



March 1994

First Spring Ride

by Ted Gondert

The mild temperatures and sunshine of the mid February days called my bicycle out of the shed where it had languished since fall. It didn't seem to go as fast as it did last year and the seat wasn't very comfortable. Something goes wrong with bicycles and clothes over the winter. I'm in shape, round's a shape isn't it?

While riding on Friday I met Jerry, with the pony tail. I asked about riding on Sunday, he said he would call then to plan a ride. No rides were scheduled on the hotline so I called Bill, our illustrious ex-president about riding Sunday. Saturday's weather was the best this year but the weatherman was predicting rain for Sunday. Early in the morning the sound of the rain on the roof stirred me from my slumber. I rolled over and went back to sleep. Bill called about 7:30 but it still looked damp outside. A while later it was cloudy but no rain. By 10:00 the sun was starting to peek through so I called Bill about riding, then Jerry called, so Bill Duemling, Jerry and myself, Ted Gondert all met at 10:30.

Rode south on the M-53 bypass into the wind so it would push us home. The wind gets stronger and the hills steeper and higher

over the winter. Took 28 mile to Mound to 23 mile. Rode east on 23 mile to see if the helicopter was going to land, but it didn't. Van Dyke in Utica is in excellent condition after repaving last year so we rode to 22 mile. We decided to see the Clinton River from the foot bridge in Utica. I wondered if the boot in my tire was going to hold then POW!, it didn't. Changed the tube and put the boot back in, have to get a new tire.

M-59 construction is digging along Auburn Rd. and Hall Rd. to put in some more lanes. Utica Rd. is closed at Auburn now. Many cyclists use Auburn Rd. to Utica- (see Spring Ride)

NEXT MEETING:

**April 4, 1994 at the
Mt. Clemens Recreation
Center 300 Groesbeck
(at Lafayette)**

President:

Elizabeth Nieman 752-2770

Ride Director:

Diane Baker 247-5694

Secretary:

Laurie Brickner 939-4670

Treasurer

Pennie Morauski 773-2213

Editor:

Lorie Kamm 777-8726

Co-Editor:

John Kamm 777-8726

Asst. Editor:

Vicki Malloch 979-4076

Hotline:

792-4670

Roller

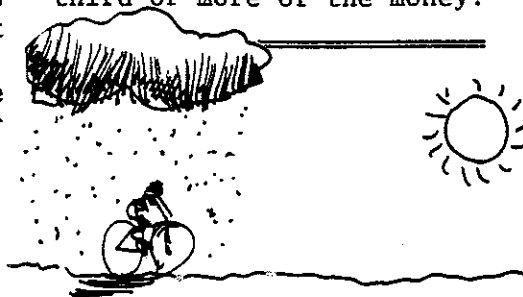
Spring Ride continued...

Dobry-Merrill-19 mile road etc. to go west towards Pontiac-Troy-etc. I wonder how traffic will be in that area when M-59 is expanded, hope there is some room left for bicycles. After passing under M-59 through the tunnel we rode across the bridge high above the raging waters of the Clinton River. Since Riverland/Dodge Park goes along the river we decided to go over to see if it was wet.

Took Utica Rd. to the Sterling Heights Nature Center and rode across the foot bridge into Riverland/Dodge Park. Riding along it looked a little wet along the trail, but we forded along. First the tires were wet then the rims and spokes. It couldn't be too deep, it only came up halfway on the ducks. Jerry led the way, dodging an occasional iceberg, as our pedals started to get wet at the bottom of the revolution then the bottom bracket, hubs, etc. but higher ground was just ahead. It's hard to see the trail under this water I thought while turning toward higher ground. Suddenly the front tire was wet on top of the wheel with the rest of the bicycle and myself following. Pulled myself up onto the ledge without really finding the bottom of that 'slight depression' and grabbed my bicycle by the pannier that was still floating and pulled it out too. Clinton River's water is still cold, but it wasn't cold outside, about 60°F. Bill and Jerry didn't give me very high marks for

performance or artistic merit. My long sleeve wool jersey kept me from getting too cold. We rode through a few more 'wet' spots to an exit onto Clinton River Rd. @ Henry Ford II high school. Antoon's bicycle shop is just a couple miles down the road so everyone rode over there so I could dry my clothes off. Bill lent me his tights and jacket and Antoon lent a pair of dry shorts. After I changed and dried off, we headed toward home. Schoenherr traffic was heavy but decreased as we went north. Jerry turned off for home at 24 mile. Bill and I rode back into Romeo after stopping at the orchard for some apple cider. Thanks to Bill and Jerry for helping me after my little swim.

