

DECEMBER 1995



ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N

greater peoria's bicycle club



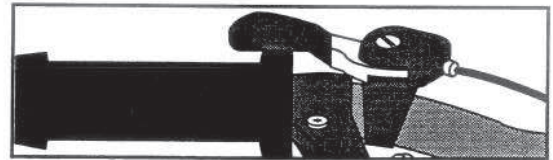
1996 IVW officers

President.....	Bill Clark
Vice President	Russ Goin
Treasurer	Brenda Clark
Secretary	Eileen Dudley
Social/membership	Charlie & Franny Klees
Mailing	Sue Dedecker
Database	Larry Davis
Newsletter	Samuel Joslin
Ride Chair	Tom Parr
Advocacy	Eric Hutchison
No Baloney '96	Roger John
Interplanetary Ride '96	Sheldon Schafer
Diane's Ride '96.....	John&Judy Apici

AWARD RECIPIENTS '95 (from annual dinner)

Most Improved female rider	Franny Klees
Most Improved male rider.....	Quinton Smith
Hub of the Club.....	Eric Hutchison
Broken Saddle*.....	Jack Welch
Outstanding ride leader	Bill Wright (Tuesday & Thursday Night Wright Wrides)
Outstanding ride leader	Steve Shaffer (Thrills, Skills & Speed Rides)
Diane's Ride '95	Bill Clark
No Baloney Ride '95	Sheryl Hansen
President '94-95.....	George Dudley
Vice President '94-95	Ken Beckler
Treasurer '94-95	Brenda Clark
Mailing Director '94-95.....	Sue DeDecker
Membership Chair '94-95.....	Liz Heuermann

**Most club miles in a year. Members voted to retire the award and presented the traveling trophy to Jack.*



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION ...

Roger John	Social meetings at shops, CABDA bus trip*, Test-ride meeting at Jubilee Park
Karen Saltzman, Russ Goin, Rob Alexander	IVW/McLean Co. Wheelers ride*
Rob Alexander	Road Riding 101
Greg/Liz Benning	Junk Food/ Health Food rides.
Jim Raney	2 special rides, including summer pool party
Tom Parr	10 rides plus ride chairman
Steve Grube	6 rides plus on-trail sag service for Interplanetary Ride*
Gary Hartzler	5 rides
Don Eberle	6 rides
Sheryl Hansen	6 rides including Wednesday night women's ride
Steve Grube, Tom Parr, Steve Kurt	Bikes For Kids bicycle repair for Salvation Army

**New IVW event in 1995*

Renewing members

John, Larry, Matthew &
Michele AstleWashington
Karen Austin-Joslin &
Samuel Joslin*Peoria
Sharon ConleeDunlap
Mark Ferguson*Peoria
Gary R. HartzlerPeoria

Brad, Carl, Carol &
Julie Hendricksen.....Peoria
Jagada & Karl KoseyEdwards
Ken LuthyPekin
Randy Phillips.....Peoria
Bill & Ruth StevensonPeoria

**Indicates advocate-level membership.*

Wheeling in the New Year...

PEORIA BIKE MAP NEWS The city has received quotes from several map-makers to produce its first city bicycle map. Target publication date for the finished map is January 15, 1996. I will be working closely with Traffic Engineer Al Schneider in the next few weeks to finalize map details. Besides identifying the most "bicycle-friendly" city streets, the map should encourage more folks to try cycling in the city. Toward this goal, I'm preparing a list of fun destinations—parks, historic sites and shopping areas—to include on the map. I'd also like to help new bikers reach their destinations smiling, so I'll include some safe-cycling tips.

RIVERFRONT, HISTORIC CEMETERY LINKED. Peoria's first bicycle lane* was recently painted on Abington Street between Glen Oak Park and Adams Street. Also, a paved and lighted trail was added linking the southern entrance of Springdale Cemetery with Abington Street (at the base of Glen Oak Park). This project completes the link between Peoria's historic cemetery and the river-

front recreational areas. It is part of a larger Peoria Park District/city plan to link the Rock Island Trail with the riverfront. On the northern end, trail users can travel from Toulon to Peoria's Pioneer Parkway (by K's Merchandise). The "missing link," from Springdale Cemetery to Pioneer Parkway, is probably a year or more away—rights to the existing rail road are under negotiation.

The new trail & bike lanes are impressive, and destined to raise cycling awareness within the city. Improved sidewalks & cross walks at the Adams/Abington intersection are also a plus. My main concern is the safety of the road/trail intersection at the foot of Glen Oak Park (Abington Street). From my saddle, it looks like complexity added to an already complex four-way intersection. Signs and/or pavement markings to direct trail users through the road/trail transition will probably be needed.

