



PEDAL PRESS

February, 1992

Kalamazoo Bicycle Club Has Big Plans for 1992:

January Meeting Minutes

The January KBC meeting was held on Monday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m. Club president Jeff Wetters presided. Topics included:

Al Sabo Maintenance Days:

Those willing to perform trail maintenance at the *Al Sabo* land preserve should call Paul at 349-5555 or the KBC ride line at 327-7767.

Kal-Haven Trail Blazer:

KBC recently received correspondence from the Kal-Haven Trail Blazer wanting to know how KBC spent the funds we earned from providing support to the '91 Trailblazer. KBC members will attend the next Trail Blazer organizational meeting to respond.

KBC Water Bottles:

KBC water bottles have arrived. The bottles were ordered to reward KBC riders who had ridden 500 or more Club miles in 1990 or 1991.

Bronson Health Fair:

Any members interested in manning the booth at the Spring Bronson Health Fair or riding rollers to attract attention to the booth should call the ride line.

Bike Club Jerseys:

Members interested in ordering a new KBC jersey should contact the ride line.

Bike Club Logo:

There was discussion about whether to

change the existing KBC logo. A vote was taken and the members in attendance decided to keep the current logo.

New Club Name?

It was proposed that the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club change its name. No decision was made during the meeting.

Race Team:

General discussion ensued on the KBC Race Team, who is on it, and how one may join. The discussion was tabled until the next Race Team meeting.

New Meeting Site:

Several members are researching alternate meeting sites closer to Kalamazoo.

Stage Race vs. Circuit Race Only:

A vote was taken and the membership decided to once again promote a four-stage Stage Race, rather than the one-day Spring Valley circuit race.

Newsletter Change:

Some members requested that the newsletter be made less expensive by removing all "unnecessary" information, resulting in a smaller newsletter or a one-page flyer. The matter is still under discussion and this *Pedal Press* reflects the downsizing.

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Classifieds

For Sale:

Schwinn Micro Speedworks Mag Trainer, used 1 winter; excellent condition \$130 new; first \$60 takes it. Call Tom at 323-3955.

Riding Companions Wanted:

Shirley Williams, tourist, Ride varied hours. 329-4003

Note from the President

Well, once again it's time to address the question of why can't the Bike Club tour with normal people? I have received several letters on this matter and taken a long hard look at the rides each week. We will begin leading some touring rides, and I mean *touring* rides. They will leave a half-hour or fifteen minutes before the "normal" training rides, be shorter distances and return back at the start at roughly the same time as the other ride. The mileage of the ride will be decided by those who are there. The Saturday tours will be leaving from KVCC and will be for families and other riders who are looking to tour. The speed and distance will be set by the riders before leaving. To ensure that I don't ride too fast, my soon-to-be wife will be riding the back of my tandem with me.

On the faster side of riding, I will also try and lead some tandem rides this year. The tandem rides will be either a tour or training. The tandem touring rides will leave at the same time as the normal ride, will ride the same roads, and they will be a flat route. The tandem training ride will be long, fast, and hilly. The tandem training rides will be more like the Wednesday night rides. (And all you single-bike riders remember that tandems don't climb

hills! oh yeah!)

Also this year I would like to see more people leading rides, and not just riding them. One of my favorite things to hear at a Bike Club ride is "Oh no, not the same old course again." I know from experience and can tell you that it's not very hard to have a map and make photocopies. But it's harder to set aside time to do so. As a normal thing to do last year, I would get in the car about sunset and drive from the starting point and back. When I returned, the map was done for the next day's ride.

Please if you have any suggestions or comments please come to the next Bike Club meeting. We can talk about it there. Or, mail me a letter, care of the Club P.O. box (Box 527, Kalamazoo, MI 49005).

Food for thought: If this Club is to succeed in any of its endeavors, you, as members, will have to make a choice as to whether you are *involved* or *committed* to KBC activities. The way to tell whether you are involved or committed is to think about ham and eggs. The chicken was involved, but the pig was committed. (Thanks Gary M.)

Note from the Vice-President

Hi, it's Shirley again. We are a diverse Club, each with our own reasons for biking. I like to ride my bike pleasantly down miles of country roads, my heart singing, filled with joy, like a wild mustang running free on the wide open plains. Can you relate? Fortunately, we've had lots of days this winter when we could ride, although I miss the Club rides and the time spent with enthusiastic fellow bikers. Don't you?

There are tons of cyclists in Kalamazoo who don't even know that KBC exists. We need to change that. We can accomplish this with things like an open house in the Spring, posters, flyers, etc. I need help to distribute these. Think of all the new friends you'll meet that share this interest. Spring will be here soon and we all want droves of friends that share our passion for cycling to join us in KBC. My goal for the Club is to increase the membership

to 900-2500 active and productive members. There are many other cities that have that number in their bike club. We need to increase our exposure, by advertising, marketing, and planning some social events and rides. Get involved, this is YOUR CLUB and we need your help to succeed.