I wonder if I should call one of those tv lawyers and try to win a million dollars? Some lawyer sued Derby Cycle, who make Raleigh and Nishiki, for 7 million dollars because a teenager was riding home from his job at the pizzeria after midnight and was hit by a car. His bike was equipped with reflectors but he didn't know that lights are required by law in New Jersey if you ride at night. There was no sticker on the bike recommending lights for riding at night, just in the owners manual. Trial lawyers will tell you how they are protecting the 'little guy' against the 'negligence' of the big corporations but they don't mind getting their third or more of the money.



Highway continued....

RACING (180): Information about "Team Internet," discussions about motor pacing, bikes on ESPN, and about Miguel Indurian's pulse.

MISC (340): Comments about cycling in pregnancy, helmet laws (lots of postings!), bicycle tips, information about how to get a list of cyclists who offer hospitality (called the "Internet Warm Showers List") to touring cyclists.

As you can see, there is something for everyone here. In addition to these newsgroups, there is even more information available for copying via file transfer from the moderator's computer in California. I've retrieved some of the more interesting stuff. One of the items is the "Frequently Asked Questions" for the newsgroups. This is a 130 page document covering a variety of interesting and useful information discussed over the previous month. Its sections are the same as the newsgroups described above. Some of the more interesting topics it covers are: Touring supplies; Rating Tour de France climbs; Bike Computer Features; Milk Jug Mud Flaps; What holds the rim off the ground?; Frame stiffness comparison; Avoiding Dogs; Pete's Winter Cycling Tips (a very funny article about cycling in EXTREME cold and deep slush); and Cycling Myths. I'd be happy to give the document file on disk to anyone (see Electronic)

"RIDING THE "ELECTRONIC SUPER HIGHWAY"

by Eric Noyes
(ernoyes@vela.acs.oakland.edu)

Being a relatively new rider and member of the CRR, I thought about how to contribute something to the newsletter, and since I don't ride hundreds of miles a week (yet?), I thought that if I led a "ride" on the "electronic super highway," it might be interesting for our readers.

This super highway is called the Internet, which is a huge network of computer networks connected together rather like a giant organism and communicating within itself at very high speeds. It is accessible to anyone with a computer, a modem, a telephone line, and an account on an Internet node such as a university computer system or a service like Compuserve. I won't dwell on the details of the Internet, but I use it to "ride" to something called Usenet. Usenet is an Internet-based distributed bulletin board system containing literally thousands of subject-related "newsgroups." Messages can be posed to a newsgroup, which are then routed to Usenet computer servers at thousands of locations around the world. Other subscribers can read the messages and, if desired, post a reply which is redistributed to all servers.

I've started reading the bicycle-related newsgroups through my computer account at Oakland University, and for the rest of this article I'll describe what I've found so far. I'll briefly describe each of the bicycling newsgroups and what their intended uses are, and some of the other interesting stuff I've found. Following are the newsgroups and their intended subjects:

REC.BICYCLES.MARKETPLACE:

Bicycles, components, ancillary equipment and services wanted or for sale, reviews of such things, places to buy them, and evaluations of these sources.

REC.BICYCLES.TECH:

Techniques of engineering, construction, maintenance and repair of bicycles and ancillary equipment.

REC.BICYCLES.RIDES:

Discussions of tours and training or commuting routes.

REC.BICYCLES.SOC: Social issues, cycling transportation advocacy, laws, conduct of riders and drivers; road hazards such as potholes, dogs, and sociopaths.

REC.BICYCLES.RACING: Race results, racing techniques, rules, and organizations.

REC.BICYCLES.MISC: General riding techniques, rider physiology, injuries and treatment, diets, and other cycling topics.

