle.com
Email: bgorton@patrolcycle.com

POLAR DESIGN, INC.
Product: Hydration Backpacks
Regular Cost: PolarPak 1.0 $42.95
Cost to Members: PolarPak 1.0 $18.30
Contact Name: Jeff Skilledin
Phone: 208-426-9058/Fax: 208-424-8857
Website: www.polarpack.com
Email: jeff@polarpack.com

PROGOLD LUBRICANTS
Product: ProLink Chain Lube, ProGold Lubes, EPX
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 40% off Retail
Contact Name: Doug or Van
Phone: 800-421-5823/Fax: 404-766-3977
Website: www.progoldmfr.com
Email: progoldmfr@aol.com

PROMARK INT’L INC.
Product: Full Line Law Enforcement Equipment
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 40% off Most Products
Contact Name: Kenneth Battcher
Phone: 800-645-4443/Fax: 516-795-4259
Website: www.publicsafetymall.com
Email: promarkint@aol.com

PUBLIC SAFETY LOGOS
Product: Badges/Badge Cases/Jewelry/Patches/etc.
Regular Cost: $40-$115
Cost to Members: 10% off + drop ship free on $150 or more
Contact Name: Michael Carrizales
Phone: 800-276-0706/Fax: 281-251-4786
Website: www.publicsafetymall.com
Email: sales@publicsafetymall.com

R & B FABRICATIONS
Product: Panniers & Safety Vests
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 15% off Retail
Contact Name: Tina Lime
Phone: 800-553-1911/Fax: 800-742-5345
Website: www.rfbfab.com
Email: info@rffab.com

REDMAN TRAINING GEAR
Product: Defensive Tactics Training Gear
Regular Cost: Contact for Product List
Cost to Members: 10% off Retail
Contact Name: Bob Brothers
Phone: 800-865-7840/Fax: 800-459-2598
Website: www.redmangear.com

RUBEL BIKE MAPS
Product: Bicycling Street Smarts: 48-page booklet
Regular Cost: See website for price schedule
Cost to Members: Free shipping on any size order.
Contact Name: Andy Rubel
Phone: 617-776-6567/Fax: 617-623-1523
Website: www.bikemaps.com
Email: info@bikemaps.com
Contact for free sample; see full text at www.bikemaps.com.
Mocean Announces Grant Winners

The Mocean Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners of the 2006 Mocean Grants for Public Safety Cycling. For the third consecutive year, the California-based manufacturer of technical bike uniforms has offered IPMBA members the opportunity to apply for funding to offset the cost of the IPMBA Conference.

Mocean president Bill Levitt stated, “as always, the Board found each application compelling and worthy of the available grants, which makes the decision process most difficult. We want to thank all the applicants and ask that those that did not win this year to consider submitting an entry for next year’s IPMBA Conference in Baton Rouge. While there is no set formula, many factors are taken into consideration in deciding the winners. Those factors change by conference; therefore, applications that did not qualify this year may be chosen in 2007.”

Congratulations to the following winners:

Emergency Medical Services: Chief Michael Fischer, EMS-Rescue Special Operations, Taneytown, Maryland – $650

Colleges/Universities: Officer John Deering, University of Wisconsin at Madison Police, Madison, Wisconsin – $650

Officer Curtis Galbreath, Franklin & Marshall Police, Lancaster, Pennsylvania – $350

Law Enforcement: Sergeant Mark Pacini, Ocean City Police Department, Ocean City, Maryland – $650

Corporal Scott Fogel, Quakertown Borough Police, Quakertown, Pennsylvania – $350

Chris Burke, Hamilton County Park Rangers, Cincinnati, Ohio – $350

IPMBA would like to thank Mocean for their generosity and their continued support of IPMBA and our members. For more information about Mocean uniforms, please visit www.mocean.net or email Bill Levitt at moceanbi@aol.com.
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Awards to Celebrate the Capital’s 999 Cycle

The hard work and dedication of London’s emergency service cyclists were recognised on Thursday 23 February at Transport for London’s (TfL) annual 999 London Cycling Awards at City Hall.

Now in their third year, TfL’s 999 London Cycling Awards celebrate excellence in London’s police and ambulance cycling teams, by rewarding the commitment they show to Londoners, community relations and cycling in the Capital.

