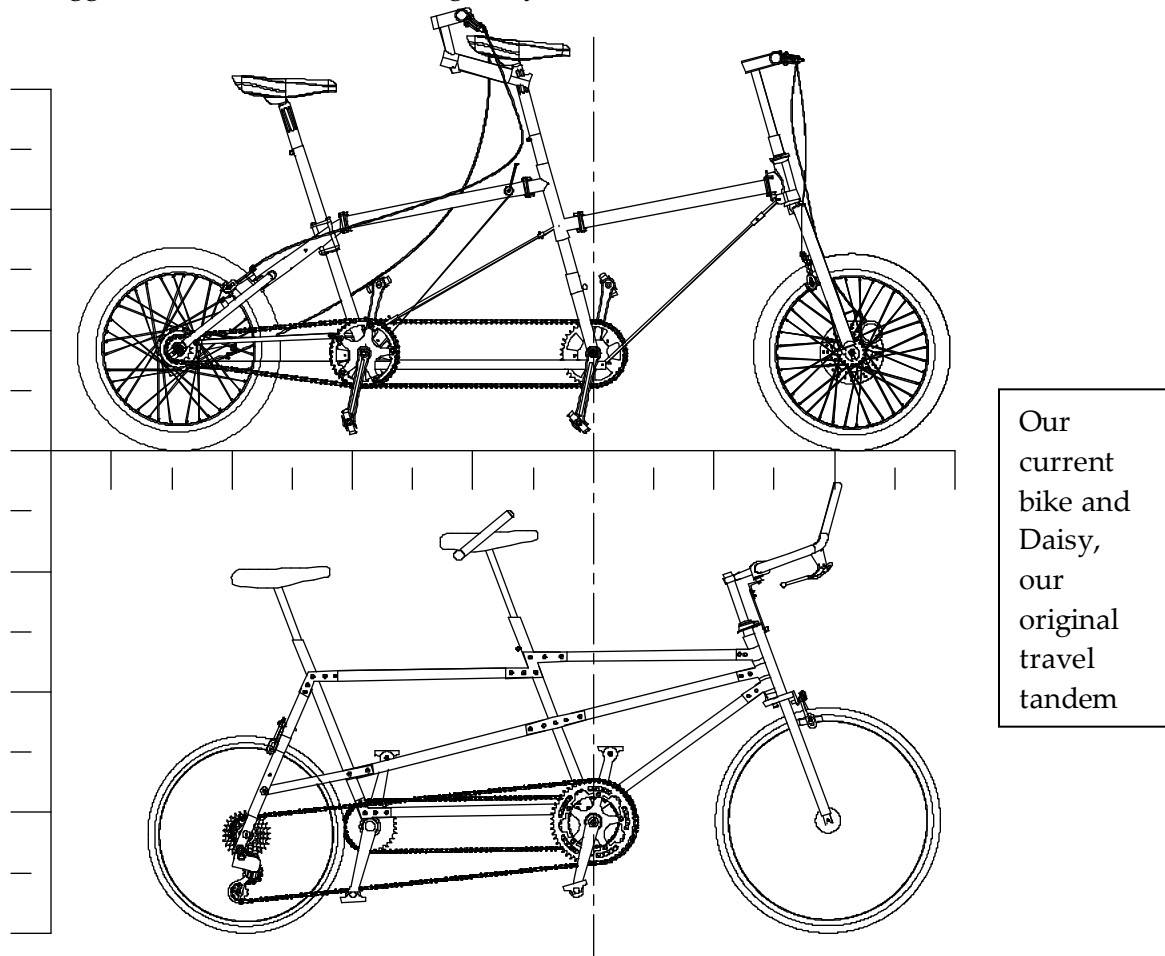


Daisy

Before we can describe the current travel tandem, we have to look at what came before. Built of aluminum and joined with fasteners, Daisy was meant to be a bike that you take with. Later, with some minor changes, provision was made so that it could also be assembled as a single. It was ridden as a single across the Navajo reservation in Arizona. Daisy as a tandem never left home. The bike had little success as a single but worked perfectly as a tandem. It was designed first as a tandem and adapted to work as a single. Our current bike started life as a single and evolved into a tandem. Some clear differences are apparent when the two are compared side by side. The biggest of these is the center of gravity.



Both bikes balance 39 inches aft of the front axle but because Daisy is so much shorter, the percentage of the total weight carried by the rear wheel is 68%, quite high for a tandem. The current bike carries 58% of its total weight on the rear wheel. These figures are for two riders who weigh 180 and 130 pounds with the heavier serving as the captain. The drawing above shows a six inch grid.

Daisy has a number of interesting details. Both bottom brackets are hogged out of chunks of aluminum. The head tube was an aluminum hog out too. All the doublers are 7075 aluminum except for the mid tube doublers which are steel. All the square tubes have inserts to prevent collapse when the bolts are tightened. The front fork is a lightweight copy of a motorcycle fork, all custom made from aluminum.