



DOUBLETALK

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

MARCH / APRIL 2011

The Tandem Club of America
Jack & Susan Goertz, Editors
2220 Vanesso Dr.
Birmingham, AL 35242-4430

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Paul Campbell & Cathie Bishop, 1604 S
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sissauga, ON L5N 3A1 (905)-824-9364

Region 14 (NB, NF, NS, PE) - **Alan Davidson**

& Lynell Withers, 20 Cascade Dr, Hali-
fax, NS B3M 1Z3 (902) 457-4030

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A publication of the Tandem Club of America

*An International Club for Tandem Enthusiasts
Established in 1976*

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Cover design by Edd Scheer

Send articles to: Jack & Susan Goertz, 2220 Vanessa Dr, Birmingham, AL 35242-4430

editor@tandemclub.org



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Who Does What?

What do TCA members do?

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

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

Editors: **Jack & Susan Goertz**, 2220 Vanessa Dr, Birmingham, AL 35242
editor@tandemclub.org (205) 991-7766

Secretary: **Anne & Kent Ellis**, 1923 Azurite PL, Ft Wayne, IN 46804
secretary@tandemclub.org (260) 387-7978

Membership: **Duncan & Laura McCabe**, 2302 New Orleans Pl, Wilmington, NC 28403-0315
membership@tandemclub.org (910) 540-9371

Treasurers: **Al & Sue Berzinis**, 99 Bender Ln, Delmar, NY 12054-4331
treasurer@tandemclub.org

Merchandise: **Yvonne Hensley & Beth Hobensack**, 180 Industrial Blvd, Suite P, McKinney, TX 75069
merchandise@tandemclub.org (972) 562-8588

Webmaster: **Russell Mawn**, 2662 Paden Pl, Vestavia Hills, AL 35226
webmaster@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.

**Deadline
for the
May
June
2011
issue is
April 1,
2011**

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:

2011

January - February

2010

November - December

September - October

July - August

May - June

March - April

January - February

2009 - all issues

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From the Editors –

By now, you should have received your 2011 Annual Membership Issue for the TCA membership. We'd like to remind everyone that the Membership Issue is for the NON-COMMERCIAL use of our members. That means we do not allow anyone to copy the e-mail addresses (even tho' they have to be programmed by hand) and send advertisements or SPAM to our members. Rest assured, TCA never sells your information, and we never send it to any commercial operation in electronic format. If you receive any unsolicited mailing from anyone, please ask that they remove your name/address from their database. And remember, they did not get it in an electronic format from the TCA!

I'd also like to mention our falling numbers of members. If you compare the 2011 Membership Issue with the 2010 edition, you'll notice that we've lost a number of memberships again in 2010. Unfortunately, this trend is common these days for almost all clubs who produce a magazine where there are also many websites available promoting similar themes or activities. While we believe the printed word/DoubleTalk can't be duplicated on the internet, the membership continues to drop. We encourage you to make sure your membership doesn't lapse, and we also ask that you ask your tandem-riding friends to join (or re-join) the Tandem Club of America. We still think we offer a product that can't be duplicated on the Internet. We like to think that the Internet supplements what you can find in DoubleTalk. (Have you ever

tried to take your laptop into your "reading room"? While it might be possible, it's a heck of a lot easier taking your copy of DoubleTalk into that "reading room".)

The rally season is already starting. Coming soon are the spring rallies, starting in the South with the Sebring Rally, the Alabama Tandem Weekend, the Southwest Tandem Rally, the Georgia Tandem Rally, and the Tennessee Tandem Rally. And there are many more to choose from. Most of the rallies for 2011 are already scheduled, and the info is listed on our calendar pages. Check the calendar, note the dates and locations and addresses for more information, and make plans now for the year. Don't forget to save time for those great summer and fall rallies, too! Make sure you save vacation time for them. There are some great rallies planned, and you can find a rally somewhere near you sometime. Or venture far away and visit a different part of the country!

In closing, we'd like to thank everyone who has sent us an article in the past few months. We're working our way through them, and we'll be running them in the next few issues. While we have a backlog now (boy, do TCA people like to travel and ride their tandems! They also like to ride on great centuries and in terrific areas in their own back yard). We encourage you to read the articles we've chosen for this issue, and to send us the article that only you can right, about an adventure you've enjoyed, or that you would like to share with us about some-

continued on page 4

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



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From the Editor - continued from p 3

thing that's important to your tandem experience. Send them to us (we really like to receive them via e-mail. E-mail address listed below) and be patient, we'll get them edited and included in a future issue of DoubleTalk.

See you on the road!
Jack & Susan Goertz



Our mailman continues to bring us surprises. This time it was a self mailer from the Friends of the Riverfront. It describes the trails and programs of the Pittsburgh, PA Friends of the Riverfront. A vision of continuous trails and greenways along the riverfronts of the Pittsburgh regions was the vision. The map says the vision is becoming an amazing reality.

So if you're headed to Pennsylvania you may want to stop by - and be surprised.



Cold & Wet and Hot & Parched around Toulouse, June 2010

During last year's cold and wet trip to Switzerland, we decided that we would return to southern France for a guarantee of warm, sunny weather. Well, as you can imagine from the title of this tale of woe, we were wrong, wrong, wrong. Three weeks in June around Toulouse should have been about perfect. Some flat riding, some hills, some historic sites, days that are not too hot and not too wet, and always great bread and cheese. The reality was that my wife, Susan, our eleven-year-old son, Dominick, and I survived our second tough tour in a row.

Now I know what you might be thinking "Poor babies, to be forced to suffer three weeks in southern France." The truth is that I am probably writing this too soon after our adventure. Perhaps if I were writing this in a few months, my mind's eye might be a bit more blurred to our recent slog. However, I have some time on my hands and the urge to write!

We started and ended the tour in a nice little two-star hotel in Toulouse. We ride a Rodriguez triple with S&S couplings and bring all of the necessary gear to camp along the way in a Burley Solo trailer converted into a cargo trailer. The baggage stays at the hotel awaiting our return, while we roam the countryside. As arranged, the hotel had a sweet little two car garage where we put the bike together. It would have only taken us about 2 ½ hours to do the job, but the two lights were on two separate timers. One shut off in about 90 seconds,

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the other one lasted about 5 minutes. Our legs and backs had a real workout with constantly getting up to hit the switches. I hate to tell about just how stupid we can be by admitting that when it was time to break the bike down at the end of the trip, all that we did was to open one of the garage doors. Duh! I can't tell you why we didn't think of it that first morning.

After putting the bike together, a total of 14'-4" with the trailer attached, we spent the rest of the day walking around chilly and rainy Toulouse, a lovely city of about one million people with above and below ground mass transportation. Tired with jet-lag, we stumbled about looking for a shop selling fresh fruit. We live in a town where the car is king, so it is wonderful



to walk around a city with narrow streets where the pedestrians rule. One of our favorite sights was of an old building under renovation. It was on a corner and you could see through all of the window openings to the sky beyond. The only thing remaining was the historic stone façade. All of the interior walls, floors and roof had been removed. Everything about the new condos was going to be shiny and new, except what the world sees from the street.