Londoners have taken to their bicycles in record numbers over the past five years, and that trend has been mirrored in the use of cycle teams by London’s emergency services.

On London’s busy streets, bicycles are often the fastest and most convenient way for the emergency services to chase offenders or rush to the aid of injured people.

TfL is working in partnership with the emergency services to make cycling an integral part of their front line services.

The Metropolitan and City Police forces, the London Ambulance Service and now St John Ambulance all have a growing number of serving police officers, traffic wardens, community support officers, paramedics and emergency medical technicians cycling the Capital’s streets.

Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London, said: “I would like to congratulate London’s emergency service cyclists for their dedication, commitment and professionalism.

“Not only are they helping protect Londoners by providing speedy responses to emergency calls, they are also a great role model for cycling in the capital.”

Peter Hendy CBE, Commissioner of Transport for London, said: “The use of cycles by London’s police and ambulance services is proving to be invaluable. TfL is fully committed to increasing cycling by all Londoners, whether for commuting to work, policing the streets or saving lives.

“Cycling is becoming much more popular. We have already seen the number of cycle journeys double on London’s roads during the past five years, and with the Capital gearing up to host the start of the Tour de France next year, there has never been a better time to cycle.”

Ed’s Note: IPMBA is proud to note that three of the four individual award recipients are IPMBA members, and that many members of the unit award, including its founder, are also IPMBA members. Congratulations to all the winners on their accomplishments.

Police Cycling Award, awarded to a cyclist or cycle team from London’s police services who has demonstrated excellence through the use of bicycles in police work.

Awarded to PC Simon Magav, Metropolitan Police, whose enthusiasm and dedication to the role is evidenced by his cycling daily for the last two years regardless of weather or conditions. He has made more than 100 arrests, many for priority crime issues, and stopped and searched 343 people, resulting in the seizure of a large number of drugs, stolen property and weapons. His daily presence on streets of City of Westminster has reassured the public and helped to establish a strong presence in the community. In addition, he has assisted in running cycle training courses for other officers, mentored new officers on cycle patrol, and established relationship with the cycling community as well as policed high profile events.

Cycling in the Ambulance Service Award, awarded to a cyclist or team from London’s ambulance services who has demonstrated excellence in meeting London’s emergency healthcare needs through the use of the bicycle

Awarded to IPMBA Member Mick Hampson, London Ambulance Service, for effectively using his cycle training skills to negotiate Heathrow terminal during busiest time of the year, arriving at the scene of a cardiac arrest within two minutes. He established a safe position and environment for patient and bystanders, then administered CPR and used portable defibrillator for resuscitation of patient who had stopped breathing. He then called for the ambulance crew and maintained the resuscitation effort until pulse had returned and ambulance crew arrived. The patient subsequently recovered and was able to meet the man who saved his life.

999 London Cycling Award, the top individual award, presented to the one individual from all 999 organisations who has done the most to develop cycling within their field of work.

Awarded to IPMBA Instructor PC Charlie Irvine, Metropolitan Police. Charlie, who established the cycle patrol system in Newham, became an IPMBA Instructor and helped develop the MPS’s own police cycle training programme. He established a users group on MPS intranet to encourage best practice amongst cycle officers and created a website for cycle officers that is used throughout the UK and which has generated international interest. Charlie has had extensive involvement in building relationships with communities, including outreach in Bangladeshi community, and recycling scheme of bicycles in Tower Hamlets. He implemented cycle patrols in the Whitechapel Safer Neighbourhood team which have improved relations with the community and local youths, and developed a scheme to provide recovered cycles to local youths. He also liaised with various cycling groups, raising the profile of the team, and is actively involved with recruitment and public relations efforts for the MPS cycle patrol teams. His efforts have contributed to a higher quality response capability covering a larger area, reduction in crime, proactive and efficient patrols and improved relations with the MPS as well as with many communities and organisations.

Cycling in the Community Award, awarded to a cyclist or cycle team from all represented bodies who has demonstrated...

(Continued on page 20)


(Continued from page 19)

excellence in improving community relations through the use of the bicycle their profession.

Awards to Celebrate, Cont.

