

1936 NYCC founded by Sid Lang as Astoria Hiking Club → 1940 Astoria Hiking Club renamed Queens Road Club → 1948 Club revived after WWII as New York Cycle Club → 1950s Monthly meetings in Manhattan restaurants commence. Weekly rides organized in Westchester and Long Island. Don Henry begins marking painted routes on roads → 1960s No information, but then again, it WAS the 60's → 1970s Irv Weisman introduces rides organized by pace and riding style. MTA bans bikes from Metro North and Subways. Club begins to advocate for change → 1975 NYCC officially incorporates

# 1975

### A Chorus Line opens on Broadway

**President:** Irv Weisman/Sam Freedman  
**Dues:** \$5  
**Members:** 300

- ▶ Jimmy Rex (aka Ironlegs) leads New Year's Day century ride
- ▶ Ernie Lampeter leads Central Park Century (does that include red lights?)
- ▶ Club works with Metro North to institute bike trains on Sundays
- ▶ NYCC works with ConRail to organize Sunday round-trip bike train from Grand Central Station to N. White Plains on May 23
- ▶ Club ride crosses GWB; riders discover River Rd., Nyack State Park bike path, Rockland Lake State Park, and Talman Mountain

### Yankees win World Series vs. Dodgers second year in a row

**President:** Bill Cooper

- ▶ First annual All-Class ride is held
- ▶ New York Bike Classic Race - 75 mile race in open traffic from Staten Island to 68th St. in New York City
- ▶ NYCC embroidered patches created
- ▶ Forty-six rides occur in 1978, a total of 1,810 riders
- ▶ Catskills weekend held on Oct. 14-15. Total cost per person: \$31

### Breaking Away debuts

### MTA Transit Strike

**President:** Bill Cooper

- ▶ January meeting guest speaker: John Forrester, author of "Effective Cycling"
- ▶ Club sponsors table at Earth Day 10th Anniversary to raise NYCC awareness; club signs 25 new members
- ▶ Landmarks Commission approves fully-ramped plan for Brooklyn Bridge; Bridge access continues while main span is under construction
- ▶ Bicycle Transportation Action survey of NY statewide and local candidates show "broad legislative support for bicycles as legitimate mode of urban transportation"
- ▶ Ken Abramson organizes NYCC ice skating program
- ▶ Mayor Koch installs bike lanes, then deconstructs them 3 months later

### Sally Ride becomes first female astronaut

**President:** Bill Cooper

- ▶ Five Borough Bike Tour registration is \$2
- ▶ Martha Ramos creates "Bicycle Linkups" bike routes/cue sheets
- ▶ Landmarks Commission approves fully-ramped plan for Brooklyn Bridge; Bridge access continues while main span is under construction
- ▶ Bicycle Transportation Action survey of NY statewide and local candidates show "broad legislative support for bicycles as legitimate mode of urban transportation"
- ▶ Member Barbara Berkus organizes A-level training rides for female B riders
- ▶ Price of prix fixe dinner at club meetings increased to \$9.25 from \$8. Beer: \$2 imported; \$1.25 domestic

### Ore-Ida sponsors Ore-Ida Women's Challenge six-stage time trial race in Idaho June 30-July 4

**President:** Les Golobter  
**Members:** 636

- ▶ 50th Anniversary of NYCC
- ▶ Special Interest Group (SIG) on racing proposed
- ▶ New bulletin feature "Dispatches" is created to showcase interesting postcards sent by members
- ▶ Member Dave Walls qualifies for 1987 Race Across America
- ▶ NYC Traffic Violations Bureau racks up 6500 tickets, close to one-third of which are for cyclists

### Tour de France features first All-American team, 7-Eleven

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### CDs outsell vinyl records for the first time

**President:** Christy Guzzetta;  
**Members:** 523

- ▶ Bulletin article by Ed Flowers: "An Instant Rucksack" or "How to Get Your Lunch from the Deli to the Park"
- ▶ Ed's recommended cycling color of the year: tangerine
- ▶ Mike Yesko becomes first club member known to have established contact with a rodent in Central Park. Rodent fared poorly

