

# WHEELPEOPLE

SEPT 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

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#### 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.)

AUGUST 27, SUNDAY, 10:30 & 11 A.M. - Cycling certainly has its ups and downs, and today is no exception. Bring your low gears and gracefully spin your way through the Blue Hills, or alternately, stay in your high gears and listen to your knees serenade the crickets. Whatever your style, you'll enjoy the 20-mile (32 km.) route through Milton, Quincy, Braintree, Randolph, and Canton. The roads will be arrowed, so travel at your own pace. A lunch/rest stop will be at Five Corners in Braintree where there is a donut shop. The ride itself will start at 11:00 a.m. at the Trailside Museum parking lot on Route 138 (just north of 128) on the Milton/Canton line. It will be preceded by a climb (on bicycles) of Great Blue Hill at 10:30 a.m. Our leader is Jacek "Rudy" Rudowski, 361-5273, evenings.

SEPTEMBER 3, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - NAMESAKE RIDE. Join us as we discover the Upper Charles River as it meanders through Dedham, Westwood, Dover, and South Natick. Assemble at the Dedham Plaza on the Washington St. side, south of Dedham Center and opposite Lechmere's on Route 1. Choose the 13-mile (21 km.) loop or the 35-mile (56 km.) ride. The terrain is moderate and beautifully arrowed. While others are fighting the crowds on the Cape, you can be enjoying the peaceful roads along the Upper Charles. The weather forecast calls for a 72 degree temperature with a 5 m.p.h. wind that will always be at your back. Leaders: Rod Huck, 769-0451, and Joe Stanewick, 323-8188. Lunch stop is at Dover Center where a drug store is open.

SEPTEMBER 10, SUNDAY, 8:00 A.M. - NATIONAL CENTURY. Here's your chance to join hundreds of L.A.W. members throughout the country as they ride 100 miles (161 km.) in 12 hours or 50 miles (81 km.) in 5 hours in this annual event. Sag Wagon Service will be provided by Mike Farney. Century coordinators are Ed Gross, 969-0477, and Eric Hall, 965-4768. Registration fee is \$2 (\$1 for refreshments and \$1 for a patch). Meet and register at the Duck Feeding Area at the junction of Route 128 and 30 on the Weston/Newton line. The mostly flat route (with some hills) meanders to the south through Wellesley, Westwood, Sharon, Canton, Stoughton, Taunton, and a lunch stop is planned at Dighton Rock State Park, site of the mysterious Dighton Rock. Stores are available right before the lunch stop. So here is your chance to get the lead out, stretch your legs, and see some great country. See you there.

SEPTEMBER 11, MONDAY, 7:30 P.M. - Board of Directors meeting at the Harvard Community Health Plan, 1611 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, halfway between Harvard and Inman Squares. Issues to be discussed are the upcoming elections, club T-shirts/jerseys, bike flea market, and any other topics you wish to bring up. All are welcome.

CENTURY

SEPTEMBER 17, SUNDAY, 6:00 A.M. - ANNUAL SUNRISE RIDE. This sunrise tour of the south shore is one of the club's favorite. Sponsored by Ed and Marie Corea, 749-4741, this tour offers a choice of 15-mile (24 km.) and 30-mile (48 km.) rides through Hingham, Hull, Cohasset, and Scituate. At the end of the tour the Corea's will greet you with a sunrise breakfast. Norm Satterthwaite, 773-3068, will co-lead the ride and show us the famous Bicyclist Rock where the high-wheelers of 1879 used to stop to view the ocean. Start at the Corea's home, 14 Mann Street, Hingham. The directions are: southeast on Route 3-A over the Fore River Bridge for 5 miles, cross the Hingham Bridge, turn left at the Exxon station (Downer Ave.) opposite Brooks. Go up Downer for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. Arrows will show you the way from the junction of Route 3-A and Downer. Please call 749-4741 if you are coming. If you can shake the cobwebs out of your ears, you'll love this ride.

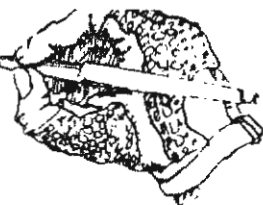
SEPTEMBER 24, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - Join Jim Emerson, 344-7364, for a 20-mile (32 km.) or a 30-mile (48 km.) loop through Stoughton, Canton, Norwood, Sharon, and Easton. Both rides meet at the BPM parking lot, Route 138 and Central Street, 5 miles south of Route 128. These well-marked loops are mostly rolling with a few long hills. A mutual lunch stop is planned at a deli in Sharon. This ride is noted for its smooth surfaces and excellent cycling weather.

