

# PEDAL PRESS

The newsletter of the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

March, 1994

## New Kalamazoo-Area Biking Trail

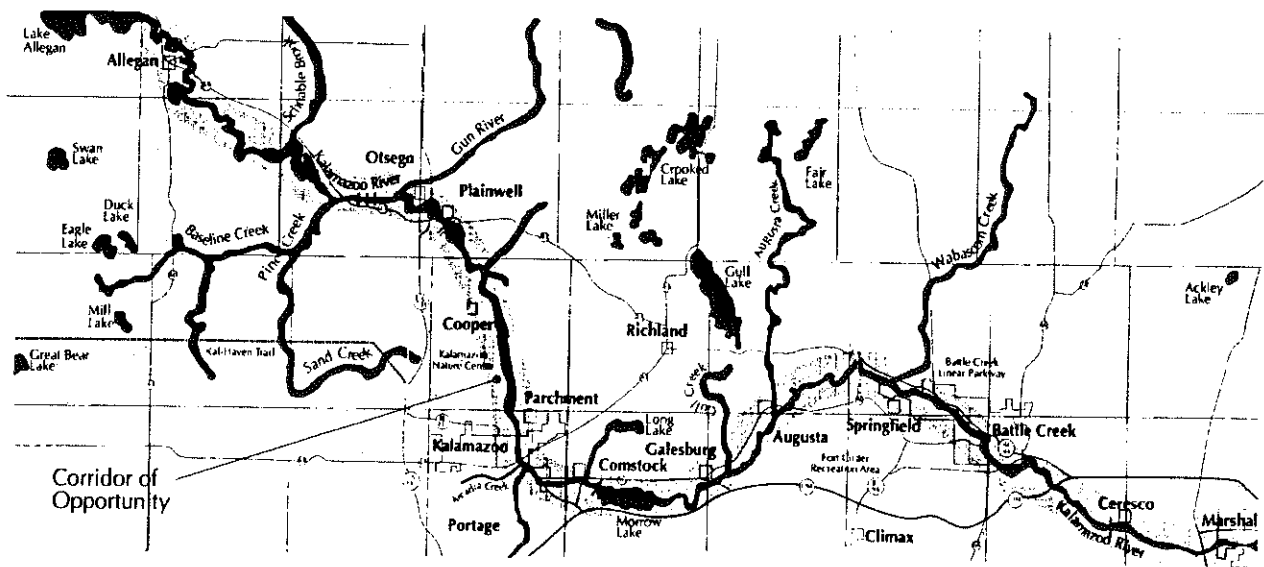
The Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway Partnership held their first meeting on January 31st at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds in an effort to gather public support and feedback on a proposed trailway between Allegan and Battle Creek. About 150 people attended the meeting and the Kalamazoo Bike Club was well represented by members Pat Hempel, Paul Wells, and Dave Patrick. The meeting started with speakers from the National Park Service, Department of Natural Resources, Battle Creek Parks and Recreation Department, and the Kalamazoo County Parks Department. After this the participants in the meeting were divided into small working groups of eight to ten people with the purpose of clarifying the hopes and concerns for the trailway.

Although support for the trailway was

clearly evident, there was still a small group of individuals opposed to any attempts to establish a trailway. This reinforced the amount of hard work ahead and that the trailway will surely be several years in the future. At this time a trailway route has not been selected. Utility corridors, inactive railroad right-of-ways, and existing recreational lands will most likely be utilized. This project holds an enormous amount of potential to add to the quality of life in the West Michigan area and a strong local commitment is necessary to make the trailway a reality. KBC will continue to lend support to this project in the future and if you have an interest in contributing, or if you have any questions or desire more information, please call Patricia Adams from the Trailways Partnership at 337-7348.

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# Dave's World

## 1994 DALMAC Applications available.

This year's DALMAC applications are now available to past DALMAC-ers and TCBA members. To get one, or to be part of the KBC rolling party for DALMAC '94, contact Marc at 731-2739.

## Sign up now to lead April rides.

The 1994 KBC ride season begins in April! To lead a ride, contact the ride line or a Club officer (see phone numbers on back page).

## April Newsletter Deadline

In order to get the April Ride Schedule in your hands by April 1, the deadline for the April newsletter is **March 15, 5:00 p.m.** Items received after that will appear in the *May Pedal Press*. We mean it this time. Really. (This means you, too, Mike.)

As spring approaches there is a lot of activity within KBC to report on. The Board of Directors has been hard at work taking care of the business end of the club and planning so everyone has a great year of cycling. The February membership meeting was very successful and a special thanks goes out to Al Colestock and Roberta Hillman, who each gave an outstanding presentation at the meeting. Another meeting is planned for March and we hope to see you there.