### South Africa frees Nelson Mandela

**President:** Christy Guzzetta  
**Dues:** \$17  
**Members:** 819

- ▶ NYCC joins national Bicycle Club Network
- ▶ Caryl Hudson and Steve Baron married; couple's official, "racy" wedding portrait shows the happy pair sporting bike helmets only, peering from behind a shower curtain
- ▶ Due to C-SIG popularity (>50 riders), group is split into sections
- ▶ Playboy publishes "Bike First Aid" article in June issue
- ▶ USC study finds that cycling can lead to "damaged critical nerves and arteries related to sexual performance." Padded bike shorts and seats are recommended

### 25th Olympic Summer games opens in Barcelona, Spain

**President:** Richard Rosenthal  
**Dues:** \$17  
**Members:** 931

- ▶ Member Michael Toomey's logo design becomes official NYCC logo
- ▶ Rockland County approves helmet law
- ▶ Annual Nude Beach Ride scheduled to coincide with the Natural Nudist Weekend
- ▶ Piermont Bicycle Shop opens
- ▶ Transportation Alternatives launches inaugural Bike to Work Week
- ▶ Fourth Annual Post-Season Post Party Hedgehog Ride
- ▶ NY Road Runners' Founder Fred Lebow dies

### Major League Baseball strike cancels World Series

**President:** Geo Carl Kaplan  
**Dues:** \$17

- ▶ ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act) transportation law funds new bike racks and lockers at rail stations Metropolitan Greenway System progress: Hudson bike path opens
- ▶ Piermont Bicycle Shop opens
- ▶ Transportation Alternatives launches inaugural Bike to Work Week
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### Ebay launches

**President:** Gene Vezzani  
**Members:** 965

- ▶ NYCC member Alan Resnick elected president of CRCA
- ▶ A SIG celebrates 10th Anniversary
- ▶ NYCC sponsors its first brevet series, coordinated by Jeff Vogel
- ▶ Irv Weissman named NYCC Volunteer of the Year
- ▶ NYCC provides Achilles Track Club with 96 member volunteers for NYC marathon

### Last episode of Seinfeld airs on NBC

**President:** Gene Vezzani

- ▶ NYCC board considers helmets and votes to require them on all rides
- ▶ Sid Lang, NYCC founder, died on June 20, 1998
- ▶ Tony Napoli and Linda Siebert's wedding reception held at the Skylark Diner in Nyack
- ▶ The first Columbus Day weekend in the Catskills occurs with 50 participants

### Summer Olympics are held in Sydney, Australia

**President:** Ben Goldberg

- ▶ A19 SIG is born, headed by Ed Fishkin
- ▶ Discount membership card proposed for use in bike shops
- ▶ Jeff Vogel awarded lifetime club membership
- ▶ New club website at NYCC.org launches; PDF versions of paper bulletins posted
- ▶ NYCC Ride Leader Guidelines and Responsibilities debuts

### 12 European countries adopt the Euro as single currency

**President:** Tom Laskey

- ▶ Marilyn & Ken Weissman's Snowshoe SIG debuts
- ▶ B-STs series is started, organized by Stan Oldak
- ▶ Memorial ride for Julia Lobbia, an A SIG grad and Village Voice reporter who died of cancer in 2001
- ▶ Board proposes limiting size of SIGs and charging to register
- ▶ New message board system is created

### Outkast's "Hey Ya" wins MTV Video Music Awards of the year

**President:** Stan Oldak  
**Dues:** \$19

- ▶ Polar Bear Ride on New Year's Day to see Coney Island Polar Bears Swim
- ▶ 450 riders participate in Escape New York, plus 12 kids from Recycle-A-Bicycle, to which the club donated \$4000 from proceeds
- ▶ Herb Dershowitz awarded lifetime membership
- ▶ Club donates bike rack to Palisades Interstate Park Commission

