



June 1997

ILLINOIS VALLEY

WHEELM'N

greater peoria's bicycle club



PEORIA AT ISTE A EPICENTER. In early May, Peoria area cyclists rode into the midst of the national debate on ISTE A. The IVW press release (below) captures the recent flurry of advocacy activity. Many thanks to all IVW members who have contacted Congressman LaHood. My special thanks to those who made the phone calls, some to Washington D.C., which made it happen: Steve Kurt, Patty Sage, Bill Clark, Drew Arnett, Randy Cooksey, Charlie & Franny Klees, Linda Reinholtz, Jim Wittmer, Bill Stevenson.

For Immediate Release:

ISTEA, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, is the federal transportation budget now undergoing revision by Congress. The expiring ISTE A bill helped fund people friendly transportation projects in the Peoria area including multi-use trails in East Peoria and Morton and the restoration of Peoria's West Armstrong Avenue.

Summarized by Eric Hutchison, Government Relations Representative of the IVW, "As Vice Chairman of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee, Congressman Ray LaHood is in a key position to craft the next ISTE A bill—expected to be out of subcommittee by June 1. Through Congressman LaHood, Central Illinois families have a unique opportunity to help build more livable communities nationwide as well as within the 18th District."

On May 12, a coalition of Central Illinois organizations will meet with Congressman LaHood to discuss key bicycle / pedestrian features of the next ISTE A bill including:

- Preserve ISTE A's existing eligibility for funding bicycle and pedestrian projects.
- Amend ISTE A to ensure that all highway projects accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.

Summarized by Eric Hutchison, "Great progress has been made to extend multi-use trails in the 18th District. Access to the trails is difficult, however, for children, adults without access to cars, and those who prefer cycling to driving. To provide full benefit from our trails investment, improvements are needed in our roadway system—the system that connects with multipurpose trails—allowing bicyclists and pedestrians to reach homes, stores, and workplaces not immediately accessible by trail."

- Continue dedicated funding of ISTE A's Enhancements and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Programs. (The Enhancements program helped fund local trails projects in Central Illinois.)
- Increase Enhancements program funding from

2% to 3% total authorizations.

- Preserve ISTE A'S key planning provisions which stress local control and public involvement in the planning and programming of future projects.

1. Attendees at the May 12, 1997 meeting with Congressman Ray LaHood (comments made at the meeting are summarized.)

Congressman Ray LaHood: Competition for ISTE A funds will be fierce. Encouraged others to contact their respective congressmen to express interest in bike/ped provisions for ISTE A. Distributed a letter he recently co-signed recommending pro-bike/ped provisions for ISTE A.

Ted and Rosemary Bannon, President, Armstrong-Ellis Neighborhood Association: Summarized the positive impact of ISTE A which helped renovate and stabilize their neighborhood.

John Bousky, Owner, Illinois Cycle and Fitness: Spoke of positive impact of the bicycle business on Peoria and the number of family customers.

Randall (Nick) Brown, Owner, The Bicycle Inn: Said that the bicycle and pedestrian activity generated by the Rock Island Trail is the mainstay of his Dunlap business.

Bill Clark, President, IVW: Spoke of the roadway improvements needed to promote bicycle commuting, such as the route between his home in Pekin and workplace in Bartonville.

Laura Farson, Sangamon Valley Trails Coalition & Illinois Chapter of Rails To Trails

Conservancy: Spoke of the success of the rail/trail projects in the Springfield area.

Larry Holmes: Stressed the need for improved pedestrian facilities linking trails to residences and businesses, especially for those without access to automobiles, such as the visually impaired.

Eric Hutchison, Government Relations Rep., IVW: Discussed the Peoria area road / trail system, as shown on the Peoria and IDOT bicycle map. Stressed the need to include bicycle/pedestrian facilities as a routine part of all planning.

Roger John, Executive Director, Peoria Housing Authority: Discussed the PHA's new police on bicycle patrols. Also stressed the high usage of the Rock Island trail near his Dunlap area home.

Carl Kemner, President, North Prospect Area Neighborhood Assn.: Discussed his neighborhood's proactive approach to encouraging bicycle/pedestrian activity through traffic calming techniques.

John M. Parks, Trustee, Village of Dunlap: Spoke of the positive impact of bicycle / pedestrian

activity on Dunlap area business.

Steve Tarter, Director of Marketing, Greater Peoria Mass Transit District: Spoke of intermodal transportation opportunities for Peoria, such as bicycle parking facilities at the proposed downtown bus transfer site.

