

Hello fellow STLRC Members!

I hope you have had a safe and happy riding summer - and everything else summer too!

The STLRC Board of Directors met on Thursday, September 5 and here's information from that meeting and other sources.

The Club has had a number of injuries and near-misses this season. PLEASE follow the safety rules including but not limited to:

- Use both front and rear lights.
- Use a rear-view mirror. Don't just carry it - USE IT.
- Ride single file when there is a car back or car passing.
- Ride with your tire within 14 inches of the edge of the road or the white line unless you are on the shoulder or passing another cyclist. THIS IS THE LAW. This also prevents other cyclists from passing you on your right.
- Refrain from taking pictures or video when you are cycling.
- Exit the road or trail if you are stopped (other than for a stopsign or traffic).
- COMMUNICATE! "Car Back" "On Your Left" "Stopping"
- Point to road hazards for following riders.

We are preparing for the Fall Potluck, scheduled for Wednesday, October 2 at the picnic pavilion in Kirkwood Park. There will not be any rides scheduled that morning, so come and socialize at 11:30 and lunch will be served at noon. 2025 registration forms will be accepted. We still only accept cash or checks. Sorry.

Our departed member Larry Essmann requested that his bicycling jerseys (and some "other stuff" - I don't know what) be donated to STLRC. Come browse and see if there is anything you would like to have. If there is anything that you would like to donate, bring it along. Monetary donations to the Club will be accepted.

Our inventory of Club jerseys will be at the potluck, and hopefully we will have enough people interested in purchasing new jerseys to submit an order. And there is renewed interest in Club T-shirts also. Contact Janis Thompson if you are interested - she continues to handle this for the Club. (Thank you, Janis!!)

Membership Director Patti Brumleve celebrated a "significant birthday" this summer. She partied with her family and enjoyed several bike trips with her husband Tim.

Former member Ron O'Neal lost his wife this past April after a long battle with breast cancer. We hope to see him riding again soon.

The STLRC Pedaling for Parkinson's Team on September 1 was a great success. Everyone had a good time and our team was one of the highest club donations at \$4946. Donations will continue to be accepted through the end of 2024 - use [this link](#) (including STLRC as the "team") or contact Karen Parham on what to do.

A request from Joe Kruchowski: Please post everything to STLRC.org through a VPN (a Virtual Private Network). This is for the security of the website - so it is not hacked. If you have questions please contact Joe directly (his number is in the Protected Member's Area). AND if you have any "draft" documents out there - rides that you started but never posted - they will be deleted by the end of September.

Speaking of the Protected Members Area, PLEASE review and update your personal information. Phone numbers, emergency contacts, addresses change and we need the "latest and greatest", especially if there is an emergency on a ride. You can either send updates to Patti Brumleve, or put that updated information on your 2025 registration.

We have a request from some of our ride leaders. If you start a ride early, please text the ride leader when you enter the course (so we know you are actually riding) and when you finish (so we come look for you if you end up in the ditch). If you leave the course as documented on the cue sheet/in RidewithGPS, please text the ride leader. Since the ride leader has no idea where you may be, they would have no idea where to look for you.

You may notice that ride postings may no longer have the "Ride Difficulty" code. Many ride leaders prefer to spell out the expected speed, distance and elevation on the posting, so the code might be contradictory. One less thing for the ride leader to figure out!

Speaking of leading rides, if a ride sounds good to you but you don't want to keep up with the fast riders, volunteer to lead a second flight. Or, if a ride sounds good to you but want to ride faster, volunteer to lead a faster flight! It's easy. Just coordinate with the ride leader. No paperwork to fill out, no muss, no fuss.

According to Bruce Crask, our Facebook page administrator, dues paying members may post bike related items for sale. Note those caveats: DUES PAYING MEMBERS and BIKE RELATED ITEMS.

That's it for now.
See you at the Potluck!
Leslie McCormick
STLRC Secretary