

Friday comment

All agree sounded like a good time

We noted with interest and some surprise, that one of the major points of debate at last Monday night's meeting of Midland Council turned out to be a stag party.

And as Alderman Richard Platt pointed out, it did indeed, sound like a good time.

It sounds as though the event was resplendent with all the trademarks of a good night out with the boys, if that's your idea of a good time.

Several games of chance could be had and according to Deputy Reeve Bill Ogilvie a "nude dancer."

And as for the allegations of "sharpies" being involved in the card games, well we suppose, that if one must attend these functions it is more or less a fact of life one might go home minus his

preverbal shirt.

In other words, it sounds to us like the average bachelors last night out with the boys that is held in various locals all over Southern Ontario each night.

Reeve Sam Ancio was indeed, in attendance, but, as he pointed out had a legitimate reason for doing so.

Community halls and civic centres have been rented out for the purposes of stags in other municipalities for many years.

And in every case, the participants walked through the front door with their eyes open.

If council was to decide against renting the Civic Centre for such events in the future it might be to head off another time consuming, silly debate of the same kind staged Monday.

Bicycle buying, some do's and don'ts

Changing seasons, perhaps more than anything, influence people's buying patterns. In the fall we buy products to prepare us for the dismal six months that lie ahead. In the winter we buy products like skis, skates and snowmobiles to make those dismal six months somewhat more bearable. And in the spring, we pack away all these purchases, and start buying for those few, wonderful months known as summer.

Springtime purchases are geared to the outdoors and recreation, and of these purchases, a bicycle is perhaps one of the most popular. In fact, over the past five years, the popularity of cycling has grown in such proportions, that it is now arguable that the bicycle is the most frequently purchased major spring item.

The growing acceptance of cycling as a form of good weather transportation and recreation has resulted in such an influx of new models and brands of

bicycles that it has become increasingly difficult for the poor consumer to choose the one that will best suit his purposes.

With this in mind, the Times talked to Gerry Van Klink of The Bike Shop on Bay Street, who explained the fundamentals of buying a bicycle.

Mr. Van Klink is quick to point out that before you even decide on what type you want, what colour it should be and how many gears it should have, the most important thing to do is make sure you fit it. Here the time-worn method of making your toes touch the ground while you're sitting on the cycle's seat is still the best test of a bike's suitability, he says.

Once you've found a bike that fits you, or the person you are buying for, you can start to shop selectively. If you're thinking of equipping a young child with wheels, says Mr. Van Klink, you might consider purchasing a tots bicycle as opposed to the traditional

bricycle. The main advantage a small bike has over a tricycle is that it has brakes, and can be controlled easier. In the last few years, several quality beginner's bicycles have been introduced and coupled with sturdier, more dependable training wheel sets, make a wiser buy than the tricycles most of us got our initial road experience on.

"I wouldn't recommend that a two or three-year-old ride on any busy street, but if they are going to ride, a good small two-wheeler is safer than a trike," says Mr. Van Klink.

Prices for tot's bikes can vary from anywhere between \$50 and \$90, depending upon the quality of the make.

For young cyclists between the ages of five and 10 years, the standard bicycle to purchase is the single speed, coaster brake 20-inch wheel model. In this category, notes Mr. Van Klink, look for Canadian made models, as they

tend to be the most sturdy and dependable. Watch out for some European makes, as workmanship and metal quality sometimes leaves a little to be desired.

Czechoslovakian bikes are about the only exception to this rule. In the last two or three years, there has been a notable up-surge among the pre-teen set in favour of the motocross type bicycles. These bikes in many cases, are engineless replicas of dirt track motorcycles, and feature such modifications as shock absorbers, padded crash bars, heavy spokes, reinforced frames, large knobby tires and single piece cranks. These bikes, with their added gadgetry, also carry a higher price tag than their standard counterparts.

Mr. Van Klink notes that there is a motocross track at Bayview Public School and organized races are frequently held there.

Like life itself, bicycle purchasing becomes more complicated once you get into the older years. You enter the realm of multi-geared models, exotic metals, handbrakes, tubless tires, and really, as many features as your pocketbook can bear.

