

APRIL 1994

ILLINOIS VALLEY **WHEELM'N**

greater peoria's bicycle club



Pekin Trails Ahead

BY ERIC HUTCHISON

The Pekin Park Board held a hearing March 8 to gain public input on plans by design consultants Scruggs and Hammond to create a recreational trails system in Pekin's Mineral Springs and Cole Miner's Parks. Proposed plans are for 10-foot-wide paved trails within the two parks.

The Pekin Park Board's main goal is to create facilities which appeal to the greatest number of people. Members of the board feel that improved in-park facilities will attract more park users and establish a base of support for future trail expansion. The IVW, invited to the meeting by the board and represented by Pekinite Bill Clark, agreed that in-park trails would serve the needs of new riders and families with

children, but stressed the need to define and improve routes which feed the park and other significant Pekin destinations. The club went on to offer its knowledge to the board and Pekin city government in reaching this more ambitious goal.

Pekin-wide bicycle planning would represent a significant addition to Tri-County planning already underway in Peoria. With that in mind, the club gave the park board a draft copy of the Peoria map for review.

Members of the Illinois Valley Striders, Peoria's running club, also supported improved access to the larger trail/road network for runners and walkers.

George Burrier, member of Friends of the Rock Island Trail, suggested that the trails be made wider—12 feet instead of 10 feet—to better accommodate mixed use (by bicyclists, walkers, runners and others). The IVW seconded this suggestion.

In attendance at the March 8 hearing:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| IVW | Illinois Valley Striders |
| Bill Clark | Gene Smith |
| Dick & Dottie Rhodes | Fred Baldazzi |
| Sue McCabe | Friends of the Rock Island Trail |
| Eric Hutchison | George Burrier |

NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Mike Calvert | Mapleton |
| Ben Frank | Peoria |
| Mike & Peggy Martiny | Princeville |
| Paul Muskopf | Peoria |
| Gus, Nancy & Robert Neumann | East Peoria |
| Susan Wickhorst | Peoria |
| Diane Williams | Pekin |

RENEWING MEMBERS

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| Dan & Jason Blankenship; Charlie, Jane & Rich Sieck | Dunlap |
| Terry Mundy Dickerson | Chillicothe |
| Rolla P. Godfrey | Princeville |
| Chuck Gullette | Washington |
| Don Jacobs | Washington |
| Janis, Roger & Sandra Jensen | East Peoria |
| Bob & Val Jones | East Peoria |
| John W. Mogler | Washington |
| Gary G. Mort | Morton |
| David Schaufelberger | Chillicothe |
| Gene W. Short | Peoria |
| Roger Stien | Pekin |
| Armand Tippet | Taylorville |
| Dorothy Venturi | Farmington |
| Steve & Sue Weast | Laura |
| Jane & Nick Weede | Peoria |



At the Chicago Bicycle Show, March 5:

Larry Davis, new keeper of the IVW mailing labels, and Les Siegrist, long-time member, good guy and last remaining defender of chrome fenders.

More advocacy news on page 3.

Illinois Valley Wheelm'n
newsletter published monthly

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Vice President

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Steve Grube

Government Relations Advocate &

League Of Illinois Bicyclists board member

Eric Hutchison

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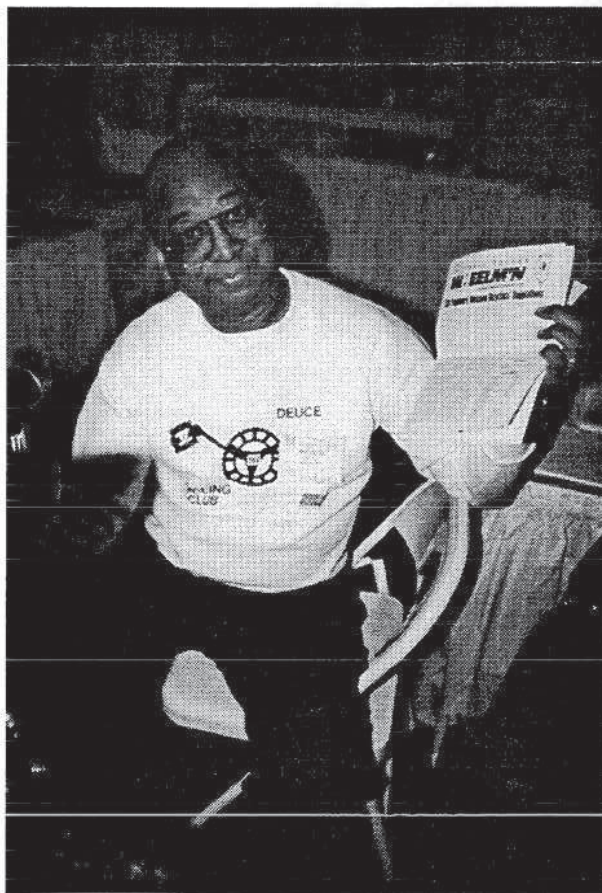
The Season Begins . . .

