

WBMC  
Newsletter No. 5

Please forgive the delay in this newsletter. As you know by now, I broke my right hand and have been unable to write for 3 weeks. /The leading item has to be the death of Jim Barnum. Jim was one of our original charter members when the club was formed last year. He was one of our most active recruiters and most helpful friends. He was one of the most popular and best liked guys in the club. One member put it very well when she said that "there is a big hole in the club now." I am sure nobody will ever fill that emptiness. /Jim's funeral was the biggest I have ever attended. He had friends in all walks of life, from poor minority people to businessmen. Two club members served as pall bearers, i.e. Bryan Morgan and Pat Ryan. /I haven't seen Pat since Jim's death. I am sure riding will never be quite the same for Pat again. John, Joe, Gale, and others will also keenly miss his presence. /Many people have not collected their patches yet. They can be picked up at 2015 Upton So. (My phone no. remains the same). Many are asking about what position the patch should be worn in. This will be a matter of individual choice. Wear it how and where you prefer. /As most of you know, Lynn, Kathy and I had a wild accident. However, I cannot comment on it until insurance claims, etc. are settled. /A word about departure times and places. They are 6 p.m. on Wed. and 12 noon on Sat. at the Triangle. These must never be changed except for the North Shore run. If certain members try to change departure times they will only cause chaos. Remember that we have about 90 members counting wives. /I haven't received the bill for our patches yet, so I'll delay a detailed financial report. However, we are finally in good shape. I suspect we are about \$300 in the red. With our 72 paid members we should now be in the black. Hopefully we will have enough for a whopper of a party in September to close our club riding season. /Gale Prigge bought a BMW R-60 which means she is the first girl in the club to have a big bike (436 lbs). Unfortunately she almost demolished her foot starting it one day and was painfully laid up for awhile. /Mike Nemcek had a good dump and was laid up for some time. However, he is hale and hearty again. /Bryan and Marnie Morgan had a baby girl whom I call Becky Biker. Unfortunately their happiness was blemished when Bryan's hog was stolen. It was not insured, and the word is that Chicago outlaws nabbed it. I guess Bryan will be out for the season, and he sure will be missed. I think he is our best group leader. /A word about group leaders: if Bryan or I can't make it to rides everybody should designate a leader for the day. As you know it gets very chaotic without some form of cohesive leadership. /Bill Lender tells me that he is trying to reduce the number of bikes he accepts for repair jobs. So please don't bug him for awhile. Bryan is driving truck and is very busy, so please don't harass him either. He still takes a few, but try to be reasonable about pestering the poor guy. /The guys out at Lender's "commune" tell me that they elected Sandy Lowe as the girl they would most like to have hang around. It must be that sexy perfume she wears! /The club discovered a groovy spot on the Apple River. So substitute this location for Dresser on your Sat. schedule. As you know, Cycle Park is now closed to bikes. /Jan Tasky was arrested in Hudson for public drinking on one of our earlier rides. It is really better to keep your bottle in a paper bag. It cost Jan \$36, and paper bags are free. /Special thanks to Jim Carroll for being so patient about hauling everybody's booze and groceries. Some of you should really get luggage carriers. Some might want to try a wineskin like Gil Pitt carries. It is probably the safest method. /Erik Cross circled Lake Superior on his Suzuki with only a flat tire. However, he managed to dump outside Afton after he got back. He and Carol Youngner were not seriously hurt, and bike damage was small. /Some rules for tandem riding: 1) On curves the inside rider goes first, i.e. on a right curve the right hand rider moves into the lead, and on a left curve the left hand rider assumes the lead. 2) On roads where chuck holes and

washouts are common, there should be single file riding. 3) Where the road is narrow, there should be single file riding. 4) Nobody should ever pass between tandem bikes. 5) Watch the road surface for your tandem rider also. If you see an object or hole in his path try to give him room to avoid it. /I am including some roster additions and address changes. Please keep me advised of changes of address and phone numbers. /Our congratulations to Bill Rottschaefter and Joyce Prigge Rottschaefter. They met in our club last year and were married this spring. I understand it was a truly beautiful wedding, and that Gale dutifully shed copious tears. /Dave Dumford took his janitor's exam and was the first one to ever score 100 percent. He also imbibed excessively the other night and dumped his Beamer. Dave always gives me at least one news item! /I hear stories about Gil Pitt dumping his bike right into Sucker Lake. /Ross Kiihn collided with a car on a Wed. ride. Fortunately, he was not hurt. We sure have had our fair share of accidents. /We will have to be careful to observe safe distances between bikes, signal turns and slowdowns, observe the speed limit, etc. Group riding must be controlled and disciplined or serious accidents will occur. /The University of Minnesota is giving our club a concession booth for one week during Welcome Week. It will be located on the West Bank Bridge. We need volunteers to build, design, staff it, etc. It should be a fun experience so try to chip in some time. /Bill Lender is selling a fast 250 Ducati if anyone is interested. /Incidentally, I am going to start recruiting some more girls, since they seem to be disappearing. /I guess our club news reflects life in general; a death, a birth, a wedding, etc. There have been some terribly sad moments, but we've had some tremendously good times together. I am sure that we will continue to do so.

Peace,

Dick Franklin

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Changes:

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