Innovation

by Maureen Becker
Executive Director

When people hear the word “innovation”, they usually tend to think of technology. Information technology has expanded exponentially in recent years, there are many new modes of communication, and it is easy to have the latest equipment and still feel behind the times.

Perhaps that is why so many people find such freedom in riding their bikes. Although manufacturers are constantly innovating frame geometry, materials, accessories, components, and more, at its core, the bicycle remains a simple machine.

Jack Lambie, a proponent, designer, and engineer of human-powered vehicles, wrote: “The essence of bicycling is the beauty of the machine itself. The technical simplicity, the light weight, the slowly advancing trick components – that’s absolutely as much of the beauty and joy of cycling as the fact that the guy on the bike just happens to be a physical machine with muscles.”

One of IPMBA’s roles is to translate the simplicity and joy of bicycling into practical applications by embracing innovation.

We actively encourage our industry partners to modify their products to be suitable for public safety use. We encourage improvements that will enhance the comfort, safety, and effectiveness of bike duty. We provide valuable input and feedback regarding such products as cycling shoes, bicycles, uniforms, lighting, and more. Our members have assisted companies in researching and developing new products and enhancing existing ones. They are attentive to changes in technology and eager to suggest ways in which those changes can be beneficial.

We also encourage innovation in training and operations. The annual IPMBA Conference is the perfect example. Our instructors bring a multi-disciplinary approach to their courses and workshops, blending their other areas of expertise with public safety cycling in unique ways. Hence we are able to offer crowd control, airport operations, tactical medicine, defensive and arrest tactics, and more – all tailored for bike-mounted police, security, and EMS personnel.

To continue to innovate, it is essential to look outward. We must be open to learning from others; blend new ideas with traditional methods.

To continue to innovate, it is essential to look outward...be open to learning from others...blend new ideas with traditional methods.

Final Four 2011

VCU Police Use Bicycle Teams to Quell Riots

by Kyle Frail, PCI # 1238
Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department

Before March Madness 2011, many across the country had never even heard of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), an urban campus located in the heart of Richmond City. It has a diverse student population of approximately 32,000. Virginia Commonwealth University’s basketball team began its improbable run as one of the “First Four,” having to beat USC to make it into the major part of the tournament. Many ESPN sports analysts were very skeptical that VCU should have made it that far. The team used this negative commentary as fuel for a fire that pushed them through the tournament. They soundly beat their competitors, first USC, then Georgetown, Purdue, Florida State, and Kansas. They finally took a loss in the “Final Four” to Butler University.

The first riot occurred when VCU beat Florida State to make it to the “Elite Eight.” Thousands of students unexpectedly marched into the streets in and around the VCU campus, celebrating the victory by dancing in the streets and on top of vehicles. Fans and onlookers came from not only the dorms and student housing, but also from the adjacent Fan area, where many families and alumni reside. VCU Police and Richmond Police were able to handle this impromptu riot, which resulted in only minor damages and no injuries. A few days later, when VCU had a huge upset over #1 seed Kansas, VCU Police, Richmond Police, and State Police
President’s Column

Too Early to Think About It?

As the summer heat has settled in like a white-hot blacksmith’s forge, I sit and wonder, “Is it too early to think about the annual conference in Minnesota next year?”

As I pedal my bicycle around in 100+ degree heat, sweating through my Kevlar vest, I find myself thinking, “Will it be nice and cool in St. Paul in late April, early May?” Then I catch myself. “No, it’s too early to start thinking about the conference; it is still 10 months away!” If I start thinking about it now, I’ll drive myself nuts dreaming of the excellent riding and training that awaits. If I start thinking about it now, my anticipation will swell to the point that I’ll find myself actually looking forward to the trip, rather than dreading the 16 hours in a van with 3-4 other guys, towing a trailer.

All joking aside, it is never too early to start thinking about the conference. The event has been in the planning for about two years already and is now whipping into frenzy. The call for instructors has come and gone; now the schedule of classes can be finalized and the instructors assigned. Final plans for use and agreements for access to different areas are being inked. The financial aspect of getting people to the conference is being considered and fundraising of various and sundry sorts are taking place across the country and possibly the world.

Because the conference has been happening for so many years, we sometimes have a tendency to wait until the final moment and then rush around, trying to figure out how to send ourselves and others to it. We commit the cardinal sin of going to our Commanders with papers in hand and asking, “I know this is last minute, but can we find the money and can I have the time away from work to attend?” They all hate those rush jobs, so I’m asking you to start thinking NOW about the conference and what it will take to get you and your fellow bike unit members to St. Paul. The classes, the instruction, and the riding will all be top-notch. The facilities, host agency, and the hospitality will be outstanding as well. Your fellow IPMBA members in St. Paul have been working very diligently to bring you a fantastic conference. My challenge for you is: can you do the right thing and attend so that their efforts are not in vain?


BECOME AN IPMBA INSTRUCTOR

Join the ranks of more than 1,000 of your fellow public safety bicyclists by becoming an IPMBA Instructor.

Call 410-744-2400 or email info@ipmba.org for an instructor application packet. In the simplest of terms, to become an Instructor, you must meet the criteria outlined in the packet, apply to IPMBA headquarters, be approved, then register for and attend one of the Instructor Courses. Upcoming courses will be held August 29 - September 2, 2011, in Windsor, ON, and April 28-May 2, 2012, in St. Paul MN.

Check out www.ipmba.org for Instructor Course information.

 ipmba news

Newsletter of the International Police Mountain Bike Association
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The International Police Mountain Bike Association promotes the use of bikes for public safety, provides resources and networking opportunities, and offers the best, most complete training for public safety cyclists.

IPMBA Membership is $50.00 per year.

Interested in submitting an article?
Interested in advertising in IPMBA News?
Email Maureen@ipmba.org for information.
POLICE BIKE STORE

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Thank you to IPMBA and ALL of the Bicycle Patrol Departments for all of your SUPPORT in 2010. It's greatly appreciated!

We look forward to serving you in 2011 by continuing to provide high quality AMERICAN-BUILT bicycles.

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Skamania, WA 98648

Phone: 360-943-8613
E-mail: info@volcanicbikes.com

www.VolcanicBikes.com
In April 2011, bike officers and medics descended upon Richmond, Virginia, for the 21st Annual IPMBA Conference. They were there not only to acquire and improve their public safety cycling skills, but also to ride alongside history. 2011 marks the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, as well as the 100th anniversary of the founding of Richmond’s first police bike squad. IPMBA training took place in and amongst such historic sites as the Tredegar Iron Works, the Civil War prison site on Belle Island, the Lumpkins Jail site and slave trading district, and the former streetcar barns. Attendees emerged not only with better bike skills, but with a new appreciation of Richmond’s role in American history.

The IPMBA board, staff, members, and conference attendees would like to extend their sincere thanks to the Richmond Police Department (RPD), Richmond Ambulance Authority (RAA), the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Police Department, the Richmond Office of Emergency Management, and their partnering agencies for hosting the conference. We appreciate the support of the City of Richmond, Mayor Dwight C. Jones, Richmond Police Chief Richard T. Norwood, Richmond Ambulance Authority CEO Chip Decker, Virginia Commonwealth University Police Chief John Venuti, Richmond Fire & Emergency Services Chief Robert Creecy, and Richmond Emergency Management Coordinator Anthony McLean. We are also grateful for the generous in-kind and financial contributions from the Richmond business community, especially Bon Secours Health System and the Greater Richmond Transit Authority.

IPMBA would like to recognize the many dedicated individuals who participated in the planning and implementation of this conference. Event planning requires a team of highly motivated individuals like RPD Sgt. Danny Rhodenizer (PCI #1063), VCU Lt. William Butters (PCI #480), Derek Andresen (Richmond Office of Emergency Management), Lt. James Layne (Division of Capitol Police, Commonwealth of Virginia), and RAA Lt. Todd Sheridan and Sgt. Gerrit “Bip” Terhune (EMSCI #213). Bip spearheaded the effort to bring the conference to Richmond and for the RAA to become only the second EMS agency to co-host an IPMBA Conference.

