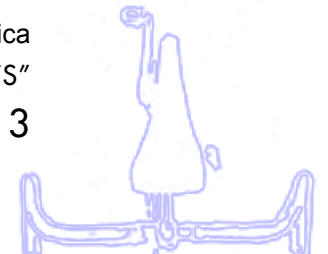
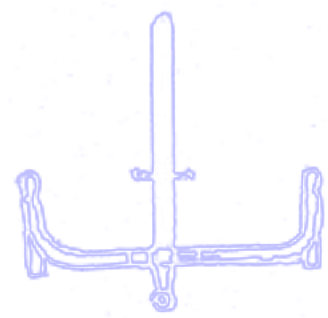


DOUBLETALK

DoubleTalk is a publication of the Tandem Club of America
"AN INTERNATIONAL CLUB FOR TANDEM ENTHUSIASTS"
SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2013



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

Electronic Service Requested
STANDARD MAIL

PRSR1 STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Birmingham, AL
Permit No. 387



SHARING

ON A TANDEM, WITH OTHER MEMBERS.

MAKE DOUBLETALK GREAT BY SHARING

YOUR IDEAS, THOUGHTS, PHOTOS AND ARTICLES.

Area Representatives

Contact your Area Reps for local tandem information.

Region 1 (AZ, CA, CO, HI, NM, NV, UT)

- **Bob & Lois Weast**, 4324 Paradise Dr,
Carmichael, CA 95608 (916)-961-5193

Region 2 (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY) -

Spencer Beard & Sheila Hoffman, 1410
E Pine St #320, Seattle, WA 98122 (206)
726-0598

Region 3 (IA, MN, NE, ND, SD) -

Paul Campbell & Cathie Bishop, 1604 S
Fairmount, Sioux City, IA 51106 (712)
274-2023

Region 4 (AR, KS, LA, MO, OK, TX) - **John**

McManus & Brenda Cole, 922 Easton
Pl, Dallas Tx 75218 (214) 321-6085

Region 5 (MI, WI) - **Bill & Marsha Pe-**

ters W5861 Timber Trl, New Lis-
bon WI 53950 (608) 547-1101
billmarsha61@gmail.com

Region 6 (IL, IN, KY, OH) - **Dick & Jackie**

Homan, 34875 N Helen Ct, Ingleside, IL
60041-9410 (847) 587-6234

Region 7 (AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN)

- **Marv & Miryam Rubenstein**, 2815
Sweetbriar Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850)-385-0534

Region 8 (DC, DE, MD, VA, WV) - **Bob &**

Willa Friedman, 5514 Callander Drive,
Springfield, VA 22151 (703)-978-7937

Region 9 (NJ, NY, PA) - **Chuck & Bonnie**

Dye, 288 Mulberry St, Rochester, NY
14620-2512 (585)-473-8041

Region 10 (CT, MA, RI) - **Emery & Anne**

Glass, 1 Dodge Road, Marblehead, MA
01945 (781)-631-3239

Region 11 (ME, NH, VT) - **Bob & Linda**

Harvey, 16 Clinton Street, Salem, NH
03079 (603)-898-5285

Region 12 (AB, BC, MB, NT, SK, YT) - **Ray**

Thouret & Audrey Gordon, 88 Doug-
lasbank Rise SE, Calgary AB T2Z 1K7
(403) 281-6494

Region 13 (ON, PQ) - **Dave & Brenda**

Vandavelde, 2964 Keynes Crescent, Mis-
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

Double Talk

A publication of the Tandem Club of America

An International Club for Tandem Enthusiasts

Established in 1976

www.tandemclub.org

Copyright © 2013 TANDEM CLUB OF AMERICA (except where noted)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What do TCA members do?	2
Who Does What?	2
Back Issues Available	2
The Changing Face of the Tandem Club of America and <i>DoubleTalk</i>	4
Malcolm Boyd, Medford, NJ	
GTR Date Correction	6
Letter to DoubleTalk	7
A Tandem Epiphany	7
Bob & Carol Marsh, St Louis, MO	
Tandem Captain Saddles	10
Christian Bratina, Litchfield, CT	
Son of Bicycle Fitting	12
Richard DiLorenzo, Muncie, IN	
Tandem Club Of America & Doubletalk Survey	13
Tandem Calendar	16
TCA Tandem Hospitality Homes	17
Classifieds	19
Dealer Ads	20

Cover design by Edd Scheer

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

editor@tandemclub.org



DoubleTalk

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

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

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

International Liaisons: **Tom & Robyn Ratajczak**, 39 Ottari Rd, Ashville, NC 28804
International@tandemclub.org

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

Deadline for the November December 2013 issue is October 1, 2013

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:

2013

July - August

May - June

March - April

January - February

2012

November - December

September - October

July - August

May - June

DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

From the Editors

The Fall rally season is here. What a spring/summer it's been! We've had rain almost everyday in July, humidity that you can cut with a knife, and the summer insects that go with it all. But yet we've been able to ride every week. The rainstorms have mostly come in the afternoons, after we've finished for the day. More than once this year we've finished our ride, gone into a restaurant for lunch, and discovered the rains were falling – some quite heavy -- as we returned to our vehicles for the trip back to the house. Riding under clouds and the threat of rain has kept our rides much cooler than you would expect in July, though, and August is starting with the same weather pattern. Will the pattern continue into the fall? Or will “Midwest Monday” return to its normal form (where it rains on us as we pack for the return trip).

Fall is our favorite season, and we love the fall rallies. We try our best to attend all we can, and we'll be at the Midwest Tandem Rally and the Southern Tandem Rally to end our Rally season. Unfortunately we won't be able to attend the Florida Panthers' Rally in the Villages this year – just too many great event, not enough calendar days to get to all of them!

Last issue Susan and I announced we intend to step down from our posts as editors of DoubleTalk. Since that issue, the defacto officers of the Tandem Club of America have had many conversations of what the Tandem Club should do, and what DoubleTalk should become in the future. Malcolm Boyd, the founder of

the Tandem Club (along with his wife, Judy Allison) has agreed to step back in as managing editor of DoubleTalk, beginning in 2014. We have all thought about how the TCA should move forward, and Malcolm has expressed our views in his article in this issue of DoubleTalk. To help shape the DoubleTalk/Tandem Club of the future, we hope you take the time to read Malcolm's essay, and that you also participate in the on-line survey at <http://tinyurl.com/tca2013survey>.

