



September 1997

# ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N

greater peoria's bicycle club



## “TRIATHLON” WINNERS ANNOUNCED

**IVW triathletes grin and bare it during fierce ride/eat/splash competition.**

*Thanks to organizers extraordinaire Jim Raney and Rob Alexander, the annual IVW picnic and pool party was a rousing success. Riders choose from three different marked routes and refueled afterwards in style. Grilled delights were an added bonus to the fine potluck smorgasbord. Free Willy was notably absent at the pool party, but so were the mosquitoes. Plenty of smiles to go around and “even Eric got in the water” as summarized by Sue D. —Eric Hutchison*

The weather was a little warm and windy for the third annual set of summer games, but that didn't faze any of the participants. These were not the whiny pros you see in the media. These competitors weren't threatening to go on strike. These gladiators weren't asking the taxpayers to build them new stadiums with posh sky boxes. And thankfully, none of these participants bit off any of their competitors appendages when things didn't look like they were going to go their way. No, these were real sports. When the going got tough...they got going. They may have had to lay down or cramped severely afterward, but they finished. There are no adoring fans or outrageous salaries involved here.

So, what drove these men, women, and children to tackle one hot, hilly mile after another? One simple desire to get back to the shelter before all the food was gone!

The biking stage turned out pretty decent. Joe Russell made up for the lack of food stops by making sure everyone's jerseys



were full of goodies before they left. A sudden epidemic of sanity occurred as only two riders took the challenge of the 60-mile death march. The two-man breakaway tore through El Paso and only missed one of the route markers. The 45-ish mile route had quite a few more takers. Luckily, pea gravel was in bloom as the riders strove through historic Roanoke and beautiful Secor. (Secor doesn't even have a Casey's yet, but one has to wonder how many years it will be before Simon and Cullinan are arguing whether or not it can support another mall.) The 15-mile ride sped toward the towering grain elevators of Crueger. It was nice, but it's no Secor.

The eating stage seemed to be the most popular. Some folks skipped the rides so they'd be fresh for the feed. The Treks, Cannondales, and Bianchis were put away and participants brought out their Igloos. The club supplied burgers and dogs, and everyone involved did a fine job of filling

out the rest of the menu.

The unseasonably low temperatures didn't dissuade people from the swimming stage. The only ones not enjoying themselves were the lifeguards. They couldn't figure out how anyone could get those tan lines and also wondered whether they would have to rescue the guys who kept cramping up.

—Rob Alexander, Jim Raney

**Great Job Bill!**  
*Is it fall already?*

The most popular IVW rides of them all, the Wright weeknight rides, have ended for the season.

### NEW MEMBERS

Patricia Barton . . . . .Peoria Heights  
Steven, Brenda &  
Kyle Little . . . .Marquette Heights  
Denise & Mike Reeves . . . . .Peoria

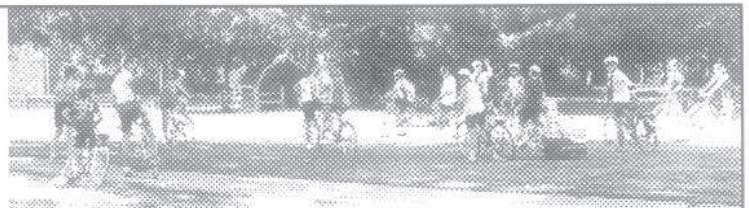
### RENEWING MEMBERS

Jim Degenhart\* . . . . .Washington  
Robert Greer . . . . .Peoria  
Don Johnson . . . . .Peoria  
Sheila Putney\* . . . . .Hanna City  
Lisa Reinholtz\* . . . . .Peoria Heights  
Linda Reinholtz . . . . .Peoria Heights

\*Advocate-level membership

*Above: Samantha Tate and Joe Raney are shocked and amazed after learning they have won the Illinois Wheelm'n faux Triathlon.*

*Right: The 15 milers take time out for the press and fans before starting out.*





# 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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(evening)

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347-4841 (5:30–9 p.m.)

