



MARCH, 1988

MONTHLY MEANDERS



March Meeting

Wednesday, March 2 - 7:30 p.m.
Wheeling High School
Elmhurst Rd. (Rt.83) and Hintz
Enter side up; up stairs on left
to room 239-241.

PROGRAM: CROSS COUNTRY TANDEM TREK
BY GEORGE AND MARILYN
MATHISON

Enjoy the experiences of our enthusiastic members as they pedaled with Muffin II on their new custom-made Santana tandem from the coast of Washington to Bar Harbor, Maine.

Howard Paul phoned Larry Wathen to invite him on a bicycle ride but was shocked when Lucy Wathen said Larry had died February 6. Larry was a Wheeling Wheelmen member for over 10 years. He did a lot of his own riding but made several club rides each year. His favorite riding was one or two-week touring trips. Larry was a pleasant, likeable person and we'll miss him.

Need A Room At The Rendezvous?

Going to the 22nd Winter Rendezvous in Homestead, Florida, March 5-10? Want to? Roger Thauland and Phyllis Harmon each have a room to share at the Caribe Motel. Al and Lynn Petty, Howard and Lois Paul and a number of other Wheelmen will be there, too. Rides each day in warm, sunny Florida with about 200 riders from about 20 states--entertainment in the evening and a banquet at the Officers' Club at the Homestead Air Force Base. If you need a room, phone Roger at 541-2294 or Phyllis at 537-1268. Registration form for this Dr. Paul Dudley Bicycle Club event from Phyllis. \$37.00 covers registration, Banquet and picnic.

WHEELING WHEELMEN
P. O. Box 581-D,
Wheeling, Illinois 60090



St. Patrick's Day

By Jenny Grant

Chicagoans are all familiar with the St. Patrick's Day parade, the greening of the Chicago River, and shamrocks decorating Irish haunts. The history surrounding the holiday may not be as familiar.

Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, desired to convert pagans to Christianity in Ireland and eventually became the second bishop. His imposing presence and winning personality aided him in winning converts. He traveled through Ireland, founding monasteries, schools and churches. He died on March 17, about the year 461 A.D., his commemorated "death day".

Among the lore surrounding him is a tale that from a hilltop he delivered a sermon that drove the snakes from Ireland. One central doctrine Patrick repeatedly preached to converts was of the Trinity. Struggling to convey the concept, he used a 3-leafed shamrock as an example which is how the shamrock came to be associated with his day.

For Wheeling Wheelmen, our St. Patrick's Day Invitational is a celebration of a new bicycling season and is the first official club ride of the year. Bicyclists from all over the Chicago area turn out to participate in the annual ritual. Oblivious of inclement weather, ranging from pouring rain to freezing cold and snow, there will always be people eager to brave the elements to earn a St. Patrick's Day patch.

Occasionally the weather is ideal. The sun shines bright and warm and the world is recreated. Thoreau stated in Walden, "As every season seems best to us in its turn, so the coming of spring is like the creation of Cosmos out of Chaos." Bicyclists crank their pedals in joyful exuberance at starting off on a clean slate. We set new goals as any disappointments from the past season are wiped away in a new beginning. We leave the chaos of a Chicago winter, at least for a few hours.

The event is a new beginning, a defiant slamming of the door on winter's face and a joyful welcome to spring. Consistent riding days may not begin from this weekend, but the comradeship and physical exertion propel us toward the longer days and rides ahead. The open road welcomes us back.

THE PREZ SEZ

As I write this article today the snow is coming down fast and furiously. Six inches have already fallen and six more are expected. When this occurs, thoughts of spring cycling seem a long way off. Instead, X-C skiing is the name of the game.

Our X-C skiing weekends, up to now, have been low on good snow conditions, but the preview for the rest of February is--snow and more snow, so I'm sure X-C enthusiasts will enjoy our remaining outings.