Of course, a committee alone does not a conference make. The show cannot go on without a supporting cast. Also deserving of recognition are RAA personnel Maj. Dempsey Whitt, Lt. Frank Romero, Lt. Brian Talty, Sgt. Adam Bennett, Sgt. Rudy Elder, Sgt. Steve Faynor, Mike Curtis, Joe Eheart, Harold Mayfield, Mony Sams, Clinton Schott, Emily Sims, David Starling, and Chris Tenley; VCU personnel Sgt. Nick Hill, Cpl. Ellsworth “Sonny” Pryor, Det. Lorin Carter, and Officers Duane Thorp, Carla Middleton, and Michelle Cose; RPD Officers Jerome Andrzejeczk, Justin Bauwens, Steve Eacho, Michael Ellison, Meridith Mullins, Anthony Paciello, Michael Polley, Travis Thompson, and Lindsey Wallace; Virginia Capitol Police personnel Cpl. James L. Cosby, Cpl. James R. Seaton, and Officers Michael B. Bresko, John H. Collamore, and John A. Fabian; and Christina Smith, Richmond Fire Department. IPMBA appreciates the talents of Nancy Winner of the West End Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary, who created IPMBA’s newest patch banner, and the army of individuals who build and maintain the amazing network of trails that make Belle Island a mountain biking mecca.

IPMBA thanks Hans “No Way” Rey for volunteering his time and considerable talent, both as the leader of a popular skill-building workshop and as the featured speaker at the post-competition dinner and awards ceremony. He regaled attendees with tales of his globe-trotting, and then autographed hundreds of copies of Dirt Rag magazine, with his photo on the cover.

Last but never least, IPMBA thanks those who were able to overcome the challenges of tight budgets and manpower constraints in order to attend the conference. We thank you for celebrating 100 years of rolling in Richmond with us!

Next stop…St. Paul, Minnesota…April 28-May 5, 2012!

Photos by Lisa Wheeler.
The 2011 IPMBA Conference

See more photos of the 2011 IPMBA Conference at www.ipmba.org
The 2011 IPMBA Conference

Photos by Scott Picquet, Chandler (AZ) Police Department
The 2011 IPMBA Conference

by Kurt Feavel, PCI #539
University of Wisconsin-Madison PD (Retired)

Each year I am amazed by the complexity of the competition and the tenacity of the competitors. This year was no exception. On a course designed by Tom Woods, Gary McLaughlin, and Mike Johnston, the competitors faced some challenges that may have never before been seen. As I walked the course, I was relieved that I was not going to have to tackle the many ramps, turns, stairs, and pallets; the two circles upon raised concrete air circulation vents; and the ubiquitous and infamous teeter-tooter. I was in awe of the challenge facing our competitors.

Of course, after all the cones had been placed in intricate patterns and the other obstacles precisely placed, someone had to ride it and give it its final blessing. This somewhat dubious honor fell to Mike Johnston, who did the final safety check, and Mad March Racing’s Derrick Maready, who demonstrated the correct way to ride the obstacles to the eager competitors.

Of course, after all the cones had been placed in intricate patterns and the other obstacles precisely placed, someone had to ride it and give it its final blessing. This somewhat dubious honor fell to Mike Johnston, who did the final safety check, and Mad March Racing’s Derrick Maready, who demonstrated the correct way to ride the obstacles to the eager competitors. He cruised through the course with ease, making it look so simple that I almost – almost – thought I would step up and give it a try. Fortunately, my more responsible side took charge and flat out said “NO”.

After the course was declared safe and ready to ride, our exceptional guests Shaums March and Hans “No Way” Rey kicked off the competition with a spirited race. Shaums completed his run with a time of 1:35.84, earning him the first ever IPMBA “Pro” category first place medal. Hans completed his run with a time of 1:48.00, earning the red ribbon in that exclusive category.

The competition began at the base of the statue honoring police officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. Riders threaded their way through snaking lines of cones, encountering surprise after surprise. The ramps and stacked pallets threw more than one competitor for a loop, but with spotters at the ready, no serious injuries were reported. How one of our hosts did not break his wrists remains a mystery. The infamous “slow box” came back to haunt those who thought they’d left it behind after passing the IPMBA course – with a twist.

The looks of concentration on the faces of the competitors as they gingerly weaved through the bollard-slalom were, as they say, priceless.

A colorful commentary and play-by-play by the dynamic duo of Hans and Shaums kept the competition lively as competitors learned new things about themselves, especially if they had neglected to provide any bona fide autobiographical data.

The clever repartee continued after the competition as the party relocated to the observation deck atop Richmond’s City Hall. Vast quantities of barbecue were consumed accompanied by locally brewed beverages and a stupendous view of the city.

Derek Andresen really pulled some strings to enable IPMBA to have the first function on the deck in nearly a decade!

The first medals presented were to pros Shaums and Hans, who then took over the honor of presenting the medals to the rest of the winners.

In the team category, first place went handily to Team Enchanted Steel (the alchemy resulting when you mix the Land of Enchantment with Bethlehem Steel) with a combined time of 7:54.00. They were followed by Team Two-and-a-Half Men with a combined time of 9:41.00. Third place was grabbed by Team Super Bad, with a time of 9:45.00.

In the Open category, featuring our vendors, Brad Engbarth of iFORCE Bicycles inched out the competition with a time of 2:04.03. Eric Kackley of Volcanic Bicycles was right on his wheel (well, not literally) with a time of 2:09.34. Third place went to Skip Jones of iFORCE, with a time of 2:45.47.

In the women’s 30 – 39 category, Lara Bauer of Team Snowballers (yes, she’s from Minneapolis) had a slight edge with a time of 3:27.83.

(Continued on page 9)
The 2011 IPMBA Conference

Second place went to Team Asheville’s Leslie Torgow, with a close 3:31.93. Evan Coward of Team Asheville tore up the course to capture first place in the men’s under 30 category and third overall, with a time of 1:55.51. Joshua Rymon of Team Two-and-A-Half Men finished second, at 2:23.20.

In the men’s 30-39 category, first place went to Scott Bixby of Team PANY with a time of 2:05.33. Second place was awarded to Anthony Martinez of Team Enchanted Steel, who finished in 2:13.23.

The men’s 40-49 category dominated the competition, with overall first place going to soon-to-be Police Commissioner Jason Schiffer of Team Enchanted Steel. With a time of 1:43.56, he was mere seconds ahead of the second place finisher, Enchanted Steel teammate Pat Hernandez, who scored a time of 1:46.49.

There were no slouches in the 50+ category as Jim “J.R.” Roy of Team Bratwear added yet another medal to his collection with a time of 2:02.11. Second place went to Jim Bulleigh of Team Snowballers (yes, he is from Minneapolis, too), with a time of 2:18.17.

All forty-six riders from eleven teams showed their competitive spirit and put on an impressive and entertaining show for the crowd, once again proving that they are the best of the best of public safety cycling.

2011 IPMBA Competition Results

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

Male under 30

- **Evan Coward** – 1:55.51 **Third Overall**
  - Asheville (NC) Police Department (Team Asheville)

- **Joshua Rymon** – 2:23.20
  - Metropolitan (DC) Police Department (Team Two-and-a-Half Men)

Male 30-39

- **Scott Bixby** – 2:05.33
  - University of Buffalo (NY) Police Department (Team PANY)

- **Anthony Martinez** – 2:13.23
  - Albuquerque (NM) Police Department (Team Enchanted Steel)

Male 40-49

- **Jason Schiffer** – 1:43.56 **First Overall**
  - Bethlehem (PA) Police Department (Team Enchanted Steel)

- **Pat Hernandez** – 1:46.49 **Second Overall**
  - Albuquerque (NM) Police Department (Team Enchanted Steel)

Male 50+

- **Jim “J.R.” Roy** – 2:02.11
  - Topeka (KS) Police Department (ret.) (Team Bratwear)

- **Jim Bulleigh** – 2:18.17
  - Minneapolis (MN) Police Department (Team Snowballers)

