

JULY  
JUNE 1994

# ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELMEN

greater peoria's bicycle club



## TdP '94 Breaks Records 320 Riders Enjoy Food, Hospitality

Sheryl Hansen and her crew made IVW history on June 4, hosting 320 Tour de Prairie riders (over 100 more bicyclists than in '93) at Wildlife Prairie Park.

Excitement among the organizers rose with the sun. The ride had already attracted a record 193 pre-registrations and the weather forecast was ideal: clear skies, 70 degrees and no wind. When registration closed at 10 a.m., the IVW's largest invitational was underway. And along the way, thanks to Sheryl's careful planning, Tour de Prairie riders discovered a number of excellent reasons to return in '95 (and bring some friends). —Eric Hutchison



**TOUR DE VOLUNTEERS** Invitational rides require lots of help—before, during and after the day of the ride. You'll find the names of these fine folks (and a few more) on page 4.

## GOODBYE VAL JONES

AT PRESS TIME: The newspaper called her Valerie Anne, but to IVW members who knew her, she was simply Val—practical, quietly witty and amazingly quick with a smile.

Married to Bob Jones in 1956, Val was the mother of three girls and three boys, and a grandmother nine times over. She was born in 1938. Memorials may be made to the St. Francis Forest Park Oncology Department.



## On The Mend . . .

Two members of the IVW were injured this past month in unrelated incidents. Roger Jensen suffered a severe concussion in a bike-car collision on June 4 at the intersection of routes 150 and 91. Roger is responding well to early treatment and the prognosis looks good. In order that his wife Sandy can get back to work, Roger is continuing his physical therapy in Wheaton, IL. Call George Dudley at 692-7076 for Roger's current address.

Harold Maloney, while on a trip with Wandering Wheels from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border, suffered several cracked ribs and a fractured pelvis in an accident in central Indiana. Harold is already up and around, probably trying to install bigger gears on his walker. Write Harold at 500 East Brentwood, Morton, IL 61550.

### NEW MEMBERS

Janel, Jim, Matthew &  
Sarah Emmons .....Sparland  
Christopher, Donna,  
Jonathan & Rick Hartman .....Peoria  
Andy, Loretta &  
William Keyt.....Brimfield  
Jack Quell .....East Peoria  
Mary Reed .....Galesburg  
John South, Jr.....Peoria

### RENEWING MEMBERS

Dan & Vickie Anderson ....Washington  
Craig Burgess.....Indianapolis  
John Cage.....Normal  
Chris Collison .....Peoria  
Darren, Denise, Dirk &  
Sue DeDecker.....Peoria  
Russell Goin .....Peoria  
Sheryl Hansen .....Morton  
Maria Hietter .....Washington  
Roger John.....Dunlap

E. Paul Kaiser .....Peoria  
Lesley Matuszak .....Peoria  
Michael & Susan McCabe.....Pekin  
Terry Jones & Jackie Robinson...Peoria  
Brian, Carol, Kristen &  
Tom Romanowski .....Peoria  
Matthew & Rhonda Rottman.....Peoria  
Charles Ruppman.....Peoria  
Keith Shay .....Peoria  
Marion Sword.....West Peoria  
Dennis, Jared, Makenzie,  
Tracie, Tyler & Wyatt Utlej.....Peoria

**ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N**  
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e-mail to the editor at:  
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**DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.**

# Hot 'nuf for ya?

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2** Social breakfast ride. Good early spring weather brought out 25 riders for 25 miles to Snyder's in Princeville.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16** Social breakfast ride. With just seven riders—including John and Peggy from Racine—to brave the 25–30 mph winds, Snyder's looked like a good choice again.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17** The wind was a little stiff (W-NW @ 10–20 mph) but a good time was had by all 17 riders, including Washingtonians Mary Jane Connor, Jo May Chow and Brian & Debbie King.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30** Social breakfast ride. Cold and rain kept the bikes home.

**SUNDAY, MAY 1** Twenty-one cyclists enjoyed a cool 55° on this Washington-Morton loop ride.

**SATURDAY, MAY 14** Social breakfast ride. Mike Pula reports another rain-out.

**SUNDAY, MAY 15** Michelle Derry, Gary Hartzler and Laura Hughes were among the IVW cyclists who rode this 25-mile route between Washington and Metamora.

**TUESDAY, MAY 17** Three groups, 26 riders, no waiting on Bill Wright's Tuesday Night Road Ride. A few of the folks met afterward at Peoria's Leonardo's for ice cream and pasta. Says Bill: "Come on out and join in the fun. We'll find a group you can ride with." 20 miles.

