

# Illinois Valley WHEELM'N

JULY 1992



6518 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD, PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61614

## MILITARY RIDGE TRAIL RIDES

**WHERE:** West of Madison, Wisconsin  
**WHEN:** Weekends of August 1 and September 12

*Sponsored by the IVW Social Committee:  
Nick Paweski, George Dudley,  
Eric Hutchison, Connie Stachewicz*

**A**N ANCIENT INDIAN TRAIL sprawls between Verona and Dodgeville, Wisconsin. As a high point in the area, Military Ridge was a natural trade route between Lake Mendota and the Mississippi. Join our group and bicycle this beautiful stretch of land.

Excursions are planned for the weekends of August 1 and September 12. You may participate in either or both of the rides. We'll stay in a hotel in Mt. Horeb on Friday and Saturday nights and ride the trail on Saturday and Sunday, about 40-50 miles each day.

Summer vacationers may want to stay in the area another night or two over the August 1 weekend. You may also opt to camp instead of staying at a hotel. You are on your own for camping plans.

On Saturday, we will leave Mt. Horeb, bicycle about 20 miles to the west end of the trail at Dodgeville, and then return. On Sunday, we'll ride the eastern third of the trail to Verona, keep going to

Madison to experience this bicyclist's "user-friendly" city, and then return to Mt. Horeb. After the ride, you may leave for Peoria or stay over another night and leave Monday.



At this point, we are flexible about car pooling plans for Peoria to Wisconsin and back. We may use the club's trailer for bicycles. We'll see who's interested and figure it out from there.

Please let us know by July 10 if you're interested so we can make arrangements for accommodations. Join us and share the comradery!

Contact Nick Paweski, at 673-0098 regarding your interest in these dates, or for more information.

## ? OF BALANCE

—by Steve Shaffer

It's hard to believe that it's almost July already. About six months ago a dreaded insect altered my balance. I was quite happy with the way things were until that **NEW BIKE** bug bit me. Why can't bike manufacturers make the same model for several years without introducing a new latest and greatest two-wheeled wonder? *It's the best and greatest transportation device ever created by man!!!* Yeah, so what—except that my blood boils with *technoweenietsm*. So just about the time I'm ready to boil over, off to the bike shop I go. Now that I have this marvel of carbon technology, I wonder what the guys in the land of bicycle manufacturing have up their sleeves for next year or the year after.

And speaking of balance (I was you know) the newest addition to my cycling stable has really caused a balance problem, for now my stable is missing an ATB. I suppose I'll have to buy another one some day. Just don't tell my wife.

**SHORTS:** The **WRIGHT RIDE** on Tuesday nights has become very popular this year. Every week Bill gets a couple of new riders. Some of us veterans need to remember the days when we were beginners and help the new people. Not all the fun happens at the front of the peleton. Keep up the good work, Bill.

Jeff and Sharree Tate are starting two rides per week (Tuesday and Thursday) from the bank at University and Pioneer Parkway at 5:30 p.m. These rides will be tailored more to experienced riders who would like to get some extra miles. All club members are more than welcome to lead rides of their choosing. It's a good opportunity to show other club members your favorite routes. See ya on the road,



—Steve

## NEW MEMBERS

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Sheryl Hansen               | .....Morton |
| Richard DeLong              | .....Pekin  |
| Sabrina Doll & Greg Petesch | ...Peoria   |
| Christopher P. von Hake     | .....Morton |
| Barbara Lauterbach          | .....Peoria |
| Michol & Sally Puh          | .....Dunlap |



**S**OME PEOPLE ARE WARM-HEARTED; some people are cold-hearted; and some people are just plain cold. Stay with me on this.

Let's go back a few years. The club was in its winter hibernation period—the newsletter listed no scheduled rides, just a few breakfast spots to meet at and indulge in a bit of arm-chair cycling. That day's cafe was in Morton.

Route 150 was effectively closed down—not by the weather, but by out-of-commission bridges in both East Peoria and Morton. That left the main road pretty much to me and a mountain bike (one of the first mass-production models, it featured motorcycle brake levers and a wheelbase long enough to turn a Chevette around in).

