

Coming Events

Jan 79
Page 1

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FROSTBITE RIDES

* This winter is supposed to be milder than usual. So don't *
* let brisk air keep you from cycling. Every Sunday we meet *
* at a designated place and mutually decide the pace and des- *
* tination of the ride. There are no leaders and no arrows. *
* Instead, we offer you the chance to explore new places and *
* share in the camaraderie of winter cycling. Please bring *
* adequate clothing, tools, and a good set of maps. Remember, *
* all Frostbite Rides are "show-and-go". So please be on time, *
* or you may not find the main group. Have fun!

* * * * *

DECEMBER 24, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Show-and-Go ride beginning at
Waltham Common, Route 20 (Main St.) and Moody Street, Waltham.

DECEMBER 31, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Show-and-Go New Year's Eve ride
starting at the parking lot in Newton Centre, Beacon Street and
Centre Street. Loosen up with a ride before you loosen up tonight.

JANUARY 1, 1979, MONDAY, 11:00 A.M. - Back by popular demand, the
New Year's Day Ride will be a test of your ability to crank out the
old and ride in the new. This Show-and-Go ride starts at the
State House across from the Boston Common.

JANUARY 7, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Show-and-Go ride starting from the
Boston Public Gardens, Arlington and Boylston Streets, Boston.

JANUARY 9, TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M. - Board of Directors meeting at the
Harvard Community Health Plan, 1611 Cambridge St., Cambridge. The
upcoming Awards Dinner, club jerseys, bike clinics, first-aid course,
and speaker series will be discussed. All members are welcome; if
you have anything you would like discussed, please come. NOTE THE
NEW DAY OF THE WEEK FOR THE BOARD MEETING.

JANUARY 14, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Show-and-Go ride starting at the
Cambridge Common, just north of Harvard Square.

JANUARY 21, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Show-and-Go ride starting at the
Chestnut Hill Mall, Route 9, west of Hammond Park Parkway. Meet in
front of Filene's facing Route 9.

JANUARY 23, TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M. - Club meeting at the Harvard Com-
munity Health Plan, 1611 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, between Inman
and Harvard Squares. Debra Glassman and Mark Roseman will show
slides of their Ireland bicycle trip taken this last summer. The
area traveled is different than the usual bicycle routes taken
through Ireland. Also, Debra will talk a little about her Bike-
Centennial ride taken a few years ago. Don't miss this one!

* IF YOU WERE IN THE CLUB PHOTO, PLEASE
SEND NAME, CLUB MEMBERS, & PHOTO POSITION
TO
DR. CUTLER WEST
1611 CAMBRIDGE STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

JANUARY 28, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Commemorate the first big snow storm of last year by taking a spin on the old bike. This show-and-go ride begins at the Ed Trumbull Snowbank, Newton Corner, Washington Street and the Mass Pike. Meet in front of the Howard Johnsons and listen to Ed chip ice off his old bicycle-snowstorm stories.

FEBRUARY 4, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - You say February depresses you? You have that longing look for warmer weather? Your legs have that twitching feeling that says "get me on my bike"? Well, lift your head up high, face your bike squarely, and say "Enough!" This show-and-go ride is designed especially to shake your cobwebs and absolve your guilt. Ride! Ride! It's the only way out! Join the other winter cyclists who know there are fewer chasing dogs, fewer kids darting out, and more respect from passing motorists during the winter months. By the way, the ride starts at Cleveland Circle, Beacon Street and Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brookline.



President Earl Forman reappointed all officers and chairpersons to serve for the coming year.

The policy of CRW membership dues for LAW life members or previously joined LAW members was cleared up. Basically, if you had already been an LAW member when joining the CRW for the first time, your CRW dues will be \$5. We will pro-rate the \$5 to bring it in line with your LAW renewal month. Life LAW members will pay \$5 CRW dues.

The membership will be solicited for ideas on club speakers, rides, bike clinics, and first-aid courses.

Announcements

We would like to thank Debra Glassman and Bill Piekos for the Annual December Social. \$60 was collected that will go into the CRW treasury. Thanks for the chow, Bill!

Any CRW member who would be interested in taking a first-aid course from the Red Cross, please contact Al Basso, 666-8571. This training could come in handy if you or your friends are ever involved in an accident, or are caught in extremely hot or cold weather.

