

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER — JOHN KNOWLTON

I'm wearing a sweatshirt and long pants as I write this. In other words, summer cycling is winding down. KBC has had a great season, though! Group rides, a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Kal Tour, visits from infrastructure professionals, a forum on commuting and more group rides. But the fun isn't quite done.

KBC member Jason Young directs the Gilmore Gravel Grand Prix **October 8**. This is a fun gravel race or ride throughout Kalamazoo and Barry counties. I have ridden some of the routes and Jason has picked some beautiful roads. You can find this ride on BikeReg.com.

Marc Irwin organizes the Forests and Foliage in the Fall ride **Oct 22 at 10:30 a.m.** Start is at Gun Lake Park at Paterson Rd. This is definitely not a race but will offer several different routes and paces. Julie and I have participated a couple times and it is on our calendar for this year, too.

In defiance of inevitable weather, group rides are officially scheduled to continue through October. Monday and Wednesday rides start at 5:30 p.m. in October. Let's keep coming out and finish the season strong!

Looking forward to winter, let's Street Fight! This book was recommended by Christina Anderson, City Planner for the City of Kalamazoo. Goodreads describes this book as, "An empowering road map for rethinking, reinvigorating, and redesigning our cities, from a pioneer in the movement for safer, more livable streets." KBC is purchasing a few copies for members to read and pass along. In one of our winter KBC meetings we will have a discussion on the topics covered in the book and strategize on how we might move forward together.

KBC conducts annual elections for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominations are received at the October member meeting and the election occurs at the November meeting. You may nominate yourself or another member for any of these positions. It is my understanding that the incumbents intend to run again for 2023.



### HIGHLIGHTS

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**Please send stories  
and photos of your  
rides to:**

editor@kalamazooBicycle  
Club.org

On a final somber note, Pastor Dale Krueger recently passed away at age 90. Pastor Dale was a long-time member of KBC, and membership director Rick Whaley believes he may have been the oldest KBC member at one point. Pastor Dale is remembered as having ridden 80 miles on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. His obituary is available at <https://obits.mlive.com/us/obituaries/kalamazoo/name/dale-krueger-obituary?id=36595428>.



Keep riding and smiling. Life is better on a bike.

## KBC Business

The next KBC meeting will be **Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Shakespeare's Pub, 241 E Kalamazoo Ave. Up the steps, to the back and left.**

### Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

September 13, 2022

Arcus Center – Kalamazoo College

#### ATTENDANCE:

Rick Whaley	Charlie Grdina	Renee Mitchell	Kathy Kirk
Doug Kirk	Gordy Vader	Paul Wells	Matt Wells
Peter Coles	Reagan Woods	Lillian Deer	Natalie Ward
Olivia Laser	Meghan London	Theo Nieman	Madeline Moss
Elliot Russell	Travis Shemwell	Sophie Hartt	Rich Voorman
Paul Rehkopf	Clark Bennett	George Jarvis	Teresa Denton
Amelia Katansen	Mike Boersma	Alison Geist	Drew Gottschang
Paul Selden	Jim Kindle	Mike Krischer	Marc Irwin
Teri Olbrot	John Knowlton	Pam Sotherland	Paul Guimond
Dave DeBack			

Special guest speakers Christina Anderson, City Planner, and Dennis Randolph, Traffic Engineer, were invited to speak at this month's meeting about non-motorized transportation and the updates being implemented on the roads in our community. Paul Sotherland introduced our guests and John Knowlton led introductions of the attendees.

Here are some highlights from our speakers:

Our community is undergoing a long overdue update of infrastructure and implementation of a new transportation mindset, where street design is meant to serve everyone in the community, not simply move cars as quickly as possible. Now that jurisdiction of Kalamazoo city streets has been transferred from MDOT to the City of Kalamazoo, long term plans are being made to include all stakeholders who use our roads, including nonmotorized traffic, pedestrian traffic, as well as automobiles.

A variety of bike lane configurations have been introduced recently, but nothing is set in “one-hundred-year concrete” until appropriate data is collected, and input has been received.

People are beginning to use the new bike lanes and car traffic is learning to adjust. The intention is to build a network of bike lanes to connect neighborhoods and communities.

More changes are coming. You can keep up to date on these changes at: <https://www.imaginekalamazoo.com/projects/> **Everyone is invited and encouraged to complete the SURVEY at the upper right-hand corner of this website.**

### **Board Meeting:**

Several bicycling events are coming up: The Gilmore Gravel Grand Pris will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup> and is hosted by KBC member Jason Sparks. **The discount code for KBC Members is: KBC35.**

The Fall Bicycle Celebration is September 16-18, with the big ride on Sunday;

Also, The Fall Foliage Ride is scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at Gun Lake Park on Paterson Road.

Mike Boersma reminds everyone to choose KBC when they buy from Amazon Smile.

Paul Selden is looking for more volunteers for the the All Kids Bike Program this Saturday.

John Knowlton announced that elections for the KBC Executive Committee will be held at the November meeting, and that nominations are due at the October meeting for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. All incumbents of this year’s Executive Committee are interested in serving for another year.

Attendees were invited to a bonfire in the Sotherlands’ back yard, immediately following the meeting.