Within any of these newsgroups, there is a tremendous diversity of discussion on just about any bicycling subject you can imagine. When I recently cruised through the newsgroups, these were only some of the subjects that were being discussed:

MARKETPLACE (approx. 200 postings overall): want- and for-sale ads for bikes and components, comments about rumors that a bike manufacturer is going bankrupt.

TECH (360): Discussion about different types of clipless pedals, product recalls, carrying vs. not carrying an assortment of tools on rides.

RIDES (90): Information and discussion about rides worldwide, camping stoves, rain suits.

SOC (110): Discussion about bike lanes on streets versus buses and cars, use of crushed glass instead of sand and salt on winter roads.

(see Highway...)

Ride Schedule

Call the hotline (810) 792-4670 for updates.

Please ride safely. Wear warm reflective apparel and use lights whenever necessary.

Recurring activities for March

Saturday, March 12 & 26, 6:00-7:30pm. Walleyball at the Gateway Racquet Club (8200 Irving Dr.) Van Dyke at 14-1/2mi. The cost is \$36 for 1-1/2hrs per court divided by the number of players. Call Hotline for more info.

Scheduled rides for March

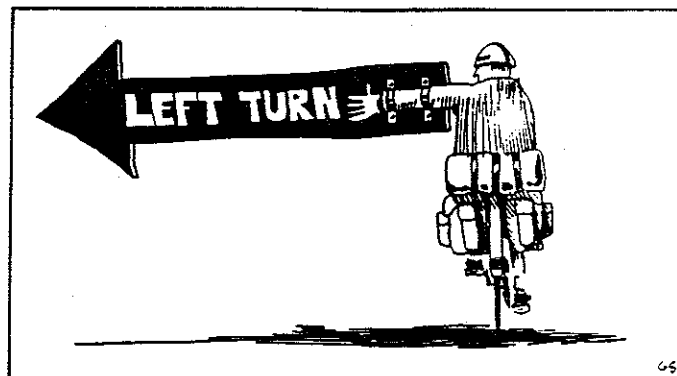
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30pm. Meet Gary Haelewyn at Pavlat's in Clinton Twp. for a ride to Metro Beach on the recreation trail. Must have lights. Pace as fast as lights permit, 21mi.

Saturdays, 10:00am. Meet Julie & Greg Schultz at Schultz Funeral Home at 8 1/2 & Gratiot for a 30 mile ride. Easy pace.

Sunday, March 13, 10:00am. Meet Doug MacDermaid & Laurie Brickner at the Duck Pond for a mountain bike ride on the Paint Creek Trail. 30 miles, easy pace.

Sunday, March 20 Annual St. Patrick's Day Ride. Meet Rick Moorman at The Old Broadway Cafe for breakfast at 8:00am. First of two loops starts at 9:00am, leaving from the Municipal parking in downtown Mt. Clemens. Second loop starts at 10:30am. Each loop is 15 miles easy pace.

Sunday, March 27, 8:30am. Meet Duane & Elizabeth Nieman at Romeo High School for a round trip ride to the Dryden VFW Hall for breakfast. Mountain biking on back roads depending on weather.



Happy Birthday to:

Rick Jones 4-2, Sandy Schauer 4-5, William LaJack 4-7, Amy Ostrowski 4-11, Dorothy Smith 4-11, Tommy LoPiccolo 4-12, Nicole Malloch 4-12, Rosa VanBuren 4-16, John P. Maravich 4-24, Matthew Moorman 4-24, Nancy Thoenes 4-27, Loki Neumann 4-29

Ride Leader Meeting:

There will be a meeting at Diane Baker's home for all current and want-to-be ride leaders, on Monday, March 13, 7:00pm. Please contact Diane for directions and more information.

Pavlat's Super Sale

Help needed for Super Sale!!! Pavlat's is holding the Super Sale in Pavlat's of Royal Oak and Mt. Clemens on March 25th, 26th, 27th. We are looking for CRR Club members to help us out. You have the option of a Store Gift Certificate or pay for your services. Not only that, we provide a catered lunch for all the workers. See what it's like on the other side of the counter. Food and fun...what else is there?? Please call Sue Pavlat at (810) 792-4040 to sign up for the day and time that you would like to help. Thanks!!