TEAM COMPETITION

Team Enchanted Steel – 7:54.00

- **Pat Hernandez**, Albuquerque (NM) Police Department – 1:46.49
- **Anthony Martinez**, Albuquerque (NM) Police Department – 2:13.23
- **Jon Pesesko**, Bethlehem (PA) Police Department – 2:12.00
- **Jason Schiffer**, Bethlehem (PA) Police Department – 1:43.56

Team Two-and-a-Half Men — 9:41.00

- **Tim Garr**, Medford (OR) Police Department – 2:53.97
- **Mike Harris**, Mill Creek (WA) Police Department – 2:00.17
- **Joshua Rymon**, Metropolitan (DC) Police Department – 2:23.20
- **Ghost Rider** – 2:25.00

Team Super Bad — 9:45.00

- **Chris Combs**, Boone County (KY) Sheriffs Office – 2:26.14
- **Jim Hill**, Boone County (KY) Sheriffs Office – 1:52.81
- **Anthony Lusty**, Boone County (KY) Sheriffs Office – 2:56.83
- **Roger Nelms**, Boone County (KY) Sheriffs Office – 2:31.83

OPEN CATEGORY

- **Brad Engbarth** (iFORCE Bicycles) – 2:04.03
- **Eric Kackley** (Volcanic Bicycles) – 2:09.34
- **Skip Jones** (iFORCE Bicycles) – 2:45.47

PRO CATEGORY

- **Shaums March** – 1:35.84
- **Hans Rey** – 1:45.00
Each year, IPMBA attendees pour into the exhibit hall, eager to greet those whom they have known for years, and anxious to see what’s new. One might describe the IPMBA Expo as “InterBike in Miniature”. While it does not draw nearly as many vendors, it does generate a similar level of anticipation and excitement. In order to ensure that all attendees have ample time to indulge themselves, the exhibit hall is open on the last day of the pre-conference and the first day of the conference.

We appreciate the participation of the fine companies which made the IPMBA conference a priority during this challenging economic year. The IPMBA conference remains the best opportunity for marketing to public safety cyclists. When times get tough, marketing budgets often suffer, but those who continue to promote their brand usually rise to the top.

IPMBA welcomed several first-time vendors to the 21st Annual Conference. Athena GTX displayed a compact, sophisticated, wireless patient monitoring device. DiNotte Lighting, described as a world leader in innovative bicycle lighting and recreational lighting products, attracted a lot of attention with their brilliant products. First Line Technology presented PhaseCore personal cooling products, designed to keep you cool under your body armor. An innovative style of pedal retention was brought to the table by Carytown Bicycle Company. Supplies for the maintenance classes were donated by Park Tool. The t-shirts were made possible by sponsorships from MyPoliceStuff.com, 4Bike-Police.com, Athena GTX, Mocean, Ultimate Test Lab, United Uniform, and donations from Board Members Tom Harris, Bob Hatcher, Charlie Irvine, and Marc Zingarelli.

R&B Fabrications generously donated the popular string backpacks, this year in blue-and-white. Reading material was plentiful – From A to Z by Bike from AMC Media, Law Enforcement Product News, Law Enforcement Technology, EMS World, Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS), Dirt Rag, Bicycle Times, and Police Magazine.

Incredible deals on terrific products were available at the Silent Auction, which raised more than $2000 in support of IPMBA’s programs, thanks to the generosity of the donors: Bratwear, Brite-Strike, Capital Ale House, ELHN Badge & Emblem Design, Fox Racing Shox, Gargoyles Eyewear, Hayes Bicycle Group, In Gear, Kenda Tires, Mirrycle, Patrol Bike Systems, PrestaCycle, R&B Fabrications, Spenco, Street Crimes, Charlie Summers, Tallac Designs, Timex, Trek, Trikke Tech, Twofish Unlimited, United Uniform, Volcanic Bicycles, and Zero Goo. The hottest items were the Fox fork and the Haix boots donated by In Gear.

Finally, Cannondale generously donated – not one, but two – fully equipped Cannondale Law Enforcement bikes for a raffle. Brad Miller of Lewisburg (PA) Police Department became the owner of a Cannondale Law Enforcement 1, while Jay Colella of Bucks County (PA) Rescue Squad took possession of the Law Enforcement 2.

IPMBA was pleased to be selected as the venue for a major announcement: Mocean and Volcanic have signed a memorandum of understanding for Mocean to purchase a majority share of Volcanic. The companies will continue to operate autonomously but will derive mutual benefit from their complementary products and strengths.
IPMBA thanks the vendors and other supporters of the 21st Annual IPMBA Conference. We appreciate those who were able to join us in the exhibit hall and those who provided sponsorships and in-kind contributions. Please support those who support you by patronizing them for all your bike patrol needs!

**Vendors**

**4BIKE-POLICE.COM**  
Contact: Mark Leonard  
Telephone: 501-517-5338  
Email: legitine@shghlobal.net  
Website: www.4bike-police.com  
Product/Service: Police bikes by Fuji and S&W; lights, sirens, and bike accessories; tactical radio products.

**Athena GTX**  
Contact: Greg France  
Telephone: 515-288-3360  
Email: gfrance@athenagtx.com  
Website: www.athenagtx.com  
Product/Service: Small, lightweight, patient-worn wireless vital signs monitor system transmitting NIBP, SpO2, and HR/PR.

**Braitwear**  
Contact: Sally Swanson  
Telephone: 253-517-4600  
Email: sally@braitwear.com  
Website: www.braitwear.com  
Product/Service: High-performance uniforms for law enforcement, fire/EMS, security, and campus police bicycle units, custom-designed and manufactured in our U.S. facility.

**Cannondale**  
Contact: Sean Walters  
Telephone: 608-286-8908  
Email: sean.walters@cyclingsportsgroup.com  
Website: www.cannondale.com  
Product/Service: Cannondale Bicycles and Accessories.

**DiNotte Lighting**  
Contact: Robert Skaff  
Telephone: 603-929-0123  
Email: sales@dinottelighting.com  
Website: www.dinottelighting.com  
Product/Service: Ultimate Road and Trail Lights (headlights, taillights, high-power strobes, etc.).

**First Line Technology**  
Contact: Jason Croson  
Telephone: 703-955-7510  
Email: jcroson@firstlinetech.com  
Website: www.firstlinetech.com  
Product/Service: PhaseCore Personal Cooling Products.

**Hold Fast**  
Contact: Robert Hall  
Telephone: 917-903-4743  
Email: info@holdfastoride.com  
Website: www.holdfastoride.com  
Product/Service: Hold Fast FRS (Foot Retention System) offers a secure, comfortable, fully adjustable and anatomically superior alternative to traditional toe clips for bicycle pedals.

**iFORCE Bicycles**  
Contact: Brad Engbarth  
Telephone: 724-431-3073  
Email: info@iforcebikes.com  
Website: www.iforcebikes.com  
Product/Service: iFORCE Patrol Bicycle and related accessories.

**Jones & Bartlett Learning**  
Telephone: 800-832-0034  
Email: info@jblearning.com  
Website: www.jblearning.com  

**Mocan**  
Contact: Bill Levitt  
Telephone: 949-646-1701  
Email: mocanbill@aol.com  
Website: www.mocan.net  
Product/Service: Technical Law Enforcement and Bike Patrol Uniforms.

**MyPoliceStuff.com**  
Contact: Craig Hill  
Telephone: 336-416-1913  
Email: craigc@mypolicestuff.com  
Website: www.mypolicestuff.com  
Product/Service: Police jewelry, custom products, challenge coins, dog tags, and more!

**Patrol Bike Systems**  
Contact: Mark Fumurian  
Telephone: 651-773-8763  
Email: patrolbike@earthlink.net  
Website: www.patrolbike.com/www.ebiketools.com  
Product/Service: Bicycles, bicycle equipment, accessories, clothing, tools, and related items.

**SIMUNITION**  
Contact: Mike Chin  
Telephone: 860-404-0162  
Email: info@simunition.com  
Website: www.simunition.com  
Product/Service: Simunition is a manufacturer of training ammunition for law enforcement (ammunition, conversion kits, and protective gear).