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20. Rob Alexander: Eleven riders showed up on a cloudy day for a short loop on country roads around Washington. The planned route was for a 10-mile loop with a possible turnaround at the three-mile point, but the group elected to extend the ride to 14 miles. At the end of the ride, the group took advantage of Russell's Spring Preview to get a free snack and do some looking around. Overcast, damp feeling. 38°. Very light northwest wind.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6. It is rumored that if you build the perfect day, the riders will come. As far as I (Bob Alexander) know, none of the riders present wanted to take credit for building the day, but 26 showed up. Energy levels varied from Jennifer chasing Bob and Paula's tandem for 17 miles to the six riders who rode 14 miles at an easier pace. The main pack cruised along for almost 20 miles and everyone worked up an appetite. After the ride we had a little snack of Mexican food and a nice visit with friends. There is talk of another feeding frenzy later in the year. Suggestions for the theme are welcome. 57°. West wind, 0-5 mph.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13. After crossing the new Michel Bridge, Steve Grube and 18 riders cycled to Bartonville and then across the Pekin bridge. After lunch at Hardee's the group returned to East Peoria. 50°. NW wind, 5-10 mph.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20. Six IVW members rode from Morton to Hopedale. Peggy Tresenriter, leader. "Beautiful day to ride! Lots of headwind, lots of tailwind and a scenic tour of the Mackinaw River Valley. Check out that temp!" 65°, SE wind, 20 mph. Second ride, same day: Road Riding 101, led by Alexander and Camp, attracted 26 people to Washington. 58°. ESE wind, 10-15 mph.



Two-Wheel Drive Inventor Catches Up On The News.

Bill Becoat, inventor of the world's first practical two-wheel drive mechanism, spent March 5 at the O'Hare Expo Center showing off his latest offerings and reviewing a March IVW newsletter article about himself.

Commission Discusses Bicycles

During a March 3 meeting, members of Peoria's Traffic Commission discussed two bicycle-access issues: Mt Hawley Road/Kellar School and the Peoria bicycle route map.

Mt. Hawley Road: As reported by IVW member Jim Wittmer in the March newsletter, options for reducing traffic by Kellar School are being considered. Options include possibly closing the south end of the road at Knoxville Avenue. Thanks to a letter Jim wrote after a public hearing on the matter, bicyclists' needs will be considered along with other traffic concerns. More public meetings on Mount Hawley are planned as engineers and the public focus on the best design option and discuss the method and amount of financing.

Note: The first public hearing generated a lot of hostility on the part of affected residents of the area. At press time, Jim was the only resident who had followed up the hearing with a letter to city officials. His letter, which calmly outlined key points about the project, did not go unnoticed. Peoria Traffic Engineer Jim Baumann responded to Jim's letter with a phone call.

Peoria Bicycle Map: Engineer Baumann told the Traffic Commission about the ongoing work with the IVW to develop Peoria's portion of a Tri-County bike map. The map should be ready for release this summer.

Other Meeting News: I met Mel Olejniczak who represents railroad interests, and who also has contacts with

the local trucking industry. Truckers like roads with wide outside lanes, too. I feel another door opening.

PEORIA TRAFFIC SEMINAR FEATURES BICYCLES. Traffic engineers from throughout the Midwest attended an annual traffic engineering seminar in Peoria on March 24 and 25. Peoria's Traffic Engineering Department and the Illinois Department of Transportation organized the two-day event which featured two speakers on bicycle issues. George Drye, of Bloomington, spoke on Bloomington/Normal's Constitution Trail. Joan Berry, of Chicago, discussed bicycle parking issues. Berry should know her topic; Chicago has used recent ISTE^A* grants to create a very large and popular bike-parking program.

**Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. Signed by President Bush in 1991, ISTE^A recognizes bicyclists and pedestrians as part of the nation's transportation mix. ISTE^A funds are distributed by the states to qualifying transportation enhancement projects.*

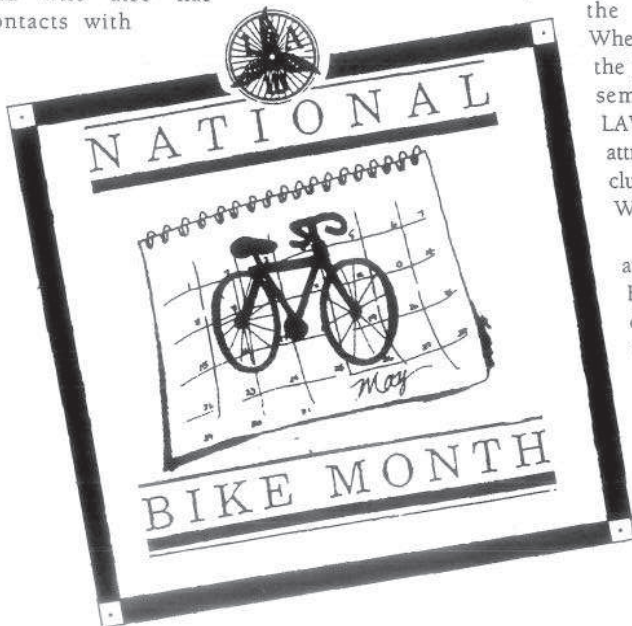
IVW Members Sharpen Leadership Skills

Four IVW members recently attended a two-day leadership seminar sponsored by the League of American Wheelmen and organized by the Joliet Bicycle Club. The seminar, led by long-time LAW member Dave Spittler, attracted members of over 20 clubs in the Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin area.

George Dudley, Bill and Brenda Clark and Eric Hutchison picked up tips on recruiting new members, "growing" the club and contacting outside agencies. As a result of the trip, the club has begun to develop an action plan to gain and retain members.



ADVOCACY
NEWS & VIEWS
BY ERIC HUTCHISON



Discover Fabulous Peoria May-Day Bike Tour

All IVW members are invited to a Sunday morning, May 1 social bike tour of Peoria's finest destinations. We'll start at 9:00 a.m. in the heart of the historic district at 504 W. High Street, home of IVW member Elizabeth Heuermann. Along the way riders will view the Riverfront Trail/Boatworks, Grandview Drive (so aptly named) and the Averyville stonecutter's house. After the ride, cyclists and their non-riding partners will enjoy a post-ride brunch of bagels, juice and etcetera (bring your favorite additions) back at 504 W. High. Everyone will enjoy the view from Elizabeth's bluff-top picture window.

MAY-DAY NOTES

- Low-traffic streets, but be ready for stop-n-go riding.
- Traffic safety & courtesy will be stressed.
- E-Z pace; we have a "no sweat" theme.
- Parking is tight on High Street—extra bagels to bicycle commuters.
- Fashion Tip: IVW jersey will be all the rage on this ride.
- Sorry Soviet missile parade cancelled. Warheads going cheap these days.
- Questions? Call Eric Hutchison at 685-3921.

FOR SALE:

TREK 1100, 19.5", very good condition, \$300. Call Kyle or Mike Pula at 243-9394.

'92 GIANT ATX 760, 20". Jade Green. 200 miles. \$500. Call Ken Beckler at 673-8647.

Tunturi Rowing Machine. Excellent Condition. \$100. Call Samuel Joslin at 688-0922.

Motorless In Massachusetts

BY MINNIE ROCCO

Seems to me we have a really cushy life here in the Midwest. After all, we've got relatively modern, narrow-laned, traffic-congested streets that present no real challenge to cyclists who want to leave their beloved sidewalks, but the situation is not completely hopeless.