I started near Peoria's Northwoods Mall. Temperature at 6 a.m. was 10 degrees below zero. There was no wind and no sound—only thin whispers of smoke and steam rising from houses along the way. It was so quiet that my breathing seemed unnaturally loud by comparison. Of course, bundled as I was with multiple layers of clothing, I wasn't giving my ears much of a chance to hear anything else.

Remember how little kids look in snowsuits? That was me; I couldn't have clapped my hands together if I'd wanted to, and once my fingers got cold enough, it wouldn't have occurred to me to even try.

There's not much more to the story. I stopped once to warm my hands and feet, pedaled on to enjoy a great breakfast with a dozen club members, and then rode back to Peoria in Jewel Moyers' van. Another minor journey in Midwest cycling. And virtually forgotten until I came across an article in the *Detroit Free Press Magazine* sent to me by The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy of Michigan.

Earlier this year, the paper wanted to promote the Michigander, a six-day, 275-mile tour of the Lower Peninsula scheduled for August 16–21. Accordingly, the editor of the *Free Press Magazine* assigned staff writer Neely Tucker to travel the course.

In March.

In single-digit temperatures.

On a bicycle.

Surprisingly enough, Tucker did it. He pedaled from South Haven to Rochester, MI, on a Trek 830 borrowed from the Continental Bike Shop in Hazel Park. (A full list of accessories taken along on the trip ends with this line: "Mr. Tucker is grateful for the use of this bicycle and sorry he broke it.")

Even more surprising, Tucker apparently kept enough of his fingers to type up his story. It includes an experienced cyclist who discovered Tucker's training regimen was poor at best—"Boy, is your butt gonna hurt"; a stingy cafe cashier—"I've already let you use the phone once. You'll have to call [your boss] from a pay phone down there at the car wash; and a stentorian senior citizen in overalls—"BET THE AMISH HAVE GOT AN EXTRA BLANKET OUT THIS MORNING...AIN'T THAT RIGHT?"

**"Mr. Tucker is grateful for the use of this bicycle and sorry he broke it."**

Anyone who's taken a long bike ride in the winter can relate to Tucker. He's captured the entire experience—self-doubt, frigid personal extremities and the kindness of strangers—in only five pages.

Yes, it's the middle of summer—90–100° days, drought conditions, and dogs too dry to drool, let alone chase an errant biker—but a good winter cycling story is the perfect way to keep one's cool.

I have nine extra copies of the *Detroit Free Press Magazine* with Neely Tucker's story. Call me today at 688-0922 if you'd like a copy for yourself.

—Samuel

*The Free Press Michigander runs from August 16 through 21 and includes: breakfasts, dinners, fanny pack, maps, camping accommodations, baggage transport and sag service. Registration is \$150. Money raised by the tour will be used to further the development of the rail trail network in Michigan. Weekend and one-day rides are also offered. For details and a registration form, write: Free Press Michigander c/o Michigan RTC, 913 W. Holmes, Ste. 227A, Lansing, MI 48910, or call (517) 393-6022.*

### The Illinois Valley Wheelm'n Peoria, IL

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b><br>Steve Shaffer            | 685-4726 |
| <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b><br>George Dudley       | 692-7076 |
| <b>SECRETARY</b><br>Peggy Saal               | 685-3612 |
| <b>TREASURER</b><br>Steve Weast              | 446-3413 |
| <b>RIDE COORDINATOR</b><br>Jim Whitmer       | 691-7354 |
| <b>SOCIAL</b><br>Nick Paweski                | 673-0098 |
| <b>PC CHAIRPERSON</b><br>Laura Otten         | 699-1200 |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP</b><br>Bonnie Davis            | 694-6604 |
| <b>EDITOR</b><br>Samuel Joslin               | 688-0922 |
| <b>MAILING</b><br>Steve Grube<br>Terry Threw | 699-6956 |
| <b>DATA PROCESSING</b><br>Bill Semmens       | 693-9388 |



### a member club of the League of American Wheelmen

The Illinois Valley Wheelm'n is home to cyclists throughout Central Illinois. Newsletters are distributed each month (except December) through bulk third-class mail. Newsletters are not forwarded, so alert the membership chairperson one month in advance of your move. Membership contributions to the newsletter are welcome—send your articles and personal ads to: Samuel Joslin, 1318 W. MacQueen, Peoria, IL 61604. All contributions must be received (not postmarked) no later than the 15th of the month.

