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# Twin Cities Tandem Club



May 2018

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

## The Great Long Fellow Ride... Or NOT? Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Hosts: John and Helen Mattsen

This route gets an A+ for being constantly scenic and interesting. (Therefor "great").

Distance: 35 miles. In years past, this route has been severely plagued by floods, road construction, rock slides, and has been closed off entirely for sanctioned bike criteriums and rock concerts. IF WE CAN'T DO THIS ROUTE, THE RIDE WILL BECOME "THE AIRPORT EXTRAVAGANZA RIDE." Either way, it will be a day of fun with fellow tandem enthusiasts.

Almost the entire course is on bike trails or in designated bike lanes on city streets. We will be eating at the Longfellow Grill (for which the ride is named). It's just two miles uphill from the Longfellow Grill to the end of the ride. One mile up the hill is Izzy's Ice Cream. There isn't a bad climb on the route.

Here is the route in a flash. We start at Aldine Park near Snelling and Marshall in St. Paul. Summit Avenue past the Cathedral, down through St. Paul on St. Peter Street, across the river on the Wabasha Street Bridge, down Water Street bike trails to the yacht club, up through Mendota on the bike trail, over the Mendota Bridge to Fort Snelling, through Minnehaha Park, around the lakes, down the Midtown Greenway to the river, over to the Longfellow Grill, and back up Marshall to Aldine Park. (Okay, there is one little hill on Marshall that is steeper than railroad grade).

No maps provided. Riders who need to be guided through the course should be able to maintain, say, 14 mph on flat terrain with no wind. However, anyone who knows the route can travel at any speed they like, and increase or decrease the distance as they please.

Meet at Aldine Park (GPS reference 1712 Inglehart Avenue, St. Paul). Sunday June 3, 2018, 8:45 AM briefing with 9:00 AM departure. Please RSVP (and give us your cell phone number) by Saturday June 2 to [mattsen2@comcast.net](mailto:mattsen2@comcast.net).

## Loons Rally 2018 September 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>

A Loons Rally in Walker Minnesota is being planned for Friday September 7 – Sunday, September 9, 2018. Folks that are interested in attending should act now to make their hotel reservations.

Here's how to do that: go to [booking.com](http://booking.com) and set up reservations at the [Walker Hotel in Walker MN](#) on Friday September 7, and Saturday September 8, 2018.

The cost should be \$106/night

***There is free cancellation, but it must be done by 11:59 PM on September 5.***

More expensive room options exist. Or there is also a Country Inn about two miles away. They had two rooms starting at \$120.

Hotel rooms will go fast, so making reservations now is recommended.

We need to know how many people are interested in attending this event! We will have a formal registration later, but we would like to get an informal count now.

If you are interested in attending the Loons Rally, please email [rally@twincitystandembike.com](mailto:rally@twincitystandembike.com) as soon as possible. Let us know if you are just thinking about it or are firmly planning to attend.

**CAMPING:** When I think of camping, I think of tent camping. It has been our experience that arranging tent camping for groups in this area is both difficult and

expensive. Here is a link to the campgrounds in the area provided by the chamber of commerce:

<http://business.leech-lake.com/list/category/campgrounds-93>

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### Tentative Schedule:

**Friday September 7, late afternoon ride:** Traditionally, the Loons Rally has had an afternoon ride on Friday.

**This ride will begin at the Walker Hotel at 3:00 PM.** The ride will go out and back on the Heartland Trail to Akeley about 12 miles away (24 round trip). The route is very flat, and most of the route goes through the woods. A very nice ride!

Option B: We have a second idea for the Friday night ride. If we choose to do Option B, it will also leave from the Walker Hotel at 3:00 PM.

**Friday Night Supper:** Benson's Eating and Drinking Emporium about four blocks from the hotel: <http://bensonemporium.com/>. It's a fun place with a great reasonably priced menu, and a glass table built above a large canoe.

**Saturday September 8 ride:** The base course is 38 remarkably easy round trip miles from Akeley to Park Rapids and back. It's flat! It's mostly in the woods! Every time we do this route we can't figure out how it can be just as easy to go one way as the other, even with a wind.

The route can be shorted to twenty-five miles by starting at Nevis. Shorted to fifteen miles by starting at Dorset. Elongated to fifty-six miles by starting at Walker. Akeley, Dorset, and Nevis are all interesting (well spaced on the trail) small towns. Weather permitting, this is going to be a great ride!

We discovered that Park Rapids is a really nice destination with lots of interesting shops, and a great restaurant that is well suited to our needs.

**Saturday Night Banquet:** We are uncertain of the location for the banquet at this time. It's a matter of choosing between three different places. We will have a banquet, complete with the grand prize drawing. No advance money necessary. It will be off the menu ordering (we think).

**Sunday September 9 ride:** We check out of the hotel and move by car toward the Twin Cities, stopping at Nisswa. The route for the day is an out and back scenic twelve-mile route between Nisswa and Pequot Lakes. Nisswa is a very nice little tourist town with two distinctive features. It has a pizza restaurant that is

consistently rated as having the best Pizza in Minnesota. Another place of business is consistently rated as having the best ice cream in Minnesota. And guess what! They are the same great pizza and ice cream shops we have enjoyed every year when the Loons Rally has been held in Cross Lake! **So, if you want Nisswa to be a fresh experience for you on Sunday, don't stop there on your way up to Walker.**

The ride to Pequot Lakes and back is flat, and more out in the open. Pequot Lakes has a landmark feature that the riders won't want to miss.

