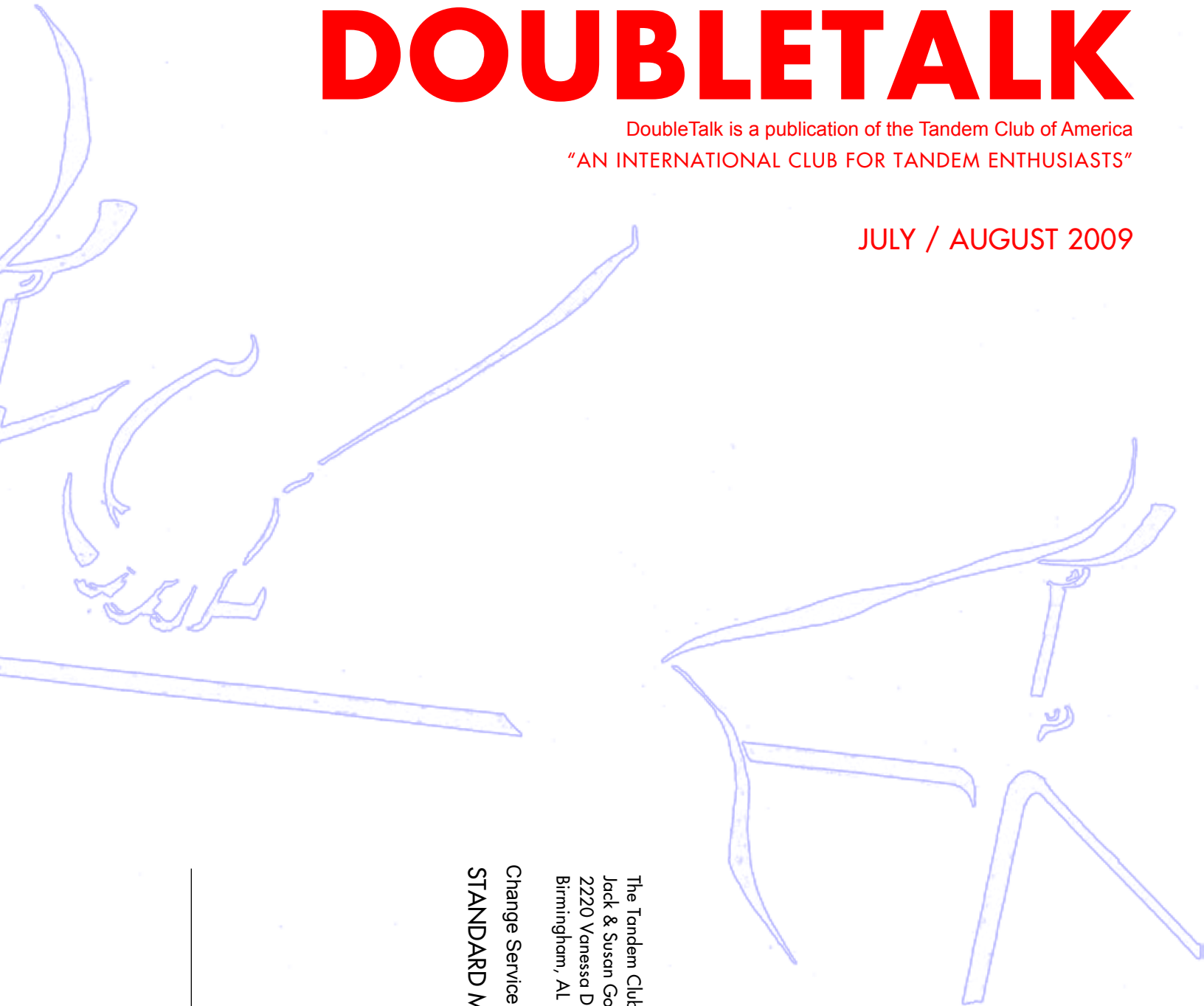


# DOUBLETALK

DoubleTalk is a publication of the Tandem Club of America  
"AN INTERNATIONAL CLUB FOR TANDEM ENTHUSIASTS"

JULY / AUGUST 2009



The Tandem Club of America  
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# Double Talk

A publication of the Tandem Club of America

*An International Club for Tandem Enthusiasts*

*Established in 1976*

[www.tandemclub.org](http://www.tandemclub.org)

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[editor@tandemclub.org](mailto:editor@tandemclub.org)



# DoubleTalk

## Who Does What?

**Editor:** Edits your articles for DoubleTalk, accepts all advertising, and wants your mid-year address corrections.

**Secretary:** Contact point between TCA and the outside world.

**Membership:** Collects dues, processes memberships.

**Treasurer:** Money management, tax and financial reports. Pays the bills

**Merchandise:** Sells T-shirts and any other TCA-approved merchandise that may be offered from time to time.

**Webmaster:** Maintains the TCA Website - [www.tandemclub.org](http://www.tandemclub.org)

When you contact one of these volunteers, seeking information about the TCA and/or tandem activities in the area, please be specific. Many of these individuals are also active in other bicycling organizations, and a SASE with no questions asked may never be returned.

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[webmaster@tandemclub.org](mailto:webmaster@tandemclub.org)

## What do TCA members do?

Write articles, draw cartoons, send letters, host rides and rallies.

**Deadline for the September - October issue is August 1, 2009**

## BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

We have a limited number of back issues of Doubletalk available to complete your collection. For each issue desired, send a check for \$3.00, payable to Tandem Club of America, to Jack & Susan Goertz, 2220 Vanessa Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242-4430. The issues you order will be sent to you either via first class postage (1-4 issues ordered) or via UPS (more than 4 issues ordered).

### Issues still available:

**2009**

May - June

March - April

**January - February**

**2008**

November - December

September - October

July - August

May - June

**March - April**

# DoubleTalk

July / August 2009  
www.TandemClub.org

From the Editors

The year is half over on the Calendar, but the riding season is just now kicking into high gear. Some Rallies are over, but many more are still ahead of us. We had a great time at the Southwest Tandem Rally in April and at the Georgia Tandem Rally in May. We're now looking forward a summer rally and to the major rallies this fall. This month we're heading up to the Eastern Tandem Rally in Strasburg, Pennsylvania. We're looking forward to cycling in the Amish Country of Pennsylvania, and also seeing the trains at the Strasburg Station. We hope to see many of you there!

Last month I (Jack) had a minor accident that's keeping me off our tandem for a few weeks. Tho' the accident didn't happen on a bicycle, it could very easily have been a bike accident. While riding one of my motorcycles I hit a patch of sand while making a left. The front wheel washed out from under the bike. Before I could even blink, I was on the ground. What happened, I'm not completely sure, but I think I must have over-cooked the front brake as the front wheel hit the sand/gravel that often accumulates in an intersection. As this is a popular bicycling route, my accident could easily have been a bicycle accident. The Moral of the Story: Watch for sand/gravel in the turns. If you see sand/gravel in your path, straighten the front wheel, slow down, and don't brake until you're fairly sure you've passed through the sand/gravel, then complete your turn. (For what it's worth, I don't think I could have slowed down any further but I could have missed

the sand/gravel patch, had I seen it in time. If I had seen it I wouldn't be limping on crutches right now).

For those of you attending NWTR 2009 in Victoria we hope you will stop by - and help out if necessary - at the TCA table in the expo hall. The organizers have been generous enough to donate some space, and two teams are heading up the effort. Jim & Sheri Brown of Calera, Alabama are combining their round dancing and tandeming passions with a huge long journey that includes a stop in Victoria. Dolly and Don Craft of Elkhart, Indiana will be working along with them. Encourage your tandem friends to join TCA.

A few issues ago, we mentioned that we were hard at work on a new version of the TCA website. By the time you read this, it should be ready to go. A lot of work has gone into the new site, and we now have a section that's exclusive to TCA members. It's much more interactive, and you'll be able to maintain your own records on the web, correcting addresses when you move, reading the classifieds, submitting articles and ads, and much more. Of course, you'll be able to conveniently renew your membership on-line, using PayPal. We hope you enjoy it, and we hope you point others towards our new website! (If it's still under construction, keep trying! It's very, VERY close to going "Live" as I key this. Look for instructions to logging in to the site elsewhere in DoubleTalk.