OCTOBER 1, SUNDAY, 8:30 & 11 A.M. - If you like apples, your mouth will water at this one. Mike Gengler, 484-5088, will lead us on a 65-mile (105 km.) ride through Concord, Littleton, and the apple country of Harvard and Bolton. A 20-mile (32 km.) ride is also planned for those of us more interested in the apples. The long ride starts at 8:30 a.m. at Belmont Town Hall in Belmont Center. The short ride starts in Littleton at the Boston & Maine Railroad Station parking lot at 11:00 a.m. Directions to the RR station: take Route 2 west to Taylor Street exit (1st exit past Route 495), go north on Taylor for  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to Littleton Center and the RR station. Both rides will have the same lunch stop, but no stores are available, so bring your own lunch. Munch, munch!

OCTOBER 8, SUNDAY, 11:00 A.M. - Stewball may be a race horse, but Stewride is for cyclists. Join Larry Williams, 1-966-0451, and John Springfield, 566-1928, for their third CRW Stewride known as the Mendon Marathon. Meet where the Boston Marathon starts at Hopkinton Common and cycle for 26 miles (42 km.) or 38 miles (61 km.) through Hopkinton, Upton, and Mendon. A mutual stew feast is planned at Larry's lake-side house in Mendon. The stew is made from an old recipe that only master-chef Williams knows. Besides that, it won't cost you a dime. Last year it rained on this ride and John and Larry had a bucket of stew left over. This year the farmer's toe says it will be absolutely exquisite weather. For those of you who wish to work up an appetite, there will be a fast-paced show-and-go ride leaving from the Duck Feeding Area at 10 a.m.

**..GET THAT BIKE OUT & RIDE..**

from the  
presidents  
pen ....



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FREEWHEELING THOUGHTS

By the time you read this, our membership will have climbed past the 200 mark. To be accurate, there are considerably more than 200 individuals since the number represents the number of line entries on our computer list (courtesy of Bill Roberts) and many of these are families. The 200 compares with 145 at the beginning of the year so we appear to be doing something right. However, we can't take as much pride as we would like to in this growth because we have more than 60 new members in the period. This means that we have also had some dropouts and, with the exception of those who have moved away, this means we are doing something wrong.

Part of the problem is that the Board and I really don't know what it is that is either right or wrong. Well that's not wholly true because attendance at events is in some way a measure of what you like. Even then it is not really clear cut. For example, on July 23rd at the height of a weeklong heat wave over 50 of our members gathered in 99°F weather to ride the first annual Loosestrife Ramble. Those of us concerned with such matters are not sure whether this delightful (but somewhat dotty) crowd (a) were all nuts about Purple Loosestrife (b) were each concerned that no one else would show up and came to keep the ride leader lonely company (c) figured that the only way to catch a breeze was to make your own by riding or (d) would attend any event that promised free refreshments regardless of the obstacles or weather. Take your choice in figuring it out. As an aside, however, it was a great ride; the loosestrife along the Sudbury River was magnificent, the refreshments supplied by Bill Piekos plentiful and delicious (and did that cold beer ever taste good) the hospitality and refreshing breezes at Nadine Krasnow's house delightful and above all the fellowship of our riding companions a pleasure.

But back to the point. The Board and I may be blinded by our own enjoyment of the CRW to be able to see it in balance. We need feedback from you, the members - particularly those who are not finding what they hoped to find when they first joined. Most of you leave us without our ever getting a chance to improve our programming because you never tell us what it is we lack. This is a plea for feedback. We think we have made some improvements in attracting new members. We definitely want to make improvements in satisfying old members. But we are really not sure what directions we need to take. So please help us, and yourselves by sharing your ideas, your hopes, your criticisms (and we wouldn't mind hearing your praises either). Write me or any of our Board members, or call us on the phone, or best of all come to a Board meeting where we can all listen and discuss together. We'd like to turn the CRW into the best cycling club ever. The easiest way to do that is to turn all of our members into such enthusiasts that they will all be recruiters. Let us know what that will take.

Earl Forman

TANDEM TIDBITS  
by Dick and Muriel Wagg

We rode the Skyline Drive in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Have you ever coasted downhill for runs of up to seven miles? Fantastic!

This is a annual tandem ride sponsored by the Baltimore Bicycling Club. Al and Ruthie Schaffer did a great job of coordinating details of lodging and eating. We were accompanied by the B.B.C. Sag Wagon driven by Patty Hudson. She was great, not only as a dispenser of snacks and drink, but peerless as a morale booster.