We hope that you continue to support the TCA through the transition, and that you will support the TCA as it moves into the future. We still want your articles, your pictures, and your calendar listings. As has become our tradition, we will end our editorial by asking that send your submissions to us immediately. We want to share them 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 (and pictures do make a better article), please don't embed them 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!

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



DoubleTalk

The Changing Face of the Tandem Club of America and DoubleTalk

- Malcolm Boyd

With Jack and Susan Goertz announcing their retirement as Editors of *DoubleTalk*, the leadership of the Tandem Club of America convened a series of teleconferences to plan a transition. Our first order of business was, of course, to thank Jack and Susan for exemplary service as Editors. Thirty years and approximately 180 issues of *DoubleTalk* is no mean feat! And truly a labor of love. Thanks to the Goertzes again! Coincidentally, Al and Sue Berzinis, who have acted as our Treasurers for many years, are also stepping down. Several years ago, while on tour with us in the Canadian Rockies, Al suffered a cycling career-ending injury, a crushed nerve that has made it impossible for him to continue to ride. So while Team Berzinis remain advocates of cycling, their personal involvement ends. We thank them as well! Jack and Susan, not wanting to fully step away from the TCA, have graciously offered to take on these tasks, and will become our new Treasurers. I'll be returning to an active role as we transition the TCA and *DoubleTalk* to what we hope becomes a more viable path. Judy and I launched the TCA in 1976 with \$150 of our personal funds and mailing lists gleaned from personal friends and two tandem rallies. I served as Editor for the first eight years, from '76 to '83, and then as the membership Secretary for an additional decade. With Jack and Susan stepping down, I'm

reengaging as a change agent to assist in transforming the TCA and *DoubleTalk* into a new and hopefully stable future format. In the short term, I'll take over the responsibilities as the new managing Editor.

With change comes opportunity! We'd like to hear from you, our membership and readers, about the changes we propose below, as well as other paths and actions the TCA could take. To collect your feedback we've created a TCA survey that we invite you to take so your voice can be heard; you can find it at this URL: <http://tinyurl.com/tca2013survey>. Our most immediate and pressing issue is to find a way to transform *DoubleTalk*, whose original mission – to provide a means of communication amongst tandemists – has not changed. Concurrently we hope to inject new energy and mission to *DoubleTalk* and the organization.

TCA's *DoubleTalk* newsletter has been printed copy, and like magazines, it runs on a subscription model. Unlike magazine subscribers, whose only sense of community is that they read the same paper, our objective is that the Tandem Club of America continue as a community of tandem cyclists, bonded by the Club and our common, team experience using these wonderful machines. *DoubleTalk* has been the Club's sole means, the past 37 years, to communicate amongst ourselves. But *DoubleTalk* is not the TCA. *DoubleTalk* is a means to an end, a way to exchange information among geographically widely and thinly dispersed tandem enthusiasts constituting less than 0.5% of cyclists. Some of us believe it's too

DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

narrow to think of *DoubleTalk* as a paper newsletter. It's a means of communication, and as such it needs to either keep up with revolutionary media changes since its inception, or risk being roadkill. Faced with a declining membership over the past 15 years, the TCA faces the possibility of *DoubleTalk's* relegation to the recycle heap if it doesn't change and keep up with its readers and contributors, most of whom we believe have kept pace with an internet-enabled world.

Thus we propose to change our focus. Rather than writing a printed, bimonthly club newsletter with a faint drumbeat echo on its website, we propose to gradually reverse the paradigm and write a periodically updated *DoubleTalk* website that, depending on feedback and economics, will periodically continue to publish part of its content on paper.

This as an experiment, albeit one running in real time in a very real world, suddenly lethal to print media. We are going places we haven't gone before, and we don't have a good roadmap to follow, either. We now live in a world where we have routine access to quantities of information only dreamt of in 1976, and, perhaps more importantly, in a world where, when some general survey respondents, when asked to choose between food and high speed access, chose the latter! Parts of our valued membership, many now departed, perceive us as two months stale, or at least two months late. We are. How many of us are going to wait for a bimonthly publication in this day and age?

Complicating this is the fact that we don't have a new fully formed financial model. The old TCA model was essentially a *DoubleTalk* subscription service, supplemented by some paid advertising. While we have assets exceeding our outstanding liabilities, and could sustain ourselves for several more years, increasingly, our membership and subscribers are dropping away. While we acknowledge a cadre of individuals who value the TCA's physical manifestation, the paper *DoubleTalk*, slotting into their mailbox, we fear becoming irrelevant, unread except by a few, swept aside even while the tandem community continues to grow, and in fact has never been larger. So we are changing, even though it isn't easy or fun, and the final end-state remains uncertain.

Additionally, we seek to continue to differentiate ourselves as a Club and hopefully maintain our position as the community of tandemists. We don't aspire to become another listserver or an individual's blog. *DoubleTalk* will remain edited and moderated, perhaps by not one individual, but a small cadre of editors. It will not be a site for unsupported speculation, but will make an honest attempt to verify what it reports. Secondly, *DoubleTalk* continues to seek to avoid becoming a soapbox for rants. Where controversy opines, we seek balanced opinion.

So again, we'd very much like to hear from you, our membership and readers, about these proposed changes, as well as other courses of action the TCA could take. Please take the TCA survey at <http://tinyurl.com/tca2013survey> - we



DoubleTalk

truly value your response and your comments. We have also published the Survey questions in this copy of *DoubleTalk*. We'd prefer you to respond online, since the results are collated there automatically. But since one of the core questions revolve around the value of the paper newsletter, we also invite those without internet access to respond via paper. Perhaps the number of paper responses we get will in itself be telling!

So tell us what you think! Thanks for reading and wish us luck as we transition the TCA and *DoubleTalk* going forward. We'll see you up the road.