Leaving in the morning, the air was chilly, but the sky was mostly blue. We headed east along the



Dominick along the Canal du Midi



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Dominick investigating a canal lock.

Canal du Midi, which would take us straight to Carcassonne over two days and seventy miles. This used to be a tow-path, so the riding was quite easy, until the pavement ended and the wet tree roots and mud made the going pretty tough. We had to stop periodically to go through gates used to keep cars off the path. Taking care of the gates became one of Dominick's jobs. Cold and a light rain started before we left the campground in Avignonet for the second day



It quickly became Dominick's job to raise the gates along the canal.

on the path. The weather spiraled downward through the day, getting colder and the rain falling harder. We almost bailed to a hotel in Castelnaudary, but the storm seemed to come in pulses, so we pushed on during a lull. I don't think that we debated about the decision to find a hotel in Carcassonne. I'm pretty sure that I stopped at the first one that I could see through the downpour as we rode into town. I could see the disappointment in Susan's eyes as I hung the clothes to dry on the line we strung diagonally across the room.

We had planned a day off in Carcassonne to tour through the double-walled fortification town started by the Romans and developed over the next 1200 years. Almost demolished around 1850 after centuries of neglect, it was renovated by noted architect Viollet-le-Duc. I always wish for little placards that indicate what part of a restored building is "original" and what is "re-built." Am I looking at a wall that is over a thousand years old that held back the Visigoths or is it a wall built by masons at the end of the 19th century? The cold wind along the ramparts kept us in warm vests with our jackets zipped up tight. I would have loved to have been able to take photos of the gray stone walls of the city against blue skies, but the clouds never left us. Visiting Caracassonne was one of the main reasons for touring through this part of France. It was nearly perfect and well worth the trip. Not to mention the fabulous, stick-to-the-ribs, duck cassoulet that we had for lunch.

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Carcassonne on a gray day.

In the morning, we headed north for what would be a tough thirty miles to Mazamet with a stop at the four fortifications at Lastours. The first twenty miles to Lastours and then beyond were mostly uphill with an uncomfortable mix of light rain and cold temperatures. However, it seemed that the sun made its appearance only during the steepest part of the climbs. Breathable rain jackets just don't make it when you are working that hard and trying to stay warm. Thank goodness that we never go on these trips without our merino wool shirts. We might get damp, but we won't go hypothermic.

The day of climbing gave us a bone-chilling descent into Mazamet late in the day. Some people love fast descents, but I can't risk the lives of my family for some need for speed. I'm rather fond of them. Boring though it might seem to some, I pull over occasionally on long descents to rest my cramping hands from the constant braking and to let the drag brake cool off. A mixture of cold, exhaustion, and dehydration found me with hands that wouldn't stop shaking when

we rolled into town. A kebab shop saved our bodies with a quick, hot dinner. A patisserie saved our souls with the richest, most delicious chocolate mousse in little glass cups. We made it to the campground, but it was empty except for us.



Dominick and Susan outside Carcassonne.



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Lastours with blue skies

Dominick and I borrowed a lawn chair from a nearby cabin and collected our second dessert from a cherry tree a few sites from ours.

The next day's goal was Albi, about fifty miles north-west of Mazamet. About halfway there, we stopped in Castres and enjoyed our lunch next to the picture perfect river-front buildings in the center of town. The buildings line up shoulder-to-shoulder along the river, on either side of the main bridge. The building detailing and colors against the blue sky and puffy clouds made the scene just like a postcard. The weather deteriorated as we neared Albi, but we were committed to getting to the campground in town. After another tough day of climbing and rain throughout the afternoon, we suffered crossing a ridiculously steep valley to get to the only campground in the area. The sign said CLOSED FOR RENOVATION, without a hint of apology. We have always told Dominick that

expletives have a time and a place. This was a good time and a good place to use some choice ones. Back down, then up the valley to the town center for another night indoors.

Being in a hotel was pretty much our only choice, but at least the central location within the historic district made the next day convenient for visiting the Musee Toulouse Lautrec and the Cathedrale Ste-Cecile. Both were exceptional. I was introduced to Lautrec in college, but never saw such a wide range of his artistic

and graphic art works. Susan and I both love work by the Impressionists, so it was great to see his development from a talented classical artist to someone who could interpret his world in a totally new way. The museum is located in what was the Bishops Palace from the 13th century, with a very nice modern interior renovation to explain his history and display many of his drawings and finished works. His parents encouraged young Henri's gift for drawing, which worked out for him, since family inbreeding probably was the cause of his legs not healing properly when they broke in his teens.

The Cathedrale Ste-Cecile of Albi is an amazing site for its size and ornamentation. The guide book claims it to be the world's largest brick building, but I think that they mean that the building is made of the most bricks, since the walls at the base are around five feet thick. Only a few sections of wall are supported by flying buttresses, the majority use mas-

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sive engaged drums to both create interior alcoves and brace their walls. The real eye-candy is on the inside. Every available inch of the walls and ceilings is filled with either geometric patterns or the usual story-telling iconography. The color blue dominates since Albi became rich through its cultivation of the woad plant and manufacture of blue dye during the Renaissance. Even more spectacular than the painting is the sculpted rood-screen that separates the religious elite from the commoners. The quantity and intricacy of the carving is hard to describe since we don't see anything like this in the States.

The morning greeted us with overcast skies and a light mist as we headed to Najac about fifty miles away; unfortunately, we didn't make it. This would be our worst day for weather and an emotional low point. Late in a day of more climbing we started to follow signs for the campground near Mirandol, but miles rolled by without any indication of how much further we need to ride. At one point, we found ourselves off the bike, pushing our backs up against a low fence, trying to survive a wind driven rain squall. Cursing our luck, we turned the bike around to head back to Mirandol in the hope of finding an inn for the night. We once again needed to dry our soaked shoes and we had a feeling that the temperature was going to keep dropping. We found our sanctuary with us as the only guests in an inn that was covered wall-to-wall and across the ceilings in various wallpaper designs. We ate our dinner of duck confit in all of our dry clothes and went to bed quite content. Of course, we



Three smiles at Albi

had to keep the windows open to ensure that everything on the clothes line would dry overnight, so we had to pile layers of blankets over each bed to keep us warm as the temperature dropped to the low forties overnight.

We started our ride under blue skies, with Dominick wearing a pair of my wool socks for mittens. That first hour was chilly-willy as we headed for Najac. The riding was still challenging, but it wasn't actively raining on us, though we did have to find a wind-break for lunch. The signage in town directed us down a monumental hill to the nearest campground. It seemed as if all of the day's significant elevation gain was lost in the steep ten-minute descent. We couldn't enjoy the descent since we were convinced that we would have to climb back up in the morning. The really weird part is that the reception building was closed after noon on Sundays, so we were left in



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an empty campground without the access code to the bathroom/shower block. We set up the tent in an incredible site along the Aveyron River and managed to clean up in a filthy bathroom/shower used by the neighboring kayak rental shop.

