



Beri Freeman, Bike Newport Executive Director, Hootie Fogz, winner of the IE-Cycle hybrid electric bike, and Liz Burkin, Bike Newport Program Manager



Tom Connors captures Cecilia Mengo and Scott Wedgwood of Ten Speed Spokes racing the VeloSprints



Bike Newport graphic designer Steve Sabo

## Bike Newport Party for a Bike Path

On March 19, Bike Newport gathered 200 attendees at Midtown Oyster Bar for Party for a Bike Path: The First Mile. Each year, the organization supports various bike initiatives for the city: 2012 funded bike instructor training; 2013 provided Night Bright safety equipment; and 2014 raised money toward high capacity event bike racks. This year's proceeds, totaling \$4,500, will go towards an off-road bike path in Newport. In addition to an oyster bar, partygoers enjoyed live music by the Slackwater String Band and Los Duderinos, a raffle, and a silent auction, which included a hybrid electric bike from IE Cycle. In true spirit of the sport, the event included an indoor bike-racing simulator called VeloSprints that allows opponents to race side-by-side for 30 seconds to take home the glory. "The time and distance is projected on the wall behind the sprinters for all to see," explains Program Manager Liz Burkin. "Generously provided by our friends at the Rhode Island Bicycle Coalition, no wintertime bike event would be complete without it!"

*Photographs by Meg Heriot Photography*

