

Pedal Press



The Newsletter of the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club, Inc.
December, 1996

President's Letter

I had a great year. I didn't ride as much as I hoped but many things were accomplished and that could not have happened without the help of many people.

Contrary to popular thought, there were more than a few people who participated to make the club run this year. Between ride leaders, event planners/volunteers and the people who take care of the monthly operation of the club the number exceeds the customary 10%. True, some of those people pull double duty but there are many who come out for an event, provide some critical assistance and then slip back into the weekly ride calendar. These people are gold.

A very special thanks to a great executive board who worked hard and were fun to be with. Many thanks to Dave Goldenberg, Jeanette Holm, Kathy Barrett, Phil Caruso, Ann Johnson, Clayton Gallap, Randy Putt, Axel Kleat and Bill Watt.

See you at the Recovery Party!

- Rose McKenna

Election Results

The 1997 KBC President will be Gerry Blohm elected November 10 at Bell's Brewery when members of the club gathered for a general meeting. Returning to the board will be Mike Higgins, treasurer, Joan Kramlich, secretary and Rose McKenna, vice president. The race team will continue to be represented by John Brady.

A proposal to change the board number from 5 to 7 was made by Dave DeRight. John Matheison made a motion to have the amendment drawn up for consideration by the general membership. The motion is included in this newsletter. That motion was seconded. A vote on the issue will take place at the Recovery Party in January.

- Rose McKenna

Upcoming Events...

December

- 8 KBC General Board Meeting, Bell's Brewery, 4:00 pm.
- 10 Bike Route Planning Meeting, location and time to be announced.

January

- 18 KBC Recovery Party, location and time to be announced.

New Members

Barbara Kreuzer
Jon Orr
Kathy Orr
Steve Patrick
David Mulnix
Josh Mulnix

December Birthdays

Andrew Bauer
Jack Berner
Wiley C. Boulding
John Branstetter
Al Cergol
Cara Fuentes
Charles Fuentes
Eric Gushurst
Sherry Higgins
Ann Johnson
Mike Jones
Kerri Kissinger
Ruth Krueger
Dale Krueger
Matthew Maier
Jessica Maier
Dick Phillips
Paul Stevens
Bill Stevens

Return of the Tuesday Time Trial?

Your trusty *Newsletter* editors, Kathy Barrett and Doug Kirk are thinking of bringing back the Tuesday Night Time Trial next summer.

For those of you with short memories, Tuesday night used to be *the* night for a relatively short, flat ten mile time trial.

For a number of years, the course was on M-96, just east of Augusta. The out-and-back course went five miles east, toward the Battle Creek airport, and back again.

Eventually people decided this route had too many cars, so the course was moved to Climax, with a similar length course going south then back north.

But the whole thing died out when the key to the whole thing, a truly wonderful woman from the Battle Creek Bike Club named Sandy who did the timing, finally gave it up.

We have a course in mind a bit closer to Kalamazoo. We think that 36th Street going south from Scotts would work just fine. It's exactly five miles from QR Ave. to VW Ave., and the road's reasonably wide with decent pavement. VW Ave., where the turn-around would be, is a dirt road with very little traffic.

Like all out-and-back courses, there it the problem of having to turn around, but one U-turn seems like a better idea than four left- or right-turns.

Kathy and I are thinking of taking on Sandy's duties, and we'd be interested in getting some input from club members on the idea, and we'd like to know just how much interest there is, so let us know what you think. E-mail us at barrettkl@aol.com or call 388-5045.

- Doug Kirk

KBC Contest

Fate has bestowed upon us the opportunity for a contest, complete with a prize—an unautographed and barely used copy of *Half Wheel Hell*, by Maynard Hershon, well-known *Velonews* contributor. Any KBC member who believes he or she has the correct answer should contact the *Newsletter* editor, Kathy Barrett, as soon as possible. Her phone number and e-mail address are on the last page of this issue.

A recent issue of the Kalamazoo *Gazette* contained the following quotation. All you need to do is correctly identify the famous local bicycling personality to whom the quotation refers. One guess per member.

