

WHEELPEOPLE

JULY 1978



The Official Monthly Publication Of

The Charles River Wheelmen

The Charles River Wheelmen
3 Bow Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

The Charles River Wheelmen is an affiliated club of the country's oldest bicycling organization, The League of American Wheelmen.



The Charles River Wheelmen is a group of active adult bicyclists ranging in age from 16 to over 70. Our abilities and interests include beginning rider, long-distance tourer, commuter, and racer. Regular rides are scheduled from spring to fall. These rides have a leader, a route marked with arrows (or a map is supplied), and planned stops to facilitate social fellowship. Efforts are made to encourage new riders in aspects of cycling proficiency, highway safety, and bike maintenance. Optional loops are planned for those who wish to ride longer or shorter distances than the main group. One proficient rider is assigned to the rear of each ride to help with repairs and to insure that nobody is left behind.

In the winter we have informal "Frostbite Rides" where riders meet at a designated point and mutually decide the pace and route of the ride.

Once a year we join with our parent organization, the League of American Wheelmen, and sponsor a 100-mile (Century) Ride. Riders travel at their own pace and try to complete 25, 50, or 100 miles. Refreshments are supplied at designated stops, and patches are award to the those who finish.

If you have any questions about the Charles River Wheelmen, please contact the appropriate officer or chairperson:

Earl Forman, President	894-2084
Ed Trumbull, Executive V.P.	332-8546
Debra Glassman, V.P. of Rides	489-3141
Don Blake, Treasurer	275-7878
Bill Piekos, Social Chairperson	661-2691
Al Basso, Membership Chairperson & Bulletin Distribution	666-8571
David Johanson, Publicity Chairperson	357-9300 (days)
Bill Roberts, Computer Processing	661-8698
John Springfield, Editor	566-1928

The Board of Directors is composed of the following members:

Earl Forman	894-2084
Al Basso	666-8571
Debra Glassman	489-3141
Ed Gross (New England L.A.W. V.P.)	969-0477
Eric Hall	965-4768
Harold Lewis	332-3649
Nancy Peacock	628-7566
John Springfield	566-1928
Joe Stanewick	323-8188
Dick Talbot	449-3792

Membership Application

Membership in the CRW also includes membership in the League of American Wheelmen. The L.A.W. publishes a monthly magazine, sponsors regional bike rallies, and helps in protecting your right to the road.

New? Renewal? If Renewal, include LAW member no. _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Single Membership: \$15 per year Household: \$19 per year

The CRW bylaws require that members be at least 16 years of age.

Make checks payable to: Charles River Wheelmen

Mail to: 3 Bow Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

Dues include L.A.W. dues. DO NOT MAIL L.A.W. DUES TO L.A.W. SEPARATELY.

schedule of rides and events

(all distances expressed in kilometers and miles)
(1 km. = .62 mi.)

JULY 2, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Celebrate Independence Week by bicycling the independently wealthy western suburbs. Pierre Bonin, 1-443-3774, will lead us on his 2nd annual Ride with the Rich. Assemble at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, off Route 20. Choose the 25-mile (40 km.) or 40-mile (65 km.) ride. The terrain is moderately hilly. The towns visited will be Sherborn, Dover, Wellesley, Weston, Wayland, and Sudbury. Bring your lunch. Please call Pierre if you are coming.

JULY 4, TUESDAY, 11:00 A.M. - Ride down to the Walpole Criterium bicycle races and see some of the country's top riders. This will be a show-and-go ride with no preplanned route or pace. Those that show up will determine the best way to Walpole. Meet at the Dedham Plaza, Route 1, opposite Lechmere Sales. Walpole is about 8 mi (13 km). The races begin at noon through 2 p.m. and should be finished by 4:30 p.m. A criterium differs from a road race in that it is held on city streets on a looping course. People line the streets and watch the racers scream around corners and pass within a few feet of them. The June issue of Bicycling lists the Walpole Criterium as one of the top in the United States. Nationally known racers make it part of their "circuit". Don't miss it. Make it part of your Independence Day festivities.