**Secretary**  
Linda Reinholtz 682-0225

**Ride Chair**  
Jack Welch 387-6117

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

**Deadline:** 15th of the month  
Newsletter published monthly

# September Rides

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.** Show and go from ICC  
tennis courts at 8:30 a.m. (Level II)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.** Show and go from lower  
Bradley Park in Peoria at 8:30 a.m. (Level II)

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.** My Favorite Secret  
Bridge Tour (Hennepin/Princeton). Meet at Putnam  
County Court House (S. 4th St., Hennepin), 9am,  
45 miles. Eric Hutchison, 685-3921. (Level II/III)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.** Show and go from Pekin  
Insurance in Pekin at 8:30 a.m. (Level II)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.** Show and go from  
Russell's parking lot in Washington at 8:30 a.m.  
(Level II)

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.** Return to Goofy Ridge  
(Manito / Havana). Meet at Midwest Central High  
School in Manito, 9am, 45-50 miles. Eric  
Hutchison, 685-3921. (Level II/III).

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.** Show and go from  
Fondulac administration building in East Peoria at  
8:30 a.m. (Level II)

**EVERY SATURDAY.** Show and go from square in  
Washington, 8:30 a.m., Jack Welch, 387-6117.  
(Level II/III)

## 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

## 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.



**MY FAVORITE SECRET BRIDGE TOUR, SEPT. 13**—We'll enjoy fine views of the Illinois River and nearby wetlands as we cross a traffic-free bridge at Hennepin. Ambling along Bureau Creek, we'll make our way through Tiskilwa and take a brief stop at the Hennepin Canal Park. We'll roll into Princeton, a neat little town, and explore the annual Homestead Festival (you may want to bring a bike lock). There's something for every taste from historic architecture & arts shows to pork chops and elephant ears. (Route maps will be available for riders who prefer not to stop.) My thanks to Patty Sage for providing field research for this ride.

*Getting there*—Hennepin is about 45 miles north of Peoria on the east side of the Illinois River. I'd allow about one hour for the drive. From Peoria, follow Route 29 north, cross the I-180 bridge toward Hennepin. A couple of right turns off I-180 takes you to the center of town and the Putnam County Courthouse (S. 4th St., next to Boyle park).

**RETURN TO GOOFY RIDGE, SEPT. 27**—Well, I feel that fishing lure display at the hatchery reeling me in again. Please join me for some scenic two-wheeled trolling in nearby Mason County. Shortly out of Manito, we'll make a quick stop at the Wolf Fish Hatchery visitor's center (“high protein” water bottle refills available . . . just kidding). Rambling on, we'll pass through the Sand Ridge State Forest and the Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge (where the honkers are generally on wings, not wheels). Weather permitting, we'll eat lunch at Havana's riverside park, which recently got new walkways courtesy of federal ISTEAF funds. You can pack a lunch along, or buy what suits you at Havana's restaurants or grocery stores. Two water bottles and some snacks may come in handy as services are limited along the route.

*Getting there*—Manito is southwest of Pekin. Follow Manito Road which intersects Route 29 at the prison on Pekin's south side. A sign to the high school is posted on the main north-south road in Manito. If driving from Peoria, allow about 45 minutes to get there.

**NOTE FROM ERIC H.**—My apologies to those who'd prefer these events to be on Sunday. I choose Saturday to avoid conflicts with other nearby cycling events. Also, I rated these Level II/III rides only due to the distance—not the speed. Anyone who feels comfortable with a 45–50 mile ride is welcome to join in (I ride to talk and eat). —Eric Hutchison



# No, not the heat, it's the Interplanetary Ride

**HOW HOT WILL IT FOR THE INTERPLANETARY BICYCLE RIDE NEXT YEAR?** If we base our answer on average July temperatures, the high will be 86 degrees next July 25. If we base our answer on the average of the first three rides, the high will be 86 degrees also. Unfortunately averages don't always tell the whole story, since the first year was 96 degrees, the second 64 and this year 99 degrees.

Clearly, the Interplanetary Ride is developing a reputation for extremes. (Outer space has that reputation too!) With temperature indices soaring to 115 degrees, any turnout would have to be considered a success. So, when walk-in registration equaled last year's numbers, only a handful of no-show riders kept the final totals from exceeding last year's when the

temperature was 35 degrees cooler (and the heat index was 51 degrees less!). All told, nearly 150 rode Saturday, and 75 rode Sunday on the third annual Interplanetary Bicycle Ride.