BWR Steering Committee Meeting

Monday, March 21, 7:00pm
Bill Duemling's house, please call Bill (752-6310) for directions. This meeting is open to all club members, everyone is encouraged to come.

Electronic continued...

interested, but it's too large to print out.

I hope this article gives you an idea of how interesting it is to "ride" around the Usenet. There is a tremendous amount of information and discussion about bicycles available on line. In the future, I will try to summarize some of the more interesting discussions. See you on the Internet!

May is National Bike to Work Month!!!

It's that time again...

Get creative and design a T-shirt for the 1994 BWR. Even though we have alot of time before the event, it's never too early to plan.

Editor's Note:

Deadline for The Rambler is the Wednesday after the meeting. Please bring items to the next meeting or call the editors.

Remember the newsletter is only as interesting as its members.

Acceptable formats: Hardcopy
Preferred formats: Wordperfect 5.1 or ASCII format, any disk size



—BIKECENTENNIAL

Article from: Noel
Weyrich
LAW Director of State
and Local Advocacy

Friends,

I keep hearing from cyclists, reeking of bicyclist self pity and inferiority complexes, about why America doesn't accommodate us better. I say, look at the National Rifle Association. With millions of members nationwide and a chapter in every state, they are able to succeed routinely with legislative initiatives *directly counter to the will of the American public* (if public opinion polls are to be believed)! Whether you agree with the NRA or not, they, for me, are proof that if a minority in this nation gets organized, it can have almost anything it wants.

My point in bringing up the NRA is that they have about 10 times as many members in Pennsylvania (my home state) as LAW has nationally (290,000 vs. 27,000). I would suggest that the NRA's power does not only proceed from its campaign contributions but from rampant fear in congress and the state legislatures of those millions of members. Of course, when you have millions of members, it's pretty easy to raise PAC money.

I am president of the Bicycle Coalition of the Delaware Valley, based in Philadelphia. A friend of mine in the state capital says that the best \$400 we could spend this year is to start a PAC and give \$100 each to the majority and minority chairs of the House and Senate Transportation Committee. He says it opens the door, and gets you on the map as a serious player. I'm not pleased to hear that that's true, but if it is true, I guess I'd be a fool to ignore it.

Unlike the NRA, public opinion polls SUPPORT OUR GOALS! Every problem out there today is *our fault* because we have been too slow on the uptake. There is too much evidence that where cyclists organize they get their way, to subscribe to the notion that immovable and immutable forces are in our way. As the old union people used to say, "Don't mourn--organize!"

Article regarding House
Bill 4864
by June Thaden
LMB Chairperson
(jthaden@nmc.edu)

The current Michigan
Vehicle Code says:

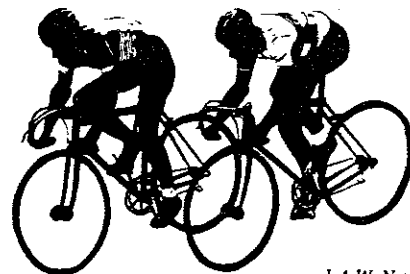
Sec. 660 (3) Where a usable and designated path for bicycles is provided adjacent to a roadway, a bicycle rider shall use that path and

shall not use the roadway.

These are the words which HB 4864 proposes to delete from the MVC. Similar words have been struck from the law of many states, including Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Montana, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Texas and Utah. Pennsylvania is currently considering modification of all vehicle law regarding bicycles. This brings most of the states into conformity with this provision in the Uniform Vehicle Code (UVC), from which the mandatory sidepath law (Ref. 11-1205.1 (b)) was deleted in 1984.

Michigan House Bill No. 4864 was introduced in June 16, 1993 by Reps. McNutt, McBryde, Gernaat, Jamian, Dalman, Jondahl, Berman, Randall, Bender, Rhead, Middleton, Brackenridge, Bobier, Shugars, and Llewellyn and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

(continued on next page)



L.A.W. News

This provision in the law comes from those earlier days when bicycles were ridden principally by children and before they acquired 10 (or 21) speeds. Many adult bicyclists, on their way to a particular destination, move at 15-25 miles per hour. For these bicyclists, cycling is transportation. Their preferred route will be the most direct, and fastest. Other recreational cyclists, and children may choose to ride a well designed separate path.

