

Bicycle Advocates For Annapolis & Anne Arundel County (“BikeAAA”) First Full Year Rolling Strong With Momentum into 2015!

Dear BikeAAA Members, Partners and Friends,

2014 was the first full year for BikeAAA and while we have much to be proud of, we are only getting started with our mission to promote safe cycling for transportation, recreation and fitness. [Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County](#) (“BikeAAA”) launched and became a 501c3 in mid-2013. Thanks to all of you, we made great progress in 2014, and have momentum rolling into 2015!

2014 Highlights

- Inaugural Lifeline100 draws over 500 cyclists & nets \$18,000 for non-profits
- Focus on bicycle infrastructure projects with city, county & state
- Partnerships built with key County agencies & others
- Second Annapolis rush hour cyclist count
- Councilman Trumbauer speaks at first annual meeting held at Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Free helmet distribution & bike safety program with Anne Arundel Medical Center
- Bike safety promoted at Hispanic Heritage Festival
- East Coast Greenway Day in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County
- First bike club group memberships; BikeAAA now over 500 members
- BikeAAA as beneficiary and partner to [Bike Like A Girl](#) RAAM team

Background and Startup

BikeAAA’s genesis was in the [Leadership Anne Arundel](#) Flagship program 2012-13. A team of six took on a project to make the county “more bike friendly”. We spoke to folks at the city, county and state, cyclists, bike shop owners, bike clubs and others in search of a gap that we could fill. We quickly discovered that unlike nearby Howard, Montgomery, Baltimore, Frederick, DC and others, that our county had no bicycle advocacy group. In fact when the City of Annapolis applied for bronze Bike Friendly Community status in 2012 and received Honorable Mention, lack of an advocacy group was cited as a deficiency. We had found our gap and moved rapidly to fill it!

In March, 2013 our first community meeting hosted by Compass Marketing in Annapolis was attended by 30 people. With their strong support, we rapidly launched and quickly became the “go-to” organization for county cycling advocacy. Since then, we have developed strong relationships and credibility with city, county and state elected and appointed officials, the press, other mission-aligned organizations, and the greater county cycling community.



Michael Jackson, MDOT Bike/Ped Director at March, 2013 Meeting



State of Cycling in the County

BikeAAA's mission focuses on safe cycling for "transportation, recreation and fitness". Three very different cycling segments with different types of bikes, skills, objectives, demographics, etc. For all types of riders, Anne Arundel County cycling has strengths and weaknesses:



Councilman Chris Trumbauer at
BikeAAA annual meeting

- Outdoor lifestyle, but obesity is a major health concern
- Beautiful [trails](#) with plans to expand, but not well connected
- Good [Bike/Ped Master Plans](#), but little funding and follow-through
- Active and vocal [bike clubs](#), but no county bike/ped coordinator
- An important crossroad for nationally recognized routes and events, but too few know about it
 - [East Coast Greenway](#) (Maine to Key West) & [American Discovery Trail](#) (Delaware to California) intersect in Annapolis
 - [The Race Across America](#) ("RAAM") starts in California and ends at Annapolis City Dock. In 2013 the single rider record was broken....under 8 days!
- Geographic disparities
 - South county attractive for on-road fitness (distance) cyclists, but few trails for recreation
 - North, West and East have trails (BWI, WB&A, B&A) but few on-road bike lanes
 - Residential centers and commuter destinations (work, school, shop) not well-connected with safe routes
- Attractive tourist destination, but little cycling tourism (vs. DC, Baltimore, Alexandria, etc.)
- Chesapeake Bay drives environmental conscience, but single-driver car use prevails
- National trend shifting to multi-modal transportation, but we remain auto-centric

Recently elected County Executive Steve Schuh has a stated goal of making Anne Arundel County "the best place to live, work and start a business". The millennial generation is our future and they demand transportation alternatives. In D.C., car ownership is down as millennials walk, bike or use transit to travel. Studies show that "being safe and feeling safe" trumps all other factors when people decide whether to ride. Bike-friendly communities across the U.S. recognize this and have adopted policies and devoted resources to provide safe biking infrastructure. This is true for cities of all sizes and character. In Maryland, there are five Bronze [Bike-friendly Communities](#) – Baltimore, Bethesda, Frederick, Rockville and Hagerstown. We are eager to work with the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County officials to achieve this goal.



2014 Accomplishments

We have categorized our accomplishments in four broad focus areas: Infrastructure, Education, Advocacy and Encouragement/Events.