Preparations for the St. Patrick's Day ride are almost finished. We are looking forward to an exciting ride from our new starting point, the Wauconda Apple Orchards. Many phone calls have been received in anticipation of the start of the spring cycling season, which is ushered in with our St. Patrick's Invitational.

Andy Dane, our chairman, is doing a fine job and I'm sure it will be a very successful ride, IF the weather cooperates.

Our program for March promises to be a great one, with the Mathison's "Cross Country Tandem Trek" on the agenda. Be sure to attend. Last month, the "Circle Around America" video was well received.

Plans are underway for another great Harmon Hundred. This year Hans Predel is at the helm. His enthusiasm and interest is a real plus as we plan the biggest and best Harmon Hundred ever.

If you need to borrow our club's bike repair tools, please contact Al Petty, 948-7288, through April. Chet Tobolski returns May 1 to reassume his duties.

The excitement for a great cycling season with the Wheeling Wheelmen is right around the corner. So, make plans to enjoy it all!

Al Petty,
President

President:	Al Petty	948-7288
Vice-Pres:	Aaron Tanzer	338-5374
Treasurer:	Betty Vargas	259-3210
Membership:	Geri McPheron	824-5091
Safety:	Woyteck Morojko	392-0530
Editor:	Phyllis Harmon	537-1268
For check out:		
Bike Books:	Pat Marshall	564-0346
Bike Tools:	Chet Tobolski	945-5686

The Greatest Challenge and The Greatest Gift

1 CORINTHIANS 13

- RECEIVED FROM ELIDA DEREBEY

If I can tell funny or exciting biking stories with the best of them, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I can fathom the mysteries of the most sophisticated bike and if I have the self-confidence that there is no mountain too high to climb, or distance too great to pedal but have not love, I am nothing.

If I can do wheelies on an 18% grade and if I ride 10 mph into a strong head wind but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient with rookies and kind to the less skillful or athletic. Love is not jealous of the finest "granny gear" or boastful of the lightest bike. It is not arrogant to non-bikers or rude to pedestrians. Love does not insist that I own the road, "so everyone else watch out." It is not irritable because of inconsiderate drivers or resentful of

semi's who blow us off the road.

Love does not rejoice at "smart aleck" pedaling that endangers our lives or that of others but rejoices in courtesy and consideration towards everyone.

Love bears merchants fearful of any group of teens, believes in the power to accomplish great things by a group committed to Christ and to each other, hopes to share the joy and adventure and excitement of biking with others, and endures sun and rain and wind and hills as challenges that knit us together and deepen our own inner resources.

Love doesn't end when I get off my bike. As for predicting the lay of the land by our mapper, it will pass away. As for excited stories of journeys past, they will cease; as for increased knowledge of dereailleurs and helmet protection, it will pass away.

For our bike savvy is imperfect and our storytelling imperfect but when the Christ Love comes the imperfect will pass away. When I was a child I childishly put down others, I childishly thought ill of those not like me, and I childishly reasoned that I'm all. When I became a man, I put away those childish notions.

For now we see ourselves as we really are dimly because of our lack of insight or courage but larger in the mirror of my Lord's love I will see clearly. Now I have brief glimpses of a caring biking community but then I shall experience a caring love beyond my loftiest dreams.

So faith, hope, love abide...these three but the greatest of these is love! Our great challenge is not sun or wind or rain or bike repair or century days or danger from potholes or cars but thinking of us and reflecting Christ's love.



by Woyteck Morajko

Last month I wrote about choosing the right bicycle. This month I'll cover helpful hints on bike accessories. Having the right equipment and accessories will make your rides safer and more enjoyable. After two years of riding with the club, I feel somewhat qualified on this subject.

A light and reliable pump on your bike is indispensable. You never know when a tire will puncture, and getting air from a gas station is not very practical. There may not be one within miles. The compressor pumps are very powerful and may explode the tire before you know what is happening. A frame-fit pump will mount under the top tube or on the down tube and will come in handy!