YOUR help is needed! Urge Rep. Terry London, the Republican Co-Chair of the House Committee on Transportation, or the Democratic Co-Chair Vincent Porreca, to support and to report this bill with a Favorable Recommendation to the full House. The League of Michigan Bicyclists urges you to write NOW! Address your letter to:

Representative Terry London Co-Chair, House Transportation Committee Room 625 Olds Plaza Bldg. Lansing, MI 48909

or to

Representative Vincent Porreca, Co-Chair, House Transportation Committee Room B-76 Capitol Bldg. Lansing, MI 48909.

Good reasons you might

emphasize are:

The 1991 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide to the Development of Bicycle Facilities says "Providing a sidewalk bicycle path is unsatisfactory for a variety of reasons". Among those mentioned are intersection conflicts with turning and crossing motorists, conflicts with pedestrians and fixed obstructions, and sight obstructions (bushes, etc)

Sidepaths have high crash (accident) potential when there are numerous private and commercial driveways and roadways, because of the higher bike-car conflicts at these intersections. Liability is also problem.

Commuting bicyclists travel at higher speeds appropriate to a roadway, and not compatible with lower speed recreational and child cyclists, roller bladers, and walkers on paths. 20 mph cyclists are much more compatible with 35-40 mph motor vehicle than with 2-8 mph pedestrians, kids on trikes, and occasional bicyclists.

Bicyclists should have the right to choose whether to remain on the roadway, or use the

path. If the path is well designed and well maintained, it's use will not have to be mandated. Many bicyclists (the so called B & C cyclists) will be delighted to ride at a pace that allows them to share the path with pedestrians, roller bladers, and grandma walking her dog.

Paths outside the curb often collect debris and are unsafe for use.

Bicyclists desire to go the same places they want to go in their automobiles. Sufficient, sage lane width (or paved shoulders) on roadways is more economical and serves other users of the roadway.

This change would bring Michigan's Vehicle Code (MVC) more in accord with the Uniform Vehicle Code adopted by many of the States.

The House Transportation Committee held a Hearing on March 2 at which LMB Chairperson June Thaden, volunteer Dean Brailey and Roger Storm, RTC, presented testimony. (Warren Berthelsen and Bill Duemling also attended for moral support.) Much of the comment by committee members was not positive. And we will need to be persuasive

(continued on next page)

and persistent in writing and in talking with them to convince them that our view should be supported.

Pick a couple of reasons -- or give your own. Add some of your experience. Keep your letter short, positive, and to the point. Don't muddy the waters with any comments not directly related with the Bill.

Letters to individual members of the committee will also help. And if one of these representatives is YOUR representative, then it will be especially helpful when you make a positive, friendly but persistent contact! Committee members are Terry London, Co-Chair (81st - Port Huron; 625 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Vincent Porreca Co-Chair (23rd - Trenton; B-76 Capitol Bldg.); Dianne Byrum (68th-Holt; 384 Roosevelt Bldg.); Walter DeLange (72nd - Kentwood; 725 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Paul Baade (91st - Roosevelt Park; 923 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Candace Curtis (51st - Swartz Creek; 668 Roosevelt Bldg.); John Gernaat (102nd - McBain; 721 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Beverly S. Hammerstrom (55th - Milan Area; 811 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Clark A. Harder (85th - Owosso; 344 Roosevelt Bldg.); Alvin H. Kukuk (33rd - Macomb County; 809 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Burton Leland (13th -

Detroit; 510 Roosevelt Bldg.); Allen Lowe (105th - Grayling; 55 Capitol Bldg.); Dennis Olshove (29th - Warren; 498 Roosevelt Bldg.) Gregory E. Pitoniak (22nd - Taylor; 546 Roosevelt Bldg.); Kim A. Rhead (83rd - Sandusky; 611 Olds Plaza Bldg.); Michael Griffin (64th - Jackson; 63 Capitol Bldg.); David Galloway (44th - White Lake/Pontiac; 709 Olds Plaza Bldg.); and Harold Voorhees (77th - Wyoming; 717 Olds Plaza Bldg.). Building addresses following the district and place are members legislative offices in Lansing, MI 48909

When the Bill goes before the full House, letters to your own and other representatives, will be most timely. But Right Now, send your original letter, citing your own bicycling experience and one or more of the reason above to the Chairman London or Porreca or any of the above committee members and tour own representative in the Michigan House NOW!!!

