



2013 RUSA Board Elections

It is time again for our annual elections. These RUSA members have been nominated for positions on the RUSA Board. The general board members serve three-year terms, while the RBA Liaison, nominated by the RBAs, serves a one-year term. (Remember, only RBAs can vote for the RBA Liaison position.) See pages 10-12 to learn more about each nominee, then use the Election Forms to cast your votes. RUSA depends on our volunteers to provide its leadership and operations, and in turn these good folks depend on your vote. If you'd like to vote online, go to RUSA's Website at www.rusa.org.



Bill Bryant
RUSA #7

I have been a randonneur for a long time and the sport has given me a lot back in return. I am proud of having helped American randonneuring grow since RUSA's inception in 1998. Over the years I have done many of the jobs at RUSA HQ and have a strong understanding of how our organization works and what our sport needs to continue onward into the future. I am "rested, ready, and willing" to continue working for the membership.

- RUSA founders' group, 1998
- RUSA Board member 1998 to 2006
- RUSA President 2004-2005
- RUSA representative, quadrennial Randonneurs Mondiaux meetings 1999-2011
- Primary writer & editor RUSA Handbook for Members
- Author of numerous articles in American Randonneur and RUSA website pages; Editing team member on 1999 & 2003 RUSA PBP Yearbooks; Member of ACP's 2011 PBP writing & translating team
- Current member RUSA Rules & Team Randonnée Committees
- RUSA Membership Co-coordinator 1998-2000
- Creator of R-12, P-12, Ultra-Randonneur, and La Société Charly Miller awards
- Organizing Committee for first Gold Rush Randonnée; control co-captain or volunteer at all editions of GRR
- Co-RBA with Lois Springsteen for the Santa Cruz Randonneurs; organizers of numerous brevets, team randonnées, populaires, and permanents since 2004. Organizers of Central Coast 1000k in 2010, and 1000k/1200k in 2014
- Participant 150+ randonneuring events since 1983; PBP finisher 1983 & 1999
- Recipient 2006 American Randonneur Award



Janice Chernekoff
RUSA #1172

RUSA has done a fine job of expanding offerings and attracting new riders. I am interested in contributing to discussions and plans for future developments, particularly with regard to encouraging riders who aren't as confident of their ability to complete brevets. I would like to inspire more riders to join in the fun and earn the satisfaction of completing some of our events.

As co-editor of the 2011 PBP Rider Reports and Memories, I had the pleasure of reading many inspiring narratives about our premier event. I have also been studying ride reports on blogs and in American Randonneur. Clearly, ride reports inspire readers and draw our community together around common goals and values. If elected to the board, I will encourage writers and look for additional ways to publish our stories.

Randonneuring has not only brought me pleasure, but has also become a central part of my life and self-identity. If elected, I will work cooperatively with other board members to provide the range of events that will allow others to have this same rich experience of randonneuring.



John Lee Ellis
RUSA #153

Being nominated for a Board position is an honor, because it's a chance to contribute at the national level to an organization that is so focused on its members. I've been struck over the years how well RUSA Volunteers work together and get things done, all with that amicability that characterizes randonneuring. That is a huge reason, I think, for RUSA's steady growth in riders and events over the last 15 years.

A bit about my background ... I've been riding bre-



vets for a while, including a number of 1200k's (and shorter brevets), from Boston-Montreal-Boston to Alaska's Big Wild Ride, including the two I organize: the Colorado Last Chance and the Colorado High Country 1200. I've been Colorado RBA since RUSA's founding. Our Colorado schedule has grown from a simple SR series to a "banquet" of events spanning all but the winter months. To fill in the gaps, I've created a number of permanents, some mountain-oriented, some winter-rideable. I've also been RBA Liaison for a few years. It's been highly rewarding and, I hope, useful.

RUSA continues to grow ... in events, regions, and awards (as well as membership, of course) – all opportunities for our members. I would appreciate your vote and this chance to contribute.



Lynne Fitzsimmons
RUSA #3821

I would be pleased and honored to represent you as a member of the RUSA board. As a member of the board, I would work to make RUSA operations more transparent, and provide a process for members' contributions and concerns to be heard, acknowledged, and addressed. I would be there for the members who enjoy participating in RUSA activities, but maybe don't have an SR or 1200k as a goal, and I would work toward ways to attract additional members outside our current demographic.

