Happy New Year!!

I hope you had a wonderful year and holiday season full of whatever makes you happy! Perhaps you took a little time to reflect on 2016 and have a lot of exciting and happy memories! Maybe you met all your goals or there are a few on the list to do. I hope you will join us on January 21st at the annual membership meeting, as we look back on 2016 and forward into 2017. The membership meeting is a great place to hear what is going on, mingle, visit, and share your ideas.

I'm lucky to have experienced a lot of great riding time and good weather with friends. I also saw many smiles at the various CIBA rides. Perhaps a record for me, I can only recall getting caught in the rain once and I haven't had to change a flat on a ride! On the down side, there were quite a few high profile cycling injuries and deaths in our region. While it was an excellent year, there is always room for improvement.

As I look back at the last year of CIBA I’m amazed how fast it went by. Like in our lives, there always seems to be so many things we want to do and so very little time. Last year for CIBA was a year of looking inward; taking a look at how the great club we have could be better. We spent a significant part of the year to realign our structure to focus on 4 main pillars of focus. It was not pain-free and it’s not over, but CIBA will go that extra mile to become stronger and more efficient. This is one example of the accomplishments in 2016, and we hope you will join us at the meeting to hear many other examples.

Looking forward to 2017 personally, I’m not so excited to be visiting my trainer in the basement. This is a change for me, as I normally would choose the trainer over cold weather. That hasn’t happened yet as just a day ago I bundled up riding in 20-degree weather. I’m sure pretty soon I’ll have no choice haha!

Looking forward as a member of CIBA I’m excited for the seminar series at the Central Public Library. These presentations help to keep me excited about cycling and get exposure to areas of cycling that I’m not that familiar with. We offer this service to our members and the general public with the Central Public Library so I hope you will attend and bring your friends! Another great benefit coming up on February 4th is the CIBA swap meet. It’s a great chance to find some great deals and to catch up with your cycling friends! We had great attendance last year and hope for even more growth this year!

Looking forward as a member of CIBA leadership, I’m honored and humbled to be working with so many caring and dedicated people. We've had some changes in leadership and I’d like to thank those who are moving on for their contributions and to welcome our new board members!

Looking outward, We’ve been working on a survey that will begin to help us see how both our members and the general cycling community sees CIBA. Things have changed in 51 years since CIBA started and I can’t think of a better tool to help guide improvement than candid feedback. We hope you will take some time to take part in the survey and pass it along to anyone you know who has an interest in cycling.

Lastly, I like to think about what would make a successful 2017. Personally, that means keeping a healthy balance in all aspects of my life and making sure I’m moving forward toward my personal goals.

For CIBA I would call it a successful year if we can continue to move towards our new pillar structure and have all the pillars operating fully. Another key for a successful year will be to merge our internal goals with our external guidance from the survey. We then can move to rank and narrow down to a few objectives for each pillar to do in 2017. I’m confident we will succeed and look forward to seeing the progress!

I hope you have a fantastic 2017 and I look forward to seeing you at a CIBA event or ride!

Jason