See you on the road!  
Jack & Susan

**Please  
share your  
thoughts  
with  
Double-  
Talk**



# DoubleTalk

## Letters to Double- Talk

Dear DoubleTalk,

I hope this spring finds everyone okay, having survived the winter. Right now spring is popping in Ohio, and they are predicting 1 - 3 inches of snow for us between now and tomorrow evening. But, it is springtime in Ohio.

My reason for writing is contribute something that might be of interest to TCA members via Double Talk.

At last year's ETR 2008 in Durham, New Hampshire, Lee and I brought some slightly used ETR jerseys which our launderer had "shrunk". We put them out, for FREE. They were gone in a matter of minutes. After the rally we received a note from Dan McKee thanking us for the jerseys. Below is the content of his thank you note:

*Thanks for the ETR '04 jersey from Keuka College! It was an 'XL' that fits me great - My 'L' is being sent to Larry & Brenda in New Jersey because Larry's 'M' is too small. He's sending his back to us because my wife's jersey is too small...It's a perfect swap!! Lots of HAPPY people.*

*Thanks Again,*

*Dan McKee*

I thought TCA members might enjoy Dan's note, and it might spur other TCAers to do the same, perhaps in Strasburg @ ETR09!

Regards,  
Lee & Alan Dolan  
Massillon, OH



## Paying Bills by Tandem

Everyone knows you can save postage and a trip to the post office by paying bills on-line. Carol and I have found a way to not only enjoy those savings but also to add the benefits of a thirty mile tandem ride. It is actually a lot of fun. We write checks for our water company, cable company and electric company one weekend each month; usually Sunday afternoon. We pack them in our saddle bag and ride to the drive through/night deposit drops at each of the utility companies. For us, this is a thirty mile loop. It is not only the fun of a tandem ride, but also the extra incentive of a mission to accomplish and it gets us out on the weekends when the weather is not so great. It is also a lot of fun to ride through town when the streets are not busy.

Just think... we could have the tandem pay for itself in, in,....well forget that part.

Ted Heinlein  
Hendersonville, TN



# DoubleTalk

July / August 2009  
www.TandemClub.org

## New TCA Website!

By the time you have this issue of DoubleTalk in your hands, the newly-revised Tandem Club of America website [www.tandemclub.org](http://www.tandemclub.org) should be up and running. It has been a long time in development, but I think you'll agree that it is much better. We've added new features, made it easier to submit ads and articles, and you'll be able to manage your own address updates on-line! You can renew on-line, via PayPal, or you can still renew by filling out the renewal form and mailing it in to Smith Doss & Claude Monnier, our membership folks.

Much of the website is for "Members Only", and you'll need to log in to the system to access them. If you were a member who received the May-June issue of DoubleTalk, your record should be in the Membership Database already. The first time you access the website, simply click on the "FORGOT LOGIN" FUNCTION TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE MEMBER SITE. YOUR USERNAME IS YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. The system will send you a new password to the e-mail address we have on file for you. (Check the 2009 membership issue to see what e-mail we have on file). Once you've logged into the site, you'll be able to change your password to a password of your choice. Please choose a password that won't be easily guessed. We won't be able to recover your password should you forget it, we can only let the system assign you a new one.

If we don't have your current, correct e-mail on file, please send an e-mail to [webmaster@tandemclub.org](mailto:webmaster@tandemclub.org) with your

name/address information from the label on this issue of DoubleTalk. Russell will get the database up-to-date quickly, and will send you an e-mail when you're active.

And if you've just joined or renewed since the May-June issue was mailed, please be patient just a little while longer. We're working to bring those names onto the database just as quickly as we can!

Enjoy your adventures on the TandemClub.Org website!

New  
TCA  
Website



## Tandem Touring: NY, Ontario

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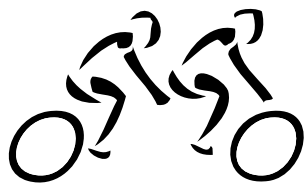
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# DoubleTalk

## Notes from the Rear (Admiral), or Touring on a Tandem

Saturday, April 26, 2008. Me, “I can’t figure out these directions...No, I don’t think that’s our turn...This isn’t it either. Just go straight. *Oh good lord, we’re on the Interstate!!!*” And so began our 2000 mile journey from Mobile, Alabama, to Owen Sound, Ontario, on Adventure Cycling’s Underground Railroad Bicycle Route.

My husband, Ilkka Suvanto, and I have separately crossed the country with different commercial tour groups. This time we wanted to go solo and self-supported on our tandem and see if we could survive weeks on a “divorce bike.” Adventure Cycling Association, working in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh’s Center for Minority Health, recently created a new route to

memorialize the Underground Railroad, a network of secret routes for freedom seekers attempting to escape slavery. The route follows the Tombigbee, Tennessee, and Ohio Rivers as the Big Dipper points northward to freedom in the northern states and Canada.

There is no richer way to get to know our vast and complex nation and its people than from the seat of a bicycle. We love history, and this new route captured our imagination. While club rides are great, there is something special about long-distance touring. I love the delicious morning feeling of anticipation of the day’s unknown adventures on the way from Point A to Point B. On a club ride, 60 miles seems sometimes daunting. On a long-distance bike tour? All in a day’s work!

With a bike, you actually meet people. “Where y’all goin’?” “Are ya’ll nuts?” And then as we pant by on a steep hill, “Are y’all in a race?” Yeah, right. Since the second or third day out of Mobile consisted of 70 miles of absolutely nothing, no services, motels, or campgrounds, we decided to bring camping gear in case we got stranded by a diabolical mechanical event. So there we were on our trusty Co-Motion tandem, pulling a BOB trailer with stuff sacks on top of the BOB bag, and small panniers on the bike. I’d taken off the BOB banner and replaced it with an American flag and Red Sox banner. I estimate the two of us, the bike, gear, water, at between 450 and 500 pounds. We were so long and loaded we looked like a bicycle version of a semi. But we were certainly visible.



We begin our tour - the Slave Market in Mobile, Alabama



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Joan Laxson (rear admiral) & Ilkka Suvanto on the road in Mississippi

Visible to drivers, and magnets to madly chasing dogs. In the Deep South, the drivers are some of the most courteous I've ever seen—patiently waiting for minutes to safely pass us on a hilly, twisting road, and waving a thank you as I motioned them around. But the dogs are beyond crazed. Sometimes we had packs of 5 or 6 of every size and variety after us. Anyone who cycles in the South is well advised to arm themselves with pepper spray. I kept ours in Ilkka's jersey pocket for a quick grab, and became the rear gunner. I got pretty good at it. There was great satisfaction when my heart-thumping anxiety turned to relief at a sneezing dog stopped in its tracks. On the other hand, in Ontario it was quite the reverse. Drivers worse than anything we've ever seen in Massachusetts but farm dogs were mellow. Go figure.

For a full accounting of our adventures, see our website <http://ilkkaandjoan.wordpress.com/about/>

wordpress.com/  
about/

To mention a few: camping on the Tombigbee River in Alabama, serenaded by roaring bull alligators and awakened in the dewy morning by a huge tow blasting its horns as it pushed loaded barges up the river. Rocking on Tennessee William's boyhood



Camping near the Tombigbee

# DoubleTalk



Even today the porch is cool at Elvis Presley's birthplace in Tupelo, Mississippi

porch in Columbus, Mississippi. Rocking on Elvis' porch at his birthplace in Tupelo, Mississippi! Local color: the waitress at the Midway Café in Decaturville, Tennessee, had a T-shirt that read, "31<sup>st</sup> Annual Decaturville World's Largest Coon Hunt." Wrangler Camp, beautifully run and maintained by the U.S. Forest Service, in the Land Between the Lakes in Kentucky. Who knew that not only could you bring your tent or your RV to camp, you could also bring your horse. When I wandered out of our tent at 4:00 AM, the brilliant sky was spangled with stars and the Milky Way, and there was the Drinking Gourd, pointing our way to the north.