**Trek Bicycle Corporation**  
Contact: Scott VandeBerg  
Telephone: 920-478-2191 x1254  
Email: scott_vandeberg@trekbikes.com  
Website: www.trekbikes.com  

**United Uniform**  
Contact: Bill Doyle  
Telephone: 609-381-2682  
Email: bill@uumfg.com  
Website: www.umfg.com  
Product/Service: Quality bicycle patrol uniforms, shirts, shorts, pants, and jackets.

**Volcanic Bicycles**  
Contact: Eric Kackley  
Telephone: 360-943-8613  
Email: eric@volcanicbikes.com  
Website: www.volcanicbikes.com  
Product/Service: The Volcanic “APB”: “The Toughest Patrol Bikes on Earth!”

**Supporters**

**AMC Media**  
Website: www.amcmedia.net  
Product/Service: From A to Z by Bike

**Brite Strike**  
Website: www.brite-strike.com  
Product/Service: Tactical Illumination Products

**Cygnus Law Enforcement Group**  
Website: www.officer.com  
Product/Service: Law Enforcement Product News, Law Enforcement Technology

**Dirt Rag/Bicycle Times**  
Website: www.dirtragmag.com  
Product/Service: Dirt Rag and Bicycle Times

**ELHN Badge & Emblem Design**  
Website: www.elhnbadge.com  
Product/Service: Custom Police Badges, Emblems, Pins, Coins

**Elsevier/JEMS Communications**  
Website: www.jems.com  
Product/Service: Journal of Emergency Medical Services; EMS Today

**EMS World**  
Website: www.emsworld.com  
Product/Service: Leading EMS magazine, website, and expo

**Fox Racing Shox**  
Website: www.foxracingshox.com  
Product/Service: Fox Racing Shox MTB Suspension

**Gargoyle Eyeswear**  
Website: www.gargoyleseyewear.com  
Product/Service: Eyewear

**Haix North America**  
Website: www.haix.com  
Product/Service: Footwear

**Hayes Bicycle Group**  
Website: www.hayesbicycle.com  
Product/Service: Mechanical & Hydraulic Disc Brakes, Front & Rear Suspension; Wheel Components

**In Gear**  
Website: www.ingearcreations.com  
Product/Service: Haix boots, Damascus gloves, Baker Batshield Ballistics, custom pins

**Kenda USA**  
Website: www.kendausa.com  
Product/Service: Tires, Tubes, & Accessories

(Continued on page 12)
OFFICER WINS BIKE, DONATES IT TO POLICE DEPARTMENT

by Joseph Deinlein
The Daily Item

LEWISBURG — When he won the $1,400 mountain bike, Lewisburg police Officer Bradley Miller said he heard some boos from the crowd.

The Cannondale Enforcement 1 was one of two the company donated to the International Police Mountain Bike Association during the association’s annual conference a few weeks ago in Richmond, Va.

And Miller, who has been involved with the organization since 2002, is on the board of directors.

“I bought three tickets,” he said. “And lo and behold, one was pulled.”

Miller, who heads up the Lewisburg police bicycle patrol, donated the bike to the department, bringing the number of bikes up to five for the four riders. He also added a few features, including a better storage rack, lighting and special pedals.

The bike also has 30 speeds, disc brakes and a front-end suspension.

“It’s a high-quality bike, Miller said. “We need something that is able to withstand the rigors we put them through,” he said.

And because he is a board member, the association covered the cost for him to attend the conference, meaning Lewisburg got the bike for free.

The bike patrol will go out any time of year, let alone day or night, so long as it’s not raining or bitterly cold. So far, though, the rain has kept Miller from riding.

There are mutual benefits to the community and police when officers go under pedal power, said Miller, who has trained numerous officers on how to patrol on a bike.

“It gives us more accessibility to the public,” he said. “There are things you can smell, hear and see that you just can’t get in a cruiser.

And it keeps officers physically fit, which tends to lower the amount of sick time taken by the department.

There’s more to just riding the bike, though, Miller said. It requires some training to patrol.

For example, he teaches officers what he calls slow-speed skills. This is handy when riding through a crowd and teaches officers how to turn around in the middle of a group of people.

“We can go down stairs, up stairs. Anywhere you can go on foot, we can go on a bike,” Miller said.

“People are blown away when they find out what we can do on a bike.”

As the borough department begins to merge with East Buffalo Township police into the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department, Miller hopes to expand the cadre of riders.

In the meantime, he said Lewisburg is well suited for officers on bikes.

“It’s got residential areas, business areas, there are different events, there’s the university,” he said. “It’s the perfect combination for a bike patrol.”

This article appeared in the May 3, 2011, edition of The Daily Item.
Thank you, 2011 IPMBA Conference Instructors and Presenters

IPMBA is truly grateful to the many highly-qualified instructors and presenters who generously volunteered their time, talent, and expertise to the conference. They are the reason that IPMBA enjoys its reputation as the “gold standard” in public safety cyclist training, and why members travel from near and far to benefit from the training offered at the conference. Without them, the conference would not be the success that it is.

Certified IPMBA Instructors

Jason Bain, St. Paul PD, St. Paul MN
Kirby Beck, Coon Rapids PD (retired), Coon Rapids MN
Ed Brown, Orange County Fire/Rescue (retired), Orlando FL
Don Coppola, Baton Rouge PD, Baton Rouge LA
Edward Croissant, Tampa PD, Tampa FL
Doug Dillon, EMS, Houston TX
Dwight Edwards, Cabell County EMS, Huntington WV
Kurt Feavel, Univ. of WI @ Madison PD (retired), Madison WI
Brian Gillman, Cypress Creek EMS, Spring TX
Artie Gonzales, Topeka PD (retired), Topeka KS
Tom Harris, East Baton Rouge EMS, Baton Rouge LA
Robert Hatcher, Delaware PD, Delaware OH
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Bernard Hoganecamp, Homewood PD (retired), Homewood IL
Tony Holte, St. Paul PD, St. Paul MN
Mike Hudspeth, Guilford County EMS, Greensboro NC
Bruce Jackson, George Mason University PD, Fairfax VA
Mike Johnston, Utah’s Hogle Zoo/Univ of Utah PD, Salt Lake City UT
Matt Lane, Guilford County EMS (retired), Greensboro NC
Gary McLaughlin, Sacramento PD (retired), Sacramento CA
Brad Miller, Lewisburg PD, Lewisburg PA
Wren Nealy, Cypress Creek EMS/Waller County SO, Spring TX
Jim Roy, Topeka PD (retired), Topeka KS
Jason Schiffer, Bethlehem PD, Bethlehem PA
Charlie Summers, Illinois State University PD, Normal IL
Jeff Taylor, Cypress Creek EMS/Waller County SO, Spring TX
Mitch Trujillo, Boulder PD, Boulder CO
Michael Wear, Metropolitan PD, Washington DC
Tom Woods, Denton PD, Denton TX
Matthew Worm, Omaha PD, Omaha NE
Marc Zingarelli, Circleville FD, Circleville OH

Guest Instructors

John Coski, Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond VA
Shauns March, Mad March Racing, Squamish BC
Derrick Maready, Mad March Racing, Snowshoe WV
Hans Rey, Hans Rey Adventure Team, Wheels-4-Life
Tim Schurr, Ashland Bicycle Works, Ashland OR
Robert Sprinkle, Richmond Police Department, Richmond VA

Congratulations, New Instructors!

John Barbour, Princeton University Department of Public Safety, Princeton NJ
John Bittner, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Police, Springfield VA
Ashley Booth, Springfield Police Department, Springfield AR
Greg Bowen, Tarrant County College Police Dept, Ft Worth TX
James Breslin, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles CA
Matthew Byrum, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles CA
Rebecca Carille, Cypress Creek EMS/Harris County Sheriff’s Office, Spring TX
Michael Correll, Somerset Police Department, Somerset KY
Jonathan Davis, Richmond Police Department, Richmond VA
Chris Denshuick, University of Pennsylvania Police, Philadelphia PA
Robert Drumm III, Prince William County Police Department, Woodbridge VA
David Erenius, Warminster Police Department, Warminster PA
Alphonse Eugene Jr., MARTA Police Department, Atlanta GA
William Fernandez, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles CA
Kyle Freil, Virginia Commonwealth Univ Police Department, Richmond VA
Miles Frampton, Fort Lee Military Police, Fort Lee VA
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Jonathan Offen, Sussex County EMS, Georgetown DE
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Photo by Brian Talty
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IPMBA Corporate Member Update

IPMBA appreciates the support of our Corporate Members and asks you to show yours by patronizing them whenever possible. Please see the complete listing of IPMBA Corporate Members at left.

