

The

GREASE RAG

September 2016



Upcoming Events

September 22, 6:30-9:30 PM. Women with Wrenches!

Join us for a women-only open shop night. Desiree Kuhn will be our guest mechanic for this event which is a chance to do some maintenance or repair on your bike, buy parts or a bike, and get to know other women who bike. There is no shop fee for this event, but a waiver is required. See the Facebook event for more information.

September 24, 11 AM-2 PM. Shop manager and mechanic, Seth Short, will lead the first in our series of repair workshops, 'Basic Bike Maintenance'. This workshop will cover basic maintenance and repair, such as fixing flats, and will serve as an introduction to more advanced upcoming workshops on Saturdays throughout October and November.

Future topics will include brakes, gears and shifters, wheels and bearing

systems, and 3-speed hubs, with a suggested donation of \$10 per workshop. A 'Build your own bike' session is also planned, which will require purchase of components.

Certificates will be awarded for completion of three or more workshops. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and blog for more details coming soon!

October 8. Flea Off Market

FCCBikeworks will be selling bikes and making friends at the October Flea Off. Come on down to say hi and enjoy some fall weather and food! We need volunteers to get bikes to the market and work the booth, so keep an eye out for a sign-up or let us know you're interested via email or Facebook.

Recent Events

September 1. Bike Fix 'Em Up!

We had a great turnout for a bike repair volunteer night (see photo at top of newsletter). Thanks to all who came out to help fix up bikes to sell at the Flea Off and in the shop. These nights are a great chance to get your hands dirty, earn some shop hours, and you don't need to be a bike repair expert. There are lots of tasks for any level of experience. Stay tuned for our next one!

Shop Talk

Newsletter

You may have noticed that the newsletter looks a little different this time. After lots of hard work by Jane Halliday, Isabella Christensen, and the help of volunteers, we were able to get our membership data sorted in a program created specifically for non-profits called Wild Apricot. This also allows us to send our newsletters directly from the program. You can also view the newsletter on our blog if you'd like to share it with others.

Donations

Do you have time, skills, or financial means to make a donation to FCCBikeworks? You can find our "wish list", as well as a donation form on our website, or drop into the shop during open hours. We also welcome donations of bikes in good or repair-able shape!

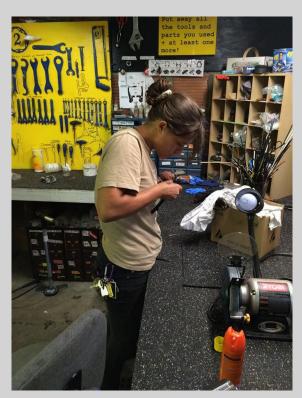
Membership options.

We have hourly and annual membership options. All options include access to shop equipment, the opportunity to buy discounted parts, and the expert assistance of our volunteer mechanics! An application and waiver must be on file before using shop equipment or services. Payments may be made online; time-trade memberships may be worked out on-site or by contacting FCCBikeworks.

SHOP HOURS

SUN: 1-4 PM MON: 6:30-9:30 PM WED: 6:30-9:30 PM

Get to Know ... Samantha Rivera



How long have you been part of FCCBikeworks and what do you do there?

I have been going to FCCBikeworks since mid July when I donated an old bike. I got a tour and fell in love with the idea of the establishment and began volunteering the following day. I am currently learning the tricks of the trade in hopes of becoming a mechanic for the shop someday. I try to step in and lend a hand to others that need it and do some cleaning and organization from time to time currently.

You recently completed volunteer training (the first to do so!). What did that involve and what did you think about it?

My orientation involved 8 hours worth of tasks to complete. The most beneficial part of orientation was shadowing a mechanic. I got some great pointers. Nik [Mihaelj Ross], whom I shadowed, was a phenomenal teacher. I also had to break down a bike and take the parts to their respective spots in the back room. Having me hunt out the appropriate spot for each part was a great way to familiarize me with what was what, and where to find each part. I also had to spend an hour sorting and patching inner tubes which, of course, is very important in case you have to patch a tube on the road. I also had to spend time cleaning and organizing in order to complete orientation. I think having a "to-do list" to complete for starters is a great thing to do. It's like having training wheels before taking on more responsibility of being a volunteer. No pun intended!

What inspired you to get involved with a community bike shop?

I adore riding my bike. I really wanted to learn about my bike and ways to make my biking experience better through maintenance and knowing what types of bikes are best for different terrain. I really just want to learn as much as I can. The thing that inspires me is the support. This place is my church.

The sense of community is profound and for someone who needed to find their niche, I'd say I hit the bulls eye.

What kind of bike(s) do you ride?

I currently own just one bike. I say it that way because I realize that bikers are all about the whole n+1 rule. You'll always have a bike and at least one more. I ride a single speed commuter bike built for me and I ride it like mad.

Do you ride for fun/tour/commute/any or all of the above?

I tend to commute with my bike so long as my destination is within a 10 mile radius. I also enjoy the empowering and freeing nature that comes with it. Sometimes I want to be challenged and hit hills I probably shouldn't. The wind in my hair and the zone I get into is just invigorating.

What activities do you enjoy doing outside of biking?

I love spending time with family and the few solid friends I have. That's important to me. One thing I'm slowly putting back in my life is my love for music. Maybe you'll hear more of me in the future!

What advice do you offer fellow cyclists who come into the shop to learn?

Don't be intimidated. This is not the place for that whatsoever. I can't tell you the amount of times I talked myself out of checking out the shop because of potential judgement for being ignorant or for being a female. There aren't many places that I feel are welcoming, at least not genuinely or unconditionally. This place stole my heart, not to be sappy or anything.

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