We met many other cyclists along the way ranging from couples to solos, to a bike group with their own sag. (We talked their sag driver into carrying some of our gear up the hills on one hard day.) And hills there were aplenty. East of the Mississippi River, a wide plateau rises up

to the Appalachian Mountains. We paralleled the rivers, and each tributary cuts deeply into the plateau. Many of the experienced cyclists we met proclaimed this route the most challenging they had ever seen. The climbs were relentless. I'm the navigator, and as useful as the Adventure Cycling maps are, there is one feature I could do without. The dreaded elevation profile! On one memorable day in Tennessee, the profile showed two mountains that looked like two upside down ice cream cones next to each other, and towards the end, one that was depicted as straight up. We dubbed it "The Wall." Mean sucker, and a walker, for sure.

And we opened our eyes and hearts to slavery and its role in the making of America. In Mobile, we visited an African-American museum where Clara, the young docent told us, "This isn't just



A bike rack in Louisville, KY



# DoubleTalk

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our history. It's *everyone's* history." One of the most emotional and enriching museums along the way was the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati. I always thought I was reasonably knowledgeable about American history. I knew we had slavery. I knew about the hideous Middle Passage. I knew that Lincoln emancipated the slaves. But until we rode this route and visited the abolitionist homes in Ripley, Ohio, and the Cincinnati museum, I knew nothing. I'd never seen a slave holding pen, and, in truth, I don't think I understood the legacy of African Americans, past and present.

After many adventures, our last hilly day on June 12 was just beautiful. The



Tandems in Morganfield, Kentucky

air was clear and crisp, no headwinds, an extraordinary view, hardly any traffic for once in Ontario, and a wonderful sense of accomplishment. The route ended on the shores of Lake Huron in Owen

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Sound because it was the northernmost refuge of escaping slaves. Our journey ended at the Black History Cairn in a park in Owen Sound where for 146 years, they still hold an annual Emancipation Festival. Imagine, people fleeing all those hundreds and thousands of miles to find freedom in Canada. I wish every American could learn the history we learned.

The end of a long bicycle journey is always bittersweet. Sweet because our goal of 48 days was achieved; bitter because the next day we wouldn't be getting on the bicycle; and all our new friends would scatter to their corners of the world. But the sweetest of all! 2038 miles, eight states, two Great Lakes, and one Canadian province later, no divorce and NOT ONE FLAT TIRE!

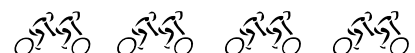
Joan Laxson  
Ilkka Suvanto  
Waban, MA



The slave pen at Freedom Center.



Our tour concludes - The Black History Cairn in Owen Sound, Ontario





# DoubleTalk

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## A Tandem, a Tunnel, and No Vision

At the tail end of a bicycling vacation, Rhonda and I pulled into small-town Vienna, Illinois, late afternoon. When we arrived I thought the town must have some air of cultural intrigue simply by virtue of its name. That notion was soon dispelled as locals corrected me and I learned that it is unmistakably pronounced, unlike its European counterpart, with a long “i” sound – “vie-anna”. As we inquired about for places to stay as well as eat, there seemed to be no concern for notoriety of any sort.

The next morning we were directed to a café named Big Jumbo for breakfast. Once again I thought the name Big Jumbo provided the locale a feeling of mystique, and wondered whether Big Jumbo had any likeness to Bayou country culture. That, too, was soon dispelled. Inside there was nothing to link to the name to any culture except your regular small-town, American diner. I thought if I got a glimpse of the chef that perhaps he could be the reason for “Big Jumbo.” Not to be, as a petite woman rushed about the kitchen.

We had chosen this small town because it was a trail head for a bike trail called Tunnel Hill Trail. The trail was formerly a local freight train railroad bed. The tunnel itself attracted our attention because it was noted as historic and carved through a length of 800 feet of limestone and shale. Plus, the 40-mile trail featured heavily wooded areas with small villages along the way where we

could get food and water. We planned a one-day out-and-back trip of 80 miles on our tandem.

At the café, though, we soon discovered the real local “culture.” Some under-entertained local, older males took immediate notice of our biking gear as we seated ourselves. They pounced. We became the prime targets of their otherwise dull, we assumed, coffee shop existence. Our gear had given us away and they knew where we were headed.

“You know when you go through the tunnel on your bicycle, you will crash into the walls because you can’t see a thing. You will be completely disoriented.





# DoubleTalk

And, you will hit the ground,” spouted the first local, sipping his coffee.

“And when you hit the wall you’ll brush off some of the Black snakes hanging on the walls, and you will be laying there on the tunnel floor with them,” bemused the second.

The third local, not to be outdone, chimed in, “Once you’ve made all that comotion and you’re pulling the snakes off you, the bats hanging on the ceiling will free themselves, too, and will get tangled in your helmets.”

The last two locals were laughing, trying to read our faces to see if we were scared yet. All the locals’ eyes were trained on us, hoping for some sense of resignation from us. I don’t recall our specific reaction at the very moment, but perhaps we did blink, at least just for a second. Fortunately, the first local who started

the nonsense, decided to show the friendlier side of the town’s reputation. “I do want to warn you, though,” he grinned, “While the snakes and bats are made up, you do need to know how to do this without crashing.”

He had ridden through the tunnel on various occasions himself and noted that about 100 feet into the tunnel, everything goes pitch black. The only way to keep from falling, he noted, is to keep your eyes focused on the top of the arch at the far end of the tunnel. If you look down or to the side, you will fall. We registered the information but couldn’t quite picture what might happen.

It turned out to be a bizarre, but not really dangerous, experience. Eight hundred feet seems inconsequential, until you try to ride it in the dark. At first glance, as we got to the start of the tunnel, we detected nothing that could predict our experience. The far end of the tunnel was as bright as the end we were entering and fooled us into thinking that this was a breeze.

But as the local had warned, about 100 feet into the tunnel, everything went completely black, instantly, I, as “steerer” of the tandem, lost all sense of orientation about two seconds later. While I could still see the far end of the tunnel, I had absolutely no bearing of where I was in relation to the walls of the tunnel. I did not want to fall with the tandem. Falling with a single-seated bicycle is one thing; falling on tandem is another. On a single there seems to be some sense of control as you attempt to get your and hands



Danny and Rhonda Graber

# DoubleTalk

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www.TandemClub.org

feet at least partially underneath you to break the fall. On a tandem, the mass of one person (me) simply takes the lesser-mass of the second person (Rhonda) with them. Then there is a loud crash. And then one person (Rhonda) is usually mad at the other (me) for causing it to begin with. I didn't want to tempt this kind of fate in total darkness.

Feeling totally helpless and in fear of falling, I announced, "I'm stopping, we've got to walk." While focusing on the arch at the far end seemed to help, I just became too fearful. I couldn't see any part of Rhonda who was only six inches away. The only good thought I had is if we had fallen, Rhonda couldn't have physically attacked me since she wouldn't have been able to see me.

Even walking we remarked about how weird this whole experience feels. We couldn't see the ground we were stepping on. We joked that we might stumble across some fallen bikers that never made it up again. When we exited the far end we came across three women who had just ridden through it. They were laughing about the whole experience since the only one of them who had fallen was wearing sunglasses. I could only imagine that the locals at the café would love to add that to their repertoire of snakes and bats – advising all newcomers to be sure to wear sunglasses so that the bright light at the other end doesn't blind and disorient them.

We had pleasant and rewarding experiences all along the way. On the return trip as we approached the tunnel, the prudent thing to do was walk. There

was no specific need to tempt any kind of bragging rights. Some day we may go back and attempt it with our singles.

Danny Graber  
Elkhart, IN



## A Note to DoubleTalk

One of our members was looking for a home for their rather extensive collection of old DoubleTalk magazines. No one responded but Carol writes that she found them a good home with the Bicycle Museum of America. If you are in the area you may want to stop by

Bicycle Musdeum of America  
7 W Monroe St  
New Breen, OH 45869  
(419)-629-9249  
www.bicyclemuseum.com



When we rode on our tandem  
Peugeot

We had to speak French, don't you  
know.

