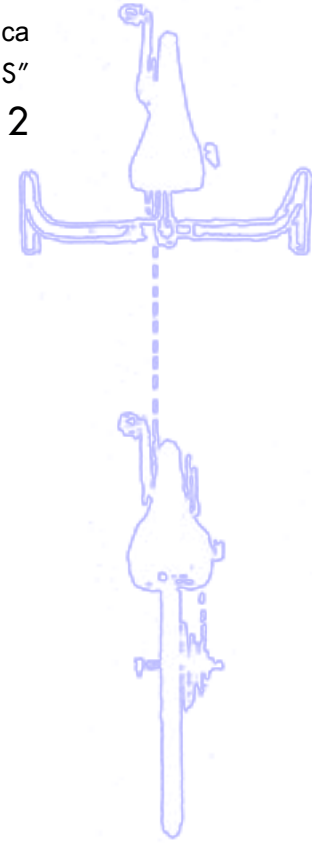




DOUBLETALK

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"AN INTERNATIONAL CLUB FOR TANDEM ENTHUSIASTS"
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The Tandem Club of America
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*An International Club for Tandem Enthusiasts
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

What do TCA members do?.....	2
Who Does What?.....	2
Back Issues Available	2
Parc National de La Mauricie, Riviere à Pierre, and Cap Santé 5 Ron Trumper, St Bruno Quebec	
Sts Looking For Stc	9
Nita Bernat, Louisville, KY	
Florida Tandem Rally 2011	10
Bill & Kathy Foster, Fruitland Park, FL	
How to make your tandem lighter and have a smoother ride... part II.....	12
Michael & Natalie Hutchinson, Yorktown, PA	
Southern Tandem Rally 2011	13
Jack & Susan Goertz, Birmingham, AL	
Calendar	16
Classifieds.....	18
Tca Tandem Hospitality Homes.....	18
Tandem Dealers	20

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editor@tandemclub.org



DoubleTalk

Who Does What?

What do TCA members do?

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

Deadline for the March April 2012 issue is Feb 1, 2012

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

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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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

November - December

September - October

July - August

May - June

March - April

January - February

2010

November - December

September - October

DoubleTalk

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

From the Editors

It's always fun to write the year ending /year beginning columns. The year ending is a time to look back, thinking back over all the great rides, and also, unfortunately, the terrible things that have happened in this past year. As I did a bit of reflecting in the last column, I won't bore you with a rehash. Rather, let's look forward!

The Tandem Club is at a crossroads. Membership is growing – slightly – again, thanks to the wonderful efforts of our many volunteers who've helped to spread the word about your club. We especially thank – again – the anonymous benefactor who paid the 1-year membership fee for everyone who asked for it at the Midwest Tandem Rally in Ann Arbor last September. We welcome these new members, and we encourage others to step up to the plate and recruit new members to the organization. We think it would be terrific if the TCA would once again see the continual membership growth that we enjoyed in the late 90's.

Why is the TCA seeking new members? New members bring in new ideas to the club. New members are essential for the growth of the sport of tandeming. New members contribute new articles to DoubleTalk, often from a different point of view than we've seen before. New members are the source for new attendees at the many great rallies offered throughout the year, and throughout the country. We challenge all members to bring in at least 1 new team to the Tandem Club in 2012. And while you're out recruiting new members, please don't let your own

membership lapse! You can either renew by mail, as you have in the past, or you can renew via PayPal, by going to the TCA website (www.tandemclub.org) and following the prompts.

The website will be evolving in 2012. Our webmaster has recovered from his bicycle (NOT tandem) accident, and has many good ideas that we'll be considering soon, and implementing the best ideas into the website. We'd like to hear your thoughts about the website – good or bad. Send them to us – editor@tandemclub.org. If you have a specific problem with the website, please send an e-mail to our webmaster (webmaster@tandemclub.org).

As you plan for tandem adventures in 2012, we invite you to consider attending one of the tandem rallies. We list all the tandem rallies that we are aware of in the TCA Calendar, located in the back pages of each DoubleTalk. We do our best to verify the information posted, but occasionally keying errors creep in, and mistakes are made. If you see an error, please let us know so that we can correct the information in the next issue (if time allows).

Our annual membership list will be compiled and mailed in early February. As far as we know, we're the only organization still compiling membership lists. Please check your information on the label, and let us know of any corrections that need to be made. Also, if you've moved, please update your information via the TCA website, or by sending them to the membership people (membership@tandemclub.org). Our

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



DoubleTalk

From The Editors - continued from page 3

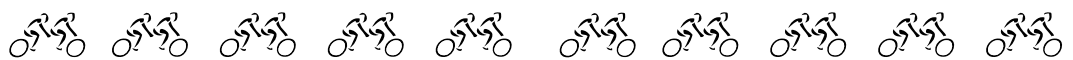
membership people, Laura and Duncan McCabe, work hard to keep your information correct, but it is up to you to let us know if something is wrong! And remember, Laura and Duncan are volunteers, too, so keep that in mind as you converse with them.

It's time to bring another column to a close. We hope you have a great year in 2012, and that you will share it with other TCA members through the pages of DoubleTalk. Please send your articles and letters to us via e-mail (editor@tandemclub.org). If you're including pictures, don't embed your pictures in the article. Please send any pictures to us in a separate message, with any captions you feel would be appropriate.

Let's go ride!