If any Clinton River Riders have any questions or would like to get more involved, please contact either: Warren Berthelsen (ab118@leo.nmc.edu) (810) 781-6706 or Bill D u e m l i n g (admin@attmail.parkut.com) (810) 752-6310

CLASSIFIEDS:

For Sale:

1987 Kuwahara Tandem: Charcoal grey metallic, size 23" front 21" rear, new Specialized tires, recently re-built 27x1/8" rims, Shimano rear derailleur, Suntour front derailleur, Suzue hubs, Suntour bar end shift levers, B-32 6 speed rear freewheel, triple 53,46,26 front crank, Price \$900.00 (let's talk) Please phone Bill or Julie Windhorst @ (810) 751-2991



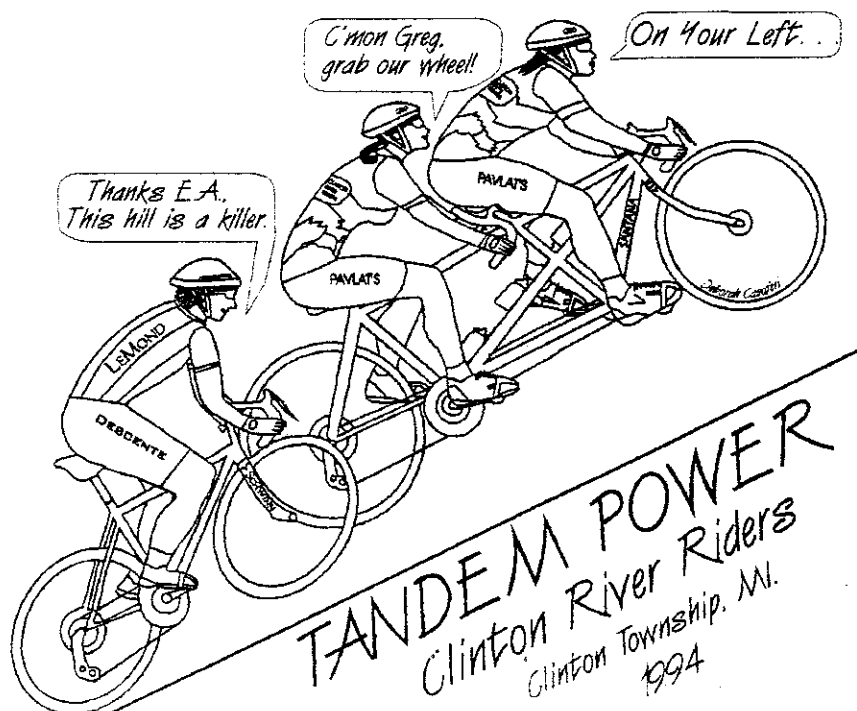
—BIKECENTENNIAL

Dear Clinton River Riders,

Tandem teams currently make up 1/3 of this club and have expressed an interest in a T-shirt. Steve and I have come up with the design below for the front of the shirt. On the back, we will place every tandem riders' name. I will bring the Broder Brothers catalogue to the April meeting, so we can discuss the color and style of the shirt. At that point, I will start collecting money. The amount will depend on which shirt we pick. Anyone interested must speak with me at the April meeting or up until the May meeting. I will place the order after the May meeting. I can be reached at (810) 573-8089. If I'm not available, please leave a message.

See you soon,

Deborah Capoferi



Attention Club Members:

There is still room for 2 more members at the League of Michigan Bicyclist Club Leadership Seminar March 19-20. The seminar is mainly about Leadership skills. Also, there will be discussion on the Sidepath HB4864 at 3:45-4:15, ISTEAs reports 4:15-9:30, LMB brainstorming, mission prioritization and projects --with time out for supper, of course. Please contact me (Bill Duemling) for more information.

LOOK FOR THE ARTICLES ON HOUSE BILL 4864
REGARDING MANDATORY SIDE PATH USAGE