When my captain would say,  
"Allez now, s'il vous plait,"

I could tell he was ready to go.

Pat Hill  
Cedar Rapids, IA

**Check it  
out -  
The  
Bicycle  
Museum  
of  
America**





# DoubleTalk

## Muts Tour De Thumb

16-23 June 2007

For the past two years the MUTS (Michigan United Tandem Society) have taken a week-long camp-out ride in June. Two years ago, the first Rick and I attended, was in beautiful Door County, Wisconsin. Last year we went to the “thumb” area of Michigan (for anyone not familiar with the shape of Michigan, look on the map at the “mitten” of our state, and you will see where I mean). I had never been into the Thumb, despite growing up on the boundary in Flint, so I was quite excited about the ride. The Thumb area is mostly rural with very good roads, small towns and no big cities. People are friendly and drivers generally give bicyclists plenty of room.

Our tour began at Evergreen Park campground near Cass City. For the first day’s route we rode west to the famous town of Frankenmuth, where folks are very proud of their German her-

itage. The town is known particularly for Bronner’s, the biggest Christmas store you have ever seen, and for its two largest restaurants, the Bavarian Inn and Zehnder’s (for quite some time now both have been owned by the Zehnder family). Their specialty is fried chicken, but it’s not your KFC chicken. We then headed back to Cass City for another night; then to Caseville, Huron City, Harbor Beach, and Forestville, all of which are on the shore of Lake Huron, and finally returning to Cass City on the final day to pick up our vehicles and head home. We had a support vehicle with trailer which each team took a turn driving. We had a large enough group that most only drove one half day. The group consisted of 11 tandems and two singles. Participants (besides Rick and me) were: Len and Vonnie Sypkins, Paul and Diana Hugo, Gary and Ronda Passon, Cathy and David Stickney, Chuck and Nancy Garber, Jerry and Marge Mathias, Pat and Penny McNicholas, Steve and Kris Parker, Dave and Karen Pries, Charlie and Mary Robertson, and Ryan and Julie Veeneman. We also travelled with two actual dogs; two Yorkshire Terriers named Chaps and Obie, who belong to Kris and Steve Parker. They ride in the bag behind Steve’s seat, and are great attention-getters.

**Day One:** Cass City To Frankenmuth;  
Saturday, 16 June 07; 51.8 Miles

Most of us arrived at the campground sometime yesterday so we would be ready to ride in the morning. Rick and I, in spite of being retired now, had a lot to do on Friday and didn’t arrive until almost



The entire Tour De Thumb group



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11 PM. We quickly set up the tent by flashlight, threw the sleeping bags on the floor, and crashed. Our sites are completely wooded and about one mile from the bathroom. I mean literally – well, it sure seemed like it. There is a port-a-potty about half the distance, but this is not a step I would care to take in the dark, even with a flashlight.

Since we are returning to spend Sunday night, the campground folks are nice enough to allow us to leave our vehicles here until then, at which point we will move them to the school where Cathy, just retired, had taught.

We got under way about 9 or so in the morning; it was a beautiful day, with bright sunshine. Throughout the trip we had no rain during the day, which we all greatly appreciated. Along the road we passed up opportunities to get free kittens and to buy cows or calves or potted spruces. In one little town sat a bedstead on the curb, free for the taking. Today was pretty warm, maybe about 90 in the afternoon. I got sunburned despite multiple applications of sunscreen. This occurred only on my knees; the sunscreen protected my arms and neck, and the same sunscreen protected Rick. Everyone commented on my bright red legs! We stopped in the largish town of Caro for lunch. Rick and I opted for what turned out to be one of the nicer Big Boy restaurants; most of the group ate at various McBurger Bells. Today's traffic was light, except when we crossed a couple of busy highways; this meant a long wait while I balanced the bike. (Since we switched to a recumbent in 1999, my role is holding

the bike up at stop signs.) We rolled into Frankenmuth in the late afternoon; our campground, Jellystone Park, is close to the center of town. This meant walking distance for some shopping, for those who wished, and who had the energy. One drawback: poison ivy was plentiful in the fringe of woods between us and a neighboring field.

For our dinner at Frankenmuth's Bavarian Inn, we took the local shuttle there and back, by special arrangement. The Bavarian Inn, as you might expect, is decorated with wall paintings in German style, representing various fairy tales. There is a nice mural of the Pied Piper story on one of the stairwells. We were seated upstairs in one of the small banquet rooms, which is nice for privacy. I enjoyed the meal and the company, although I was pretty tired and glad to get back to the tent.

I woke during the night to visit the bathroom, which was located quite close to our tent, passing some noisy campers that had evidently just arrived.



Chaps & Obie made the MUTS tour too.



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They had a campfire going, at 2 AM, no less; luckily, their shouting to each other didn't seem to disturb anyone.

**Day Two:** Frankenmuth To Cass City;  
Sunday, 17 June 07; 55.5 Miles  
(Slightly Different Route From  
Yesterday's Route)

This was Rick's and my day to drive, but only as far as lunch; thus our personal mileage for the day ended up being something over 20 miles. No problem! Lunch was in a small town called Clifford at the Rosebud Café. It was a very small restaurant, beautifully decorated, and the food was great. There were only about 10 tables inside, so we kind of ate in shifts, because this place evidently does a good business without even a small bike tour coming through. This worked out well, because we have some fast riders who arrived before the biggest part of the group. For dessert, Rick ordered *raspberry* (not strawberry) shortcake, which was made

from fresh raspberries, and came with ice cream as well as whipped cream.

On the ride back to Evergreen Campground one of the roads marked on our route turned out to be dirt rather than paved, so we simply went on to the next road. The Thumb is seriously on the grid system, if you look at the county maps, so it is pretty easy to navigate unplanned detours. On a downhill – yes, the Thumb *does* have hills; I had always thought it flat – we saw a small pond with blooming waterlilies. Very pretty, I would have liked to take a picture, but who wants to stop on a downhill?

As we neared the campground, we saw a line of Amish buggies waiting to cross or turn onto the road we were on. We waved as we passed and they waved back.

Our second night at Evergreen was *much* closer to the bathrooms, and in a more open area. On this night, there were also people yelling – but this couple was having a serious fight with a lot of foul language. Penny said she expected to hear a car screeching off, and I was wondering whether we would hear gunshots. If there were any bodies in the morning, they were well-hidden.

**Day Three:** Cass City To Caseville;  
Monday, 18 June 07; 56.7 Miles

While striking the tent, we found two small toads under our ground cloth. There was another really tiny one, smaller than a dime, nearby.

Today's route took us through Cass City and Sebawaing to our campground in Caseville, which is on the lake, with a



The Octagon Barn near Gagetown, Michigan

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stop at the Octagon Barn. Approaching Cass City I noticed a sign for “pastured poultry.” Guess this is another way of saying “free range chickens.”

In Cass City, at Cathy’s request, we stopped near the Cass City Chronicle for a photo for the newspaper. Steve and Kris posed with the Yorkies in front of the group, and the photographer also took a close up of this “unusual” travelling group. When we later saw the front-page photo and short article, we were all amused that the pups were referred to as “twin” Yorkies, because Chaps is 14 years older than Obie.

Our sightseeing event for today was the Thumb Octagon Barn, which is located a few miles north of Cass City near the village of Gagetown. (For a photo and more details, see the website: [www.thumboctagonbarn.org](http://www.thumboctagonbarn.org)). This barn was completed in 1924, in the shape (of course) of an octagon and both the barn and the original owner’s house are now open to the public, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers. The upper floor of the barn has interesting old farm equipment on display. Several of our groups have farm backgrounds and had used items like those we saw on display.

Passing a field of poppies and other wildflowers, we headed on as the day got hotter. Luckily, at least for me, this was to be the last hot day of our tour. Some time after our stop at the Octagon Barn, Rick and I stopped at a small gas station store. We split a Three Musketeers bar and bought two COLD quart size bottles of water to drink, dumping the remainder into our Platypuses.