New TCA International Liaison

After attending the U.K. Tandem Club's 2011 Summer Rally (20th-27th August, Lucton, Herefordshire) and talking with its members and officers, Tom & Robyn Ratajczak (Asheville, NC) have agreed to work with TCA's Area Representatives to ensure that tandemists worldwide can make contact with our regionally-dispersed tandem clubs for information and possible trip planning. This modest goal is seen as a minimum for this role. Longer term, based on needs or (reasonable) requests, additional scope may be undertaken. Comments or suggestions are welcome! (E-Mail International@TandemClub.org)



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January / February 2012
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Parc National de La Mauricie, Riviere à Pierre, and Cap Santé

29 July 2011 to 1st August 2011

Tim and Dot, our partners in tandeming, arrived to pick us up at about 6:30am. After coffee and muffins, we set off on the 2 hour drive to Shawinigan, the starting point for our four day tour. We arrived at the Hotel Esplanade, a very bike friendly place, about 9:15am. We parked the car, and we were allowed into our room straight away so that we could store any gear that we would not be using for our day ride. Now THAT's bike friendly. It was about now that I realised that I had left my wallet at home, and Marge, my partner for life, had left her credit card at home in the search for weight reduction. Fortunately, Tim was generous enough to bail us out for the long weekend.

Our first day was a 108km tour into the Parc National de la Mauricie. We began pedaling about 10am. We hadn't gone far when we caught up with another tandem couple on a 6-day tour. Tim spotted that their back wheel was not running true. It turned out that they had a broken spoke. We left them with a plan to get their wheel fixed at the next village where there just happened to be a bike repair shop. The entry fee to the Parc was a rather steep \$29 for the 4 of us. The road surface is very good along the whole circuit, with lots of hills (1320m total climb). However, apart from the fresh air, the rest of the ride is summed up by saying trees and rocks and water. Not an

awe-inspiring road for scenery, but very good to get the legs ready for tomorrow. At the end of the ride, two 16-inch pizzas and a couple of beers each were bought and dealt with. Mmmm. For some reason, we retired to the Hotel Esplanade early and slept like logs. One or two of us made noises like we were actually in a sawmill, so I'm told. But that's a story for another day.



Facilities along the Jacques Cartier trail.

Shawinigan to Riviere à Pierre, 95km

The weather forecast was excellent and after a good breakfast at the hotel, we set off to find Riviere à Pierre. We negotiated the suburbs of Shawinigan with no difficulty and with little traffic to deal with, we forwent the Google bike route and stayed with the more direct route 153. The good hard shoulder lasted all the way to Ste Tite (Home of the biggest Country Festival in Eastern Canada, with 450,000 visitors per year) where we took



DoubleTalk

a “pause cafe” and chatted with a group of guys. It’s here that we learned that we only thought we could speak French as their accent was very broad, none-the-less, understanding came with repetition and patience and there were no raised voices at all. While relaxing in the sunshine, drinking our coffee, a couple on a very nice KHS tandem rode by. We spent 10 minutes learning about the locality and the trials and tribulations of trying to buy a Tandem in so remote (relatively) an area. Incidentally, Ste Tite is a very pleasant little town, very clean and flowery, dominated by a large stadium, and just out of town, acres of camp sites to cater for the aforesaid Festival.

We decided to turn off route 153 and take a diversion down to Lake Pierre-Paul to see more of the rural side of the country. The cycling became brilliant with perfect weather and open vistas over large bright green fields. Villages are far apart and there is little food or drink sup-



port as we meandered our way past pretty farms and cottages in an almost absolute traffic free environment. We passed through Thomas arriving at Lac aux Sables with an expectation of finding an ice cream. However this was not to be, and we had to wait for another 18 or so kms to indulge at Notre Dame des Anges. The convenience store (or *depanneur*) in Notre Dame des Anges is also a hardware store, and it also sold liquor. It was also, understandably, very busy.

With 22km to go, the asphalted road became very rolling, and it was quite rough in places. To make up for this, there were some extensive views over the river valley to our left. We arrived at Riviere à Pierre about 3pm, and found Zac’s Bar. The picture on Google is a rundown hovel; however, it’s now spanking new and here we downed a couple of cold Buds, which tasted great, and we relaxed in the sunshine.

Riviere à Pierre has been a community since 1880, and its staple industry is a very large granite quarry. The product



DoubleTalk

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

from the quarry is shipped out of town by rail, which runs right through the middle of town. More on this later.

We rode a mile or so down the road and found our B&B, "Couette et Confitures." We checked in and felt at home at once. We were offered an evening meal, but stupidly decided not to take it, as we found out later that the Landlady was an excellent chef. We marched back into town after a refreshing swim in their pool and bought take away food to eat at Zac's Bar over a pint or two of Bud. After all, it had been a very dehydrating day.

Back at the B&B there was this delightful Grandfather clock which chimed every 15mins and struck every hour. I was just getting used to the rhythm of this when the first train made itself heard in the distance. At 3:40am after an infinite number of whistles it arrived. I had no idea that a train could rock a granite house built on the Canadian Shield so much. We just got settled again when the second train came through. Life's full of excitement. In the morning, somewhat bleary eyed, we went down for a superb three-course gourmet breakfast that included a delicious ham and cheese omelette on an English Muffin and a fruit-filled crepe.

There were other guests at the table, and Marge and I made it known that we were doing a French immersion trip, however, the others in this very French speaking part of Canada would have none of it and insisted they practice their English. So we had the inevitable bilingual conversations so common in Montreal:

French folks speaking English and English folks speaking French. Magic.

Riviere à Pierre to Cap Santé-108km

We got on the road about 9am, after deciding that we would do a side trip to the Chutes de Marmite, 6 km up the road. After a deviation or two from the direct route, we made it and had a fun walk round the Falls.

One of the reasons we came to this part of the world was to ride the Jacques Cartier Rail-to-Trail, a 68km gravel right of way which meandered through the back country down to the suburbs of Quebec City.

The trail is well surfaced and, apart from a few areas where there was a little too much rock dust, it was fast and easy to ride. This website will get you started if you are interested:

<http://www.quebecgetaways.com/velopiste-jacques-cartier--portneuf>

We left the Trail after 54km and found a great Irish pub in Ste Catherine



Gate on the Piate Cycable Dansereaux trail.



DoubleTalk



de la Jacques Cartier called Dazibos. It's well worth the effort to visit.

