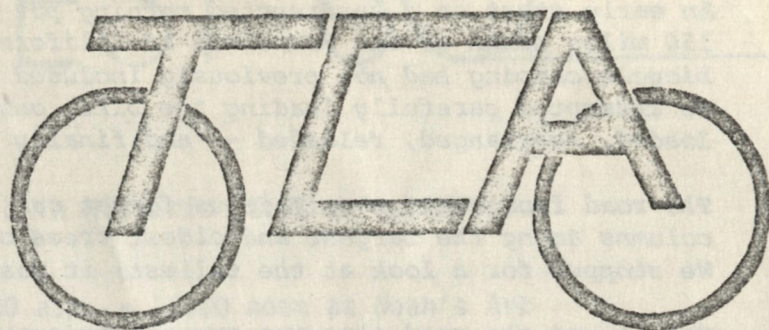


# DOUBLETALK

BULLETIN OF THE

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 3

JULY-AUGUST, 1980



TANDEM CLUB OF AMERICA

## EDITORIAL

We had waited only about twenty minutes from the landing of our Martinair DC-10 when the three corrugated bike boxes cradling our beloved tandem were unceremoniously heaved through the baggage window at JFK. Muggy and hot after the chilled rain that had pursued us from Amsterdam to Copenhagen, the hectic atmosphere offered little rest on the drive to suburban Philadelphia.

We had returned, to carefully unpack the hastily boxed bicycles, wipe away mud and assess the scars of two trans-Atlantic flights and over 600 miles of cycling with five teenage boys and their singles. Happy to say, the make-shift case had served well; more about that in a future edition, and about the tour as well.

Dwight Kitchen's farewell issue of DOUBLETALK had arrived in our three-week absence, and in the stack of mail were notices to be included "as soon as possible" inviting tandems and riders to a variety of activities around the country. To respond in a timely manner to the urgings of our weekend sponsors, Peter, Malcolm and I determined to assemble a brief issue with the news of weekend offerings. Be assured that future editions will carry a more complete selection of technical information, tour reports, and reflections on our sport.

With this issue, you will note that we have decided to increase the annual dues to \$8.00 and reduce the number of annual Bulletins from six to five. Increased printing and postage costs are the primary factors in the price increase; editorial fatigue may have influenced the decision to omit a mid-summer issue, a decision which may have to be reconsidered if late summer rallies and the traditional September centuries cannot be advertised in May.

To assist me in making this Bulletin useful to our fellow club members, technical articles, news of new (or creative applications of old) equipment, tour narratives and notice of gatherings will be greatly appreciated.

Are there any teens on tandems out there, or inter-generational teams? Combinations of father/son, mother/daughter, etc.? Any people who would like to advertise their wants for a tandem, or tandem for sale? Your communications are welcome, and may be addressed to me, Ron Romeis, at 506 Midland Circle, St. Davids, PA 19087!

Thanks, and happy cycling!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron' with a stylized flourish above it.



REDWOOD RAMBLE

An early start on a sundrenched morning put my tandem partner (Chris Shirley) and me 150 miles north of San Francisco in California's Redwood country. Our experience bicycle camping had not previously included a tandem. Forgetting we had only two racks, we attempted carefully loading the bike, only to find our gear wouldn't fit. We unloaded, rearranged, reloaded -- and finally left the tent in the car!

The road from Weott soon made us forget our packing problems. Winding through fluted columns among the largest and oldest trees on earth is a quiet, humbling experience. We stopped for a look at the tallest; it was difficult to see the top.

Yet it was the road that was our obsession. It went up: innocently at first, becoming more insistent as we went along, climbing out of the shady groves of Redwoods into the sunlit openness of California's Chaparral. Water bottles empty, we cranked in bottom gear endlessly. Several hours later, twenty-five hundred feet higher, we looked forward to a well-earned downhill run.

No long, winding descent this! Rather, a white-knuckled chute. This road was rough, broken, full of loose gravel, steeper and more treacherous by far than Dante's descent into Hell! And thus we "dropped" into Honeydew. Snug beneath large, shady oak trees, the little town consists of two gas pumps (of course), a general store fronted with porch, bench and a smattering of local population, all of whom were interested: "What the hell are you doing out here on that thing, anyway?"