Awards to London Ambulance Service (LAS) for its highly professional and successful Cycle Response Unit (CRU). All riders in the CRU are trained to a standard of EMS Cycling, meaning that all instructors, mechanics and events planners are all qualified to the highest international standard. The LAS CRU have increased support systems by introducing cycle parking facilities at various sites and pool bike schemes within LAS, and encouraged cycling as part of mainstream operations and to other LAS staff. They greatly raised the profile of the ambulance cycle through involvement in public events, increasing public awareness and providing educational information and demonstrations. After recently completing a successful pilot project at Heathrow Airport, a permanent CRU is in place and is fully operational. The LAS CRU has served as a benchmark for the rollout of other cycle units, and has served as a model for the newly developed St John Ambulance London District cycle response unit. They are looking to establish a CRU in the City in 2006. The LAS CRU was the idea of IPMBA Instructor Tom Lynch, who has worked tirelessly since 2000 to establish it. Tom deserves special recognition for his perseverance and dedication to the concept and the team.

The 4th Annual UK Emergency Services Mountain Bike Users Seminar

You are invited to attend the above event to be held at The National Oceanography Centre in the City of Southampton on the 15th and 16th July 2006. The event has been made possible by the kind support of the Southampton City Council and is held in conjunction with the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA).

This is the largest and only national event for public safety cyclists and attracts police, ambulance, and related services cyclists from across the country and around the world. The two day event emphasises best practice in cycle patrol for police and other emergency personnel from agencies of all types and sizes.

The conference will consist of a number of different workshops where bike patrol personnel will share their experiences, challenges, problems, and solutions through a series of discussions, workshops, and on-bike skills practice. The topics covered include bike handling skills, tactics and operations, how to set up, run and manage a successful cycle unit, community issues (including Police Community Support Officers), EMS topics, fitness and bike maintenance.

The event will also include an opportunity to test your bike skills in an obstacle course competition, and several companies have been invited to attend the seminar to exhibit their bike patrol products.

You do not have to be part of IPMBA to attend as the seminar is designed to highlight the many uses of bike patrols, help with skills and abilities and make valuable contacts.

The cost of the seminar is £100, which includes: single room accommodation at Solent University Halls of Residence on Friday and Saturday nights, breakfast and lunch at the National Oceanography Centre on Saturday and Sunday, formal evening meal on Saturday at the De Vere Hotel attended by the Mayor of Southampton, tea and coffee during breaks at the seminar, seminar attendance, and a t-shirt. If accommodation is not required then the cost will be £50.

An IPMBA Instructor Course will be offered the week prior to the seminar, starting on Monday 10th July. If you are interested in a place on this course please contact Maureen at IPMBA, Maureen@ipmba.org.

For more information and to receive an information and registration pack for the Seminar please contact Steve Baxter at stephen.baxter@hampshire.pnn.police.uk or telephone 07810 852525.
Wheeler Healers

by Dave Lindsay
Broward Sheriff Office (FL), Fire-Rescue Division

“Bike 10 responding,” That dispatch is heard 8-10 times a day from Broward Sheriff’s Office, Fire Rescue Division’s newest medical unit.

On November 14, 2005, BSOFR initiated a pilot program, putting the division’s Advanced Medical Bike Unit (AMBU) in the terminals of Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport (FLL). This program was to be introduced during the holiday season at one of the busiest airports in the country. As one of the first departments in the U.S. to put ALS bike medics in an airport, we needed to see if it was feasible and cost-effective before implementing it on a full-time basis.

The AMBU team was formed in 1999 to supplement EMS coverage at large scale events. As a fully functional ALS unit, we carry all the standard ALS equipment, including O2, drugs, SAO2, advanced airway adjuncts and an AED. We work in teams of two and carry our gear on two specially outfitted mountain bikes. We are deployed throughout Broward County at such events as July 4th celebrations, road races, festivals, and the Ft. Lauderdale Air and Sea Show as well as politically-charged events, like the OAS meeting, which draw thousands of demonstrators. The teams worked well at these events but FLL would require a totally different deployment.

FLL Station 10 Crash Fire Rescue has one BLS engine, one ALS Transport Rescue, BC, and four crash trucks. The call volume has doubled in the last couple of years and the major airport expansion has caused visitor traffic to almost triple, with continued growth expected. Because Station 10 is located in the middle of the airfield and R10 is occasionally detained by air traffic while en route to the terminal, response times are sometimes delayed. In addition, R10 is currently the only transport unit available on the airport property. When they transport, E10 is dispatched to the next call along with a mutual aid rescue, either R6 from Port Everglades or R32 from west of the airport. Both units often experience delayed response times due to traffic flow and access concerns. We began exploring ways to station an ALS unit in the terminals, and it seemed that AMBU would fit the bill. We could reduce response/patient contact times as well as canceling the rescue unit if no transport was needed, thus keeping them available for another call. More importantly, if R10 was transporting, we could deliver ALS care long before the mutual aide rescue unit arrived.