Malcolm Boyd
Medford, NJ



Dear DoubleTalk,

Greetings from Western Pennsylvania,

My wife Tess and I bought our daVinci tandem in 2009 from Tandems East in New Jersey. We greatly enjoy our tandem. We do all of our bicycling on rails to trails in Western Pennsylvania. According to the Rails to Trails Conservancy website, Pennsylvania has the most rails to trails (167) in the country.

In western Pennsylvania, one of our favorite trails to bike are the "Great Allegheny Passage", which is a 150 mile rail-trail that connects Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Cumberland, Maryland. Another favorite is the 32 mile rail-trail "Ghost Town Trail", connecting Black Lick and Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. Others include the paved Three Rivers Heritage Trail in Pittsburgh, which has 23 miles of trails along the three rivers, and the 70+ mile Pine Creek Trail running from Wellsboro to Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania through the scenic Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania. These are only some of the rail trails in Western Pennsylvania.

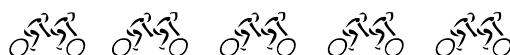
It's fun to bike where there are no vehicles. Most of the rail trails run along



GTR Date Correction

Thanks for the GTR listing in the July / August 2013 Doubletalk. However, the dates are wrong. They should be May 29-June 1, 2014. If you could fix that for the next issue, we would appreciate it.

Please make a note of this important date correction.



DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

creeks or rivers through forests, and vehicular traffic is banned. We bike on Saturdays from early April to mid-November. We schedule our rides at [www.meetup.com/western pa rails to trails bicyclers](http://www.meetup.com/westernpa_rails_to_trails_bicyclers). When you are in Western Pennsylvania, join us for a Saturday tandem ride on our beautiful rails to trails.

Mike Kramer
Latrobe, PA



A Tandem Epiphany

It was on The (Des Moines, IA) *Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa* or "RAGBRAI," back in 2004. We were somewhere around the fourth or fifth day. Rain. Lots of rain. This particular night we didn't have to sleep in our tent because the National Guard Armory in Marshalltown, Iowa, offered their drill hall to Team Army Reserve. The hall had a kitchen, showers, and it was dry! Carol and I got up, had breakfast prepared by our own traveling support crew, along with about 40 of our closest friends for that week, and we watched remnants of the rain while we ate. Yes, it was still drizzling. We packed our gear and loaded it onto one of the support vans, knowing that we would find it again at the next overnight town. Depending on the mood of the support crew, we might even find that our tent was set up and ready to go upon our arrival – that was always a treat! I was riding an Optima recumbent low-rider at the time and Carol was

on her individual upright bike. Neither one of us was looking forward to riding in the rain again. Once on the road and cruising along, getting caught in the rain is one thing; intentionally heading out in the rain for a 70-mile day just isn't our idea of fun, but nevertheless... Standing underneath a small overhang looking at the rain, gear loaded, many team members already gone, my recumbent riding partner, Ed, had already mounted his Bacchetta and was ready to roll. "Why don't you just help support today, since it's cold and raining and I'll see you at the meeting town," I said to Carol. It didn't take her long to agree to that! While there is real work involved with supporting the team and lots of it, it's also a fun time, so I turned on my flashing red tail light and away Ed and I rode in the rain. Our two recumbent bikes, by-the-way were the only two on this team and there was only one tandem, a titanium Santana.

I'm a little faster rider than Carol is, and what generally occurs is that I will inadvertently get ahead of her. In order for us to stay together as much as possible, I either must circle back to find her or simply wait on the side of the road until she passes by. As you approach the Iowa towns that the RAGBRAI routes take you through, the crowds are huge. It reminds me of the nature footage we've all seen of wildebeests crossing a river – but with thousands of bikers instead of wildebeests. Losing track of your riding partner(s), if not right near you, is easy to do. Carol and I became separated often and it wasn't unusual to miss each other in a number of towns and not reunite until late in the day.

A Tandem Epiphany



DoubleTalk

She and I discussed tandems on occasion, wondering if they would be fun – never too seriously and not as an alternative to our individual bikes necessarily, but in addition to them. We discussed giving one a try someday just because we enjoy cycling. The idea of staying together, no matter how fast we traveled, and not getting separated was appealing.

RAGBRAI designates certain towns, I imagine by size, to be “meet-up” towns where you are able to meet your support team vehicles. These towns are generally located half-way or a little farther on the route before reaching the overnight town. The overnight towns are larger towns that can accommodate the 20,000 riders, support crews, all of their vehicles, and the many vendors. Support vehicles do not drive the same routes as the cyclists and the “meet-up” towns are the only way support crews can see their riders during the day. The rain finally stopped, the day warmed, the pavement was drying and more importantly, Ed and I were drying out. We were happy that it was finally warm and sunny – in fact maybe a little hot. We met our support vans and immediately headed to the one with the beer! I found Carol who had a great morning hanging out with the support crew, doing the grocery shopping for the team, and running errands for fellow team members at Wal Mart. She claimed that she felt a little guilty riding in the dry, warm van while we were riding in the rain; somehow I doubt that. Did I mention that Carol was in the van carrying the beer? When I found her at lunch, she’d already taste-tested two or three and judged them to be fit for others. The

support vehicles arrived at the meeting town some time prior to the riders rolling in so the support crew started the party without us – understandably so, after all, this is RAGBRAI!!

Riding my recumbent doesn’t necessitate wearing typical padded cycling shorts. I normally wore regular shorts until I learned the hard way that when the wind fills the short’s legs as I move forward it causes wide openings around the thighs (my riding position is feet forward and I’m almost prone) and on more than one occasion, bees and other flying critters are easily trapped. I’ve been stung more than my share of times but fortunately never there. I think there is more danger is slapping at whatever is in there and trying to stop, holding on with only one hand and not watching where I’m going than an actual sting! I finally began wearing cycling shorts later but not on this day. Carol on the other hand had dressed for riding that morning, but decided at the last minute to join the support team, but did not change her clothes – she was ready to go.