### Canada earns a record 24 medals at the Torino Olympics

**President:** Carol Waaser/Jeff Terosky  
**Dues:** \$19  
**Members:** 2008

- ▶ Montauk Twin Century weekend: Eastbound on Saturday, Westbound Sunday return
- ▶ 450 riders participate in Escape New York, plus 12 kids from Recycle-A-Bicycle, to which the club donated \$4000 from proceeds
- ▶ Herb Dershowitz awarded lifetime membership
- ▶ Club donates bike rack to Palisades Interstate Park Commission

### Barack Obama elected first African-American President of the United States

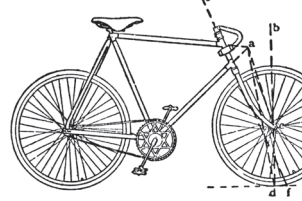
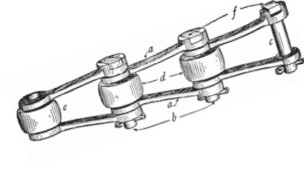
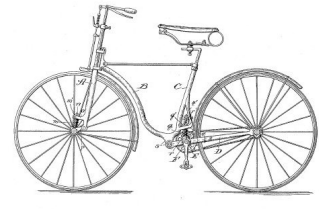
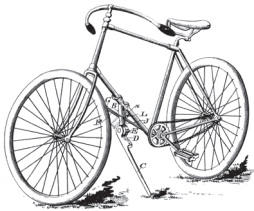
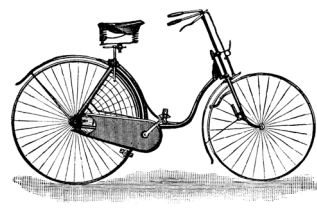
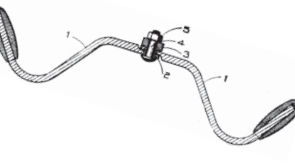
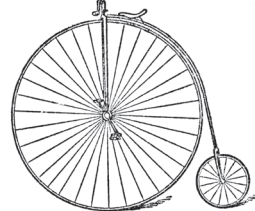
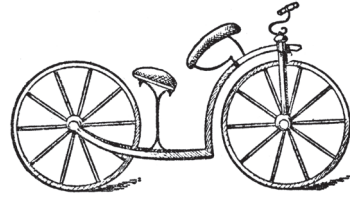
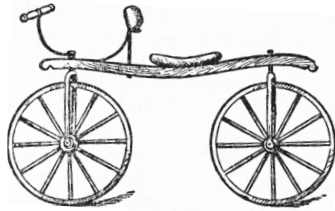
**President:** George Arcarola  
**Dues:** \$17  
**Members:** 2158

- ▶ Bulletin moves to online distribution
- ▶ B ultra STS and C STS introduced
- ▶ Who's In Your Club bulletin feature launches
- ▶ Escape New York registration at 832 riders. Ellen Jaffe, Ride Director: \$7,000 donated to Transportation Alternatives and Recycle A Bicycle
- ▶ New club website launches

### After nearly 70 days, 33 miners safely rescued from collapsed copper mine in northern Chile

**President:** Derek Chu  
**Dues:** \$22  
**Members:** 2100

- ▶ Club creates Facebook and Twitter social profiles
- ▶ Popular, special edition Escape New York wool jersey sells out
- ▶ 1750 ride Escape New York. Profits top \$20,000; donated to RAB, TA, Saddle River PBA and Piermont Library
- ▶ New club website launches



# 1936

### Saturday Night Fever opens in theaters

**President:** Irv Weisman

- ▶ Cyclists permitted to take bikes on NYC subways
- ▶ MTA begins shuttle for bicyclists across the Verrazano Narrows Bridge in June
- ▶ Westchester bike train experiment suspended
- ▶ Bill Baumgarten creates fall-winter training series, including group riding and bike handling skills

### 60 Minutes (CBS) most popular TV show

**President:** Bill Cooper

- ▶ Jim Rex and Irv Weisman create ride rating chart.
- ▶ March training program launches. Goal: Ride 25 miles in Central Park in 3 hours
- ▶ 2nd Annual All-Class ride held. Central Park to Staten Island. Members take Staten Island ferry and ride to Conference House Park. Swim stop at Tottenville Pool, lunch at Wolf Pond Park
- ▶ NYCC featured in Cue magazine article, "Biking Togetherness," about NYC cycling