From the IVW, special thanks go out to Bill Stevenson, who was our point person for the ride and did the Saturday route marking (with help from Pat O'Brian, Ruth Stevenson, and Chris Meydam), and handled numerous other details; Rob Alexander, who did his usually fine job with the maps; and Eric Hutchinson and Larry Paustian, who along with Bill and Rob led groups on the Sunday ride. Thanks also to all IVW members who participated.

And we shouldn't forget all of our sponsors and supporters who deserve one more mention: United States Cellular, Kinko's, Beachler's Amoco, Peoria-area State Farm Insurance Agents, Laidlaw Transit, CILCO, Goods Furniture, Spokes Fun, Bicycle Inn, WMBD AM 1470, The Tustuli (Woodcarver), Illinois Central College and Bradley University. Sag Service was provided by Little Ade's, The Bicycle Bus, Chillicothe Bicycle Shop, CJ's Vitesse Cycle Shop, Illinois Cycle & Fitness, Russell's Cycling & Fitness and REACT. —*Sheldon Schaffer*

## Jubilee Jam '97 announced

**BEWARE SQUIRRELS, RABBITS, CHIPMUNKS, SNAKES** and all you other critters who call Jubilee College State Park home! It's the 1997 Jubilee Jam Mountain Bike Race and it's coming Sunday, September 21, with races starting at 10:00 a.m. We've made some changes in both the beginner's and the sport/expert courses just to keep it interesting. You can count on the usual lineup of great prizes donated by our generous sponsors, Illinois Cycle & Fitness, CJ's Vitesse Cycle Shop, Little Ade's Bicycles and Russell's Cycling & Fitness Center. Look for their product displays at the race. There are flyers at all their stores. But if you need more details, just call Jim King at 346-3965. Bring the family, and enjoy a great day at the park!

We've added a new feature this year for the inexperienced mountain biker which we call BUILDING DIRT. This is a great way to learn the basics of mountain biking, from how to fix a flat to bike handling techniques to get you started. The best part is, it's only \$15.00 for the two instructional sessions scheduled for Sunday, September 7 and 14 at Jubilee College State Park.

If you want to take the skills you've learned while BUILDING DIRT to the race course on the 21st, kick in another \$25.00 (that's \$40.00 total) and get your race entry and a Jubilee Jam T-shirt, which is way, way cool and a must have item. There are flyers at all the bike shops or you can call Jim Gareau at 689-1147. We just call him Mr. Dirt.

Okay, so you're a cheapskate and don't want to pay for a t-shirt but you have some time on your hands. Just volunteer to be a course marshal and you'll get one for free! Call Charlie Klees at 694-3674 and he'll give you your assignment.

—*Steve Dagg, Peoria Bicycle Club*

# Clinton gets a Copenhagen White Bike

*When the US President, Bill Clinton visited Spain, Rumania, Poland and Denmark it was mainly to promote the expansion of NATO. In Denmark, however, a bicycle sneaked into the world-limelight for a moment.*

(BICYCLE NEWS AGENCY, 7-14-97)—Both security and Danish media coverage was on "red alert" when the President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, made a brief visit to Copenhagen this weekend.

Every move the president made in the 19-hour stay was not only covered by television, radio and newspapers, but also described, discussed and analyzed in prime time, on the air and on every front page in the tiny Kingdom.

The most important event was his speech to the public on the "Gammel Torv" Square on the famous pedestrian street "Stroegat." A crowd of 80,000 listened to—and applauded—the American president's speech, in which he applauded the Danish involvement in the peace keeping forces in Bosnia and spoke positively on the Danish

welfare system.

Right after the president's speech, the Lord-mayor of Copenhagen, Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen had a special present for Bill Clinton: Citybike One.

"Citybike One" is a specially decorated version of the Copenhagen White Bicycles. The Danish capitol has almost 1,800 white bicycles which are free to use. A 20 DKr coin (2,5 Euro, 3 US Dollars), which must be deposited when taking a bike, is released when the bicycle is parked in one of the many official citybike stands in the inner region of Copenhagen.