The next 15km is on a cycle Trail called the Piste Cyclable Dansereaux between Ste Catherine and Pont Rouge. This path is only 15km long, but it a perfect example of how bike paths for recreation should be laid out. The trail meanders by the side of the Jacques Cartier River, and is well used by locals and visitors alike.

The next section to our hotel in Cap Santé was basically downhill with the wind behind us, however, the pleasure was somewhat tempered by hunger and fatigue. Our moods were brightened up by meeting up with the tandemists with the broken spokes we had run into on our first day as they were on their way home. However, all good things come to an end, and we found Motel sous les Chemilles .

The lodging is good and bike friendly, rooms big and clean, the downside is

that it is remote from restaurants. There is a mediocre Chinese a kilometre down the road (exactly), which is not to be recommended. Our mistake was not to eat before we left Cap Santé itself. Except for that oversight, this was a perfect cycling day.

Cap Santé to Shawinigan - 94km

We rose early and went for breakfast in the Motel, then made a lazy start in cool rain, with lightning flashes on the south side of the St Lawrence. A 60% chance of precipitation was forecast, so we hoped this would be it. Soon enough, it dried up and the sun came out. We rode along the flat, traffic free route 138 and made good time to Ste Anne da la Pérade, where we stopped for coffee and a second breakfast. Shortly after, there is a bridge over the Batiscan River which has a metal grating deck. Our experience is that this is ok to ride if it is dry, when wet however, it can be very slippery. With this in mind we decided to dismount and walk our bikes on the pedestrian walk way.

This turned out to be not so easy as there were two "U" bends in the narrow path which were not designed for tandems with bags.

We joyfully rode through road works and alongside the river to Pizza67 in St Narcisse, where we had a great lunch for less than \$10 each. After that great lunch, we followed the small roads northwest toward Lac à la Tortue. Then the heavens opened and amidst heavy rain, hail, thunder, and lightning we ran for shelter in the workshop of a garage to wait out the downpour. It lasted about 45 minutes,

DoubleTalk

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

then out came the sun again and off we went for the last few miles.

In brilliant post storm sunshine we arrived at the car, loaded the bikes and set off home.

I must admit the car seat was a lot more comfortable than the bike saddle.

In summary, this is a very bike friendly part of the world; it's a chance to visit quiet rural landscapes that are increasingly rare. Everyone we met was friendly and welcoming, and language should not be an issue even for the most unilingual, due to the locals wanting to practice their English.

There can be surprisingly long distances between support shops, for food and drinks so it pays to be prepared.

Except for the Parc National de La Mauricie, the terrain is rolling rather than hilly.

Ron Trumper
St Bruno Quebec



STS LOOKING FOR STC

STS Looking for STC for fun...great mileage...ability to enjoy my sport while out of town.

Sounds like an ad in a singles column but don't jump to any conclusions yet. What really is going on here is that I am a single tandem stoker (STS) looking for a

skilled tandem captain (STC) when I am traveling out of town.

Let me explain. Every couple months I am up in the Boston area visiting with my married daughter and grandkids. During the 3 to 4 days I'm there, I would love to get away for a ride to keep my balance and focus as well as become familiar with and enjoy the beautiful cycling that this area has to offer.

Same goes for when I'm visiting Arlington Heights, Illinois where my sister lives or Tampa, Florida visiting friends. My dilemma is that I am an avid cyclist, I love riding tandem, have lots of miles under my belt, have a terrific tandem partner who is married, a doctor, and outside of our local rides, it's not possible to connect up when out of town. This is where my idea gets better.

Somehow it would be nice if there was a system in place where one might have a contact person who might know of a tandem group or individual who could connect me up with an individual, man or women, who I might stoke for while visiting their area. Yes, I've made some calls to local bike shops and even individuals on occasion, with little success.

I would love to hear from other tandem riders / teams about your thoughts on making something like this possible... perhaps through regional area representative in the Tandem Club of America.

Nita Bernat
(nita8712@iglou.com)
Louisville, KY





DoubleTalk

Florida Tandem Rally 2011

Halloween weekend in Florida is when the PANTHERS summon fellow tandem riders to gather at The Villages for a weekend of pedaling and fun.

My husband, Bill, and I are fortunate to be a part of this great group of tandem riders known as the Florida Panthers. This club is based in The Villages in Central Florida, but it also includes members who live and ride throughout the state of FL.

At the ice cream social on Friday evening, we could sense the excitement as more and more of the 55 teams who would be attending the Second Annual Florida Tandem Rally wandered into the registration area to pick up their packets of maps and goodies and mingle with like-minded folks. The rally was headquartered at the Waterfront Inn, a

great full-service hotel located in The Villages, a sprawling, pedestrian-friendly retirement community only 24 miles south of Ocala. After the ice cream “dessert” (you should always consider

eating dessert first – life may be short!), we walked a block along the lake to the Sumter Landing town center to check out the music and dancing in the square and enjoy a fresh seafood dinner at one of the many restaurants.

Saturday morning greeted us with rain. Should we ride anyway? Would it stop?

Bob Thompson, president of the PANTHERS (Partners Aboard Neat Tandems Happily Enjoying Riding Simultaneously), said the ride would start as scheduled. Folks could decide whether to ride or wait for the sun. We opted for a late start, but by 9 a.m. (scheduled ride start time), the drizzle had stopped, and we started with the crowd. Many teams did wait on the sun to dry the roads.

Villages resident Charles Futrell, 91, who set a USA Triathlon record this year as the oldest male finisher, led the cyclists en masse from the Inn. All rides shared the route for the first 2 miles, with Ray and Linda Cannerella leading the pack at a sensible pace for riding on wet pavement. At the first traffic light, two deputies from Sumter County held off oncoming traffic to let the tandems cross the highway for the 32-mile ride or turn down the highway for the 44- and 62-mile rides. A few miles later, we were into the rolling hills and farmland of Lake County.