JULY 9, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - Meet at the Norwood Plaza on Route 1-A in Norwood for two gently rolling rides through Norwood, Sharon, Walpole, and Foxboro. Mike Brien, 222-8083, has mapped a 17-mile (27 km) and a 35-mile (56 km) loop that both meet for lunch in Sharon at the Bliss Dairy. And guess who's dropping by for lunch? The Narragansett Bay Wheelmen (Rhode Island), that's who! Heres's a chance to meet our neighbors to the south; make a friend, swap stories, or learn about a hidden back road. After a few rolling hills at the start, the ride levels off through Sharon and Foxboro. The frogs in Massapoag Pond will serenade us as we pass by. Don't croak; ride a bike.

JULY 16, SUNDAY, 10 & 11 A.M. - Join Mokdh Ali, 483-4244, for two energetic rides through Woburn, Wilmington, Tewksbury, Andover, and North Reading. The terrain is flat except for two long hills in Andover after lunch. Lunch will be at MacDonalds in Andover; you can buy your lunch or bring your own. The long loop of 45 miles (73 km.) starts at the Winchester High School on Route 38, just outside Winchester Center, at 10 a.m. We will meet the shorter ride of 27 miles (44 km.) at 11 a.m. at Wilmington Plaza on Route 38 across from Wilmington Ford.

JULY 22, SATURDAY, 10:00 A.M. - BIKE-ORIENTEERING! Try a different kind of cycling activity. This AYH sponsored event is a rally involving navigation against time. Each rider is given a detailed street map marked with 5 to 10 control points (usually street intersections) and must find his own route from point to point, finally returning to the start. Total cycling distance is usually about 15 miles (24 km.). Meet at the Duck Feeding Area on the Charles River at Routes 30 & 128. Bring a pencil and a map holder (two large safety pins). Maps and map cases provided. 50¢ non-AYH, 25¢ AYH members. Leader: Dick Buck, 923-8909.

JULY 23, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Loosestrife Ramble: The state flower of Massachusetts ought to be the red rockets that grow in huge masses in the marshlands in July. This ride concentrates on the Loosestrife flowers, but isn't necessarily a slow ride, as the flowers are gregarious. Rides of 20 miles (32 km.) and 45 miles (72 km.) begin in Waban Square (Newton) at the Waban MBTA station, west of Beacon and Chestnut Streets in Newton. Towns traversed include Wellesley, Needham, Dover, Natick, Weston, Lincoln, and Newton. Bring color film and lunch. Lunch stop at South Natick. Leaders: Ed Gross, 969-0477, and Madeline St. Denis, 527-6926. Gather afterwards at the home of Nadine Krasnow for food and fun. Thanks to Bill Piekos for the food.

JULY 30, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - Back by popular demand, this Lexington ride drew over 70 people in May. Meet at the Lexington Green in Lexington for a 20-mile (32 km.) ride and a 35-mile (56 km.) ride that loop through Lexington, Bedford, Carlisle, and Concord. Bring your lunch or buy it in Concord Center. The terrain is gently rolling. Leaders: Debra Glassman, 489-3141, and Mark Roseman, 723-5775.

AUGUST 6, SUNDAY, 10 A.M. & 12:15 P.M. - Celebrate with Champagne as Richard Mazeikus completes his goal of cycling in each of the 351 incorporated towns and cities in Massachusetts. We'll start the long 55-mile (89 km.) ride from Hopkinton Common at 10 a.m. The short ride will leave the same point at 12:15 p.m. Ride through Sutton, Douglas, Mendon, Northbridge, Uxbridge, and Upton. Richard must make it to Douglas and Sutton to finish his task. He has a special side trip to Lake (are you ready) Chargoggaggmanchaugaggchaubunagungamaug in Webster. Road conditions vary from smooth to a-bit-rough. He has eliminated 8 miles of dirt road that were originally planned, so your tubulars should be safe. Lunch stops are spotty, so bring your own lunch on both rides. Richard hopes to see some of the many friends he has made through cycling, and he hopes to meet new ones. He says, "Come along and help me celebrate!". Leaders: Richard Mazeikus, 396-2230, and Mary Maraggio, 282-9812. FREE CHAMPAGNE!

AUGUST 7, MONDAY, 7:30 P.M. - Board of Director at the Harvard Community Health Plan, 1611 Cambridge St., Cambridge, halfway between Harvard and Inman squares. Everyone is welcome. The main topics of discussion will center around procedures for the fall elections and the possibility of changing the name of the Charles River Wheelmen to the Charles River Wheelers or some other name that does not imply that only men are members. If you have any ideas, please attend or write a letter.