**West Peoria installed bike lanes on Sterling Avenue within the past two years.*

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROPOSES BICYCLE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS. Peoria's Traffic Engineering Department has proposed \$278,000 of bicycle facility improvements for the next 5-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The city council will weigh this proposal as part of its budget debate this month. Prepare your dialing finger—we may be doing a quick-strike phone tree of support to council members as part of this process. Potential projects qualifying for this money include:

- Olympia Drive/Rock Island Trail link (connect the trail with Detweiller Park and north Peoria residences via secondary roadway network in Pioneer Park)
- Meadowbrook Road widening (between Brandywine Drive and Dries Lane)
- University/Lake St (bicycle sensitize the traffic signal).
- Bradley U./Uplands connection (improved bike/ped crossing of Main St near upper Bradley Park.)

MEDICAL GROUP ASKS FOR IVW GUIDANCE. Ceil Myers of the Peoria Medical

IVW ADVOCACY GOALS FOR '96:

- Peoria bike map—published and on the shelves.
- Pekin bike map/plan—IVW plan created—passed to City of Pekin for adoption.
- Peoria bike map/plan—promotional event to publicize the new map & raise public awareness of cycling issues.
Possibilities- City-sponsored bike-to-work day/week. IVW-guided bike tour of Peoria's parks and historic sites (joint effort with Peoria Historical Society).
- Initiate safe cycling education—IVW to bring the League of American Bicyclists' revised Effective Cycling program to the Peoria area.
- Peoria city council/mayoral elections—make bicycle-access an election issue. Propose establishing a city bike/pedestrian planning position on the city staff.

Society has asked the IVW for some guidance to help teach bike safety and helmet awareness at an April 27 event. I see this as a great opportunity to:

1. Help some kids become better cyclists
2. Help educate parents about the importance of preventive medicine (bike safety skills) as opposed to simply mandating helmet use.
3. Promote a positive public image for cyclists and the IVW.

John Bousky of Illinois Cycling and Fitness has agreed to do bike-safety inspections. Helmets for children in need may also be donated. Other organizations involved include the Peoria County Sheriff's Department and the Peoria Park District. Thus far, I've agreed to send Ms. Meyers some bike safety reference material. I see the IVW helping plan the message of this event while relying on other organizations for day-of-event volunteers. Call me at 685-3921 if you'd like to be involved.

FREE BIKE SAFETY PLATES. Bicycles bring out the nicest folks. While doing some preliminary "in-the-saddle" research for a Pekin bike map, I met Pat Olson—the Tazewell County Recorder of Deeds. Mrs Olson gave me a reflective-plastic triangle plate she's been distributing to young local riders to improve visibility

ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N

Affiliated with the
**LEAGUE OF AMERICAN
BICYCLISTS**

PRESIDENT

Bill Clark, 347-4841

RISE INFORMATION CONTACT

Tom Parr, 274-6101

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ADVOCATE & LEAGUE OF ILLINOIS BICYCLISTS

PRESIDENT

Eric Hutchison, 685-3921

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Peoria, IL 61604

Computer users: send e-mail
to the editor at
sjoslin@heartland.bradley.edu
or Bikewriter@aol.com

DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH.
newsletter published monthly

and safety. They are available free courtesy of the Tazewell County Sheriff's Department. If you would like more info, contact Mrs Olson at 477-2210.

BICYCLING GETS BURMA-SHAVE BOOST. The North Prospect Area Neighbors Association has put a new twist on an old idea to improve the bicycle/pedestrian friendliness of their scenic bluff-top neighborhood. The group posted sequential signs along Peoria's Prospect Avenue encouraging motorists to use alternative routes for through-travel. The signs read "In a hurry?/Use War Drive to Knoxville/Cut drive time up to 30%." The association's statistics are supported by a professional traffic study which dispels the myth that Prospect is a shortcut through Peoria's northside. Association members hope to "free up space on the road for bicyclists who have more time to enjoy the scenery" according to a recent *Journal Star* story.

Lots of neighborhoods are clamoring for reduced motorist traffic; some have gone to extremes (Lehman Road blockade). Tipped helmets to the Prospect group for a more constructive solution, helping motorists save their most precious resource: driving time.

PEKIN BIKE PLAN. This winter, I plan to gather the ideas of Pekin-area cyclists to create a bike map/plan for that city. We've got a good start already—new IVW president and Pekin resident Bill Clark has established friendly contact with Pekin's Director of Public Works Dennis Keif. Eventually, the Pekin bike map (along with Peoria, East Peoria, Washington, Morton . . .) could become part of a single bike map covering the greater Peoria area. In coming months, I'll be asking Pekin-area IVW members about the routes they normally use for cycling. The input will be merged to form a single map of suggested city routes plus a list of potential improvement projects. Call me at 685-3921 if you'd like to be involved.