The octagon barn was filled with exhibits.

Today’s lunch stop was in Sebawaing, which is where we got our first glimpse of Lake Huron. Growing up and vacationing on the Lake farther north near East Tawas or Oscoda on the main part of the “mitten”, the first sight of the water was always a thrill, and so was it was on this today, even at my age. Cathy had recommended a place called the Dairy Barn for lunch. It is an old drive-in, but now has tables in the center area between where cars used to park for service. Unlike my brother, I am not particularly fond of hot dogs, but I ordered one – and it was so good I ordered a second. Later, after the trip, I told my brother about this place. I was somewhat surprised when he carefully noted down its name and location. Of course, my brother *really* loves hot dogs.

To Be Continued in September/October  
DoubleTalk

Shelley Pulliam  
Bellevue, MI





# DoubleTalk

## France In Our Forties

### France In Our Forties

Tami and I had been talking about cycling in France for years. That discussion became more specific when she declared that we should cycle in “France while we’re still in our forties.” The trip became known to the two of us as merely “France in our forties.” I had a lot of vacation to use before I lost it, I’m almost out of my forties, and it was our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary this year. So we purchased a new tandem last fall and began training and planning the trip.

We flew on Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) because their website said that they would take a bicycle “or tandem.” Our new tandem is not a travel model, and

so an airline that would not bat an eye when receiving an 86 inch box seemed like a good choice. They were as good as their word and actually only charged the \$120 bike fee on the trip over, not on the return. The bike made the journey without damage, and our trip on SAS was very enjoyable.

After being refused entry on the train with a tandem, we rented a van and drove our tandem to our starting point for about the same price as the train tickets. Our tandem trip began in Chartres. Chartres is home to the largest medieval cathedral in the world. It has tremendous stone carvings, a labyrinth on the floor, and lovely stained glass windows. The view from the bell tower is stunning,





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but if you are like me, and are freaked out by heights, “stunning” is not always a good thing. We rode around the community’s series of bike paths for several hours both to see the beautiful town and to make sure I’d reassembled the bike properly.

The next day we rode north along the Eure River, basically going up the west side, and then returning down the east bank. This was a route suggested to us by the local tourism office. They had a fine map showing the route and detailing the sites along the way. We followed the D-6

through St. Prest, Jouy, and St. Piat. We saw beautiful stone villages, an abbey, and the French countryside along the slow-moving Eure.

We had a picnic lunch on the grounds of the chateau that belonged to Lady Maintenon. After lunch, we toured the Chateau itself. Lady Maintenon was a mistress to Louis XIV and the never-finished aqueduct he began is still visible in the distant view from the gardens. Tami’s field of study centers upon this era in French history, and so this building was of particular interest to her. The folks

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in the chateau office were most helpful and insisted we bring the tandem into the chateau's courtyard during our tour, rather than locking it up on the street.

From Maintenon we continued to Nogent le Roi. Nogent le Roi has a beautiful old church and a chateau on the hill that is currently used as an art gallery. While most of this trip was basically flat, I was glad to have the “granny gear” getting up that hill to the chateau.

We rode north to Chaudon and crossed the Eure River, and then rode to

Brechamps. From there we rode south along the east bank through Coulombs, Villiers, and Mevoisins. Mevoisins also had a lovely old stone church. This ride was simply one beautiful stone village after another. (Consistently in France we observed that every single house, yard, and garden was well taken care of. The level of pride and care was evident, and made the trip that much more beautiful.) We returned to Chartres just after dark.



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The next day we left Chartres and headed east on the D-24. This leg was through an area characterized by small villages separated by vast tracts of large-scale agriculture. While the crops, beef cattle, wind, and even wind farms reminded me of central Washington (we live in Ellensburg), the stone architec-

ture and ancient churches reminded me that we were in France. We connected with the D-21 in Sainville and rode to Etampes. In Etampes we had a late lunch, saw their church with its seriously leaning tower, and took my picture in front of a 2008 Tour de France sign.

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From there we took the D-63, D-145, and D-153 to Boutigny. Along the way were several chateaux that were not even on the map.

Boutigny was bedecked with flower baskets, and we had a fine dinner featuring paté and rabbit in what appeared to be the only hotel in town.





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The next day we rode from Boutigny to Moigny, Courances, and Arbonne, and then over the D-409 into Fontainebleau. This ride is through the forest of Fontainebleau, and is designated as a scenic route. (I found that scenic routes, while beautiful, were also usually steep.) The palace at Fontainebleau was used by Louis XIV, Louis XV, Louis XVI, and Napoleon. It was actually Napoleon's favorite palace and is decorated today in his style. We stayed in a lovely B&B (called a Chambre D'hote in France) that had a little patio on the second floor where they insisted we lock up our tandem. Fontainebleau has marvelous shopping, including a tremendous cheese shop, bakeries, chocolates, as well as shops selling patés and sausages. What more could a cyclist want?

The next day we rode to Chatelet en Brie where we checked into our next Chambre D'hote (this time a lovely farmhouse in the country), and then rode back to Fericy. As Tami and I planned this trip, we discovered the French Tandem Club on the Internet. We checked out their website and learned that they were having a two-day club ride, from Fericy, during the time we would be over there, and so we made sure to schedule our trip so we would meet up and ride with them. We made email contact with several club members, including Gerard and his wife Marie Annick Mandet. They were most welcoming and introduced us to other club members, drove us to and from our room, invited us to lunch, and generally were the most gracious hosts possible. Several other club members also befriended us and gave us advise on French

train travel (getting out of Paris is a crap-shoot as to whether you'll be allowed on a train with a tandem) and were patient with our very limited French.

That day we rode 86 kilometers in a southwesterly figure eight from Fericy with the club. There were 22 teams each day, and they came from all over the country to participate. The ride was well-planned and everyone had queue sheets. We rode through cobblestone villages, forests, and fields of late-season sunflowers. That night, there was a catered dinner for all the participants.

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The next day we rode 75 kilometers in generally a northeasterly loop from Fericy. We stopped at an abbey that was several hundred years old and a church that was on the road of St. James. We had lunch at, and then went on a tour of, a medieval chateau and walked through a restored medieval castle.

Toured and authored by,

Neil and Tamara  
Caulkins  
Ellensburg, WA



Riding with the French Tandem Club was one of the high points of the trip. We invited club members to come ride with us should they ever take a trip to America. Tami and I also rode along the canals in Burgundy from Montbard to Buffon and spent a day riding along Lake Constance in Switzerland and Germany. But meeting and riding with the members of the French Tandem Club was probably the most memorable part of the trip.

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July 3, 2009. **HOOTS (Hoosiers Out On Tandems) Pre-4<sup>th</sup> of July Ride.** Indianapolis, IN area. 26 miles to the Sheridan Dairy Queen and back. Maps will be provided. Enjoy the extra day off and join us for lunch after the ride. If it rains, we'll skip the ride and go directly for food. John Calhoun & Madelyn Zalon ja\_calhoun@bcglobal.net <http://members.aol.com/tandemhoots>

July 3-5, 2009. **Northwest Tandem Rally 2009.** Vancouver, BC. Northwest Tandem Rally crosses the border for a bit of international flair in 2009. This should be a great event as tandems explore the Vancouver area. Pre-registration is required. Lodging is in campgrounds, campus or hotels. [www.nwtr.org](http://www.nwtr.org)

July 4, 2009. **DATES (Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts) Annual Independence Day Ride.** Casa Logan, Farmers Branch, TX. What better way to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup>? Enjoy tandeming with your tandem friends. [www.doubledates.com](http://www.doubledates.com)

July 10-12, 2009. **Eastern Tandem Rally 2009.** Strasburg, PA. Trains and tandems, what a match. Strasburg is home of a steam railroad, and hidden in the Pennsylvania Amish country with its beautiful farms and great country roads. Maps will be available for extra riding days before and after the rally weekend. Pre-registration is required. [www.easterntandemrally.org](http://www.easterntandemrally.org)

July 12, 2009. **Harpeth, TN Bike Club Monthly Tandem Ride.** Nashville, TN area. We begin at a friendly pace then separate into groups by speed. Contact Tom Spear for details [www.harpethbikeclub.com](http://www.harpethbikeclub.com) click on the tandem group ride

July 18, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Pool Party.** Buffalo Grove, IL. Bikes are great, but it gets hot in the summer. Join us for a ride then jump into the pool to cool off.