The Copenhagen White Bicycles are now in their third season and are heavily used by tourists, business people and anyone with the need for a quick means of transportation. Bikes which are left outside one of the official bike stands may be used by anyone else, and bicycles which are broken are picked up and repaired by prisoners in one of the Copenhagen jails.

President Clinton's personal "Citybike One" not only carries the special name on the frame. The two disc wheels also carry the

official seal of the President of the United States.

One minute after President Clinton received Citybike One, he rushed off to the airport and the waiting Air Force One. Despite the fact that there are excellent bike paths to the airport, which is less than 10 km from downtown Copenhagen, the American president didn't use his new bicycle for the trip.

Two heavily armored limousines and 10 black cars with VIPs, special agents and Danish police rushed through the city at 100 km/hour accompanied by a dozen policemen on motorcycles. Seems like the world will have to wait for an armored (bullet proof) version of a bicycle in order to make the world leaders ride bicycles on their world tours.—*Ernst Poulsen, ernst@inet.uni-c.dk*

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The Bicycle News Agency  
Editor Ernst Poulsen  
<http://webhotel.uni-c.dk/dcf/agency.htm>



# Another vacation adventure

*You could say Jan was cautious when I mentioned a bicycle tour. She has learned from experience in the past 10 years that our vacations have challenged the very essence of her being.*

Without much preparation or training we have taken several trips. We climbed Mt. Katadin (Maine). We canoed the Boundary Waters (carrying 60-pound packs, portaging the canoe over muddy trails & sharing our first campsite with a hungry black bear). We cross-country skied at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon (entry by Snowcat and snowmobile only). Last winter we sea kayaked in the Sea of Cortez (ask us about campsite sanitation). So when I stated we would leave June 21 on our fully loaded tandem from our home in rural Mackinaw and head east, she was doubtful.

Day 1, Saturday, June 21: Two middle-aged, overweight riders, with 10 miles of riding for the year, loaded their tandem with 100 pounds of gear and started down Deemack Road towards Mackinaw. Our first night's stop was Bloomington (23 miles.)

Day 2 was a very hot 52 miles to Forrest, IL. While having breakfast in Lexington, Rich Strle from the McLean County Wheelers joined us. Remembering a tour from Bloomington to Alaska, I think Rich was ready to hit the touring road again.

Monday we traveled 63 miles from Forrest to Watseka. Along the way we had our first and only flat and started using our Adventure Cycling maps at Asokum. The Adventure Cycling Northern Route crosses Illinois from Muscatine Iowa, through Henry on the Illinois River, then continues generally due east to Indiana. The Wabash River had recently flooded, and many farmers were re-seeding. Anytime we stopped for shade to get out of the 96-degree heat, the mosquitoes attacked in force. At Watseka, we purchased a spare tire at Ron's Bicycle Shop.

Tuesday, June 24, we traveled from Watseka to Rensselaer, IN—54 miles with the temperature at 97 and a heat index of 103. As we stopped after a sprint from a dog, we heard a clunk and looked down at my pedal on the ground. At least it didn't break during the sprint and I was able to re-attach the pedal. Adventure Cycling maps are great, showing most necessary services near the route. A bike

shop was in Rensselaer, but after a call there, we learned they serviced more lawnmowers than bicycles. Another call, this time to Russell's Cycle in Washington, produced an overnight shipment (thanks Kevin) using the Indiana bike shop as a drop point.

We took off June 25 while waiting for the pedals to arrive. Fortunately for us, this was one of only two days it rained. We took advantage of the rest day, got some laundry done and mailed about eight pounds of gear back home..

On June 26 we traveled from Rensselaer to Fletcher's Lake—62 miles. We met Jeff Astle, who was riding from Seattle to Bar Harbor. Jeff was recently diagnosed with M.S., and was fulfilling a life-long dream of cycling across the country. Jeff had started on the Northern Route, but dropped down to Kansas and Missouri to avoid the flood-damaged areas in North Dakota and Minnesota. He had come up through Illinois where he rejoined the Northern Route at Henry. While passing through central Illinois, he met Sheldon Shaffer. We shared a free campground with Jeff at Fletcher's Lake.

