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# Twin Cities Tandem Club



May 2011

[www.twincitytandembike.com](http://www.twincitytandembike.com)

## Fly-In Breakfast Ride Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

Hosts: John and Helen Mattsen

On May 21, 2011, we will again host the Fly-In Breakfast Ride. We will leave our house at 1859 Mississippi Street, New Brighton, at 9:00 AM and bike four miles to the Blaine Aviation Days <http://bad2011.org/> at the Anoka County Airport for their Fly-In Pancake Breakfast. When people are ready to leave the event we will cycle to the Coon Rapids Dam, cycle back toward New Brighton and do some "mystery shopping", cycle around Long Lake and through Long Lake Park, and end the ride back at our house in New Brighton for a pot luck back yard barbecue.

The total distance will be about 25-30 miles. It will be a scenic and entertaining social event. We will generally ride as a group with "corners and sweeps" as necessary.

Those interested in participating in the ride should contact John and Helen Mattsen by Thursday evening, May 19, 2011 at [mattsen2@comcast.net](mailto:mattsen2@comcast.net), or 651-631-1131.

John and Helen Mattsen

## Tony and Bean's Anniversary Details Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Hosts: Tony Ableson & Jean Hurlbert

Meet at Tonka Cycle and Ski, 16 Shady Oak Road S, Minnetonka, MN 55343 (NEW LOCATION FROM LAST YEAR)

Time – Meet 11:30 Ride Time 12:00.

Join us for a casual ride of 25 – 30 miles on what we are calling the "Ride to No Where". Not to say that after 7 wonderful years of wedded bliss we are "going no where"! We have been very lucky each year to celebrate our anniversary with our biking friends. This year we will

highlight most of our favorite roads in Minnetonka with the highlight being an old neighborhood country store. Minnetonka offers gently rolling terrain with great neighborhoods and the mighty lake!

Thank you for the opportunity to ride with you. Many people have asked me what it takes to have a TCTC Ride. It is simple. Let us know when you would like to schedule a ride so we can post it on the website. Send a paragraph like this one to Deb and Matt for the newsletter. On the day of your ride supply a map (it does not have to be fancy)! We will put a sign up roster and waiver form out on the website so members at your ride can sign in and sign their annual insurance waiver if they have not yet signed one for the year. Also available on the website are membership applications for any new members who would like to join TCTC. Do you still have questions? Feel free to contact me [tonyandbean@yahoo.com](mailto:tonyandbean@yahoo.com) or (612)201-5545. Let's do some Tandem Riding this summer!!

## Annual Meeting Minutes

Scribe: Matt Tillotson

On March 28th, 2011 the Flocking of the Loons, otherwise known as our Annual Meeting, occurred. Twenty eight people were in attendance, several of them new member or new future members. Deb Liang called the meeting to order and we did a round of introductions.

It was pointed out the new website is at <http://www.twincitytandembike.com/>

### Treasurer's Report

Next up was our financial report. In 2010 we ended the year with a balance of \$5,461, which included all the money from the Midwest Tandem Rally. Our expenses in 2010 totaled \$386.54, nearly all of this in printing costs for the newsletter, plus \$193.70 for insurance. Fees for web services were paid the previous year and so did not show up on our 2010 payment cycle.

Also in 2010 we donated some of the proceeds from MTR 2009, as follows: Ham Lake got \$300, Rochester Police Athletics got \$500, Pine Island got \$500 for their bike rental program, Mantorville Parks received \$500, Racine Rest Stop got \$250, Stewartville also got \$500 to expand bike trails.

#### Last Year's Rides & Club Membership

In 2010 our typical ride had eight to fifteen teams show up, which made for pretty good rides. Our membership is holding steady or slightly declining. One way to stem this was the suggestion that we rent a presence at the various biking events that occur in January and February; like the The Twin Cities Bike Swap, and various other annual events. That will require some email surveys throughout the summer, so be prepared to give an opinion if you have one on that idea.

#### 2011 Ride Planning

So far for 2011 we have 6 club rides planned, with a Loons Rally as well. We could use more rides, so if anyone would like to host a ride, the club can help with organization, printing maps, or anything else to make it easier to host. Hosting rides need not be troublesome... Most important is to have starting spot, and the riders can be pretty self sufficient from there. It is really an excuse to get together for all of us!

Our rides already on the map this year:

Fly In Breakfast Ride – May 21st

Tony and Jeans Anniversary Ride – May 22nd.

