



# ILLINOIS VALLEY **WHEELM'N**



greater peoria's bicycle club

July, 1999

STRETCH  
RICH  
STRETCH

Is it really July all ready? Seems like time goes by faster all the time. I would like to thank everyone who came out to ride No Baloney. It was a beautiful morning, turned a little warm and windy before the day was over, but everyone survived. Most of the comments we heard during the day were favorable. The 4 loop format worked well for a lot of people that had riding partners starting at different times. We had a couple of dog problems, one early in the day, which Dirk quickly took care of, and one late on the last group to ride the Eureka route. We had 154 riders, a little bit short of what we had hoped for, and with the weather so nice we really expected more than that, but we don't always get what we want. Thanks also go out to all those who donated their time to bake for us, or purchase and donate cookies, pumpkin bread, and muffins. Most of it was gone by day's end.

We had some great volunteers helping us all day, Sheila Putney, Eric Hutchison, Dawn and Mike Gibbs, and Sara Emmons. Dirk and I really appreciated the extra help we received from some people that are not members of the club. The MADD organization also supplied some helpers to serve lunch, and we cannot forget to thank Russell's and Illinois Cycle for their sag help. August 7th, Pekin is having their 175th birthday celebration. They contacted the IVW about participating in some way or another. Bill Clark is setting up something for us. I'm sure more details will follow. I do know a bike ride is planned, along with a booth on bicycle safety and our club. So mark the day on your calendar and come over and help and ride. *Rich*

## "Characters" Wanted

This year's Interplanetary Bicycle Ride (July 24/25) will have an unusual twist. A TV film crew from Berkeley California will be videotaping portions of the ride for use in a documentary series. The series, titled "What's Up in the Universe", is scheduled to premier in 2001 on PBS stations throughout the country. The six one-hour long segments, funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation, will be looking at some of the hottest topics in astronomical research. Our ride, of course, will be used to introduce the concept of scale.

The producers have asked me to identify in advance any families who will be participating, as well as any interesting "characters". So, if your family is planning to participate and is willing to be taped, would you let me know so that we can provide the producers with some advance details. And, let me know of any interesting "characters" who might be riding (whatever that means? since these are Californians who're asking, I suspect they have fairly high standards for who might qualify as a "character"). E-mail [sls@bradley.bradley.edu](mailto:sls@bradley.bradley.edu) or call Sheldon Schafer at 682-1876 Home, or 686-7000 Work.

## Impromptu Rides

Anyone interested in being on an email list for last minute rides email Rob Alexander at [robalexander@worldnet.att.net](mailto:robalexander@worldnet.att.net) As the list grows everyone will receive a message, to announce a ride you can just reply to all. *Rob*

## Elroy-Sparta Weekend Ride

July 9-11

This an old abandoned railroad track that has been converted to 70 miles of beautiful bike trail in Southwestern Wisconsin. We'll be camping in the town of Wilton in the city park. The park, located in the middle of the trail has electricity and hot showers. Saturday we'll ride the trail one direction; Sunday the other. We'll do a group dinner Saturday and the Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast on Sunday. If you're not a camper there are places to stay in the area and restaurants so don't let this stop you. Come ride with us. . . it's a great weekend. Give us a call, Marge or Bill Semmens at 693-9388 if you plan on participating.

## Kellar Branch Trail

The Peoria area group, Recreational Trail Advocates, is an activist group trying to bring representatives from other recreational organizations to focus more sharply on the subject of rail and other recreational trails. Their current project is opening the Kellar Branch Trail and defending lawsuits from the railroad.

They are asking that the IVW actively help to sponsor and/or promote the opening of this trail and others in this region. Their next meetings will be held at George Burrier's office located at 257 E. Washington St., East Peoria on Monday, July 12, and Monday, August 23 at 7:30 P.M. For more information call Tim Beeney 676-4678, Dave Pittman 673-6438, or George Burrier 698-5512.

