

CALENDAR

Nov 79
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* Well, we did it! Even the cool weather could not chill the *
* spirits of the participants at the New England Rally on the *
* October 13-14 weekend. (see page 5). But the cool weather *
* is a reminder that our regular ride schedule is drawing to *
* a close, winter club meetings start this month, and the good*
* old Frostbite Rides beckon the adventurous riders out into *
* the unpredictable winter air. *

* Just a note on Frostbite Rides: Every Sunday we will meet *
* at a designated location and mutually decide the pace and *
* destination of the ride. There will not be a predetermined *
* leader, and therefore, no arrows will guide you. You should *
* come equipped with adequate clothing, tools, and maps. Be on*
* time or you may miss the group! These "show-and-go" rides *
* can bring out 2 people or 50 people, and an occasional polar*
* bear. But don't let a little cold air keep you off your *
* bike all winter. Dress in layers, use lower gears, protect *
* your head, feet, and hands, and enjoy the view! *
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OCTOBER 28, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. & 12:45 P.M. - Here's a double-
loop ride that allows you a chance to ride 80 km. (50 mi.) or
40 km. (25 mi.). The 80 km. ride starts at 10:30, and the 40 km.
ride starts at 12:45 pm. (specially designed for those who may
have over-indulged the night before). Both rides start at the
Duck Feeding Area, Routes 128 and 30 on the Weston-Newton line.
Bring your own lunch (or buy it in Weston on the longer ride).
Our leader is Dave Johanson, 926-3371 at home, 357-9300 at work.

NOVEMBER 4, SUNDAY, 1:30 P.M. - At last, an afternoon ride for
those of you lacking early-morning discipline! Meet Dick Talbot
and Rick Talbot, 449-3792, at the Needham Town Hall for two short
rides over back roads through Wellesley, Needham, Natick, Sher-
born, and Medfield. A 20 km. (13 mi.) and 39 km. (24 mi.) ride
is planned for this quick afternoon spin. There are a few hills
(Boston IS hills), but nothing your low gears can't take. Lunch
is at the drug store in Dover Center where snacks are available.

NOVEMBER 6, TUESDAY - ELECTION DAY. Last day to vote for new
CRW Board of Directors.

NOVEMBER 11, SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M. - Here's a nice way to wind down
the season. We start at our old favorite, the Duck Feeding Area
at Routes 128 and 30. One ride of 32 km. (20 mi.) will take you
through Newton, Weston, and Needham. Lunch will be after the
ride at the Duck Feeding Area; bring your own, and swap food and
tales with your neighbor. Leaders are Harold Lewis, 332-3649,
and Shana Lewis.

NOVEMBER 13, TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M. - PRESIDENT ELECTED by new Board of Directors. The CRW Board will select a President to lead us for the next year. All Board members, officers, and coordinators are requested to attend. Members are welcome to attend and raise issues that they feel need attention. Some items to be discussed are the winter meeting program, the bike safety film, the New England Rally wrapup, and membership dues. Meet at Harvard Community Health Plan, 1611 Cambridge St., Cambridge, halfway between Inman and Harvard Square. All welcome!

NOVEMBER 18, SUNDAY, 11:00 A.M. - Join Chris Ryan, 232-8294, for a single loop ride of 45 km. (28 mi.) through our favorite areas of Weston and Concord. Meet at the Weston Town Green, in Weston Center just north of Route 20. Lunch will be at the end of the ride; bring your own or buy it in Weston. As the regular season draws to an end, don't sit around thinking about riding, RIDE!

NOVEMBER 25, SUNDAY, 9:00 A.M. - Today is the last ride of our regular riding schedule. Charlie Coburn, 738-4013, will lead us on a 33 km. (20 mi.) and 66 km. (40 mi.) ride through Boston, Brookline, Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury, Milton, Canton, Stoughton, and Avon. Bring your lunch for an impromptu stop along the way. Meet at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade on the Charles River.

NOVEMBER 27, TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M. - FIRST CLUB MEETING of the winter. Meet old friends, swap cycling tips, and welcome the new-comers. And speaking of new riders, have you ever been asked to recommend a bicycle to someone? It's not as easy as it seems. Often you have modified yours so much that it is hard to advise a new rider what is a good bike to start with. Well now your troubles are over. Dick Talbot will speak to novices and old-timers about the doubts and concerns we have all had about our own bikes and those that we have been asked to evaluate. Dick has made a study of bicycle design and has some suggestions to share with us. Our meeting place will be announced in the next bulletin.