**THURSDAY, MAY 19** Bob Wilson of Chillicothe and Russ Goins of Peoria were among the riders on Bill Wright's Thursday Night Off-Road Ride. Says Bill: "Besides the gravel and trail, we did a safari ride on Campbell Lane through the tall grass. All you could see was Jagada Kosey's white helmet." Eight riders, 22 miles.

**SUNDAY, MAY 22** Denny & Peggy Tresenriter led the First Annual "Doublemint" Ride through the Mackinaw River Valley from Morton to Eureka. Everyone riding a tandem on this 47-mile route doubled their pleasure with a free pack of Doublemint gum! 80°. W @ 10 mph. 14 riders.

**TUESDAY, MAY 24** Wright Road Ride Wraind Out.

**SUNDAY, MAY 29** Laura Otten of Washington rode with East Peorian Ron Chandler and nine other cyclists on a 44-mile trip from ICC to Eureka. The event featured "a few hills and lots of wind," according to ride leader Don Jacobs. 65°. S-SW @ 10–15 mph.

**TUESDAY, MAY 31** James & Sarah Emmons and Dawn Shutter met 25 other cyclists on this 23-mile Bill Wright Tuesday Night Road Ride. Bill says: "Darren DeDecker had a flat tire and Sue D. was part of the pit crew." 80°. W @ 10 mph.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 2** "Sheila Hansen sure knows when to get a flat tire," Bill Wright says. She thumped into the finish after flatting just three blocks earlier. Quinton Smith of Peoria joined Sheila, Bill and 5 others on this 22-mile ride. 77°. NW @ 8 mph.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 5** Gary Hartzler led 10 cyclists on this popular route from Mackinaw to Normal. It was a 10-mph side-wind all the way for Gary, Charlie Klees, Dawn Shutter and eight other riders.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 5** Eighteen riders, including Peorians Karen Saltsman, Mark Ferguson and Jennifer Hutchison, endured occasional sprinkles and a cool breeze on this 30-mile, easy-paced 1 p.m. ride from Washington to Morton. While a few desperate souls sped off in search of greater speed, the rest of the pack headed for an ice cream stop at the A&W/Dairy Queen. Mid '80s. SSW @ 15–20 mph.

**MONDAY, JUNE 6** Eric Hutchison kicked off his "Discover Peoria" ride series with visits to Grandview Drive and the Riverfront Trail [see Hutchison article elsewhere]. Do like Amy Buysee did and check this ride out. 80°. W @ 10 mph.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 7** For the second time in three weeks, the IVW's most popular weeknight ride was rained out. Bill Wright retired to his garage to construct

an ark.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 9** Attendance at this easy-paced fat-tire ride was light, but Bill Wright, George Dudley and Reid & Sheila Hansen still enjoyed finding some "new gravel roads south of Edelstein." 24 miles. 75°. NE @ 10 mph.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 11** Says leader Gregg Benning: "A 'few' members put up with ideal weather conditions and devoured blueberry cakes at Kim's." The only strange thing about this report—besides the fact that one of the three riders was named "I.B. Crankin'"—is its use of metric measurements: 20–21°C, 40km.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15** Gregg & Liz Benning report: "Fifteen riders and eight others consumed 3,475,289 calories at the Annual Junk Food Ride. Three people were escorted out by local authorities for sneaking in low-fat food." 12 miles, 94°, wind: "lots."

**SUNDAY, JUNE 19** Ron Chandler, Jim Vaupel and Weldon Phelps joined ride leader Gregg Benning and 15 other cyclists at 8 a.m. for this hilly ride from Lake of the Woods to Brimfield for breakfast. At ride's end, the temperature had climbed into the mid '90s. Jimalls, the new restaurant just east of Brimfield, was too crowded so the group retired to the American Legion Post in town. 40 miles.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 19** At the scheduled start time for the today's 1 p.m. ride, the high temperature and humidity levels kept even the ride leader away. Laura Hughes and Bernie "were the only ones who showed up (Father's Day) and he didn't ride because of a bad case of poison ivy. I rode 45 miles. I was chased by several dogs [making it] the epitome of a dog day."



# My Old Kentucky Bike Vacation

The Memorial Day mini-vacation found us, the Silzer family, Gregg Benning and several friends from Joliet and Racine traveling to the Horsey Hundred. That's in the heart of bluegrass country near Lexington, KY, folks. Now why, you ask would anyone want to drive 425 miles to a two-day event when the corn and beans are up as much as four inches around here?