June 27, another hot day, this time with headwind and hills as we approached Salamonie Dam. After 71 miles, we camped at Kil-so-quak State Recreation Area at Huntington Lake. Sleep eluded us the entire

night since we camped next to a large group of yahoos who were vulgar, drunk, and loud. In the middle of the night, we made a call from our cell phone to the local sheriff. We dozed off by the time he showed up, and when he left the noise started up again.

After a sleepless night, we hopped back on the bike and traveled 43 miles toward Monroeville. If you get a chance, visit this town (Mark Grieves did). They treat touring cyclists very well, and the restaurant has great potato soup. The pavilion in the park has showers, air conditioning, a kitchen and free sleeping bag space. Melvin Myers, the park commissioner (in his 80s) serves as the welcoming committee. Unfortunately, we arrived on a Saturday, and the pavilion was reserved for a graduation party. Melvin invited us to camp in his backyard instead.

June 29 was another hot day as we rode from Monroeville towards Defiance Ohio, then along the Maumee River to Napoleon. We did 65 miles that day, rode in the rain on

the way to dinner, and added a few more miles in town that evening.

At Jan's insistence, we stayed in Napoleon another day to rest. The sun poisoning on her arms and legs was worse, and she was irritable from riding for days without a break. Besides, it was raining! It's amazing how much a day off improved her outlook. We bought a radio and mailed another six pounds of gear home.

July 1—Up the road from Napoleon, we stopped at Grand Rapids for breakfast and window shopped at several antique shops. Late in the day, we stopped at a house to ask for directions and found plastic snakes and lizards all over their driveway and sidewalk. They said it kept the birds from dirtying their sidewalk. The interesting thing is they were feeding the birds in their backyard. By the time we arrived at Clyde we did 85 miles, although this was one of the easiest days due to a tailwind and cooler temperatures.

July 2—Clyde to Oberlin (52 miles and five dogs). As we rode into this college town, we could hear bagpipes being played on the quad. A weeklong Scottish arts summer camp was underway. Wandering around campus, we found our way to the performing arts center where more bagpipers, as well as fiddlers and dancers, were preparing their final show. (Jan really wanted to stay another

*As we stopped after a sprint from a dog, we heard a clunk and looked down at my pedal on the ground.*

day here.)

July 3—The route from Oberlin to Bedford Hills (52 miles) had Kerfoot and Centennial Drive-type hills. By the time we were to leave the Cleveland area, we had walked up about 10 of them. There was traffic and very rough pavement as we made our way to the Metro-Park system.. The route across Cleveland suburbia was via this system, a series of linear parks with no truck traffic, a 30 mph speed limit, and a multi-purpose paved trail. We preferred the road to the trail due to pedestrians, strollers, in-line skaters, etc., on the trail. Jan seriously wanted to end the trip in Cleveland because of the hills. However, my optimism that it would get better persuaded her to continue.

July 4—Bedford Hills to Mentor was 30 miles of hills and more hills. We traveled through many wealthy suburbs and discovered that rich dogs do not run because their owners have security systems. About noon we rolled into Gates Mills just in time for a terrific



parade, which included fox hounds and Patriots.

July 5—From Mentor to Austinberg (43 miles), we must have crossed over or under I-90 for the 20th time since entering Ohio. We camped at the Buccaneer campground where Independence Day fireworks continued all night long. After four nights of poor camping conditions, Jan convinced me to motel it the rest of the journey.

July 6—While riding from Austinburg to Cambridge Springs, PA, we passed several Amish buggies. We only saw teenagers, and got the impression some courting may have been in progress. That night we splurged on the Riverview Inn, an 1890s mineral spring spa. At the turn of the century, this area had dozens of huge hotels catering to the elite of New York City, Pittsburgh and Cleveland. One of the waitresses was from Pekin.

July 7—After Cambridge Springs, we departed from the Adventure Cycling route

and headed north towards Lake Erie. The maps and the owner of Alward's Market had cautioned us about the terrain becoming EXTREMELY hilly. Jan had enough hills for now and yearned for flat land. We didn't realize how much elevation we had gained until the fast downhill to North East, PA

July 8—We rode east along the Lake Erie shore, passing many vineyards. At Dunkirk, NY, we met a group of teenage boys on their Schwinn tandems. Looking over our loaded tandem, we don't think they believed two people of our age could ride as far as we had. Later in the day, we met two bike tourists traveling from Cape Cod to Portland.