The first day nine tandem teams left Front Royal to ride the valley route in the Shenandoah National Park. The valley route parallels the Skyline Drive and varies from scenic state forests to rolling country farm roads. It was a very hot day and the farm roads were very rolling. Due to a blowout on a high-speed descent (rim overheating), one tandem team dropped out of the ride; no serious injuries. One hundred and four miles later, Saturday evening, we checked in at the General Wayne Motor Inn, Waynesboro, VA. We all enjoyed a super feast at the inn's Saturday night smorgasbord.

Sunday morning we awakened to rain. After "Saturday the Scorcher" the cool rain was welcome. The morning started with a five-mile climb to breakfast (we never got out of a 27-inch gear). The Skyline Drive is a paved, two lane, excellently surfaced road and offers some of the most spectacular scenery in the eastern U.S. We climbed about two vertical miles over the entire length of the drive. Some of the grades are very long (5-10 miles) though none are terribly steep (mostly 7½ percent). After approximately 55 miles of mostly ups we checked in at the Big Meadows Lodge. A delightful dinner was enjoyed by all at the lodge dining room.

Monday morning some early-risers were treated to a visit by friendly deer at their cabin doors. This day made up for yesterday's climbs; we had fantastic downhill rides. One 5-mile run includes a 600-foot long unlighted tunnel. Scary! Spectacular views of the Shenandoah Valley were visible from the overlooks throughout the day. The grand finish is a 7-mile downhill. This was another 55-mile day. It was great fun. If you like a challenging ride and sociable weekend, think about it.

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WINTER PROGRAM COORDINATOR WANTED!

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The club urgently needs someone to set up speakers, films, or other informative programs for our regular winter meetings from October to March. Earl Forman, President, previously held this position. No previous experience is necessary. Contact Earl for more details, or write us at 3 Bow Street. This is a great way to meet new people and learn more about the cycling community!

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# ELECTION

## FALL ELECTION PROCEDURE TO ELECT BOARD

Normally, three Board members are elected every year for terms of three years. Since elections were not held last year, the Board filled the vacancies earlier this year until the fall elections. Three Board members' terms will not expire until 1979 (Debra Glassman, John Springfield, Dick Talbot). The other six Board positions will be filled at the fall election.

### A. Positions to filled

- 3 three-year terms (3 highest vote-getters)
- 3 two-year terms (next 3 highest vote-getters)

### B. Nominating Committee

Composed of Debra Glassman, Mark Roseman, John Springfield. Will solicit nominations from the members, supervise election, count ballots, notify winners.

### C. Schedule

- Aug. 20 - Nominations solicited from membership.
- Sept. 20 - Candidates announced in WHEELPEOPLE. Each candidate is allowed 100 words to explain position.
- Oct. 20 - Ballots are mailed as part of WHEELPEOPLE. Ballots must be returned in three weeks.
- Nov. 15 - New terms of the Board begin. President selected.
- Dec. 1 - New term of President begins.

### D. Nominating Procedure

Club members may nominate themselves or other club members by filling out the following form or calling one of the Nominating Committee. Please make sure that the person you nominate is interested in serving. The Board meets once a month throughout the year, and it is important that the candidate have the time and interest to attend. Please mail your nomination as soon as possible. To save time, ask the candidate to mail his position to the Editor.

\* \* \* \* \*

CRW BOARD NOMINATION - 1978

\* Candidate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*

\* Candidate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*

\* Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_ \*

\* Please mail this to CRW Nomination Committee \*

\* c/o John Springfield \*

\* 146 Beaconsfield, #4 \*

\* Brookline, MA 02146 \*



### AMENDMENT PROPOSED TO CHANGE CLUB NAME

The August 7th meeting of the Board of Directors generated much discussion about the pros and cons of changing the club's name. (For more views, see Letters to the Editor.) The Board voted to present to the membership a proposed amendment to the club Constitution that would effectively change our name. The Constitution stipulates that it can be amended "only by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership ballots returned within ten days after mailing, abstentions not being counted."

The proposed amendment will be presented to the membership in this issue of WHEELPEOPLE, and the ballots will be placed in the next issue of WHEELPEOPLE. The Board encourages any member with an opinion on the amendment to write a letter to the editor. Please make the letter to the point and without excess verbage. The Board has agreed to allow the Editor to "edit" letters if space does not allow the printing of all letters received.

It should be noted that the Bylaws state that an individual membership has one vote, and a family membership has two votes.

HERE IS THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT. Change the first sentence of Section I of the Constitution from:

"The name of this corporation shall be The Charles River Wheelmen, Incorporated."

to read:

"The name of this corporation shall be The Charles River Wheelers, Incorporated."

