

**Save the date****DVBC Banquet, Mon, Dec 2****At DiFabio's Restaurant****44th Annual Brandywine Tour: Sunday 8/25**

Here's what our riders had to say about it: "Epic Tour". "Terrific. Organization, rest stops, roadways, markings, price were all excellent." "Most scenic ride EVER!" "Perfect ride." "Gorgeous." "You guys do a great job." "I'll be back!" . . . and so much more. Of course, there is

always some room for improvement, therefore we will use our feedback to continue to provide a wonderful experience to all our riders.

In case you missed it, our tour director, Nancy came up with some new routes, including a 50 mile option with less than 3000' of climbing, but kept the 24 mile route the same as last year, and once again we offered ride leaders, (thank you Shelley and Phil) to the delight of many novice riders. The Brandywine Century ride started with a loop through Kennett Square, then joined with the rest of the riders well before the first rest stop. The Century, 85 mile and 62 mile routes included some challenging hills (it wouldn't be the Brandywine without them!) and all our routes had spectacular scenery. Last year's end of ride ice cream was so well received that we included an Ice Cream Truck stop at a local farm this year near the end of the ride. Our rest stops included tried and true items as well as some amazing homemade fare. Special thanks go out to Andy for his delicious banana bread and salt cookies, to Sabine for her potatoes, to Nonna for her energy balls, and to Lisa, Kathleen, Sue, Alex, and Kristen for their yummy treats. Homemade goodies are always well received!

Of course, this tour could not have happened without our amazing volunteers who give of their time before, during and after the actual ride. This includes SAG drivers, Rest stop Captains and their crews, road markers, sign makers, movers, parking attendants, and the list goes on. Thank you all! There is so much behind the scenes work that is done throughout the year, so if you weren't able to help this year, but want to be a part of the 2020 tour, by all means, let us know. In the meantime, please enjoy the recap video provided by Bob LaDrew:

Here's the link to the 2019 Brandywine Tour video. Courtesy of Bob LaDrew: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHBZZXGVHsc>

Chesapeake City B&B Weekend

Emil Skobeloff

This year's Chesapeake City B&B weekend was a real challenge. The B&B's for the entire town were booked for the weekend because of a wedding. Even though I booked 4 months in advance, we could only get 2 rooms. This severely limited our available slots. And, due to injuries by intended riders, we cut down to a mere 4 active riders, Pete H, Norma S., Ira S. and myself. BUT, what a weekend. The route had been altered to make it far more scenic than it had already been for past years.



We added the Markell Trail from Wilmington, the New Castle Farmer's Market, the C&D Canal trail and lots of intermediate refuel and necessary stops. The temperature was in the mid-80's on Saturday and there were nearly no clouds in the sky. Taking our time and chatting along the way, we arrived in Chesapeake City at around 2:45 and had a sumptuous lunch at our usual spot at the Chesapeake Inn. We then split up to our 2 rooms for a refreshing hot shower and 2 hour

naps. Pete H. and his bride took the ferry to the other side of the canal and rode several miles on the Maryland Trail before taking the ride home by car. My wife, Rise arrived at 6:00 P.M. and the 4 of us went to dinner at the Bayard House which is under new management. The food, drinks and dessert were fabulous.



We all slept like logs and had a wonderful brunch at the Inn on the Canal. Rise took all of our unnecessary items back by car. It's a good thing. Because the heat was beating down on us and also up at us from the asphalt. I made an executive decision to alter the homeward route to keep us out of the sun, shorten our route, and to follow the shaded Rts 71 and 72 in Delaware. On our way back, we stopped for a great lunch at Cafe New Castle. If you are looking for a quick bite, this is NOT the place to go. But, if you don't mind the wait, the food is really good and the staff are very friendly. We returned home via the Jack Markell Trail, Governor Printz Blvd and Rt.'s 13 and 291. Somehow, by staying very well hydrated we arrived home safe and sound for another hot, refreshing shower and dinner. All told, the round trip was about 103. miles. Please see the Garmin Data Summaries for both legs. I can honestly say that this was a fabulous and amazingly enjoyable weekend for all concerned.

Pro Cycling Spotlight

Taylor Sproul

Annemiek van Vleuten is the first repeat winner of the DVBC Pro Cyclist of the Month. She previously won in March for her rapid recovery from a fractured knee sustained at the 2018 World Championships punctuated with a win at Strade Bianche. She's back at it again in July, with a resounding victory at the Giro Rosa. The Giro Rosa is the premier event in the Women's World Tour - a 10-day tour of Italy, the longest stage race that the women race all year. The defending 2018 winner, Annemiek got off to a quiet start, 7th in the General Classification after the first four stages. On Stage 5, a summit finish to Lago di Cancano, she put the pedal to the metal and won by nearly three minutes, securing the pink leader's jersey with a commanding lead. Not content with that, she put it in overdrive for Stage 6, a hilly individual time trial that saw her gaining nearly a minute over her closest rival. She capped it off with a second place in Stage 9 that moved her even further ahead of her rivals and secured back-to-back Giro Rosa victories. [Editor's note: She also won the Dutch National Time Trials championship, but that was at the end of June]



Caleb Ewan notches his first DVBC Pro Cyclist of the Month for July/August. A previous stage winner at the Giro d'Italia and Vuelta a Espana, the 25-year-old Australian sprinter known as 'The Pocket Rocket' had never raced the Tour de France. He was planning to ride it in 2018 with Mitchelton Scott, but at the last minute the team decided to focus on the General Classification with Adam Yates instead of bringing Caleb Ewan. For 2019, Caleb Ewan was signed by Lotto Soudal as their main sprinter, replacing an aging Andre Greipel who found a new contract with Pro Continental team Arkéa-Samsic. Caleb got his first chance to ride the Tour this year, perhaps with a chip on his shoulder from last year. He did not disappoint, notching an amazing four stage victories, including Stage 21 on Champs-Élysées, the most prestigious sprint stage in any Grand Tour.