The morning started out on the right foot when we realized that our route lay ahead of us and we wouldn't need to backtrack up the hill. We still had to do an hour or so of climbing to get out of the valley, but at least we were moving forward. We actually spent the entire day riding under beautiful blue skies with white puffy clouds. We stopped in the town of Villefranche for lunch and made the executive decision to change our route and head north-west to the Lot River instead of north to Figeac, avoiding yet more steep climbing. The riding up to that point had been so demanding and weather so poor that we wanted to get over to the Lot and salvage as much of our vacation as possible. We had ridden along this stretch of the Lot during our

trip to the Dordogne four years earlier, so our hopes hinged on the next few days of riding.

To get to the Lot, we had to cross a small range of hills on a lovely back road. We were running low on water as we crested the last rise and started a gentle descent at a leisurely 25 mph. About five minutes after the crest, my first sneeze signaled our entry into the Lot River valley. There is something flying around the Dordogne that really fires up my allergies. Occasional sneezing and burning eyes are precious gifts that I have shared with Dominick. Both of us would spend the rest of the trip taking our daily Claritin.

Buying a dinner of roasted chicken stuffed with olives (yum) and potato salad in Cajarc was the turning point of the trip. In the morning, we would be heading west along the Lot and the weather would finally be beautiful. Late in the morning we got a view of the hilltop town of St Cirq Lapopie across the river. On our previous trip to the Dordogne, we had ridden up to this town of artists and craftsmen, but never had the chance to stand back and see what it really looked like. The more arid landscape made it easier to enjoy the scenic part of riding. With less underbrush lining the roads, we could see more of what was "over there" and not just what we could see "here".

The campground in Cahors had the most valuable amenity possible, a swimming pool! We hadn't even seen one up to now, so Dominick and I were committed to spending some quality time frolicking like sprites in the icy water. We then



Stopping for a rest

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The Double stair at Valentre Bridge

spent the rest of the afternoon using our pruned fingers to turn the pages of our books. One of our heaviest packages was our stash of eleven books. At the time, Kindles were way too expensive for all three of us, so we went 'old school' and dumped books as they were read by all three of us. We took a day off in Cahors to check out the fortified Valentre Bridge and to walk to the fresh water spring developed by the Romans. We had a quick lunch in town then rushed back to the campground to spend another afternoon lounging around the pool in our swimsuits.

Soon after leaving Cahors, we had our first flat tire in about three years. We found some shade, swapped tubes, and were on our way in about a half hour. Now that the weather was looking up, it was clearly time for something else to go wrong. Dominick started to complain about being tired and his forehead felt warm. Over the years, we have put Dom-

inick through some incredibly uncomfortable adventures without ever a word of complaint, so we knew that he wasn't faking it. We started him on Advil to keep the fever under control, and stopped for more frequent rests, but we had to

keep moving. With

a sick child, this would be a terrible time to take a wrong turn, especially when it is all uphill to get to a campground that is actually many miles away. Fixing this



On the Valentre Bridge

mistake brought us to an all-time family low. We got ourselves turned around, crossed the Lot and had a short ride to a very nice campground in Puy-l'Eveque with an equally nice pool for a physically and emotionally hard thirty-five mile day.

The next morning, we continued to follow the Lot west, riding on some very nice back roads. Between the scenery of



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Dominick about to enter his favorite element.

the Lot and the beautiful weather, this would be our most perfect day of riding. However, when we stopped for lunch on the way to St Sylvestre sur-Lot, Dominick didn't eat more than a bite, but managed a half-hour nap. Entering town after forty miles, we followed the Information signs and Susan walked up a ridiculously steep hill in search of the Office of Tourism. She walked for about a half mile under a blazing sun before giving up and returning to us hiding in the shade. We finally realized that town was up the hill, but fortunately there was another campground an easy two-minute ride across the river, located right next to an Inter-marche grocery store. The campground in St Sylvestre sur-Lot was the only campground on our whole trip that was anywhere near full. Most were closer to empty. A surge of adrenaline gave Dominick the energy to play in the pool and then to read till bedtime.

Continuing west, we passed through Villeneuve sur-Lot, a really nice town

with a bustling historic center and stopped for lunch in Fongrave. By now, the weather had turned from warm and sunny to uncomfortably hot without a cloud in the sky. After a thirty mile day, Aguillone marked the transition from the Lot to the Garonne River. We ended up in Aguillone's municipal campground between a couple of van-camping families with about twenty young children and a busy road. We would have happily paid more than the bargain-basement amount of about \$4.00 if there were more trees so we could have set the tent up in some shade. The cops visiting one of the nearby tents were a nice, comforting touch. But the water was nice and cold, so at least we managed to get rehydrated before bedtime.

Another blazingly hot day for the thirty-five mile ride to Boe, the last ten miles without a scrap of shade. After many discussions with the locals and a few wrong turns, we managed to find the campground in Boe, only to find that it had been converted into a holiday resort with about 200 cabins. It was almost July, and the place was deserted except for a single young Dutch family. Instead of riding off to the next campground (more than ten miles away), which we were in no shape to do, we managed to hunt down the caretaker and rented a cabin for the night. We slept in the tent, but used the cabin for showers and the toilet. We also shared the huge, multi-level pool with the Dutch family. It was so weird for the place to be in need of a winter's worth of maintenance right at the beginning of the French vacation season, starting in just a few weeks.

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From the “campground,” we headed straight for the bike path along the Canal Lateral a la Garrone. Normally, we prefer riding on roads instead of bike paths. Riding along bike paths is calm, scenic and safe from traffic, but that can get pretty boring after a while. Yes, canal locks are neat and fun to watch as they raise and lower boats, but are they more interesting than the towns just a mile away that we will miss riding through? However, Susan, Dominick and I agreed that our legs were toast from the previous two weeks, so we stuck to the smooth and level path and headed thirty miles to Moissac.

Our first order of business in Moissac was to hunt down some ice cream. I’m pretty sure that we had gone without this tasty treat up to this point. A huge failing on our part. By this time the weather had turned beastly hot, with afternoon highs in the mid-90’s. We met two separate tandem teams in the square in front of the Eglise St Pierre. One team was like us, touring for fun and desire. The other was a lovely young French couple on a 1970’s tandem with platform pedals. They were trying to find a town to settle down in and using the tandem as an affordable way to travel and really feel the towns they passed through. After waiting until 3:00 for the local grocery store to re-open, we rode through a covered bridge to get to the campground located on an island in the middle of the Garonne River. The three of us had the large multi-level pool to ourselves for about three hours until our dinner of bread and cheese called us back to the tent.