We decided on a pre-event that was pretty nifty. The campground we used was at the Kentucky Horse Park. That's Kentucky's 2,000-acre salute to all the equines that ever there were, but especially to that noble beast, the thoroughbred racehorse. We saw, and had explained to us, several categories of championship horses and breeds we never knew about before. Eileen was especially impressed by the 2,200-pound Belgian's posterior. It's a super way to spend a day and especially poignant for Eileen whose Daddy had a racehorse or two in Trinidad.

Most of the non-local bike riders stay in the dorms of Georgetown College. That's where the riders start and where the cafeteria provides mass feeds for the hungry mob. There were just over 1,100 registrants for the rides. Organizers did take a few walk-ons, but that possibility is downplayed in the pre-ride info.

There were routes of 30, 54, 76 and 101 miles Saturday and 32, 50 and 62 miles Sunday. All the routes were different after you got out a ways, but necessarily shared some roads close to the start/finish. There were good maps for each route, with a cue sheet on the back of each. That amounts to a big organizational job for the Bluegrass Wheelmen, but they pull it off well.

So much for the boring stuff—what about the rides? Wow! Any more questions?

John and Peggy Elgass and I opted for the 76-miler on Saturday. It turned out to be the champion of scenic rides that day, I believe. That country is rolly! No eye popping, lung-searing stuff, just nice rolling hills. There probably wasn't a single flat place over 100-feet long on the whole course. The roads were smooth and essentially untraveled. That was a good thing—the untraveled part—because they were also mostly without shoulders and narrow enough to put one or both cars passing each other on the roadside grass. The roads and the stone fences bordering them have the look of having been there since before the Civil War.

And what's behind the stone fences? Those famous Kentucky board fences, that's what. And within them is where the old local money competes with the Arab shieks for grandure and opulence. The mailboxes are encased in two-ton stone structures and the barns look like cathedrals. You have to use a little imagination on the houses; they're set way back behind iron gates and major gate support structures and surrounded by greenery. Every blade of grass in the county is manicured by man or by horse. And there's not a dog in the place. Ya gotta see it!

There was an armed guy walking a gorgeous horse on the other side of a fence. John asked him how much the horse might have won. The guy said, "About four million." Now we know why he was armed and bumper-to-bumper with the horse. No nag here, I guess.

No 7-11s, no Casey's, no franchised

convenience stores on the route. There were a few definitely picturesque general stores. Somehow we managed to survive 'til the lunch stop at mile 46.5.

Eileen was confined to the campground by a ruptured disc so I decided to use the shorter course back to the college from lunch for a great 68 miles.

What else was there? Well, the Trek Wrench Force guys. There was at least one and maybe two of them on the route, each pulling a trailer of essentials for the broken-down. I believe I saw only one person in distress—must be the lack of potholes. There were no roaming sags; maybe they're not needed. There was Karen of Pedal Phernalia. And an ice cream social with bluegrass music Sunday evening. We even won a couple of prizes.

On the way home we were in a campground in Bean Blossom, Indiana—just up the road from Nashville. There was a group of people with bikes there who had not been at Horsey Hundred. Spending the day riding Brown County roads were folks from the Joliet Bicycle Club, the Chicago area and Wisconsin. And, small world that it is, Tom Heggeman, who knows George Burrier from his work with trails. Fortunately I still had a couple of Tour de Prairie brochures left.

Next year, let's organize a repeat group and declare this to be an IVW club ride!

**EILEEN'S BIT:** Even though I couldn't ride I really recommend this area to all the non-riding wives. It is so beautiful and the campground is very scenic, too. The horse farms are truly fantastic and at this time of the year there are so many beautiful little foals in the paddocks. It really is a great change of scenery from our corn and soybean fields!

—George & Eileen



- ☛ To avoid yanking the transmission wire out of your Avocet cyclocomputer handlebar mount, run it underneath the clamp before securing the assembly to the handlebar. With the wire between the clamp and the handlebar, accidental disconnection is much less likely.
- ☛ After loading bicycles on a trunk-mount carrier, make sure all the carrier-securing straps are still tight. The weight of the bicycles tends to unload the lower straps. If the straps should come loose from the trunk or hatch, you could lose both carrier and bicycles.

