

# ILLINOIS VALLEY MALLEY MALLEY MALLEY



greater peoria's bicycle club

April, 1998

ADVOCACY MEMS & MEMS

Peoria Bike Routes hit the century mark—

Eric Hutchison

l've noticed a lot more green "Bike Route" signs in Peoria during our recent Sunday city rides. The City's Traffic Engineering Department has made good on their plans to sign the on-street bike routes as shown on the Peoria Bicycle Map & Resources Guide.

(The old sign on Columbia Terrace which suggested riding on the sidewalk has also been removed.) Here's a breakdown on Peoria's current cycling facilities:

- (1) Multi-use trails: 9.5 miles;
- (2) On-road bike lanes: 8 miles;
- (3) On-road shared lane: 86 miles.

Peoria has about 400 miles of roads under it's care. Quick math shows about 100 miles (25%) of this is bicycle friendly.

#### **New Members**

Darren & Joy Hartman<sup>^</sup> ...... Peoria

## **Renewing Members**

Alan & Beverly Enslow Peoria
Brenda KleinPeoria
Larry & Marty Paustian Family^
East Peoria
Les Siegrist Washington
Scott SutterPeoria
Glen & Marty Thompson Family
Tremont
Jim Vaupel^ Pekin
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\*LAW Member ^Advocacy

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## Illinois Valley Wheelm'n

Greater Peoria's bicycle club

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

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

Deadline: 15th of the month

## Wednesday Rides Again

Stretch and Dirk will be hosting the Wednesday night rides again starting April 8th at 6:00. We will be leaving from Pleasant Hill School in East Peoria. Levels 1 and 2 - No one will be dropped.

## Beginning Riders!

Martha Muller will be leading a ride for TRUE beginners. The ride will be held in parallel with the Washington Thursday night ride, starting April 9 at 6 P.M. in the parking lot of Russell's Cycling and Fitness. Martha has a goal of riding the 25 mile loop on Diane's Ride and will use this ride along with her other riding to get ready for the 25

The beginner's ride will start with routes in Washington and move to longer routes on the edge of town as the time progresses. Riders are encouraged to come out early this spring to enjoy some of the shortest rides. We will also be helping beginning riders learn to change tires, adjust their bicycle, and ride safely in traffic. For more detailed information call Marty Muller 444-9362.

## Thursday Night Rides

We will be starting the Thursday night rides at 6:00 P.M. on April 9. This ride usually starts as one group with a faster group splitting off for a few extra miles during the ride. The pace and distance will be increasing as the days get longer, starting with approximately 10-15 miles at a 10-15 mph. average speed.

This group has been known to regroup after the ride for a snack or meal, ice cream may be counted as a main course if you work hard enough. If your partner doesn't wish to ride at this pace, investigate Marty's ride starting from the same place.

# Parke County Covered **Bridge Bike Tour**

8:00 A.M. Saturday, May 2 The Tour Course is flat to rolling with several substantial climbs, and roads are paved with some areas being newly paved. The Tour crosses seven covered bridges and passes seven others at a reasonable distance.

# In Search Of **True Beginners**

We are trying to find out how many beginning riders are interested in expanding their riding. If there is enough interest we hope to offer rides in Washington and Dunlap for beginning riders, allowing them to ride with other beginners. These rides will be at an easy pace and will be in the company of a few experienced cyclists to help with questions and technique.

If you want to find new riding partners and expand your riding, call for more information. Roger John 243-9191; Bill Wright 685-8549; or Rob Alexander 444-

## SUNDAY RIDES

Meet at the Peoria courthquse at 11 a.m. Steve Grube is the leader (699-6956)

## Folks on Spokes Faster Ride

Sunday, April 19. There will be 25, 35, 45, 65 mile routes and the famous Easter egg sandwiches to follow. University Park, IL (708) 730-5179 or http// contact www.lincolnnet.net/FOS/

# RIDE THE BACKROADS OF **HENRY**

Sunday, April 5, 1:00pm. In 1976, Henry's Bicentennial Committee planned a 30 mile bike ride highlighting historic sights in and around Henry. We will retrace this route which consists mainly of lightly traveled country roads. Some long dirt/ gravel stretches - so bring your HYBRID or MOUNTAIN bike! Meet at Henry's Waterworks Park on the riverfront near the foot of the Route 18 bridge. Ice cream shops and restaurants available afterwards. For directions or more info, call Patty or Todd at 364-3155. Level I/II. (Ride can be cut in half for those not wanting to ride the full 30 miles.)