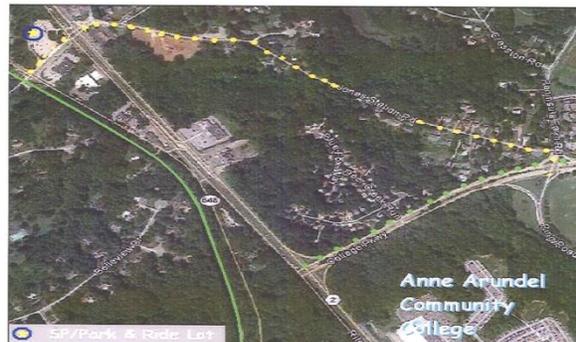
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



Rt. 170 Camp Meade Rd, Linthicum: BikeAAA organized a ride survey and issued a [support letter](#) for the planned SHA Complete Streets project along Rt. 170 Camp Meade Rd in Linthicum, a key bicycle connector route between Baltimore and the BWI loop and surrounding employers. Through the sponsorship of Aviation Velo and Trek, the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) did an onsite assessment and provided recommendations. Representatives of BikeMD, MD Bike/Ped Advisory Commission, East Coast Greenway and BikeAAA participated, and State Delegate Pam Beidle attended the out-brief discussion. We are pleased to report that following a January, 2015 meeting with SHA, the project is slated to begin and be

completed in 2015.

B&A Trail to Anne Arundel Community College Connector BikeAAA supported Anne Arundel County Planning & Zoning which was awarded a [Maryland Bikeways grant](#) for a design study for a safer connector between the B&A Trail and Anne Arundel Community College. BikeAAA did a ride survey and submitted a paper supporting the proposal, and has participated in a design walk-through. The B&A Trail is a beautiful, safe 13 mile trail that can become a bike/ped transportation backbone by adding more safe connectors such as for the 10,000 students who attend daily at Anne Arundel Community College. Not unlike others, this project requires coordination with many jurisdictions -- in this case Recreation & Parks, County P&Z, MTA, SHA and AACCC.



Rt. 175, Ft. Meade Area and other Anne Arundel County areas

Ft. Meade is the largest employer in the state of Maryland and with continuing growth, transportation is an increasing challenge. The LAB did an assessment of this area similar to the Rt. 170 assessment mentioned above. BikeAAA board member and Ft. Meade bike commuter group leader Rino Sanchez helped lead this tour, as well as a later public meeting concerning the widening of Rt. 175. BikeAAA provided [recommendations](#) regarding protected bike lanes and a continuous hiker/biker trail. Other areas where BikeAAA has weighed in with state, county and city officials include [Mountain Rd. in Pasadena](#), [outer West St.](#) in Annapolis



and the placement of artistic bike racks in Annapolis under a MD Bikeways state grant. We are also working to get [East Coast Greenway](#) signage placed along the A.A. County segment.

EDUCATION - Partnering for Children's Bike Safety and Response to Incidents



Anne Arundel Medical Center and BikeAAA partnered to provide a program on nutrition, exercise and bike safety to children at Eastport Terrace. This included free bike helmets. Thank you AAMC for initiating this program and the launch of a great partnership! BikeAAA promoted bicycle safety in English and Spanish at the Hispanic Heritage Festival hosted by Centro de Ayuda at Truxton Park.



On June 30, Anne Arundel County Police called a [press conference](#) on driver/cyclist safety after several crashes. BikeAAA president, Jon Korin, was invited to speak. We remain committed to bringing education and whatever good we can from these incidents. BikeAAA board member Steve Miller is planning more safety education programs in 2015 with a growing network of partners.



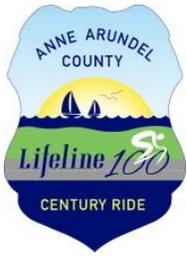
ADVOCACY – Alex Pline on new county *Complete Streets Working Group*



BikeAAA vice president and transportation activist [Alex Pline](#) previously co-chaired the county Transportation Commission and has now been appointed to the County's [Complete Streets Working Group](#) which recently launched. The group consists of county staff and citizens and will focus on improving road conditions for use by all modes – motorized, bike and pedestrian. Alex also serves on the Annapolis Transportation Board and is a thought leader in

forward-looking approaches to transportation and urban planning. BikeAAA has also had a presence at the state legislature where we have testified and supported initiatives to strengthen laws for cyclist safety. We work closely with our state-level advocates at BikeMD and our local counterparts throughout the state. We presented at the 2014 Maryland Bike Symposium, to the county delegation and attended the National Bike Summit in Washington D.C.