- ☛ To eliminate front wheel movement while your bicycle is attached to a work stand, connect the wheel to the bicycle's downtube with a toe strap.
- ☛ Mechanics grease aluminum handlebar stems and seatposts during bicycle assembly. This keeps the parts from seizing (welding themselves to the frame). After marking seatpost and stem with an indelible marker, pull both parts out and lightly regrease the inside of the seat tube and fork-steerer tube once a year (two or three times a year for heavy-duty off-road use).

# Cops, Cash, Clark

**PEORIA HIRES BICYCLING POLICE CHIEF.** According to the Peoria Journal Star, bicycling is among the interests of Peoria's new police chief, Arthur J. Kelly, III. In upcoming public meetings, Chief Kelly will gather input to define Peoria's version of community-based policing. These meetings will be a great opportunity for Peoria's cyclists to thank him for the recent start of a police-on-bikes program.



**DID YOU KNOW?** In February, 36 bicycle and pedestrian projects were awarded \$21 million in the second round of the Illinois Transportation Enhancements program. These awards bring ISTEAs bike/pedestrian totals to \$79,592,803 for 137 projects. In Illinois Department of Transportation District 4, Peoria County captured \$20,000 for a pedestrian bridge over Dry Run Creek, while the Morton Park District won \$461,000 for a two-mile extension to the River Trail. (source: *Illinois Bicyclist*, newsletter of the League of Illinois Bicyclists.)

**STATE SAYS BIG TRAIL PLANNED IS GRAND.** A Chicago-to-Quad Cities bicycle trail, called the Grand Illinois Trail, was outlined by the Illinois Department of Conservation in its draft of the State of Illinois Trails Plan. The 476-mile Grand would connect 129 miles of existing trails with 62 miles of new construction and 125 miles of local roads and streets. The other 160 miles are still in the conceptual stage. (source: *Illinois Bicyclist*)

**BILL CLARK CREATES IVW FIRST-AID KITS.** Tipped helmets to Bill Clark for assembling first-aid kits for use at IVW events. Bill's initiative and research has given us professional-quality kits at do-it-yourself prices. Thanks also to George Dudley for helping us locate some of the contents.

**PUBLICITY JUMP START ON DIANE'S RIDE.** Doing some out-of-town rides this summer? Take along some flyers for Diane's Ride (Sept. 17) and put them out at the ride's registration table. Record attendance at Tour de Prairie shows that publicity pays, so let's make Diane's Ride—central Illinois' other great ride—a fitting autumn encore to the spring invitational. For flyers, contact Bill Clark (347-4841), Eric Hutchison (685-3921) or Samuel Joslin (688-0922).

**IVW DISCOVERS PEORIA.** Our first evening ride through Peoria took us to Grandview Drive, the Riverfront Trail and Springdale Cemetery. Acting as amateur historian, I dropped a few facts about the origins of Grandview Drive. The ride attracted a mix of mountain and road bike riders, and, cycling at a comfortable pace, everyone rode together. Best of all, everyone showed excellent traffic awareness with a healthy amount of verbal "safety chatter" as we rolled along.

I'm looking forward to riding through Peoria again on the Fourth of July (at 8 a.m. in order to avoid the evening's rocket's-red-glare/bombs-bursting-in-air routine), and July 25 at 6 p.m. Both rides start from behind the Glen Oak Park greenhouse. Got some century legs from Sunday? Then join us for an easy 15 through Peoria's finest streets on Monday. —Eric Hutchison

# Tour de Success

## RIDERS

Pre-registered: 193 (60%)  
Day of ride: 127 (40%)  
Total: 320

## T-SHIRTS SOLD

160 (50% of riders)

## COOKIE BAKERS

Michele Astle	Susan Wickhorst
Mary Jane Connor	Brenda Clark
Sheila Hansen	Eileen Dudley
Jagada Kosey	Nancy Neumann
Peg Martiny	Maria Heitter
Sharon Kocher (State Farm)	
Judy Tolliver	
Mary Skelley (State Farm)	

## SET-UP AND REGISTRATION

Jim Wittmer (great coffee!)	
Sue Weast	Steve Weast
Roger John	Steve Shaffer

## LUNCH

Roger German	Laura Hughes
George Parsons	Frannie Klees
Charlie Kless (carried coolers)	

## BRIMFIELD REST STOP

Rob Alexander	Rick Long
Steve Meisner	Dave Gardner

## SMITHVILLE REST STOP

Steve Grube	Terry Threw
Nick Weede	Jane Weede
George Dudley	Liz Heuermann

## FOOD

Rob Alexander (great pasta!)