Pepin Ride – June 26th

Bill Mobeck Memorial Ride – July 17th

Loons Rally – August 5th -7th

(MTR- not a LOONS ride, but many loons attending-

September 2nd -5th

Stillwater-Scandia Scamper Date TBD

Chili Ride – October 2nd

The Loons Rally will again be using the Pines Peak Lodge, Crosslake, MN as our host hotel. They have 17 rooms reserved and can increase that number if we get close to running out. The dates for that ride are August 5th, 6th and 7th.

#### TCIC Jerseys

We discussed new club jerseys, Jean is working with a graphics designer and several ideas, we may be posting examples on the website or through the newsletter this summer to solicit opinions.

#### Club Elections

The final piece of business was the election of officers. Current positions were: Jean Hurlbert - President, Mark

Seaburg - Vice President, Bruce Harries - Webmaster, Matt Tillotson - Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Deb Liang Treasurer/Newsletter Editor. Dave Sieving made the motion to re-elect all officers by voice vote. Bruce Harries seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote, all officers re-elected for 2011.

The “Official” part of our meeting over, most people stayed for socializing and complaining about the overly long winter we have all had, and how we are looking forward to a warm spring and good biking.

## **Loons Rally 2011 August 5<sup>th</sup> – August 7<sup>th</sup>**

**W**e are returning to Crosslake for Loons Rally 2011! Our host hotel will again be “Pine Peaks Lodge and Suites” in Crosslake MN. The dates are Friday, August 5 thru Sunday, August 7. The cost per team is \$20 excluding lodging.

We have rooms blocked for the club - when contacting Pine Peaks Lodge make sure to mention you are calling from the Twin Cities Tandem Club. Their web site is <http://www.pinepeakscrosslake.com> and their phone number is 1-888-488-7829. (There are also other lodges in Crosslake.)

Camping is also available – “first come, first served” - across the street from the lodge at “Crosslake Recreation Area” For more info go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call 218-692-2025.

Please note: This is a group effort for us all to get together, ride and have fun. A registration form and more info on ride lengths will be forthcoming.

Questions? Please email: Mark at [mseab@comcast.net](mailto:mseab@comcast.net)

## **Midwest Tandem Rally 2011**

The MUTS (Michigan United Tandem Society) welcome you to Michigan for the 2011 Midwest Tandem Rally! This is the 36th MTR and the 5th time the MUT's will be hosting this spectacular event. Our host city is Ann Arbor, known for excellent restaurants, shopping, a world-class university, and great bicycling.

We appreciate the assistance of several groups helping to host MTR 2011: AARDVARKS Ann Arbor Riding Duo Venturing Across Rural Kountry Streets), AABTS (Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society, WBWC (Washtenaw Biking and Walking Coalition) and PEAC (Program to Educate All Cyclists).

For more information, visit the websites:

[www.mtr2011.org](http://www.mtr2011.org) and [www.visitannarbor.org](http://www.visitannarbor.org)

Be sure to look for MTR 2011 "Important Changes" compared to previous MTRs in the information provided – there are several items that will be different from what has been done in the past.

Mail-in and On-Line registration is open. You can choose to mail in your registration to the address noted on the website or you can register on-line at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

## Tandems in the News

### **Bixi Bicycle Given As Gift to Royal Couple**

London mayor commissions tandem bike made in Quebec

London Mayor Boris Johnson is giving Prince William and his new bride, Kate Middleton, a Bixi tandem bicycle for their wedding.

The regal tandem was designed specifically for the royal couple, drawing on the rental bicycle model created in Quebec.

Johnson, an outspoken advocate of urban cycling, is offering the bicycle as a gift from the city of London. He posted a cartoon on his office's official YouTube channel, showing the royal couple riding their new tandem. (<http://youtu.be/IFJYAVhWgfw>)

The royal seven-speed two-seater was designed by Michel Dallaire, who created the original Bixi bike. Cycle Devinci Inc. in Chicoutimi, Que. manufactured the tandem after receiving the secret order two months ago.

"It's a cool project," said Bixi Montreal spokesman Michel Philibert. "Just to see our Bixi at the royal festivities, I think we have to be honored by that."

London's gift speaks to the bicycle's growing popularity around the world, said Roger Plamondon, CEO of the Public Bike System Company, which oversees the rental bike system.

The tandem, built in Chicoutimi, has seven speeds and two bells. Plans are underway to build more two-seater Bixis for promotional purposes, but "we're not sure if we will offer them at Bixi stations" because they're too long, Plamondon said.

What is Bixi? Bixi is a public bicycle sharing program created in Quebec, and first introduced in Montreal in 2008. Bixi stands for bicycle/taxi. They might look familiar - the bikes are the same ones used in our Nice Ride MN program!