## FROM THE ALMANAC

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Louis Bleriot (1872)       | 1  |
| Connie Young (1961)        | 4  |
| Louis Armstrong (1900)     | 4  |
| Bob Roll (1960)            | 7  |
| Davis Phinney (1959)       | 10 |
| Henry David Thoreau (1817) | 12 |
| Miguel Indurain (1964)     | 16 |
| Gino Bartali (1914)        | 18 |
| Edgar Degas (1834)         | 19 |
| Ernest Hemingway (1899)    | 21 |
| Amelia Earhart (1898)      | 24 |
| Thorstein Veblen (1857)    | 30 |

### OTHER JULY DATES

|  |    |
|--|----|
| First sticky U.S. postage stamp issued (1847)                    | 1  |
| First Tour de France begins (1903)                               | 1  |
| The Colonies choose to disagree (1776)                           | 4  |
| Tom Simpson dies on Mont Ventoux (1967)                          | 13 |
| Haldeman sets N.Y.-Los Angeles-N.Y. record—24 days (1981)        | 14 |
| "Wrong Way" Corrigan leaves for L.A. but lands in Ireland (1938) | 17 |
| Howard sets bicycle land speed record—152.284 mph (1985)         | 20 |
| Mount finishes 6th in Montreal Olympic road race (1976)          | 26 |
| Boyer establishes transcontinental record—9d, 2h, 6m (1985)      | 30 |

## REMINDERS

### Board Meetings

Board meetings are the third Thursday of the month. Meetings are open to all members and start at 8 p.m. Schedule: July—no meeting; August 20th—George Dudley.

### Ride Leaders

Don't see a ride you like? Have an idea for a different kind of ride? Step right up and call Jim Whitmer today to schedule YOUR ride! 691-7354.

### Eat to Ride, Ride to Eat

Most weekend rides revolve around a visit to a local eatery. Be sure to pack some spare change along with the patch kit and tire irons.

## WEATHER

|                           | Sunrise   | Sunset     |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| July 1                    | 5:31 a.m. | 8:34 p.m.  |
| July 10                   | 5:36 a.m. | 8:31 p.m.  |
| July 20                   | 5:44 a.m. | 8:25 p.m.  |
| July 31                   | 5:54 a.m. | 8:15 p.m.  |
| Average High Temperatures |           | 84-86°     |
| Average Low Temperatures  |           | 64-65°     |
| July 1991 rainfall        |           | .35 inches |

Source: National Weather Service

## Dear Dr. Deraillleur,

Why does the bicycle industry persist in manufacturing air-filled tires? Everytime I ride through broken glass and/or cross a picket line I have to patch an inner tube. Who came up with the idea for pneumatic tires, anyway?  
**Cynical Simon, Mossville**



If manufacturers used anything other than air inside their tires they would have to pay for it. Yes, the patents on the atmosphere ran out some time ago, which may also explain why air pollution continues as one of America's favorite outdoor sports.

Perhaps the real question is who came up with a word like pneumatic? And considering Dunlop developed his first air-filled tires in 1881, are they really "pneu" anymore?

### Confidential to Red Clement:

Quit using old glue with new tires. By the way, what do you do while you wait for the glue to dry, anyway?

—D.D.

*Dr. Deraillleur is one of the few independent thinkers in the bicycle press today. Believing that all research on cycling is inevitably tainted by prejudice and opinion, he relies only on the unique power of his trained intellect to arrive at the correct answers to all his readers' questions. Please direct your cycling-oriented questions to:*

**Dr. Deraillleur**  
c/o Illinois Valley Wheel'n  
6518 N. Sheridan Rd.  
Peoria, IL 61614

# IVW ESTABLISHES ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

by Laura Otten

On April 16, 1992, the Illinois Valley Wheelm'n created a new committee, temporarily named the Political Committee. As a "political scientist" forbidden by law from engaging in partisan politics because of my federal employment, I thought this would be a perfect committee for me. I thank you all for nominating and electing me to head it up. Already on the minds of many of the club members are ideas about contributing to the efforts of Peoria, IDOT and others to enhance the bike-ability of this area. But before I tell you about these great ideas I'll tell you a little about myself.