## SHOPPING

Sheryl Hansen	Liz Heuermann
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## PERISHABLE STORAGE

Lita Shaffer	Wendy's
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## CLEANUP

Frannie Klees	Rob Alexander
Eric Hutchison	George Dudley
Sue Weast	Steve Weast
Liz Heuermann	Alan Carr

## MASSAGE

Phil and Mary Kohl of Team Work

## ROUTE MARKING

George Dudley	Eric Hutchison
Tom Coogan	Julie Coogan
Al Silzer	Steve Shaffer
Russ Goin	Jim Raney
Karen Saltsman	

## SAG VEHICLES

Russell's	Vitesse
Little Ade's	

## HAM RADIO

John Coker and team

## VIDEOCAM

George Dudley

## ABOVE-AND-BEYOND- THE-CALL-OF-DUTY HELPERS

Rob Alexander  
George Dudley  
Liz Heuermann  
Eric Hutchison  
Frannie Klees  
Sue Weast  
Steve Weast  
Wildlife Prairie Park staff

## TOUR DE PRAIRIE COMMITTEE

### CHAIRPERSONS

Alice Feldman	Sheryl Hansen
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### ROUTE

George Dudley	Steve Shaffer
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### ROUTE MAPS

Rob Alexander

### T-SHIRTS

Sue Weast	Steve Weast
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### WORKER RECRUITING

Liz Heuermann  
Sheryl Hansen

### SIGNS

Harold Maloney (work of art, Harold!)

### PUBLICITY

Sheryl Hansen	Samuel Joslin
(flyer)	
Sue DeDecker (mailing)	
Larry Davis (database)	

### FOOD

Bill Gard

### FIRST-AID KITS, WIPES

Bill Clark	George Dudley
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### RADIO AND MASSAGE ARRANGEMENTS

George Dudley

# Proctor Pulls Racers, Not Crowds

For the first time in the history of this seven-year old event, the Proctor Cycling Classic didn't include the rugged 100-mile road race that had made it so popular with national-caliber and other out-of-state riders. Otherwise the day-long event included all the features of each of the previous six Proctors: a full schedule of criteriums, a clean, safe course, excellent traffic control provided by the Peoria Police Department, good officiating, excellent sponsor support, good media coverage and absolutely abysmal spectator attendance.

The number of people on the scene for any sporting event is an important consideration for potential sponsors. And one reason the road race was dropped was the shaky state of sponsor participation earlier in the year.

But even without spectators and the road race, the '94 Proctor eventually captured over

\$13,000 in sponsorship support. That's because race organizers convinced participating businesses that the race would provide them with television, radio and print exposure worth about twice their sponsorship investment. And it did. After IVW member Beth Beckler came on board to arrange TV and radio interviews on behalf of the Proctor, sponsors easily recouped their costs—almost before the race began.

Race entry fees—ranging from \$15 each for beginners to \$35 for the pros—contributed another \$10,000 to revenue.

After expenditures, which included \$4,500 for police support, \$1,300 for announcing and finish camera services and \$1,300 for

officiating, the Proctor pulled in just over \$2,000 with part of the proceeds going to D.A.R.E.

The Pro/Elite/Expert event, run as a criterium for the first time in the history of the Proctor, was a story of jockeying and patience. After one hour, the main pack was still together. Several breakaways had been attempted by groups of two or three riders, but the lack of large, cohesive teams allowed the big group to swallow breaks at will.

With two laps remaining Kent Savitt of Tumbleweed gambled on a strong solo flyer and took the flag 20 seconds up on the sluggish pack. It was a strategic move for Savitt, who claimed his sprinting skills weren't competitive. His decisive move may have kept him out of trouble, too. Several riders fell in the last corner as the entire pack fought for second place.

Savitt is enjoying a renaissance of sorts. Not long ago, with 10 years of racing behind him, he parked his bike for a year and a half in order to gain a degree in organizational public relations. This is his first year back in the fray.

—Samuel Joslin

**“After IVW member Beth Beckler came on board to arrange TV and radio interviews on behalf of the Proctor, sponsors easily recouped their costs—almost before the race began.”**

Proctor Cycling Classic, Peoria, IL, June 12.

**Pro/Elite/Expert:** 1. Kent Savitt (Tumbleweed, Oshkosh, WI); 2. Damian Kecketsen (Trek/BMR, Wallis, WI); 3. Rob Ventura (Saturn, Kenosha, WI); 4. Chris Waskovich (Guiltless Gourmet, Hometown); 5. Peter Noverr (Kinetic Systems, Bloomington, IN).