Bill and I gradually inched up to what we thought was the lead group for the 44-mile ride. By now the sun was drying the roads and we were rolling at 21 and 22 mph, with an exhilarating pace line of six or seven tandems. We were just entering



Charles Futrell with Jan Thompson in background

DoubleTalk

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

the lead position when POP, our front tire blew and the rim hit the pavement. Thankfully, the riders behind us were very alert. They all spread out, giving Bill space to maneuver the bike to the swale, and no accidents occurred.

Just a few miles before our flat, we had learned we'd missed a turn and would be pedaling 62 miles. During the tire change, we discovered many in our party were hoping to finish quickly, making time to visit an off-road mountain bike trail that afternoon. We told them to go on to the rest stop. A few teams, including Paul and Jeanne Knudsen of Royal Palm Beach, and Melanie Ashby and Frank Phelps of Miami, stayed back to help us. Then we all hammered together for three intense miles to the tiny market in the forest, where we jumped ship. The rest of the riders regrouped and sped on.

Before long other tandem teams pulled in. Two of the couples were buzzing about what they had just seen – a bear.

“I saw him walking toward the fence. It was a big, full-sized black bear,” said Kay O’Neal of Stone Mountain, Ga.

“He came out and was looking around,” Bob O’Neal said. The O’Neal’s, and Ken and Michelle Languedoc, said they stopped as soon as they could. They were going to ease back toward the bear, but he ambled off into the woods before they could get back with their cameras.

We finished the ride at a more leisurely pace, stopping for a delicious boxed lunch at the Wildwood Community

Center, before bucking the wind the last seven miles to the Waterfront Inn.

More wonderful food awaited us at the evening banquet, held within pedaling distance of the hotel. Some of The Village residents came to the banquet hall by golf cart.

During the post-dinner ceremonies, Valerie and Richard McKay of Garden Valley, Idaho, won for traveling the farthest distance and Jack and Pat Deacon of Lexington, KY, took the prize for the most combined years. Ken and Michelle Languedoc of Jupiter, FL, won for having the fewest years. They also won the day’s Visual Treasure Hunt with their added entry at the bottom of their cue card: Mile Marker 21.4, a black bear.

The rally wrapped up on a cool, crisp Sunday with rides mapped rides of 29 and 41 miles to stretch legs before the trip home. Soon it was time to bid newfound friends goodbye, and to make plans to return to the Villages on Oct. 26, 2012 for the PANTHERS Third Annual Florida Tandem Rally.

Just remember: Same time, same place, next year.

Bill & Kathy Foster
Fruitland Park, FL

(Editors’ Note: The 33rd Annual Southern Tandem Rally will be in St Augustine, FL, October 19-21, 2012. This will be a great opportunity to attend two fantastic rallies with one vacation! Check out the TCA calendar for more information about both great events.)





DoubleTalk

How to make your tandem lighter and have a smoother ride... part II

(otherwise known as a product review)

Okay...so I fibbed just a little bit. This article is a review of the 2nd item we recently learned of and that has earned its coolness factor.

Selle An-Atomica Saddle. Tandem teams (heck – any cyclist) and their saddle preferences are stories of legend that can go on forever. Suffice to say, whether leather, gel-filled, sheep skin covered, or duct tape over plywood, each captain and stoker struggle to find the proper ‘interface’ with their tandem. Both captain AND stoker has to be satisfactorily seated for the tandem to roll down the road. Worse yet – once you find a saddle that works, sooner or later that model may no longer be manufactured or available, and electrical tape can only patch sooooo much! With that perspective in mind, and my stoker’s Terry saddle coming to the end of its life, I began the hunt for a new saddle.

If you haven’t found it yet, the tandem-specific portion of the BikeForums blog site [bikeforums.net/forumdisplay.php/44-Tandem-Cycling] is a great source of all-things-tandem information. Several online tandem riders suggested the Selle An-Atomica, along with a select few other saddle types. The comment most frequently seen was how they’d hopped on this new saddle and rode unusual distances on their first ride! Going

to the web site, there’s good information on the design and philosophy of the Selle An-Atomica, which was all very helpful, as well and movies of the seat ‘in action’. I was not, however, expecting to pay such a high price, compared to previous saddles. What was I to do with an expensive saddle if my stoker didn’t like it.....?? More searching led me to the online “House of Tandems-Texas” in Spring, TX, a retailer who stocks the saddle, and contact info for the owners Marcia and Ric Becker. Several emails and a couple of phone calls transpired before I was (half-) convinced to spend \$180 for a new stoker seat.

After several days in the mail, the new saddle arrived. It looked for all the world like the other leather and brass rivets, hammock-style, old school saddle we’d both previously tried, but didn’t like. It also seemed a bit longer than a typical woman’s saddle. This one though, has a curvy cut-out down the middle, and a tension adjustment allen screw right under the nose, though there were no directions for tension adjustment. The whole thing looked sturdy enough, but seemed like a candidate for uncomfortable pinching, or sliding fore and aft. I mounted it on the seat post in about the same place and height as the previous saddle and took it for a spin. A leisurely 25 mile test ride proved I wouldn’t need to return it, but the next day’s 65 mile ride sealed the deal. Other than tweaking the seats’ tilt and fine-tuning the tension, the saddle has (happily) gotten rave stoker reviews. Something about the type of leather and the tension adjustment has kept my stoker from sliding on the but-

tery smooth seat. I even give her a small 6 mm allen wrench, so she could find the best seat-tension setting on the fly. The seats thickness didn't look like much at first, but is apparently quite sturdy and very well crafted, even though we're not a featherweight team. Her previous saddle had had copious padding but was not a gel saddle. I was told and read several places that no breaking period required, and that has proven correct. We've got about 200 miles on the new seat, just as the century part of the cycling season kicks into high gear. We (she) have no heartburn tackling the centurys with her new seat, contrary to some of my other 'good ideas'. The Selle An-Atomica seems to be such a good purchase I'm considering adding another one to my Christmas list to Santee Claws for the captain's position. There's no reason why only the stoker should be nice and comfy, hmmm!