If you want something a little more challenging, you could be riding the historic roads of Massachusetts and run smack dab into more than pioneer democracy at every turn. Yup, ever since Paul Revere galloped over some chickens on his way to the Olde North Church, the roads around Boston have enjoyed, well, a certain reputation. One look out the cab window on the way from the airport—at a 45-degree angle as you grab for your seat and/or door handle—is convincing evidence that riding around history-town might be the maniac adventure you've always dreamed of.

Mr. Charles G. Thomas of Cambridge obviously knows this and is not wasting his time on bicycle-friendly streets or bike trails. Charles is taking the law into his own hands,

literally. Massachusetts law permits any resident to submit a bill to the legislature for consideration. His bill, H733, requires that every person operating a bicycle in the state of Massachusetts obtain bodily injury liability

His bill, H733, requires that every person operating a bicycle in the state of Massachusetts obtain bodily injury liability insurance of at least \$20,000.

insurance of at least \$20,000. If a person fails to do so, he or she shall be subject to a fine of between five hundred and five thousand dollars, or imprisonment of up to one year. Parents of minors are made liable for damages negligently caused by their minor bicyclists. After all, the kids gotta have fun, too.

But then, he's also the one who introduced a bill requiring that all auto insurers make available uninsured and underinsured motor vehicle coverage to persons who are neither

motor vehicle owners nor passengers. Now I wonder who he means? Skateboard and grocery cart owners? Considerate guy, Thomas. He's going to make sure that cyclists get their money's worth playing Boston bumper pool with their big petroleum-sucking cousins and still be covered.

Hey, give Charles a break. He probably

cycle-commutes to an insurance company on the verge of massive layoffs and is looking for a little job security as well as physical security, so you can't blame him. After all, those bicycle premiums could bring in another million or so, easy.

So we should thank our lucky stars that we live in good 'ol Illinois, where we let our intelligent politicians and city officials make the laws for us and don't pay any attention to insurance companies looking for fertile, untapped new markets. Our local hordes of motorized vehicle drivers are well behaved and won't mind sharing the roads with increasing numbers of their two-wheeled uninsured cousins, secure in the knowledge that they'll never get totaled by a couple of 1-inch tires and that if their lawyers have granite sidewalks, their policies must be elastic enough to cover the neighbor's uninsured cat. And if we want more adventure, we can just forget the streets—in time, they'll provide more thrills.

Darn. Charles' bill will probably be tabled until the next century. And I was looking forward to bringing my bike to Boston next time. At least if I didn't make it back home, my beneficiary would clean up nicely.

(Submitted by H—, who assures us that she is feeling much better now)



Gauging Consumer Demand.

Dylan Johnson, Beth Polovina and Dan Sodomsky of Pennsylvania-based Daned were at the Chicago show to display their aircraft company's first bicycle part design: a 300-gram crank, which comes with an equally light tapered roller bearing bottom bracket.

The Names Game & Other Fun Stuff

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WHEELMEN CHANGES NAME. According to Advocacy Chairperson Eric Hutchison, it's official: After more than a century under the old name, the League of American Wheelmen is now known as the League of American Bicyclists. After board members approved the new name earlier this year, ballots were sent out to all of the organization's members. And LAW members voted 5 to 1 in favor of the new name.

The IVW is affiliated with the League, and a number of IVW members are also LAW/LAB members. Membership in the national organization also means automatic membership in the League of Illinois Bicyclists, the state-based arm of the League.

Don't expect references to LAW to die out anytime soon. While the group will now promote itself to the public as the League of American Bicycles, the Wheelmen name may still be used in internal publications. And then there's the matter of those thousands of patches that are already printed . . .



AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT. I almost pitched the envelope when it arrived in my mailbox: Adventure Cycling Association . . . hmmm, sounds like another well-crafted attempt to separate me from my hard-earned money and send me on the cycling vacation of a lifetime. Well, kinda.

Actually, it was another American institution in the throes of a name change, this time Bikecentennial. According to the letter I received, "after 20 years with a name inspired by our involvement in America's 200th birthday celebration in 1976, we've chosen a name that better describes what we're doing today—helping cyclists use their bicycles for adventure, exploration and discovery."