Highly recommended is a carrying bag for spare tubes, patch kit, tools and snacks is highly recommended. Handlebar bags are very convenient and carry a surprising amount of stuff. If possible, get the kind with a map window. The route sheet can then be inserted so you can conveniently check your route at a glance. Also pannier bags that mount on racks over the front and/or back tires can be used to store enough items for a month-long tour!

Water bottles and cages are a must! Get at least two installed on your bike, more if you have room. While most of our rides go through towns where drinks can be purchased, some of our longer summer rides do not! To get caught in the middle of nowhere on a long, hot summer ride with nothing to drink is dangerous! On a hot day you should drink at least a bottle an hour. I now carry three water bottles on my bike frame, plus whatever I can stuff inside the handlebar bag on a long, hot ride!

To reduce pressure and pain in your hands on long rides, you may want to install foam handlebar covers. Same goes for seat covers such as SPENCO. For those of us with delicate bottoms, like me, it's one of the first items purchased!

A rearview mirror is as much a safety device on a bicycle as it is on your car. You no longer will have to look over your shoulder to check for approaching traffic or other riders.

A lock and chain will also prevent theft. On most of our rides one or two riders will stay with our bikes during a lunch break - but why take a chance - ?

I recommend just a few basic tools to carry: a pair of open end wrenches (8mm/10mm will fit most nuts and bolts), allen keys, screwdriver, and an adjustable wrench. If we have any serious mechanical breakdowns (highly unlikely) one of the riders will come back with a car to pick you up. I also suggest carrying tire irons to assist in removing/reinstalling a tire in case of a flat.

I hope my comments and recommendations are useful. I consider choosing and outfitting a bicycle as important as knowing the rules of the road. If you have any comments and/or recommendations, do not hesitate to bring them up at the monthly meetings or on rides. Just think! We've made it through another winter and it's time to ride once again!

Recipe Of The Month

LYNN'S "KOREAN" SALAD
(Serves 8)

1 lb spinach (washed, dried, cut up)
1 cup bean sprouts (drained)
1/2 cup water chestnuts (sliced)
6 slices fried bacon (crumbled)
2 hard boiled eggs (chopped)
1 can drained Mandarin oranges

Dressing

1 cup oil
1/3 cup catsup
1/4 cup vinegar
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 grated onion
1 Tablespoon Worcestershire Sauce
Salt

For Sale

FOR SALE: SANTANA TANDEM - 22-201/2"
18 speed - Maroon - Phil hubs -
Blackburn Lo-boys - Eclipse rear
rack with large bags - Halagen head-
lights - \$1,700. George Mathison,
227 N. Greenwood Ave, Park Ridge,
60068 - Phone 312-825-5470.

Schedule

Mar. 20 ST. PATRICK'S DAY RIDE,
 Sun. 10:30 a.m. 25 miles from Wauconda Apple Orchards, Gossell Road 1/2 mile west of Fairfield Road Wauconda. This is our kick-off invitational ride of the season in the Chicagoland area. \$1.00 registration fee. St. Patrick's Day patch available \$2.00. Refreshments available at the apple orchard. Andy Dane 271-0808.

Mar. 26 LAKE COUNTY RIDE, Long Grove
 Sat. 10 a.m. 35 miles from Kildeer L School. Kurt Schoenhoff 540-0861

Mar. 27 VOLO BOG RIDE, Long Grove
 Sun. 9:30 a.m. 49 miles from Kildeer School. Bring a lunch with you to eat at Volo Bog Park. No where to pick up a lunch on the way. Al Berman - 541-9248.

Apr. 2 AUNT MARY'S RIDE, Elk Grove
 Sat. 8 a.m. 41 miles from Disney Park. This breakfast ride used to be known as the Milk Pail Ride. Disney Park is at Biesterfield Road and Wellington Ave., 1 blk. west of Arlington Heights Road. Hans Predel - 255-4029.