We will provide you with another update later on.

Questions? Email [rally@twincitiestandembike.com](mailto:rally@twincitiestandembike.com)

John and Helen Mattsen

## Annual Meeting Minutes

Scribe: Matt Tillotson

The LOONS annual meeting was held on April 20<sup>th</sup>, at Wells Fargo again. There were less in attendance than last year, with just 26 club members and nobody new. As we all knew each other, introductions were skipped and we dove straight into the meeting.

The agenda was:

- Election of Officers
- Financial Report
- Ride Schedule
- MTR
- Loons Rally
- Ride with GPS
- Website Report

The current officers were introduced:

- Jean Hurlbut as Head Loon (President)
- Mark Seaburg as Loon at Large (Vice President)
- Deb Liang as Golden Egg (Treasurer)
- Matt Tillotson as The Quill (Scribe)
- Lyle Quimby as Web Loon (Webmaster)

John Mattsen made a motion to reelect all officers. Dave Sieving seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. We did have short talk about passing the torch to new board members. To assist in that we will add a piece to future newsletters highlighting the duties of a board member to let others know what is involved so any club member can ruminate on doing one of these fun jobs.

Next up was the financial report. Once again, we took in less than we spent, by about half. Annual fees for the

club include LAB membership (\$75), club insurance (\$360), website fees (\$130), Postage for newsletters (\$45), and printing costs (\$40). The current club balance is \$2,394.60. With current membership numbers, and current expenditures, club dues would have to be around \$20 to be sustainable. Dave Sieving made a motion to raise dues to \$20, Rob Walsh seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously. John Mattsen also suggested we work with local outdoors organizations, like WCCO outdoors, to help drum up new members. We will entertain suggestions on how do to this.

We currently have nothing planned for a LOONS Rally, and due to timing issues, it looks like if we do have one it will have to be after August sometime in the fall. John Mattsen is looking at possibly Walker, Minnesota. (**Post meeting note: we do have a rally planned now!**)

This year's MTR will be in Grand Rapids, Michigan, as always over Labor Day.

With our current club membership and activity level, we are not sure if we can host MTR in the future, but there may be some expectation that the LOONS host MTR in the next couple years. Just something to think about as a club. If anyone would be willing to help out, it is a ton of fun, but also, yes, it involves some work.

Due to a lack of interest, we are going to drop the club Ride with GPS account. Our club account is active until September, so if anyone is interested in taking advantage of this for online routing and cue sheets, just contact Mark Seaburg for access -mseaburg@mac.com .

For updated club info, you can check out our newly updated website: <http://twincitiestandembike.com/>

Lyle Quimby has done a fantastic job of moving our old website onto a brand-new platform! Also if anyone wants to sell a tandem, direct them to either the website or to our FaceBook page:

Life hack... Did you know a micro-fiber duster, with the handle cut off and jammed into a power drill can work as a great bike cleaning tool? Well now you do, and you can thank John Mattsen for that knowledge.

## Midwest Tandem Rally 2018 August 31<sup>st</sup> – September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**M**TR 2018 will be hosted by the MUTS in the fabulous city of Grand Rapids, Michigan! This is the 43rd MTR and the 6th time the MUTS will be hosting this spectacular event. We hope you will join us for fantastic rides, fellowship and fun with fellow tandem

enthusiasts, however if single cycling is your thing consider yourself invited also.

We look forward to you joining us for GREAT riding, fellowship, and FUN!!! All routes take riders through West Michigan's finest city, township, and county parks.

Details and registration are on our website <http://www.mtr2018.org> or email [info@mtr2018.org](mailto:info@mtr2018.org)

Your hosts - The Michigan United Tandem Society  
<https://www.muts.club/>

## 2018 TCTC Rides

Want to add a ride to the calendar? Send an e-mail to: [schedule@twincitiestandembike.com](mailto:schedule@twincitiestandembike.com)

*Sunday* *June 3<sup>rd</sup>*

### The Great Longfellow Ride

Hosts: John and Helen Mattsen

*Saturday* *July 21<sup>st</sup>*

### Enjoy Realife Ride, Mounds View

Hosts: Linda Sandell & Stan Van Valkenburg

*Sunday* *August 5<sup>th</sup>*

### Stillwater to Scandia Scamper

Hosts: Matt Tillotson and Deb Liang

*Saturday* *August 25<sup>th</sup>*

### Root Beer Float Ride

Hosts: Helmut and Joan Porcher

*Friday* *September 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>*

### Loons Rally

*Sunday* *September 30<sup>th</sup>*

### Chili Ride, Woodbury, MN

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

## 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:  
[newsletter@twincitiestandembike.com](mailto:newsletter@twincitiestandembike.com)

Welcome to the 2018 TCTC season!

Our ride schedule is fairly light this year – please consider hosting a ride! It doesn't need to be fancy or complicated – we just like to get together to ride (and occasionally eat!) Send an e-mail to: [schedule@twincitiestandembike.com](mailto:schedule@twincitiestandembike.com) if you have a ride you would like added to the schedule.

Ride updates and additions will be posted to the website as soon as possible.

Happy riding everyone! Hope to see you out at rides soon!

<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. You are also covered during club activities by our LAB Medical and Liability insurance. Dues are \$20.00 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	Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile
	Last	First	Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile
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 2018

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