While I possess no special skills qualifying me for this chairpersonship, I am the owner of a 10-year old Trek and a 6-year old Fuji. Two years into Trekking I showed up on a cold, drizzly day for the Russelltonian 20-mile bike race. Taking first place, my name and time was permanently emblazoned on the trophy prominently displayed at the bike shop. Because I have suffered silently with embarrassment over the fact that the time of the following year's winner was better than mine by over 20 minutes, I'm taking this opportunity to share two of my qualities with you: honesty and humility, respectively. My chain came off on a hill and I was the only female who showed up for that race. Since then I've taken first place awards at the first Rock Island Trail "Tie-athalon" in 1986. I've also done

a PACRACC and ridden extensively in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. (Lest there be any question—modesty is not a quality of mine.)

Now that I've established I have a bike and I ride, I'll explain that I sought this position because of my background as a lawyer with the U.S.D.O.T. in Washington, D.C. during the past two years. There I worked in regulations and legislation and celebrated Congress' passage of the historic "highway bill."

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991

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**"...the STA is the  
Wheelm'n's vehicle  
of progress!"**

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(Surface Transportation Act or STA) was the last feather now-chief-of-staff Sam Skinner put in his cap as Secretary of D.O.T. The bill was considered by even Washington standards a big deal—presumably because it kept some of our congresspeople at work all night for a couple of nights. STA is historic because of the power it gives state and local governments to control their vehicular-transportation destiny. Vehicle means bicycle, i.e., the means of carrying or transporting something, and the STA is the Wheelm'n's vehicle of progress! (If you thought the

wheels of change needed greasing, this is it.) The STA provides funding for bicycle lanes and paths, signals, shelters, and parking facilities constructed primarily for bicycle transportation, rather than recreational, purposes (improvements which still benefit the recreational rider).

In order to avoid being confused with a PAC, the committee will be renamed shortly, something like Bicycling Environment Committee, Road Access Committee, or Transportation Access Committee. While the name may be uncertain, we do have a vision:

"To improve cycling in Central Illinois by voicing our viewpoint to local and state governmental agencies that make decisions which affect our cycling enjoyment."

We've also embarked on a couple of projects. Eric Hutchison has been instrumental in putting together a Top Twenty List of local road improvements which we are sending to the planning director for the city of Peoria [see page 5—ed.]. Plus, we're working with the park district's Regional Trail Advisory Committee in developing plans for commuter bike routes. The committee will also be the point of contact for the League of American Wheelmen's efforts to get STA money spent on bicycle related activities. If you have an interest in keeping up with how your tax dollars are spent, please join us.

—Laura

**ad • vo • cate** \ n -s [ME *avocat*, *advocat*, fr. MF, fr. L *advocatus*, fr. past part. of *advocare* to summon, call to one's aid, fr. *ad* + = *vocare* to call]: one who peddles bicycling (not to be confused with pedalling one's bicycle)

Route



News

On June 4, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) held an Open House Public Hearing concerning the improvements for Illinois Route 8 between Taylor Road and Route 78. The proposed changes will make a huge difference for anyone who enjoys cycling out that way.

The proposed changes involve several key factors important to cyclists. First of all, the road will be widened from its current 18 feet to 24 feet. Secondly, approximately five of the 12 miles will have bituminous (asphalt) shoulders.