PROGRESS IN PEKIN:

- **Court Street/IL 29 bypass.** At a October 10 public information meeting, ten IVW members suggested the proposed Pekin southern bypass be built in a manner which improves bicycle access. IVW member and Pekin resident Leonard Bobbitt expressed his support for better cycling during an interview by the *Pekin Times* during its coverage of the meeting.
- **Route 98 (Edgewater Dr).** The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has plans to upgrade this road between

QUIET HERO NEWS. Give the gift of life this holiday season. Give blood. IVW Quiet Hero donors for July through October included Bob Alexander (new Quiet Hero!), Ron Anderson, Judy Apici (two pheresis donations), Ralph Behrens (two donations), Gregg Benning, Joe Camp (two donations), Don Jacobs, Bill Semmens, Jim Vaupel, Jack Welch (two pheresis donations) and Brian White. Thanks to each one of you!

P.S. The IVW will be recognized at the donor room on Thursday, December 14, for a donation of cookies to the donor room canteen area. Perhaps you are unable to donate blood but can bake a mean cookie. Please call me at 444-2018.

—Ron Anderson

Route 29 and Parkway Dr., including 8-foot paved shoulders. With a bit of encouragement, perhaps the project could be extended further east—providing bicycle access to McNaughton Park.

- **Route 24 (Pekin/Bartonville)** IDOT is now resurfacing this route north of the Route 9 bridge. There is a major-league project waiting in the wings for this road which will include widening and paved shoulders. Friendly interest from organized cyclists can help turn these plans into pavement more quickly.

—Eric Hutchison

ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(please print)

NAME #1 _____ BIRTHDATE _____

NAME #2 _____ BIRTHDATE _____

NAME #3 _____ BIRTHDATE _____

NAME #4 _____ BIRTHDATE _____

NAME #5 _____ BIRTHDATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

SIGNATURE (NAME #1) _____ DATE _____

(parent or guardian signature needed if registrant is under 18)

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.

ARE YOU RENEWING, OR IS THIS A NEW MEMBERSHIP?(CHECK ONE)

RENEWING NEW

IF NEW, HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE CLUB? _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS? (CHECK ONE)

YES NO

BASIC MEMBERSHIP:

INDIVIDUAL (\$10) \$ _____

FAMILY (\$12) _____

VOLUNTARY ADVOCACY CONTRIBUTION

(\$5, 10, 15, OTHER) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 1 This year's Polar Bear Ride starts from the home of Charlie and Franny Klees, 515 S. Pleasant Hill Road, East Peoria. Riders and non-riders are welcome for our annual potluck get-together. Riders will enjoy an easy-paced 10-mile ride leaving at 11 a.m. The course depends on road conditions. Call 694-3674 for more information.

FEBRUARY 24 The IVW's second annual bus trip to the Chicago Bike Show, including a field trip into Chicago proper, is coming February 24. Look for more information in the January newsletter.

JUNE 1 It's the No Baloney Ride, leaving once again from Jubilee College State Historical Site west of Peoria. 25/50/75/100 mile rides. We might even sponsor some off-road trail rides in the park. Haven't done a century before? Put this one on your calendar. Contact Tom Romanowski at (309) 692-0842 for more information.

JULY 27,28 Sheldon (Spaceman Spiff) Schafer is back for his second year as leader of the Interplanetary Ride. Saturday rides range from 10 to 100 miles; Sunday's ride

around 30. Visit the world's largest model solar system, right here in Central Illinois. Call Sheldon at (309) 686-7000, ext. 4, for more info.

AUGUST 24 The club's fall invitational, Diane's Ride, like No Baloney in the spring, has a new ride chairman. John Apici will be in charge of the event, which includes 35, 67 and 100 mile routes, and the club's famous post-ride Pasta Fest. Call John at (309) 387-6761.

EVERY SATURDAY
Washington Show 'n Go.
Leaves from Washington Square. Please park away from square. Show 'n Go rides are recommended for experienced riders only. 8:30 a.m. No leader.

ALL SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER
Fondulac Park District Building, East Peoria. 11 a.m.



Illinois Valley Wheelm'n
6518 North Sheridan Road
Peoria, IL 61614

Bulk Rate U. S. Postage PAID Permit No.310 Peoria IL 61601

Your IVW membership expires: 10/03/96

RON ANDERSON
203 LOCUST
WASHINGTON, IL 61571-2207

POLAR BEAR RIDE...

11 a.m., January 1, Charlie & Franny Klees'
More info under Upcoming Events!