DECEMBER 2, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - The first Frostbite ride will start at the Cambridge Common, just north of Harvard Square at Mass. Ave. and Garden Street. There will be no arrows or pre-assigned leaders. Bring warm clothing, tools, maps, and a sense of adventure. Those that show up will determine where and how far they wish to cycle. Allow 15 minutes prior to the start to pow-wow and make adjustments to your bike.

DECEMBER 9, SUNDAY, 10:30 A.M. - Frostbite ride starting at Cleveland Circle on the Brighton-Brookline line at the intersection of Chestnut Hill Avenue and Beacon street.

Freewheeling Thoughts *from the president*

Well it looks as though most of the rumblings and rumors from the LAW's San Diego meeting were accurate. The League has decided on a major alteration of its goals and policies and I for one heartily applaud. It has long been my impression that in the range of activities from legislative advocacy to fraternal social activities, the LAW has leaned toward the social side in recent years. The decision to strengthen the role of lobbyist for cyclist's rights and spokesmen on the complex of issues that effect bicyclists, is one that was very much needed. The fact is that there is no conflict between the social and the advocacy roles, although I suppose some might be concerned that the latter may be more controversial. In my opinion the league can and should be strong in both areas.

The League's change of philosophy has a direct effect on our own club and has generated considerable discussion among our Directors. The nub of the issue is how to respond to the \$5 dues increase that the LAW has instituted as of Oct. 1, 1979, a move made so that, among other things, the level of support for Ralph Hirsch's national lobbying efforts could be increased. As most of you know, the CRW is a 100% LAW club and the dues we collect are distributed among both organizations. Prior to the increase, the CRW portion was \$5 plus a 10% rebate. Thus, in addition to the \$5 we got a \$1 rebate for single members and a \$1.50 for family memberships. The average of slightly over \$6 per member for local club income really has not left us with very big operating margins. In fact we are able to make ends meet only through the volunteering of time and services of such devoted members as John Springfield who types all the bulletin copy himself without charge and beats the bushes for the cheapest reproduction costs, Bill Roberts who donates the membership printouts and mailing labels, Bill Piekos who has underwritten many of our socials by donating refreshments, and many others who donate refreshments, travel, telephone costs, cost of road marking paint, etc., in addition to their time.

The decision we face is how much of the Leagues dues increase should be passed on to the membership. The issue is a serious one for at stake is the possible loss of precious members who may not be able to afford the whole increase. On the other hand I hope you will agree that we have a nearly bare bones operation at present and that this bulletin which is our major expenditure is an essential (even if you cut out this superfluous column it would only save about \$30/year).

Our Board of Directors is examining all the alternatives we can think of. They range from looking for sources of additional income such as selling advertising in this bulletin to asking the League for a substantially greater discount for 100% clubs (after all they don't want to lose members either). The Board has decided to hold off on any dues changes (except to increase the total for Family membership \$1 to keep us from having a net loss on membership) until we get all the possibilities sorted out. You can help us by giving us your ideas for raising income and your feelings about the dues structure.

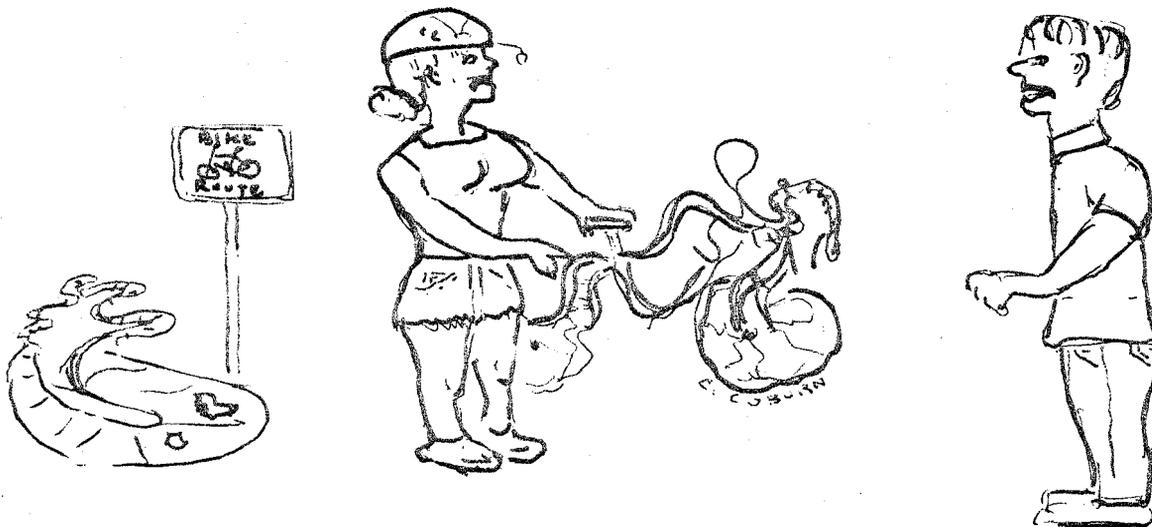
On a totally separate topic I have heard from Ralph Hirsch that Representative Anderson's amendment that would have appropriated \$10 million for federal funding of bicycle projects was overwhelmingly defeated in Congress. More to the point, with the exception of Rep.

