

December 1993

The President's Column

By Bill Duemling

Dear Santa:

Well, another year is drawing to a close. 1993 is almost history, and soon I will have to hang up that new calendar. I believe I have been pretty good this year. Well, maybe not as good as last year, but hey, it was a tough year. I mean I actually had to choose between working and riding the bike. You know? Of course you know, after all you are Santa Claus!

I've attended the club meetings, arrived on time, and managed to get most of my club paperwork done. I didn't yell at the Treasurer, or the Ride Director, or the Secretary, (ok I did grumble a little at the newsletter people, but they were a bit late with one or two issues!) I even remembered to be nice to the BWR ride chairman.

Oh yes, I also promise, I will make that appointment with the doctor about that knee trouble I've told you about. I know that grinding noise is not normal, and I can't just rub some Phil Wood Tenacious oil on it!

Santa, I know I asked you last year, but umm, I sure would like to see that bike we talked about last year under the tree. (The RED one). Don't worry about the pedals, I have a spare set of them just waiting!!

NEXT MEETING:

January 3, 1994 at the Mt. Clemens recreation Center 300 Groesbeck (at Lafayette)

President:

Bill Duemling 752-6310

Ride Director:

Doug MacDermaid 774-0295

Secretary:

Laurie Brickner 939-4670

Treasurer

Pennie Morauski 773-2213

Editor:

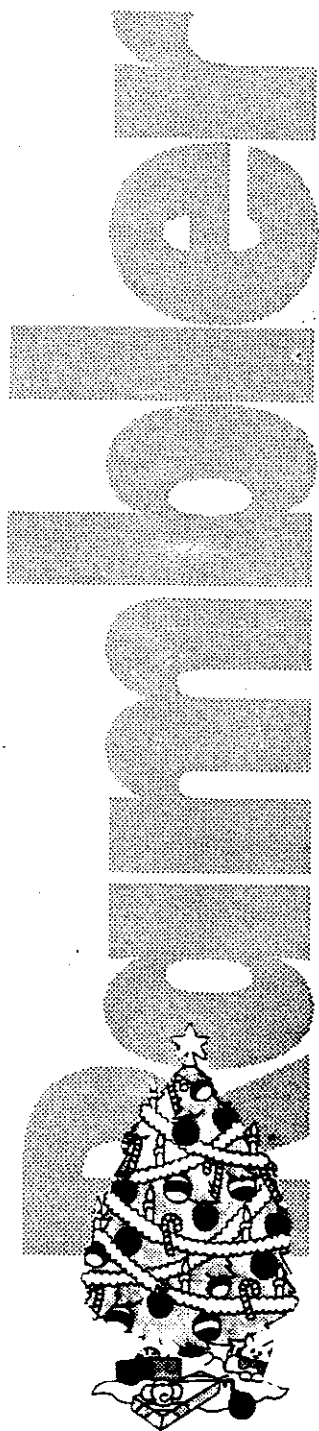
Lorie Kamm 777-8726

Asst. Editor:

Vicki Malloch 979-4076

Hotline:

792-4670



Merry Christmas

Ride Schedule

Call the hotline (313) 792-4670 for updates.

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

Recurring activities for December/January

Sundays, 9:00am & 12:30pm. Stair Climbing at the Renaissance Center Hotel. Meet Doug MacDermaid (mornings) or Ron Dossenbach (afternoons) at the Westin Health Club. At your own pace. Call Hotline for more info.

Saturday, December 18, 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 December

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

Saturdays, 9:00am. Meet Doug MacDermaid at Jefferson & Marter (8-1/2 Mile) for a ride to Grosse Pointe and back. Pace 16, 20-25mi.

Sunday, December 19, 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.

Looking ahead to January

Saturday, January 1, 1994 (New Years Day). The First Dozen. Meet Doug MacDermaid at the Olive Branch Mason Lodge in Dearborn (on Mason 2-1/2 blocks south of Michigan Ave.) at registration. Registration starts at 1:00pm. Ride starts at 2:00pm. At your own pace.