**Senior Men's Sport:** 1. Eric Martin (St. Louis Cyclones, St. Louis); 2. Chris Wynn (Breakaway, Elkhart, IN); 3. Wayne Wehrt (Team de Triumph, Charleston); 4. Dave Haugh (Coyote Cycling, Phoenix, AZ); also: 6. Chris Armstrong (Proctor, Washington).

**Senior Men's Novice:** 1. Clark Vanmeter (Lefler's Schwinn, Iowa City, IA); 2. Kevin Nelson (Team Anderson, Anderson, IN); 3. Joel Cockley (unattached, Alliance, OH); 4. Josh Muething (Team Anderson, Anderson, IN); 5. Ben Huff (Wheel Warriors, Macomb).

**Women's Open:** 1. Renee Hayden (Wolverine Sports Club, Ferndale, MI); 2. Elaine Nekritz (Alberto's Sport, Northbrook); 3. Leslie Winters (Straight Up/MWRT, Champaign); 4. Jeanette Norris (Country Companies, Utica); also: 7. Michelle Lantz (Alberto's Sport, Peoria).

**Women's Novice:** 1. Julie Thomas (Road Crew, Decatur); 2. Melanie Jacobson (Shop Boys, Waterford, WI); 3. Wendy Kahn (Cyclones, St. Louis); also: 10. Barbara Templeton (Proctor, Normal).

**Juniors:** 1. Jacob Groethe (unattached, Milwaukee); 2. Dalton Koprek (1st Federal Vitesse, Decatur); 3. Chad Megginson (Capital City Cycling Peleton, Waverly); also: 8. Steve LaFont (Proctor, Edwards).

**Masters 30-39:** 1. Dan Burns (Velosport, Dubuque, IA); 2. Peter Couns (Firststar, Neenah, WI); 3. Greg Harper (Melon City, Muscatine); 4. Bob Mathis (Pepsi/Schwinn, Wheaton); also: 12. Dan Hill (Proctor, Pekin); 14. Jim Smith (Proctor, Peoria); 15. Randy Senneff (Mackpaper, Peoria).

**Masters 40-49:** 1. J. Grant Mann (Guiltless Gourmet, Columbus, IN); 2. Phil Minard (Salina Wheelman, Lenexa, KS); 3. Tom Weil (Pepsi/Schwinn, Naperville); also: 8. Mike Ozmont (Proctor, Bloomington).

**Masters 50+:** 1. Tom Weil (Pepsi/Schwinn, Naperville); 2. Jack Buisselet (GSlam, Chicago); 3. James Kaminski (Midwest Masters, Michigan City, IN); also: 6. Jack Patterson (Midwest Masters, Peoria); 7. Everett Lyons (Proctor, Peoria).



# Slow On The Fourth

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.

## 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. \$15 late registration. Tri-City Cyclists. (517) 892-2100 or (517) 892-4204.

**MON 4** Slowest Bicycle Race. 1 p.m. Chillicothe City Park. Prizes awarded to each race winner. No age limit. No more or less than two wheels—no training wheels or "other apparatus." \$1 entry fee must be submitted by the 1st of July to Olde Tyme Fourth, P.O. Box 321, Chillicothe, IL 61523. Or in person at Printographi Ltd., 935 N. Second Street, downtown Chillicothe.

**SAT 9** The N.I.T.E Ride. 20 miles. Indianapolis, IN. Route starts at Major Taylor Velodrome and follows loop on well-lit roads through downtown Indianapolis. Includes ticket to EDS Track National Races at Major Taylor the evening before the ride, post-ride party. \$15 registration. NITE RIDE 7316 N. Lesley Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

**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.

**SAT 16** Ride Across Indiana (RAIN). 162 miles border to border. Brisk-paced, physically challenging. 14-hour ride limit. \$22 includes T-shirt, lunch, 6 rest stops. Bloomington Bicycle Club. Call (812) 339-4717.

**SUN 17** Melon Metric X. 30, 62, 100 miles. Naperville Bicycle Club. Call (708) 357-9000, ext. 191, or ext. 616.

**SAT 23–FRI 29** Tour Of The Thumb (TOT). 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** 10th Anniversary Springfield Sprint Triathlon. Springfield. Swim 600 yards/Bike 12 miles/Run 3 miles. Senior Olympic qualifier. Compete in age groups or (if qualified) the "Clydesdale Division." Call 217-525-2772 for more info.