Charles Klees, Effective Cycling Instructor, IVW; Jim Wittmer, IVW

2. Another person recently expressing support for bike/ped provisions in ISTE A to Congressman LaHood: **James Sherman, President and C.E.O., Children's Home Association of Illinois.**

—Eric Hutchison

NEW MEMBERS

- Bruce, Pam &
 Joshua Graham Princeville
 Donna M. Haerr Peoria
 Patrick & Sylvia Murphy Lacon
 Patrick, Diana, Kevin &
 Kerry O'Connor Magnolia
 Kevin Thornberry Peoria
 Charles, Alicja &
 Charlie Yarbrough Dunlap
 David Zern Morton

RENEWING MEMBERS

- Joe, Pamela, Laura, Marilyn &
 Renee Alli Peoria
 Bonnie & Michael Beno . . . Peoria Heights
 Clifford Brown Peoria
 Amy Buysce Peoria
 Chris, Annie & Alex Collison*† . . . Peoria
 Kerry & Stacey DelVecchio Peoria
 Tom Donohoe Washington
 Chris Drew East Peoria
 Don Eberle East Peoria
 Alan & Beverly Enslow Peoria
 David & Alberta Gehrt Speer
 Jim & Sue Hooker* Chillicothe
 Ken & Fran Kiley Peoria
 Deb McNally Morton
 Margaret Moulton East Peoria
 Frank & Judie Noyes Pekin
 Del Rusher Peoria
 Sheldon & R. Erika Schafer Peoria
 Allan, Gail, Rhett, Seth &
 Ty Silzer*† Peoria
 Lorne & Nancy Tweed Peoria
 Anthony, Tracie, Leslie, Tiffanie,
 Stephanie & Bethenie York . . . Delavan

*Advocate-level membership

†LAB member

Illinois Valley Wheelm'n

Greater Peoria's bicycle club

Affiliated with the League of American
Bicyclists and League of Illinois
Bicyclists

All newsletter phone numbers are in the
309 area code unless otherwise indicated.

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Computer users: Send e-mail to the editor at:
Bikewriter@aol.com

Submissions, including stories, news, images
and/or humor, are welcomed.

Deadline: 15th of the month
Newsletter published monthly

June Rides

Show and go rides are determined by weather
and participants. Any ride may need to be
altered due to extremes in weather or road
conditions, and other unforeseen circumstances.

RIDE LEADERS: Please schedule your rides
through Jack Welch at 387-6117.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1. Morton Field Shopping
Center, 8:30 a.m. Steve Hueser, 263-
3544 (Level II).

SUNDAY, JUNE 8. Meet at Wilder-Waite Grade
School at 9:45 a.m. for a slow and
leisurely ride to Princeville for brunch
via the Rock Island Trail. Ideal ride for
spouses to meet on another at the
destination. Sheldon Schafer, 682-1876
(Level I).

RATING LEGEND

Level I: Beginner, less than 20 miles, less
than 15 mph, not self sufficient

Level II: Intermediate, 20-50 miles, 15-
18 mph, partially self-sufficient

Level III: Experienced, 50+ miles, 18+
mph, totally self-sufficient

SUNDAY, JUNE 8. Show and go at Hucks on
Willow Knolls, 8:30 a.m. (Level II/III).

SUNDAY, JUNE 15. Meet at Henry Grade
School/Stoner Park at 8:30 a.m. 25–30
miles. Patty Sage, 364-3155, or e-mail
sage@ocslink.com.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, My Favorite Corner Deli
Tour, 15 miles, 6 p.m., Loucks School
(University & McClure), Peoria. Eric
Hutchison, 685-3921, Level 1,2,3 (see
more detailed description).

SUNDAY, JUNE 22. Metamora Square at 8:30
a.m. 30+ miles to Roanoke. Steve
Meisner, 692-9724 (Level II).

SUNDAY, JUNE 29. Morton Field Shopping
Center, 8:30 a.m. 50+ miles. Jack
Welch, 387-6117 (Level III).

EVERY SATURDAY. Show and go from the
square in Washington, 8:30 a.m. Jack
Welch (Level II/III).

EVERY TUESDAY. WRIGHT ROAD RIDE. This
weekly ride starts 6 p.m., Tuesdays,
from Dunlap Grade School next to the
city park. We want to encourage the
Level I rider to come out to this one.
You will not be put in with Level II or

III riders. Come and meet new club
members and ride with people who
want to ride together. Our motto is,
"You will never be left behind." Levels
II and III are invited. They will appoint
their own ride leaders and follow their
own routes. Questions? Call Bill
Wright at 685-8549.

EVERY THURSDAY. WRIGHT TRAIL RIDE. This
weekly ride starts at Wilder-Waite
Grade School across from the Rock
Island trail head at 6 p.m. on
Thursdays. Bring your mountain or
hybrid bike for a leisurely ride along
the trail and surrounding dirt and
gravel roads. We all ride together on
this one. Kick the mud off your old
mount and come out and join us. Lots
of fun. Questions? Call Bill Wright at
685-8549.

**PREVIEW: MY FAVORITE CORNER DELI TOUR
(JUNE 18).** I discovered some great food at a
neighborhood restaurant within biking distance.
What better reason could there possibly be to
have a bike ride? Meet me behind Loucks
School (off McClure, west of University) at 6
p.m. and we'll tour some of my favorite city
sites including the west bluff, Moss Avenue,
Peoria riverfront, and Springdale Cemetery.
Afterwards, we'll refuel at Fedora's—truly
remarkable pizza and subs. Some route nuts &
bolts—we'll be on lower-traffic streets, but
expect lots of stop & go riding. Mountain bikes
or roadies will be equally at home. Low gears
will come in handy for the city's bluffs climbs,
such as those in Glen Oak Park.. All riders
welcome—I don't believe in sweat—those who
do (level 3) will be self navigated, maps will be
provided. Hope to see you there.