New Corporate Members

Safariland

For more than 45 years, Safariland™ has produced some of the finest and most innovative products for the law enforcement, competitive shooting and military industries.

In 1964, following his father’s request for a custom holster, Neale Perkins launched a holster business from his garage in Sierra Madre, California. He named his new company after the African safaris he and his father enjoyed together. From these humble beginnings, Safariland quickly went from making a few hundred holsters to more than 5,000 within a few months. In 1996, Safariland was acquired by Armor Holdings, and in 2007, it became part of BAE Systems Products Group.

Safariland offers a wide range of products, including body armor, hard armor, structural and vehicle armor, duty gear, firearms accessories, personal protective gear, batons, less-than-lethal technology, and crime scene investigation supplies. Safariland brands include Bianchi, Second Chance, American Body Armor, Protech Armored, Protech Tactical, SAVVY, Hatch, Monadnock, B-Square, KleenBore, and more. They also offer a range of training in the fields of corrections, patrol, tactical operations, firearms, baton, and less-than-lethal.

Their motto is: Together, we save lives™. Safariland can be reached at www.safariland.com or 800-347-1200.

Product Purchase Program

Full listings of the Product Purchase Program are maintained on the web at www.ipmba.org/ppp.htm. The number of participating companies is over sixty, and the range of products is broad. Only new and updated listings will appear in IPMBA News.

The IPMBA Product Purchase Program can really save you money, and in this economy, every dollar counts! Many companies offer “Pro-Deals”, which represent savings of up to 40% off retail. You can save on bicycles, lights, sirens, eyewear, uniforms, footwear, gloves, panniers, maintenance supplies, tires, safety vests, and more. These companies want to help YOU, so get out your membership and credit cards, and shop the Product Purchase Program today!

Welcome New PPP Participant!

Tallac Design

Product: Cage Holding Systems, Frame Bags, Mounting Devices
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Phone: 831-331-9828
Website: www.tallacdesign.com
Email: tallacdesign@gmail.com

Notes: Send email with item and quantity. We will either send you a PayPal request or, if you submit a PO, invoice you.

Correction: Trek Bicycle Corporation
The correct email address for public safety representative Scott VandeBerg is scott_vandeberg@trekbikes.com. Police@trekbikes.com is no longer in service.
IPMBA thanks the following members and friends that have donated since our last issue for their generous support during these challenging economic times. With their support – and yours – we can help keep world-class public safety cycling training accessible and affordable.

Kirby Beck, Coon Rapids Police Dept. (retired), Coon Rapids MN
Eric Dunn, Yarmouth Fire/Rescue Squad, Yarmouth ME
Artie Gonzales, Topeka Police Department (retired), Topeka KS
Gina Heath, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Jacksonville FL
Melinda Kellogg, Riverwind Casino Security, Norman OK
Vincent Preston, Leicestershire Police, Leicestershire UK
Jason Schiffer, Bethlehem Police Department, Bethlehem PA
Craig Scott, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Indianapolis IN
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A s the country transitions from rural areas towards the cities, traffic and event attendance make reaching and transporting patients a more challenging task. Bike Medics are an answer to fast response to the incident scene, quickly assessing and providing critical care during those critical early moments. The number of EMS departments starting up Bike Medic specialties is growing daily.

While specialized bike equipment has come a long way, for instance, medical bags, lights/sirens, etc., medical equipment has been large, heavy and not really practical to carry on a bike. Bike Medics can carry the essential basics, but not the full complement of tools available in traditional transport vehicles.

Advances in technology will narrow this gap in the future. Batteries, computers, and chips are becoming more efficient, and telemetry has improved substantially. For example, look at the physical dimensions and weight of the Apple iPhone and iPad products. Compare that to the most portable laptop just a few years ago, weighing in at 5-7 pounds, and you can see the progression. Furthermore, developers are busy introducing medical applications for Smart Phones and tablets. Advancements in wireless communication are eliminating the need for multiple wires and tethering to a patient, saving valuable time and greatly reducing the potential for snags and tangling during transport.

Many of these advancements have been made compliments of the U.S. Military. Today’s medics are fighters, carrying weapons and ammunition. They don’t have room or want the extra weight of the typical medical equipment for vital signs monitoring. Imagine carrying 130 pounds of standard gear in 125 degree heat, then adding the weight of medical gear!

The design of small, lightweight, and quick-to-deploy vital signs monitors has resulted in improved point-of-injury care for our soldiers, allowed the medics to carry equipment farther forward, and made it much easier for a medic under fire to assess and triage appropriately. In many instances, the Medics is trying to obtain vital signs of several wounded friends, some with catastrophic injuries, while under heavy assault. This is obviously not an ideal situation for clear thinking and triage assessment. These situations have led to developments that are now becoming available commercially. Military or civilian, what first responder couldn’t utilize a very portable automated vital signs monitor, capable of gathering trending and transmitting that information wirelessly to a computer, tablet or Smart Phone?

An example of this benefit is linked to the recent attempt on Congresswoman Gabby Giffords’ life in the Tucson shopping mall. She was treated by Dr. Peter Rhee, a former military surgeon who, during deployment in the Middle East, treated many gunshot and head wound traumas. No doubt this experience had a positive effect on the treatment and outcome of Congresswoman Giffords in those critical first days. During his time in the military he also evaluated several different prototypes of small vital signs monitors. Referring back to his experience and relationships, he then obtained a WVSM™, a wireless vital signs monitor from Athena GTX®, to monitor Gifford during transport from Tucson to the Hermann Memorial rehab center in Houston. A video produced by the Office of Naval Research speaks to the development of the WVSM™ device. Because of its capabilities and the fact that it can be put on the patient at the point of injury, Dr. Holcomb has initiated an 18-month study using the WVSM™ device on half of their Life Flight patients. Weighing in at just a pound, and attaching to a blood pressure cuff, it is easily taken right to the patient, and begins working as soon as the blood pressure cuff is placed on the patient. Operation is very intuitive and at start up it begins gathering patient vitals and stores those as well as near real time streaming current vitals wirelessly to the tablet in the helicopter.

These advancements will enable all first responders to more quickly assess their patients and allow monitoring at the point of contact. This should improve patient care and provide valuable trending data once the patient reaches the treatment facility. Incorporating wireless technology allows the device to quickly upload the patient’s vital sign trending, as well as their current conditions, to the Emergency Department’s wall-mounted monitors in an easy-to-read, color-coded chart format.

As technology continues to advance, size and weight will become more compact and further enable mobility of the responder. Complete elimination of all wires and amazing miniaturization is definitely on the table. Within the next five years, we will see wireless ECG pads, handheld touch screen multi-parameter monitors (the size of a handheld video game) capable of controlling other devices wirelessly, and patient-worn monitors the size of a credit card.

It is great to see that along with advances in bikes, bike gear and training, medical equipment is adapting to the needs of Bike Medics. How gratifying would it be to ride through a crowd, reach a patient quickly, and have the tools with you to better assess their condition and begin treatment by the time transport arrived?

Greg France is Sales and Marketing Manager at Athena GTX, a developer of miniaturized high tech patient monitoring systems used by first responders at point-of-injury. Greg has a Masters Degree in Business Administration and has worked in the medical product development field for over 20 years. He can be reached at gfrance@athenagtx.com.
Things That Make You Go “Hmm”

by Mitch Trujillo, PCI #244/EMSCI #248T
Boulder (CO) Police Department
Education Director - IPMBA Board

These highly innovative products have features that should be distinctly beneficial to public safety cyclists. They have been trialed over a three month period.