Meeting adjourned around 8:20 PM

## October 2022 Membership

Total Memberships: 299

Total Individuals: 481

**New or Renewed Members:** Bob Klose; Mike Krischer; Tim Krone; Daniel & Jeannette Marshall; Rob McDougall; Joseph Morton; Chris Mowell; David & Diane Riggs; Samuel Schnepf; Jason Sparks

**October Expired Members:** Charlie Eaton; Nick & Kelley Hampton; Jacinda Roedel; Evan St. Peter; Paul Wells & Family

Rick Whaley, Membership Director



## Finance Report (JUL-SEP 2022)

**Pam Sotherland, Treasurer**

**KBC FINANCES as of 09/19/2022**

**PREVIOUS BALANCE CASH (PNC Checking + PayPal) ACCOUNTS: \$16,943**

RECEIPTS (Cash In): \$5,599

EXPENSES: \$4,856

**CURRENT BALANCE CASH ACCOUNTS: \$17,686**

**TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS: \$4,193**

Discretionary Expenses: \$500

Education Fund: \$2,806

ROR21: \$887

**ENCUMBERED EXPENSES: \$0**

**AVAILABLE BALANCE for REMAINING Budgeted Expenses: \$13,493**

Current Cash minus Designated Funds minus Encumbered Expenses

**CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT: \$6,189**

**OCT – USE LAST FINANCE SHEET JUNE**

**CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT: \$6189**

## Good Books, Signs and Involvement

Fall is here, and I have already ridden with long-sleeve jersey, vest, and tights. Soon I'll put on the toe covers, head cover, and glove liners. This weather transition seems so sudden! It occurs to me that short sleeve jerseys and shorts weather only lasts about four or five months. Cool and cold weather cycling is about 60% of our time on the bike, meaning we need more stuff to keep us protected. For me the limitation to riding isn't temperature, but traction. If I'm not confident that the road surface is secure, I do an alternate activity. That gives me at least 10 months of riding. I like to make sure I have at least one entry in my cycling log for every month of the year. I like the short break of winter, and I get to cross country ski for a couple months most winters.

At the September KBC meeting we heard from the City of Kalamazoo about the street projects that are underway to calm traffic, add pedestrian safety features, and bicycle infrastructure. Although we have a long way to go to achieve a safe, continuous system of bike lanes and paths to allow for anyone to ride safely and comfortably anywhere in town, it is apparent that the attitude of the city is headed in the right direction to make our streets safer.

I think that KBC has gained credibility with local municipalities, so that we can be included in future street planning. I'm sure that bike Friendly Kalamazoo has been a part of this as well. We must continue to ask to be involved, to represent the serious cyclist point of view. Christina Anderson, City Planner for the city, recommended a book to Paul Sotherland, titled "Street Fight, Handbook for an Urban Revolution" that has been making the rounds at the city. Paul has ordered 10 of these book for KBC members to educate ourselves on urban planning for complete streets. The books will be available for any KBC member to read.

I hope you have noticed also that the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety has placed our 5' passing yard signs prominently on the lawns at fire/police stations in Kalamazoo. This is a big deal! It increases the visibility of the 5' ordinance, signals that KBC has a voice of credibility within local government, and represents a change in the attitude of law enforcement and the city. We need to continue to do our part to get more yard sign out on our lawns, and our family, friends and neighbors lawns. We have a good supply of signs at the bike shops, and I can help with delivery of yard signs if that helps. Let's keep those signs out as long as possible this winter, and reposition them occasionally to get attention.

Paul Wells, Education Chair



## Forests and Foliage Fall Ride

On October 22nd at 10:30am, KBC will host its annual tour of the Yankee Springs forests to enjoy the changing of the seasons. Routes of 30, 50 and 62 miles are available in the club's Ride w/GPS library and include the only categorized climb in the library. All turns on all routes will be marked on the pavement and begin at Gun Lake Park. To find it, take 131 north to exit #59, go east, past Shelbyville, until the road ends at Paterson Rd. The parking lot is on the left behind the bank. No fee, no sag support, there are some stops along the way for provisions and The Grove St Cafe in Delton for those who want to stop for lunch. Donuts, cider and snacks will be available at the finish, unless you are really fast and beat me.



Marc Irwin, KBC Member and Ride Coordinator

# 2022 Cycling Events.

Not an all inclusive list of all rides in the area but certainly the major ones in driving proximity to Kalamazoo.



the tour de france 1920

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Link</u>
Forest and Fall Foliage Ride	22 October 2022	
Gilmore Gravel	08 October 2022	<a href="#">Gilmore Gravel Grand Prix</a>

## Thank you to KBC Members !

Donning my hat as Chair of the 2022 Fall Bike Celebration Weekend, thanks to all the KBC members who participated in the behind the scenes preparations as volunteers to make this year another success: Thom Brennan. Barb & John Hart, Mike Krischer, Paul Rehkopf, Paul Runnels, Robin Sides, Tim Verdries, Paul Wells, Donna Whitcomb. Thank you!

We also thank the KBC members who volunteered to lead ride groups out of Vicksburg at the start of Sunday's Bike Tour, including Thom Brennan, Paul Guthrie, John Knowlton, Paul Pancella, Bill Price and Kitty Vader. Team Clark Logic rode out on the Shipshewana 103, but I don't know who was in the lead, but I did see Jamie Clark, Doug & Kathy Kirk and Tim Stewart among them. I could see that Tim Krone also rode with an informal group from Pedal Bicycle. Wow!

Please forgive me if I overlooked anyone unintentionally, not remembering your role or not being sure of your current KBC member status -- but believing you have KBC in your hearts. Thanks again, KBC!

Sincerely, Paul Selden, Chair, FBC 2022; President, Bike Friendly Kalamazoo; Proud KBC Member