We need your ideas (or maybe you) for topics and speakers for our monthly club meetings. Call Earl Forman, 894-2084.

Last January the Rides Committee held a telethon to solicit ride leaders from the membership. The telethon was successful in filling 80% of the rides schedule. This year we will do the same thing, but this time we will ask you in advance if you have a special ride you would like to lead. PLEASE FILL OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON PAGES 5 & 6 AND RETURN IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

Freewheeling Thoughts

Jan 79
Page 3

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is the time of year not only for Season's Greetings but for reflection on the year past and an accounting of accomplishments and failures. Before I get into our balance sheet I want to say thank you to our Board of Directors for their show of faith and support in asking me to continue as President. I especially want to thank those who have agreed to sign up for another term in chairing our committees and carrying out our vital functions. I am delighted, and all of us are fortunate, that the same talented group that did the great jobs that really strengthened and improved our club have all agreed to come back for a second term with me. So we can all look forward to more of the same good programming from them - a delightful prospect.

Back to our year end assessment. It is really difficult to measure success (or failure) in an organization like ours. All the measuring sticks are flawed to some extent. But one way of getting some idea of how attractive we are is to look at our growth. On this basis we are looking good. One year ago our membership (counting families as 1 membership) numbered 145 while today, the number is 226, an increase of 81. Actually the number of new members is even greater than that because on the negative side, there were 33 names on our rolls last December, that are not there now. My arithmetic says then that 114 new members joined us during the past 12 months, a very healthy sign.

But those 33 losses are also very disturbing. While I suspect some of them moved from the area, it also means we have failed to meet the expectations of many of them.

If we can interpret the statistics correctly, 114 new faces joining us and 33 old faces leaving us, we can use them as a guide for the future. Let's take our failures first. We don't yet know how we have failed them but we intend to find out. The Board has decided to try and contact them to see if there is a pattern to their disaffections. If there is a pattern then at least we have a chance to make some meaningful improvements in accomodation. It is my feeling that it is more important that our programs meet our current member's needs than be aimed at attracting new members.

On the positive side we apparently have hit upon programming that looks (and I hope is) attractive to prospective members. Its elements are clear. It starts with the publicity we are getting in the local papers thanks to the diligence of Dave Johanson. It is complemented by the good will and PR that occurred to us from our high profile participation in Bike Week which was mostly the work of Mark Roseman aided by Debra Glassman. The most effective pro-

gram of all in my opinion has been our two level rides program. The attractiveness of short rides for new members and for many of our old members is clearly reflected in the increased attendance at rides we have had all season long. All who have been on them will attest that well attended rides are more fun. It is a great sight to see that long string of riders. It attracts good public attention ("Hey mister is it a race or something?") and the fellowship at the rest stops and the finish is great. We definitely must continue that program. Debra Glassman and the Rides Committee also did a great job of instructing rides leaders in their responsibilities so that most rides were better organized than in the past. The Tandem group organized by Ralph Galen has assumed a vitality of its own and its presence adds new style to our rides.

The social events also helped promote pleasure and fellowship among us. Bill Piekos has just done a super job for us all. I just hope we can find the means to keep up the high standard he has set in the coming year. One of the areas we want to explore is the possibility of combining informal socials with the rides by having refreshments together afterwards. Those that we did this season were each unqualified successes.

And last but not least, we all must acknowledge that one of the major elements in keeping us a lively and coherent club is the quality of this Bulletin. "Wheelpople" is the glue that binds us together, scattered geographically as we are. The lively writing and attractive format makes it one of the few pieces of mail I look forward to getting and reading each month. We are indeed fortunate in having John Springfield back as editor so we can anticipate more of the same.

There are many others that contribute to whatever smoothness there is to our organization. Al Basso is unfailingly helpful in answering membership questions and in getting membership information flowing smoothly. Don Blake is the good steward of our monies and has straightened out most of our snafued membership problems. He and Bill Roberts (who contributes computer printouts of our membership monthly as well as the mailing labels on your bulletins) together with Al Basso manage the bureaucratic needs smoothly.