On the back of the letter was a list of affiliated bicycle clubs. On the list from Illinois: Arlington Heights, Aurora, Blackhawk, Evanston, Folks on Spokes, Jacksonville, Joliet, McHenry, Oak Park and our next-door neighbors in Canton, the Spoon River Wheelmen. The IVW is not currently affiliated with ACA.

Great name . . . or at least it beats the guys from the Perfectly Safe & Boring Cycling Association.



FUNDING MAY BE A GAS IN CALIFORNIA. From Internet: California SB 1567 (Senator

Lucy Killea, I-San Diego) would appropriate \$1 million from the Petroleum Violation Escrow Account to Caltrans to fund capital expenditures for bicycle transportation projects. This bill is sponsored by the new California Bicycle Coalition.



TIRE TRACTS
BY SAMUEL JOSLIN

The Petroleum Violation Escrow Account (PVEA) was established through settlements and court judgments against oil companies found to have violated Federal price-fixing regulations. Funds from this account are disbursed by the Federal government to the states to be used for projects that will reduce reliance on oil or for the establishment or

expansion of energy conservation programs. Traditionally, California bills that allocate PVEA funds have been held in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, subject to negotiations between the Legislature and the Governor.



IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALAN. Alan Wachtel of Palo Alto, CA, who posted the previous computer note on California bicycle project funding, is the Government Relations Director of the California Association of Bicycling Organizations (CABO), and State Legislative Representative for the League of American Bicyclists (formerly League of American Wheelmen). He also has more than one Peoria connection. Alan writes:

"My mother is from Peoria. My grandparents lived at 811 East McClure Avenue, where I visited many times, and two of my grandmother's brothers and their families also lived in Peoria. Just about everyone is gone now. My cousin's son, Steve Parks, just graduated from Bradley, although his family now lives in Minneapolis."

Come back for a visit anytime, Alan.



IT'S A SMALL WORLD II. In this month's advocacy column, Eric mentions a good meeting with Mel Olejniczak, a local railroad representative. I bet I work with Olejniczak's daughter. Lora O, as she's known in Prepress, has a map of the United States on her wall that displays Sante Fe's entire rail network. Funny, but she has nice things to say about her dad, too.



SO GOOD, THEY NAMED A CANDY BAR AFTER HIM. Bill Clark maintained the IVW

mailing list for the past two years. Now he finds himself more and more involved in Diane's Ride and his newest hobby, bicycle advocacy. So he has surrendered the data base and the big box of labels that all those addresses are printed on every month. Thanks for a job well done, Bill, and thanks in advance for your continuing efforts on behalf of the club and cycling in general. Thanks also to Larry Davis, architect with Les Kenyon and Associates, Illinois Valley Striders member, electronics hobbyist and cat owner, for taking over the mailing list duties starting with this issue.



SPEAKING OF COMPUTERS. I haven't heard that this ride has been cancelled, so I assume that it's still on. If you're a Heartland FreeNet user, and you've always wondered what that person on the other side of the modem looked like, you may wish to attend the Heartland FreeNet Bike Ride (not sponsored by the IVW). Here are the details hot off the screen:

Details for the HFN Bike Ride follow:

WHEN: April 9th at 9 a.m.

WHERE: Fondulac Trail, meeting at the Fondulac Park Adm. Bldg.

HOW: On bicycles, obviously.

TIMES: This will last from approximately 9–11 a.m., with lunch following at Wendy's, Subway, or Shakey's, or you can bring a sack lunch. If worse comes to worse, be a party pooper and go home after the ride.

For more information, reply to: smwhite@heartland.bradley.edu Heck, I wouldn't mind going just to see what kind of bikes people buy who are both computer and bicycle nuts.



GOOD, BAD OR INDIFFERENT? Here's a number for you: 119. That's the number of people who didn't renew their IVW memberships between January 1990 and January 1994. Considering the club has just over 200 members (I can't tell you exactly how many . . . not just yet), 119 seems like an awful lot of no-shows.

On the other hand, 119 non-renewals is just under 30 people a year. It's not unrealistic to think that a good percentage of that number represents people who have moved from the area.

Is that the case? Have people moved? Or are a lot of people unsatisfied with what the club has to offer? Any ideas out there?

By the way, have you renewed your membership yet?