**SUN 24** Boulevard Lakefront Tour. 35-mile historical/architectural tour of Chicago's neighborhoods, parks and lakefront. 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).



## AUGUST

**SAT 6** Canton Classic Triathlon. Canton. For info, call 309-647-1345.

**SUN 21** 11th Annual Bike Psychos Century. Coal City, IL. 35, 70, 100 miles along the scenic Illinois River. Large waterbottles to first 600 registered. Showers available after ride. \$12 by August 14, \$15 thereafter. Bike Psychos. Call Mike Rossiter at (312) 239-8772.

## SEPTEMBER

**SAT 3–MON 5** 13th Annual Pantagraph Area Cyclists Ride Around Corn Country (PACRACC). 3-day, 220-mile ride around central Illinois. NEW ROUTE TO PONTIAC. \$50 before July 22; \$60 before August 19; \$80 thereafter. 100 mile, 2 day option available (COMPAC-RACC). Includes breakfasts and dinners, camping and showers. Highly recommended by the editor. PACRACC '94, The Pantagraph, 301 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 2907, Bloomington, IL 61702. For recorded message, call 309-829-9000 and enter 2453 (BIKE).

**SAT 10** Fifth Annual Lena Fall Festival Bike Tour. 10 miles, 50 and 100 kilometers. Before the ride, breakfast by Chris Cakes, The Amazing Pancake Man from Iowa. Showers available. \$10 before August 27, \$12 thereafter. Le-Win Jaycees, P.O. Box 394, Lena, IL 61048. For more info, call Dennis Robinson at 815-235-6088.

**SUN 11** 13th Annual Crank Country Century. 25, 50, 62, 100 miles. Valparaiso, IN. \$9 by August 20, \$12 thereafter. Includes light post-ride meal. Calumet Crank Club, Inc., P.O. Box 126, Valparaiso, IN 46384. Call Lynda at 219-462-1803 for more info.

**FRI 16–SUN 18** Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival. Cable & Hayward, WI. Mountain bike events include: Chequamegon 40-mile, Short & Fat 16 mile, Rough Stuff Rendezvous, and the Cable Criterium. Registration limited to first 2,500 riders. Over \$15,000 in merchandise awards including 3 Trek 8700 mountain bikes. For information, write Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival, Inc., P.O. Box 267, Cable, WI 54821, or call 715-798-3811, ext. 644.

**SAT 17** Hope Ride. 13, 32, 50, 62, 100 miles. Hope, IN. Includes gourmet-style lunch on three longer rides. Coffee mug to first 750 registered. \$11 before August 17. For info, send SASE to Hope Ride, P.O. Box 115, Hope, IN 47246. Questions? Call Paul Ashbrook at (812) 545-5708.

**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.

I ride about 40 miles a week. Sometimes I ride 40 miles in one ride, sometimes I ride 10 miles four times. I have a small garden: two pepper plants and an onion (at least I think it's an onion; it's underground. Guess it could be a potato). My friend Fenton Bissle rides 400 miles a week, feeds his dogs bananas and raises thirteen different kinds of tomatoes. Here's my question: Who's the real vegetarian? —Curious George, Canton



If there's one thing I hate, it's a story problem. You'll all recall this one: "One train is traveling east at 40 miles an hour with a dozen Fuller Brush salesmen all ready for their big convention in Altoona. Another train, in a different state, is travelling west at 80 miles an hour with a bunch of Wal-Mart stockholders preparing to vote on whether the company should raise the price of eggs in China. Where do they bury the survivors?"

Of course, they wouldn't bury the survivors. Survivors are only buried if they are on a plane that crashes in the Andes (and even then, they don't bury all the survivors). There wasn't any plane in this story; I said Wal-Mart stockholders, remember? And no, it wasn't a trick question; I know plenty of Wal-Mart stockholders who travel by public transportation—they just don't talk about it much.

But I digress. The obvious way to answer your question would be to diagram the situation. The second-best way would be to arrive immediately at a simple formula. Here it is:

$$\frac{\text{Inadequacy fear} \times 40 \text{ miles} \times 40 + (1 \times 4) + (400 - \text{fictional name}) \times \text{bananadogface}}{2 \text{ pepper} + \text{one onion (hold the salsa)}} = \frac{\text{Need for dominance} + 13}{}$$

**= YES**

So there you have it. Who is the real vegetarian (of course,

sometimes his wife comes down and picks up the lettuce). Now if you'll just rephrase your question in the form of an answer, we'll all sleep better. And next time, wear your helmet. —D.D.