Apr. 5 TUESDAY NIGHT RIDE, Hawthorne
 Tues. 5:30 p.m. - 20 to 45 miles each
 E Tues. from April 5 to Aug. 30. From Kurt Schoenhoff's, 16 James Ct., Hawthorne Woods. 540-0861. Expect to ride an express pace. If you break down, stay where you are. You will be picked up at the end of the ride. No cue sheets provided.

WW's Janesville Ride

The 6th Janesville Ride leaves Wheeling High School (west entrance) at 6 a.m. Sag. May 7. The 2-day event will cover 100 miles per day with overnight at the Super 8 Motel in Janesville, Wisconsin, and return the next day.

Saturday's route will go through Long Grove, Algonquin, Crystal Lake, Woodstock, Belvedere and Shoppiere, Wisc. to Janesville. Return route is via Elkhorn, Lake Geneva, McHenry, Long Grove and Wheeling.

Reservations by April 15. Single room \$25; double room \$35. \$2 or \$3 for sag wagon. All food and drink to be purchased by individual riders at scheduled stops. Further info from Jim Grant: 742-0814. Send reservation check promptly to Jim at 615-A Waverly Dr., Elgin, IL 60120.

This is an Express Ride with pace of 15-16 mph. Woyteck Morajko has volunteered to lead a Touring Group at 13-14 mph.

Heard on car radio: "When I first heard the name Geraldine Ferraro I thought it was Skip Wilson's new car." Ed.

Ride Classifications

L - Leisure Ride. Slow pace, 8-12 mph pace with no wind on flat land. The entire group stays together during the ride. There are regrouping points for *all* riders. Cue sheets and/or maps are usually provided. The leader will be specified in the ride schedule and Monthly Meanders. Sweeps are provided. These rides are usually shorter distances. New riders are welcome.

T - Touring Ride: Moderate pace, 11-18 mph pace with no wind on flat land. The entire group stays together during the ride. There are regrouping points for *all* riders. Cue sheets and/or maps are usually provided. The leader will be specified in the ride schedule and Monthly Meanders. Sweeps are provided. This class covers all distances. New riders are welcome.

E - Express Ride: Fast pace, 15 mph and over with no wind on flat land. Riders will move at their own pace. Short breaks. Cue sheets and/or maps provided. No leaders are provided *unless* specified in the ride schedule or Monthly Meanders. A leader and sweeps may be appointed at the ride start by those wishing to ride this class. Experienced riders are welcome. All distances are covered.

SHOW 'N GO

If the weather permits, those interested in riding on Saturdays - March 5, 12 or 19, can get together at Potawatomi Woods, Dundee Road east of Milwaukee Ave. for Show 'N Go rides at 10 a.m. These are not official rides and the route will be decided by those who show up to ride.

1988 Ride Schedule

Enclosed with this issue of the newsletter is a copy of our 1988 Ride Schedule. The times, locations and rides are subject to change between now and their scheduled date. Check the Monthly Meanders each month to make sure the ride information hasn't changed.

Despite the publication of the Ride Schedule, it is not too late to volunteer to lead a ride. Call Aaron Tanzer at 338-5374 to sign up to lead a ride. Call before the 15th of the month previous to the one you want to lead your ride so that it can be listed in the newsletter.

Currently there is a need for volunteers to lead the Wednesday night rides (6:30 p.m. to twilight) which will begin April 6.

Wheeling Wheelmen One Week Tour

AUGUST 7 - 13, 1988

Our 1988 bicycle tour will start and end in Traverse City, Michigan. August 7-13 with an optional ride Saturday afternoon, Aug. 6. High-lights include a ferry trip and short day at Mackinac Island, riding along the lake front, through cherry orchards and quaint country villages.