I'm pleased to announce that KBC club members Clayton Gallop and Pat Hempel have agreed to act as co-chairs of the Flowerfest Bike Tour, and that club member Erik Kayser is chairing the Spring Valley Circuit Race Committee. They are all hard at work and in the process of scheduling planning meetings with other volunteers. The Spring Valley Race will be held on Sunday, June 26th, and the Flowerfest Bike Tour will be on Sunday, July 24th. Please put these dates on your calendar and let's work to make these events the most successful ever.

## March General Membership Meeting

The March Membership Meeting will be held at Candlewyck Apartment Clubhouse on Sunday, March 20, 1994 at 3:00 p.m. Candlewyck Apartments are located on Kilgore Road approximately 1/4 mile west of Westnedge. This month's two featured speakers are: Richard Neumann of Alfred E. Bike will discuss how, when, and why one would tune up a bike. Paul Wells of Breakaway Bicycles will discuss how to buy a bicycle and the use of a "Fit Kit" in the selection process. Both of these speakers are among the most knowledgeable bicycle experts in West Michigan, so set aside this date for some valuable information. KBC will provide the refreshments.

Enclosed with your newsletter this month is the Bicycle Touring Michigan calendar for 1994. This is an item that KBC provides for its members each year, and the calendar represents the best listing of bike tours throughout Michigan. We hope you will put it to good use this year, and if you can't use it please pass it along to a bicyclist who can.

Last, but not least, after spending the last few months doing some serious carbo loading it's about time to get back on the bike. The club ride schedule will begin in April and we are looking for people to act as ride leaders. Regardless of your ability, we need your help. Since offering a consistent ride schedule is a major priority this year we need people to step forward. Hopefully a few members will volunteer to adopt a ride for the entire season, while others will act as a ride leader on a monthly basis. Please call Bill Watt or myself to help out and let's make the '94 ride season a success.

-Dave Patrick, KBC President

## March Board Meeting

The KBC Board of Directors will meet on Monday March 7 at 7:00 p.m. The location of the meeting will again be at the United Way on S. Westnedge (across from the old Central High School). All members are invited to attend.

## FFBT Meeting

The next organizational meeting for the Flowerfest Bicycle Tour Organization Committee will be held at Wayside Inn on Stadium Drive, in the upstairs meeting room, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 28. Please be there to support the Club's number-one fundraising effort.

# Membership Drive

## Volunteers Needed ASAP

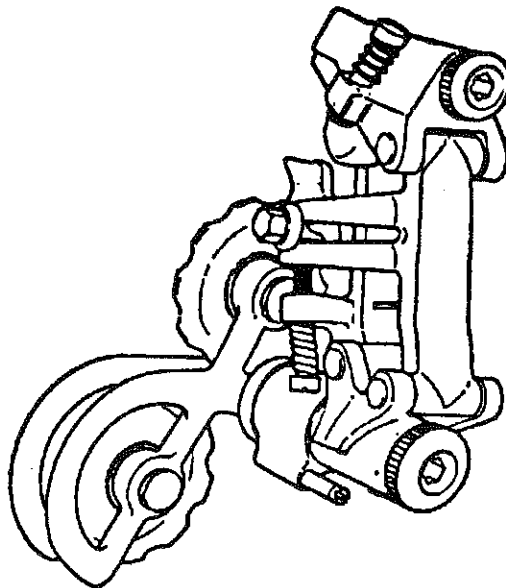
Alfred E. Bike has graciously invited the Kalamazoo Bike Club to participate in their Super Sale Weekend during late March in an effort to help the Club increase its membership. We will be setting up a table during the three-day sale and handing out membership forms and other club material to interested customers. We are in need of volunteers to help staff the table for the following dates and times:

Friday, March 25 —10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, March 26 —9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 27 —12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Ideally, we would like to have two members at the table to answer questions and help promote the club. We need your help even if only for a few hours. This is an extremely busy weekend at Alfred E. Bike and offers a great chance for us to attract new members. Please call Dave Patrick at 382-5818 or Bill Watt at 349-9562 to volunteer.

