## Pedal Power

#### May 2020

www.BayViewBikeClub.org





By Joe Fischer

This STILL sucks. (What, you were expecting a newsflash right away?)

If I NEVER see the words COVID or Virus again, I will assume I am in Heaven. Or next door maybe—Heaven might be a bit of a stretch for me. On a good day. I have a bad feeling I should have saved this paragraph for later in the year.

Okay, enough griping. On with the article.

All official club activities are either canceled or on hold. (I am tired of typing that statement, so I have assigned it to a smart key on my computer.)

Here is the news flash. I am sorry to have to announce that the **Memorial Day weekender is officially canceled**. You probably saw that coming. Members are reminded that you are responsible for your hotel reservations.

Oh look! It's snowing!! Good grief.

Future activities like picnics are on hold pending developments in the rules. For now, the board is focusing on preparing for group riding to begin. Ride first, eat later.

We have begun discussions on how we will modify our ride procedures and policies that will of course comply with the rules, but also provide an environment that encourages participation by all members. We still have much to cover and will be meeting a second time this month to continue the discussion.

Hopefully, we will be riding again soon. We will keep you posted.

Be safe, be well, and try to have fun out there!



Just another reminder that it's time to renew your membership for the 2020 ride season (last years memberships expired on March 31<sup>st</sup>). Since we are not sure when we will be able to start riding, I have been mailing membership cards out in case you wanted to be able to use your W&S discount on some cool new bike gear.

I encourage you to use the club website to renew your membership, I think it's easier for you and it's definitely easier for Dean, Joe and me.

We have had four new members join since the last newsletter, please welcome **Ron Manke, Eileen Whistler, Amy Barr and Jake Boresch** to the BVBC. Including the renewals that are starting to come in, we are up to 92 members for the 2020 season so far.

#### Discovering Close-to-Home Trails for Safe Outdoor Activity

"It's about finding places people may have walked past many times, but never explored before."

—Frederick Schaedtler, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

While many states and communities list outdoor exercise as an essential activity, they caution that people should find close to home opportunities to limit the spread of the virus, and to avoid the potential for issues that could put a strain on local emergency and medical resources. Many trails and recreation facilities have closed vehicle access to mitigate crowding and to discourage visitors from outside the community.

To that end, <u>Frederick Schaedtler</u>, RTC's chief technology officer, encourages people to look no further than their own neighborhoods. "Many of us may have traveled through our neighborhoods a million times without realizing there's a local trail or greenway within walking or biking distance."

For those who are looking for places to be active outside and close to home, Schaedtler recommends <a href="TrailLink">TrailLink</a>, RTC's free trail-finder website and mobile app with information on more than 37,000 miles of multiuse trails across the country. "Since efforts to self-isolate began in earnest over the past few weeks, we've seen significant increases in visitors to TrailLink. People are seeking out their local trails right now."

The website and mobile app include trail maps, walking and biking directions to local trails, contact information for local trail managers, and status updates on trail facilities. Schaedtler and RTC urge all trail users to check with local trail managers to confirm status of facilities prior to visiting, as well as with local government agencies for the most up-to-date public health guidance and laws.

Additionally, trail users can consult local government and trail-manager websites found in these descriptions as means to find other potential local pathways and nature trails.

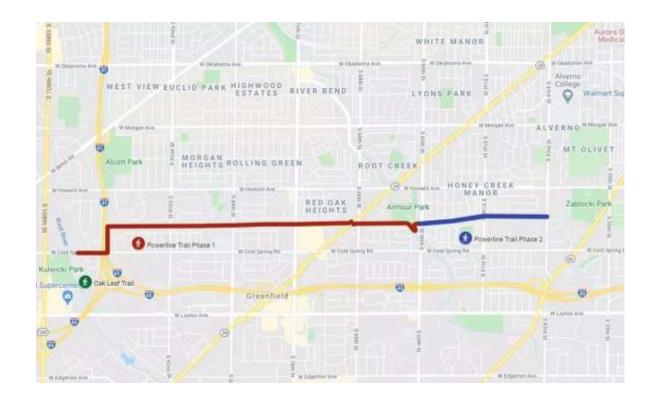
"It's about finding places people may have walked past many times, but never explored before. In this time of uncertainty and increasing stress for all of us, it's a positive way forward for individuals and families," said Schaedtler.



# POWERLINE TRAIL EXCITING NEWS!

Submitted by: Jeff Katz

It's a go! The City of Greenfield has been awarded a grant to build the Powerline Trail Phase 1!



### DETOUR IN PLACE ON OAK LEAF TRAILS'S ZIP LINE

MKE.co PARKS



In non-COVID related news, a section of Oak Leaf Trail's Zip Line (purple line) between Silver Spring and Bender Road is now closed for the foreseeable future, due to a growing sink hole. Signage for an onstreet detour has been posted. This sink hole is caused by a collapsing stone culvert, built over 100 years ago beneath the trail. Parks has applied for grants to make the approximately \$600,000 repair. Head to <a href="https://www.oakleaftrail.com">www.oakleaftrail.com</a> for updates on the detour.



By Diane Yurasovich

Don't forget, all club members are welcomed <u>and encouraged</u> to submit articles of interest and pictures to the newsletter.

Newsletter@BayViewBikeClub.org

# The Board Members



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Thanks Dean for keeping our website updated! www.BayViewBikeClub.org



Check out our club Facebook page for up-to-date information and events.



## Bike Fed Group Riding Information

Please see the link below for the Bike Fed's brochure on group riding safety. It is a great learning tool for new riders and a good refresher for seasoned riders. Let's be safe out there!

http://wisconsinbikefed.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/2013-GROUPRIDINGREV.pdf

#### A Word About Your Electronic Information

Your privacy is important to us. We don't share any of our membership information with anyone. We don't sell or forward your email address to any outside organizations. The BVBC board has decided not to make our member names, addresses or e-mails available electronically to members. We will continue to print a paper membership directory available in June. With very few exceptions, all of the e-mails you get from us will be directly related to club activities

Please don't ask us to forward any e-mails to our membership. We don't do that. If you would like to share your experiences about a particular ride, feel free to do that in the newsletter. Many bicycle event organizers ask us to forward information about their ride to our members. In order to limit the number of e-mails you get from the club, we don't forward e-mails from outside organizations. We will publish information about rides, events etc if it is submitted to the newsletter.



Let's Be Safe Out There!