FLL has four terminals and a car rental center, as well as numerous parking garages. We were stationed in the baggage claim area of Terminal 4 and responded to all incidents in the terminals/jet ways/baggage claim area/parking garages as well as the surrounding curbside roadways. Because we are cross-trained as firefighters, we also responded to all fire alarms and fire investigation calls (but not alerts or fuel spills). We could advise for the first due in engine and assist with evacuations if needed. After the Chaukels seaplane went down in Miami, our bike medics assisted the aviation division in helping grieving family members and staff deal with the tragedy.

We worked seven days a week, including holidays. Our 12-hour shifts ran 9am-9pm, encompassing the heaviest visitor load and call volume. We had unlimited access to all areas of the airport. We could break through the checkpoints, up the escalators and through the crowds more easily and quickly than three medics pushing a stretcher. The parking garages have always posed problems for the transporting unit, but the bikes could enter the garages from any level and access the different areas via the moving walkways/elevators/escalators or ramps.

During the trial period of November 14 through December 5, BK10 ran 236 alarms with an average response time of 2.50 minutes. R10, the airport rescue, had an average response time of 4.37 minutes. Thirty percent of the alarms at FLL were handled by mutual aid rescues with an average response time of 9.0 minutes. During that time the unit handled four cardiac arrests, a critical head injury to a deputy who was hit by a car while directing traffic, numerous falls from the escalators, as well as the medical/trauma calls common to the urban setting.

In addition to the operational benefits, AMBU also acted as an ambassador for the Ft. Lauderdale area and specifically the Broward Sheriff’s Fire Rescue Division. The majority of our days were spent answering questions, giving directions and assisting visitors. One of our crews actually assisted a passenger in finding her car in the parking garage when she couldn’t remember where she parked it.

Another important role that we played was being highly visible. Even though deputies and TSA agents are assigned to the checkpoints and gates, two uniformed medics on bikes riding the terminals acted as a deterrent to crime as well as provided two more sets of eyes to be on the alert for suspicious incidents and activity.

AMBU currently consists of 70 paramedics, 30 of whom have the credentials and clearance to work the airport. Most also have ARFF training. All members must complete an in-house training program geared after IPMBA’s EMS Cyclist curriculum (Ed’s note: the author of this article has plans to attend the IPMBA Instructor Course in 2006.) Additional training takes place on site at the airport.

This program was a huge success and is in the process of expanding to 24-hour unit, with peak times being spent on the bikes in the terminals and down times being spent on a second ALS transport truck stationed at Station 10.

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Another important role that we played was being highly visible. Even though deputies and TSA agents are assigned to the checkpoints and gates, two uniformed medics on bikes riding the terminals acted as a deterrent to crime as well as provided two more sets of eyes to be on the alert for suspicious incidents and activity.

As one medic was heard saying, “where else in Florida can you go and ride your bike, in the air conditioning, in a pair of shorts, and get paid for it?”

For more information about the AMBU program, please contact me at David_Lindsay@sheriff.org or Chief Joe Hosford at Joseph_Hosford@sheriff.org.

Dave is a lieutenant with Broward Sheriff Office, Fire Rescue Division, and has 21 years on the job as a paramedic/firefighter. He has been an active member and Bike Team Coordinator since 1999. He is looking forward to attending the IPMBA Instructor Course sometime this year.
The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad became a bit more mobile last week, receiving donations for several new bicycles.

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club, the Town of Chevy Chase and Jane Fairweather Real Estate teamed up to donate $8,500 to the rescue squad for its Bicycle Emergency Response Team during the Rotary’s Jan. 17 meeting.

The money will be used to upgrade the squad’s bikes, which have become essential tools in responding to emergencies in the increasingly urban community of Bethesda.

