



## Desert Bicycle Club Newsletter

### Leap Year Issue!

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**February 29, 2008**

#### President's Message

#### Changes and Challenges

Have you noticed the days getting longer? Find yourself able to sneak-in an occasional afternoon ride? Geographically speaking, we're moving from the winter solstice (December 21<sup>st</sup>) to the vernal equinox (march 21<sup>st</sup>) where daylight and night are the same duration. This is a welcome change, but poses some challenges.

The first challenge is physical. Even in our beautiful desert, cycling is seasonal. (OK, *somewhat* seasonal!) Many of us slow down over the holidays, and ease off a bit because of the shorter (and colder!) days. When conditions become more favorable, we start racking up the miles. However, we should remember to warm-up properly, which includes stretching. And maybe we shouldn't chase the rider ahead going 26+ MPH up HWY 111 until later in the season!

Another challenge is numbers. Have you noticed that our club is growing? Seems like the influx of guest riders shows that many have discovered our winter "secret". I enjoy seeing the new faces and personalities in our midst, and the opportunity to make new friends. It also gives us the chance to match our friendliness with courtesy. This time of year especially, we need to remind ourselves of good riding technique - slow down on the turns, don't overlap the wheel in front, call-out obstacles for those behind, and announce whether or not we're slowing, stopping, or passing. We all know that only a moment's inattention can bring disaster to ourselves and to those around us.

So as we ease into the longer days and warmer weather, let's enjoy ourselves and our new-found friends but not forget to ride safe.

*Doug Winters*  
President

*Craig Johnston*  
Vice President

## Spring Picnic Location

### Do you know of a location?

The club is looking for a great location to have our spring picnic. We usually hold the picnic at the end of April or the first part of May. If you have any ideas please contact the club at [cycleclub@yahoo.com](mailto:cycleclub@yahoo.com)



## New Members

### February's New Members

Rick Beal  
Jim and Wava Baker  
Mellie Hutchinson  
Shane Legacy  
Bill Lightner  
Rob and Dottie Wilmeth

### **WELCOME!**

## Big Brothers Big Sisters

### BBBS is looking for volunteers

Club member Lynda Anderson brought this worthwhile cause to the attention of the DBC officers.

For over a century, Big Brothers and Big Sisters have helped children reach their potential through professionally supported one-to-one relationships with proven results. Big Brothers Big Sisters' mentoring has a long-lasting, positive effect on children's confidence, grades, and social skills.

Each child needs a positive role model to impact his or her life. Just a few hours a couple of times a month is all that is asked of volunteers. Maybe you could be a positive influence in a child's life.

For more information check out their website at:  
<http://www.bbbs.org/>

## This Month's Featured Sponsors

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