Camelbak Octane LR

The Octane LR hydration pack is new for 2011. I became intrigued by the pack’s hyper-light weight and its ingenious lumbar bladder design at Interbike last fall. The pack is made of coated rip-stop nylon. There are two zippered hip-belt pockets, as well as two stash pockets on the comfy shoulder straps for snacks or small essentials. The pack distributes all the items I need for patrolling (Prestacycle Ratchet and bits, flat repair tools, jacket, first aid supplies, etc.), the pockets are easily accessible, and the weight is distributed low. Comfy sternum and waist straps keep things stabilized during intense activity. The hydration pocket allows easy access to the bladder, which sits wide, low and flat on the back. The design doesn’t interfere with duty belts. The Antidote™ reservoir has a center baffle which prevents sloshing and water shifting. It holds 70 fl. oz., is taste-free, and easy to clean and fill via the large opening. I route the bite valve into an upright position for ease of drinking. While the “Mirage Grey” won’t match dark uniforms, it shouldn’t clash with many Fire/EMS/SAR/Ranger kits. Front and back reflective accents help with the visibility during low light. MSRP is $80, but tacticalwearonline.com offers a 15% discount through our IPMBA Product Purchase Program. Promotive.com also offers discounts on Camelbak products – check www.promotive.com/lawenforcement to enroll and discover the current deals.

Prestacycle Ratchet/Bits/Torque Wrench Adaptor

The PrestaRatchet and bits have convinced me to put aside my conventional folding micro-tool. The kit employs chrome bits specific to bikes, all torque wrench compatible. The bit carrier holds the bits securely and can be trimmed for a custom toolset-to-go. Carrying the mini-ratchet tool, 2-, 2.5-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 8- mm. hex keys, with T-25Torx®, and flat/Phillips screw bits seems to more compact and weigh less than a comparable folding micro-tool. Because the ratchet is reversible, incorporates a thumb-wheel, fits more ergonomically in-hand, allows more secure access to tighter spaces as well as faster wrenching than folding tools, I am a devout convert to the ratchet method. My set of over twenty bits with the torque wrench adaptor is priced at $27 US and backed by a lifetime warranty. Prestacycle is not yet listed in the IPMBA Product Purchase Program although we hope to remedy this. Go to their website at www.prestacycle.com to check out the PrestaRatchet and other gadgets, including the PrestaLever and the home/portable nitrogen inflation system.

Tallac Bags

Tallac products were reviewed in a 2004 issue of IPMBA News, and they return in 2011 with more ingenious items. I have been using the King Cage-made Behold cage with tool pouches made by Tallac, and have been really impressed by the design and function of the system. So far, I have no qualms about it; once set up, it is pretty straightforward. Just mount the stainless King Cage to your frame’s water bottle cage braze-ons, and follow the directions when mounting the pouches. A grommet plate inside the bag reinforces its mounting. The bag is made from water resistant, ballistic nylon. A durable, full-length zipper with pull tab allows easy, gloved access to the innards. There are different sized bags, ideal for carrying the basics: an extra inner tube, tire iron, CO2 inflation, patches, Prestacycle ratchet + bits, and a couple of small first aid items. The stem’s top cap-mounted bag will fit a cell phone or external battery for a headlight. Tallac has defined a unique and compact method for carrying small items on the bike which ensures the items are organized and separated from the other items in your bike bag or panniers. My setup is priced at $35 (Behold cage/bag) and $28 (stem bag). Tallac offers 30% off to IPMBA members through the Product Purchase Program. See their listing on page 16 of this newsletter. All system items are made in the USA and available at www.tallacdesign.com or www.kingcage.com.

Twofish Fasteners

Since 1993, Twofish Unlimited has specialized in fasteners and adaptors for mounting necessary items to your two-wheeled steed. I’ve been using the Lockblocks Flashlight Holder™ and Quick Cage™ Adaptor. The Flashlight Holder allows quick, secure, mounting and access to a small backup flashlight. It employs a grippy block with a hook-and-loop strap. While it doesn’t allow removal and replacement on the fly, it does a great job of mounting an extra AA light at the helm – at the low-cost of $14 US online. The Quick Cage Adaptor is a lightweight adaptor for securing any standard bottle cage onto the frame or seatpost. It will mount to non-round tubing and is non-marring. It seems to be the best solution compared to similar designs in the market. The price? As low as $8 US online. See even more inventive applications at www.twofish.biz.

Mitch is an IPMBA Instructor Trainer, serves as Education Director on your IPMBA Board, and has a penchant for singlespeeds. He can be reached at trujillom@bouldercolorado.gov.
Safariland Slimline Magazine Pouch: Problem Solved!

by Bruce W. Jackson, PCI #239

So here’s the deal. I’m coming up on the 22nd anniversary of my 21st birthday. For those of you who still record age the old-fashioned way, I’m chronologically getting ready to turn 43. With the progression of age, I have started to suffer from HDD (Horizontal Displacement Disease). This is a condition where you stop growing up and start growing out. Hell, in my case I think I may be shrinking. So why am I saying all this? Bear with me for a moment.

I have been teaching for quite a few years now, and I have always been an advocate for getting the things on your duty belt off of your back. I have endo’d one too many times on my handcuff case, and it isn’t a pleasant feeling. The problem is that pushing everything forward, coupled with the HDD mentioned earlier, can result in various pieces of duty gear being pushed into the top of the leg or the groin on each pedal stroke. The biggest culprit for me has been the magazine pouch. Dominant side or non-dominant side, it simply has to be in the front, accessible to both hands. I think we can all agree to that. I have tried placing it vertically and horizontally, and it doesn’t matter. Every pedal stroke and it gets a little dig in. I figured I would just have to SIUPO (Suck It Up and Press On), but then along comes Safariland with their new Slimline model of magazine pouches.

This is one of those ideas that you wished you had thought of so you could be rich. All it involved was taking the magazines and turning them so the bullets face out, which narrows the width of the magazine pouch. How much narrower, you may ask? Safariland says it will allow for three magazines to be carried in the same space as a traditional two-magazine pouch and two in a space much less than what you may be used to.

Now I thought this was slick as snot, so I had to get my hands on one. It just so happened that while attending a class, I ran into Patrick Popek with Safariland. Patrick is one of those guys who will listen to what you have to say and try and figure out the best answer. Recently I e-mailed him and it wasn’t twenty minutes later that he was calling me with an answer to my question.

I asked Pat to give me a little more info on the Slimline series as well as if I could procure one for a little product evaluation. He sent me two of the model 78, one in leather and one in the STX finish. The model 78 and the model 79 are nearly identical, except that the model 78 uses retaining straps and the 79 is an “open top” design.

It’s been six months, two qualifications, three bike schools, the conference and a whole lot of miles since this went on my belt and I can say that this mag pouch is and does exactly what Safariland says it will do. The pouch is only a little wider than a traditional duty belt when worn in the horizontal configuration, it safely retains the magazines and it doesn’t dig into the leg on each pedal stroke. It uses the SafariLaminate construction and can be had in just about every traditional style, plain black, basketweave, STX, high gloss, silver snap, black snap or brass snap.

So what is the bad, you may ask? Well, it does require some range time. I carried my magazines bullets-down for many, many years, and switching to a bullets-out configuration does take a little getting used to. It’s not slower; it is just different, and once you get used to the new placement it is just as fast. The retaining straps are also narrower, but they are stiff enough that you can just hook them with your hand and the pouch will pop open.

So would I recommend them? Four words: Ab – so – freaking – lute. A lot of the time people come up with answers or solutions to non-existent problems, but not in this case. This has been a problem for me for a number of years and thankfully that problem has finally been solved.

Safariland is an IPMBA Corporate Member, and we appreciate their support. Until next time, stay safe, ride often and keep the rubber side down.

Bruce Jackson has been a police officer for 21 years and co-founded his department’s bike patrol in 1991. He was certified as an IPMBA Police Cyclist in 1994 and became an IPMBA instructor in 1997. He is currently assigned to his department’s training division.