“Bethesda’s changed so much over the years,” said John Bowis, president of the B-CC Rotary Club Foundation. “It’s really gone from a suburban area to an urban area. Just as you’ve seen the police department move to a bicycle patrol, the B-CC Rescue Squad has had to do the same thing because we have a number of large events where they can’t get the big trucks through.”

The volunteer B-CC Rescue Squad responds to emergencies in the communities of Bethesda, Chevy Chase and parts of Upper Northwest Washington, D.C.

The rescue squad initially approached the Rotary with a request for donations of $3,000 to purchase four to six bikes, Bowis said. Chevy Chase Town Council member Scott Orbach, a member of the Rotary, convinced the council to contribute $2,500. Jane Fairweather, also a member of the B-CC Rotary, matched the town’s donation.

A spokesperson from the B-CC Rescue Squad was out of town and could not be reached for comment on the donations.

Chevy Chase Mayor William H. Hudnut III, who as Indianapolis mayor for 16 years was a strong proponent of both horse and bicycle mounted police, said the unanimous vote to donate the money was an easy decision.

“I think a more mobile force on bicycles is probably more valuable than guys on their feet,” Hudnut said. “I think it’s just an extension of our effort to provide for the public safety.”

Both Hudnut and Orbach said the town’s walking-distance proximity to downtown Bethesda’s numerous street festival events makes the need for the bicycles that much greater.

“Many of our town residents attend these events that are very, very crowded,” Orbach said. “And having the bicycles and the ability to respond quickly is a very valuable service which we hope we’ll never need.”

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services employs bicycles at similar events around the county, spokesman Pete Piringer said.

“They’re very forward thinking in their vision,” Piringer said of the B-CC Rescue Squad’s bike team. “It gives them a whole new level of mobility.”

Having bicycle-mounted emergency responders stationed at strategic locations during major events, like Taste of Bethesda or the PGA Tour’s Booz Allen Classic golf tournament makes the entire service more efficient, Piringer said.

“You can really be proactive,” he said. “Bring in some resources before you have big problem. You’re out and about and you get a feel for the event... It saves the wear and tear on the rest of the service.”

This article appeared in the January 25, 2006 of the Gazette, Montgomery County, MD.
It may be winter in many areas, but IPMBA members and instructors have been busy! Here are a few photos recently submitted by IPMBA members ….

IPMBA Instructor Chuck James of the Temple University Police Department in Philadelphia, Penn., shows his IPMBA pride in this team photo…they’re ready for winter weather but looking forward to shedding their cold-weather gear for springtime!

IPMBA Instructor Wren Nealy of Cypress Creek EMS in Houston, Texas, reports that his agency deployed 14 bike medics during the St. Patrick’s Day parade. Joining six police bike units, the medics patrolled the 3.5-mile route as nearly 100,000 spectators watched 110 floats and 1600 parade participants go by!

Joe Couce of the Los Angeles Fire Department reports that they are on scene at all kinds of events, including the Rose Bowl Parade and game, the Hollywood Bowl, and the Oscars. On March 19, they worked the L.A. Marathon, which drew 25,000 runners to the streets of LA. Three runners – including two veteran police officers – suffered cardiac arrests. The bike medics were able to save one of the victims, who collapsed just seven blocks into the race. The LAFD bike team has rapidly expanded to include 100 medics and 30 bikes. Both Joe and Eldon Karrati plan to attend the IPMBA Instructor Course in 2006.

IPMBA Instructor Cleve Clark of Rogers Fire Department in Rogers, Arkansas, is proud to report that he conducted an EMS Cyclist Course for St. John’s EMS in Springfield, Missouri. St. John’s Hospital is one of the largest providers of health care in the region, comprising a health plans division, a home care division, five regional hospitals, seven pharmacies, a network of independent physicians offices, and, of course, an EMS bike unit!

Pictured here are Richard Griffin, Jeremy Looper, Lee Morris, Scott Kroger, Lanna Symmonds, Sean Gunnutz, and instructor Cleve Clark.

BIKE MEDIC TIP #7
In the event of a tightrope rescue, make sure to keep yourself as well-balanced as our bike medic bag.

The AED and O2 tank in the top trunk make for a well-balanced load on any terrain. Plus, the side panniers are firmly mounted so they won’t bounce. There are also color-coded pullout pouches and lots of compartments for organizing gear. Balance pole not included.
by Jim Roy, PCI #175
Topkea Police Department (KS)

“I couldn’t wait for the IPMBA class to finally get here. It was Monday morning and my Police Cyclist course was about to begin. I am an experienced runner and cyclist, and I couldn’t wait to prove myself to members of our bike unit who are the instructors of this course.

