

## **Raise a Radler! – Cycling Week in Kingston 2020**

### **A Toast to Bicycles and Cycling - Online**

### **Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.**

What is a “radler”? And why should I lift it in a toast to bicycles? The word “radler” is a way to say “cyclist” in German, isn’t it? I’m not being asked to lift a cyclist to toast bicycles, am I?

#### **Brief overview of the history behind the beer called “radler.”**

Back in the early 1900s, as the story goes, a large group of cyclists were out for a ride and stopped at a beer garden towards the end of their long ride. Hot and parched for something to quench their thirst, the limited supply of beer on-hand was beginning to run out. That’s when the ingenious innkeeper, Franz Kugler, started mixing in fruit juice (maybe grapefruit) to stretch out the beer he had left. Not only did the mixture help keep the taps flowing longer, the concoction was refreshing too! This beer-juice combination became popular with cyclists; especially on hot days, and even when there was abundant beer straight up. And so, the mixing of beer and juice became associated with cyclists resulting in what is know as a “radler” or “cyclists’ beer”! If you look on a bottle of can of radler, you’ll usually find a bicycle, bicycle wheel, or other bicycle symbol somewhere – the mark of a “cyclists’ beer.”

#### **About the toast – 5 p.m. (EDT) Friday, June 5, 2020.**

We’re using “radler” because it’s fitting for toasting bicycles. Radlers are not always available from craft brewers and mostly offered in the summer. Some of the larger breweries have radlers throughout the year. However, if it’s craft beer you like, your favourite craft beers will do just fine. For this toast, any beer is a “cyclists’ beer.” Don’t drink beer? Well, you’re still welcome to join in with the beverage of your choice (I suppose even Gatorade). The important thing is the toast (toast wording below).

Ideally, we’d be sitting out on some deck or in a pub with our friends to execute this toast to bicycles. However, other than for the people in your household, for safe distancing during this COVID-19 pandemic this toast will be conducted with online – by video and sharing of toast selfies. We would like to have as many people doing the toast at the same time, 5 p.m., as we can. However, if there’s a delay with your toast don’t worry, please try to do the toast as soon as you can. We’ll start looking for those post around 6 p.m.

#### **How does an online toast work? There are a couple of ways.**

##### **Sharing a toast with a post.**

- 🚲 Choose your favourite beer / beverage for the toast
- 🚲 Pose with the beer (alone or with other household members) wearing something cycling related and/or with a bicycle or some cycling image
- 🚲 Take a selfie (before or after you do the toast) OR record a selfie video of you doing the toast
- 🚲 **Make the toast!**
- 🚲 Post to social media with the hashtags #RaiseRadler and #CyclingWeekYKG

### **Toast via video chat.**

- 🚲 Setup a “toast room” using an online video meeting platform, such as Skype, Zoom, Facebook, and Facetime. Be sure to check on any time and/or number of persons limits.
- 🚲 Invite your cycling (and cycling support) friends to join you in the toast. Ways to send invitations vary depending on the platform, but there’s usual a link that can be shared.
- 🚲 Before the video gathering starts, change into something cycling/bicycling to wear and/or setup the backdrop with bicycle or cycling objects or images.
- 🚲 If you’re the host, sign in to your toast room about 8-10 minutes before the toast time so you’ll be ready for your toasting guests. Some video platforms require the host to be in the room first. (tip, sign-in and then get your beer)
- 🚲 If you are not the host of the toast room, sign in to the room a few minutes early so you’re not coming on in the middle of the toast.
- 🚲 For everyone, about 10 minutes before toast time pour or open your beverage and have it ready. You may want to drink a bit of it ahead of time to reduce the chances of spillage during the toast, especially on your video connection device!
- 🚲 **Make the toast!** – suggest one person (probably the host) saying it followed by everyone together with the customary “cheers” (or whatever end of toast you like).
- 🚲 Host, please take a screen shot or selfie with your room holding your beers and post to social media with the hashtags #RaiseRadler and #CyclingWeekYGK

### **Thanks, and enjoy helping celebrate bicycles and cycling!**

**Note:** This event is only for persons who are of legal drinking age (Age 19 in Ontario). Please drink responsibly. This is not an endorsement of drinking when riding a bicycle.

#### A Toast to Bicycles and Cycling (H. Cain)

We raise a radler to give the bicycle praise, for its long history of making our days;  
So delightful to ride as much as we like, here’s to our wonderful bikes;  
May we live long to cycle and cycle where we may, having exciting adventures along the way;  
And one day when we can no longer our bicycles pedal, may our memories be our medals.  
Cheers!

(solo version)

I raise a radler to give the bicycle praise, for its long history of making my days;  
So delightful to ride as much as I like, here’s to my wonderful bike;  
May I live long to cycle and cycle where I may, having exciting adventures along the way;  
And one day when I can no longer my bicycle pedal, may my memories be my medal.  
Cheers!