## Your Newsletter Via E-mail?

If you would prefer to get your newsletter via e-mail, all you need to do is e-mail us at [debliang@comcast.net](mailto:debliang@comcast.net) & let us know you would prefer that method & we will use that address to send your next newsletter. We will send the newsletter out in .PDF format. If you have any questions, please let us know!

## 2011 TCTC Rides

*Saturday*      *May 21<sup>st</sup>*

### **Fly-In Breakfast Ride**

Hosts: John and Helen Mattsen

*Sunday*      *May 22<sup>nd</sup>*

### **Tony and Bean's Anniversary Ride**

Hosts: Tony Ableson & Jean Hulbert

*Sunday*      *June 26<sup>th</sup>*

### **Lake Pepin Loop, Lake Pepin, MN**

Hosts: Lori & Rod Sebastian

*Sunday*      *July 17<sup>th</sup>*

### **Bill Mobeck Memorial Ride**

Host: Mary Mobeck

*Friday*      *August 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>*

### **Loons Rally, Cross Lake, MN**

*Saturday*      *Date to be Determined*

### **Stillwater to Scandia Ramble**

Hosts: Deb Liang & Matt Tillotson, Leon & Lindy Webster

*Sunday*      *October 2<sup>nd</sup>*

### **Chili Ride, Woodbury, MN**

Hosts: Rachel & Chris Gilchrist, Lynn Pagliarini & Ralph Hapness

**Keep your eyes peeled here for more rides added during the season! If you would like to add a ride, let the Editors (see below ↓) know!**

## Notes from the Editors

Send articles, comments and ideas to:

**Deb Liang & Matt Tillotson, (651) 642-1617**

**1236 Hague Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104, E-mail:**

**[debliang@comcast.net](mailto:debliang@comcast.net) or [debliang@bikerider.com](mailto:debliang@bikerider.com)**

Welcome to the 2011 TCTC season! It is finally here after a long, long winter! Please help make the TCTC newsletter all that it can be! Submit your article & club rides to us today!

We would love to see more TCTC rides!! Consider hosting a ride - it doesn't need to be fancy or complicated – we just like to get together to ride (and occasionally eat!)

And please note your expiration date on your mailing label – if it is red, your membership has expired!

Happy riding everyone!

<b>Please join the Twin Cities Tandem Club (TCTC)</b> As a member, you are entitled to receive further issues of the Twin Cities Club Newsletter, as well as to participate in TCTC functions, events, rides, and to enjoy the privilege of wearing a TCTC Jersey. Dues are \$12.00 per household team. <b>Make checks payable to:</b> Twin Cities Tandem Club			<b>Mail this form to:</b> Deb Liang & Matt Tillotson 1236 Hague Avenue St. Paul, MN 55104	
Name(s)	Last	First	Home Phone	
	Last	First	Work Phone	
Address		City	State	Zip
Email Address(s):				
Waiver: In signing this release and waiver for myself and or a named applicant under the age of 18, I understand that the Twin Cities Tandem Club, its officers and members, are not insurers of my personal safety. I understand that bicycling is potentially a dangerous activity and I might be severely injured or killed while riding a bicycle. I hereby accept the risk of serious bodily harm or death. For myself and/or said minor, my (and my minor's) heirs, executors, and assignees, I hereby waive, release, forever discharge and agree to hold harmless the Twin Cities Tandem Club, its officers and members and any organizers, sponsors and their representatives of any organizational events, singly and collectively, from any and all claims, liability, injury, damages, loss or harm from my (or my minor's) having sustained personal injuries or personal or economic damage by reason of their actions or inactions in further in organizational activities and during participation in organizational events or during travel to, and return from, such events. I waive any and all specific notice of the existence of the risks and hazards. I inspect my bicycle and keep it in reasonably good and safe conditions for the rides. I have an adequate and reasonable knowledge of what is prudent and safe bicycle riding and shall ride in that manner for my own protection and the protection of others. I am aware of and have knowledge of the applicable Bicycle Rules of the Road. I will wear a helmet during all club-sponsored rides. The above agreements and representations are my express understanding of the risks and I assume these voluntarily and freely without coercion or duress. This agreement may not be modified orally and may not be Waived in any respect.				
Applicant's Signature:		Applicant's Signature:		
Printed Name:		Printed Name		
(Must be signed by both applicants)				
The undersigned parent or guardian hereby consents to the applicant's participation and waives and releases all rights and claims for damages as is more fully set forth above. Parent or guardian please sign below if applicant is under 18.				
Signature Parent/Guardian:				

May 2011

**Twin Cities Tandem Club Newsletter**  
**Deb Liang & Matt Tillotson, Editors**  
**1236 Hague Avenue**  
**Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104**