Michael & Natalie Hutchinson
Yorktown, PA



Southern Tandem Rally 2011

Last September, tandem teams from throughout the South (and from parts beyond!) convened in Raleigh, North Carolina, for the 32nd Annual Southern Tandem Rally. Headquarters Hotel was the Hampton Inn - Airport, and the DoubleTree, next door to the Hampton, was available for those who wished to enjoy slightly more luxury than offered by the Hampton. It was your choice! The host team was Smith Doss and his lovely wife, Claude Monnier.

It was with a bit of trepidation when we arrived at the host hotel. After all, the hotel was near the airport, there were busy streets all over, and how can you have good rides like that? No worry! Smith and Claude had promised we'd be out of the busy city and into the country in a matter of minutes, and they lived up to their word.

Typically, Friday rides at STR are from a remote start. No one likes to mix it up with end-of-workday rush hours, especially when you can drive for a few minutes to a quite church parking lot and start on great roads, right away. Since we'd arrived on Thursday evening, we opted to ride the morning version of the ride. We met at 9:00am, and Claude gave the weather report. She forecast, "You'll have about an hour and half before the rain starts." And we were off! We opted for one of the shorter distances, as we believed that Claude knew her North Carolina weather. And she was absolutely correct! Almost exactly 90 minutes into



DoubleTalk

the ride, right after we'd made the fortuitous decision to take the middle distance ride, the raindrops began to fall. Then more of those pesky raindrops fell. Finally, it was all we could do to see the road ahead of us! Fortunately the traffic was so light that we didn't even worry about the cars – there weren't many to contend with on these roads at all. And, it was one of the warmest rains we've ever ridden in. We made it back to our ride start and our truck without any major problems (tho' one of the couples riding with us did suffer a flat – in the rain – only a mile or so from the finish). A short drive back to the dry, warm, hotel was appreciated. Gotta love a hot shower at the end of a wet ride.

After showering, Susan and I headed off to find lunch, and then to find REI. We always try to find a local café or restaurant when we travel, and we were successful again on this trip. We found a small restaurant that looked like a sports bar (boy, were we surprised!), next to

Days Inn a few blocks away from the Hampton. When we walked into the café, there wasn't a tv to be seen! There was a wide selection of beers and burgers to choose from, and one of the best salad bars we'd seen. Life was good. Oh, the Raleigh REI was good, too, but we

didn't find anything we needed there. What a bummer!

Friday night was the official "Welcome to STR" party, with terrific desserts to choose from. The party was at the Raleigh Art Museum, a great place that's open late on Friday nights for our visiting. Or you could just stay at the "Desert Room" and eat until you couldn't move! I don't think anyone went hungry from a lack of dessert.

Saturday morning, we awoke to the sound of rain gently hitting the windows of our hotel room. Would it continue throughout the day, or would we be able to get in a Saturday ride? We didn't rush through breakfast, as we really don't like to start recreational rides in the rain (touring is a completely different situation. There, you do what you have to do!) We did finish eating in time to catch the riders' meeting. Smith did Saturday's talk, and said that lunch would be at a picnic shelter, lakeside in the middle of the ride. If you wanted the lunch that you'd already paid for, you needed to go to the shelter, rain or not. About half the teams took off in the light rain and headed for the lake. We, hopefully being a bit wiser than many of the teams, certainly older than many, opted to drive out to the lake and do a ride from there, if the rain quit. We're happy to report that the rain had completely quit by the time we arrived at the lake, and we were able to do a great ride, getting back to the shelter before lunch was over. A benefit of the rain was that very few locals had opted to go to the lake that Saturday, choosing to stay home or wherever. Again, very little traffic was



Cloudy but no rain on Sunday - we're all ready to ride.

DoubleTalk

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

on the roads for Saturday's ride. Lunch was a Mediterranean delight, with several choices of wraps for our pleasure.

Saturday night is 'banquet' night. Not necessarily formal but we're all together enjoying good company and good food. Smith and Claude had contracted the DoubleTree – next door to the Hampton Inn. A great buffet awaited us, and it was fantastic! Have you noted how much tandem teams enjoy eating? After everyone made it through the line, several announcements were made, concerning future rallies. Roger Strauss/Eve Kofsky have made it a tradition to announce the location for the next Georgia Tandem Rally at Southern Tandem Rally. (GTR will be in Dublin, GA, if you haven't heard). Rick and Debbie Brackett made a short presentation about STR 2012, and it looks like it will be another great rally (St Augustine, FL, at the Marriott World Golf Resort, October 19-21, 2012). And finally I finished the announcements by asking for folks to consider hosting a future Southern Tandem Rally. Southern Tandem Rallies happen because interested teams like Smith and Claude (this year's hosts) and Rick and Debbie (next year's hosts) are willing to make the effort to find a venue and be the hosts. (If you're interested in hosting STR in the future, maybe even in 2013, please contact me via e-mail at goertz@mindspring.com for more information. All that we ask is that it be hosted in the South).

Sunday, the final day of STR2011, dawned, still overcast. Sunday's ride is usually planned to leave from the hotel and timed to allow teams to do a nice

ride and still make it back to the hotel early enough to shower before checking out and returning home. We headed out through an office park which was adjacent to the Hampton Inn. In just a few blocks we were in quiet residential streets, with practically non-existent traffic. We did the ride, again choosing the mid-length, and enjoyed seeing the country just south of Duke University. Those who wanted to do a slightly longer ride opted to add a loop to a lake (and adding another hill).