You should have received a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws with your membership card. If you need another one, contact Al Basso or John Springfield (see inside front cover).

### BICYCLE FLEA MARKET

Vic Oliver has a great idea. Set up a hall or outside area with tables where members could trade or sell bicycle parts that they do not need. They idea seems to work well with ski clubs. Probably the event would be limited to CRW members at first. But if it is successful, it could be opened up to non-members for a fee. If you have ideas (where to get a place to hold the event, prior experience in other clubs), give Vic Oliver a call at 272-4915.

### BOSTON - CAPE COD BIKE ROUTE

The next two pages contain a map of the first two sections of the Boston-Cape Cod Bike Route proposed by the Central Transportation Planning Staff. The route is based on the AYH route. The last two sections of the map will be in the next issue of WHEELPEOPLE.

For more information, contact Cathy Buckley, CTPS, 27 School St., Boston 02108 or phone 523-3410.

Sorry for the poor reproduction of the maps, but they may be some help in planning your own escape route from Boston.






Bos to Ccod  
#174

CTPS



Bos to CC  
#2 of 4

CTPS	
	

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(All letters concern the topic of changing the club's name.)

\* \* \* \* \*

I cannot let Ralph's remarks about "superficial forces of the feminist movement" pass! Language changes to reflect the needs of the people who speak it... "flight attendants" has replaced "stewardesses"; "fire fighters" has replaced "firemen"; and so on. Similarly "wheelmen" had a meaning in the all-male bike clubs of the 1890's, but is a meaningless term to the general public today... designating, one might guess, men who have some interest in wheels.

So I don't think the forces suggesting a change in the club's name are necessarily feminist at all... but just people who are genuinely puzzled about the term "wheelmen". John's suggestion of "wheelers" is certainly non-sexist, but also meaningless to the general public. How about "Charles River Bicycle Club"... so the initials are different. Big Deal.

John Likins

\* \* \* \* \*

The Boston Public Library has dusty, bound volumes of League of American Wheelmen magazines of the 1890s, as well as bound volumes of other bicycling magazines of that era. After 1900, the sport of bicycling declined, and a smaller publication, known as Bassett's Magazine became the official organ of the League of American Wheelmen. The B.P.L. has Bassett's Magazine also.

In the 1940s the Amateur Bicycle League of America, the L.A.W., and the American Youth Hostels Association combined to publish a magazine.

Times change, names change, different ideas come along. The Boston Wheelmen of forty years ago had several girl members and not one of them ever objected to the club name. One of its successor clubs, the Cambridge Cycle and Sports Club (which lasted for a dozen years) had many girl members, but I have no reason to believe that that was because the syllable "men" did not occur in the club title.

The League of American Wheelmen is nearly 100 years old. Recent agitation to change its name has, I believe, been defeated. The Charles River Wheelmen is an "old" name as club names go in the revival of the L.A.W. Of course the syllable "men" does not downgrade women or imply their membership in the L.A.W. or in the C.R.W. should be viewed with a jaundiced eye.

When Rod Huck was President, a history of the Charles River Wheelmen was printed in WHEELPEOPLE. The club name has meaning. Do not change it.

Yours in cycling,  
Howard C. Moore

## C L A S S I F I E D S

### FOR SALE - Various parts:

Stronglight Double Crankset Spindles (Bottom Bracket Axles) \$5 ea.  
Stronglight French Thread Bottom Bracket Cups \$3 set  
Stronglight 99 Chainrings, 45 and 52 Tooth \$5 ea.  
Campagnolo Lower Headset Race, Crown Race & Bearings in Rtnr \$4 set  
Call Jacek "Rudy" Rudowski at 361-5273, evenings only.

WANTED - More Want Ads. As a CRW member you can use these ads to buy, sell, trade, seek companions, etc. This is one of the privileges of your membership. Help fill this space and help yourself.

NOTE: Classifieds are free to members; 25¢ per word to non-members. All ads must be MAILED to the Editor before the 15th of the month. Non-members make checks to Charles River Wheelmen.

## Membership

Surprisingly, our membership continues to grow. We have well over 200 members.

If there are any mistakes in your mailing label or if you do not receive your copy of WHEELPEOPLE by the 1st of the month, contact the Membership Chairperson, Al Basso, 666-8571.

## Treasurer's Report

As of August 7, 1978 the club balance is: \$750.89

## 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 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?

NEWS, LETTERS, ARTICLES, CLASSIFIEDS, OPINIONS - Please mail by September 15 to WHEELPEOPLE Editor, John Springfield, 146 Beaconsfield, #4, Brookline, MA 02146.