Roadside Attractions

The *IVW* receives many ride notices. Listed below are rides sponsored by bicycle clubs and other cycling organizations in the Midwest. For unlisted information on charity rides and tour companies, call Samuel Joslin at (309) 688-0922. Remember, do not send money without first filling out a registration form. Phone numbers for more information are included whenever possible. In addition, *SJ* may have registration blanks available for many of the listed events. Plan ahead, plan early.

APRIL

- SUN 17** Folks On Spokes Easter Ride. University Park. 25, 40, 65 miles. \$10-15. Folks on Spokes Bicycle Club. 708-730-5179.
- SAT 23, SUN 24** Harmonie Hundred. New Harmony, IN. 50 miles Saturday. 20, 50, 100 miles Sunday. \$14.50. Evansville (IN) Masters Bike Club. Greg Meyer, 812-476-0394.
- SUN 24** Alrutz Memorial Metric Century. 38, 62 miles. Springfield Bicycle Club. Linda Schrodt, 217-546-0505.
- SUN 24** Silver Springs Century. 25, 45, 62 miles. Includes patch, water bottle, spaghetti dinner. \$14. Registration deadline: March 24. Aurora Bicycle Club. Mike Brackett, 708-892-1010.

MAY

- SAT 14** Psychos 6 & 12 Hour Challenge. 16-mile repeat loop on a moderately challenging course with neutral support zone at start/finish. \$20 before April 30, \$23 day of event. Bike Psychos, P.O. Box 652, Oak Lawn, IL 60454.
- SUN 15** McLean County Wheelers' Spring Metric. Lake Bloomington. 50, 100 miles. \$12-15. Craig Ryan, 309-827-8216.
- SUN 22** Windy City Sports Bike Rally/Pizza Ride. 15, 25, 40, 60 miles. \$15 before May 9 (and receive T-Shirt). 312-421-6827 for information.
- FRI 27-SUN 29** Horsey Hundred. 25, 50, 75, 100 miles Saturday. 30, 54, 60 miles Sunday. Bluegrass Wheelmen, P.O. Box 8044, Lexington, KY 40533-8044.
- SAT 28 OR 29** Blackhawk State Line Sixty. 35, 60 miles through northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. \$10 before May 20. Blackhawk Bicycle and Ski Club, P.O. Box 8316, Rockford, IL 61125.
- SUN 29** State Line Sixty. Rockford. 35, 60 miles. \$10-12. Blackhawk Bicycle and Ski Club. John Konetski, 815-874-4344.

JUNE

- SAT 4** 20th Annual Pedal-In, '94's theme: "Tour de Prairie." Peoria. 25, 50, 75, 100 miles. Meal with vegetarian option. Illinois Valley Wheelm'n. Alice Feldman, 309-691-2642 or Sheryl Hansen 309-263-2870.
- SUN 5** Udder Century. Crystal Lake, IL. 32, 54, 63, 100 miles. All-new pasta dinner. \$13-15. McHenry County Bicycle Club, P.O. Box 917, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0917.
- SAT 11** Keosippi Metric Century. Keokuk, IA. 36, 63 miles. \$7. Keokuk Bicycle Club.
- SAT 11-SUN 12** 17th Annual Tour Of Mississippi River Valley (TOMRV) 106 miles from Bettendorf to Dubuque, IA Saturday. 86 miles return Sunday. Shorter route available. Includes baggage transfer, sag stops, TOMRV jersey, Saturday night dinner. \$43 until March 31, then \$48 until April 30, then \$53 until May 31. No fees accepted after May 31. Saturday night accommodations not included in fee. Quad Cities Bicycle Club. Susie LaForce, (319) 355-5530.
- SUN 12** BCLC Ramble. Wauconda. 30, 60, 80, 100 miles. \$15. Bicycle Club of Lake County. Gary Schlesinger, 708-367-3341.
- SAT 25** Georgetown Chicken Century Bicycle Tour. 35, 65, 100 miles through

eastern Illinois and western Indiana. Includes BBQ chicken dinner at end of ride. Riders registered before June 19 receive a T-shirt. \$15. Champaign (IL) Touring Society. For more information, call 217-352-7600.