"An election official...in Kalamazoo...was just about to call, "hear ye, hear ye" to announce the closing of the polls, when XXXXXXXX suddenly wheeled up to the door on his racing bicycle, wearing bike cleat shoes and a back pack.

"Is it too late?" (our unnamed rider) asked breathlessly. "I couldn't find my voter registration card."

If at all possible, we will present the prize, and hold the lucky winner up to public praise (or ridicule) at the Recovery Party in January.

- Axel Kleat

Christmas in January or How about a Recovery Party?

Soon it will be that time - the "after the Holidays" recuperation period. We have a party plan but no place to execute it! (uh oh). We are experiencing our recuperation period a little ahead of the general membership but never fear, we take this responsibility very seriously. So keep your calendar open on Saturday, January 18 and we will do our part by announcing the gathering place in the January newsletter.

- Rose McKenna

Proposal: Enlarge Bicycle Club Executive Board to Include Two At-large Board Positions

The KBC Constitution currently provides for an Executive Board to handle the club's business. The Board consists of the following five officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Race Team Director. These officers all have duties consistent with their titles. Given that each current officer already has a set of duties (i.e., Treasurer keeps track of the club's money) it was suggested at the club's general membership meeting on November 10 that the Board be expanded. The reason expressed for this expansion was that the new Board members would not have a set of previously defined duties and could thus be available to take charge of special interest issues such as bicycle advocacy.

Specifically, in accord with Article X, Section 6 of the KBC Constitution, John Matheson made a motion to amend the Constitution to create two at-large Executive Board positions. After some discussion, the five members of the current Executive Board unanimously voted to approve this amendment. Again, in accordance with Article X, Section 6 of the club's Constitution, this proposed amendment must now be brought before the general membership for a vote. This vote will occur at the membership meeting to be held on January 18, 1997. Please come out and cast your ballot.

Proposed Amendment Language:

**ARTICLE V Elections
Section V-A and V-C:**

1. **Section V-A.**
Add the phrase Two At-large Members before the "and Race Team Director".
2. **Section V-C.**
Change the second sentence to read as follows:

The offices of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board Members At-large and Race Team Director are elected annually.

3. **ARTICLE VI, Officers and Duties**

Add the following language after the paragraph **Race Team Director**:

Board Members At-large

1. Are voting members of the Executive Board.
2. Are responsible for assisting the other Board members with their duties and taking on specific projects as the need arises.

Submitted by Joan Kramlich
with approval of the KBC Executive Board

KBC December Board Meeting

The next meeting of KBC board will be Sunday, December 8, 4:00 at Bell's Brewery. Gerry Blohm will be introduced to his new board and there will be a general review of the past year. This meeting is open to the general membership. As always, any additions to the agenda must be submitted to John Matheison (see the back of this newsletter for phone number) by December 7, 4 pm.

Review of League of Michigan Bicyclist's Annual Meeting

KBC hosted our state affiliate on October 20 at the new Arcadia Commons Campus, the downtown extension of KVCC. The morning session was reserved for the annual board of directors meeting followed by an afternoon session focussed on building bicycle friendly communities. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting which was filmed by Cable Access. Attendees were a diverse group of cyclists, concerned pedestrians/citizens, people with environmental concerns, city planners and state and local officials.

Reauthorization of ISTEA appears to be a healthy proposal as far as our panel was concerned. They felt

Bike Route Planning Meeting

As you may know if you read Dave DeRight's newsletter articles, the City of Kalamazoo has received a grant of mostly federal money for the purpose of planning non-motorized routes in the City.

A meeting is being planned to get input from interested folks (LIKE US) concerning routes, destinations, and specific needs for given areas or interest groups.

As we go to press, the location has not been determined, but December 12, 1996 has been selected as the date, probably at 6:30 or 7:00 p.m. at one of the local schools.

Please watch the *Gazette*, for the meeting will be publicized in order to get enough people to get some good ideas.

Imagine, the City is actually soliciting our input for planning to develop non-motorized transportation routes (bike lanes, paths, etc.) Hard to believe, isn't it?

So please plan to attend. Call me at 388-5045 shortly before December 12 if you need directions. And think about what YOU would like to see to improve biking around the area.

-Doug Kirk



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