## Illinois Valley Wheelm'n

Greater Peoria's bicycle club

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

### President

Rich Morris 694-4104  
RPMIVW@aol.com

### Vice President

Jim Emmons 246-2166

### Secretary / Treasurer

Bill and Brenda Clark 347-4841  
wdclark@mtco.com

### Social / Membership

Mark and Vicki Padesky 692-1552  
skycam40@aol.com

### Mailing

Sue DeDecker 693-2973

### Database

Larry Davis 691-3060  
ldavis@iaonline.com

### Advocacy/Government Relations

Eric Hutchison 688-7038 (evenings,  
weekends) 578-8239 (days)

### Editor

Rob Alexander 444-3297  
robalexander@worldnet.att.net

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

Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of the month

### IVW On The WEB

[http://www.geocities.com/  
Colossus/Field/6055/](http://www.geocities.com/Colossus/Field/6055/)  
enter the above as one line, no  
spaces

## Helmet News

From the LIB

McDonald's and the Consumer Product Safety Commission launched a helmet promotion campaign including public service announcements, a new helmet Web site and the inclusion of bike helmet information with every Happy Meal sold at McDonald's for one week. The two sponsors also released a study of bicycle helmet usage in the U.S. with some rather startling conclusions:

—About 50% of all bicycle riders in the U.S. regularly wear bike helmets while riding a bike.

—Of the 50% of bikers who regularly wear a bike helmet, 43% said they always wear a helmet and 7% said they wear a helmet more than half the time.

—The percentage of bikers who reported regularly wearing a helmet rose from 18% in 1991 to about 50% of all bike riders in the new survey.

—About 38% of adult bike riders regularly wear a bike helmet; about 69% of children under 16, as reported by their parents, regularly wear a bike helmet while riding a bike.

—Bike helmet ownership among bike riders rose from 27% in 1991 to 60% in the new survey.

—Bike ridership rose 20% from an estimated 66.9 million riders in 1991 to 80.6 million riders in the new survey, or about three times the U.S. population increase over that time period.

We don't believe for a minute that half the bicycle riders in the U.S. are wearing helmets. But if the sample is not just flawed, and they are responding that way on the telephone, it must at least signal an attitude change, and perhaps an acceptance that wearing a helmet is good behavior, whether or not you do it.

If a survey asked if you were wearing clean underwear, everyone would say yes, because they know that it represents good hygiene. But at least it shows that respondents want to be politically correct, and recognize what response that requires. Helmet wearing has certainly increased since 1991, but based on observation we don't think it's that high, and no community in the US has actually measured helmet wearing and reached anywhere near that level.

The new Web site is called Cranium Canyon. It's great. If the LIB site seems too serious for you, this is your page! It is co-sponsored by McDonald's and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. It has delightful graphics, and is the only helmet place on the Web that may appeal to kids. They also have a press page with photos you can download. *League of Illinois Bicyclists*

## Pancake Rides

Yes, we're still riding (and eating). IVW weekend rides continue on Saturday and/or Sunday morning. We've been meeting at 9 A.M. somewhere within a 20 minute drive of Peoria and riding 30-40 miles. Generally we eat at the turn-around stop. Feel free to give us a ring - Eric Hutchison, 688-7038

## Weeknight Rides

### Tuesday 6 P.M.

The rides continue even without Bill! Steve Kurt is leading the Tuesday ride, with groups for fast/ medium and slower riders. The slower group serves as an effective means of introducing folks to road riding and as a method of increasing their skills and confidence. Steve Kurt 243-7684 [kurtsj@mtco.com](mailto:kurtsj@mtco.com)

### Wednesday 6 P.M.

The Wednesday Night ride in East Peoria will move the start time to 6:00 p.m. effective June 9th. Some people could not make the 5:30 start, 6 seems to fit better. We still meet at the Head Start school across from the Pleasant Hill Antique Mall on Pleasant Hill Road. Any questions, call Dirk 309-699-8482 or Rich 309-694-4104. Hope to see you there. Dirk

### Thursday 6 P.M.

Meet at Russell's in Washington for a ride around Washington, for beginners and experienced riders. Call Rob: 444-3297, Jim: 444-7658, or beginners call Ron or Marilyn: 444-5160

**July 1, Pedal Peoria Sculpture Ride**

Start at Bradley University visitor parking lot Highlights: Public Sculptures around Peoria, including Sonar Tide, Peace & Harvest, Mother Theresa, Ingersol, various Riverfront Park sculptures by Preston Jackson

**July 3, Ride Around the Lake**

Findlay High School, Findlay, IL. Route of 35 miles on country roads and very scenic with a few hills to get your heart going. Rest stop at the dam in Shelbyville.