CALVIN & HOBBS By Bill Watterson



Happy Birthday to:

James Gallagher 1-1, Louise Maravich 1-1, Alice Robinson 1-1, Jeremy Dobry 1-2, Denise Kosen 1-2, Sue Scott 1-4, Lisa Ureel 1-5, Jim Wright 1-5, Susan Hrit 1-6, Jane Koch 1-6, Paul Daniel 1-7, Chuck McGartland 1-7, Patrick Crowley 1-9, Debbie Angst 1-11, Mike Boden 1-12, Bill Clark 1-12, Curt Best 1-15, John Maravich 1-17, Jared Bennett 1-19, Janelle Bennett 1-20, Shawn Szostak 1-21, Michael Flaga 1-25, Mike Malloch 1-30, Greg Wiegmann 1-30, Jennifer Koch 1-31

Welcome New Members:

The Clinton River Riders proudly welcome the following new members:

Mike Muchler and Rhea O'Hara

We hope you will enjoy cycling with us for many seasons to come.

Coming attractions at the next meeting

Jerry Pavlat will be sharing his expertise on fitness and winter training with us at the next meeting. Come to the next meeting and learn something new.

Environmental Impacts

By: Dante Lanzetta

Editors note: This text was developed at the urging of LMB and CRR efforts by Dante Lanzetta a cyclist and SEMCOG representative. Our Collective efforts do have results!

SEMCOG supports the use of

alternative fuel vehicles including busses in order to help reduce vehicle emissions.

SEMCOG supports encouraging the use of bicycles as a mode of transit by construction and/or improving designated bicycle routes, lanes and paths to levels which will provide transit bicyclists with safe, effective routes on which to commute at efficient speeds. Guidelines for such improvement include, but are not limited to:

Using ISTEA Enhancement Funds and other applicable programs and funding sources to expedite projects to enable and promote bicycle transit.

1. Encouraging employers and others to accommodate the needs of transit bicyclists for safe and secure bicycle parking sites and workplace changing facilities.

2. Review existing roadway operating conditions, their markings and/or signalization to minimize points of conflict in traffic flows consisting of bicycles and other vehicles.

3. Developing inter-community and inter-regional bicycle transit links among residential, work and shopping destinations.

4. Developing bicycle transit routes to link and enlarge emerging bicycle transit networks with continuous types of facilities and amenities so as to provide transit cyclists with safe and effective lanes of travel including the investigation of any potential impediments to developing such networks (e.g. "must use" bike path provisions).



President's Message

By: Bill Duemling

At the January meeting the nominating committee has to come up with a slate of officers for the 1994-95 year. The new officers will be elected at the February meeting, and will take over March 1st. Now is the time you should consider helping to run the club we all enjoy. Because without people willing to run the club, there will not be a club. I've had a lot of fun being the President of the Clinton River Riders these last two years, but it is time to pass the gavel to someone new. Someone with some fresh ideas, and enthusiasm. You never know what will come up at the meeting. That's what makes them so much fun to attend! Besides, you get to bang the gavel and get everyone's attention!

Doug MacDermaid has done an awesome job these last two years as Ride Director, and has done a fantastic job of keeping track of everything. Doug's done a great job of collecting the club ride leader information and getting the word out via the newsletter and the hot line. Thanks Doug.

Pennie Morauski, our esteemed Treasurer has

managed to keep the checkbook balanced despite our best efforts to confuse her and has agreed to stay on for a second term. I especially want to thank her for keeping me provided with membership lists. I know I can call on her if I manage to misplace my copy. (It's true!)

Laurie Brickner, our Secretary also has agreed to continue scribing the minutes of our meetings for a second term. She has gotten pretty good at reducing the excess verbiage we sometimes attach to motions into something we can all understand. Thanks Laurie.

Lorie Kamm as you all know has taken over production of the newsletter, and this issue will be her second. I especially want to thank her for her courage to jump in and take over from Mike Kiefer on such short notice. I hope she can be convinced to continue. You did a great job on the first issue! Thanks Lorie!

CLUB

LEADERSHIP

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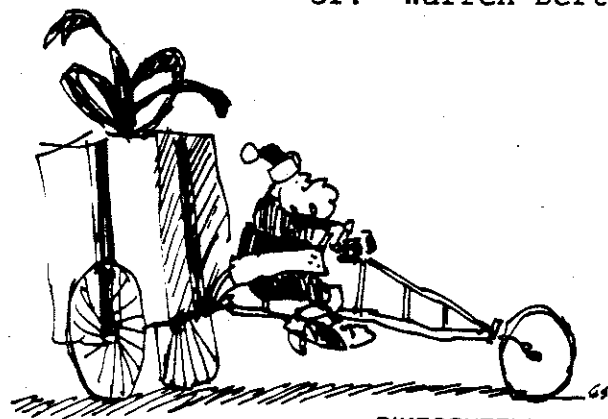
Presented by: League of American Wheelman (LAW) Running a bicycle club is tough. Whether you are a new leader, an experienced leader, or if you are thinking about becoming a leader, the Club Leadership Seminar is a must. The CLS, a six hour leadership clinic, is lead by Dave Spitler, 1993 L.A.W. Volunteer of the Year, and leadership columnist for BicycleUSA. Switch your club into high gear by attending a CLS.