As for the existing Club members, let's get to know each other at some regular social get-togethers. We need a place to meet, though. Any ideas? Bike tours and trips are good ideas for events. Please share any insights and ideas you might have.

One last thought: do we have any artists in the Club to help create some posters or flyers? Call me at work (382-5563, ext 236) or home (329-4003).

DALMAC—Michigan's Premier Camping Tour

What is DALMAC?

The Dick Allen Lansing to Mackinaw Bicycle Tour was originated in 1971 by former State Representative Dick Allen. DALMAC is sponsored by the Tri-County Bicycle Association of Lansing, Michigan. DALMAC is a nationally-known bicycle camping tour that allows 1400 riders. DALMAC is a recreational tour, and according to the brochure, NOT a contest, race, or test of stamina (tell that to the quad-century riders!). The tour begins on flat land around Lansing, and progresses to rolling hills with occasional steep grades. The brochure tells you to expect long climbs and possible headwinds.

Tour Descriptions:

There are three DALMAC tours to choose from: Four-Day, Five-day, and (Four-Day) Quad Century.

The Five-Day tour leaves Lansing on the Wednesday before Labor Day. It takes five days to reach St. Ignace, traveling between 60 and 78 miles per day (average 69 miles per day). It stops at Mt. Pleasant, McBain, Elk Rapids, Petosky, and St. Ignace. The five-day tour is a low-key family affair, with lots of time for swimming, sleeping (relatively) late, and riding at a leisurely pace.

The Four-Day tour leaves Lansing on the Thursday before Labor Day. It takes four days to reach St. Ignace, traveling between 78 and 96 miles per day (average 88 miles per day). It stops at Mt. Pleasant, Cadillac, Torch Lake or Central Lake, and St. Ignace. The Four-Day tour is a less leisurely tour, with longer distances each day leaving less time for non-biking pursuits.

The Quad-Century tour leaves Lansing on the Thursday before Labor Day. It takes four days to reach St. Ignace, traveling 100 miles each day. It makes the same stops as the Four-Day tour. Depending on who you

ride with, the Quad-Century can be a 100-mile-per-day hammerfest, made up of (honest, clock-to-clock) five-hour, once-off-the-bike centuries. In any case the Quad is definitely for those who have trained and appreciate that sort of thing.

Amenities:

DALMAC provides breakfast, dinner, camping, shower, repair, and sag services. DALMAC carries your baggage between overnight stops, so all you have to carry on your bike is what you'll need during the day. If you want, DALMAC provides a ride back from St. Ignace to Lansing on Monday, Labor Day.

Comments & Personal Impressions:

This writer has ridden DALMAC each year since 1981 (with a year off to attend a friend's wedding). I've ridden the Five-Day, Four-Day, and Quad-Century in about equal numbers. It's hard to believe that the Five-Day and Quad-Century are even part of the same tour, so different is the effort and the attitude. Because the mileage is high and the terrain sometimes intimidating, Quad-Century riders many times team up to cheat the wind: Riding for 50 miles at 28 mph in the middle of a 30-bike double paceline with five tandems at the front pulling was a singular experience. Another year, riding my own tandem into a stiff headwind and looking back to find 15 bikes strung out behind me was a different sort of fun. On the Five-Day tour, stopping to wade in torch lake and enjoy a cold beverage for an hour or so crystallized the "rolling party" aspect of that more leisurely tour.

Where to Get More Information:

DALMAC is limited to the numbers mentioned above and fills up very quickly. Applications come out in the early spring and are filled in about a month or so. For more information, write to DALMAC, P.O. Box 17088, Lansing, MI 48901.

New Members

Jack & Carol
Foster

Robert, Ian,
and Danielle
Humphries,
and Marie
Zerweck

John
Lewandowski

Norm Woodin

Chris Baldwin

Dennis, Kaye,
Craig, Karen,
and Carolyn
Jackson

J. Michael
Jacobs

Teri Simpson

Julie Timmons



Kalamazoo Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 527
Kalamazoo, MI 49005
Address Correction Requested

Roller Races in Kalamazoo

Question: What do bike racers do in the winter?

Answer: They go to the mall!

Come and watch or race at the Kalamazoo Rollers races!

When: February 16, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Maple Hill Mall

Classifications: All USCF and Citizen's.

Need more info? Call Mike Teel at 344-7354

February KBC Meeting

February KBC Meeting:

Monday, February 3, 7:00, at Scooter's Malt Shop in Scotts (the last one in Scotts).

Agenda:

- 1) Should we change the Pedal Press to a one-page flyer to reduce costs?
- 2) KBC Ride Lines for riding companions.
- 3) Spring open-house planning.

PLUS:

Roberta Hillman: Slides and commentary on 1991 Paris-Brest-Paris ride/race.

P-B-P is a 750-mile ride/race held once every four years in France. Roberta is an accomplished ultramarathon cyclist and completed the 1991 event in an astounding time. Hear about it at the Feb. Meeting!