### Ronald Reagan becomes president

**President:** Jimmie Rex  
**Members:** 283

- ▶ Central Park Boathouse phone numbers provided for ride leaders and participants to call in the event of running late
- ▶ World Bike Day celebrated June 6
- ▶ NYCC's 25 riders place first in Pepsi Challenge
- ▶ Members bring jerseys, tees and sweatshirts to club meeting to get NYCC silk-screened on back for \$1
- ▶ Insomniacs C ride in August with 2:30 a.m. start at Roosevelt Island Tram

### Greg Le Mond becomes first American to win World Cycling Championship

**President:** Chris Mailing  
**Members:** 427

- ▶ Non-smoking section at club meetings delineated by board of directors
- ▶ Governor Mario Cuomo passes bill clarifying rules of the road for cyclists
- ▶ First LIRR bike permits issued in October; Metro North considers similar plan
- ▶ Conrad's Bike Shop carries Lycra cycling gloves in favor of cotton crochet
- ▶ Best Dressed Rider of the Year: Ed Schweber

### United Auto Workers boycott Schwinn Bicycles for moving operations to Japan and non-union Tennessee plant

**President:** Martha Ramos  
**Members:** 516

- ▶ Member Ken Sloan wins Winning Marathon (formerly known as Pepsi Marathon) Memorial Day ride; four of the tops six placers are NYCC members
- ▶ Club-wide self-classification ride scheduled in November to research classes of riders in the NYCC
- ▶ Ken Sloane plays Central Park bike racer in the film "Key Exchange"

### The Simpsons first appears on The Tracey Ullman Show

**President:** Martha Ramos  
**Dues:** \$12

- ▶ Member Christy Guzzetta forms the Special Interest Group (SIG) progressive ride series comprised of 17 rides spanning March to June
- ▶ Ride classification names established: AA-Animals, A-Sports, B-Tourists, C-Sightseers
- ▶ Member Herb Dershowitz offers first mountain bike club ride
- ▶ A whopping 45 rides are listed in the April bulletin

### First World Wide Web server/browser developed by Tim Berners-Lee

**President:** Christy Guzzetta

- ▶ NYCC logo by Larry Hobson unveiled
- ▶ Club Classifieds: Shy, romantic cleat seeks engaging pedal
- ▶ River Road, previously open to cyclists only weekend mornings after 9:30am, opens to cyclists seven days a week
- ▶ Rainy spring cancels or postpones many rides

### Soviet Union breaks up after President Gorbachev's resignation

**President:** Lisa Halle  
**Dues:** \$17  
**Members:** 785

- ▶ NYCC member and Transportation Alternatives President Charles Komanof named one of Bicycling magazine's "Cyclists of the Year"
- ▶ 75,000 New Yorkers use bikes as transportation on a typical day
- ▶ Citibank new ad campaign features cyclists, all of whom are NYCC members
- ▶ Chris Mailing given lifetime member status
- ▶ 17 NYCC riders participate in Paris-Brest-Paris on its 100th anniversary

### World Wide Web is born

**President:** Geo Carl Kaplan  
**Members:** 875

- ▶ First annual Fourth of July weekend at West Point
- ▶ 15 rides listed in January 1993 including a 105 miler
- ▶ Richard Rosenthal proposes a G-I-S, or SIG spelled backwards. It's for downwardly mobile riders who with proper training can go from A to B to C in a single season. The G-I-S motto: "If you feel the need to exercise, lie down until the feeling goes away."
- ▶ In Search of the Nude Beach Ride finds .... the nude beach!