[www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

July 18, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Stoker Ride.** Wheaton, IL. Captains are always needed for this great event. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

July 18, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Night Ride.** Union, IL. Try riding at the other end of the day. Night riding is a great way to beat the heat. Lights and reflectors are required. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

July 25, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Onion Pub Ride.** Lake Barrington, IL. It may be hot while we're riding, but we'll enjoy a cool one after it's over. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

July 25, 2009. **Evergreen Tandem Club Mason County Rural Meander.** Puget Sound Area. [www.evergreentandemclub.org](http://www.evergreentandemclub.org)

July 26, 2009. **GRITS (Greater Raleigh Intrepid Tandem Society) Ride.** Apex/Cary NC. Riding and eating what could be better? Gary & Sara. [www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm](http://www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm)

July 31-Aug 2, 2009 **Southern Tier Tandem Rally.** Elmira, NY. A great weekend of riding and socializing. This is the 17<sup>th</sup> annual – the hosts have plenty of experience so know just what will please the group. Rich & Lindy Shapiro (607) 734-2372 [rich@gtgtandems.com](mailto:rich@gtgtandems.com)

August 1, 2009. **DOGS (Doubles Of the Garden State) Dave's HOT Ride and COOL Pool Party.** Califon, NJ. This is Dave's annual bash. RSVP Dave Snope, [dsnobe@comcast.net](mailto:dsnobe@comcast.net) or 908.832-2607 before 9 eastern [www.d-o-g-s.org](http://www.d-o-g-s.org)

August 1, 2009. **Evergreen Tandem Club**

## TANDEM CALENDAR



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## TANDEM CALENDAR

**Sedro-Woolley Concrete Loop.** Puget Sound Area. [www.evergreentandemclub.org](http://www.evergreentandemclub.org)

August 1-8, 2009. **International Tandem Rally.** Appelscha, The Netherlands. The rally is based at "RCN de Roggeberg". The camping offers a lot of facilities. We will have a field for our own, caravans and campers and tents, situated around the HQ. Ample possibilities to rent houses on the adjacent field. De Roggeberg is situated in the woods on the edge of the national park "Het Drents-Friese Wold". It's indeed a beautiful area for cycling. Forest, moor, and farms. Check [www.tandem-club.org.uk](http://www.tandem-club.org.uk) for additional details

August 7-9, 2009. **MATES Rally 2009.** Carlisle, PA. An interesting college town to explore, easy turnpike and interstate access all combine with great riding for a fantastic event. Details will be posted at [www.easterntandemrally.org](http://www.easterntandemrally.org) as they become available. Contact Jim or Kim Pastorick [jim@uxopro.com](mailto:jim@uxopro.com) with questions

August 7-9, 2009. **PIGS Rally 2009.** Winterset, IA Three days of great riding including a Friday ice cream ride, a Saturday banquet and, oh yes, great riding on Saturday and Sunday. Host hotel Super 8 515.462.4888 or camp at Winterset Park. Darrell & Anita Brown host Pre-Registration required. <http://home.mchsi.com/~pigstandem/2009rallyinfo.htm> [dbrown@netins.net](mailto:dbrown@netins.net)

August 8, 2009. **Evergreen Tandem Club Three Ferries Ride.** Puget Sound Area. [www.evergreentandemclub.org](http://www.evergreentandemclub.org)

August 15, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Stoker Ride.** Elmhurst, IL. Captains are always needed for this great event. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

August 15, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area**

**Tandem Society) Night Ride.** Union, IL. Try riding at the other end of the day. Night riding is a great way to beat the heat. Lights and reflectors are required. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

August 16, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Sweet Corn Ride.** Chicago area, IL. It's corn season and we need to celebrate. We hope to find a few 'ears' along the way. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

August 16, 2009. **Harpeth, TN Bike Club Monthly Tandem Ride.** Nashville, TN area. We begin at a friendly pace then separate into groups by speed. Contact Tom Spear for details [www.harpethbikeclub.com](http://www.harpethbikeclub.com) click on the tandem group ride

August 22, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Long Grove Ride.** Long Grove, IL. A CATS tradition as the summer comes to a close. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

August 23, 2009. **TNT (Team Northwest Tandemonium) Eola Hills Wine Ride.** Rickreall, Oregon. Preregistration is required. This is a great day of riding, food and wine. [www.portlandtandemclub.org](http://www.portlandtandemclub.org)

September 4-7, 2009. **Midwest Tandem Rally 2009.** Rochester, MN Jennifer McDonald [twobytwo@scc.net](mailto:twobytwo@scc.net) 612.408.6607 or visit the website @ [http://rahrahrrochester.com/events/2009\\_MTR\\_Rally/index.aspx](http://rahrahrrochester.com/events/2009_MTR_Rally/index.aspx)

September 7 – 11, 2009. **Midwest Tandem Rally Post Tour.** We'll be riding in the south east corner of Minnesota. The report is the roads are beautiful and the traffic is low. Contact Joanie Osell [josell@earthlink.net](mailto:josell@earthlink.net)

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September 12, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Stoker Ride.** Wheaton, IL. Captains are always needed for this great event. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

September 12, 2009. **Evergreen Tandem Club Annual Picnic.** Puget Sound Area. Rides for every one. [www.evergreentandemclub.org](http://www.evergreentandemclub.org)

September 12 and 13, 2009. **Covered Bridges Tandem Weekend.** Northeastern Ohio (Austinburg/Ashtabula County). We will visit about a dozen covered bridges, several wineries, an apple orchard, and the old resort town of Geneva on the Lake. Terrain is primarily flat to rolling in mostly rural areas. Contact Doug Crush at [dwcrush@aol.com](mailto:dwcrush@aol.com)

September 13, 2009. **GRITS (Greater Raleigh Intrepid Tandem Society) Smith & Claud's Chicken Ride.** Raleigh, NC area. Following the ride we grill veggie burgers and chicken at Smith & Claud's house. [www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm](http://www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm)

September 13, 2009. **Harpeth, TN Bike Club Monthly Tandem Ride.** Nashville, TN area. We begin at a friendly pace then separate into groups by speed. Contact Tom Spear for details [www.harpethbikeclub.com](http://www.harpethbikeclub.com) click on the tandem group ride

September 19-20, 2009. **Evergreen Tandem Club Mason Yakima Valley Winery Cycling Tour.** Yakima Valley. Over the course of 2 days, you will ride about 80 miles and visit about 10 excellent wineries. Lunches will be arranged and most likely a group dinner on Saturday. Pre-registration is required. Mike and Renda Murphy [twototandem@hotmail.com](mailto:twototandem@hotmail.com) [www.evergreentandemclub.org](http://www.evergreentandemclub.org)

September 20, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Plowing Match Ride.** Big Rock, IL. It is festival time [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

September 27, 2009. **GRITS (Greater Raleigh Intrepid Tandem Society) Ride.** Carrboro, NC. We include the Carboro Music Festival in

## TANDEM CALENDAR

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### TCA Tandem Hospitality Homes

Are you willing to become a TCA Hospitality Home? If so please fill out the form to the right. If you would like to discuss what's involved, give me a call and we'll talk about it.

A Hospitality Home provides touring cyclists a place to stay for a night. It need not be fancy, a spare bedroom or even a tent site will do. The cyclist will need shower facilities and an opportunity to launder their clothes and a meal. The touring cyclist will call you well in advance and make arrangements; no surprises.