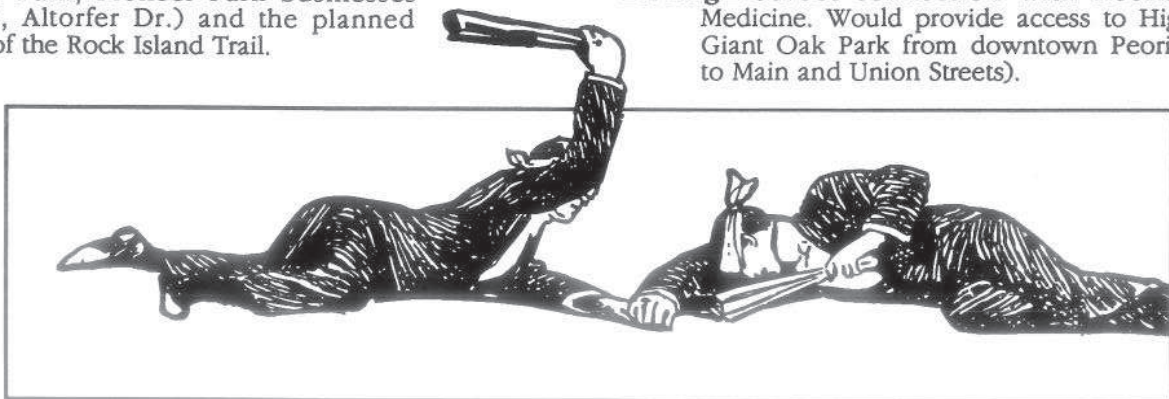
Another major improvement will be made at the intersection of Route 8 and Cottonwood Road. The road will be dropped eight feet to take the hump out, and the curve will be softened to improve visibility. In addition, six bridges will be replaced and three will be rehabilitated.

While these improvements were planned without any particular thought to bicyclists, it does seem that the changes will be greatly appreciated by anyone who chooses to ride that wonderfully scenic area.

—Bryan Chumbley

# 20 Road Improvement Proposals

1. **A cyclists' map of Peoria**—Would identify low-traffic alternatives to Peoria's main traffic arteries. Feeder routes for the Rock Island Trail would be included. Also an important promotional tool for the Peoria Convention and Visitors Bureau. Future maps would reflect an increasing number of suggested routes as the following projects are implemented.
2. **Brandywine Drive/Westaire Avenue.** Modify the blockade to allow for non-motorized traffic. Important connector for cyclists traveling to the Northwoods Mall area from Crestwood Dr. or Lake Ave.
3. **Springdale Cemetery.** Modify north and south entrance gates to allow full-time access by non-motorized traffic. Existing tunnel beneath War Memorial is a low-traffic alternative to Prospect Ave.
4. **Harvard Avenue.** Provide full-time non-motorized access to the westbound McCluggage Bridge span.
5. **Monroe Street/War Memorial Drive.** Repair existing pedestrian crossing switch to aid crossing War Memorial.
6. **Knoxville/Northmoor/Prospect/Mt. Hawley.** Improve traffic signals to help cyclists cross Knoxville. Temporary improvement prior to a more comprehensive reworking of this important cycling corridor.
7. **Northmoor Road.** Widen lanes to 14 feet and pave shoulders between Allen Road and University. Important connector between north/south streets used by cyclists on Peoria's north side.
8. **Kickapoo Creek Road.** Immediately lower speed limit to 35 mph to encourage motorists to use the existing high-speed alternative: Route 474. Widen lanes to 14 feet and pave shoulders. Important connector to Bartonville.
9. **Farmington Road.** Widen lanes to 14 feet and pave shoulders between Park Road and Kickapoo Creek Road. Would improve bicycle access to Route 8, Swords Avenue and Kickapoo Creek Road.
10. **Mount Hawley Road/Detweiller Drive.** Either pave shoulder on Knoxville Avenue, or provide alternate paved path adjacent to Mt. Hawley Country Club Golf Course. Link would facilitate bicycle access from southeast to upper Detweiller Park, Pioneer Park businesses (Hale Ave, Altorfer Dr.) and the planned extension of the Rock Island Trail.
11. **Hale Avenue to Altorfer Road.** Construction of paved path for non-motorized traffic to link Detweiller Drive and Allen Road. Would be a significant feeder route for the planned Rock Island Trail extension.
12. **Meadowbrook Road.** Widen lanes to 14 feet and pave shoulders between Brandywine Drive and Dries Lane. Important cycling link between Brandywine Drive and area around University Plaza and Landmark. Also connects with Forest Hill Avenue—a significant cycling artery.
13. **Allen Road.** Pave shoulders between Pioneer Parkway and Townline Road.
14. **Willow Knolls Road.** Pave shoulders. Provides access to Route 150 and Allen Road from adjacent residential areas.
15. **South Sterling Avenue.** Link with Laramie Street. Pave shoulders along Martin Luther King Drive or create paved path through Madison Golf Course. Would connect west Peoria with the Madison Park shopping area and Peoria's southwest side.
16. **Peoria Heights.** Connect sections of Atlantic or Monroe streets now separated by Pabst lot & railroad track. Would provide continuous route parallel to Prospect Avenue from Junction City to downtown Peoria.
17. **Sterling Avenue/I-74 Bridge.** Provide a pedestrian/bicycle bridge west of Sterling. Bridge linking Rochell and West Lake would improve access to Peoria's west-central side.
18. **Cedar Hills Drive.** Pave shoulders along two-lane section. Provides access between Dunlap and Mossville. Proposal would improve motorist/cyclist use and greatly encourage commuting in this area.
19. **Route 29.** Pave shoulders between Detweiller Park and Mossville Road. Would facilitate access to lower Detweiller Park from the north via Mossville and Old Galena roads. (Detweiller will connect with planned extension of Rock Island Trail via Detweiller Drive and Hale Avenue.)
20. **High Street connection with Peoria School of Medicine.** Would provide access to High Street and Giant Oak Park from downtown Peoria (alternative to Main and Union Streets).