We decided to spend our last rest day in Moissac to check out the church and cloister, then spend another afternoon in the pool. The church was OK, though I really loved the gruesome relief around the main entry doors showing a demon ripping the soul from a dying man’s mouth. Middle Age church sculptors and painters are not known for their subtlety. These images must have been very effective in convincing the illiterate masses to do as the church said. There was also a nice little sculpted pieta on a shelf within the church that had the typical mix of sadness and hope. The central courtyard for the cloister was ringed by a colonnade with each column topped by a sculpted stone capital. Each capital told its own story with sculpted figures or imagery.

Dominick was over his illness and was psyched for a long afternoon in the pool. Wouldn’t you know that the pool was closed for repairs to the pumps and the water was ankle deep. Strong as my son is, this was one disappointment more than he could bear. With fists clenched to white knuckles, he ran back to the tent and was inconsolable. My heart was so crushed for him, I wanted to cry too. The manager told us the pool would be closed until morning, but she sought us out a few hours later to say that she would open it at 5:30. This gave us a few hours of splashing, even though the water never got higher than my waist. A partial victory snatched from the jaws of certain defeat.

A short twenty mile ride to Grisolles and our final campground of the trip was another odd experience. The camp-



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Kevin modeling a Middle Age bike helmet and dog repellent.

ground is only a few years old and was carved from a farmer's field with not a single mature shade tree in sight. The planting around and between sites was extensive and very well done, but they shouldn't advertise its lush landscape for at least another ten years. The place was huge, but we were the only tent campers except for an Englishwoman cycle touring to a party at a friend's house about eighty miles north. She was not in the best of shape and was expecting to make the eighty long and hot miles the next day. We

gave her the remainder of our electrolyte replenishing powder, figuring that she needed all the help she could get. A large family of Russians staying in some of the cabins made the pool a very lively place. Dominick and I got out of the pool when they started skim-boarding across the

water. We found a thin sliver of shade under a roof overhang, right next to the outdoor showers. We three were doing our utmost to avoid the sun, but one of the Russians was sitting around the pool wearing a new pair of heavy blue jeans. I still don't understand.

The twenty miles south to Toulouse were almost dead straight, without more than the gentlest of turns. Even though the canal path was going slightly downhill toward Toulouse, we barely rode at 12 miles per hour with frequent stops to drink and rest. Our hearts were no longer into the ride. The canal was lined with light industry, so our view through the green tourist fringe was mostly of parking lots and industrial buildings. Susan deftly navigated us through the center of Toulouse to find our hotel right where we left it, 480 miles ago. This is one of the great advantages of riding tandem. I stay alert to the road, and Susan can eye the map and keep us going in the right direction.

We towed off in the room and had the bike apart and packed in near record time. To be honest, part of me wanted to pack it so poorly that it would arrive home as an unsalvageable wreck. Mr. Steady won out and we did our usual meticulous job of cleaning each piece and Velcro-banding the bike for the two suitcases. That night's dinner was the finest kebab we ever had. The cook baked his own pitas in a Tandoori oven. He proudly showed the multiple scars and singed hair from his occasional slips as



Shade free campground.

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he slapped the dough to the oven's inside walls. Delicious with a cold Orangina.

Our last full day was for a few more sights around Toulouse. We spent the morning visiting the Musee d'Histoire Naturelle and its spiral garden of natural plants and harvested crops found throughout France. The museum was very fine with beautifully arranged examples of everything from butterflies to birds to minerals. Some of the naturally occurring minerals were hard to believe. They had several large examples of pyrite (aka Fools Gold) which naturally forms these perfect interconnected cubes. Who knew? The interior of a purple geode was about 4 feet tall and 2 feet wide!

One of the last photos that I took was along the edge of the museum's outdoor spiral garden. We were walking back to the entry/exit, and I noticed that the curved glass facade of the museum created multiple images of Susan and Dominick as they walked ahead of me. Each facet had a slightly different image of them, with the stone tower of the original museum building above them. I like to think that this image shows a true view of my wife and son, and bits

of them that I can glimpse, but not really see clearly. My guess is that is what life is supposed to be like. Each bicycle tour that we take gives us a glimpse of where we travel, but we can never really know the place or its people. All that we can do is to grow individually and as a family as we travel and to catch that glimpse of how others live their lives.

If you are interested in any further particulars, feel free to e-mail me at Sossong@architecturebydesign.com

Kevin Sossong
Tallahassee, FL





DoubleTalk

Views From The Back of Bike...from a Timid Stoker part 2

Last October, we went on our first ever tandem rally in northern Michigan. It was the first rally put on by the shop where we purchased our bike, Midwest Tandem. It was a small event and it was cold, wet, and hilly. But we had a great time and met some wonderful folks. To me, tandem teams are friendlier and more interesting than most single bikers. Several teams talked about other rallies they had attended and we decided that we would look into more tandem specific rallies in the future.

While reading an edition of Double-Talk, we saw the notice for the Eastern Tandem Rally in Saratoga Springs, New York. Now I had been to Saratoga Springs before but not my Captain. I told him we should consider going since the area was so beautiful and the town had so much to offer. We signed up and in July, we crossed the border into Can-

ada and made our way over to New York from Michigan.

A couple of years ago, we went up to Northern Michigan to Mackinac Island with two new single hybrid bikes on the bike rack of our truck. Somehow my front tire got bent during this trip and the Captain thinks that some inebriated hotel guests walked past the bikes and shook my bike or perhaps tried to pull it off the bike rack and that is how my wheel got bent. Since that time, he has been reluctant to have the tandem in a bike rack on the back of our vehicle for anything other than short trips that do not involve an overnight stay.

In order to alleviate his anxiety for our precious tandem, we purchased a 5x8-enclosed trailer so that the tandem is protected from prying hands and from the elements as well.

Have you ever tried to explain to a customs agent that “what’s in the trailer” is just a bike? They have that “sure it is a bike” look of disbelief. The prevalent attitude seemed to be --you must be smuggling human cargo or something else illegal across the border in that trailer --no one in their right mind would haul a trailer that size with just a bike in it.

Captain patiently explains it is a tandem bike and we like to keep it out of the weather and we can open the trailer if you would like us to pull over and see for yourself. Fortunately, Captain has an honest face and clean passport so they just wave us through with a puzzled look.

We arrive in Saratoga Springs and find a place to park the trailer at the



Our first tandem rally - Loading tandems on the Ferry in Charlevoix, MI

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hotel. Since this is our first “big” rally, we are amazed at all of the tandems. Every make, color, and size is represented. We see triples, quads, and even a quint (more on that later). We check in and get our materials and decided that we will go on the easy warm-up ride around the lake. Captain has loaded the points in the Garmin and we are ready to set off when a friendly group invites us to ride along with them. Off we go out of town towards the lake and as we are climbing our first hill (I thought they said this was an easy warm up ride!) we are being left in the dust by our new friends. We tell them to go on and as we are descending the hill, we throw a chain. Good thing we told them not to wait for us. We followed our Garmin and not the map or cue sheet and our Garmin did not exactly follow the same path (which we have now learned is kind of normal for the Garmin). We struggled on and made the ride our own, past some really smelly dairy operations, and over some pretty big hills (I repeat –this was the easy warm-up ride????). We got to the end of the lake and stopped for a break at the gas station/convenience store and we were visiting with a nice local man who told us....”oh the ride back to town is pretty easy—you just have one really nasty hill and then it is smooth sailing....” –I am sure he must have been a biker –because bikers always lie about the hills and he sure lied about the only one hill...but we made it back to town and I was exhausted! And we had only been 23 miles or so!

