

# Commuter News & Notes



**A Newsletter for Members of the MVTMA**

**Summer/Fall 2006, Volume 5, Number 2**

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## 2006 Bike to Work Events and Celebration Soggy, But Successful

Though the month of May was characterized by record rainfall and devastating floods in many Merrimack Valley and North shore communities, 96 hardy employees from 11 TMA companies prevailed through changes of event dates and in some cases event location to participate in this year's Bike to Work (BtW) events. Employees pedaled a total of 2255 miles from 36 towns in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. This year about half of participants cycled from nearby communities of Andover, Lawrence, and North Andover while some intrepid cyclists commuted from as far away as Marblehead, Harvard, Newton, and Brookline Massachusetts as well as Stratham, Danville, and Hollis New Hampshire. Upon arriving at their worksite, employees were provided breakfast coupons or breakfast courtesy of their employer and presented BtW gift bags that included BtW t-shirts donated by major BtW sponsor and TMA member Eisai Research Institute.



Andover Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski addresses the crowd at the Merrimack Valley TMA BtW Celebration while TMA director Andrea Leary looks on.

Just prior to the rains of May, the TMA sponsored a BtW seminar presented by former MassBike Executive Director, Dorie Clark and hosted by Philips

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## September is Share the Ride Month

Employees are encouraged to register into the TMA's ridematching database during September to explore their options for potential carpool and vanpool partners. During the month staff from the TMA and VPSI, the nation's leading vanpool provider will be onsite at many TMA member worksites to provide employees information about the benefits and cost savings associated with carpooling and vanpooling. As an additional incentive, VPSI will provide the first month's vanpool lease free to all vanpool groups that begin prior to January of 2007. Cost of fuel got you down, the Merrimack Valley TMA has you covered! New vanpools and carpools are encouraged to register for the TMA's Worksite Incentive Program (WIP) and receive gas cards to help with your fuel costs for the first three months of your commute. Everyone who registers into the ridematching database during September ([www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com/member\\_services](http://www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com/member_services)) is also eligible to win a \$50 restaurant gift certificate.



Bike to Work 2006—continued from Page 1

Medical Systems. At the seminar, employees were instructed in basic safety and health aspects of commuting by bike as well as information about bike etiquette. Philips also provided a delicious complimentary lunch for the more than 45 attendees from TMA member companies who planned to bike to work on their company's BtW day.

In addition to Eisai and Philips, TMA members have been very generous in support of BtW 2006. Staybridge Suites once again hosted this year's Bike to Work Celebration at their facility at 4 Tech Drive and the hotel also provided a wonderful barbecue luncheon for BtW participants superbly grilled (in the rain) by Staybridge Director of Sales Dawn Tyrrell. Staybridge also generously sponsored the BtW raffle grand prize—a weekend getaway to Malvern, Pennsylvania just outside of historic Valley Forge and Philadelphia, while Putnam Investments provided print support for the events and Celebration.

Though this year's BtW Celebration had to be moved inside Staybridge Suites, exhibitors including the Athlete's Corner, Bike-Walk Alliance of New Hampshire, Butchikas Bike & Ski Shop, Earth Share of New England, MassBike, and Philips Fitness Center enjoyed the comradery with both Celebration guests and other exhibitors fostered by the indoor venue. While the rain may have put a damper on outside festivities, inside the group enthusiastically welcomed Andover Town Manager Reginald "Buzz" Stapczynski who expressed appreciation on behalf of the town for those who help to reduce traffic and improve air quality in the region by commuting to work by bike. Executive Office of Transportation Bike and Pedestrian Program Manager, Josh Lehman provided information to the group about his own cycling background and the cycling initiatives currently being addressed by his office. After which, Dave Topham told attendees about the exciting changes occurring in New Hampshire for bicycling advocacy now that the Granite State Bicycling Alliance has evolved into the Bike-Walk Alliance of New Hampshire. The Celebration culminated with the always exciting BtW raffle. See the winners box on page 4 for a complete list of BtW winners.

## BtW Photo Gallery



From left to right: Paul Sirianni—Zurich,N.A., Michael Millnamow—Polycom, Ric Lohnes, Paul Marinelli, and Tom Doane—Eisai Research Institute, and Glenn Melski, Fabrizio Muscone, and Tony Volpe—Rreef tenants Enel, N.A. all biked to Polycom on the TMA's joint rain date event on May 25th!



Also biking to work on site-specific rain dates were from left to right: Gerry Goldrick—VICOR, Marion and Tom Maricic—Putnam Investments and perpetual BtW participant Dom Osborne—Philips Medical Systems.