Our attempts at nonchalance were unavailing, due to our wide eyes and the speed with which our fingers, still marked with the impressions of brake levers, grasped and dispensed the contents of successive beer cans. Fortunately, the campground was only a few easy miles down the road.

The next morning we enjoyed a more leisurely ride through the Mattole River Valley, filling an empty corner in our panniers with sweet apples from an abandoned orchard. We rode to Petrolia later, where oil was first discovered in California. Larger than Honeydew, it boasted a church, school, and volunteer fire department, in addition to its general store and cluster of houses.

Where the Mattole River meets the Pacific, the road turned north and followed the coast. The pavement is privately owned and poorly maintained. Tides and storms have left only half the road useable in some sections. The broken beach road, as if anxious to escape the ocean's torment, leaps up the coast range in a hurry that reduced us to pushing the laden tandem up a grade too steep to ride. We would return to sea level twice more that day: once to repeat the long steep climb; and once, thankfully, to approach the beautiful town of Ferndale, our stop for the night. A small town, its roots are in timber and dairy farming. Not too much has changed through the years. Artists and crafts people have restored many of the homes, shops and restaurants around. We camped at the fairground.

In contrast to the riding of the first two days, our third and last day was pure joy. The old Redwood Highway between Ferndale and Weott is a tree and river loving road. A demanding tour ended in shade and gentleness.

The roads are lightly travelled, steep and rough. The towns are small and offer little or nothing in the way of spare parts. Water is not generally available, and houses are scarce. Yet for the spartan traveller, there is beauty and challenge.

--Bob Philpott, 870 Collier Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577



# MIDWEST 80

The 1980 Tandem Rally will be held in Historic St. Charles, Missouri August 30th to September 1st.

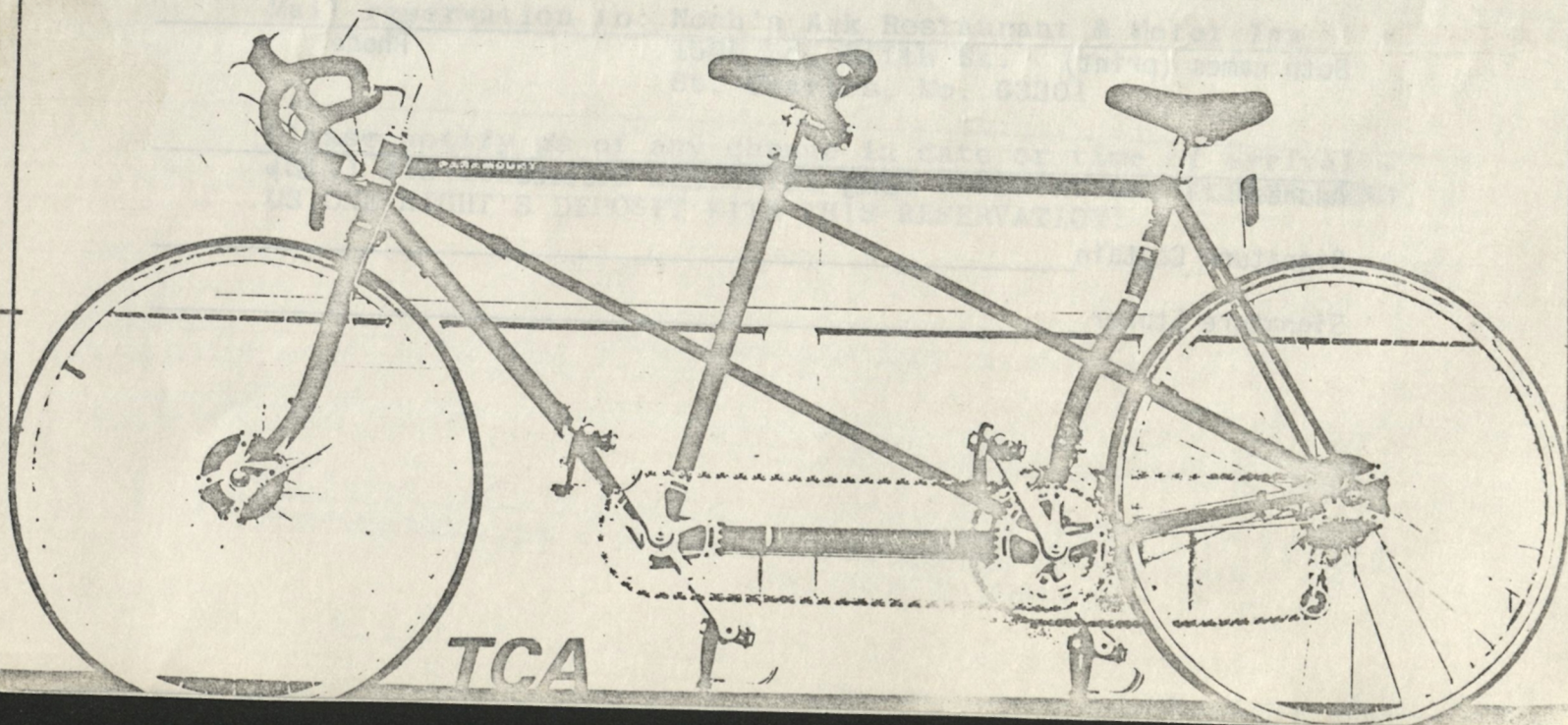
● Saturday - Registration 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at Noah's Ark Motor Inn. Ride a leisurely 25 miles through St. Charles Historical Area with stops on Old Main Street, and with a Mid-afternoon stop at the Wine Garden, overlooking the Missouri River, for wine and cheese.