JULY

- SAT 2** Liberty Tour '94. 16, 38, 62, 100 miles. Bay City, MI. Includes use of community center pool and showers, "new improved" salad bar, entry to fireworks festival. Preregistered riders receive a T-shirt. \$20 before June 21 (\$12 if no T-shirt), \$15 thereafter. Tri-City Cyclists. (517) 892-2100 or (517) 892-4204.
- SAT 9-SAT 16** Great Annual Bicycle Adventure Along the Wisconsin River. From Upper Michigan to Iowa borders. Includes camping, showers, transportation to start. 608-256-2686.
- SUN 17** Melon Metric X. 30, 62, 100 miles. Naperville Bicycle Club. \$9 before June 20.
- SAT 23-FRI 29** Tour Of The Thumb (TOTT). St. Clair to Au Gres, MI. Includes breakfast and dinner daily Sunday through Thursday, breakfast on Friday, camping, baggage transfer. \$155 registration, before- or after-ride transportation \$30. Tri-City Cyclists, P.O. Box 2156, Bay City, MI 48707.
- SUN 24** Boulevard Lakefront Tour. Chicagoland Bicycle Federation. CBF office, 312-42-PEDAL.
- SUN 31** MetroMetric XIV, Wizard of Ozwego. \$14. Riders registered before July 8 receive free full-color T-shirt. Elmhurst Bicycle Club. Phil Wolpe 708-968-4880 (eve) or 708-268-6666 (day).

SEPTEMBER

- SAT 17** Diane's Ride. 35, 67, 100 miles. Glasford, IL. Includes breakfast and post-ride meal with vegetarian option. \$12 until September 3, \$15 thereafter. T-shirt available. Illinois Valley Wheelm'n. Bill Clark, 309-347-4841.
- SUN 18** 11th Annual Spoon River Scenic Century. 30, 65, 100 miles. Canton, IL. Includes lightly traveled roads, the first apple cider of the season and post-ride shower facilities. \$10 before September 4, \$12 thereafter. Spoon River Wheelmen. Dave Tomlinson, 309-647-6436. **Make it a weekend of riding in Central Illinois. Combine Spoon River with Diane's Ride.**
- SUN 25** Apple Cider Century®. Three Oaks, MI. 25, 50, 75, 100 miles through orchards, forests and wine country around Three Oaks. 7,000 cyclists in '93; send registration in early—1,500 were turned away last year. Includes spaghetti dinner and ice cream social. \$22 before July 31. Apple Cider Century '94, P.O. Box 7000, Three Oaks, MI 49128.

Indiana State Parks
Touring Ride in Rural Indiana

TRIP

June 19 - 25

1994

A week-long bicycle/camping tour of Indiana state parks.

Other 1994 Bloomington Bicycle Club events:

May 21 Crane Strain (formerly HUMOR/2)
A 12 hour ultra-marathon challenge.

June 4 Hoosier Hills
A weekend tour in Bloomington, IN 25 - 100 km.

July 16 RAIN (Ride Across Indiana)
Terre Haute to Richmond (162 miles) in one day.

For more information:
Write the event % BBC
or call (812) 332-8028

**BLOOMINGTON
BICYCLE CLUB**
P.O. Box 463
Bloomington, IN 47402

Relativity Revisted...On Tandem

My wife and I have a bet. She says that the back of the tandem (where she usually rides) goes faster than the front. I say that's crazy; the front goes faster because it's always ahead of the rear. Who's right?

—Challenged Chuck El Paso

This question is tougher than it first appears to be. Obviously your argument makes a great deal of sense: The front is faster because it is, well, in front. However, it could be that the front only appears to be faster because the rear is pushing it out of the way. In any case, it is unlikely that both ends of the tandem are traveling at the same rate, because you would end up sitting beside your wife, not in front of her.

I suggest the following experiment: The next time you take your tandem out, squeeze the rear brake ever so lightly. If the tandem slows down, it's because the

rear wheel has to overcome the additional drag of the brake. At that point, the rear of the bike can no longer push the front (if, indeed, it does at all). But don't jump to a hasty conclusion. Release the rear brake and lightly apply the front brake. After a few seconds, assess your situation: Are you in front of or behind your wife?

