

KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB NEWLETTER JANUARY 1976

MEETING CHANGED: NOW THE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 16 DUES ARE DUE! May 14, 1975 meeting the Constitution was amended so dues run the calendar year January 1-December 31. NO DUES, NO NEWSLETTER!

MEETING SUMMARY: The Race Committee reported on its plans for a program with information and advertising which hopefully will cover the expenses of the races. Jeff Smith and Russ Schipper are in charge. Unanimous passage of a Constitutional amendment. Meetings are now the THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH. NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 16. The Secretary was instructed to write the malls and shopping centers commenting on the lack of bike racks, especially for 27" wheels, enclosing reviews of bike racks for their information and requesting they consider purchase of racks for bicyclist use.

RIDE SCHEDULE: Joel has wheels again and the Sunday rides are reinstated, weather permitting. Joel will leave from the Oshtemo Harding's parking lot at 3:30 p.m. weather permitting. Call 349-3094 for information.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY RIDE: Terry Florian will lead a ride of 15 miles maximum starting at 9:30 a.m. Saturday February 14 from Ramona Elementary School on Lover's Lane. Call 323-3320 for information. Ride is weather permitting.

REMEMBER: NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 7:00 p.m. Kalamazoo College Library. DUES, DUE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The spring Century, May 1, will be on the February agenda. We need to plan well as we have five busy weekends in a row with the races and the century.

ROLLER RACES: USCF sanctioned roller races are scheduled for the East Court of the Southland Mall, Taylor Michigan February 22, beginning at noon. A USCF Racing License is required. Jini Caruso (381-0135) has the blurb, call her for details. Russ and Joel hope to have a short program on bike politics for the February meeting.

KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership entitles person to newsletter, distinctive club patch, membership card, and reduced entry fees at specified club sponsored events. KBC meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Kalamazoo College Library, northwest corner of Academy and Thompson streets.

DUES: Check one: \_\_\_\_\_ Young adult (under 15) \$2.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Adult (15 and up) \$3.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Family (all members of household) \$5.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO KALAMAZOO BICYCLE CLUB

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES AND AGES OF FAMILY MEMBERS IF FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT \_\_\_\_\_  
(if under 18)

MAIL FORM TO KBC, P.O. BOX 527, KALAMAZOO, MICH. 49005

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the reasons bicycles get banished from public roads is that most bicyclists are obviously insane. The typical motorist, seeing a bicyclist ahead on the thoroughfare, tends to assume that said bicyclist will behave like the kid down the street. Little matter that I've demonstrated over the past few miles that I can ride within the boundaries of a four inch white line. Bicyclists, to the eye of most motorists, are potential suicides. They expect any bicyclist to dodge unannounced and unexpectedly into their driving lane, and die a bloody death under their wheels. Sadly, enough bicyclists ride that way to justify such expectations.

One of the things we might do, of course, is teach drivers to recognize capable bicyclists. A better solution would be to teach cyclists how to survive in traffic. Until most bicyclists ride predictably on the road, why should (non-bicyclist) legislators think of bicycles as anything but toys?

So what are we to do? Anyone with ideas, talk to me about it. Call me. Come on my Sunday rides. Come to the Club's meetings.

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Most of us, I suspect, have a rather small repertoire of routes we ride regularly. There aren't many reasonable alternatives for most cyclists, since we tend to begin always at the same place (home). Most of the apparent possibilities are for one reason or another unacceptable. So we filter the possible rides through our experiences, prejudices, habits, interests and needs. What remain are decent rides--some challenging, some quiet, some beautiful, some easy. Some few are simply splendid.

So let's pool all this experience, and share it. Let's publish a book. A book of maps; a book of good trips. A book you can recommend to that friend who wants to know where a person can peddle around here.

Joel Dinda

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JD:vac

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