Phil Mortello, 181 N Retreat Dr, Show Low, AZ  
85901

TCA Member No. \_\_\_\_\_ (from your label)  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
First Names \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Evening telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Telephone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Bedroom or tent site \_\_\_\_\_

[homes@tandemclub.org](mailto:homes@tandemclub.org)



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our ride. Ed & Jeanne lead. [www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm](http://www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm)

September 27, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Leaf me Alone Ride.** Barrington, IL. Fall is upon us. We'll be looking for fall color along the road. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

October 2-4, 2009. **COWS (Couples on Wheels (WI)) Fall Weekend.** East Troy, WI We are gathering the herd for a fall event. The riding is great around East Troy and there will be tandems there – what could be better. Questions – Lee & Mary Fiegel [Lfiegel@centurytel.net](mailto:Lfiegel@centurytel.net) or [couplesonwheels.com](http://couplesonwheels.com)

October 9-11, 2009. **Southern Tandem Rally 2009.** The Villages, FL (Near Ocala). The plans are in place. More information and registration forms will be available after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

October 9-12, 2009. **Fall Allegany Rally for Tandems (FART XVI)** Salamanca NY An extra day! Off road MTB weekend at Allegany State Park. Private rooms. All meals on your own. Riding XC ski trails, horse trails and dirt roads. Technically not difficult, but be prepared to climb. Register early-limited to 20 teams. For more info, contact Karen or Brian Managan 49 Martinot Ave Rochester NY 14609 (585)

654-9624 or [frosty\\_dog@mac.com](mailto:frosty_dog@mac.com) Because of the extra night, the cost for the entire camp for the weekend is \$750 divided by the number of teams, so the more teams, the less it costs! Check out the F.A.R.T. web page at <http://homepage.mac.com/bmanagan/fart/>

October 10, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Stoker Ride.** Wheaton, IL. Captains are always needed for this great event. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

October 11, 2009. **GRITS (Greater Raleigh Intrepid Tandem Society) Chili Ride.** Cary, NC. This is the official Captain's Birthday ride. All October birthday's will be celebrated. [www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm](http://www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm)

October 18, 2009. **Harpeth, TN Bike Club Monthly Tandem Ride.** Nashville, TN area. We begin at a friendly pace then separate into groups by speed. Contact Tom Spear for details [www.harpethbikeclub.com](http://www.harpethbikeclub.com) click on the tandem group ride

October 25, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Chili Pumpkin Ride.** Barrington, IL. The ride may be shorter as the temperature drops. We'll warm up afterwards with a chili feast. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

November 8, 2009. **GRITS (Greater Raleigh Intrepid Tandem Society) Ride.** Eno State Park. Roy & Zelena lead us to apple pie. [www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm](http://www.ncbikeclub.org/Grits/GRITS.htm)

November 15, 2009. **Harpeth, TN Bike Club Monthly Tandem Ride.** Nashville, TN area. We begin at a friendly pace then separate into groups by speed. Contact Tom Spear for details [www.harpethbikeclub.com](http://www.harpethbikeclub.com) click on the tandem group ride

December 13, 2009. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Christmas Party.** Round Lake, IL. Tandem teams, but there may not be a ride. No matter, we know how to party. [www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com](http://www.Chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com) or e-mail [Chicagotandems@mchsi.com](mailto:Chicagotandems@mchsi.com)

Labor Day, 2010. **MTR 2010** Shipshewana, IN. Nice flat terrain, quaint Amish locale. Hosted by HOOTs (Hoosiers Out On Tandems), part of CIBA (Central Indiana Bicycling Association). More details at MTR 2009 in Rochester, MN and DoubleTalk.

## TANDEM CALENDAR



# DoubleTalk

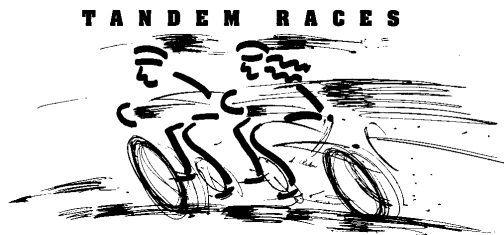
July / August 2009  
www.TandemClub.org

The TANDEM CLUB OF AMERICA wants to list your rides in the TANDEM CALENDAR. Rally and Ride Organizers, please send the information about your tandem events to:

DoubleTalk Calendar  
Jack & Susan Goertz  
2220 Vanessa Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35242

e-mail: editor@tandemclub.org

Please limit your TCA Calendar listings to TANDEM-specific events, or tours/races with TANDEM classes.



## Race Calendar

July 19-22, 2007. **Co-Motion Classic Tandem Stage Race.** Eugene, OR Pre-registration is required. This is the pen-ultimate tandem stage race in the US. 4 days and 5 stages. There is a category for recreational riders so come test your stuff. Co-Motion Cycles, 4756 Pacific Ave, Eugene, OR 97402 866-282.6336 or www.co-motion.com/CCTandemRace.html



## CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE:** 2002 Santana Team AL, purchased new in 2006. 3,500 miles excellent condition. Size: Med / Med. Ouzo Pro carbon fork, Dura-Ace front brake. near new Winzip mechanical rear disc, ultegra STI shifters , XTR rear Derailleur, FSA Carbon cranks, shimano flightdeck, 27 speed. \$3,750 - Phone: 603-868-1588 - email: Charles@blitzer.org (NH) 09/09

**FOR SALE:** Calfee Carbon Tandem Tetra Tetra (2003). \$4900 or best offer. Photos & more info available at www.tandemavail.com. We're the original owners. Bike has low mileage and has always been kept in a garage when we're not riding it. No accidents/No damage. Beautiful cobalt blue fade. Captain & stoker standover heights are 30.5". Front toptube is 20.5"/rear toptube is 29.25". Equipped with high-end & light-weight components, including rear disk brake & front Ultegra brake, Velocity Aerohead wheels laced to Chris King hubs, FSA carbon triple 175/170 crankset (55-44-32), 9 speed Deore XT cassette, Deore XT Rapidfire shifters, Ultegra front derailleur, XTR rear derailleur, and 4 water bottle cages. For more info, see our website @ www.tandemvail.com or email us at: carbontandem@me.com. (CO) 09/09

**FOR SALE:** RANS Screamer recumbent tandem, red, no frame damage. Many extras including two new front and two new rear tires, Arai brake, tools, clipless pedals, also a set of regular pedals, shoes, helmets, tools. Asking price \$2,000. rdlarson@tampabay.rr.com or Bob Larson, 813-633-0007. (FL) 09/09

**FOR SALE:** 2004 Co-Motion Robusta, medium (22x19), Mango to Red Fade, Woundup Carbon Fork, Flightdeck Computer, Dura-Ace STI, FSA Carbon Cranks, Chris King Headset, Bontrager Racelite Wheels, Carbon Seatpost, Rocshok Stoker Post, Avid Disk Brake Priced @ \$4,900

## CLASSIFIEDS



# DoubleTalk

## CLASSIFIEDS

(replacement cost over \$8,500). Phone: (704)-533-4799 or e-mail: wam-murphy@carolina.rr.com. (NC) 07/09

**FOR SALE:** 2008 Arriva SE, medium, Candy Blue, S&S couplers, Carbon Fork, Wireless Flightdeck Computer, 30 speed drivetrain, 48 spoke wheels, Arai Drum brake(drag brake), Tamer Stoker Shock post, Gatorskin tires, Water-bottle cages. Yours for \$4,750 (replacement cost over \$5,800). Phone: (704)-533-4799 or e-mail: wam-murphy@carolina.rr.com. (NC) 07/09

**FOR SALE:** 1990 Santana Noventa Frame with 2002 updated Components. Carbon Fork, Hadley Hubs, Shimano Ultegra STI Shifters and Drive-train, w/Deore XT rear derailleur. Avid brakes, 9-speed cassette, triple chainring, Chris King headset, Ti captain's stem, Continental Gatorskin tires, Selle Italia Pro Link Captain's Saddle, Bontrager Gel Women's Stoker saddle. The bike is in pristine condition except for 4 one millimeter chips in the paint on the underside of the bike which I have primed with a metal primer to prevent rust. The shifting is the smoothest of any bike I have ever owned. Awesome ride. This is Santana's Top of the Line steel tandem. Pictures available upon request. \$2,200. Call Erik Dennes, at (502)-955-4845 (work). (KY) 07/09