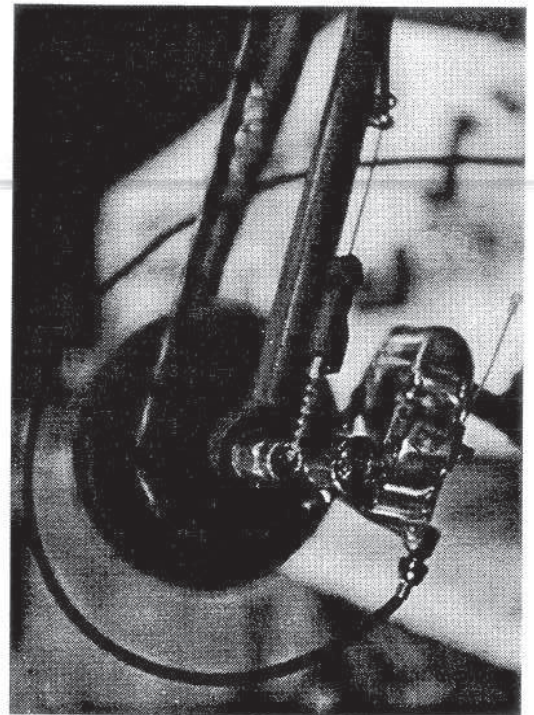
If you feel that this test isn't conclusive, attempt to ride the bicycle backwards. If your wife doesn't feel comfortable with this part of the test, you may treat that as conclusive proof that the

front of the tandem is indeed the faster. —D.D.



DR. DERAILLEUR
HE'S ONLY HERE TO HELP

Dr. Deraillleur relies on the singular power of his highly trained intellect to arrive at the correct answers to all his readers' questions. Direct your queries to: Dr. Deraillleur, c/o Illinois Valley Wheelm'n, 6518 N. Sheridan, Peoria, IL 61614.



21 gears, without a front changer. Sachs, Europe's largest bicycle parts manufacturer, displayed its unique "3x7" system: A three speed hub mated to a Hyperglide-compatible 7-speed cassette.

ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(please print)

NAME _____ BIRTHDATE _____ LAW (Y/N)? _____
(list other family members on reverse)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

CHECK ONE INDIVIDUAL (\$10) OR FAMILY (\$12)

CHECK ANOTHER ONE NEW MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWING

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

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.

Make check to: Illinois Valley Wheelm'n, 6518 N. Sheridan Rd., Peoria, IL 61614

Membership in the LAW automatically qualifies you for membership in the League of Illinois Bicyclists, the statewide organization of bicyclists



LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WHEELMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I want to join the national organization of bicyclists. Please start my subscription to BICYCLE USA magazine. Also send my membership materials, including bike and window decals, and a membership card.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE () _____

CLUB: ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N, PEORIA, IL

LAW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

- Individual: \$25
- Family: \$30
- Advocate—Individual: \$35
- Advocate—Family: \$40

Send check to:

League of American Wheelmen, 190 W. Ostend Street, Suite 120, Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 539-3399/FAX (410) 539-3496
Membership Hotline 1-800-288-BIKE

SPRING AHEAD. Daylight Savings Time starts April 3 at 2 a.m. This notice courtesy of the Uniform Time Act of 1966 as amended in 1986 by Public Law 99-359 and as administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation—no kiddin’.

VOLUNTEER, AND PROFIT. Organizers of the Proctor Cycling Classic need 50 volunteers for downtown Peoria race. Sign up today and get a free T-shirt and a free meal. For more information call Jeff or Sharee Tate at 692-2316.

INSIDE APRIL

NEW/RENEWING MEMBERS	1
PROGRESS IN PEKIN	1
LEARNING LEADERSHIP	3
BUY OUR STUFF	3
DISCOVER FABULOUS PEORIA MAY-DAY TOUR	3



Coming soon to a galaxy near you...

It's the next IVW meeting. At Lakeview Planetarium 7 p.m., April 28. Resident stargazer "there's billions and billions of them" Sheldon Shaffer will discuss the possibility of a series of club-sponsored interplanetary rides. We have the technology—you have the date. So get your head out of the clouds and set your sights on high-earth orbit in April. (And while you're there, ask Sheldon exactly how close Pluto came to being named "Goofy" instead.)

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APRIL 28 MEETING...

...There, in the sky, it's, it's another ride!