Cost for the tour includes motel and food. Motels will be pre-booked and pre-paid to ensure adequate facilities. Persons wishing to join the ride should send a \$50.00 deposit to Lilian Russell, 923 Wayne Ave., Deerfield, IL 60015, to ensure your reservation. Only the first 25 persons will be accepted, so deposits should be made as soon as possible. Final payment for hotels will be collected during early June. Like more info?? Call Lilian at 940-0633.

Steve Gay RAAM Rider

The Mount Prospect Bicycle Club has invited us to spend an evening with them - March 9 at 7:30 p.m. - at the Mount Prospect Country Club, 600 See-Gwun Avenue. Steve Gay, one of the Race Across America participants will talk about his experiences in this most challenging event.

See-Gwun runs north from Golf Rd. and is six blocks west of Elmhurst Rd. (Rt.83).

This should be a most interesting evening - don't miss it!



GEAR Up '88

LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
 Fri. June 3 - Mon. June 6
 Headquarters
 Millersburg State University

Beautiful bicycling in Pennsylvania Dutch area. Registration fee \$50. (\$67 non-members). Room and Board 3 nights, 8 meals \$65. GEAR UP '88, 4960 S.Raintree Ct. Wilmington DE 19808

Rally '88 in Arizona



Wed. June 29 through
 Sun. July 3, 1988
 Headquarters
 Northern Arizona Univ.
 Flagstaff, Arizona

Registraropm fee \$42 (non-members \$62.50) Room and Board 4 nights. 11 meals \$150.00. L.A.W. Rally '88, P.O. Box 2657, Scottsdale, AZ 85252.

What's Ahead For Cyclo-Computers

by Dick Sorenson

Remember the old Stewart-Warner bike speedometer you probably had as a kid? It was the status symbol in its day - and its "day" lasted for several decades. It connected to the front wheel via a flexible steel cable - which frequently broke - and indicated only speed and mileage. I now suspect that it was probably highly inaccurate as I recall often pedalling along at a flying 50 mph pace on my 60 lb Columbia one-speed with front spring shock-absorber. The cyclometer was the next generation of odometers. It only gave a distance reading, leaving the speed calculation up to the mathematical capability of the rider. The cyclometer was installed onto the front axle and gave a loud "click" each time it was struck by the peg on the spokes - once per revolution - which could become quite irritating and monotonous during a long ride. Again, these tended to be highly inaccurate and damage-prone. Many stopped functioning and stuck when they hit the "999" mile mark. Another problem was trying to read the darn thing down at the axle level while watching for pot holes, traffic, and such.

Computer technology has now impacted our bicycling world. We've already progressed through multi-advances of the cyclocomputer devices. These mini-marvels, powered by a microprocessor chip brain have advanced in a few short years to provide these functions:

speed, trip distance, total odometer, distance, stop watch, 24 hr. clock, cadence and even a pulse monitor.

Personally, I think these cyclocomputers are great. They are absolutely silent, there's no drag or friction, and the unit design seems to be smaller and more compact each year. When a ride gets boring, I find them to be a great diversion - especially on the steep downhill

and with a strong tailwind when I'm ready to challenge the Tour de France and RAAM. Clearly, the on-board computers are going to be with us far into the foreseeable future. One can only wonder what lies ahead for the future capabilities of these marvelous devices! The microcomputer chips are certainly using only a small fraction of their full capacity for running the present rudimentary functions. What would happen if the designers were to incorporate radar, laser, visual infrared, and ultrasonic technologies to the present system? We can obviously speculate about more and more enhancements in the near future. I eagerly await each new bicycle catalog season just to see what's new in cyclocomputers.