The instructors took us about six blocks away to a parking lot where three cone courses were set up. You all know what I’m talking about. Cones everywhere! How do I figure out where to go? The instructors gave us basic directions and asked us to perform to the best of our ability in the 10-foot Box, the Lock-to-Lock, and the Offset Serpentine. I’m waiting my turn thinking, ‘no problem.’ But then I can’t make the first turn on the Box or the Lock-to-Lock, and get past just the first three cones on the Serpentine. Wait a minute!! I am an experienced cyclist. I can run a mile in less than six minutes. I can ride a six-mile time trial in 14.20; I have placed in several duathlons and can ride my bike for several hours at a time. Why can’t I do this simple drill?"

Those were the thoughts of one of our newest IPMBA students, and a respected cyclist from our department. He held onto those thoughts through day two of the police cyclist school. He just didn’t have his “feather” with him.

Having the “feather” is something I learned from fellow IPMBA instructor Nick Gatlin, formerly with the Williamson Medical Center. Nick is the best slow speed / urban obstacle rider I have met. He reminds us that skills are learned and that you have to practice. You have to practice to keep sharp, be confident in your skills, and then use those skills to learn new and advanced skills. Even if you are skilled, experienced rider, some days you will not have that “feather” in your pocket and you will have an off day. You also have to not be afraid to fall down. All good riders will tell you that falling is part of pushing yourself to become better and more proficient.

I have been lucky as a police cyclist to have the “feather” with me whenever it has counted the most. When I started in 1993, I saw the need to stay proficient in riding a bike. I had been riding for exercise for several years and enjoyed riding on the open road. It gave me a chance to get away from work and enjoy a workout at whatever intensity I wanted that day. It also taught me to ride in the wind, which would later come in handy.

Riding a police or EMS bike is a whole different discipline than riding on the open road. The fundamentals of the IPMBA basic cyclist courses are slow speed drills, which prepare you for riding in and out of traffic, around people, and up and over urban obstacles. Again, the more you practice those slow speed cone courses, the better you get and the more confident you get in your own skills. Having seen and ridden many of Gary McLaughlin’s advanced cone courses, I can tell you that a rider has to rely on the basic principles that instructors try to instill in new students:

(Continued on page 25)
Acquiring the “Feather”, Cont.

(Continued from page 24)

1) high pedal cadence; 2) low pedal force; 3) use the space available; 4) look where you want to go, not at your front wheel; 5) apply light (one or two finger), constant pressure on the brake. By remembering all of those basic concepts, a rider can gain confidence and overcome almost any obstacle.

Late on day two of our five-day IPMBA course, my fellow instructor Artie Gonzales came to me and explained that one of our students, Mark, was having problems. We decided that I would work with him on Wednesday, after our morning classes. I took him out for a short ride downtown and just talked about biking in general. My goal was to get him to relax and enjoy being on a bike. We then made our way to the cone course and began working on all the above principles. We broke down each course into component parts, and what was needed to complete each obstacle started making sense to him. He mastered the Lock-to-Lock after about ten minutes and moved on to the offset serpentine. Again using the basic principles, high pedal cadence/low pedal force, and light constant pressure on the brake, Mark began to master the serpentine. It didn’t take long to see that the light was coming on and he was gaining confidence.

The box challenged me as much as an instructor as much as it did Mark as a student, because if he failed, it meant that I had failed. I realized that Mark did not want to fall and would bail before getting to that point – nobody likes to fall, especially an accomplished cyclist! But once blood was drawn and he started trusting himself and his bike, things improved greatly. Mark rode away with an air of confidence and the “feather” he had been seeking.

Mark and I talked while riding to meet the rest of the class. He was most appreciative of the time and patience that I had with him. His eyes were opened to the skills and practice needed to become an accomplished public safety cyclist. During that hour he became a much better cyclist. He then wore my ass out riding cross-town to meet with the rest of the class.

I want to thank Mark for his permission and help in writing this article. I still look up to him as a cyclist and know on the road he would kill me. Been there!