Police Bike Store: Supplier to the Stars

If you saw an episode of NCIS with police bikes cruising through New York City and being walked through Central Park, chances are you saw police bike accessories from PoliceBikeStore.com. Later this year and in 2012, their merchandise will be hitting the big screen. First to be seen in theaters will be Premium Rush, directed by David Koepp, who is also known for Mission: Impossible, Jurassic Park, Spiderman and more. The movie is about a bike messenger who possesses top secret information being chased through the streets of Manhattan. The officer pursuing him will at times be riding a patrol bike. Most recently, completely outfitted bikes were purchased for a movie version of the TV Hit show 21 Jump Street, which is being filmed in New Orleans. The stars of this movie are Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum, playing police officers who will spend at least one scene on their patrol bikes. Johnny Depp puts in an appearance, too! Stay tuned...
IPMBA members receive a discount.
Check out the PPP for details.

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Twenty-Six Years to The Day

Kurt Feavel retires after 26 years with the University of Wisconsin at Madison Police Department

On January 3, 2011, 26 years to the day, Kurt Feavel officially retired from the UW Police Department. During his 26-year career, he served in a variety of positions – patrol officer, field training officer, and one of the department’s first bike patrol officers. One of his accomplishments was helping to start the unit in 1992. After his promotion to Sergeant in 1994, he served as both 1st and 2nd shift Patrol supervisor and Crime Prevention Sergeant. In 2003, his responsibilities shifted to a newly formed division within the department, Planning and Development. There, he helped oversee the planning and implementation of the new campus access control system. From that role, he moved on to Crime Analysis and Mapping.

During his career, he attended numerous training sessions throughout Wisconsin and the United States, including the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in 1995. He received a number of awards and commendations, including the IACP Civil Rights Award in 2003 for his work with foreign students after 9-11.

Kurt attended the LEBA Basic Mountain Bike Officer Course in 1993 and was certified as a LEBA instructor in 1994. In 2001, he became an IPMBA instructor, teaching classes for the UW system as well as IPMBA conferences since 2002. He was elected to the IPMBA Governing Board in 2004 and has held the positions of Treasurer and Conference Coordinator. He assisted with the development of the Complete Guide to Public Safety Cycling, 2nd Edition and the Instructor ToolKit CD-ROM (ITK). In addition to his IPMBA instructor duties – which he intends to continue – he teaches Emergency Vehicle Operations and Vehicle Contacts at the local academy.

After leaving the department, Kurt took an extended trip on his motorcycle, traveling through the western United States, visiting friends along the way. He is an avid skydiver and you will often find him at the drop zone.

High-Flying News from Frontier Airlines!

Frontier is removing the flat fee for checked bicycles and will now include them in the standard baggage allowance, meaning customers traveling on Classic or Classic Plus fares can include their bike as one of their two complimentary checked bags and Economy passengers would pay $20 if the bike is one of their first two checked bags. Bikes will be exempt from any oversize fees, but subject to overweight fees and excess bag fees, if applicable. This is similar to the carrier’s current policy for golf clubs and skis. For more information about flying Frontier with bikes and other unusual items (like antlers), visit http://www.frontierairlines.com/frontier/plan-book/travel-info-services/baggage/baggage-chart.do.

Fly Much? Check out Bike Flights!

Since 2009, BikeFlights has been innovating online bike travel services and products to inspire more people to travel with bicycles. They started by streamlining the process of finding cheap flights taking into account airline baggage and bike fees and continue today with US and international bike shipping services, bike travel insurance, bicycle travel boxes and cases, bicycle travel tools, bike travel clothing, a calendar of bike rides and events and bike travel video series. Combining online technologies, volume buying power and rider-based customer service, BikeFlights offers “bicycle-friendly” bike travel services and products that will truly transform how you feel about traveling with your bike. Visit www.bikeflights.com for more information.

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Jason Schiffer’s road to become Bethlehem’s top cop has a few twists and turns.

When he was a teenager interested more in BMX racing and baseball, Schiffer started college as a computer science major but dropped out, later enlisting in the Marines. He had to quit that, too. Stress fractures to his shin earned him a medical discharge.

Looking for something meaningful, he joined the Bethlehem Police Department. Then he earned a law degree.

That might not be a common route to police commissioner, but for Schiffer, each experience built a resume with the skills to compute crime trends and negotiate labor contracts.

The shin injury, too, was a turning point. It led him to low-impact exercise — bicycling. Schiffer is now an international bicycle cop champion and entrenched in the community policing philosophy those officers practice.

“I guess there are straighter paths,” Schiffer laughed recently as he prepared to replace Commissioner Stuart Bedics next week.

Schiffer, 41, will lead a 150-member police department to protect a former steel town that is growing its tourism industry with the Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem and the SteelStacks arts and entertainment center.

He also takes command in a year when Bethlehem has had the discipline of its police officers publicly aired. The city fired two officers after an investigation landed him back in the civilian world. He began working in Bethlehem at a medical device company, but after the experience of boot camp, wanted to do something that mattered more. He saw a newspaper ad for the police department and applied.

After training, Schiffer said he requested the night shift because that’s historically the busiest time for calls. He took the early morning to afternoon shift while commuting to Philadelphia for his law degree.

His career path didn’t lead to investigations, which is Bedics’ background. Instead Schiffer has focused on everything from the emergency response team to community policing. In some neighborhoods, he has been the department’s public face for years.

“He’s outgoing. He’s very interested in you as a person and what’s going on in your area. He’s there for you,” Sue Shemanski of the Fairview Block Watch said. “But I’ve also seen the other side of him when things don’t go right. He can be very stern.”

She pointed to an incident in which a woman approached Schiffer about a couple of teenagers making fun of a boy with a disability. She said Schiffer went up to the boys at Fairview Park and “laid down the law,” ending the bullying.

She’s probably best known as a community bicycle officer. He began mountain biking after his shin injury and then turned his passion into his profession.

He’s mastered the bike to a point where he’s the toughest cop to beat on the obstacle courses at the annual International Police Mountain Bike Association Conference. He keeps eight first-place medals in his office, though admits he probably has more somewhere else.

So what terrified him the most on the job?

Talking to a classroom full of kindergarten kids for the first time, while in his mid-20s.

“I’d much rather stand in front of a community group in a bite suit and let Jack Flitter’s dog bite me,” Schiffer said, referring to public demonstrations of the city’s canine unit.

Schiffer has learned a lot since then. Now a married father of two, Schiffer volunteers when schools request an officer to talk to a classroom.

With his new position, Schiffer said he hopes to continue visiting classrooms and, every once and a while, hop on his bike to patrol the city streets.

He’s eager to see where his new path leads him.

This article appeared in the May 20, 2011, edition of The Morning Call.
PMBA Instructors face many challenges while planning and conducting IPMBA Courses. They are called upon to deliver our training programs to a wide range of agencies. They often need to be creative and flexible in accommodating work schedules and in ensuring that they deliver a wealth of information into what at times seems like a very limited amount of time. Here are some recent tips from the field.

**Scheduling a Course over Several Weeks**

It is permissible to spread an IPMBA class out over the same number of weeks as there are days in the class to accommodate work schedules. Rance Okada conducted a Police Cyclist course over a period of four weeks and reports back with both pros and cons.

- We taught this class on four consecutive Wednesdays over a four-week period in accordance with the guidance from the ITK.
- We observed slight skill degradation between Day 1 and Day 2, but a 30-minute skills review at the start of Day 2 brought everybody up to speed.
- The six-day break between days allowed the students to recover and heal from minor injuries, fatigue, and soreness.
- The six-day break allowed time to get bikes fixed for the next day. Problems such as bent rims, out of true rims, cables stretched beyond adjustment, etc., were easily resolved.
- It was a difficult schedule for the instructors, who had a long commute, but a good schedule for the students. It is sometimes only option for small departments which need a majority of their patrol officers certified in one group in a short time period.

**Reading Assignments/Homework**

Rance also tested a reading assignment/homework list developed by Education Director Mitch Trujillo. Although no obvious improvement in test performance was observed in this class, students seemed more prepared to go out into the field and it reduced the amount of time spent in the classroom. It is possible that the reading list helped keep the students engaged during the week-long lapses between days of instruction and resulted in better information retention. Mitch reports that his average test scores have improved since he began incorporating reading assignments in his classes. Rance suggests making the Complete Guide available to students in advance.