AUGUST 13, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Another ride and feast spectacular! If you were at the July 23 ride, you know what a great time can be had socializing and dining after working up your appetite. Quentin Klein, 527-1557, will lead us on a 30-mile (48 km.) and a 45-mile (73 km.) ride through Weston, Acton, Hudson, Marlboro, and Framingham. Meet at Weston Common and cycle the moderate terrain at your own pace. Both rides stop for lunch in Marlboro at the White Hen Pantry. After the ride we will satisfy our epicurean tastebuds at the home of Earl Forman. Thanks again to Bill Piekos for supplying the food.

AUGUST 20, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - The Tri-State Triumph. Ride a century that will extend from Ogunquit, Maine to Newburyport, Mass. or a fifty-miler that will go from Rye Beach Motel to Ogunquit and back, or ride a twenty-miler that will go from Rye Beach Motel to Salisbury and back. All of these rides are outstanding as far as scenery and pleasurable riding is concerned. Meet at the Rye Beach Motel where a motel room will be reserved as a CRW hospitality room. This ride is sponsored by the Tandem Section of the CRW. Come early and stay late so that we can all go out to supper at a local restaurant before returning home. The cost will be \$2.50 per person with all profits going to the CRW treasury after the motel room is paid for. For advanced reservations and cue sheet call Ralph Galen, 354-2495. The 100 and 50-mile loops will meet for lunch at Wells Beach; the 25-mile loop will meet at the Hungry Traveler Restaurant in Salisbury Beach.

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TANDEM TIDBITS

We want to welcome Paul Johnson as a new member of the Tandem Section. Paul lives at 20 Marlboro Street, #3, Belmont, MA 02178, and his home phone is 484-4931. A call from some or all of the members of the TS would be appreciated.

Have you heard about TANDEM '78? This is the annual meet of the Tandem Club of America, and according to the Waggs and the Gerdons it is a great event. Muriel Wagg feels that for tandem riders the annual tandem meet is better than the Great Eastern Rally. If interested, I have the details. Just to whet your appetite, it will be held in Hunt Valley near Baltimore, Maryland. The dates are Friday, August 25 through Sunday, August 27.

On Sunday, August 20, the CRW Tandem Section will sponsor a ride for the entire club. It will be at Rye Beach, NH, and it will be a repeat of a ride which was originated by the Granite State Wheelmen. Please look at the calendar for details and try to make this FUN(D) raising event. Perhaps the tandems can ride together.

Ralph W. Galen
876-8636

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NEWS FROM THE GRANITE STATE WHEELMEN

Well it seems that the Tilton, NH bike ban is taking longer than was thought to be repealed. Quoting from the June issue of Pedal Talk:

"The N.H. Department of Public Works and Highways has notified Tilton that their ban is in violation of the state law since the state controls that section of Route 3, but at last word there has been no response from Tilton. Phone calls from the D.P.W. & H. go unanswered, letters get no response, and in the meanwhile we are entering our prime cycling season with the ban still in effect." The GSW plans to schedule a ride to Tilton to show the GSW members what is happening and to confront town officials with letters from the state government explaining why Tilton cannot ban bikes.

FREEWHEELING THOUGHTS



By now I hope at least some of you have given your thoughts to Ed Gross about what you think the future direction of the LAW should be. As our Regional Vice President and a member of the LAW Board of Directors, Ed has the responsibility this June of helping make a key decision about the future direction of the LAW. I'd like to share some of my thoughts and concerns on the subject with you this month at a time that is too late to influence your inputs to Ed.

Like many of you, until a couple of years ago, I gave little serious thought to the LAW. For lack of time, and to a certain extent interest, I have never attended a League rally or convention. The Bulletin would come and I'd pursue it if I had a chance but aside from an occasional interesting article, there was little content that I related to. Then there was that strange but hush-hush hokey pokey with our former executive director and the next thing I knew there was talk of "debt" and "trouble". But it still didn't relate to me. All I knew was that my new friend Ralph Galen thought the League was important and later another cyclist I admired, Ed Gross, thought it was important and somehow most of those experienced cyclists that I had just met when I joined the CRW a few years ago thought it was important and that was good enough for me. In fact it wasn't until about a year ago that I realized that two-thirds of my annual dues went to the League and not to the CRW. What it comes down to is that a couple of years ago, if I had really known what was going on, I might have opted to leave the LAW.