● Saturday night we will leave Noah's Ark at 7:30 p.m. to drive to the St. Louis River Front for an evening at the Goldenrod Showboat to see the true story of "Billy the Kid", Melodrama or the best in Ragtime Music. There, are many things to see and do on the Levee, plus the famous Gateway Arch.

● Sunday - Meet at Noah's Ark at 8:00 a.m. Leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. for a tour of St. Charles County 60 miles or 30 miles. Cross the Mississippi River on the Golden Eagle Ferry (Cost Approx. \$1.00 each way). This is the last stern-wheeler ferry on the Mississippi River. We will then cycle over scenic rolling hills of Calhoun County to the free Brussels Ferry crossing the Illinois River, to our destination at Pere Marquette State Park Lodge, where we will lunch and rest. On our return trip we will cross the same two rivers.

● Sunday evening at Noah's Ark at 7:30 p.m. there will be the traditional banquet and informal meeting to decide next years rally site.

● Monday - Meet at Noah's Ark 8:00 a.m. Leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. for a fast 25 mile tour of St. Charles County.





MIDWEST '80, continued

Headquarters for the weekend will be Noah's Ark Motor Inn - St. Charles, Missouri 63301 I-70 at 5th Street Exit. You make your own reservations at the motel of your choice.

Noah's Ark is holding a block of first floor rooms for participants in the Tandem Rally until July 31st, 1980.

Send reservations to Karolyn Reker, 1636 Christy Ct., St. Charles, MO 63301. Registration fee is \$16.00 per tandem - covers patches, sack lunch for Sundays ride, maps, marked route and limited sag wagon service.

Advance reservations are required for Sunday Banquet (\$9.60 per person), and Saturday night "Billy the Kid" Melodrama (\$3.50 per person balcony). Reservations no later than July 31st.

Other Motels in the area and the distance from Noah's Ark.

Howard Johnsons West ¼ mile, I-70 at 5th Street Exit St. Charles, MO (314) 946-6936.

Best Western Town House Inn ¼ mile, I-70 at 5th Street Exit St. Charles, Mo. (314) 724-7900.

Camping, 10 miles - Fort Zumwalt State Park, O'Fallon, MO - Just off I-70.