There are many more.. Each of you that leads or attends any of our events adds to our strength and wellbeing. It's a good report card I think. Our goal is to maintain what good things we have and to try to improve them. We take it as a fitting New Years Resolution.

Seasons Greetings and safe cycling to you all



CRW RIDES QUESTIONNAIRE

Please fill out any or all of the questions and return no later than January 15, 1979. If you are not signing up for a ride, you can omit your name if you wish. We want your honest evaluation of this past year's rides program. Praise us or criticize us, but tell us what you think!

Your 15¢ postage will be refunded if you attend the January 9th Board meeting.

- 1) What did you like about the club rides this past year? (Routes, 2-loops, leadership, lunch stop, number of people, starting time, day of the week, etc.)

- 2) What did you not like about the club rides. If possible, specify which ride. (Routes, loops, stops, people, times, etc.) How would you improve it or change it?

- 3) Would you like to lead a ride? _____ When? _____

- 4) Would you like to be a "sweep" and come up the rear to assist new riders and to make sure nobody feels dropped? _____ When? _____

- 5) Do you think we need to have bike repair clinics before rides? Would you make use of it? What months would be the best time to have such clinics? Should they be geared at beginning riders?

- 6) Would you enjoy a party or get-together are the rides? _____

- 7) Would you like to help on our rides telethon? _____
If so, please remember to include address on other side,
and write phone number here: _____

Jan 79
Page 6

fold this second and tape

15¢

stamp

Debra Glassman
CRW Rides Vice President
35 Payson Road
Belmont, MA 02178

fold this back first

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF BICYCLING WITH CRW IN 1978



Were you there when it SNOWED
at the Easter Ride?

Did you attend the
CRW Bike Reair
Demonstration?



Hard Luck Story of the Year
(A composite tale)

Getting up early to arrive early at a CRW ride, you get a flat 5 miles from home, only to discover you brought your presta pump and you have schrader valves. When finally arriving, you follow arrows for short ride and end up in Tilton, New Hampshire, where you are fined for violating the bike ban. Taking a short cut through some back roads, you pass an attack dog school and soon break your own record for the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile sprint. Trying to get home before dark, you feel drops of rain that remind you that you left your rain cape at home. Luckily the rain does not last; it turns to hail. At last, you get home, stop your bike, and promptly fall over because you forgot to loosen your toe straps. You watch as your house keys fall out of your bike bag and into the sewer.



FOR SALE - 1977 Fuji Intermediate Track Bike. 24"/61cm.

Have converted it for street use with Cinelli track bars and stem, front brake, Clement tubulars. Bike is virtually unriden. \$249.

Also, MTD Rollers with sealed Bearings. These too are like new. Only \$55. Call Mark Broderick, 326-9029.

FOR SALE - one pair of lightweight "clincher" wheels: Atom QR low-flange hubs, 700c Mavic "Module Elan" rims with presta valve hole, laced 3-cross with 15-17-15 spokes front, 4-cross with 14-16-14 spokes rear. These are the ideal training wheels for riders to 150 lbs. Beneath a 115 lb. rider they went 2000 New England miles without needing trueing. Built and maintained by a competent Schwinn mechanic. Four tires, two tubes, and a 14-24 cluster if requested are yours for \$55. Will also trade for (used) Campy brakes. Joel Parks, 877-3031 (Framingham) for more info.

AL BASSO AWARD PRESENTED

The annual Al Basso Award for Meritorious Service is hereby awarded to Al & Jo Basso for assembling and mailing the December WHEELPEOPLE in absence of the Editor. The award is also in recognition of the numerous pieces of pie that have been served to the Editor by the esteemed couple. This award entitles the aforementioned couple to continue to receive all the bad jokes and babbling dribble that the Editor can muster on his monthly trip to their house. The ABAMS award also provides for a roast beef sandwich at the next Annual Awards Dinner at the Chinese restaurant.

D I S C O U N T S

Your CRW membership card entitles you to discounts in some of the area bicycle 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 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 - Send to WHEELPEOPLE Editor, John Springfield, 10 Short St., Apt. 5, Brookline, MA 02146.

CLASSIFIED ADS - Free to members; 25¢ per word to non-members.

Material must be received by the 15th of month preceeding issue.