The next day we opted for the “mostly flat” ride to lunch....Ha Ha...remember what I said previously about bikers



Our tandem hauling rig.

and hills and lies? Maybe they were not hills to those Eastern folks but they were hills to this Michigan couple. There was such a nasty climb to lunch that I wanted to cry as we tried to climb it. We had to stop numerous times and actually walk the bike. We have now had some experience with this type of hill and can pretty much make it without getting off but this was our first encounter with this kind of climb and we were pretty inexperienced.

Lunch was a humbling experience as we sat with a couple in their 70’s who had no problems climbing any of the hills and talked to others who had ridden the “hilly” ride. We were not in the same league with any of these riders. We saw the Quint team at lunch and then had dinner with them at the banquet. They were an impressive group. Dad, Mom and three adorable girls –and were they ever jocks. They were from Colorado Springs and remarked that it was great to be able to climb where they had full oxygen. Back at the hotel, we saw their vehicle –a Subaru with the Quint on the top, single bikes along side on the



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top, and more single bikes on a rear bike rack.....the Quint was about 15 feet long and when the car moved it was quite a sight. I think they could have used our trailer!

The following day there were more ride options and we did a short jaunt around town and down to the Spa to make an appointment for a massage. I discovered that more than two days of riding in a row is more than my body prefers. I am much happier with one metric century ride over one day than multiple days at shorter distances. I am in awe of the tandem teams that live to ride and love to go long distances. It is just not in this stoker to ride that way and I think my Captain might feel the same. He would ride if I said let's ride but secretly I think he is always a little relieved when I wimp out.

We were able to watch the 4th of July fireworks from our hotel window. It was great to stay in the room and relax and still see the impressive fireworks display. I would say our first rally was a huge suc-



My captain tries to find a downhill route from Leadville.

cess and we have a great time and again met some wonderful people.

On our return, we spent a night on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls and visited Niagara on the Lake. We almost pulled over and unloaded the tandem for a ride. The roads were beautiful and the town was charming but we did not have time to do a ride. However we will be going back to Niagara next August when Santana's rally is in Niagara Falls. We are signed up and raring to go to that one.

In August, we did the Santana Family Friendly Rally in Durango, Colorado. Can anyone say mountains and serious grades? Now this wimpy stoker thought New York was hilly but did I ever get a wake up call when I saw the routes for the Colorado ride! We once again put the tandem in the trailer (along with two single bikes—well after all—we had room!) and headed from Michigan to Colorado. We went a couple of days early hoping to acclimate to the elevation changes and thin air. We stopped in Leadville and decided to take a short ride on their lovely bike trail. We had no idea how the lack of oxygen would impact us—we were gasping for air as we made a few small climbs. We did about a 15 mile loop and found a shortcut back to town that was a screaming downhill and a coast almost all the way back—it was a blast! But we should have been training a little harder! We got to Durango and met up with Bill and Jan McCready and the rest of the rally participants. They also had the obligatory warm-up/stretch your legs “fun” ride up to Fort Lewis....Colorado's College in the Sky....Hmmm....should

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that have told us something about this “fun” ride??? OMG –the climb to the college was tough and Captain and I ran out of air a lot.....we finally made it to the college and the view was spectacular! Next morning, we did the medium ride to Bayfield and Lemon Lake (about 58 miles total). The ride to Bayfield was tough and hilly but the ride from Bayfield back to Durango via lunch at the lake was a huge challenge for us. At one point, it took us an hour to climb a long grade because we had to stop every 100 feet or so to catch our breath!

The highlight for us was the ride from Purgatory down the mountain back to Durango. Some of the downhills were



Santana Durango rally group at Baker's Bridge.

“close your eyes and pray because you were going so fast” –but it was fun (if you did not think about what might happen if you had to suddenly stop). I would tap Captain on the side for a slow down but he somehow thought that meant “go faster....” The countryside as we wound our way back down to town was beautiful and it was a perfect day to be on the bike. Another wonderful thing about Santana Rallies is that they have lots of



Bill McCready gives pre-ride talk in Durango.

other events besides riding which makes them a big favorite of mine. We went to see a western show, rode the steam train to Silverton, spent the night at Purgatory Ski Resort, and finished the rally with a white water rafting trip.

We headed home from Colorado via Kansas City to visit friends and family. They are in awe that we can ride more than 20 miles on a bike....let's just say they are easily impressed.

One treat for us was that we were able to stop in Boonville, Missouri on our way back to Michigan and take a ride along the Katy Trail on our single bikes. We thought the trail was more of gravel trail and unloaded the singles and started our ride. To our surprise, we saw a couple of tandems on the trail and discovered that we could have in fact ridden the tandem. Now that is a trail that is flat for sure...there are no hills at all. Just beautiful scenery and a quiet lovely trail. We plan to go back with the



The beautiful Katy Trail in Missouri.

tandem and make a much longer ride in the future.

Mary Bills
Farmington
Hills, MI





DoubleTalk

The Year That Was...

2010 shall remain in my memory as “the year that was”. It was a break-out year for my stoker (Valerie) and me in that we were able to use our S & S coupled Santana Beyond for what it was intended: travel.

We started out our year by spending a few days in San Francisco, a city that we love for its culinary offerings and cycling opportunities. You’d think that as hilly as San Francisco appears to be through every postcard you’ve seen, or high speed car chase you’ve watched on the big screen that biking might not be the first choice on a tourist’s mind. Think again, as there are ways to go around the major hills rather than chugging straight up them!

The San Francisco Bike Map & Walking Guide is available for purchase at most bicycle shops in the city, and can also be viewed online at: http://www.sf-bike.org/download/SF_Bike_Map_2009.pdf

Don’t forget that while riding around San Francisco is a great way to spend your day, there’s also the option of riding across the Golden Gate Bridge to the towns north of the bay as well. Sausalito, Mill Valley and Tiburon are but a few of the destinations within reach of a good tandem team.

We also completed riding the Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes in northern Idaho this year, a reclaimed rail corridor that has over 71 miles of PAVED cycle path. A good portion of this trail is a good distance from any road, and you will feel very much alone with nature and other

cyclists you meet. Wildlife viewing is one of the many benefits of riding this trail; don’t be surprised if you see a moose somewhere along the trail! Visit http://friendsofcdatrails.org/CdA_Trail/index.html for more details.

We also rode one other trail in the same area: the Route of the Hiawatha. This trail is composed of compacted gravel, so you’ll need a mountain tandem or single mountain bikes to make the ride. The trailhead by the Montana border is easier to find, but we chose to drive through the forest to the western end of this 15 mile trail so we could pedal uphill first, and then take the easier downhill ride back to our car.