EVENTS - Encouraging New Cyclists and Advancing A Bicycle Culture !

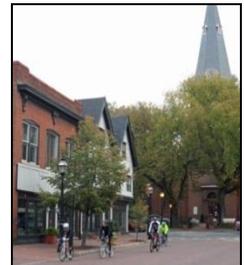
Inaugural Lifeline100 Century Ride

BikeAAA in partnership with Anne Arundel County Police and Recreation & Parks Dept. hosted the Lifeline100 with 100, 56, 15 (trail only) mile rides and a free children’s bike rodeo and family fun ride. Bike routes wound throughout scenic Anne Arundel County including downtown Annapolis, the Severn River, Galesville, Crofton, BWI airport and the B&A Trail. There was also a *Making Health Happen* health fair by the *Healthy Anne Arundel Coalition* that day, all at Kinder Farm Park.



This first of its kind event in Anne Arundel County attracted over 500 registered cyclists, more than 100 volunteers, over 30 sponsors, 19 health fair exhibitors and more than 20 bike rodeo children! A post-ride survey showed great enthusiasm for the route, rest stops, support, overall organization and interest in riding again. Nearly half came from outside the county

and we had riders from age 4 at the rodeo to 84 on the full century! We also collected many suggestions for making 2015 even bigger and better! The event generated \$18,000 for local non-profits and on November 17, 2014 we presented three \$6,000 checks to the Anne Arundel County Crisis Response System, Recreation Deeds for Special Needs and BikeAAA.



\$6,000 checks given to Crisis Response System, Recreation Deeds for Special Needs & BikeAAA

2015 Lifeline100 on October 18, 2015 -- SAVE THE DATE!

We are pleased to announce that the 2015 ride will be held on Sunday October 18! We have already begun planning and many of our volunteers, especially those from Annapolis Bicycle Club, have already committed to participate! More details at www.lifeline100.com .



Bike to Work Day - 2014 and May 15, 2015



Bike To Work Day is typically rain or shine but in 2014 there were unusually heavy rains and flooding which caused a less formal postponed Bike To Work Day two weeks later. In 2014 and again in 2015, BikeAAA works with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council and Annapolis Regional Transportation Management Association to promote this national event. Mark your calendar for May 15, 2015 and visit www.bike2workcentralmaryland.com .

East Coast Greenway Day



The East Coast Greenway (www.greenway.org) is a 2,900 mile route from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida. The Greenway goal is 100% off-road and currently about 30% is trail. The route also is designed to connect towns and locally it comes down from Baltimore utilizing the BWI loop, B&A Trail and Poplar Trail as it goes right through downtown Annapolis before heading west to D.C. Each year a group rides a segment and in 2014 a group came through Anne Arundel

County on their ride from Philly to Fredericksburg. October 8, 2014 was declared *East Coast Greenway Day* by both the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. A team of local cyclists including Anne Arundel County Police greeted and escorted the riders to a reception hosted by BikeAAA in Annapolis.

Race Across America – Annapolis Finish Line and Local Racers



The Race across America (“RAAM”)) is a 3,020 mile world class cycling race that starts in Oceanside, CA and ends here in Annapolis. In 2014 the single rider record was broken by at under 7 days, 15 hours. The June event includes both single riders and teams and in 2014 there were two teams with local Anne Arundel cyclists. In 2015, an 8 woman team called Bike Like A Girl (www.bikelikeagirl.org) is out to

break a record while raising money for cycling-oriented non-profits on a global, national and local level. BikeAAA is proud to be a beneficiary. Another team called Beau, Babe & Buds includes two local cyclists in the age 60-69 group. Learn more about RAAM at www.raceacrossamerica.org and watch these amazing athletes finish in late June at Annapolis City Dock!

2015 Goals

In 2014 we expanded our membership, relationships, and introduced Lifeline100, now a signature cycling event for Anne Arundel County. We also stepped up our focus on improving and adding safe bicycle infrastructure through advocacy with city, county, state and federal elected and appointed officials. In 2015 we will continue this emphasis on infrastructure knowing that it requires a long-term sustained focus. It is especially helpful to have local cyclists monitor and get involved in these efforts. Please use our Facebook page and website to see projects or to bring projects to our attention.

In 2015 we are also launching an expanded safety program working through a network of partners that includes county agencies such as the Police, Recreation & Parks and School System, non-profits like Centro de Ayuda and Lighthouse, and other mission-aligned organizations like Anne Arundel Medical Center. We have also applied for a grant to obtain helmets for free distribution in conjunction with safety programs to be delivered with BikeMD. If you would like to get involved in this initiative, please contact BikeAAA board member Steve Miller.