Don't tell *me* you forgot to renew!

## JULY

**SAT 18 Ride Across Indiana (RAIN).** Terre Haute, IN. 160 miles, from Illinois-Indiana state line to Richmond, IN, rolling terrain. Includes map, sag, marked route, food, t-shirt. Registration \$20. For application, write Bloomington Bicycle Club, c/o Steve Merry, P.O. Box 463, Bloomington, IN 47402. For more info, call (812) 339-4717.

**SAT 25 RAMFAB (Ride Around Mattoon for a Bagel)** Mattoon, IL. 25- & 35- miles. Rest stops (featuring bagels). bagels at end of ride, sag, map, marked routes, showers. CIC water bottles to first 50 registrants. Registration \$5.00 individuals; \$7.50 families. Central Illinois Cyclists, c/o Lynn Collins, 1615 Adams Ave., Charleston, IL 61920. For more info, call Lynn @ 345-2932.

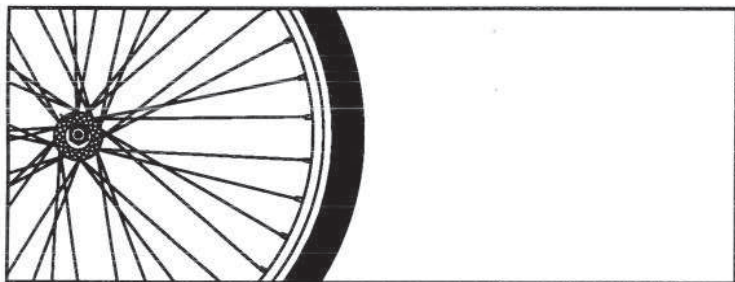
**SUN 26 MetroMetric.** Oswego, IL. 25,40,62,100 miles. Rest stops, sag, marked route, map. Riders registered before July 10 receive commemorative T-shirt. Registration \$10. Sponsored by Elmhurst Bike Club. Send SASE to: Elmhurst Bicycle Club, P.O. Box 902, Elmhurst, IL 60126. (708) 530-BIKE.

## AUGUST

**SAT 1-TUES 4 Across Illinois.** Joliet Bicycle Club.

**SAT 8-SUN 9 Amishland and Lakes.** Howe, IN. 55 flat-to-rolling miles each day. Includes map, patch, sag, route markings, snacks. Registration \$12. Michiana Bicycle Club, John W. Gardner, 56085 Cedar Rd., Mishawaka, IN 46545. (219) 256-6735.

**SAT 23 Prairie Fall Century.** Champaign, IL; Crystal Lake Park. 35,65,100 miles. Contact Peter Davis—(217) 352-7600.



## SILVER SPRINGS REPORT

by Roger Jensen

**T**HE 1992 SILVER SPRINGS 60 on Sunday, April 26 at Yorkville, IL was put on by the Aurora Bicycle Club. Almost 1000 of the 1250 registered riders turned out on a chilly day for a real nice ride. The IVW was represented by Greg Benning, George and Eileen Dudley, Roger, Sandy and Janice (?) Jensen, Steve Schaffer and Bill Wright (at least those are the members I know of, or saw). It was a scenic ride with three food stops on the 45-mile loop and a spaghetti dinner afterward. The entry fee included a patch and a water bottle. They had a good map featuring turns, road names and mileage, and good road markings.

