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KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 1977

You haven't missed one! to prevent the confusion of last year, Newsletters have been retitled to reflect the month for which they are issued rather than the month previous.

MEETINGS: Spring Valley Road Race Series III: Committee will meet on Sunday, January 16; Time and place haven't yet been determined. Those interested should contact Joel, who's appointed himself chair. (349-3094)
GENERAL CLUB MEETING: January 17, 7 pm, Classroom section of Kalamazoo College Library.

RIDE SCHEDULE: STANDING SATURDAY MORNING RIDE (unless replaced) 9:30 a.m.; Oshtemo Harding's; distance, terrain and time arranged by those riding. Joel Dinda 349-3094.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 2 The Great Ground Hog Caper 7:30 p.m. Oshtemo Harding's. Lights and reflectors of course; questionable weather cancels, a rather hilly 8 miles. Joel Dinda 349-3094.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, Valentine's Day Patch Ride, from Harding's Market, Gull Road and H Ave. to Richland and back weather permitting. 1:30 p.m. around 20 miles. Jini Caruso 381-0135.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12: March Madness; \$1.50. 10:30 a.m. from KVCC. LAW sanctioned half century. Hills and high winds. Joel Dinda 349-3094.

OUR OF TOWN: Sunday February 6, Ground Hog's Day bike tour, Crown Point Indiana. Sunday, February 13 Elk Grove Fireside Tour, Elk Grove Illinois.
TUESDAY FEBRUAR 15, Michigan Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Board meeting. Lansing.
(details available from Joel 349-3094)

DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY: Donations from 2 membaers will enable us to do an improved Bikeable Roads County Map this year without burdening the treasury. MANY THANKS. We voted not to have intermediate or midget classes at the Spring Valley Races. ALSO THANKS to Scott Steurer, Doug Steel, Pat Florian and Gary Keene for their pictures.

Our thanks to those 1976 members who've already renewed their memberships. Those who've not are invited to do so. We need you.

KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM 1977

(check one)

- Young Adult (under 15) \$2.00
- Adult (over 15) \$3.00
- Family (all members of a household) \$5.00

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ AGE _____ BIRTHDATE _____ SEX _____

NAMES AND AGES OF OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS IF FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

OTHER MEMBERSHIPS: USCF _____ LAW _____ AYH _____ OTHER _____

SIGNATURE _____ PARENT _____
(if under 18)

Please make checks payable to Kalamazoo Bicycle Club and mail to:

KBC P O BOX 527, Kalamazoo Michigan 49005.

AWARDS: Gary Keene and Debbie Dinda are working on a proposal to reward ride leaders for attracting riders. Doug Steel is working on a proposal to reward riders for a accomplishments. And Joel Dinda is working on a proposal to reward riders for participation. All will be on the January 17 agenda.

We've got a new friend in the County Building. KBC member Disk Phillips has been elected to the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners, taking his seat this month. Our Congratulations.

NOTES FROM JOEL: NOTE 1: The League of American Wheelmen has recently initiated an educational program built around John Forester's excellent textbook, Effective Cycling. We have applied to participate, and are waiting to learn whether we've been approved.

While details are necessarily uncertain, we've made tentative arrangements for Portage Parks to provide facilities, and we expect to open classes on May 14. Questions may be addressed to me at 349-3094. We'll do our best to keep you informed.

NOTE 2: I am occasionally asked what the club's position on "bikeways" is. My most recent response may be of interest:

"KBC is not a 'trail-using organization' in any useful sense, except you define the concept broadly. We rarely use trails, though we have an active interest in the development of bicycle facilities.... We recognize needs. We are not particularly pleased with the solutions we've been offered.

"While we're not yet to the point where we're advocating specific projects, a general principle can be stated. We feel that recreational cyclists can best be served by facilities other than trails. Clearly, however, certain trails are worth pursuing. We're rather up in the air, and somewhat divided."

"The above to Wayland P. Smith, who organized a trail users conference last spring. Comments? (I'll return to the topic in a couple of months.)

NOTE 3: BUY A SUBSCRIPTION: A mere three dollars will bring you a year (six issues) of Cyclateral Thinking, a delicious (hand-drawn!) newsletter concerned with bicycle facilities and other things. Write checks to URBAN BIKEWAY DESIGN COLLABORATIVE, w20-002 MIT, Cambridge Massachusetts 02139. (note; UBDC publishes a book for the same price with the same title; Take care!)

NOTE 4: A LEGISLATIVE REPORT is in order, the session being ended. Everything directly related to cycling, good and bad alike, died in some committee, except a bill (now a law) giving the state first option on abandoned railroad rights of way. Linear parks -- for instance, the Kal-Haven Trail -- are expected to result.

The most interesting casualty was Senator Dick Allen's bill to license bicycles and to create a bicycle commission within the highway department. We've been involved with this bill for some time, beginning with a drafting session I attended on KBC's behalf in April of 1975. While it passed the Senate, S 874 never came to a vote in the House. Maybe next year.

Sad to report that, despite KBC's efforts in the bill's behalf, Kalamazoo Senator Jack Welborn was one of the Senate's nay votes. That's one of the reasons we need a facilities and legislation committee.

The Secretary would appreciate it if members would renew their membership using the gold form in December's Newsletter if you still have it. If not please indicate on the back of the form you do use, whether you would be willing to lead a ride or serve on a committee such as Facilities and Legislation, Spring or Fall Century, Race, Race Officials, Maps-- either the book or the County map--Safety/Education, Program, or Club Library. THANK YOU.

KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB CAMPING/OVERNIGHT TRIP PROPOSAL

CHAIRMAN: Gary Keene 383-9492.

EITHER A OR B

A: June 26-27 or later: Kalamazoo to Sagatuck via Bloomingdale: camp/stay (Sat-Sun) Return to Kalamazoo via Allegan State Forest.

B. July 2-4 (Sat-Mon) Kalamazoo to Sagatuck as above. camp/stay; Day 2 to Yankee Springs; Camp at Yankee Springs, Day 3 return to Kalamazoo.

FOR EITHER THE MOST PRIMITIVE IS TO PACK ALL THE GEAR ON THE BIKES. IF SOMEONE WISHES TO SERVE AS SAG WAGON AND CARRY THE GEAR, THEY ARE WELCOME.

FOR BOTH POOLED MONEY FOR FOOD.

FOR THOSE WHO DISLIKE CAMPING: RESERVATIONS IN NEARBY MOTELS WOULD ALLOW THEM THE BIKE TRIP, WITHOUT THE CAMPING.

Those two strike me as the easiest and best choices for a first trip. There are other alternatives.

Kalamazoo to Niles and Back (includes some hilly sections)

Kalamazoo to Hastings and back. (Very hilly route likely the only choice)

IN ALL THIS THE COST IS AS YET UNCERTAIN, IT DEPENDS ON THE CAMPING FEES AND ESTIMATES OF FOOD COSTS.

If you are interested, fill out the form below and mail it to:

Gary Keene
1303 Turwill or call 383-9492 or 345-3327
Kalamazoo Mi 49007

This must be planned and organized by March 10 as I will be in Europe from mid-March to mid June. Final reservations will be made with the Secretary.

I prefer

PLAN A June 25-26. PLAN A Different date
Suggested date
PLAN B July 2-4
OTHER (please indicate what)

NAME ADDRESS

PHONE

This is a preference a Reservation

RESRVATIONS WILL BE NECESSARY: DEADLINE UNCLEAR.

SIGNATURE (if reservation)

*****THIS WILL BE OPEN ONLY TO KBC MEMBERS *****