BikeAAA 2015 goals:

- Increase safe bicycling for transportation, recreation, and fitness through education and encouragement
- Provide a forum and stronger voice for bicycling through collaboration among residents, government, businesses, schools, non-profits, clubs and other advocacy groups
- Improve bicycling conditions and choices both on & off road
- Increase safe cycling and cycling awareness through events and safety programs



We will need your help to achieve these. Please contact us through our [Facebook group](#), www.bikeaaa.org or email president@bikeaaa.org



Financial Status

Revenue	2013	2014
Memberships	3,605	2,100
Contributions	497	1,174
Event Registrations		22,040
Event Sponsorships		7,917
Total Revenue	4,102	33,230
Expenses		
Startup	1,154	
Administrative	133	280
Promotion	1,102	74
Programs		352
Events		9,526
Contributions & Grants		12,210
Total Expense	2,389	22,442
Net Surplus	1,216	10,788
Year-end Balance	1,216	12,004

BikeAAA is an all-volunteer, non-profit 501c3 organization. In 2013 all contributions went to startup costs and program expenses. We spend nothing on legal, accounting or other professional fees. All of that is done through volunteer hours, primarily by our board and others. In 2014, we diversified our membership revenue to include both individual and club memberships while adding registration and sponsorship income from the Lifeline100. The Lifeline100 income was used to cover event expenses but more importantly netted \$18,000 which was given to in-county non-profits including BikeAAA. We closed 2014 with a surplus which places us on solid footing for the future.

Board of Directors

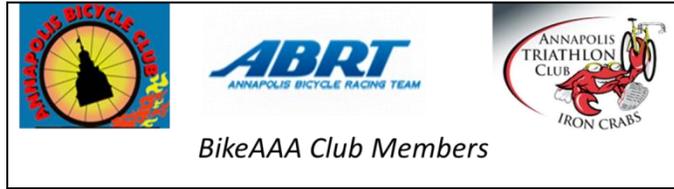
As a young all-volunteer organization BikeAAA relies heavily on its board not just for governance, but for initiatives and much of the advocacy work that fulfills our mission. We are very grateful to past directors who helped our launch and current directors who are helping us grow both in effectiveness and scale. Our current board consists of:

- *Jon Korin*, President
- *Alex Pline*, Vice President
- *Cathy Rich*, Treasurer
- *Ken Keeler*, Secretary
- *Steve Miller*, Safety Education Programs
- *Christina Pompa*, Infrastructure



MEMBERSHIP – Now Over 500!

While less than two years old, BikeAAA is pleased to have attained over 500 members as of early 2015. In 2014 we



launched a bicycle club group membership arrangement which brings bike club members into BikeAAA en masse. We are pleased to have Annapolis Bicycle Club, Annapolis Bicycle Racing Team and the Annapolis Triathlon Club all as BikeAAA members. Individuals and clubs interested in joining can get more details at www.bikeaaa.org/joinsupport. As of early 2015, we have expanded our outreach to over 400 Facebook followers and many others on our email list. We are very grateful to all who expressed their commitment to safe cycling and confidence in our launch by joining in our first eighteen months. Generous members at the \$50 Charter Level and above as of January 31, 2015 are acknowledged below:

Members at \$50 Charter Level and Above

<u>\$1,000 Lifetime</u>	<u>\$50 Charter</u>
Jon Korin	Michael Berry
Kathy Korin	James Black
	Robert Chaisson
<u>\$500 Clubs</u>	Ed & Kathy Conaway
Annapolis Bicycle Club	William Crabbs
Annapolis Bicycle Racing Team	James Curran
Annapolis Triathlon Club	Eric Edstrom
	Mark Hanna
<u>\$250 Silver</u>	Adam Hewison
Alex Pline	William Hunter
Christina Pompa	Paul Fickinger
	Al Kohler
<u>\$100 Bronze</u>	Rino Sanchez
Joseph Lynagh	Alex Schwab
Cathy Rich	Tracy VanDagna
Bill Somers	Kenneth Weddle

We thank all of you who helped us launch, follow us on Facebook or email, and support safe cycling in so many ways. With your growing support we will achieve even more in 2015. If you haven't joined yet and would like to now, just click www.bikeaaa.org/joinsupport. We look forward to working with you and seeing you out on the beautiful roads and trails of Anne Arundel County. Thank you and ride safely!

Jon Korin
 President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County (" [BikeAAA](http://www.bikeaaa.org) ")