Continued

Studds, all the eastern Mass. Congressmen voted against the appropriation. Ralph Hirsch suggested that we can at least salvage something by contacting our representatives and telling them that we are either pleased or disappointed with their vote as the case may be. He pointed out that it was important to sensitize our representatives to the fact that there is a bicycle constituency that is interested in cycling issues. He also emphasized the importance of sensible temperate letters (the "I'll never vote for you again" types are generally disregarded as kooks or cranks). So write your representative and tell him that you are disappointed or pleased and keep on writing him/her on bicycling issues so that he/she will be conscious of us and our needs on the roads.

Ed Forman

* * * * *



OH, I SEE YOU'VE TRIED THE
NEW BIKEWAY!

from Charlie Coburn

The fabulous fall foliage brought people from all over New England (even Virginia) to the New England Rally at the Howard Johnsons Motor Lodge in Concord.

The Saturday morning ride was highlighted by a panoramic photograph at the North Bridge taken by Harold Lewis. Cyclists meandered through the Concord-Lexington area taking in the historic sights and enjoying the sun as it took the chill off a rather crisp morning.

Saturday afternoon was spent relaxing and watching the film, "Bicling Safely on the Road", based on John Forester's book, Effective Cycling. After a lively discussion, Dave Topham of the Granite State Wheelmen talked about forming a steering committee that would help local groups plan the New England Rally in the future. Dave also talked about effective cycling and mentioned that he was a qualified instructor but has not as yet actually taught a course. If you would like to be on the steering committee mailing list or talk to Dave about the Effective Cycling course, he can be reached at 1-603-898-2842, or at 11 Winter Street, Salem, NH 03079.

Saturday evening included a happy hour followed by a banquet at the adjoining Howard Johnson Restaurant. The featured speaker, Irv Weisman, presented an entertaining and thought-provoking speech on low gears.

Early Sunday morning a few brave souls started out on a century ride through the hilly apple country west and north of Concord. But most people waited for the 25 and 50-mile rides that started at 9:30. Some CRW members rode up from Boston to be part of the festivities.

Rally patches will be mailed out to all who registered.

It's obvious that a rally of this size needed a lot of coordinated efforts. Our hats off to the central coordinating committee of Debra Glassman, Jill Silver, Mark Roseman, and Nancy Peacock. Thanks also to Harold Lewis for the photography, Jill Eiseman, Dave Brahmaer, Anita Brewer, Mark Lampkin, and Mark Roseman for arrowing the route, John Kane for MCing the banquet, Bill Risinger for driving the sag wagon, and John Springfield and Al Basso for setting up the CRW materials display. And thank you, John Kane, for those great maps!

And we appreciate Jerry Slack's Cycle Loft for loaning bicycle parts for use by the sag wagon crew.

AND THANK ALL OF YOU HARDY PEOPLE FOR SUPPORTING US!

CRW Board Election

Each November you have the opportunity to elect three of the nine CRW Board of Directors (each Director serves three years). At the very first meeting of the Board in November, a club President is selected to serve for one year. The Board establishes club policy and helps the President carry out the policy. And as in any organization, the Board has the important responsibility of establishing a budget and allocating money. The Board meets once each month, and hundreds of hours a year are spent discussing all aspects of cycling.