**July 4, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ride**

Plainfield, IL. Joliet Bicycle Club, P.O. Box 2758, Joliet, IL 60436. Calvin Jordan (815) 355-1857.

**July 9-11, Elroy-Sparta Weekend Ride**

Wilton, WI. Ride the trail with the IVW, ride one way on Sat. the other on Sun. Group dinner on Sat., Sunday breakfast by the Lions Club. Marge or Bill Semmens at 693-9388

**July 11, Melon Metric XIV**

Well-stocked rest stops, scenic rural route. Contact Naperville Bicycle Club, Karla Labath (630) 796-9249.

**July 15, Pedal Peoria East Peoria Trail Ride**

Start at Illinois Antique Center/Crooked Waters parking lot Highlights: Robert Michel Bridge, East Peoria Trail

**July 24-25, Interplanetary Bicycle Ride**

Follow the orbits of Planetary Explorers through the "Worlds Largest Model of the Solar System". Sarts Saturday at CILCO pioneer Park Service Center 6-9 A.M.,

Sunday 6 A.M. at Lakeview Museum.

**July 31-August 3, Across Illinois Bike Ride** Moline to New Lenox. 275-300 miles over four days; 150 mile weekend option; flat to rolling on rural roads. Contact Joliet Bicycle Club, Larry McNamara (815) 744-7015.

**August 5, Pedal Peoria Fon du Lac Ride**

Start at Illinois Antique Center/Crooked Waters parking lot Highlights: Robert Michel Bridge, views from Fon du Lac Dr.

**August 19, Pedal Peoria Garden Ride**

Start at Botanical Gardens, Glen Oak Park Highlights: Luthy Botanical Gardens, selected city gardens (Please let the ride leaders know of any front yard gardens which you think should be included on this ride's route.)

**August 21-22, Farmdale Mountain Bike Weekend**

Farmdale Park, East Peoria, IL. Free Camping Friday and Saturday Nights-Downhill Scramble Stage Race on Saturday-X/C mountain Bike Race on Sunday-Swap Meet all weekend-music on Saturday Night Prizes A Good Time at the Dam!! Call (309) 676-4678 or (815) 778-3641 for more details

**September 12, 27th Capital City Century** Springfield. Includes sag, maps, marked routes, food, post-ride party. Contact Springfield Bicycle Club, Jerry Ihnen (217) 498-8877.

**September 12, Tour of Scenic Ogle County**

Stillman Valley. Extras include sag, food, cue sheets, rest stops, T-shirts, homemade cookies. Blackhawk Bicycle & Ski Club, Jillian Trojnar (815) 489-1120.

**September 19, 15th Annual North Shore Century**

Routes through scenic and historic North Shore north to Kinosh, WI. Evanston Bicycle Club, (847) 866-7743 djp@suba.com

**September 19, Quincy Bicycle Century**

Quincy, IL. 25/62/100 mile routes. Quincy Bicycle Club, Dale Allenbaugh (217) 223-3261 www.riverbnd.com/org/bicycle

**October 2, Jubilee Mountain Bike Scramble**

Jubilee College State Park, Brimfield, IL. NORBA races for Expert, Sport, and Beginners. For more information or to register, call CJ's Vitesse Cycle Shop 692-8780 mtbnkr1111@aol.com

**October 3, Pumpkin Pie Ride**

Peru. Includes sag, marked routes, shower, homemade cookies & pumpkin pie. Preregistrants eligible to win a mountain bike. Starved Rock Cycling Association, Dixie DeVry (815) 434-7823.



## ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print clearly)

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 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 IAB 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 payable to: ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N, 6518 NORTH SHERIDAN RD. STE 2, PEORIA IL 61614-2933

SHARE THE ROAD...MEMBER TIL: 6/21/2000  
LARRY D DAVIS  
6809 FROSTWOOD PKY A-53  
PEORIA, IL 61615-2461



ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELMEN  
6518 NORTH SHERIDAN RD. STE 2  
PEORIA IL 61614-2933

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