March 20, 1994,
Lansing, MI

Host club: League of Michigan Bicyclists

Contact: June Thaden
520 Highland
Park Dr.
Traverse City
MI, 49684
(616) 947-8476

or: Warren Berthelsen



The Annual Christmas Party: A great time was had by all

by: Sue Pavlat

Hats off to Laurie Brickner and Doug MacDermaid for their awesome mileage for the year, and to Steve (Mr. Commuter) Morauski! Where will 1994 take us?

The Christmas party was (again) a tremendous success. Special THANKS to the following club members who made it all happen:

Laurie Brickner and Pennie Morauski for organizing it all.

Vicki Malloch and her mom for making the table decorations, the beautiful wreath and custom Christmas sweatshirts that everyone wanted to win.

Our talented Doris Mulligan for creating the very special 'Humorous Awards'!

Mike Holden the Master of Ceremonies who delivered the 'Humorous Awards'. (If Mike changes careers, he could be a stand up comedian. Funny how everyone hopes he doesn't call their name!) Special thanks to Mike for loaning me his copy stand so I could shoot all the photos and change them into slides.

Doug MacDermaid and Bill Duemling for

presenting the mileage and rider of the year awards.

To all the members who donated door prizes. Especially Bill Duemling who donated several of 'everyone's favorite door prize', the Metro Park Passes.

And to everyone who turned in photos for the slide show. Especially Ed Gostin who gave me the idea for the WANTED POSTER of Gary. It was especially creative! My goal for 1994 is to have everyone in it. But this can only be done through your efforts. So don't let a Kodak moment slip by, keep those cameras rolling (on the bike of course), and be creative!

With the busy holiday season upon us as 1993 comes to an end, I ask that you set some quiet time aside and say a prayer for Ron Skiba. I'd like to close with a letter from Ron, Marge, and the Skiba family:

To the Bike-Club Family

We just wanted to take the time to express our thanks to all of you who have been so thoughtful during this trying time. All of your prayers, cards, phone calls and homemade meals were very much appreciated. It is so

nice to know that we have so many loving friends and family.

We ask that you please continue to keep the prayers coming. Everyone counts on getting Ron back on the "bike path" to a healthy life.

Again, thank you kindly!

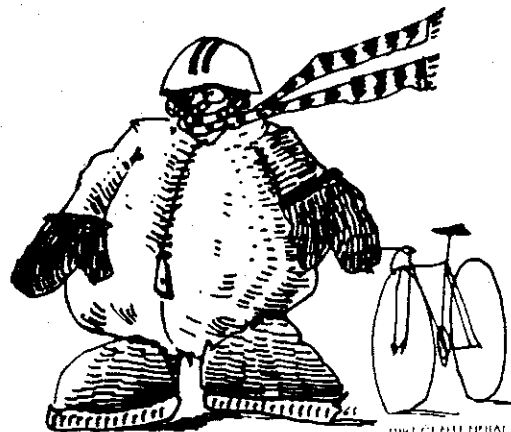
Sincerely,
Ron Skiba and his family

P.S. His next big surgery is set for December 22, 1993 at 10:00 am. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

FOR SALE

Roadbike Centurion LeMans
58 cm 12 sp. Shimano 105/
Exage Sport Components \$225
phone: 792-3778

Bicycle Carriers Yakima
Tandem Mount, includes
hardware \$100. Rhode Gear
Cycle Shuttle (carries 2
bikes) \$20
phone: 792-3778



Bicycle News
(Incidents on
Winona Ave.)

from The Bicycle
Paper, Seattle,
Washington.
By J. Hokanson

THE LEGAL SYSTEM WORKS

While traffic laws apply equally to both cars and bikes, the reality is that cars are bigger, and cyclists are vulnerable when sharing the roadways. Tom McDonald, 38, a bicycle commuter and former bicycle advocate, successfully exerted his rights to the road after a bike-auto incident in May, 1992, when the driver of a truck which threatened him was convicted of reckless driving. Tom's case demonstrates not only the need for education for drivers, regarding cyclists' rights, but also law enforcement's changing attitudes regarding auto-bike incidents and the acknowledgement of bicycles as

vehicles with legal rights to the road.