Shortly after meeting Carol at the all-important beer van, she and I headed out into town to visit Budweiser/Miller towns which are generally roped-off areas at each end of the towns sponsored by Budweiser and Miller Beer with live bands separating them by a distance that prevents the two bands from interfering – they are great places! We had lunch that consisted of giant pork chops on a stick, and they are wonderful. We even met the Mayor, who gave us a tour of his small town in a golf cart! Back at

DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

the support vehicles, visiting with other riders who made their way in, Tom, who was piloting the Santana, rolled up to the support van, at which time his stoker immediately jumped off, exclaiming that she'd had it and she wasn't getting back on that tandem today! As she made her way to the cooler, she announced she was riding the rest of the day in a support vehicle. As Tom opened a beer, demonstrating that he was experienced at this task, he mentioned that he'd ridden the tandem solo before, he'll just do it again. Carol and I, having had the town tour, visited (and patronized) the beer-sponsored towns, finished our pork chops and enjoying yet another beer (it was hot that day after the weather cleared!!) when the light bulb could be seen over my head.

"Tom, I have a great idea...listen to this" I said.

"What?"

"You mentioned once that you'd never ridden a recumbent." "We have 30 miles or so to go to the overnight town, wanna trade bikes?"

"Yeah, what a great idea!"

"Carol! You ready to ride?" "We're gonna ride a tandem!"

I didn't have riding shorts and probably hadn't been on a "wedgie" seat in.... forever, but who cares, neither one of us were feeling much pain anyway. Nothing was stopping us, we were going to see how this tandem thing worked and after a little preparation, away we went. I immediately felt that wonderful seat. We had 30 miles to go. Honestly from this point, the ride -- as best I can recall

-- was uneventful other than watching a wet t-shirt contestant get carted away by the Iowa State Patrol, and having a picture taken of me holding a scantily-clad Wonder Woman in a bar that I barely remember in one of the small towns somewhere in that 30-mile ride. I was told that communication was key to a successful tandem ride so I was telling Carol everything; shifting harder, shifting easier (I thought she'd understand that more than up shifting or down shifting), braking, coasting, slowing, and so on... The more interesting part was Tom attempting to ride my recumbent. Carol and I had gone ahead and didn't see the circus act that was Tom simply trying to get started! After multiple attempts, he finally got it to stay on the black top, but not necessarily in the same lane. Ed, my recumbent riding partner was beside him the entire way shouting commands but shouting more for riders ahead to make room! Other team members stayed with him to provide cover. Tom made that last 30 miles, but I don't think he's ever been on another recumbent. Carol and I, on the other hand, fared a little better. Remembering enough of our tandem experience that once we were home and a month or so later, we borrowed a friend's Cannondale ATB tandem for an afternoon of riding on a designated path in a city park. In the coming months we discussed our experiences and whether or not we thought riding one more regularly was something we would want to do. We decided that it was and wanted something nice, yet fairly inexpensive, just in case it turned out opposite of what we thought. After a couple of missed Ebay

DoubleTalk



Bob and Carol Marsh aboard their tandem.

bids, we found a Cannondale roadie on Craigslist that was bought on a whim and had sat in a garage for five years after being ridden once. It was a great find for us, and a great way to get started. In fact we still own that Cannondale. Four riding seasons later, a few more RAGBRAIs, Bike Virginias, Texas Hotter'n-Hell-Hundreds, and various organized rides here and there and just getting out and riding, we came to the conclusion that maybe we like this tandem thing after all and ought to invest in a nicer ride. In the fall of 2010 I began talking to Mark Johnson of Precision Tandems about a Calfee and 2012 marked the second season on our new Calfee with a whole bunch more to come! See you at the 2013 MTR!

Bob & Carol Marsh
St Louis, MO

Tandem Captain Saddles

Finding the right saddle, one that is comfortable for the distance you ride and does not interfere with your pedaling, is a difficult task. The only way is trial and error, as what fits one person well, may not fit you at all. Finding a comfortable saddle for a tandem is even harder. We all know that the stoker's ride is the worst, especially sharp bumps, but even a captain has a hard time. A large part of this is because we both sit more on a tandem, whereas we can easily stand up and/or pedal out of the saddle, whenever we want, while riding on a single upright bike. This means that even the captain needs a "softer" saddle. When I started riding, the Avocet Racing I saddle was fantastic for my single bike, but I found the Avocet Touring II far better for our tandem. On our latest tandem I tried the Terry Fly but it just did not work for me, it was very painful after just a couple hours' riding. I loved the look of the old leather saddles which have a reputation for fitting you like a glove after a painful break-in period. Brooks use to be the premier leather saddle, but there have been several reviews that found the leather sagged into a warp that could not be fixed and was uncomfortable. The Gilles Berthoud got great reviews for being comfortable right out of the box and long lasting, so I located and bought the Aspin model, which is their stainless steel rail touring model. They also make saddles with titanium rails and one with more of a racing shape. They are expensive, \$200 for a saddle with the stainless



DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

steel rails, and \$280 for one with the titanium rails.

What I found was the saddle had an initial hard feel, no give, every time I sat on it. But it didn't get any worse, even after riding a century. There is no initial cushion effect, because there is no cushion. In more than 5,000 miles of riding, we have done several multi-week pannier loaded tours, and it has worked admirably for me. The Berthoud has an easy to use allen key tension adjustment. I put a straight edge over the saddle and measured the drop when it was new and again when it felt most comfortable. Now if it feels funny or uncomfortable, I measure the sag and re-tension it, perhaps once a year. I also put an annual leather coating on it.

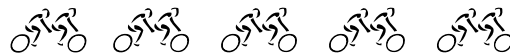
They make a women's version also, but Peter White, a retailer who also sells them, advises that "the majority of women will not like this saddle, just as they don't like Brooks saddles. A few women will love them, though, and they will never want anything else."

Berthoud saddles come in black, tan, and cork. I find the tan stunning. The black does fade with usage.

For those scared to chance it, www.renehersebicycles.com offers a 6-month satisfaction guarantee, returnable for a refund for any reason. Saddles should be covered in the rain and not over-softened. It is a good idea to get a neoprene cover for use when you leave it outside, on the top of a car, or are riding in a heavy rain. Both Berthoud and Brooks provide a 2-year warranty against defects. They advise that Berthoud is more liberal in what

they define as a defect. Brooks saddles that "go soft" within the two year period, but which otherwise show no signs of abuse, are not considered defective.