You’ll bike across several trestles and ride through several tunnels. Lights are required, and you’ll definitely need one if you ride through the 1.7 mile Taft tunnel, at the eastern portal of the trail. Be aware that there is always moisture in this tunnel, so unless you have fenders you’ll be wearing a muddy stripe up your back. Check out <http://friendsofcdatrails.org/Hiawatha/index.html> for more information.

Our longest flight this year was from Boise to Paris, France. We were met by some British friends of ours who also have a cottage in northwest France, and taken to their second home just outside of Châteaubriant, which served as our “hub” for most of our stay. The secondary roads in this region were wonderful for riding as the traffic was almost non-existent. We took a few side trips while we were there and visited the Normandy region during the D-Day celebrations.

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We also toured a small area along the Loire river. There's a blog online for those of you who are interested in details and photos; use the blog archive on the right-hand side of the page. Our France trip begins in May, 2010, and our San Francisco adventure begins in March of 2010. <http://rich-and-valerie-mckay.blogspot.com/>

Our last trip of the year was one I didn't blog about. Nevertheless, it was a great way to end our riding season, and I'm hoping to repeat this trip again in late October, if everything falls into place. We flew to Tampa, Florida where Valerie has family. After spending one day riding a portion of the Pinellas Trail (<http://www.pinellastrails.org/>) we ventured inland to a place called The Villages.

The Villages touts itself as being "Florida's Friendliest Hometown". Golf seems to be the main theme to this community, as there are 28 nine hole executive courses and 9 "championship" courses. Residents need never pay to golf again as you play for free on any of the executive courses. Visit the website at <http://www.thevillages.com> to see all this amazing community has to offer.



Rich and Valerie McKay in France

What they don't tell you is that there is a group of tandem riders living in this community who call themselves the Florida Panthers. (<http://www.floridatan-demclub.org/>) We became aware of The Villages during the Southern Tandem Rally in 2009. Valerie's father-in-law owns a home there, and invited us to stay at his place during the rally. We loved the area, and the roads were generally very good for cycling. The roads inside The Villages are even better.

We went back in 2010 and thought, "why not get together with these retirees and take a nice easy ride?" We made the mistake of assuming that "retired" was a synonym for "slow". That was a critical error. Except for the kindness of one team that held back so we wouldn't be



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alone, we were quickly “dusted” by said retirees. I now realize that “retiree” means lots of time to ride, train and be in shape.

Aside from my shame of not being able to keep up, this group had some of the friendliest people you’d ever want to meet. One of the couples, Dr. Gabe and Diana Mirkin, have a website that holds a wealth of information concerning health, nutrition and more recipes than most people could ever use! <http://www.drmirkin.com>

The Panther’s website lists the Florida Tandem Rally as being held at The Villages October 27th – 30th, 2011. No other details have been released as of this writing, but I’ll be checking back on their website frequently to find out more about the registration for this event. For those of you who crave year-round cycling opportunities, as well as the chance to retire in an area that offers a lot of bang for the buck, this year’s Florida Tandem Rally might be just the platform you need to see this community and surrounding

areas firsthand, and to start planning for a great retirement!

I just hope that we can keep up with them this time!

Rich & Valerie McKay
Garden Valley, ID



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March 25-27, 2011 **ALABAMA TANDEM WEEKEND 2011**. The Cabins at Cedar Point - Clayton Alabama (Facebook-Cedar Point) This year the Alabama Tandem Weekend returns to the quiet and peaceful roads of Barbour County Alabama. Steve and Wendy Baxter will be hosting a weekend full of tandem riding on scenic back roads where you will probably meet more tractors than cars. Routes will include trips to The Barbour County Lake and Blue Springs State Park with great eats at local mom and pops. Cedar Point has 15 cabins for the "Alabama Tandem Weekend". Participants can check in anytime Friday and check out anytime Sunday! Dinner will be available Friday night at The Abercrombie Fish located at Cedar Point. For any other details needed or just to drop a line - please e-mail Steve Baxter at steven.baxter@sewoodtreating.com or call anytime at (334) 397-4127. Reservations can be made at (334) 775-8205 or 8206.

March 26-27, 2011. **Tandem Ride**. Centerville, NJ. Open house and rides (weather permitting) Tandems East

April 1-3, 2011. **Sebring Tandem Rally**. Sebring, FL Start your spring training by riding the friendly roads around Sebring. Pre-registration is required. See <http://www.floridatandemclub.org/sebring.htm> for details and application. Headquarters for the rally will be the Quality Inn Conference Center at 6525 US Highway 27 North. Make your reservations at (863) 385-4500 (ask for Greg).

April 2, 2011. **DOGS (Doubles of the Garden State) Spring Equinox Party**. Califon, NJ. The annual Spring Equinox Party celebrates the return of more hours of daylight than darkness and heralds the 2011 riding season's moving into full swing. It's a potluck so contact us in advance. Oh we plan to ride too. Cook/Prudhomme <http://www.d-o-g-s.org/>

April 14-17, 2011. **Spring Thaw**. St Michaels, MD. We're showing off wonderful Eastern Shore cycling. Four days of riding: no hills, sparse traffic, wide shoulders. Perfect for getting back into cycling after a long winter. Roads near the water afford splendid scenery among world class environmental ecosystems. Enjoy the famous ferry ride to Historic Oxford, MD, for lunch and exploratory cycling. <http://easterntandemrally.org>

April 21-25, 2011. **Tandem Club of the UK Easter Rally**. Arundel Youth Hostel, West Sussex, England. This is our annual spring event. We're hoping for a great turnout. Details at <http://www.tandem-club.org.uk>

April 2011. **Tandem Demo Day**. Mt Airy, MD Open house and tandem rides. Mt Airy Bicycles www.bike123.com

April 2011. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Hibachi Ride**. Darien, IL We ride, we socialize we eat. Come join the fun www.chicagotandems.hom.mchsi.com click on Events

April 29-30 - May 1, 2011. **Southwest Tandem Rally 2011**. LaGrange, TX. This is going to be an amazing weekend of riding & socializing. Come join the fun. <http://www.tandem-hats.org>

May ?? Sunday, 2011. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Windmill Ride**. Shabbona, IL We ride, we socialize we eat. Come join the fun www.chicagotandems.hom.mchsi.com click on Events

May ?? Saturday, 2011. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Stoker Ride**. Elmhurst, IL We ride, we socialize we eat. Come join the fun www.chicagotandems.hom.mchsi.com click on Events

May 6-8, 2011. **Florida PANTHERS Pinellas Trail Tour**. Dunedin and Tarpon Springs, FL. A casual weekend of riding. Contact us through www.floridatandemclub.org

CALENDAR



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May 13-15, 2011. **AORTA (Appalacian Off-Road Tandem Adventure) 2011.** Asheville, NC. Off-road tandem riding and socializing are the goals. www.mtbtandems.com/aorta.html

