Greetings, PA Randonneurs, February 2016

Enclosed are your validated 2015 brevet cards and summary of results, along with a schedule of Eastern PA events for 2016. Congratulations on all those hard-earned brevets -- collectively, we officially tallied 90,020 km in completed brevets. All those brevets added up to 805 RUSA points, placing Eastern PA 15th out of 56 regions. Thank you for clipping-in and being a part of that success. But of course, none of those brevets would've been possible, if not for all the volunteers who stepped up and helped out:

- Eoghan Barry Organizer Mar R-12, 300k
- Ed Bernasky 600k, May R-12
- Jim Bondra Oct 150/200k
- Jane Brown Fleche
- Joe Brown Fleche
- Jeff Butt Dec R-12
- Jon Clamp Organizer, Feb R-12, 600k, Nov R-12
- Cecille Gaffney Mar R-12
- Patrick Gaffney Mar R-12
- Guy Harris Advisor, Organizer, Feb, Jun R-12, 600k, 100k,
- Don Jagel Organizer, Feb R-12
- Andrew Mead Organizer, Sep R-12, Dec R-12
- George Metzler Dec R-12
- Chris Nadovich Nov R-12
- Bill Olsen Organizer, Jan Permanent, R-12, 600k, 100k, Nov R-12
- Grace Pineda 100k
- Bill Slabonik 600k, Oct 150/200k BBQ
- Keith Spangler Oct 150/200k BBQ
- Norman Smeal Organizer 300k, 400k, Jul R-12, Nov R-12
- Bob Torres Jul R-12
- Len Zawodniak 400k, 600k, Nov R-12,

This was a year of many accomplishments -- too many to list completely -- but some selected ones I’d like to share with you include:

- There were 11 Eastern PA Super Randonneurs this year: Eoghan Barry, Gavin Biebuyck (4th), Chris Enrico, Matthew Farrell, Cecille Gaffney (4th), Patrick Gaffney (4th), Greg Keenan (2rd), Gil Lebron, Tom Oswald, Bob Torres (3rd), Gilbert Torres (2nd) Well Done!
- Matthew Farrell had the most mileage on the PA series, riding a total of 3,360 km of the 3,760 maximum possible on the schedule. Gavin Biebuyck (3260 km), Greg Keenan (2860 km), Patrick Gaffney (2600 km) and Gil Lebron (2560 km) were also high-mileage riders.
- CJ Arayata completed an Eastern PA R-12 series. This remains a very select group, with only 9 individuals on the Eastern PA Honor Roll.
- Several PA members made to the start of PBP: Michael ANDERSON, Eoghan BARRY, Ed BERNASKY, Patrick CHIN-HONG, Dawn M ENGSTROM, Patrick GAFFNEY, Cecille GAFFNEY, Nigel GREENE, Joe KRATOVIL, Gil LEBRON, JONATHAN LEVITT, Christine NEWMAN, Robert OLSEN, Tom OSWALD, Paul G SHAPIRO, Christopher SLOCUM, Kelly SMITH, George SWAIN, Bob TORRES, Gilbert TORRES, Michael WALI. Of note Ed Bernasky joined the prestigious Charly Miller Society with his time of 54:56
- Gavin Biebuyck once again, set out to Crush the Commonwealth – a 400+ mile challenge from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. And this time, he came in first place with a time of 30:40.

Due to a medical condition that developed last year (Diffuse Scleroderma), I have begun the process of replacing myself as RBA of the Eastern PA region. Andrew Mead has been approved by RUSA-HQ to become the new RBA and this will become effective some time this September. Andrew will be taking on more of the duties of running PA Randonneurs this year during this transition period. Having worked with Andrew since 2009 on the many routes he has developed and events he has organized, I know that the Eastern PA region will be in very good hands. Looking ahead to 2016, there are a several domestic 1200k’s to choose from. The Eastern PA region will be offering many brevets for qualification and preparation including a complete SR series, Fleche and an R-12 series of monthly 200k’s. But this year, Andrew and I will be especially be counting on organizers and volunteers to help run them – the volunteer sign-up sheet is on the website at www.parando.org

-Tom Rosenbauer
Eastern PA RBA