Christian Bratina
Litchfield, CT





DoubleTalk

Son of Bicycle Fitting

Some time ago I wrote about the joys of bicycle fitting and how much my stoker and I benefitted from a fitting from Jeff Frame here in Indiana. Several teams we know visited with Jeff and have experienced improvement in both comfort and performance as we did.

We are four years and two tandems removed from our first fitting with Jeff. Now we were about to leave for a Santana Rally on Chesapeake Bay in Cambridge, MD. In two days we'll be leaving for another Santana Chesapeake Bay event. This one was in Irvington, VA. Lots of miles have passed under our wheels over the years, and our bodies have changed. This past winter we spent two months in Florida. I'm no longer a "mileage monger". I no longer notate every ride and every mile. I'd estimate we rode about 500 miles in those two months, certainly not excessive. But during the last couple of weeks my Stoker began to experience considerable pain. It was mysterious, to say the least. During the previous summer we did a Tour of Quebec on the same bike, with the same set up. She had no problems what-so-ever. That was 7 consecutive days of riding, a total of about 300 miles. There was a tentative diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis, but further testing revealed her pain was the result of inflammation. How did she become inflamed? I'd go to the ends of the earth to insure my stoker was comfortable, so today it was back to Jeff Frame for a re-evaluation. We weren't surprised to learn our bodies had changed in strength, flexibility and tissue supple-

ness. And those changes necessitated a bit of tweaking of the bike set up. After some minor adjustments, we went for a short ride, which felt good. I'm not about to pepper this with superlatives. This coming weekend will tell the tale. The bottom line here is that fitting is not a static event. As we grow older, changes occur and accommodations need to be made. I want to back pedal (no pun intended) on a position I took about saddles. I was taken aback when Jeff suggested a stoker saddle change. I felt proper position, not the saddle was the key to comfort. Turns out this may not be the case. He recommended an Adamo Century, made by Ism (<http://www.ismseat.com>). We'll see how the new fitting works out before we investigate this new saddle. But I'm open to anything that could make my stoker's riding experience better.

The riding season is about to get under way in earnest as I write this. If you've had a fitting and are experiencing some problems you've never had before, it may be time to get an "up-date. Have a great 2013

Richard DiLorenzo
Muncie, IN



TANDEM CLUB OF AMERICA & DOUBLETALK SURVEY

We are interested in your input while the Tandem Club of America and its newsletter, *DoubleTalk*, is undergoing a change. We appreciate your time and interest! As our path forward is, at-present, uncharted, we will take your collective feedback into consideration as we move forward. Thanks!

How long have you been tandem cycling?

- Still in the market
- Less than a year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- 21+ years

What is your membership status in the TCA?

- Still in the market
- Less than a year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- 21+ years
- Not a member

How would you describe your level of tandem cycling activity? (Check all that apply)

- We're just new to the sport; haven't done much
- We hit our peak years ago now only ride occasionally
- Family cycling: we ride mostly as a family or in small groups
- Club riders: we ride with a bike club on a regular basis
- Event riders: we like cross-state rides, fund raisers and rallies
- Tandem rally enthusiasts: We do one or several rallies a year
- Tandem tourists or vacationers
- Tandem racers: we are competitive cyclists

How much do you value the TCA's magazine, DoubleTalk? (Check all that apply)

- A lot; we anxiously await it and read it cover to cover
- A little; we enjoy reading some of the articles
- Very little; we scan it but don't really read it
- We only use it for the rally calendar
- Not worth the money; that's why we are no longer TCA members
- Not worth the effort to re-subscribe
- I forgot to re-subscribe and that was that
- Never seen it
- Seen it and not interested



DoubleTalk

What type of content would make DoubleTalk more valuable to you?

(Choose top 5)

- Technical articles
- Trip diaries
- How-To articles
- Rally reviews
- Interviews
- More photo journalism vs. long articles
- Ride listings
- Classifieds
- Tandem or component reviews

Which of the following TCA services or features do you value and use:

(Check all that apply)

- Annual membership list
- Articles
- Hospitality Homes
- TCA's Regional Representatives
- *DoubleTalk's* classified ads
- *DoubleTalk's* event calendar
- *DoubleTalk's* advertisers: products & services
- Links to other tandem organizations and/or companies
- Other: _____(optional)

Which of the following would be your preferred way of receiving Tandem Club news & information?

- Continue with the print newsletter "as is" requiring a subscription price increase
- Send *DoubleTalk* via Email as text or PDF editions that I can print out
- Switch to an on-demand newsletter than can be downloaded from the TCA website
- Transform *DoubleTalk* to a Blog format for real-time publishing
- A combination of blog & printed newsletter requiring a subscription price increase
- A combination of blog & email-distributed PDF editions that I can print out

How do you stay connected to the tandem community?

(rank 1-5)

- *DoubleTalk* newsletter
- local tandem club or club newsletter
- online listserver, such as tandem@hobbes
- local bike shop or tandem dealer
- online bike forum

DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

TCA is looking for more member involvement; is there something you're good at that you'd be willing to do to help improve the TCA and member engagement? (Write-in Response)

What are the one or two things that you'd change about TCA if you could? (Write-in Response)

This survey is also available on-line at <http://tinyurl.com/tca2013survey>. If you prefer answer the survey via hardcopy, please mail your completed survey to:
Laura and Duncan McCabe, 2302 New Orleans Place, Wilmington, NC 28403.