Although adultized standard bikes are still available, it is the multi-speed models that most people want now, explains Mr. Van Klink. Bikes with 3 speeds, 5 speeds, and 10 speeds give purchasers a wide range of gearing options, and can be bought in sizes ranging from 24 to 28 inch wheels.

With recent developments in derailleur technology—derailleurs are the Rube Goldberg type devices that shift gears externally by utilizing cables and levers—it is now possible to get all types of multi-gear bicycles with the derailleur feature. Mr. Van Klink prefers derailleur systems to the older hub-type gear mechanisms, as they have fewer parts.

"The three-speed internal type systems are not as good as the derailleur systems. In the internal systems there are hundreds of small moving parts, and there's

more chance something will go wrong," he says. "Once you have a derailleur adjusted correctly, you're more assured that it will stay that way. But, on an internal three speed, if one gear is out of adjustment, the whole thing is out."

Regarding the ever-popular 10-speeds, Mr. Van Klink advises that quality is generally proportional to price. You can normally get good value in a ten speed by spending about \$150.

Again, it's the Canadian brands that promise the most trouble-free cycling, not only because they are more sturdy than Taiwanese or Korean makes, but also because there is a ready availability of replacement parts. Ease of repair is half the battle with ten speeds, contends Mr. Van Klink.

"As far as I'm concerned, the easiest bike to repair on the market is still the C.C.M.," he says. Of course, if you have

the money and the inclination, you can buy one of the more exotic foreign 10 speeds. These bikes tend to be delicate and should be purchased by someone who knows a little about bicycle

maintenance. As Mr. Van Klink says, the exotic 10 speeds compared to the more standard models, "is like the difference between riding in a Volkswagen and a Porsche."

Letters to the editor

Re-examine firing

Dear Editor,

During the mid-1800's in a small room above a great commercial establishment by St. Paul's churchyard in London, England, was formed the Young Men's Christian Association.

Years later, Sir George Williams, one of the key founders of the Association, was asked what had been in his mind and those of his colleagues when they formed the first YMCA.

He responded: "We had only one thing in mind and that was to bind our little company together in order that we might better lead our comrades to Christ and in order that we might share with one another our personal experience in Christ."

As one of the youngest members ever to join the Woodstock YMCA, as a son whose parents served on both the YMCA and YWCA boards in that city, as a former member of the Etobicoke Y's Men's Club and as a former community secretary of the Etobicoke YM-YWCA and the North York YMCA, I

also had a strong feeling that indeed, next to the church was the YMCA capable of producing profound and permanent spiritual changes in men (and women) in the community.

So the recent firing of a local aquatic director at the Midland YMCA community pool shocks me. It shocks me since she ran into personal problems over the past year. It shocks me because she was indeed a skilled swimming director who gave cheerfully of her time and skills and it shocks me that she was let go over a matter which I believe could have been sorted out with the "C" in YMCA taken into consideration.

It is extremely important that the firing be re-examined, so that the YMCA will not fail to follow in the footsteps of those who first founded the world-wide Association more than 100 years ago complete with its Christian character.

Cordially,
Doug Reed.

Looking for students

Dear Editor:

We are trying to get in touch with all former high school students of our community. Would you please print this letter in your esteemed community newspaper?

Looking for Old-Timers

The town of Midland, Ontario, is enjoying its One Hundredth Birthday, and in conjunction with these festivities, a School Homecoming is planned for Saturday, May 27.

All former students and staff of the Midland High Schools are invited to take part. A special feature of the reunion will be the honouring of three retiring teachers—Connie Cardenas,

John Dalrymple and Frank Powell. A reception and dance are planned for the occasion.

To assist the Committee with its plans, and to have your name put on the attendance list, please contact: M.S.S. Centennial Homecoming, 865 Hugel Avenue, Midland, Ontario L4R 1X8.

Since the Committee is endeavouring to contact as many people as possible, would you please include the names and addresses of former Midland H.S. students and staff who might wish to attend this event.