## KBC 1993 Treasury Report

Beginning Balance .....	3671.74	FFBT Registration .....	4081.50
Pedal Press Printing.....	1046.61	Dues .....	2483.00
Pedal Press Postage .....	536.53	Corp Olympics Fees .....	550.00
Club Insurance .....	288.00	Interest .....	48.75
Phone .....	257.89	<b>Total Credits.....</b>	<b>7163.25</b>
Club Postage .....	253.53	<b>Ending Balance .....</b>	<b>5089.59</b>
Christmas Party Expenses .....	161.74		
Office Supplies .....	91.28		
Bulk Mail Fee .....	75.00		
Membership Flyer Printing .....	64.04		
Member Packet Material .....	55.18		
Safety Brochure Printing .....	51.20		
PO Box Fee .....	49.00		
LAW Membership .....	45.00		
Bad Checks/Fees.....	32.00		
Advertisement .....	15.96		
Annual Report Filing .....	15.00		
Club Meeting Expense .....	10.00		
T-Shirts, FFBT .....	964.75		
Supplies, FFBT .....	311.90		
Portolet Rentals, FFBT .....	240.00		
Brochure Printing, FFBT .....	239.75		
Insurance, FFBT .....	211.00		
Brochure Postage, FFBT .....	202.80		
Meeting Expense, FFBT .....	188.65		
Water Coolers, FFBT .....	163.59		
Flowerfest of Kalamazoo .....	150.00		
KVCC Rental, FFBT .....	25.00		
<b>Total Debits .....</b>	<b>5745.40</b>		



## KBC Race Teams

KBC will have two affiliated race teams again this year:

- The KBC Racing Team
- The Breakaway Bike Race Team

**The KBC team** will represent a wide range of racing interests, including triathlons, mountain bike racing, ultra-marathon racing, and road racing. Several area shops, including Village Cyclery, Alfred E. Bike, and Team III Schwinn have in the past supported KBC Team racers, and will do so once again, by direct arrangement between the racer(s) and the shop owners or managers.

**The Breakaway Team** will represent Cat II and III (now *Sport* and *Expert*) road racers, by application (with resume) directly to Breakaway. Breakaway racers for this year will be Marty Minka, Bret Pittman, Brett Austin, Dan Ferrara, Andy Burns, Joe Torre, John Rubom, and Mike Teel.

Both teams will be managed by Andy Burns, who is also trying to start an AAU bike racing squad at WMU. Good luck Andy!

**For information on how to join** either squad, attend a race team meeting on March 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the WMU Student Recreation Center (Gary Center). Go to the front desk and ask for the room. For other racing info, call Mike Teel at 344-7354.

# Board Meeting Reports

## January

- The holiday party was a success. Thanks to Bill Watt who coordinated the event.
- Jim Wyrick presented the annual report for 1993. Jim combined an old account from Standard Federal with the KBC account at First of America. The members of the board signed the signature cards for all KBC accounts. The board accepted the report as presented. A motion to have one treasurer manage both the KBC and Race Team accounts carried.
- The Club received a payment of \$800.00 from Corporate Olympics. Dave Patrick explained the difficulties in getting the payment and the budget problems the corporate olympics experienced in 1993.
- The Spring Valley road race should happen during the first half of June.
- Flowerfest Tour donations will increase by 10 to 13% over 1993. Patrick Hempel volunteered to co-chair this year's event and to set up a meeting with last year's volunteers.
- KBC will renew membership in LAW for \$45.0, USCF for \$65.00, and NORBA for \$50.00, and will consider support for LMB in the future.
- Complimentary membership will go to Charlie Fuentes for all the work he put into Corporate Olympics.
- Alfred E. Bike will set up a membership table at Supersale Weekend held March 25-27. We need two members to volunteer.
- A plan to have speakers and refreshments for the February membership meeting was presented by Bill Watt.
- Dave and Bill will work on new membership applications.
- The constitution will be changed to state what is an official KBC ride. Dave will consult with an attorney concerning liability coverage for the Club.

--Harold Gleeves, Secretary

## February

- The Flowerfest Tour date is July 24, 1994.
- Spring Valley Race: Eric Kayser reported that the race date is June 26, 1994 and a sponsorship letter was sent to PHP. Eric is looking for volunteers to help and he will write a progress report in the next Pedal Press.
- KBC Treasuries: The race team treasury will be closed and the money will transfer to the treasurer. He will manage both the general account and the race team account.
- Affiliated Organizations: LMB membership was renewed for \$30.00 LAW needs to be renewed. KBC is a registered non-profit organization with the state and we are waited for paperwork to register with the federal office.
- February Membership Meeting: Plans for speakers and refreshments were reviewed. Mike Teel suggested that KBC membership applications be available at the roller races and people be invited to the membership meeting after the race.
- Insurance: Doug Kirk will review insurance need.
- Club Logo: Mike Teel showed two drawings that he put together. Dave will submit for proposals from Tom Kayser and Bill Fischer. Mike will contact WMU's Graphic Arts department.
- Membership: We have received 110 paid memberships for 1994. Postcards will go to unpaid members to encourage them to renew.
- New Business: Dave attended a meeting to discuss the proposed Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway that would run from Allegan to Marshall. Ride Chairperson is still needed. March membership meeting plans to have a bike shop owner speak on maintenance, tuneups, and bike fit. Two 30-minute presentations planned. The Race Team will call a meeting at the YMCA for February 21 or 28. Dave is planning a weekend ride in April. Ride policy statement to be written for the newsletter. LMB calendars are sent to all club members.
- Next meeting March 7, 1994.