DoubleTalk

TANDEM CALENDAR

Every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday. **Florida Panthers Tandem Club tandem rides.** The Villages, FL. If you're in the area please stop by and join us for one of our regular rides. <http://floridatandemclub.org>

September 7-8, 2013. . **ETC (Evergreen Tandem Club) Wine Ride.** Yakima wine country, WA. Pre-registration is required .<http://www.evergreentandemclub.org>

September 14, 2013. **WABITS (Washington DC Area Bicyclists In Tandem) Ride.** Washington DC Area. <http://www.dctandems.org/>

September 19, 2013. **HOOTS (Hoosiers Out On Tandems) Thursday Evening Ride.** Carmel, IN area. <http://tandemhoots.ning.com>

September 21, 2013. **CRABS (Couple Riding a Bicycle Simultaneously – Baltimore area) Ride – Eastern Harford Co.** <http://www.baltobikeclub.org> click on BBC Tandems

September 21, 2013. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Leaf Me Alone Ride.** Barrington, IL <http://chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com>

September 21, 2013. **WABITS (Washington DC Area Bicyclists In Tandem) Ride.** Washington DC Area. <http://www.dctandems.org/>

September 27-29, 2013. **COWS (Couples On Wheels) Fall Rally.** Green Bay, WI. Join the COWS and then join the ride. This makes a great fall get away.<http://www.couplesonwheels.com>

Every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday. **Florida Panthers Tandem Club tandem rides.** The Villages, FL. If you're in the area please stop by and join us for one of our regular rides. <http://floridatandemclub.org>

October 4 - 6, 2013. **Dirty DOGS (Doubles of Garden State) Get Dirty Off-Road in White**

Clay. Newark, DE. We will be trail riding, BUT – this time we're staying at the Embassy Suites. <http://www.d-o-g-s.org>

October 5, 2013. **HOOTS (Hoosiers Out On Tandems) Fall Finale Pitch-in BBQ and Bonfire Ride.** Carmel, IN area. Contact the organizers for the details. The weather should be getting crisp and just right for a great tandem ride and some great socializing. <http://tandemhoots.ning.com>

October 6, 2013. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Happy Trails Ride.** Ingleside, IL <http://chicagotandems.com>

October 6, 2013. **CRABS (Couple Riding a Bicycle Simultaneously – Baltimore area) Ride – Annapolis.** <http://www.baltobikeclub.org> click on BBC Tandems

October 6, 2013. **WABITS (Washington DC Area Bicyclists In Tandem) Ride.** Anapolis, MD Area. <http://www.dctandems.org/>

October 11-14, 2013. **Fall Allegany Rally for Tandems (F.A.R.T.) FART XX.** Allegany State Park, Salamanca, NY. This is our 20th consecutive year!!!! And we have an extra day to play! Columbus day for the Americans, Thanksgiving for the Canadians. FART – an off-road MTB weekend for tandems. Private rooms. Bring food to share. Riding XC ski trails, horse trails, and dirt roads. Technically not difficult, but be prepared to climb. Register early, limited to 20 teams. For more info, contact Karen or Brian Managan, 49 Martinot Ave, Rochester NY 14609 (585)654-9624 or frosty_dog@mac.com. The cost for the camp for the entire weekend is divided by the number of teams, so the more teams, the less it costs! Check out the FART web page at <http://fartmtb.org>

October 11 – 13, 2013. **2013 Gateway to Texas Get-A-Way Tandem Tour.** Clarksville, TX. This

TANDEM CALENDAR

DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

is a repeat of a popular event. Check out the details through the DATES Dallas Area Tandem Enthusiasts website. <http://www.doubledates.com>

October 12, 2013. **DOGS (Doubles of the Garden State) Chili Ride.** Newton, NJ Join us for a scenic ride through Sussex and Warren Counties.. The route will be on mostly shaded and lightly traveled roads. RSVP <http://www.d-o-g-s.org/>

October 18 – 20, 2013. **Southern Tandem Rally 2013.** Cullman, AL. Three great days of riding, and socializing should make this a rally to remember. Watch www.southerntandemrally.com for details or e-mail goertz@mindspring.com

October 19, 2013. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Blind Stoker Ride.** Wheaton, IL Captains are always needed. Please contact us in advance if you can help. <http://chicagotandems.com>

October 19, 2013. **CRABS (Couple Riding a Bicycle Simultaneously – Baltimore area) WABITS (Washington Area Bicyclists In Tandem) Apple Fritter Ride – Annapolis.** <http://www.baltobikeclub.org> click on BBC Tandems or <http://www.dctandems.org/>

October 20, 2013. **CRABS (Couple Riding a Bicycle Simultaneously – Baltimore area) WABITS (Washington Area Bicyclists In Tandem) Queen Anne's County Ride – Annapolis.** <http://www.baltobikeclub.org> click on BBC Tandems or <http://www.dctandems.org/>

October 25-27, 2013. **Florida Tandem Rally.** The Villages, FL. The Florida PANTHERS are gearing up to present their fourth annual rally based in Florida's largest retirement community where golf carts and bicycles get their own lane on the road. If you're in the area please stop by and join us . Pre-registration is required for the Rally. Watch <http://www.floridatandemclub.org> for details on special hotel rates and registration information.

October 26, 2013. **WABITS (Washington DC Area Bicyclists In Tandem) Ride.** Annapolis, MD Area. <http://www.dctandems.org/>

October 27, 2013. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Chili Pumpkin Ride.** Barrington, IL This is a CATS tradition. Come join in the fun. <http://chicagotandems.com>

TANDEM CALENDAR

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

TANDEM CALENDAR

Every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday. **Florida Panthers Tandem Club tandem rides.** The Villages, FL. If you're in the area please stop by and join us for one of our regular rides. <http://floridatandemclub.org>

November 9, 2013. **CRABS (Couple Riding a Bicycle Simultaneously – Baltimore area) Ride – Tandem Tailgate.** <http://www.baltobikeclub.org> click on BBC Tandems

Every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday. **Florida Panthers Tandem Club tandem rides.** The Villages, FL. If you're in the area please stop by and join us for one of our regular rides. <http://floridatandemclub.org>

December 14, 2013. **CATS (Chicago Area Tandem Society) Holiday of Lights Ride.** Arlington Heights, IL <http://chicagotandems.home.mchsi.com>

December 22, 2013 **CRABS (Couple Riding a Bicycle Simultaneously – Baltimore area) Christmas Ride** – <http://www.baltobikeclub.org> click on BBC Tandems

March 2014. **Sebring Tandem Weekend, 2014.** Sebring, FL. A great tradition will continue. Dates are being set now. <http://www.floridatandemclub.org>