### DVD media format launches

**President:** Geo Carl Kaplan  
**Dues:** \$21

- ▶ B SIG and C SIG debut NYCC hosts
- ▶ Inaugural Escape New York century ride: 320 participants
- ▶ Double Rush, a show about NYC bike messengers, debuts on CBS
- ▶ Town of Piermont sponsors youth cycling fair; NYCC donates helmets
- ▶ First annual NYCC Midsummer Dream cyclists' weekend at Club Getaway, Kent, Connecticut
- ▶ Eight NYCC members complete 750-mile Paris-Brest-Paris Ride

### Titanic wins 11 Oscars

**President:** Gene Vezzani

- ▶ NYCC members Todd Brilliant and Beth Renaud engaged; pick up engagement ring in the middle of a club ride
- ▶ NYCC SIG graduate Elizabeth Emery, now a pro bike racer, is featured speaker at club meeting along with teammate Pam Shuster
- ▶ 350 people ride in Third Escape from New York Century
- ▶ Mary Allen wins the Masters 45+ National Road Race

### Lance Armstrong wins first Tour de France

**President:** Ben Goldberg

- ▶ Incentive program for ride leaders instituted: 3 rides: water bottle; 6 rides: discount on club jersey; 12 rides: ride leader vest
- ▶ First blessing of the bike at Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine
- ▶ A riders to be invited to Newcomers Ride for first time

### Apple Computer releases the iPod

**President:** Tom Laskey

- ▶ NYCC message board debuts on www.nycc.org
- ▶ Annual club century ride renamed Escape New York
- ▶ Hybrid/mountain bike rides (ATB1, ATB2, ATB#) no longer listed in riding style designation in monthly bulletin
- ▶ Biker Babes gossip column in bulletin renamed politically correct Road Dirt
- ▶ Membership numbers assigned to enable members to renew online

### August 14 blackout, stretching from Ohio through Pennsylvania, Vermont, New York and Michigan

**President:** Tom Laskey

- ▶ Online route library created
- ▶ All-Class Ride hosted jointly with Sound Cyclists
- ▶ Inaugural Labor Day Weekend at Ride Noho
- ▶ NY CC stages a "Paris-Roubaix: Commiserate and Celebrate Ride." "If the cobbles didn't get you, the small potholes, uneven surface and the occasional sets of rail tracks did."
- ▶ Club members Annaline and Robert Dinklemann, John Hsu, Paul Schay, Margot Montaguila and George Gregerio finish Paris Brest Paris

### Lance Armstrong wins 7th Tour de France in 7 years

**President:** Stan Oldak  
**Dues:** \$19  
**Members:** 1920

- ▶ First-ever Volunteer Recognition Party
- ▶ NYCC establishes the Jerome Allen Memorial Fund to promote cycling safety in New York
- ▶ Helmets made mandatory for all club rides
- ▶ Oktoberfest club event at Bohemian Hall & Beer Garden in Astoria

### Discovery Channel's 11-part Planet Earth series debuts in high definition

**President:** Jeff Terosky  
**Dues:** \$19  
**Members:** 1871

- ▶ Why I Ride: The Art of Bicycling in New York exhibition, organized by member Carol Wood
- ▶ Ride of Silence commemorates fallen cyclists, including club members Stan Oldak and David Oliner
- ▶ Annual Bike NYC Marathon ride
- ▶ Board renames Youth Program the Stan Oldak Youth Program in Stan's memory

### Pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger safely ditches Airbus 320 jetliner in the Hudson River in emergency landing

**President:** George Arcarola  
**Dues:** \$17  
**Members:** 1868

- ▶ Tour de Hangover launches
- ▶ Summer Skills Series rides launch
- ▶ Ed Fishkin awarded lifetime membership
- ▶ ENY draws 1361 riders supported by 180 club volunteers: \$15,000 donated to TA, RAB and Saddle River PBA
- ▶ Maggie Nguyen leads most rides second year in a row

### NYCC Celebrates its 75th Anniversary

**President:** Ellen Jaffe  
**Dues:** \$22  
**Members:** 2100+

- ▶ NYCC plays active role in resolving Central Park ticketing tempest
- ▶ Kids Ride Club Benefit at Crosby Street Hotel raises \$3500
- ▶ New club kit by Rolando Felix offered in club's first ever online store; by June, 200+ pieces sold; 60 special ride leader jerseys distributed
- ▶ Social Sunday Rides for Bike Month each draw 40+ riders
- ▶ July 16th 75th Anniversary Gala

Commemorative poster designed by NYCC member Irasema Rivera of Big Ranch Design Studio. info@bigranch.com