I stumbled into randonneuring in 2007 and have continued to enjoy participating and volunteering ever since. At the local level, I have volunteered at many events and organized several rides. I have also created 4 permanents. At the national level, I am currently volunteering on the Routes committee. As for riding, I have completed 2 SRs and 3 R-12s.

My professional experience as a Human Factors Engineer/Usability Engineer will benefit the RUSA Board. My work requires me to listen to and observe people trying to do something with the software on their computers, and then design ways to make it easier and better. This skill carries over to organizational process understanding and improvement.

I am currently on the executive board of the NW Bicycle Safety Council in Portland and in the past have served as treasurer for a very large international professional conference, and as a Girl Scout leader.



Mark Thomas
RUSA #64

In 1998, the year that Randonneurs USA was founded, I rode my first brevet. Since that time, I have been fortunate to participate in events in 20 different states and 14 countries. Those travels have shown me varying styles of riders participating in different types of events on a wide range of bicycles, united by the common threads of randonneuring.

As a volunteer with Randonneurs USA and with the Seattle International Randonneurs, I have sought to work with others to promote opportunities for more riders to participate in more events in more places around the country, with a focus on the camaraderie of our sport and with an eye out for each other's safety. I would be honored to have your vote to serve on the RUSA board for the next three years to help support the great RBAs and tireless volunteers that keep randonneuring vibrant in the US.

RUSA Election Ballot

Three positions on the RUSA Board of Directors are on the ballot.

Members may vote for TWO candidates from the nominees listed below.

Check the box to cast your vote. You may also vote online at www.RUSA.org.

- ☐ Bill Bryant, RUSA #7
- ☐ Janice Chernenkoff, RUSA #1172
- ☐ John Lee Elliis, RUSA #153
- ☐ Lynne Fitzsimmons, RUSA #3821
- ☐ Mark Thomas, RUSA #64

Your Name: _____
RUSA #: _____

Please send this form to:
William Beck
17719 Foxmoor Drive
Woodbine, MD 21797

Ballots are due to the RUSA secretary by November 15.



2013 RUSA Board RBA-L Candidates



Spencer Klaassen | RBA Liaison Candidate RUSA #1989

I first learned about this sport on the Andes Mountains in South America while touring with a British couple. They talked about this mysterious ride called PBP. I was amazed at the distances that they talked about cycling. The next year, when I was in the UK, I joined an Audax UK 200 K on a day off from touring. I was amazed that I could ride that far in a single day.

I joined RUSA in 2003 and did my first brevets with

the Kansas City group. I learned a great deal from Bob Burns (KCUC RBA) about distance cycling. I, as they say, “drank the rando punch” and was officially hooked. I have done a fair amount of brevets in the US and abroad. In the process of these rides, I have learned a great deal about myself and the world around me.

When the Nebraska Brevet Tour was retired due to medical issues of the former RBA, I just couldn’t see those wonderful rides gone forever. I was granted the ability to serve as the RBA and enjoyed putting the events on this year.

These experiences made me realize that it is time for me to give back to my RUSA family. I don’t claim to be the best cyclists, smartest person, or the most experienced RBA. I am far from that. I can only promise that I will do my best in working with other RBAs to support them as they help grow our wonderful organization.

RUSA RBA-L Election Ballot

The RBA-Liaison, nominated by the RBAs, serves a one-year term. (Remember, only RBAs can vote for the RBA Liaison position.)

If you’re an RBA, you may vote for ONE candidates from the nominees listed below.

Check the box to cast your vote. You may also vote online at www.RUSA.org.

- ☐ Spencer Klaassen, RUSA #1989
☐ Bob Riggs, RUSA #2739

Your Name: _____
RUSA #: _____

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Bob Riggs | RBA Liaison Candidate RUSA # 2739

My name is Bob Riggs. I am the RBA for Houston, candidate for the position of RBA Liaison.

I grew up and raised my family in Texas, and started cycling some once the kids got older. I became involved in randonneuring in 2005 when Kay Ogden started the Houston Randonneurs, and became RBA when she moved away a year later. Since then, our club has hosted over 170 brevets, populaires, and fleches. Thanks to these rides, I have been fortunate to meet and ride with more great people than I can begin to count.

If elected, I look forward to getting to know as many as possible of my fellow RBAs, hearing their ideas, and working with them and the Board to help make American brevets even better.