April 4-6, 2014. **Alabama Tandem Weekend 2014.** Andalusia, AL. A new venue, new hosts, same deal. No registration fee, make your hotel reservation or find another place to lay your head – there has been an RV contingent the last couple of years; let the hosts know that you are coming. <http://alabamatandem.blogspot.com/2013/05/2014-alabama-tandem-weekend.html>

May 2-4, 2014. **Southwest Tandem Rally 2014.** Little Rock, Arkansas. Yes, we'll spell out the state name. We want to make sure that you're not

headed to Alaska. www.swtr2014.com

May 29 – June 1, 2014. **Georgia Tandem Rally 2014.** Athens, GA. **NOTE CORRECTED DATE** Keep your eyes on our web page www.georgiatandemrally.com

July 4 weekend, 2014. **Northwest Tandem Rally 2014.** Pendleton, OR. A return to a great venue. Subscribe to our mail list for updates. You can sign up from our website: www.nwtr.org

August 29 – September 1, 2014. **Midwest Tandem Rally 2014.** Fort Wayne, IN. It is bound to be a hoot. Maybe there will even be some hollern' too. www.midwesttandemrally.org/mtr2014.html

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.

DoubleTalk

September / October 2013
www.TandemClub.org

FOR SALE: Burley Duet. 27-speed. Front chainrings are 27-53, rear cassette is 14-34. Avid V-brakes, Arai Drum Brake, rear rack. Shimano Ultegra shifters. Separate cyclocomputers for both Captain or Stoker. 48-spoke wheels front & Rear. Asking \$1300. For more information, contact Lee or Mary Fiegel, 262-363-2679, or via e-mail to lfiegel@centurytel.net Bike is in WI. (9/13)

FOR SALE: 1992 Santana Arriva, medium frame. Bar-Con shiftlevers. Drum Brake. Dark Blue paint. Child stoker kit & rear rack included. In good shape, but does need some TLC to put it back into tip-top shape. Asking \$700. For more information, contact Theresa Ansted via e-mail to theresa_ansted@yahoo.com Bike is in OH. (11/13)

FOR SALE: 2008 Santana Beyond, Medium size frame. Very smooth and very fast. IsoGrid double-buttet 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. Selling because we need (and have purchased) a coupled tandem. \$9,000. Also have BikePro USA Oversize Tandem Case (\$450). Contact Jim Fleisch by e-mail @ jaflesch@lawggf.com or call @ 312-346-1080 (IL). Pictures are available. (IL) 11/13

FOR SALE: 2002 Santana AL Triple Sovereign. 95cm x 92 cm. Blue. Purchased from Tandems Limited, this bike has an estimated 3000 miles of usage. We rode BRAG five times, and used the bike for other family outings. Ultegra Group, 9 speed XTR rear derailleur. Hadley Hubs on 48 spoke wheels. Rear drag brake. Avid caliper brakes. AHeadset headset. Flight deck and second cyclometer at rear stoker station. Old Man Mountain rear rack. Serfas saddle for captain, Terry saddles for stokers. Stoker 1 position has pneumatic shock absorber in seat post. 5 water

bottle cages (capacity of seven). The paint has like-new luster and does have nicks, chips, etc around the rear drive train. Includes ATOC triple bike mount for roof rack. Can provide with our without SPD pedals for each rider. Shipped with new Gatorskin Kevlar tires. Captain's top tube bears autograph of Tour de France cyclist, Bob Roll. Asking \$4500 + shipping. I hate to see it go, but it needs to be ridden. Edgar Dalrymple. E-mail edgardal@hiwaay.net. Bike is located in Huntsville, AL 11/13

FOR SALE: Used BikePro/Pedal Pack USA tandem hard case with extras. Cost new is \$680 plus shipping. Asking just \$350 plus shipping. Case is in very good but used condition. The extras include a blue tarp, never used; Velcro straps to hold everything firmly in place during transport of the bike; two-person color coded checklist for assembling and disassembling the bike (and photos of the bike in the case). Also included is a bike stand that allows you to take the bike frame out of the case, install the wheels, and then place it on the stand for the rest of the assembly process. The case is being sold "as is" and the sale is final. Both a medium frame and a large frame Santana Sovereign tandem have been transported in the case without incident (not at the same time of course). John Mattsen. E-mail is mattsen2@comcast.net. (MI) 11/13

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

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

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Tandem Dealers

VILLAGE CYCLESPORT. Selling Santana, Co-Motion, daVinci, Rans & Sun tandems. Testriders welcome. Trade-ins accepted. See us at www.villagescyclesport.com or 45 Arlington Heights Rd, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. (847)-439-3340 11/13

TANDEMS, LIMITED. Selling America's finest tandems, Bushnell, Cannondale, Co-Motion, KHS, Rans, Santana, more. 2220 Vanessa Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242-4430. (205)-991-5519 e-mail: tandems@mindspring.com or www.tandemsltd.com 01/14

TANDEM MATCHMAKERS - Nearly 200 in stock. Touring, Family, Track, Race, Recumbent, Triplet, Portable, Quad. Rentals. Long rural tests. Repairs, Modifications, refinishing. Wheels, Obscure Parts. worldwide shipping. Buy and trade MT. AIRY BICYCLE. - www.bike123.com - Orders: 888 MY TANDEM (MD) 01/14

HOSTEL SHOPPE - Choose from huge selection of two or three wheel tandems from Volae, Rans, Hase and Terratrike plus parts, accessories and adaptive cycling equipment. Free catalog. www.hostelshoppe.com - 800-233-4340 01/14

HOUSE OF TANDEMS - a tandem boutique, offering Santana, Co Motion, and daVinci tandems. See the largest selection of tandems on the Texas Gulf Coast. We want to meet the unique needs of tandem cyclists. Website: houseoftandems.com. E-mail: marcia@houseoftandems.com. Tel: 713-962-1417. Open by appt. 01/14