## TMA Summer/Fall Calendar of Events

### August 2006

#### August 8

12:00 Noon—1:30 PM

#### **Cycling Committee Mtg.**

Philips Medical System  
Building 4  
3000 Minuteman Road  
Andover, MA

#### August 10

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

#### **Navisite/WSI**

**Transportation Event**  
2nd Floor Reception  
400 Minuteman Road  
Andover, MA

#### August 15

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

#### **Brickstone Properties Tenant**

**Transportation Event**  
Cafeteria  
200 Minuteman Road  
Andover, MA

#### August 16

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

#### **VICOR**

**Benefits Fair**  
400 Federal Street  
Andover, MA

#### August 17

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

#### **VICOR**

**Benefits Fair**  
25 Frontage Road  
Andover, MA

#### August 22

9:00 AM—10:30 AM

#### **Employee Transportation**

**Advisors Mtg.**  
**Eisai Research Institute**  
One Corporate Drive  
Andover, MA

### September 2006

#### September 22

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

#### **Merrimack Valley TMA Board of Directors Annual Meeting**

Philips Medical Systems  
3000 Minuteman Road  
Andover, MA

#### September

#### **Share the Ride Days**

Please check the MVTMA  
website online calendar for  
participating worksites and  
exact locations at

[www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com](http://www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com)

## Town of Andover Promotes the Merrimack Valley TMA

The Town of Andover has recently included information for residents as well as local employers and employees on the town's website:

<http://andoverma.gov/planning/commuting.php>.

In addition to the website, the town's local cable access station—channel 22 is running a PowerPoint presentation about the services and benefits provided by the Merrimack Valley TMA.

Membership has its privileges—tune in or log on today to find out more!

## Merrimack Valley TMA Announces New Cycling Committee

The Merrimack Valley TMA held its inaugural meeting of the MVTMA Cycling Committee on June 27th. The group which plans to meet several times a year over lunch will be working to advocate for improvements in signage and infrastructure to support biking as a commute option for employees working at TMA member companies. The group will also work to improve communication about cycling programs and resources through the new Cycling Corner located on the TMA's website

[www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com/cyclingcorner.htm](http://www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com/cyclingcorner.htm)

and will promote a dialogue and exchange of information between TMA members interested in cycling at the TMA's new cycling listserv. To join the list serve send an e-mail to: [mvtmacycling-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:mvtmacycling-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Please join us at the next committee meeting on August 8th (see the calendar above for specifics)!

## MVTMA Supports Regional Cycling Event—Hub on Wheels

The Merrimack Valley TMA is joining forces with Hub on Wheels to promote cycling to those in our region. Hub on Wheels is organizing a number of different bike rides for adults and children of all ability levels on October 1. Rides will begin and end on Government Center Plaza in Boston. Experience Boston at bike level! Join 3,000 neighbors on a fabulous bicycle ride around the city's parks, greenways, neighborhoods, and waterfront. Choose loops of 10 to 40 miles-- all with tech support, food & water, rest stops, music, and more. And stay around for the fabulous post-ride festival with cycling themed games, entertainment, Red-bones bbq, and Boston's largest cycling expo. Have fun while helping kids through Boston's Digital Bridge Foundation programs. For more information go to [www.HubOnWheels.org](http://www.HubOnWheels.org) or call Dori Latman at (617) 918-4343.

# And the Winner is...

To thank our member employees for using an alternative commute mode, each month the TMA draws a name from the GRH database for a \$10 gift card to Dunkin Donuts. Congratulations to the winners listed below!

## Monthly GRH Raffle Winners

### April 2006

Rose Murphy – Philips

### May 2006

Mary Blanchette – GLTS

### June 2006

Carmen Ruiz – Philips

## Bike to Work 2006 Winners

### **BtW 2006 Prize List**

Giro Adult Bike Helmet

Park Tool USA Chain Scrubber

BIO Degreaser

Blackburn Rearview Helmut Mirror

Cannondale Trail Tool

Intertia Designs Trail Wedge Bag

Wyndham Andover Overnight for 2 w/Breakfast Jerry Witt – Philips

Golf Carts for a Foursome at Andover C.C. Simon Kozin - Philips

Showcase Cinema Movie Passes

NHBWA Membership

NHBWA Membership

### **Prize Winner**

John Silva - Philips

David Houston – Philips

Hung Phu – Philips

Gerry Goldrick – VICOR

Glenn Melski – Enel

Fabrizio Moscone – Enel

Jerry Witt – Philips

Simon Kozin - Philips

Dave Sikora – VICOR

Eric Wlodyka – Philips

Roger Lepine – Philips

### **BtW 2006 Prize List**

Kryptonite Bike Lock

Axion Gel Saddle

Patch and Lever Kit

Blackburn Bike Safety Light

Jogalite Reflective Leg Bands

Gel-lite Bike Gloves

Goodale's Gift Certificate

Athlete's Corner Gift Certificate

MassBike Membership

World Wildlife Fund t-shirt

Buchikas H2O Bottles

### **Prize Winner**

Pierre LaFonde – HP

Jim Nesteruk – Philips

Mike Grant – Philips

Mike Linskey – HP

Wilson Sawyer – Enterasys

Bill Miller – VICOR

Kevin Casey – Philips

Tom Maricic – Putnam

Sal Rustan – VICOR

Jill Boisseau – VICOR

Stan Graziano/Ted Richard – Philips

**Grand Prize – Weekend Getaway James Brock – Verizon**

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