May 13-15, 2011. **DOGS (Doubles of the Garden State) "No Bull" Island Camp and Road Ride.** Stockton, NJ. We've reserved the group campground and are looking forward to a great time. tmbreeze@optonline.net www.d-o-g-s.org/

May 19-22, 2011. **Georgia Tandem Rally 2011.** Macon, GA. Details www.georgiatandemrally.com

May 20-22, 2011. **COWS (Couples On Wheels) Spring Rally.** Eau Claire, WI. Join us at the Gateway to God's Country. Chippewa Falls is putting out the welcome mat for COWs, PIGs, GOATs, LOONs, CATs and other various tandem bicycle riders. The Chippewa Valley area boasts natural beauty with miles and miles of paved roads traveling through, wooded bluffs, marshes, prairie and farmland. Come early and enjoy a visit to the Jacob Leinenkugel Brewery, Autumn Harvest or River Bend wineries, or the many parks and rivers in the area. Or stay late. Your hosts are planning an extra Monday adventure and the host hotel will honor the special COWs hotel rate for your extended stay. Make your room reservation at the Americinn of Chippewa Falls – fill out the registration form, mail it in and look forward to great times and good riding. Lane & Linda Soltis-Schroeder <http://couplesonwheels.com>

May 27-30, 2011. **Canadian Tandem Rally 2011.** St Jacobs, Ontario. Please join us for two or three days of riding in the heart of Mennonite Country. Stay with us at the Best Western St Jacobs Country Inn as we explore the geography, history and unique culture of this Mennonite area. Join us Friday afternoon for a ride in the country followed by an evening wine & cheese. Follow us Saturday as we ride out for a picnic lunch and back to the hotel for banquet including local cuisine. Sunday includes more country

riding and lunch. Optional Monday ride for those that wish to round out their Memorial Day Weekend. David & Brenda Vandeveld www.mbstandems.com

June 3-5, 2011. **Tennessee Tandem Rally 2011.** Tennessee Tandem Rally returns to the hills (mountains for some) of eastern Tennessee. applications are now available. www.thetandemlink.com/TTRR.html

June 17-19, 2011. **2nd Annual Saranac Lake (NY) Tandem Rally.** Get on your tandem and ride with us on one of the three scenic routes Saturday and Sunday. With the terrain ranging from rolling to hilly, the rides will be fun for both families and speedsters. Both days have rides ranging from 14 miles to metric centuries. Detailed cue sheets and maps are provided for all rides. Registration and lodging information can be found at: <http://www.gtgtandems.com/sltr.html>.

June 18-19, 2011. **Florida PANTHERS Weekend Summer's Ride.** Vero Beach, FL. Summer is here and it's time to enjoy the coast. Come join us for a weekend of casual riding. www.floridatandemclub.org

June 25-27, 2011. **1st Concentration of tandems in Salviac, France.** Tandem excursions organized by Salviac Cyclotourisme (Salviac Bicycle Touring Club) Pre-registration is required. Saturday group departure for a discovery ride of around 30km. Late afternoon, Salviac Cyclotourisme will offer an aperitif at the campsite. A joint meal at the campsite restaurant will follow. Sunday a ride of approximately 85 km. A vehicle will be available for the transport of the picnics. Monday, a group departure for a discovery ride of around 50 km. Contact Mary or Bob for information, reservations (camping and other) Mary Duffy or Bob Stokinger stokinger@yahoo.com Telephone outside France (33) 5 65 27 10 02 more info: Tandem Club de France (l'Amicale Cyclo Tandemiste) <http://acttcf.free.fr>

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July 1-4, 2011. **Northwest Tandem Rally 2011. Spokane, WA** "Pedalin' the Palouse" The Spokane bike club is the host. Room reservations can be made now. Details at www.NWTR.org

July 1-4, 2011. **DOGS (Doubles of Garden State) Vermont Kingdom Trails Weekend Blast.** East Burke, Vermont. Join TeamBreeze and have a BLAST exploring the trails. Camping, RV or find your own. tmbreeze@optonline.net or 973.584.3460

July 22-24, 2011. **Indiana Tandem Rally 2010.** Fort Wayne, IN. This event, sponsored by Three Rivers Velo Sport and HOOTs, is a three day ride: beginning with an ice cream route on Friday. Sag stops will be identified for each ride and we'll provide lunch on Saturday. The fee will include a banquet on Saturday evening. Routes will be flat to gently rolling. Join us for a weekend of great riding and fun. Pre-registration required. Make your reservation Hilton Gardens Inn 260.435.1777 or Camp Timber Lake 260.672.3251 Kent or Anne Ellis 260.387.7978 tandemIndiana@gmail.com 260.387.7978 before 9pm Eastern Time.

August 5-7, 2011. **Eastern Tandem Rally 2011.** Storrs, CT. We are encouraging participants to arrive on Thursday and come with us on a remote start for Friday morning in Woodstock, CT. We also are planning the swap meet and vendor sales for Friday and Saturday. Hope to see you all there. It should be a fun time. Sue and Glenn Orcutt Additional details will be at www.easterntandemrally.org as they become available.

August 12-14, 2011. **PIGS (Paired Iowans Going Somewhere) Rally 2011.** Storm Lake, IA Once again the PIGS have found a wonderful surprising location for their annual get together. Come join in the fun. Details will be found at <http://pigstandem.home.mchsi.com>

September 2-5, 2011. **Midwest Tandem Rally 2011.** Ann Arbor, MI. Make your hotel reservations now. The basic rides are in place, the organizers are working on the weather. www.MTR2011.org

August 27-28, 2011. **Florida PANTHERS Ride through the orange groves.** Lake Wales, FL. It's hot out there so we're looking for some shade. Come join us for a weekend of casual riding. www.floridatandemclub.org

September 23-25, 2011. **Fall Allegany Rally for Tandems (FART XVIII).** Salamanca, NY. Off road MTB weekend at Allegany State Park. Private rooms. All meals on your own in the mess hall. Riding XC ski trails, horse trails and dirt roads. Technically not difficult, but be prepared to climb. For more info, contact Karen or Brian Managan 49 Martinot Ave Rochester NY 14609 (585) 654-9624 or frosty_dog@mac.com. The cost for the entire camp for the weekend is divided by the number of teams, so the more teams, the less it costs! Karen & Brian Managan Check out the F.A.R.T. web page at <http://homepage.mac.com/bmanagan/fart/>

September 23-25, 2011. **Southern Tandem Rally 2011.** Mebane, NC The theme - "goin' local". The riding will be piedmont, rolly, dairy country. We love riding there. Our experienced hosts Smith & Claude will put together a great event. Details at www.southerntandemrally.com as they become available.

Fall 2011. **COWS (Couples On Wheels) Fall Rally.** Sturgeon Bay, WI. Details are being worked out. <http://wouplesonwheels.com>

October 28-30. **Florida PANTHERS Back to the Villages.** The Villages, FL. This will be our second repeat of a fantastic weekend. I'm sure we'll find something new, or rearrange our routes to keep it fresh. Come join the crowd at The Villages. www.floridatandemclub.org

CALENDAR

November(?), 2011. **Florida Tandem Rally.** The Villages, FL. The Florida Tandem Rally will return in 2011. Watch <http://floridatandemclub.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.