CRANK2 PERFORMANCE TANDEM BICYCLES. Test Ride Center for Santana, Co-Motion, daVinci Designs, & KHS. Over 45 tandems available for immediate delivery. 925-462-4272. www.crank-2.com. 5480-9 Sunol Blvd. Pleasonton, CA 94566 01/14 **TANDEMS EAST.** Free

catalog Stocking Co-Motion, Seven, daVinci, Calfee, Cannondale, Hokitiki, Green Gear, KHS, Burley, Rans, Kidz, Bushnell, Bilenky, Wheels, child conversions, parts, advice. www.tandem-seast.com tandemwiz@aol.com (856)-451-5104 (NJ) 02/14

PRECISION TANDEMS - 30 Tandems, Triplets, Quads in stock from Burley, Co-Motion, Longbikes, Meridian, Santana. Child Adaptor Kits. On-line Parts & Accessory Catalogs & Tandem Display. Check out www.PrecisionTandems.com. 913.962.8866 10am-9pm days. 03/14

GEAR-TO-GO TANDEMS. NY & northern PA's largest Tandem Dealership located in Saranac Lake, NY. Santana, Co-Motion, Calfee, Burley, Rans in stock. Test rides by appointment. Saranac Lake tele: (518)-891-1869; Rich@gtgtandems.com Check our website: <http://www.gtgtandems.com>. 05/14

Other Dealer Members

ACORN INN Bed and Breakfast: Discover Central Virginia's rural beauty with tandem-riding hosts. Ten bedroom renovated stable; cottage. Near Blue Ridge Parkway, historic Charlottesville. Ideal for groups. Delicious breakfasts. (434)-361-9357. <http://www.acorninn.com> 05/14

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 05/12 date will not run in July-August issue if your renewal is not received by June 1, 2012) to keep your advertisement current. Send your ad and check (payable to TCA) to: DoubleTalk, 2220 Vanessa Dr, Birmingham, AL 35242-4430.

**BECOME
A TCA
DEALER
MEMBER!**

TCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Dues

United States \$15.00/yr

Canada 20.00/yr

Other International \$25.00/yr

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



Membership

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

Tandem Club of America
Duncan & Laura McCabe
2302 New Orleans PL
Wilmington, NC 28403-0315

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

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone (Including Area Code): _____

E-mail: _____

Tandem Make: _____ Year: _____

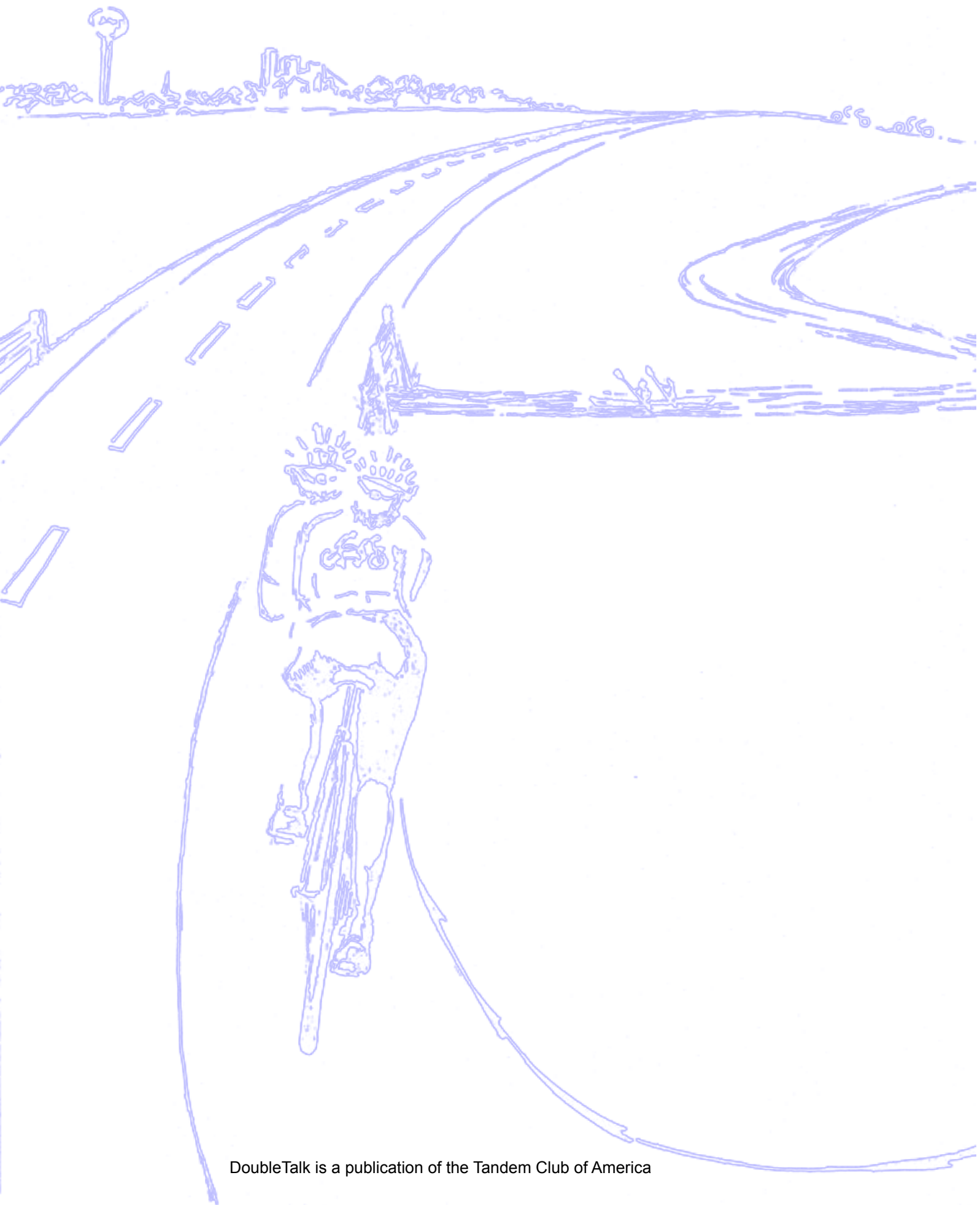
Color: _____ Style: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ for (1) Years

MAIL TO:

Tandem Club of America, 2302 New Orleans PL, Wilmington, NC 28403-0315

Is this a renewal? _____ Have you made any necessary corrections? _____



DoubleTalk is a publication of the Tandem Club of America