



For Immediate Release

Contact: Diana Rohini LaVigne / Ami Sampat

(415) 787-2893 / media@bayareabikes.org

Bike Commuters of the Year Awards Announced *Bike to Work Day Celebrates Bicycle Commuter Role Models*

(May 05, 2011) Oakland, Calif. —The winners of the Bike Commuter of the Year (BCOY) award are recognized for their dedication to riding their bike for everyday transportation. They are testament to the many benefits of bicycle commuting: from improving their health to bringing families together. Nominations were accepted, evaluated and awarded by each county's Bike to Work day representative. Here are the 2011 winners of the Bike Commuter of the Year award.

Alameda Winner: Jason Hollick of Berkeley, a 6th grade student, inspired his family to bike daily and is already a bike activist.

Contra Costa Winner: Al Lim of Brentwood, who commutes by bike in all weather conditions, inspires his staff and family to bike. He also runs an orphaned bike garage where he loves to fix bikes to give to others.

Napa Winner: Jim Wilson made a personal commitment he made to help 'de-carbonize the economy'. He inspires his co-workers now, and has logged over 2000 miles just last summer.

Marin Winner: Julian LePelch of Mill Valley, a 5th grader, set a goal to ride to and from school every day and traveled 3.5 to 5 miles a day.

Solano Winner: Jamie Simmons of Fairfield made a commitment to use biking as an alternative and sustainable method of transportation. Jamies logged over 6,000 miles and resulting in a reduction of $\frac{3}{4}$ Ton of CO2 Emissions.

Sonoma Winner: John Daly, a counselor at Santa Rosa Junior College, rides his bike to work every day and inspires co-worked at every chance by asking "Did you ride today?" He offers a high-five every time someone says yes. This Bike to Work Day is also John's 66th birthday.

Santa Clara Winner: Nick Laskowski , an 8th grade teacher, creates bicycle field trips for his students and organizes bicycle safety courses. "On a bike, the world is within reach, and stopping to check out a new store or say hello to a passing friend become routine events. Santa Clara County simply isn't worth living in a car; by bike, it's beautiful."

San Mateo Winner: Marey Richins of Belmont, a kindergarten teacher, makes biking to her school an everyday affair and serves as a positive role model to the students.

San Francisco Winner: Scott Crosby of San Francisco encourages all riders; newbies to racers. While he's a strong rider, he regularly hosted slow commute rides to encourage new people.

Bike to Work Day 2011 is presented by 511.org, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and Kaiser Permanente. The 2011 regional sponsors also include Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Beyond Pix Studios, Clif Bar, REI, Adobe, and the Bay Area Bicycle Coalition.

For more information on Bike to Work Day and bike events during May, please visit www.511.org or www.youcanbikethere.com.

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