Sincerely,
Edythe Clark,
M.S.S. Centennial
Homecoming Committee.



Silicone spray

Gerry Van Klink of the Bike Shop uses a recently introduced silicone spray to lubricate the chain on a ten speed bike. If you're fixing up your old bike for another summer of use, it's wise to make sure everything is tight and well

lubricated. If you're buying a bike this spring, make sure you know full well what you're getting, and that it can easily be repaired if need be.

Staff photo

Some tips on getting bike back on the road

For those of us who won't be buying a new bicycle this spring, but who will once again, be hauling the faithful old steed out of winter retirement, it's wise to perform some basic mechanical check outs. These are simple to do, will cost next to nothing, and will ensure that your

bike is fit for a summer of safe, trouble-free riding.

Again, we consulted Gerry Van Klink of The Bike Shop, who assured that the single most important thing to do is to make sure that all parts and fittings are tight. The best way to find out if your bike's parts are all secure, is to apply reasonable manual pressure to areas such as the saddle, handlebar stem, pedals and basically, any part that is fastened by nut and bolt type assemblies.

Mr. Van Klink advises that you should give the bike a good cleaning, using a soft cloth and a cleaning solvent. Don't use cleaning aids such as scouring pads or steel wool, as they will chip paint and open the way for rust to engulf your

pride and joy.

Make sure the bike's tires are properly inflated. You can generally find out the required pressure by looking near the size specification on the tire wall. Don't be surprised if your tires need up to 70 lbs. psi inflation—for some reason, bicycle tires need much more pressure than car tires.

All moving parts on your bike should be lubricated, including the chain. Mr. Van Klink claims that a light grease is the best lubricator, but notes that there is now a silicone spray on the market that does about as good a job. If you're lubricating a derailleur, never use oil, as it will pick up grit and sand and gum up the mechanism.

The Friday Times and Friday Citizen

Published every Friday morning by Markle Community Newspapers Limited at Box 609, 521 Bay Street, Midland, Ontario / 526-2283 Box 429, 75 Main Street, Penetanguishene, Ontario / 549-2012

Andrew Markle, publisher
Victor Wilson, general manager
Rod McDonald, managing editor
Howard Elliott, Penetanguishene editor

The Friday Times and Friday Citizen are distributed free each Friday to households in Midland and Penetanguishene 20c per copy at newsstands

Markle Community Newspapers Limited also publish The Midland Times, Penetanguishene Citizen and Elmvalle Lance each Wednesday in the Huronia market.



Ladies night

It was the men's turn to rustle up a meal at the Port McNicoll Legion Saturday night as they treated the Ladies Auxiliary to a dinner and dance. Head chef

Oliver Lesperance (left) takes a break from kitchen duty along with Larry Valiquette, Clare Smith, Morris Cascagnette, Wilson McMurdo and James Kelly.

Page 4, Friday, April 14, 1978

EXTRA SPECIAL at EDWARDS Specialty Shop

Kayser BARGAINS

Take advantage of these Savings this week.

You'll find the Kayser display on our main floor.



KNEE HI's 69¢ Regular .89	BIG AND BEAUTIFUL 1.99 Regular 2.50
Sheer Sandlefoot PANTY HOSE 1.39 Regular 2.00	AIN'T NO GIRDLE 1.69 Regular 2.00

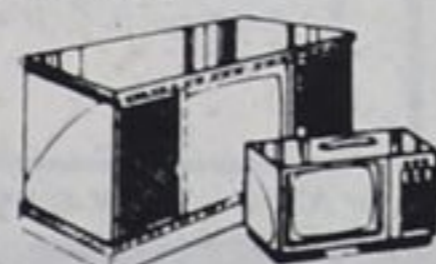


Open: Tues. to Sat.
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Fri. to 9:00 p.m.

TV RENTALS

Call us about our rent with option to purchase plan on all Quasar & Admiral TV's

"Try before buying"



THE TV MAN

Yonge St. W., off Hwy. 27
Balm Beach Rd., Midland 526-4652