My tune is different now and it's not because I have become part of the establishment. It is mainly because Jim Kehew is a fantastic guy who gave up his retirement to work tirelessly to rejuvenate the LAW and make it meaningful and important to me (and I hope you too). He brought it back to financial solvency. But more important than that, Jim Kehew, by personal example and by action reset the League back on the path of doing something important for all bicyclists; namely, formulating a rational policy and generating the beginnings of an effective lobbying effort to promote that policy. For my money the legislative program under Ralph Firsch is the most meaningful and important reason for being that the LAW has. And like it or not cyclists are an endangered species without an effective united program.

All of this rambling is preamble to my concerns about the future. I wholeheartedly support the aim of the League to continue and strengthen their efforts to promote and defend the rights of bicyclists through active legislative and educational efforts. It should be the League's primary activity for my money. And it needs talent and effort - probably professional talent to do the job right. But there's the rub. We need the right kind of pro - one who not only has his brains on the job but his heart as well. What we need is a pro with the heart of a volunteer. Bea and I have been involved with volunteer organizations for longer than we want to admit, and our experience is that the combination I described is difficult to find outside of the clergy. Too many professional administrators either have

grandious ideas and no feel for the source of the money. I guess what I'm saying and what I told Ed Gross was what we need is a bright good administrator who is also a passionate bikey to carry on the good fight for the sake of all of us. The social stuff can be a far distant second for my money.

By the time you read this some turning point decisions about the future of the League may already have been taken. Whether these decisions are in accord with my thinking or yours, the League is our best hope for our mutual cycling future. It is important that we let our League reps know what we want the League to be. Keep in touch and keep on cycling.

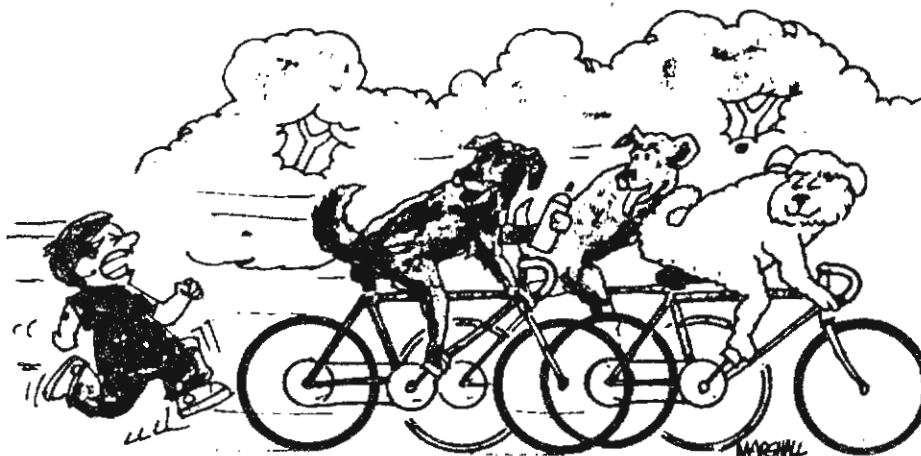


Earl Forman

Membership

Last month we had an increase in membership of 15 people. If you count a family membership as one man and one woman, we now have 152 men and 63 women in the CRW.

If there are any mistakes in your mailing label (name, address, expiration date) or if you do not receive your copy of Wheelpeople by the 1st of the month, call Al Basso at 666-8571.



"Now's my chance to try out this new people repellent!"

ANALYZING THE MASSACHUSETTS BICYCLE LAWS - Part II
by John Springfield

Last issue I asked for your reactions to my article on the state bicycle laws. Cutler West was the only one who reacted in writing or verbally. His comments were as follows:

- a) I did not mention anything about carrying more people on a bike than was intended. Dr. West says he sees people riding double every day he bikes in Cambridge. So here goes (quoting from Ch. 85):

"The operator shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle. The operator shall not carry another person on said bicycle, except on a baby seat attached to the bicycle, provided that such seat is equipped with a harness to hold the person securely in the seat and that protection is provided against the feet of said person hitting the spokes of the wheel of the bicycle."