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FOR SALE: 2008 Santana Beyond, Medium size frame. Very smooth and very fast. IsoGrid double-butted carbon tubing with co-molded titanium ends, Perfect-10 shifting, Carbon crankset, Shimano Sweet-16 wheelset, upgraded Reynolds fork, Dura-Ace brakes, Shimano STI 6700 shifters, rear rack, and new front derailleur. Full factory reconditioned frame and wheels. I need a coupled tandem. Price \$9,000. Also have BikePro USA Oversize Tandem Case (\$450). Contact Jim Flesch via e-mail at jaflesch@lawggf.com or give him a call @ 312-346-1080 (IL). Pictures are available. 05/11

FOR SALE: GREENSPEED TANDEM TRIKE GTT (with 5 S & S couplers). A great & fun trike! It's built w/5 S&S couplers, which allow it to be broken down into "bite sizes" for easy traveling, a 14-speed Rohloff hub, which eliminates the need for a rear derailleur, and a Schlumph geared bottom bracket, which eliminates the need for a front derailleur. It also has front fenders, head rests, and a rear rack. Asking \$6500. Will pay for 1/2 the shipping costs. Contact Alan Terry Levy, Woodlands, CA, either by e-mail (alan@atlevy.com) or telephone: (818)-726-2700. 05/11

FOR SALE: Tandem Two's Day (Bike Friday Travel) FOLDABLE TANDEM Less than

250 miles, Like New (a few small blems). Size: Medium/Small. Candy apple red paint, rear disc brake, shifters (Shimano STR600) Asking \$3,500. Contact Deborah Testa via email at testad@tandemiacs.com or via telephone at (904)514-5635. This is a SERIOUS machine and can handle the challenge of hill climbs and descents, because of the gearing provided and disc brakes. FYI: New Tandem Two's Day bikes usually take 8-10 weeks to order. This bike is like new and can be delivered right away! (FL) 05/11

FOR SALE: 2003 Bike Friday Triple Tandem Traveller XL. Excellent condition. Awesome pink color. Perfect for Tour de Cure rides or girls only tandem. Can be converted from a single to a double or a triple easily. Fits riders from 3' 0" to 5' 10". Extra stem if taller rider wants to captain. Matching rear rack. Campy chorus shifters and derailleurs. 27 speeds. One set of crank arm shorteners, and an extra set of long

handlebars so little ones can ride as early as 3 yrs. Has couplers, so bike will fit into virtually any size car with about 3 feet of space. New @ \$6200.00. Asking \$3000.00 plus shipping. Contact Laura Wright at lwright2708@sbcglobal.net or call 248-417-9386. (MI) 03/11

FOR SALE: 2000 Santana Team Ti-700 Road

TCA Tandem Hospitality Homes

Are you willing to become a TCA Hospitality Home? If so please head to the TCA website, www.tandemclub.org. There you can sign up and find a complete description of the program. If you would like to discuss what's involved, drop an e-mail to us or call the membership chairs or the editors.

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.

Please go on line and register to sign up at www.tandemclub.org. You will need some basic information such as your e-mail address, your address, and contact information.

editor@tandemclub.org

DoubleTalk

March / April 2011
www.TandemClub.org

Tandem, Medium Frame. Never dropped. No dents.. Upgraded to current spec's with all the extras: Santana Perfect 10-speed with new shifters, Carbon Fork, WinZip 10" mechanical disc, Tamer Pivot-Plus stoker shockpost. New Continental tires, cables, disc pads, 11-34 10sp cassette, chain. Excellent mechanical and cosmetic shape. Price: **\$7490**. Santana airline safe case (the large one) available for additional \$500 (no provision for wheels with current padding). For more information about this great bike/great deal, contact Ken Wallace by e-mail @ tandem1rider@yahoo.com or give him a call @ 334-793-1419 (evenings in AL, not too late, please). 03/11

FOR SALE: Santana Sovereign (1991), Lumina Red, 56cm x 53cm. Serial No. LS433. Campagnolo Ergo Power w/Shimano Deore (21 spd), Cable Actuated Arai Drum Brake Mounted on Stokers Bar, 40 Spoke Mavic Rims laced to Phil Wood Hubs, Pedersen SE self-energizing brakes, stoker Shock Post, Look clipless pedals, cycle computers for both Capt. & Stoker, Blackburn rear rack, 4 Specialized No-mark bottle cages. Asking \$1500. For more information, contact Fred Mount, via e-mail, bike1428@rcn.com or call him @ (609) 397-1521 in New Jersey 03/11

FOR SALE: 1993 Santana Sovereign. Serial # 061. Large frame (58x53 or 23x21). 24- speed drivetrain, with low-gear option (Front chainring are 46, 36, 26, with rear 8-speed 12-34 cluster. 4 water bottle Cages, nearly new handlebar bag, rear rack w/one used bag. Computer, thumb shifters, Phil Wood bottom brackets, Phil Wood Hubs laced to 48-hole Aluminum rims. Asking \$2,500. For more info, call Bill Routh cell (336) 707-1375, home (336) 299-1161, before 9:00pm, please. (NC) 03/11

FOR SALE: Recumbent Tandem, Greenspeed GTT S5. This is one of the world's most beautifully engineered tandem recumbents. Pristine condition. Used less than 500 miles; had to cease riding for medical reasons. See photos and all details at <http://web.me.com/johnfrancis4444> or call (503) 864-3933. (OR) 03/11

FOR SALE: Bike Pro USA Tandem Case...we purchased it new last summer for \$650 plus shipping and would like to sell it for \$500...used once! John Taylor (j.taylor2000@insightbb.com) (TN) 03/11

FOR SALE: Tandem spare parts, including 1 pr 48-hole Phil Wood hubs, new, 1 pr 48-spoke Wolber (M 59) rims, laced to Phil Wood hubs, 1 pr 40-spoke Mavic (MA 40) rims, laced to Phil Wood hubs, 2 good spare Arai drum brakes, 1 spare set Pedersen SE self-energizing brakes (used), and 1 Thule tandem adapter (roof mount). For more information, contact Fred Mount via e-mail, bike1428@rcn.com, or call him @ (609) 397-1521 in New Jersey 03/11

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)

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Classified advertising rates available upon request. Send a SASE to the Editors.

Non-commercial Classifieds are free to TCA Members. Please include your member # with your ad.



DoubleTalk

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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 05/10 date will not run in July-August issue if your renewal is not received by June 1, 2010) to keep your advertisement current. Send your ad and check (payable to TCA) to Jack and Susan Goertz, Editors, DoubleTalk, 2220 Vanessa Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242-4430.

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

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Duncan & Laura McCabe
2302 New Orleans PL
Wilmington, NC 28403-0315

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

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