Ed.’s Note: The IPMBA class has a history of challenging even experienced cyclists, including racers and long-distance riders. Veteran cyclist Roy Wallack recounts a similar tale in Can you Pass the Bike Cop Test? in the October 2005 issue of Bicycling magazine, which describes the new respect he gained for bike officers and medics during the Police/EMS Cyclist Course at the 2005 IPMBA Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Jim has been a police officer for 25 years; and was a bike officer for six years until promotion to sergeant. He served as bike unit supervisor for four years. He is a graduate of the Barnett Bicycle Institute for Mechanics and IPMBA’s first Maintenance Officer Certification Course. He has been a certified IPMBA instructor for ten years; and was mountain bike competition team champion in 1998, 2000, and 2002. He can be reached at jroy@topeka.org.

Letter to the Editor

Below is a response to the article written by Kirby Beck for the Fall 2005 issue of IPMBA News which appeared in the “Instructor Corner.”

December 15, 2005

Dear Mr. Beck:

I had to write and tell you what a great article you wrote, “More Miles Doesn’t Mean Better Training”. You hit the nail on the head! As an instructor for Chesley Brown Intl., I have run into a few (non-cycling) administrators whose idea of training is to start officers on a 20 mile death march which only serves to curb enthusiasm, interest and the learning process. Again, great article!

Michael D. Taylor
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He said: “It’s a joy getting up each morning for work. For me it really is a way of life. In South Africa I wore a bullet-proof vest and carried a shotgun and sidearm. I was shot at by car thieves and burglars on an almost daily basis.

“At least that doesn’t happen here. All I carry is a CS gas canister and a baton. So from a policing point of view it’s something like paradise.”

Pc Coetzee, 48, spent 24 years working as an explosives expert and dog handler with the Johannesburg police before emigrating eight years ago.

Married with two children and a self-confessed “career cop”, he had to spend two years as a resident in Britain before he could join the force here. As soon as he landed a job as a beat manager with Nottinghamshire Police, five years ago, he was given the task of cleaning up the Ladybrook estate, and has had criminals on the run ever since.

He once nailed a remarkable 11 criminals in one day, but even during a “normal” shift he would expect to pull in at least half a dozen offenders.

Speaking from court yesterday, where he was giving evidence against some of those he has arrested, he said: “This year everything has just fallen into place and my colleagues say I’ve given them more work to do by forcing offenders on to their patch.

“My arrests are from right across the board, including burglaries, drugs, the full range of car crime and traffic offences, bail warrants and so on.

“The locals are so used to seeing me that I even have a nickname - Mountain Bike Maurice. I’ve no idea where it came from, but it has stuck.”

Pc Coetzee begins every day with a 90-minute workout in the gym and said his idea of relaxation involved cycling, running and canoeing.

He said: “I know my patch like the back of my hand, so when I give chase on my bike there’s little chance of a criminal getting away - even if he’s in a car. Another reason for my success is that I’ve stuck with the same beat for years. It’s important that I’m so familiar with the people and the streets. I would genuinely love to work on the beat until I was 65 or 70 if that was possible. I didn’t join the police force to end up sitting behind a desk.”

Pc Coetzee is to receive a commendation next year for his work in Ladybrook, a sprawling estate on the outskirts of the former pit town.

His local area commander, Insp Samantha Wilson, said: “He is outstanding and has made such a significant contribution to the division.”

Yesterday, residents of the estate said Pc Coetzee had been a godsend. Rita Sharpe, the manager of the local community information centre, said: “Diederik is called ‘Robocop’ and ‘Supercop’ around here. He does his job so well, and obviously the community is much safer as a result. There would be an outcry if he was ever moved from the estate.”

This article appeared on 3 November 2005 at www.telegraph.co.uk.

On December 19, 2005, the Times Online filed the following report: “England’s most zealous policeman has been told to stop feeling quite so many collars because he is scaring the suspects off.

PC Diederik Coetzee, who holds the national record for the number of arrests in a year, has been ordered not to make any more in a particular street in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, despite its reputation as a haunt of drug dealers.

Managers of the Sherwood Street day centre and YMCA hostel complained that PC Coetzee was nicking too many of their “vulnerable” young clients and frightening away the needy who sought refuge from a life on the streets.”

At that time, Coetzee was on his way to achieving his goal of 380 arrests for 2005. Any word on whether this motivated mountain bike cop met his goal?
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