The Incident

Tom was traveling west on Winona Ave. N in Seattle at approximately 5:30 p. m. Road conditions were bright and clear. Tom had a green light as he approached the Wallingford intersection. He saw a rust and white full-size pick-up start a roll-through right on red from Wallingford onto Winona. Tom waved and yelled at the driver to stop. The driver did stop before entering the intersection in Tom's path. Tom didn't look back, and proceeded to pass two cyclists. As he passed them, he announced, "On your left".

Two blocks further, as Tom passed Lake Realty, he saw that the truck had come from behind and was passing him. The driver allowed little room for Tom as he passed. Tom yelled and slapped the side of the truck. The driver made eye contact with Tom, but did not move over to give Tom

room. Instead, he slowed down and drifted toward Tom, forcing him over further into the road's shoulder.

The truck continued to slow, and Tom had to slam on his brakes to prevent hitting a car that was parallel parked on the street. When Tom stopped, the driver also stopped, blocking traffic and cornering Tom between the truck and the car parked directly in front of Tom. Tom called for witnesses including the two cyclists he had just passed. The truck pulled forward and out of traffic.

The driver argued with Tom, saying, "Bicyclists don't belong on the road." The driver gave Tom his business card. As Tom later reported, "He wanted me to call the police." After gathering witnesses' phone numbers, Tom proceeded home.

Cont'd next page.

After the Incident

Tom called the police after arriving home. When Officer Palocol of the Seattle Police Department arrived 20 minutes later, he took Tom's statement. Officer Palocol notified Tom later that evening that he had taken the driver's statement as well. On June 2, two days after the incident, Officer Palocol filed a reckless driving charge against the driver of the truck.

The Court Case

Because Tom was never actually touched by the truck or the driver, nor was there any property damage to Tom's bike, the case was a criminal case, not a civil case. Tom was a witness to the incident, and as such he testified for the prosecution.

As a bike advocate, Tom was familiar with the law, and could argue effectively regarding both the law and defensive driving technique. He found he had to

educate the jury on the bicyclist's rights to the road. Due primarily to Tom's testimony and that of one of his witnesses, the driver was found guilty of reckless driving with willful intent. His sentence was a \$400 fine and one year's suspended sentence. In addition, he was required to enroll in a Level II Traffic Program, according to court records.

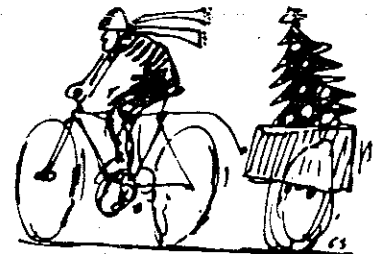
Tom's Advice

If a similar incident happens to you, whether or not you are injured, or your property damaged, Tom says you ought to pursue the case. "Take the incident seriously," he says "Don't blow it off." While it takes both time and energy to follow the case, it is important that cyclists' rights are defended, as well as your personal rights.

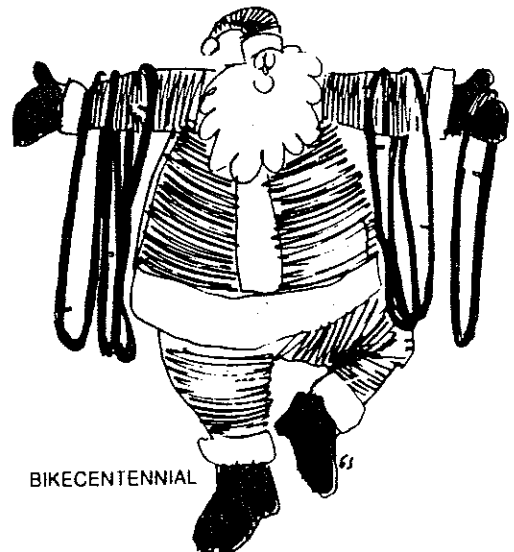
At the scene of the incident, Tom suggests that you look for witnesses. Get license plate numbers of the car that hurt you, as well as other cars who may have

seen the incident. Get physical descriptions of vehicles and drivers. Report the incident to the police. Collect the officer's name and the case number. File charges. Follow up on the case by calling the prosecutor's office. Offer to testify in court.

Later, go back to the scene and draw a map of the area in order to increase accuracy and your memory, and to document the case.



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