In my opinion, the designers of these technological wonders could do an even better job of using the full capability of that micro chip. Let's see some real progress--a few added enhancements to make life easier and bike tripping even more enjoyable. It's easy to imagine that a few useful, as well as, exotic functions could be added - such as:

- * A warning sound - a gentle horn or bell.
- * An electronic compass.
- * An altimeter to measure climbs.
- * A mini-weather station with barometer (to foretell changing weather), thermometer and wind speed measuring device.
- * Measurement of calories being burned up.
- * An early warning radar to detect obstacles ahead such as broken glass, nails and pot holes.
- * A collision avoidance system to warn of sudden car door openings, unexpected car turns, etc.
- * A mini-calculator.
- * An ultrasonic sound device that would be discomfoting to attacking dogs but unheard by human ears.
- * A sensor that sounds a loud siren when someone's "messing" with your bicycle.
- * A voice synthesizer device to automatically shout out "Passing on the left", "Braking", "Car back", "Hel-

met ajar" (a reminder when we ride without our helmets), and "Water bottle level is low".

- * The user could also input various common greetings and observations for the ride as appropriate, such as "Nice day, isn't it?", "Do you think this downpour will ever end?" "Don't follow me, I'm lost!", "If you're drafting on me you're in trouble!".
- * A maintenance profile readout of the bike components - just like you find in modern luxury cars! Tracking tire mileage, spoke, chain and cable wear, tire pressure, lubrication intervals, oil viscosity, etc.
- * A dictaphone to record those brilliant thoughts that occur to you as you ride and then quickly forget when you return to the real world.
- * Maybe even a navigational system for those who have a tendency to become lost--even on the shorter rides! No matter where you go, the system will compute your location, and a computerized map will indicate how to get to your destination.
- * And perhaps in the future, it may sound far-fetched but who knows, a cellular phone, Watchbikeman TV, Mini-VCR (to record those memorable rides for your fans back home) and on and on.

To control various functions, you'd just put your finger on the correct spot of the touch-sensitive screen. It would probably be necessary to add a few more sensors, monitors and wires, and possibly add a few ounces to the weight. But - What the heck - let's luxuriate!

Call it fantasy or wild-eyed imagination if you will, however, in this age of advance computer technology, we don't know what the cyclocomputer advances are in store. But just by using our imagination we can see that these products are destined to have an exciting future. If you know a little about technology, it's easy to predict what's going to happen, what's difficult is knowing when!

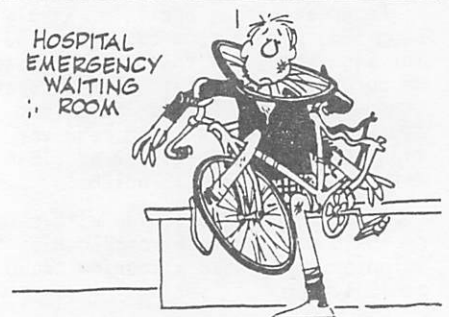
Computing Across America

At GEAR DOWN in Mt. Dora, Fla., I was fortunate to hear Steven K. Roberts talk of his 10,000-mile trek around the U.S. as he exhibited his computerized bicycle. I bought a \$10 copy of his most interesting book and later I realized I should have bought one for our club library, too.

Steve rides a recumbent bicycle he calls the Winnebiko which has an aircraft-like console. There are 20 photovoltaic modules, a single computer has 4 cohorts that work together to allow on-the-road text editing, electronic mail and info management.

A printer is in the trailer.

The 275-pound machine, incl. trailer, has 5 computers, 54 speeds (16-144 inches) 2 solar panels, 80-10 and 2-meter multimode ham radio stations, remote controlled motion-sensitive paging security system, 1.7 megabytes of memory, 3 in. disk drive, pressurized water supply, 8-key handlebar keyboard - he can type as he rides, playing the keys like a flute! Phone access via auto patch! And the bike talks: "Steve, Are you going to ride me now?" or for a too close smoker, "Oh, oh, this is a non-smoking zone!" Call Phyllis Harmon if you want a copy - 537-1268.



Milton Crossover, living proof that the old saying about riding bicycles - "once you know how you never forget" - is invalid.