



WCCC News -May 2017

The WCCC is off to a great start for the season with many rides posted and many riders enjoying themselves. This edition of the WCCC news will include the usual events/rides, a safety pointer, a reminder about the WCCC clothing order window and more. Our artist of the month is Juan Vela and we're showcasing Design 6 Degrees and Stillman Volvo on the sponsors side. As always, if you know of an artist you think we should highlight, let me know!

May Events & Organized Rides

Ride postings tend to kick up as temperatures rise, but we also have wet stuff to consider, so expect something of a transition month in May. My suggestion – ride as often as you can because you never know when the next rain storm will wipe out your plans. Big rides this month:

- -Cinco de Mayo (Sunday, May 7)
- -Ride of Silence (Wednesday, May 17)
- -Bike Southern Chester County (Saturday, May 20)



Other fun rides already posted:

- -Lunch in Port Deposit, MD (Saturday, May 13)
- -Elkton (Sunday, May 21)
- -Habitat for Humanity (4 days starting 6/1)
- -Pedaling4Paws (5 days to Canada, starting 6/19)
- -BVHAC Challenge for Cancer (Sunday, 6/25)



Why the June rides now? The long ones need you to apply or register and you really should do some training and the Challenge for Cancer is the ride the WCCC adopted from the first days of the Club (and they have reduced registration rates around this time). Many others will be posted – short, medium and long. No excuse to not be on the bike!

Safety

Just as April is a transition month, so too is May, although most issues relate to storms. If you find yourself heading towards a storm, seek shelter and don't think you can plough your way through. Most violent storms pass very quickly. They can uproot trees and definitely throw debris all over the place. Even if you simply find a house to stand beside, your chances of avoiding issues increase dramatically. Any time you have wet roads, you have icy-like conditions on any metal – bridges, train tracks, bridge transitions – and on painted or oil-based surfaces. So, if you are out there and caught in a storm (or trying to get back afterward), walk across metal and be careful. Whereas you should always have a proper fit to your helmet, why not make sure. Most straps will stretch over time; get yourself fixed up (and yes, make sure your bike is properly maintained so you don't get stranded due to a breakdown).

Extras

The 2nd and last clothing order window is open until May 7, 2017 (about a week away). Order clothing at the WCCC Voler store whether you need summer, fall, winter or spring items. The items from this order should arrive by mid-to-late June, 2017. If you don't have your 2017 kit, you aren't officially a member.

Speaking of members, if you know of members who are not getting these emails, ask them to contact me so we can correct this. Our distribution system requires people to formally accept an invitation to the group and sometimes people don't see those invites.

Just a final word on the recent WCCC Party. It was awesome. If you missed it ask any of the 100 or so people who were there. Thanks again to Alan Walter for the hospitality and the small army who make it possible.

Maintenance and safety clinics are being planned. More soon.

WCCC's Member Spotlight for May, 2017



**Juan Vela -
Artist/Painter/Photographer/Author/Serve Ware Creator**

Juan Luis G. Vela has been painting watercolors since 1962. His work has been included in many shows nationwide and overseas. He's been in museums worldwide too and the list is too long to share here (email me if you want the details). Some of his awards include the first prize in the "Medal of Honor" for watercolor at The Grand National Exhibit of The American Artist Professional League, The Artograph Creativity Contest and The Long Beach Museum of Art. He has 3 books (2 flora related; 1 bird related) and his work has been reproduced in magazines such as "Outdoor Life," "Animal Kingdom," and "The New York Times," among others.

A long-time bird-lover, Juan has travelled extensively throughout North America photographing and sketching birds.

To see Juan's work, visit these websites:

<http://m.pumpnickelpress.com/cat-65-1-127-0/juan-vela.htm>

<http://www.armetale.com/collections/belle-mont.html>

<http://www.armetale.com/juan-vela>

<http://www.juanvelastudio.com>

<http://m.macys.com/shop/product/wilton-armetale-belle-mont-serve-ware-collection?ID=593381&CategoryID=7923>

As FYI, the Belle Mont collection is a national best-seller in collectibles/ serve ware.

Juan and his wife Doris are long-time WCCC members with homes in our area and in central NY. I'm particularly grateful to Juan for his stunning Pedaling4Paws work. He designed the P4P logo, the clothing and donated several prints for our past raffles. Juan truly is an amazing and giving person!

WCCC's Sponsor Spotlight for May, 2017



Design 6 Degrees is a virtual design group that's well connected. Run by fellow WCCC member Anja Reichelt-Herman, the firm is made up of a group of design, advertising and internet professionals that offer marketing solutions. What impresses me most is that Anja has a gift. She can take complex ideas and distill them into the essence of a powerful message. Design 6's tag line is "To help clients make connections count" and they do a great job. Full disclosure, Anja helped fellow WCCC sponsor M2VP and she graciously helped bring the new Pedaling4Paws web site forward several years ago. Visit <http://design6degrees.com/> for more information and like any WCCC sponsors, consider them first when looking for help with your business!



Ed Stillman

What can I say about Ed Stillman, the owner of Stillman Volvo. I consider him a good friend, a great business man and a wonderful humanitarian. Happy to tell you more if you ask me, but when it comes to Volvo's, Ed along with his son Jonathan (who Ed claims does all the real work) have one of the highest volume, most respected retailer-ships in all of North America. Yes, you read that right, they are that good – with sales, parts and service. If you've been paying attention to new cars lately, Volvo has been producing some of the most stunning designs around and they remain among the safest vehicles anywhere. If you're looking at a new vehicle, you owe it to yourself to visit their store on Route 202, where it crosses Old Wilmington Pike. Visit their site at <http://stillmanvolvo.com>.

That's if for this month folks – Have Fun and Ride Safely!

**Thanks,
Viktor**