In registering for the 1980 Midwest Tandem Rally, I hereby release and waive all claims against the Tandem Club of America, their officers and tour group organizers, successors and assignees for any and all injuries, losses or damages of any kind suffered by me and/or my tandem partner as a result in taking part in the ride and related activities. I also agree and abide by all traffic laws and regulations and practice courtesy and safety in cycling.

Both names (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Stoker \_\_\_\_\_



# NOAH'S ARK

MIDWEST '80

## RESTAURANT AND MOTOR INN

1500 So. FIFTH STREET • ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI 63301 •

### GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL RESERVATION REQUEST

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve the following accommodations:

- ( ) 1 person, 1 bed \$30.00
- ( ) 2 people, 1 bed \$35.00
- ( ) 1 or 2 people, 2 beds \$37.00
- ( ) 3 or 4 people, 2 beds \$42.00
- ( ) 1 suite, 1 to 4 people \$67.00

Day of arrival \_\_\_\_\_ ; AM \_\_\_\_\_ PM \_\_\_\_\_

Day of departure \_\_\_\_\_ ; AM \_\_\_\_\_ PM \_\_\_\_\_

Mode of transportation \_\_\_\_\_

Mail reservation to: Noah's Ark Restaurant & Motor Inn  
1500 So. Fifth St.  
St. Charles, Mo. 63301

Please notify us of any change in date or time of arrival -  
(314) 946-1000. TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION, PLEASE SEND  
US ONE NIGHT'S DEPOSIT WITH THIS RESERVATION!

RENTAL SERVICE, 22 Baginly Road, Boston, MA 02115  
photocopies of back issues for sale; Volume 1,  
complete set; Volume 2, complete set; Volume 3, \$2  
per issue. All orders payable.



### CALENDAR

- August 15-18: TANDEM '80, PRINCETON, NJ Choice of half day rides (see March-April DOUBLETALK for details). Contact Harvey & Suzy Sachs, 29 South Main Street, Cranbury, NJ 08512, (609) 655-1642.
- August 30-September 1: MIDWEST '80, ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI. See details this issue. Steve and Karolyn Reker, 1636 Christy Court, St. Charles, MO 63301.
- September 12-14: SECOND ANNUAL SOUTHERN TANDEM RALLY, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA. SASE to Phil Winter, 6117 Peachtree Corners Circle, Norcross, GA 30092, (404) 448-7377. See details in March - April DOUBLETALK.
- October 19: TUCSON TANDEMTRIC, TUCSON, ARIZONA. Choice of 63, 44 or 27 miles. SASE to Rudy and Kay Van Renterghem, 8414 Calle Tioga, Tucson, AZ 85704.

(Mail YOUR Calendar Items to the Editor Well in Advance!)

### FOR SALE

Custom Touring Tandem. Custom frame builder Rob Horwitz (Tanguy Cycles) is selling his personal touring tandem, having built another. Constructed of a variety of chrome moly tubings (Columbus, Reynolds, Tange) to maximize both stiffness and comfort. Excellent maneuverability. Ideal for distance touring. 22/22, mixte rear. Phil Wood tandem hubs, bottom brackets, Campy derailleurs, TA cranks. Forty spoke rear wheel (!). Avocet mens/womens touring saddles. Grey metallic. Excellent condition. \$1,000. Contact Rob Horwitz, 8 Carol St., Apt. 6., Ramsey, NJ 07446, (201) 825-0172.

### COMMUNICATIONS

SEEKING ANDREW HAGUE PRODUCTS? One of our members writes that they may be available from Mr. Larry Ruble, Canadian Bicycle Specialists, P. O. Box 127, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 7E9. (Names of additional dealers are welcome.)

### TANDEM LITERATURE

TANDEM INDEX (includes DOUBLETALK, BICYCLING, and BIKE WORLD through August, 1977), 75¢.

DOUBLETALK, photocopies of back issues for sale: Volume I, \$6, complete set; Volume II, \$8, complete set; Volume III, \$2 per issue. All orders postpaid.

BICYCLE REFERENCE SERVICE, 33 Edgerly Road, Boston, MA 02115



DOUBLETALK

TANDEM CLUB OF AMERICA

DOUBLETALK

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