## Bicycle Commuting

I have taken the big step: bicycle commuting. It required overcoming that great fear of city traffic.

Six a.m. is departure time as I head toward Methodist Medical Center. I arrive with eight miles under my belt, feeling invigorated.

Eric Hutchison is due some credit for my new endeavor. His fabulous May-Day tour covered many of the roads I now use.

My off-road bicycle is my machine of choice because of the stop-and-go traffic, potholes and gravel. I carry a pack with rain gear, tools, equipment to repair a flat tire, and lunch. I change into surgical garb at the hospital, eliminating the need to carry a change of clothing.

I encourage you to give bicycle commuting a try. Accompany Eric on his Discover Peoria rides to become familiar with city streets. He has maps complete with suggested bicycle routes. Establish your route, try riding it on a Sunday morning when traffic is light, note your time and mileage, and you will be ready for the work week.

Impress your co-workers, get some exercise and have some fun. Ride your bike to work. I hope to see you on the road. —Sheila Hansen

## 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 LAB automatically qualifies you for membership in the League of Illinois Bicyclists, the statewide organization of bicyclists



## LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS 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

### LAB MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

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

Send check to:

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

# Reflections On A Saturday Bicycle Ride In June . . .

I can't help but recall a few pictures that flash by in memory, much like a video or a memorable trip in which both the big and little things seem to stand out.

One doesn't appreciate what is involved in an invitational club ride until you find yourself in charge when you would just as soon be one of the support crew or simply riding and enjoying the route, food and camaraderie.

Sort of like when you wish there was a rest stop in sight but there isn't, so you have to keep riding until you reach your destination, all the while checking the map, mileage and average speed to make sure you're on target, sucking the ergo-drink again, hoping that you're over the last hill and that some vehicle doesn't suddenly appear out of nowhere unless it's a sag so you can wave and give the OK sign.

And yet you enjoy the excitement, challenge, contribution, job well done (or mostly well done), new friends made, lessons learned and realization of plans well- or semi-well-executed. As elsewhere in life, there are compensations.

Like people saying, "Yes, I'll do it," and coming from everywhere to help, even when you don't expect it or ask for it, or just staying around if there was something to do.

Like registrations coming in from two mothers with five children, and cyclists from Wisconsin and Indiana, the woman from Chicago who wanted directions to Wildlife Prairie Park, the guy who was afraid he didn't make the 1,000-rider cut-off, the four-shopping-cart loads of food from Sam's, the radio sound-bite on WCBU, stuffing one more cookie box in the freezer, phone calls and more phone calls, trips to Kinko's, bicycles being unloaded from cars in the early dawn, the guy who drove two hours only to discover his bike was missing pedals, washing coolers, cutting up bread and lettuce and then more bread and lettuce in the

Wildlife Prairie Park kitchen, the final sorting and packing and leaving things as they were before we were ever there.

There was also the non-compensation: the gripping fear of a bicycle being brought in without a rider. [Roger Jensen continues to recover. See Eric Hutchison's story—ed.]

Pedal-In 1994. Perfect weather, great turnout, dedicated support, incredible food, behind-the-scenes hecticness, tried-and-true plans, innovations, and less-than-perfect results with best intentions for next time. Just like life. Tomorrow, as Orphan Annie would say, will be better, but this day was also a very good day.

As some riders commented, Peoria's Illinois Valley Wheelm'n bicycle club knows how to put on a ride and carry it off in style. Some people love their cars; other people love their bicycles. Hopefully we can co-exist, share the roads in safety and have fun while we're doing whatever we're doing at whatever pace.

In any language, it translates to *c'est la vie*, *bonne chance*, *muchas gracias* and *hasta la vista*, baby! Until next year, and don't forget . . .

Diane's Ride is coming in September. Let's turn out again and make it happen! —*Sheryl Hansen*

Don't miss the **HEALTH FOOD RIDE, AUGUST 31**. The fun starts at Lake of the Woods Plaza on Route 88 between Mossville Road and Cedar Hills Drive at 6 p.m. Members and friends are encouraged to bring along their favorite health food—bread, veggies, fruit salad, etc. Drinks will be provided. Best of all, the ride is guaranteed to be at your pace. In other words, everyone is welcome. Can't ride? Then show up at 7:15 p.m. for chow. For more information, call Gregg and Liz

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Peoria, IL 61614

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**No MEETING IN JULY...**

...Have a good vacation (and plenty of ice)