- b) The bicycle laws seem to change faster than the normal person can keep up with them. In some states you must signal with the left hand only, you must ride adjacent bike paths, you are excluded from sidewalks or relegated to the sidewalk, and various towns and cities make up their own regulations. I must admit that Dr. West has a point. Since the bicycle has become popular again, more laws are being made concerning their use. Hopefully, someday the laws will "settle" and we will have learned from this period of flux. But I don't see that happening very soon; there are still many battles to be fought (especially in other states where bicycles are given second-rate status) before common sense laws come into being.

The second half of this article I would like to devote to describing common sense laws.

First, I feel that if bicyclists are to be taken seriously, we must act responsibly on the roads. If we violate laws that other vehicles are expected to obey, we can only draw the wrath of the motorist (who, by the way, is the majority and, if sufficiently incensed, can vote us off the road). I'm sure there are a few laws that both motorists and cyclists find petty, and that both violate if they feel they can get away with it (i.e. parking violations). But I'm not talking about the petty laws; I'm talking about the common sense laws. Here is what I mean:

- a) Ride WITH the traffic. All kinds of arguments have been concocted about it being easier to avoid accidents when you face on-coming traffic. This is simply not true. First, since you are both approaching head on, there is less chance to react to avoid an accident. Second, at intersection other vehicles look to their left first (don't you?) to check for cross traffic. If you approach from the right on the wrong side of the street you scare the hell out of the other driver. Third, you can't always see the signals on the wrong side of street. And fourth, you may hit another cyclists (law-abiding) head on.

THE HUB

The activities of a bicycling club such as the Charles River Wheelmen necessarily revolve around its Rides Program, a key avenue of involvement for its club members. In order to have the Rides Program fulfill these needs and expectations, some changes (which many of you may have noticed) have been made this season. In particular, on every ride there are two loops of different length, a lunch stop where often both loops can meet, someone at the rear to help out, and arrowing on most routes.

These changes have encouraged more people to attend the rides and have given people more opportunity to meet others in the club, a reason most join a club such as ours. We have encouraged the less experienced cyclists, both inside and outside the club, to participate more fully.

I want to give a special thanks to the ride leaders who have helped carry out this new approach to ride leading. Some of them are "old timers" who ~~were~~ not accustomed to this way of doing things, and their willingness to give it a try has been impressive. I also want to thank David Johanson for his weekly efforts in ensuring that our rides are publicized in the "Sports Plus" section of the Boston Globe. The visibility that the club rides have gained has been significant.

Because the Rides Program must be geared to the needs of the membership, continuous feedback from all of you is very important for its effectiveness and relevance. Therefore, I would appreciate it very much if any comments or criticisms be shared with me when possible. Even what may seem to be the smallest impression and/or suggestion could make a big difference in the functioning of the program. So please do not hesitate to call or speak with me at any time.

Finally, I am always looking for people to lead rides, especially those interested in co-leading. In addition, Bill Piekos will supply free food to anyone who wants to offer their house/backyard for a social gathering. This can be done conveniently at the end of a ride even if the host/hostess does not attend the ride. Some people have already taken Bill up on this offer. I would like to hear from anyone else who is interested.

Debra Glauerman

Vice President of Rides

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Mass Bicycle Laws - Continued from page 7

- b) Stop for stop signs and red lights. From a safety point of view, if you consistently run red lights you develop a sloppy attitude that one day might do you in. Also, you run the risk of hitting a law abiding cyclist that has the green light (those cyclists ARE hard to see; after all, you were only making sure there were no motor vehicles crossing in front of you). From a public relations outlook, motorists seethe when cyclists run lights that the motorist has to wait for. No wonder many motorists think of bikes as children's toys. Think about that the next time you run a light.



LETTERS FROM CRW AWARD WINNERS

Dear Fellow Cyclists,

Just a note of appreciation and a very sincere thank you for the recognition you gave me in awarding me the bicycle plaque at the Annual Club Banquet in Lexington last month.

It was such a nice surprise. Among my bicycle souvenirs, I shall value this plaque the most highly of all.

Sincerely yours,
Howard C. Moore

Dear CRW Members,

Yesterday I found a very nice award tucked into my door. I don't know what I've done to deserve this but it gives me a nice warm feeling to think you fellows see fit to do this.

Now and then I see some of the South Shore Road Club members scorching by my house. How I wish I could still go along.

When you are down this way stop in for a bit.