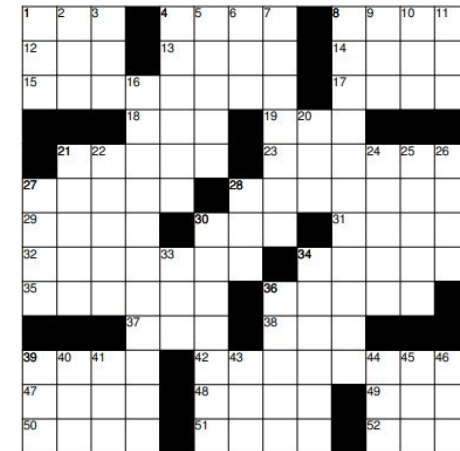
Cartoon & Crossword

2019 Brandywine Tour

by Bob LaDrew

ACROSS

1. Big brewery container
4. Shriver and Dauber
8. Dies ____ (Latin poem)
12. Dangerous riding surface
13. Tube-shaped instrument
14. August 26 Philadelphia bike ride
15. Reason to interrupt Brandywine Tour with three miles to go
17. Astana team's colors
18. Baseball's Mel
19. Suffix with neutr-
21. Hands, to Egan Bernal
23. Place where Brandywine Tour started
27. Doesn't peter out
28. DVBC club jersey opening
29. "Freeze" prefix
30. Prehistoric prefix?
31. A and Z, in the alphabet
32. One who puts Tour arrows on roads, often
34. Delay for
35. Thrown around
36. Fence-crossing gizmo
37. "____ my problem"
38. Old imperial heavy weight
39. Sore part after 100-mile ride
42. Inverting
47. DIY furniture store
48. Choice theatrical part
49. Aussie marsupial, in brief
50. A helmet brand
51. Important wine bottle information



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52. A long time follower?

DOWN

1. Caesarian seven
2. UNC and Duke are in it.
3. Beachgoer's top
4. Stops for well-hydrated cyclists
5. Helps, wrongly
6. Kiwi's late, large kin
7. Rider getting part-time pay
8. Direction of most 2019 Brandywine riders in afternoon
9. Bemoan
10. Oklahoma oil city
11. Slick swimmer
16. Tire brand seen at Brandywine Tour
20. "Platoon" war zone, briefly
21. ____-arms
22. Shaking awake
24. Related to pitches
25. 50's tune, e.g.
26. House in a bush
27. Criterium circuits
28. Abbrev. in itineraries
30. Longest Brandywine Tour distance
33. The only even prime
34. One doing penance
36. Tall ancient monument
39. Lobster eater's accessory
40. Island strings, briefly
41. Addr. book number
43. Boston-born poet
44. Longtime DVBC member ____ Josephs
45. Milk-and-yolk drink
46. Shoe ____ (glue)

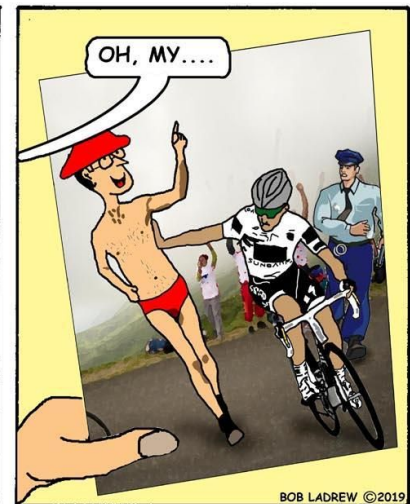
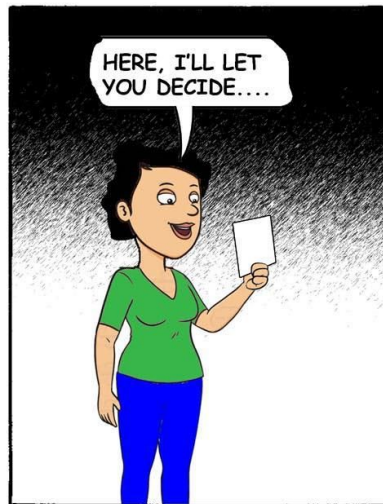
BONKERS

by Bob LaDrew



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Thoughts from the Editor

Taylor Sproul

Thanks for reading the newsletter!

If you would like to contribute an article or photo to the newsletter, or if you have any other feedback, please contact Taylor via e-mail at dvbc.editor@clubmember.org. Have you gone on a fantastic ride recently, or travelled somewhere awesome for a ride? If so, please consider submitting a Ride Report or a DVBC Around the World story to the editor.