Five candidates are running for three positions. They are Jill Eiseman, Sam Johnson, John Kane, Nancy Peacock, and Bill Risinger. Each candidate was invited to explain his or her position. The following were received:

Jill Eiseman: I would be interested in working toward more participation of club members, both in the planning of the rides and special events as well as during them. I also feel there is a need for our club to strongly endorse biking courtesy and safety.

Sam Johnson: This is my second season as a CRW member. What I have gained from club participation goes way beyond an improved heart-lung capacity. If elected as a director, I will continue to promote the benefits of recreational cycling to all who care to listen -- then, perhaps, with a clearer charter for doing so.

This year has shown a marked improvement in starting our rides on or at least near the scheduled time. As a director, one improvement that I would like to focus on next year is developing a consensus on and commitment to standardizing the way our rides are arrowed. This will better assure that less of our collective attention is directed to the asphalt and more on everything else that is going on around us.

Bill Risinger: This is my second season with the CRW, although I have been a regular commuter for several years, and have belonged to the LAW for about eight.

I am pleased with the direction the LAW is taking in recent months. I think the current activities of the CRW are generally excellent, especially the Rides program. However, I feel that we should do more in the areas of public awareness and education (especially of our legislators), and bicycling safety.

So far, as a CRW member, I have largely benefitted from the labors of others. I would welcome the opportunity to repay my debt.

* * *

Special Note: Earl Forman, CRW President for the past two years, has decided to withdraw his name from nomination to let in some "new blood" on the Board.

ELECTION RULES: Ballots must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, November 6, 1979 (Election Day). Individual memberships will get one ballot; household memberships will get two ballots. Vote for 1, 2, or 3 candidates by placing an "X" in the box next to their names. Ballots with more than 3 "X"s or postmarked after November 6 will not be counted. Candidates will be notified of results on Sunday night, November 11.

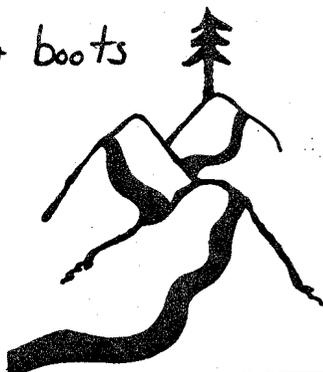
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(Space on this page is available to commercial concerns.
The fee is \$50 for the page, \$25 half page, \$12.50 quarter
page, and \$6.25 eighth page. For more information, contact
the CRW Editor, John Springfield, at 566-1928 evenings.)

WANTED - Back issue Bicycling magazine, August 1979. Also, a repairable ten-speed or five-speed, 23" or 25" frame. Please call W.F. Marshall, 933-5262, evenings.

WANTED - 19" (men's frame) bicycle. Call Dena, 864-1135 (days), or 643-6257 (evenings).

FOR SALE - Copies of John Forester's Effective Cycling are available from John Springfield, 566-1928, at cost. This offer is available only to CRW members.

ONCE IN AWHILE WE MAKE MISTAKES

CRW membership continues to defy logic; even with winter upon us, people are still joining! But with all the new addresses, changing renewal dates, and changing phone numbers, we sometimes make a mistake. And we sometimes mail you a blank page in your bulletin. Please don't wait forever to speak up. The faster you contact us, the quicker we can correct the problem. We might add that the LAW often varies your renewal month slightly when we forward your renewal. We try to stay in sync, but sometimes we don't always succeed. IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH YOUR BULLETIN OR MAILING LABEL, please contact Al Basso, 666-8571, and we'll try to resolve it.

D I S C O U N T S

CRW membership entitles you to various discounts (usually 10%) in leading Boston area bicycle shops. Please contact the individual shops to receive details. Bring you CRW membership card (signed and unexpired) and some other form of identification.

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

NEWS, ARTICLES, LETTERS, MEMBERS' CLASSIFIEDS, PAID ADS

Please mail all WHEELPEOPLE material to CRW Editor, John Springfield, 10 Short St., Apt. 5, Brookline, MA 02146. Material must be received by the 15th of month preceding issue. Please don't depend on the U.S. Mail to deliver your letter in a few days. The bulletin goes to the printer every month on the 15th.

Paid ads must be received by the 10th of the month along with a check payable to "Charles River Wheelmen". The Ad Page will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.