**FOR SALE:** Like new Santana Sovereign SE (Serial # XK208). Small frame, fits riders w/inseams from 77-83cm (captain) and 70-89cm (stoker). Ultegra 9-sp STI shifters and front derailleur, Deore XT rear derailleur. Santana Megadrive crankset, 12-34 9sp cassette, Shimano V-brakes (frame has mounts for disk brake adapter). Upgraded to Aerospoke wheels. Continental Gatorskin tires (700x25c). \$2000 + shipping. Call Jay @ (630)-561-2077 or e-mail to jayceil@sbcglobal.net. (IL) 07/09

**FOR SALE:** The One & Only Complete Set of Doubletalk vol. 1, 1976 to June 2009 with Original Tandem Art & the complete series of Tandem Cartoons by Johnny Helms, all with copyright. \$200.00 plus shipping. Carolyn Reker, stevereker@yahoo.com. (GA) 07/09

**FOR SALE:** DraftMaster Hitch Bike Rack - Double Specialty +1. This rack, manufactured by ATOC is a premier bike rack, particularly good for long wheel base recumbents or tandems. It mounts to a standard 2" receiver hitch, and supports the bikes vertically. It also lowers to the ground for easy one person loading, or access to a hatch back SUV. New cost is over \$900. This hitch is in like-new condition (used once). Will sell the full hitch (2ea 76" tracks plus 1) for \$475 or rack with one 76" track plus 1 for \$325, plus shipping. Located near Spokane, Washington. Phone (509) 299-5383 or e-mail dkmelchior@ieec.org. (WA) 07/09

**HELP OFFERED:** Are you planning a cycling trip to England or Europe? As Overseas Liaison Officers for the Tandem Club (of the UK) we can help with advice on routes, accommodations, bikes by rail, local bike clubs, etc. England is a great place to cycle, and you are sure of a friendly welcome. Chris & Jenny Davison, Pennyfarthings, 4 Badbury View, Wimborne Minster, Dorset, BH21 1DH, England, Phone 011 44 1202 884288 or e-mail to chris@pennyfarthings.com

**WANTED:** Objective roadtests, with photos, of tandems built by quality frame-builders. Send articles, photos (prints only), etc. to Jack & Susan Goertz, Editors of DoubleTalk. (or e-mail them to editor@tandemclub.org)

**WANTED:** Volunteer artist(s) to prepare sketches, cartoons, and illustrations to Double-Talk Editors, Jack & Susan Goertz, 2220 Vanessa Drive Birmingham, AL 35242-4430.

Non-commercial Classifieds are free to TCA Members. Please include your member number with your ad. Classified advertising rates available upon request. Send a SASE to the Editors.



# DoubleTalk

July / August 2009  
www.TandemClub.org

## Dealer Members Tandem Dealers

**VILLAGE CYCLES**PORT. Selling Santana, Co-Motion, daVinci, Rans & Sun tandems. Testriders welcome. Trade-ins accepted. See us at www.villagescyclesport.com or 45 Arlington Heights Rd, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. (847)-439-3340 11/09 (63908)

**TANDEM CYCLE WORKS**, Denver, CO. Largest tandems-only shop in the U.S. Test rides ANY TIME, no appointment necessary. NUMBER ONE Co-Motion and Calfee dealer. Burley, and Ellsworth, too. 1080 S. Gaylord St., Denver, CO 80209. Phone: 303-715-9690. E-mail: TandemDOC@TandemCycleWorks.com. Web: www.TandemCycleWorks.com.. 11/09 (55256)

**TANDEM**S, LIMITED. Selling America's finest tandems, Bushnell, Cannondale, Co-Motion, KHS, Rans, Santana, more. 2220 Vanessa Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242-4430. (205)-991-5519 e-mail: tandems@mindspring.com or www.tandemsltd.com 01/10 (431)

**CRANK2 PERFORMANCE TANDEM BICYCLES**. Test Ride Center for Santana, Co-Motion, daVinci Designs, & KHS. Over 45 tandems available for immediate delivery. 925-462-4272. www.crank-2.com. 5480-9 Sunol Blvd. Pleasonton, CA 94566 01/10 (63698)

**PRECISION TANDEM**S – 30 Tandems, Triplet, Quads in stock from Burley, Co-Motion, Longbikes, Meridian, Santana. Child Adaptor Kits. On-line Parts & Accessory Catalogs & Tandem Display. Check out www.PrecisionTandems.com. 913.962.8866 10am-9pm days. 03/10 (53745)

**GEAR-TO-GO TANDEM**S. NY & northern PA's largest Tandem Dealership located in Elmira NY. Santana, Co-Motion, Calfee, Burley, Rans

in stock. Test rides by appointment. Elmira (607)-732-4859; Rich@gtgtandems.com Check our website: <http://www.gtgtandems.com> 05/10 (53741)

**TANDEM**S EAST. Free catalog Stocking Co-Motion, Seven, daVinci, Calfee, Cannondale, Hokitiki, Green Gear, KHS, Burley, Rans, Kidz, Bushnell, Bilenky, Wheels, child conversions, parts, advice. www.tandemseast.com tandemwiz@aol.com (856)-451-5104 (NJ) 11/10 (59214)

**TANDEM MATCHMAKERS** - Nearly 200 in stock. Touring, Family, Track, Race, Recumbent, Triplet, Portable, Quad. Rentals. Long rural tests. Repairs, Modifications, refinishing. Wheels, Obscure Parts. worldwide shipping. Buy and trade MT. AIRY BICYCLE. - [www.bike123.com](http://www.bike123.com) - Orders: 888 MY TANDEM (MD) 01/13 (50987)

## Other Dealer Members

**ACORN INN** Bed and Breakfast: Discover Central Virginia's rural beauty with tandem-riding hosts. Ten bedroom renovated stable; cottage. Near Blue Ridge Parkway, historic Charlottesville. Ideal for groups. Delicious breakfasts. (434)-361-9357. <http://www.acorninn.com> 05/10 (59632)

**BECOME A TCA DEALER MEMBER!** A \$45.00 membership gives you a one-year membership in the Tandem Club of America, six issues of DoubleTalk, and a 30-word classified ad in each issue of DoubleTalk while you are a member. Ads are pulled after the date shown in the ad. New ads with \$45/membership must be received by the editors by the first of the next month (i.e., ads with an 03/03 date will not run in May-June issue if your renewal is not received by April 1, 2003) to keep your advertisement current. Send your ad and check (payable to TCA) to TCA

**BECOME  
A TCA  
DEALER  
MEMBER!**

# TCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL



## Dues

United States \$15.00/yr

Canada 20.00/yr

Other International \$25.00/yr

All dues are quoted (and must be paid) in US Dollars  
2 and 3 year memberships are encouraged

## Membership

Please fill out the membership form below and mail  
with a check made payable (in US funds) to:

Tandem Club of America  
Smith Doss & Claude Monnier  
10708 Cambium Ct  
Raleigh, NC 27613-6304

Membership No. (from your mailing label) : \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print your name or Paste Your Label below. Make any necessary corrections.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Including Area Code): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Tandem Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Style: \_\_\_\_\_

DoubleTalk is now available on tape for those that are legally blind. Please check here if you prefer to receive your copy on tape instead of the printed copy....\_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_ for (1) (2) or (3) Years

### MAIL TO:

**Tandem Club of America, 10708 Cambium Ct, Raleigh, NC 27613-6304**

(Multiple-year memberships, 3 year maximum, are accepted at Dues Rate X Number of Years)

Is this a renewal? \_\_\_\_\_ Have you made any necessary corrections? \_\_\_\_\_

Seen at a recent Tandem Rally -



Please send us your pictures for use on the backpage - preferably with captions  
Send your photos to:  
DoubleTalk, 2220 Vanessa Dr, Birmingham, AL 35242  
editor@tandemclub.org