—Roger

## SEPTEMBER

**SAT 5, SUN 6 COMPACRACC.** Shorter version (100-miles over 2 days) of PACRAAC. Registration \$25 before July 21, \$45 before August 21, \$55 thereafter. See next entry.

**SAT 5-MON 7 11th Annual Pantagraph Area Cyclist Ride Around Corn Country (PACRAAC).** 220-mile ride over lightly traveled roads in Central Illinois. Includes five all-you-can-eat meals, camping, baggage transport, route services and more. Registration \$45 before July 21, \$55 before August 21, \$75 thereafter. HELMETS REQUIRED. The Pantagraph, Marketing Services, PACRACC, 301 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 2907, Bloomington, IL 61702-9973.

**SUN 13 Capital City Century.** Springfield Bicycle Club.

**SAT 19 Diane's Ride.** Illinois Valley Wheelm'n. Nick Paweski, chairperson. Call (309) 691-8306.

**SUN 20 Spoon River Scenic Century.** Spoon River Wheelmen.

**SUN 27 19th Annual Apple Cider Century®.** 25,50,75,100 miles. Three Oaks, MI. Includes marked route, map, fanny flag, sag, food stops, certificate of recognition and spaghetti dinner. Limited to 7000 riders. Registration \$20 by July 31st. No late registration. ACC '92, P.O. Box 7000, Three Oaks, MI 49128. Info hotline: (616) 756-3361. Include SASE (business size) with application fee. Sponsored by Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club.

## OCTOBER

**SAT 10, SUN 11 Hilly Hundred.** Fifty miles each day. Bloomington, IN. Don't wait to inquire—extremely popular ride. Hilly Hundred, 5224 Grandview Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46208. Call for more info: (317) 251-4130.

- Please request complete entry form from sponsor before submitting registration fee.
- Entry forms for some rides are available at monthly IVW meetings and from the editor.
- If requesting information by mail, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

mark your calendar...

## PROCTOR 100 ROAD RACE

for USCF Pro/Cat I/Cat II

and

PROCTOR CYCLING CLASSIC  
CRITERIUM

August 9, 1992

\$20,000 Cash & Prizes

Start/finish @ Hamilton & Jefferson,

## DOWNTOWN PEORIA

for more information, call,  
Vitesse Cycle Shop, (309) 682-8777

# Dear Newsletter Editor:

**I**N RESPONSE TO SAM JOSLIN'S interesting Tire Tracts article in your June issue about the ironies of cycling life in Peoria, irony #3 is no mystery to me. I am one of those "biking loners," although I am a dues-paying, newsletter-reading member.

I have this fantasy about being a "top-grade" cyclist, able to ride 17-19 mph average speed for 20 or 30 miles, complete back-to-back centuries on Saturday and Sunday, leading the pack instead of being the perpetual draft and eventually getting dropped—you get the picture.

Reality, unfortunately, is more in the neighborhood of 13.3 mph average for 20 miles (mostly downhill with a tailwind) after a full day of work when I force myself to forgo stopping at the video store in preparation for an evening of couch potatoing. Weekend rides would be great except for the fact that elder parent caretaking starts on Saturday morning and ends on Sunday afternoon. Also, rest stops could be downright embarrassing if I were caught "lighting up" behind a tree. My after-work workouts (when reading catchup, bill-paying, or apartment cleaning don't take precedence) begin with a glass of wine or two and leftover pizza. Walking up serious hills while pushing the bike is no problem as long as I keep looking down at the tires and feeling for possible glass fragments.