It's always a bit sad to say good-bye to friends at the end of rally, but we know we'll see many of them again at another rally, somewhere. We're looking forward to attending next year's Southern Tandem Rally (information at www.southerntandemrally.com). Will you be there?

Jack & Susan Goertz
Birmingham, AL





DoubleTalk

CALENDAR

January 7, 2012, CRABS (Couples Riding A Bicycle Simultaneously) Potluck. Baltimore, MD area. A great time to get together to share tales of 2011 and make plans for 2012. RSVP

January 8, 2012. HATS (Houston Area Tandem Society) Christmas Party. Always on time, we are planning this January celebration to really stretch out the holiday celebration. Come join in the fun and fill the calendar for 2012. www.tandem-hats.org

January 15, 2012. HATS (Houston Area Tandem Society) Chili Ride. Always a fun time regardless of the weather. RSVP www.tandem-hats.org

January 28, 2012. HOOTS (Hoosiers Out On TandemS) Winter Social and planning meeting. This is an evening event. <http://tandemhoots.ning.com/>

March 23-25, 2012. **Alabama Tandem Weekend.** Childersburg, AL. Three days of riding including a tour of the Blue Bell Dairy and ice cream stop. Small towns bring great low traffic riding. Kick start your riding season with this wonderful opportunity to explore Alabama's quiet roads. Find Alabama Tandem Weekend on facebook, Make your room reservations at the Jameson Inn 256.245.4141 <http://www.jamesoninns.com/locations/sylacauga.html> Tim & Bev Presley timothy.presley@charter.net

March 23-25, 2012. Sebring Tandem Rally presented by the PANTHERS Tandem Club. Rally will be held at the Chateau Elan Hatol and Conference Center adjacent to the International Raceway. More info coming soon at www.floridatandemrally.org.

April 6-9, 2012. **UK Easter Tandem Rally.** Hampshire, England. Hosted at the Avon Tyrrell Activity Centre in the New Forest National Park. Camping and indoor accommodation on one site. www.tandem-club.org.uk/nf2002/rallies.htm

April 19-22, 2012. **Spring Thaw 2012.** Michaels, MD. This event is for those crazy off-road tandemists. We'll help you get started if you've never tried. If you expect great fun. <http://www.easterntandemrally.org/>

April 27 – 29, 2012. **Southwest Tandem Rally,** Kerrville, TX. South West Tandem Rally returns to Kerrville, with it is planned, new routes. The Inn of the Hills is a wonderful location – a courtyard with gazebo, party house and pool make for great socializing. Preregistration is required. Inn of the Hills 800-292-5690. Sue & Joe Cahill sdcahill@austin.rr.com the TXCats are putting this event together www.txcats.org

May 17-20, 2012. **Georgia Tandem Rally 2012.** Dublin, GA. Our hosts are excited with this new venue. Plan to arrive for the Friday morning ride. Watch for registration to open in early 2012. <http://www.georgiatandemrally.com/>

May 18-20, 2012. **COWS Spring Rally.** Port Washington, WI. The COWS Spring Rally will be held in beautiful Port Washington, WI on Friday, May 18 – Sunday, May 20. Enjoy a weekend of scenic cycling with other tandem enthusiasts. Host hotel will be Country Inn and Suites in Port Washington, with a banquet to be held at Nisleits The Country Inn about ½ mile from the hotel. make your reservation at 262-284-2100 and mention the "Couples on Wheels" or COWs. Beth & Pat Peterson host. http://couplesonwheels.com/rides_spring2012.php

June 2-9, 2012. **2012 International Tandem Rally.** Granville, France. These international rallies are a blast. Camp or find your cabin/hotel type accommodations. <http://www.tandem-club.org.uk/nf2002/rallies.htm>

June 15-17, 2012. **MATES (Mid-Atlantic Tandem EnthusiastS) Tandem Rally 2012.** Carlisle, PA. Tandemists return to Carlisle. This is a great

DoubleTalk

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

venue with beautiful riding. <http://www.eastern-tandemrally.org/>

June 29 – Jul 2, 2012. **Northwest Tandem Rally 2012.** Salem, OR. Share the Wonders of the Willamette (WOW) Valley with its hospitality, history and scenic bicycle routes. You'll enjoy riding with our tandem families and friends from the Northwest, and across the US and beyond, all at an affordable price. Our dedication and enthusiasm aim to benefit the riders along with the Willamette Valley economy, local businesses, and community relationships. We'll explore the Oregon capital city and surrounds. Our host hotel is The Grand Hotel. Rally headquarters are at the Willamette University Campus. <http://nwtr.org/2012/>

June 29 – Jul 1, 2012. **Indiana Tandem Rally.** Fort Wayne, IN. Details are being firmed up. Contact Anne & Kent Ellis, tandemindiana@gmail.com Host hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn – Fort Wayne. Make your reservations now. <http://tandemhoots.ning.com/>

June 29 – July 2, 2012. **27th Northwest Tandem Rally.** Salem, OR. Share the Wonders of the Willamette (WOW) Valley – with its hospitality, history, and scenic bicycle routes – with our tandem families and friends from the Northwest, and across the US and beyond – all at an affordable price. Our dedication and enthusiasm aim to benefit the riders along with the Willamette Valley, the economy, local businesses, and community relationships. <http://nwtr.org/2012/> facebook: www.facebook.com/NWTandemRally Twitter: @NWTandemRally questions? marketing@nwtr2012.org

August 3-5, 2012. **Eastern Tandem Rally 2012.** Amherst, MA / Pioneer Valley. There will be a Thursday option, so please mark your calendars. <http://www.easterntandemrally.org/>

August 18-25, 2012. **Tandem 2012 (U.K. National Rally).** Kettering, Northamptonshire. Save the date. If you want to travel – but want to stay in the English speaking comfort zone this may be the event for you. <http://www.tandemclub.org.uk/nf2002/rallies.htm>

August 31 – September 3, 2012. **Midwest Tandem Rally 2012.** Madison, WI. Actually Middleton, WI to avoid some of the traffic. The COWS are hosting the 37th Annual Midwest Tandem Rally. We're expecting a great event. Make your hotel reservations at the Marriot Madison West: group code mtrmtra 888-745-2032 <http://www.couplesonwheels.com/mtr.php>

October 19-21, 2012. **Southern Tandem Rally 2012.** St Augustine, FL. A historic town to explore. Rally headquarters in a fantastic hotel. <http://www.southerntandemrally.com>

October 27-28, 2012. **Florida Tandem Rally 2012.** The Villages, FL. The Florida PANTHERS (Partners Aboard Neat Tandems Happily Enjoying Riding Simultaneously) will host this years event. Stay in Florida and ride for the days between Southern Tandem Rally. <http://floridatandemclub.org/calendar.htm>

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.