Reading List Assignments from the Complete Guide to Public Safety Cycling

- Day 1 – pp. 22-26, fig. 3-2, pp. 31-33, p. 45 (Personal Protective Equipment), pp. 112-115
- Day 2 – pp. 62-87
- Day 3 – pp. 187-190
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The International Police Mountain Bike Association, Summer 2011

As I write, it is now less than 400 days until the opening ceremony of the London Olympic and Paralympic Games — it is also the end of national “Bike Week” in the United Kingdom, which promotes cycling as a lifestyle choice with personal health and environmental benefits.

Colleagues in the City of London Police cycle squad celebrated Bike Week with a breakfast outside St. Paul’s Cathedral in the heart of the City; it went down well. Metropolitan Police Service colleagues have been busy with additional cycle patrol activity in the summer months and many officers have been taking to two wheels on the front line of policing right across the UK.

In my last piece, I promised some further information on the Wedding of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (aka Wills and Kate). The very talented Paul Davies (an IPMBA Instructor) from the London Ambulance Service NHS Trust and I were the joint Cycle Response Unit Managers (Bronze Command Team), with Joyce Martindale as my Staff Officer for the Royal Wedding deployment. Together our responsibility was overseeing more than 30 ambulance cycle teams who provided the first response resource for medical emergencies inside the event footprint. Our CRU teams were superb — working hard during a long day — operational in the main between 0530hrs - 1730hrs, seeing more than 50 patients out of the 419 seen in total, with 36 sent to hospital that day by event medical staff.

This global interest event and show of British pageantry saw 1000 medical staff, including more than 800 volunteers from St John Ambulance and the British Red Cross, ensure that spectators got the care they needed. Some 5000 police officers (although not on bicycles) were deployed in addition to more than 1500 members of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces.

I’ll quickly walk through a few other highlights:

- Further ceremonial events where London Ambulance Service and St John Ambulance CRUs, working together, were deployed included Trooping the Colour on Horse Guards Parade to mark Her Majesty’s Official Birthday. CRU teams have supported crowds at major sporting events, including the Wimbledon tennis championships, led by my CRU Assistant Staff Officer Nuno Alves.

- Police cycle teams have also been supporting key London cycling events in recent months, including the London to Brighton Bike Ride (teams from the Constabularies involved all taking to two wheels), as well as the London Bikeathon for Leukaemia research.

- In May, I was on duty in Buckingham Palace for the State Banquet to mark the visit of President Obama and the First Lady to the UK. Whilst we have taken bicycles into the back garden of Buckingham Palace, this visit was in our Number 1 order of dress.

- The next meeting of the NHS working group will take place in September as we move closer to integrated standards to support our work.

In October, the International Cycle Show takes to the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham; we’ll cover that a bit more in the next edition.

As we head into the summer months now, there is much cycling activity across the country and front line cycle patrol teams from all of our emergency services – Police, Ambulance and Fire prevention – all have important roles to play. Even with difficult financial times, work continues to develop cycle activity in support of our communities.

With all our very best wishes from colleagues across services in the UK, I hope you’ve had a safe and successful summer thus far.

Until the next time,
Ashley Sweetland
were prepared, with Crowd Management Teams (CMTs) on standby. This time, a very peaceful crowd was guided to Monroe Park, a public park on campus, where the celebration continued. No chemical agents were deployed and no arrests were made.

Prior to the match between Virginia Commonwealth University and Butler University on Saturday, April 2nd, 2011, intelligence gathered from various social networks indicated that thousands of people were planning to storm the streets, regardless of the game’s outcome. Multiple agencies were put on alert and an action plan was developed. Virginia State Police, Richmond Police, VCU Police, Virginia Capitol Police, Richmond Fire Department and Richmond Ambulance Authority were all prepared for the inevitable chaos that would ensue after the game. A Command Post was set up at Richmond Police Headquarters, outside of the target area, to assist with deployment and communication.

VCU Police deployed 10 IPMBA-certified bike officers. These two-man teams were originally designated to certain sectors and later deployed to specific problem areas. The officers were individually equipped with department-issued Fuji Police Bikes and outfitted with police lights, bike helmet, gas mask and carrier, as well as a full duty belt and radio set on a Richmond City Special Operations Channel.

When the game ended, I was posted outside of the VCU Siegel Center, where a small crowd had gathered to watch the game. As anticipated, an initially peaceful crowd of thousands of people gathered on West Broad Street. This soon changed when a few “bad apples” began starting fires and lighting mortar fireworks off in the middle of the crowd. The Crowd Management Team (CMT) was then ordered to standby, surrounding the crowd. The unruly crowd began to escalate the damage it was causing, as well as develop an uneasy attitude towards the police. They began tearing down street signs and destroying anything they could get their hands on.

The CMT began moving the crowd with minimal force to the designated public park. However, the crowd turned violent, throwing bottles, bricks, rocks, and shooting fireworks at the officers. The bike officers assembled behind the CMT’s shields for protection. Lacking a riot shield or riot helmet, I found myself side stepping and dodging projectiles being thrown in my direction. Smoke was deployed, but it did not disperse the crowd. In fact, I witnessed several individuals attempt to pick up the smoke canisters and throw or kick them back at police.

State Police were close enough that they were able to put their paint ball guns to use releasing rounds of pepper balls in close proximity to the crowd. As a result, members of the crowd ceased their attempts to pick up the smoke canisters and direct them back at the police. Minutes later, the call was made for all units to don their gas masks in preparation for the deployment of CS gas. Shortly thereafter, CS gas filled the atmosphere. This encouraged the majority of the crowd to break up, and once that occurred, the CMT line again started forcing the crowd down the street toward Monroe Park.

Bike officers were then deployed to contain small groups of people that had begun congregating behind the CMTs. These people were corralled towards a side street or alley and directed away from the backs of the officers. Once those groups left the area, the bike officers formed behind the CMT to assist with pushing the major part of the crowd.

During the push of the large crowd, two bike officers were dealing with a group of people cornered between portions of the Crowd Management Team when one of the officers in the CMT deployed his OC fogger without direct communication to the bike officers. Mass panic broke out, and part of the crowd stampeded out of the immediate area. During this panic, the bike officers were grabbed by the members of the CMT and pulled behind the line, leaving their bicycles on the other side of a line of vehicles. One of the officer’s bikes was taken by a juvenile, who was apprehended shortly thereafter.

After the crowd passed the dormitory area on route to the open public park, bike officers were deployed to the patio of the dorms to again corral students that had gathered in the area. There were approximately 75-100 people on the patio watching the riot start to die down as a result of the police action. These bike officers used their bikes to make a line to keep these students on the patio and prevent them from possibly coming up behind the Crowd Management Team and causing more disturbances. Again, some of the bike units were posted at alley entrances to direct foot traffic away from the area.

When the crowd had been fully dispersed, bike officers were assigned the duty of documenting any damage in their sectors. This was done much more efficiently on bike than it could have been by officers on foot or in vehicles. Those bike officers quickly assessed the little damage to a few business fronts and recorded some minor fire damage.

After everything was over, I thought it was a great multi-agency success. I would like to thank the Virginia State Police, Richmond Police, Capitol Police, Richmond Fire, and Richmond Ambulance Authority for their invaluable help.

It was the perfect time to be a police cyclist and a very unusual event to work on bike. The police cyclists played a vital role in the success of the event due to the quick mobility of the bicycles. If those officers had been on foot or in vehicles, response time to certain parts of the campus would have been much longer. If the bike officers had not been there, it is likely that groups would have formed behind the Crowd Management Teams, and they would have been surrounded with hostile individuals. This event has given me even more respect for the efficiency of police cyclists and how police bike officers can be used in a multitude of ways.

Officer Kyle Frail has been with the VCU Police Department for the last three years as a patrol officer and is currently assigned to the Special Operations Unit. He earned his IPMBA Police Cyclist Instructor status at the 21st IPMBA Conference held in the City of Richmond. He can be reached at frailkr@vcu.edu.
What’s around the corner?  
Find out in this issue  
of IPMBA News!

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