Actually, my loner rides are quite nice. I can noodle up to a sober pace, charge ahead for a few seconds after I am warmed up, and then back off to enjoy the surroundings in peace and quiet without pace or conversational demands. Not that I wouldn't enjoy either now and then. That's why I am an IVW member. At least I can read about what I might be doing if the right mood and energy level strikes me. And there are other ways to participate, like working rest stops. There may even come a day when I can get back into the cyclists' prime directives of

---

***"At least I can read about what I might be doing if the right mood and energy level strikes me."***

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health, dedication to miles, style, clothes, technology, annual mileage counts, performance, leg muscles, tan lines, sweat and (oh, help) even pain. The last I can manage now with little effort.

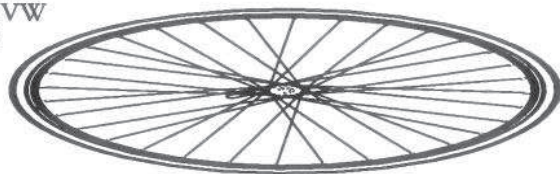
This is a cycling survey of one. Not much of a respondent base. Wonder what a survey of Peoria's non-IVW cyclist population would reveal? Every loner is unique? Probably some. Candidates for IVW membership? Probably some. An opportunity, folks!

Think I'll try a group ride this summer, incognito. Leave the cigs at home. Fuel up on granola bars for a change. Prepare for conversation and friendly speed spurts. Sure to be an adventure. And if I find myself back in the dust of disappearing wheels, the sensation of cycling solo will be close by, savored, appreciated for its leg-rest qualities. I might even bum a light from another co-conspirator behind a tree. Remembering that all great cyclists train zillions of lonely tedious miles measured only by their own standards, which are then tested in the next race.

\*\*\*

She gives me this bored look . . .  
 "Hey, just ride and enjoy, don't worry, be happy," she says.  
 OK. Sounds good to me. Are you an IVW member?  
 No.  
 Why not?  
 Can't afford it.  
 It's only \$10.  
 For one ride a year?  
 So wasn't it worth it? . . . you met me.  
 I prefer riding alone.  
 You like riding alone?  
 Yeah, I like it.  
 Really? Me too. But the group is nice too, sometimes.  
 Yeah, I guess.  
 Let's take the shortcut. We'll get to the food sooner.

—Anonymous



## ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Individual (\$10)  Family (\$12)  New  Renew

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Make check to: Illinois Valley Wheelm'n, 6518 N. Sheridan Rd., Peoria, IL

**DO NOT WRITE  
IN THIS AREA**

EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_  
 JOINED \_\_\_\_\_  
 PKSNT \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLAIMER:**  
 In signing this form, I understand and agree to absolve the officers and members of the Illinois Valley Wheelm'n bicycle club of all blame for any injury, misadventure, harm, loss or inconvenience suffered as a result of taking part in any activity sponsored or advertised by said organization.

## IVW Calls For Increased Ice Cream Consumption

—Diane's Ride committee—  
looking for empty buckets

In a move calculated to please the palates of cyclists everywhere, Diane's Ride committee plans a more elaborate spread of food this year. The newest addition to Diane's Ride and Pasta Fest '92: a salad bar.

Hence the need for 1/2-gallon and 1-gallon ice cream and frozen yogurt containers. Recycle those buckets and give Eric Hutchison a call when you have accumulated 4 or 5. Eric's phone is 685-3921.

**NO JULY MEETING—SEE YOU IN AUGUST**

## DIANE'S RIDE AND PASTA FEST '92

38,62,100 miles on country roads  
Saturday, September 19  
Lake Camelot Clubhouse

New this year: A meal to dream about during those long hours in the saddle: Italo's mostaccolli (meat *and* vegetarian), real French bread, salad bar and **Spotted Cow** ice cream. Registration \$12 before September 12; \$14 thereafter. Contact Nick Paweski @ (309) 673-0098.

The IVW roster will be published in the August newsletter. If you want to have your phone number or address deleted, or you just want to make sure we spell your name right, call Bonnie Davis @ 694-6604.

## Illinois Valley Wheelm'n

6518 North Sheridan Road  
Peoria, IL 61614

Bulk Rate  
U. S. Postage

**PAID**

Permit No.310  
Peoria IL 61601

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: 10/03/92

RON & SHELLY ANDERSON  
203 LOCUST  
WASHINGTON, IL 61571

### JULY MEETING—THERE AIN'T ONE.

Get on your bikes and ride!

... see you in August