CALENDAR



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FOR SALE: 2008 Santana Sovereign Scandium w/ S&S Couplers in a medium size frame. Beautiful bike is ready to ride with lots of accessories such as Shimano Flight Deck computer, rear bike rack made specifically for Santana, frame pump, water bottle cages and water bottles. The carbon fork and Tamer Shockpost for the stoker are standard on the Sovereign Scandium. Bike has Sunburst (red/orange) paint and has less than 200 miles on it. The bike is in Wisconsin but we are willing to travel a reasonable distance for the right buyer. Asking \$6300.00. Contact Mike Doerr at (414) 491-6453 or mgdoerr@gmail.com for details. 01/12

FOR SALE: 2008 Santana Beyond, Medium size frame. Very smooth and very fast. IsoGrid double-butteted 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](mailto:jaflesch@lawggf.com) via e-mail at jaflesch@lawggf.com or give him a call @ 312-346-1080 (IL). Pictures are available. 01/12

FOR SALE: 1983 Jack Taylor touring tandem. Hand-crafted by Jack Taylor and his two brothers in Stockton on Tees, England. Double-butteted lugless construction throughout. All tubes are Reynolds 531. 24x21. Black with traditional Taylor subdued multicolor striping. Mostly Campagnolo Super Record or Nuovo Record components are used. The oversize (tandem) headset assembly is Jack Taylor proprietary. SuperRecord tandem crankset, 175/165 crankarms, (52/42/34) w/42t X-over rings. 6-speed 14-34 freewheel. Four Campagnolo Record brake levers on front bars, one pair operates the Shimano cantilever brakes, the second pair the disk brakes. Campagnolo Record FD, Huret Duopar Titanium RD. Campagnolo SR shift levers, rear indexed. Dropbars F&R. Campagnolo Record seatposts w/Brooks leather saddles front and rear. Front and rear Jack Taylor luggage racks and four panniers. Also included are an extra set of wheels. All 4 wheels are 27" x 1" Wolber 58 Super Champion rims with 48 double butted SS spokes. One pair has Phil Wood hubs and disk brakes front and rear, the other has French Mavic hubs, including the famous rear drum brake. A Vitansel Tandem car roof rack is included. The tandem has never been crashed or dropped, and there are no scratches or rust. It has

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

January / February 2012
www.TandemClub.org

always been carefully maintained and is in excellent condition. Apart from occasional short runs, it has not been used seriously since 1998. Asking \$1000. New owner is to collect or arrange packing and shipping. For more information, please contact Jim Scott, ph: 772-287-3250 or e-mail: jimscottfl@comcast.net (FL) 03/12

FOR SALE: Cannondale MT800 Tandem (2001), with less than 1000 miles on it. In great shape and ready to ride. A perfect bike for those long rides on or off road. Currently set up for 5'7" female captain and youth stoker, but easily adjustable. Comes with owner's manual, two stands, Avocet 15 cyclometer, two water bottle cages, Cat-eye barend mirror, Shimano Deore XT Deore rear derailleur, 24 speed, Cane Creek headset, child stoker kit, and Wellgo dual function w/ alloy cage pedals. Asking \$1000. Contact Janice Rinaldo at gointodaytona@bellsouth.net or call (404)-312-5290 (cell), not too late, please. (GA) 03/12

FOR SALE: 2000 Santana Fusion. Large frame, S&S CroMoly couplers, travel case, Formula rear disc brake, Flight Deck computer, shock post stoker seat, low mileage, \$3075. Kreidler 4.5" rollers, Killer Headwind, fork stand, tandem extension, \$375. Yakima cross bars, 58", \$40. Contact Doug Plzak at 248-373-7564 or d.plzak@att.net. Delivery is negotiable. 03/12

FOR SALE: 1981 Jim Redcay filet brazed marathon frame tandem. Designed for 6'5" captain, 5'7" stoker for loaded touring by one of the premier American frame builders of the 1970s and 80s. Ishiwata chrome moly tubing with braze-ons for everything. Top tubes sloped and parallel for artistic symmetry. Upgraded in 1996 by Rodney Moseman with indexed shifting, more bottle braze-ons and low rider rack bosses. Phil Wood field serviceable 48-hole hubs, Velocity Dyad rims, Phil bottom brackets, Shimano Deore cantilever brakes, bar end shifters, and Phil Wood

disk drag brake. Sugino Fuse 500 triple tandem crank set, Deore XT derailleurs and 8-speed XTR cassette. Complete Blackburn F&R racks & low-riders. \$1000. Prefer not to ship; pick up/delivery options negotiable. Photos and specs from Jay Brosnan (jbrosnan@earthlink.net) or call 704.999.8291. (NC) 03/12

FOR SALE: New Ellsworth Witness full-suspension mountain tandem. Career-ending injury forces sale of one sweet bike delivered just before we got hurt. White Brothers downhill fork with 5" travel, Mavic Crossmax wheels, Magura Gustav disc brakes, SRAM/Truvativ drivetrain. Picture available. New \$7800, asking \$6000. Will deliver within day's drive of Albany, NY. For more info call Al Berzini (518) 475-5571 days or email teamberzini@verizon.net (NY) 03/12