July 9 was our last riding day, traveling from Irving NY, into Buffalo. The day started on a blacktop that ran close to Lake Erie. The road merged into a four-lane highway through a mostly residential area. That road changed into a six-lane highway

with access ramps from both the left and the right as we passed the Ford stamping plant.. We found a direct but busy route that took us to the Amtrak station at Depew where we purchased two bicycle boxes (\$14.00), packed the bicycle and shipped it home.

We spent an extra day visiting friends in Buffalo and touring the bicycle museum before taking Amtrak home. After 900 miles and 19 days on the road, would Jan do another tour? Her words: "Absolutely!"

Note: Definitely worth visiting:

Pedaling History Bicycle Museum  
3943 North Buffalo Road  
Orchard Park, NY 14127-1841  
E-mail: BicycleMus@AOL.COM  
Website—

[http://members.aol.com/bicyclemus/bike\\_museum/PHMusBio.htm](http://members.aol.com/bicyclemus/bike_museum/PHMusBio.htm)

—Ron Matuska

**September 7**—Springfield, Capital City Century, Lake Springfield Fieldhouse, 25, 62, 100 miles, 7-10 a.m., Jim Nugent, Springfield Bicycle Club, (217) 525-6704.

**September 14**—Canton, Spoon River Century, Canton YMCA. Ride features new 30, 65 and 100 mile routes. Registration: \$11 before 9/4; \$13 after. Includes pancakes, homemade cookies, sandwiches, rest stops, map, marked routes and sag service. 7 a.m. Dan Corey, Spoon River Wheelmen, 647-3801.

**September 20**—Arthur, Arthur Amish Country Ride-to-Eat, Arthur Fair Grounds, 25, 40, 60 miles, 6:30 a.m.—10 a.m., Decatur Bicycle Club, (217) 767-2730.

**September 28**—Rantoul, Tour De Bell, 20, 40, 60, 100 miles, 7-10 a.m., Bell Sports, (217) 893-9300, ext. 202.

**October 4**—Knox County Scenic Weekend Breakfast Ride. 20 miles. Includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee for breakfast. Start: From 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. at Lincoln Park in Galesburg (at the shelter by the wading pool and swings). Registration \$8. Map provided. Directions: I-74 from Peoria: Take 46A to 150 West Alpha. Turn Right at Lincoln Park sign. Prairie Pedalers of Knox County. For more information, contact Bob Rutledge at 342-1705.

**Planning a trip to Missouri?** Order a bicycle suitability map from the Department of Natural Resources. The map rates Missouri's 32,000 miles of state roads based on average use, lane widths and bicyclist visibility to motorists. The set of six color-coded maps costs \$1.50. Write: Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Attention: Division of State Parks, Brochure Request, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102. For more information, call (800) 334-6946.

## 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 an LAB member? (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

August 1997

ILLINOIS VALLEY  
**WHEELM'N**

*greater peoria's bicycle club*

## IDOT targets Rt. 8 for improvements.

IF PLANS BECOME PAVEMENT, the main traffic artery between East Peoria and Washington will get a bicycle and pedestrian-friendly facelift in coming years. The Illinois Department of Transportation met with the IVW on August 8 to review expansion plans for Route 8 (Washington St.) between Rosedale Road and Route 24.

Plans call for expansion to five-lanes (similar to the recently renovated segment in East Peoria). Bike-ped accommodations will be provided on multi-use paved paths on both sides of the new road. The intersections of Route 8 with School Street and Summit Drive will get pedestrian cross walks & signals. The Route 8 crossing at Oakwood and Farmdale roads will get more extensive changes.

Due to the high incidence of accidents at this crossing, IDOT plans to close the linkage of Farmdale road with Route 8 and reroute it to connect with Illini Drive at the existing traffic light. At the meeting, we agreed that a linkage between Oakwood Road and Farmdale Road (the Route 8 crossing) would be retained for bicyclists and pedestrians only (a cut through path will be created when Farmdale road is rerouted).

The cities of East Peoria and Washington and their respective park districts are in support of the project to provide linkage to and expansion of their existing trail systems. A public meeting will be held in mid October; watch for notices in the local paper.

—Eric Hutchison

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 September

*Matuska heads east...*