Howard (Moore) and I talk via phone now and again to communicate with each other over our limited abilities to ride. He's limited to 7 miles a day by Doc's orders, and I seem to be able to get through 15 or 20 if the hills or wind isn't too bad. After one cardiologist told me no more riding I visited another and he said to go as far as comfortable and no more. He also said no surgery so I choose to go along with him. In any event it's a hell of a come down.

Old Charlie Gleason, who some of you met a couple of years ago, met up with an accident riding. He has trouble with his balance now and in his biking. He was almost 97 when he had the accident. Quite an old fellow to ride.

Sincerely,
Dalton Harrow

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SHOULD THE CRW CHANGE ITS NAME?

At the June 19th meeting of the Board of Directors it was suggested that the Charles River Wheelmen change its name to something that does not imply that only men can be members. One suggestion was to change it to "Charles River Wheelers" so we could keep the initials CRW. Other possibilities are "The Boston Bicycle Club" named after the original bicycle club formed in the 1880's. In order to change the name, our constitution would have to be changed. This would require a majority of the members voting in a special vote. President Earl Forman is investigating our legal status with the state (are we legally incorporated as a non-profit organization?) to see what is required. Please express your opinions to the Board in writing or attend the August 7th meeting.

C L A S S I F I E D S

FOR SALE - Two children's bikes: an 18" Flandria with 24" wheels, 10 gears, dropped handle bars, good shape, extra-low gear, \$80; and a 15" Motobecane with 18" wheels, 6 gears, not made anymore, needs some work, \$50. Call Harold Lewis, 969-0879, anytime.

FOR SALE - Schwinn 5 speed tandem, baskets, light, \$165. Call 1-763-8623 (Rochester, Mass.).

FOR SALE - Fuji Finest 21" Navy Blue. Campy headset, Grande Compe side-pull brakes, handlebar end shifters, TTT stem, tubulars, extras. Recently aligned and overhauled. Better than new condition. \$325. Also, Fuji Finest 23" Navy Blue. \$250. Ed Lang, 646-5033, evenings.

FOR SALE - Parts from ~~Jaek Rudy~~ ~~Rudowski~~, 361-5273, evenings:
 Stronglight Double Crankset Spindles (Bottom Bracket Axles). \$5 ea.
 Stronglight French Thread Bottom Bracket Cups. \$3 set
 Stronglight 99 Chainrings, 52 tooth and 45 tooth. \$5 ea.
 Broken-in Brooks Professional Saddle. \$12.
 Campagnolo Lower Headset Race, Crown Race Bearings in retainer. \$4.

FOR SALE - 2 Fuji Finests, both 25", Double-butted Frames with many extras. These are responsive lightweight bikes that differ in minor components. Call Earl Forman, 894-2084, evenings.

FOR SALE - 1971 Jack Taylor competition tricycle frame, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", Reynolds Marathon butted tubing, bright red and generally mint with minor scuffs. Lugless. Workmanship of this class no longer available from any trike builder. With installed axles, Zeus pin, V4 headset, alloy bracket slug, centerpull and driver brake, \$300 firm. Bars, etc., available. This is no toy. 484-8413 till August 15th or write Kip Crosby, 4 Ripley Road, Belmont, MA 02179.

NOTE: Classifieds are free to members; 25¢ per word to non-members. All ads must be MAILED to the Editor before July 7 to make the August issue. Non-members make checks to Charles River Wheelmen.

D I S C O U N T S

Your CRW membership card entitles you to discounts in some of the area bike shops. Be prepared to produce a valid membership card (signed and unexpired) and some other form of identification. Contact the individual shops for the specifics on the discounts:

- The Bicycle Exchange, 3 Bow Street, Cambridge
- The Bicycle Workshop, 233 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
- Cycle Loft, 7 Muzzey Street, Lexington
- Family Bicycle Center, 149A Belgrade Ave., Roslindale
- Harris Cyclery, 1249 Washington, West Newton
- International Bicycle Center, 70 Brighton Ave., Allston
- Northeast Bicycles, 102 Broadway (Rte. 1), Saugus

What's Happening?

IMPORTANT NOTICE: THE EDITOR IS TAKING A VACATION IN JULY. Please mail all articles and classifieds by July 7 if you want them in the August issue. There is a very, very remote possibility that I may leave slightly later, but don't count on it. Play it safe. Send me off without feeling guilty that I missed your classified ad. Mail all copy to Wheelpeople Editor, John Springfield, 146 Beaconsfield, Apt. 4, Brookline, MA 02146.