FOR SALE: Santana forged aluminum Octalink crankset. Includes 4 arms and 5 chainrings for stoker triple (170mm, 53/39/30t), timing chain (40t), and captain's cranks (175mm). Good condition except for one chipped tooth on 39t chainwheel, which still works well. \$150 plus shipping. Also 31.8mm x 450mm carbonfiber drop handlebar for captain. Ergo design with flat top and bumps on the drops. \$75 plus shipping. Pictures on request. Contact Steve by email skye2@hawaii.rr.com. 03/12

WANTED: 120mm long Woodman (or similar) 1 1/4" x 31.8mm forged captain's stem. Will buy used or new, or if interested, I will trade my 110mm stem for the 120. Contact Steve by email skye2@hawaii.rr.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)

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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.

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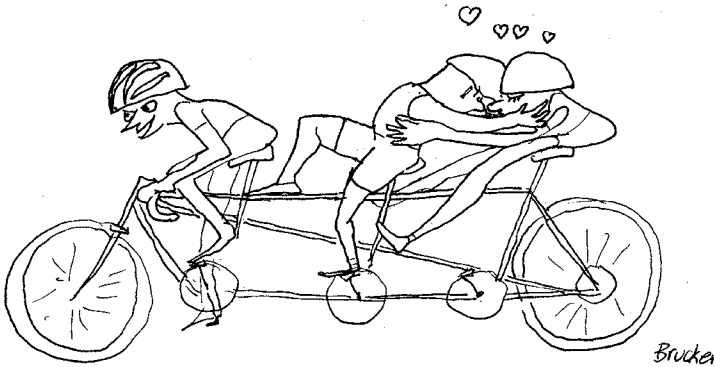
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Please fill out the membership form below and mail
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Duncan & Laura McCabe
2302 New Orleans PL
Wilmington, NC 28403-0315

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

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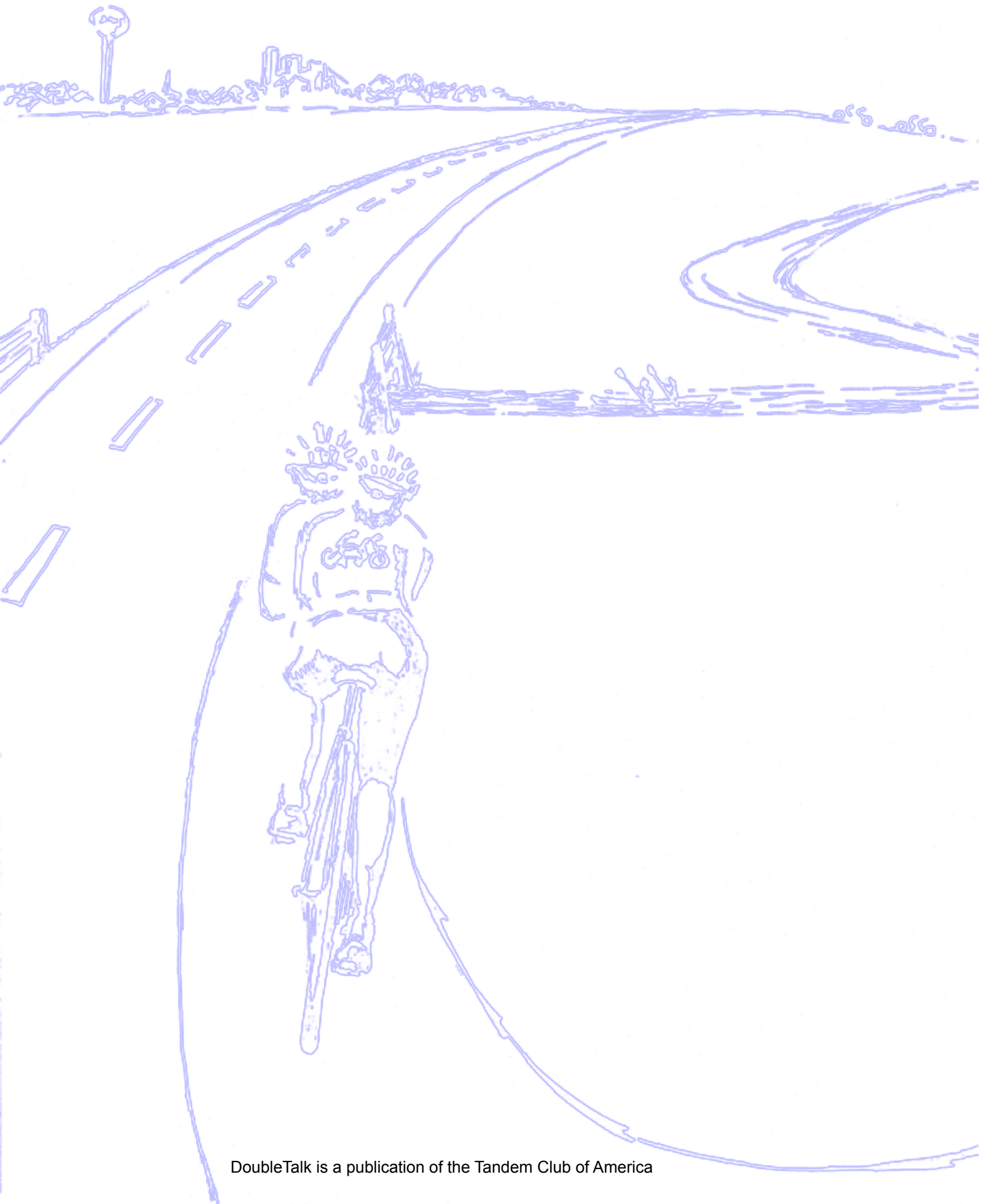
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