--Harold Gleeves, Secretary

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# Tales From The Bike Shop

## Our Rides

by Maynard Hershon

From last month:

*THERE WAS a time when our club rides lost cohesion, when they routinely turned into ragged hammer-sessions... No one liked that kind of disorder or benefitted from it...*

*I caught Bob right after closing at his shop. He nodded his head as I told him about our problems, as if he'd heard stories like them before. He said he'd do what he could. Next morning Bob turned out in front of the shop for the ride. He counted the guys: only six.*

*"Six," Bob said. "We start with six; we finish with six."*

This month's continuation:

That ride was a dream. We rode in a double line mostly, at the most even pace you could imagine. Twice, a guy rolled off the back on long uphill grades. Each time, Bob dropped back and towed him up to the group. Clearly, Bob was stronger than anyone else on the ride, but he used his strength to hold the ride together, not tear it apart.

The following day was better yet. One man brought a friend who had decided to give our rides another chance. That made seven. Bob counted but said nothing. The seven of us finished together.

At one point, the friend got dropped badly on a climb. Bob rolled back to him, put a hand on the back of the man's saddle, and pushed him up to the pack. Nobody'd ever helped the guy before. He raved about Bob. He said it was the first time he'd ever finished a training ride with the bunch.

The guy's gratitude and amazement touched me. I thought about how, in team sports, the casual observer gets impressed by the solo "hero" effort. The true aficionado prizes the unselfish labor of the team player, the athlete whose good day brings everyone up.

Sure enough, word got around about our remodeled rides. Numbers rose rapidly as we regained dropouts and added first timers. Bob spent most of his time with the new riders, explaining about smooth lines in corners and warning them about overlapping wheels.

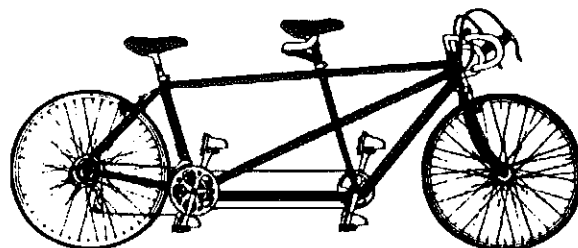
One day a week he led us in pack intervals. Another day we'd sprint for city limit signs, then immediately reform into our accustomed double paceline—elbow to elbow, six-inch gaps, friends.

Bob rode with us until he felt sure the discipline had taken. Normally he preferred to ride after he closed his store in the evening or very early in the morning.

When our racer returned from his campaign in the east, he happily dropped right into our training routine. He told us, his second day back, that some of the places where he'd stayed had crummy rides.

"It was every man for himself," he said, "nothing like this."

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### KBC Phone Numbers

**President**

Dave Patrick ..... 382-5818

**Vice President**

Bill Watt ..... 349-9562

**Secretary**

Harold Gleeves ..... 381-9753

**Treasurer**

Jim Wyrick ..... 349-1744

**Race Team**

Andus Barus ..... 964-4703

**Ride Comittee Chair**

open

**Database**

Phil Caruso ..... 381-0135

**Newsletter**

Marc Luoma ..... 731-2739

**Ride Line**

Ann Johnson ..... 327-7767

### Help Wanted

RIDE CAPTAIN wanted by Kalamazoo Bike Club. Qualifications: ability to use a telephone and fill out a monthly calendar. That's it! Wages: none. Benefits: a vital, growing, FUN bike Club with lots of rides each week, and the gratitude of your fellow Club members. To start, call one of the folks listed to the left and talk about it.

### Frequently-Called Numbers

Alfred E. Bike ..... 349-9423

Billy's Bike Shop ..... 665-5202

Breakaway Bicycles .... 349-5555

Millwood Schwinn ..... 349-6384

Parchment Bicycle ..... 343-8118

Portage Schwinn ..... 327-3393

Safety Cycle ..... 381-7233

Scooter's Malt Shop .... 626-8860

Team III Schwinn ..... 962-7688

Village Cyclery ..... 679-4242

Vorncamp Bike ..... 344-3599

Weather Line ... 382-8585 (3333)



**Kalamazoo Bicycle Club**  
 P.O. Box 50527  
 Kalamazoo, MI 49005

**Address Correction Required**

\*\*\*\*\*expires95/01  
 Phil & Jini Caruso  
 2301 Fairfield Ave.  
 Parchment MI 49004