—Eric Hutchison, 685-3921.

RULES OF THE RIDE...

- 1) Ride no more than two abreast—single file in traffic
and at intersections.
- 2) Pass only on the left—and announce your intentions.
- 3) Create space in large groups to help motorists pass
safely.
- 4) Maintain a safe distance from the
rider ahead of you.
- 5) Check all inter-sections for traffic. Avoid "group
think."
- 6) If you stop, please pull off the road.

The IVW strongly recommends that you wear a helmet.

WHERE'S THE NEWSLETTER?



Dear Editor: For the last six months or so, our newsletter has been very late. I usually see it at my friends or at the shop at least two weeks before I get mine. What's the deal? —*Gist of several e-mail notices*

Dear Gist: After last month's newsletter was distributed, our mailing person, Sue DeDecker, received several calls about late newsletters. Seems most newsletters distributed outside immediate Peoria ZIP

codes are routed north through the Carol Stream post office before delivery. Month-long delays were reported. Accordingly, until such time as we are reassured that bulk third class mail will be delivered in a more timely fashion, newsletters outside of the Peoria area will be sent first class. This should eliminate the late delivery problem. Thanks for hanging in there.

—*Samuel Joslin*

Membership Coupon League of American Bicyclists & League of Illinois Bicyclists

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____

Individual \$30 Family \$35

Make checks payable to: League of American Bicyclists, 190 W. Ostend St., Suite 120, Baltimore, MD 21230 or call 1-800-288-BIKE (and tell them LIB sent you.)

Illinois Valley Wheelm'n Membership Application

(please print)

Name #1 _____ Birthdate _____

Name #2 _____ Birthdate _____

Name #3 _____ Birthdate _____

Name #4 _____ Birthdate _____

E-mail address (print clearly) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____

Signature (Name #1) _____ Date _____

(parent or guardian needed if registrant is under 18)

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) \$ _____

Household (\$12) _____

Voluntary advocacy contribution: (\$5, 10, 15, other) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

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 NORTH SHERIDAN RD STE 2, PEORIA IL 61614-2933

June 1997

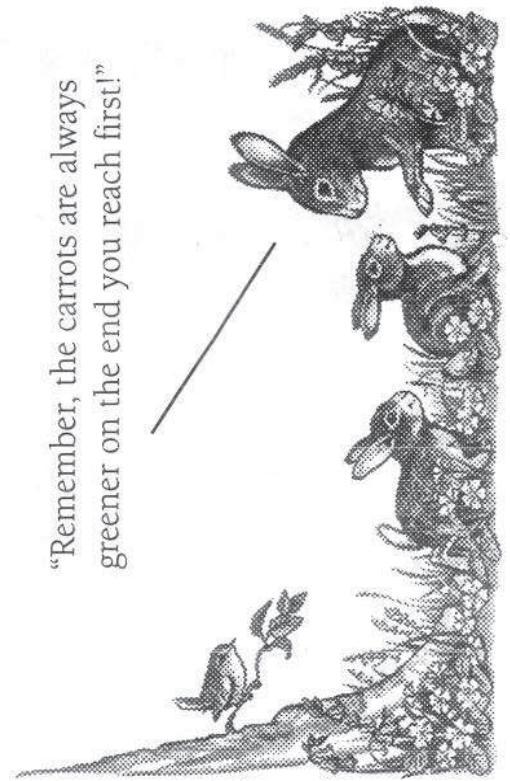
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JUNE 7 TRAIL DEDICATION. Congressman Ray LaHood will help dedicate a recently completed segment of the Morton trails system at 1 p.m., June 7, in the parking lot of the Morton K-Mart. Your attendance will help keep our two-wheeled momentum moving. Contact George Burrier (698-5512) for more details.

BROKEN FENCES BUILD STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS. Bicycling and walking is an ideal way to improve your neighborhood because it brings people together in ways that never happen behind the cocoon of our car's windshields. I had a recent experience, very close to home, which seemed appropriate to share: Our next door neighbor's fence was recent casualty of the spring winds. We've always had a great relationship with Marge and John, but this windy twist of nature made things even better. They decided to leave the fence down and replace it with a flagstone walking path through their garden linking our properties. If strong fences make good neighbors then broken fences must make great ones.

—Eric Hutchison



“Remember, the carrots are always greener on the end you reach first!”

**ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N
6518 NORTH SHERIDAN RD STE 2
PEORIA IL 61614-2933**

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

Your IVW membership expires: 10/03/97

RON ANDERSON
203 LOCUST
WASHINGTON, IL 61571-2207

Inside June...

Throwing money at a problem.

On page 3.