



ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELMEN



greater peoria's bicycle club

September, 2001

The Trail Was Sweet But The Weather Was Spicy

Bill Semmens

Between 25-30 IVW club members braved the 90+ temperatures to return to the Sugar River Trail after the club's long absence. Our group of 22 bikes (including 3 tandems) left New Glarus about 9:15 heading for Brodhead. As we rode south, the temperature headed north. It hit about 95 degrees with a discomfort index over 100. But as you all know, as long as we kept moving, we really didn't feel the heat. The other thing we didn't notice was the trail of horseflies behind us. The wooded areas along the trail are picturesque and buggy. So we had a double whammy each time we stopped. Of course, we made a bee line to a store for a can of OFF the first chance we had.

As far as I know, everyone made the full trip down to Brodhead and had lunch. The heat got to Marge again on the return trip so she quit at about the 35 mile point, but felt good enough afterwards for a wine tasting. We were all off the trail by about 2:30 and headed back to the campgrounds and motels. That evening we regrouped for a great potluck and telling tall tales around the campfire.

The Sugar River Trail was in excellent shape in spite of the thunderstorms we survived on Friday night. It's a very flat route and good for all types of bikes. The one way distance is about 23 miles, with at least 2/3 of that being tree lined. Even with the very hot conditions, we were relatively comfortable while riding. For those people that like hills, try the roads adjacent to the trail. You will get your fill, I guarantee it.

The campers had a group site at Yellowstone Lake State Park, which is located about 25 miles west of New Glarus. I'd give the park a B- rating

because of the crowds and primitive facilities; it only had pit toilets. Access to the toilets was good because no one would stay in them very long due to the heat. There were 3 shower stalls in the men's shower house and I assume the women had an equal amount. There were no sinks or other niceties, just shower stalls. For a park that has at least 200 camp sites, 3 stalls don't go very far; just ask any of the girls. Some people probably wound up getting their bath in the lake. (New facilities are under construction and should be completed in a month or so.)

The lake was OK, picturesque, but warm. After a hot bike ride, I was looking forward to a refreshing dip in a cold lake; instead it was more like used bath water.

After another hot night in our tents and campers, most people decided that one day of heat was enough and packed up Sunday morning for the 3+ hour trip home. Those that stayed rode the Cheeseland Multi-use Trail, just south of the park in Monroe. Marge and I left Sunday morning, so we don't know how that ride went. However, we did check with the park ranger as we left Yellowstone and learned that it's not recommended for bicycles on the weekends. Too many ATV's. I haven't heard from the group that rode yet. I hope they survived.

I think the SW corner of Wisconsin is great for trail and road riding. I recommend the roads to anyone who enjoys climbing lots of challenging hills. We'll probably do the trip again, but try to pick a cooler time. This would really make a great fall ride, especially with the HOT showers we had at Yellowstone.

Quiet Heroes Receive Award

IVW's Quiet Hero Blood Donor Group has received recognition for the second year in a row! At the recent Donor Recognition Breakfast, the Red Cross recognized the IVW's group with an award for "2nd Place, Whole Blood Highest Donor Frequency, Year 2000." This speaks well for the commitment of each of the donor members. Thank you Rob Alexander, Ron Anderson, Joe Camp, Bill Clark, Ardis Diebel, Rolla Godfrey, Marcia Grebner, Terry Havy, Steve Kurt, Ron Matuska, Rich Morris, Dave Ringland, Bill Semmens, Brian White, and Nancy White.

Ron Anderson, Quiet Hero Coordinator

Help Wanted

Members to make chili or bake cookies, muffins, etc. for the Pedal-In ride. Please let Marge know what you can donate by calling 693-9388. We'd appreciate it if you could drop off the chili at the ride or baked goods to the Semmen's house after noon on Friday, September 21.

New Members

Don Niemi Metamora

Renewing Members

Lynne Anderson-Loy Peoria
David & Margaret Cover Family
..... Peoria Heights
Brian & Sara Egeberg Morton
Jim & Sarah Emmons Family^
..... Lacon
Shevaun & Robert Fennell Family^
..... Peoria
Ken Luthy Pekin
Lou Price Chillicothe
Larry Wegman Pekin

*LAW Member ^Advocacy

President Patty

It's hard to believe that another summer has flown by and it's time for the IVW's annual fundraiser - the Pedal In (a.k.a. No **Baloney**)

Please call Bill or Marge at 693-9388, or e-mail at semmens@mtco.com.

Happy cycling! *Patty*

No Baloney Ride

It's only a few weeks to our invitational ride and we still need your help. This is our club's main event for the year and we want to make the Pedal-In a primo event for cyclists. We need *your* help to do this. Ex: Sag support, baking cookies, rest stop workers, delivering flyers, buying and prepping food, advertising, etc.

Ride planning meetings are being held through the month of September. Bill Semmens, our ride chair for the event, will be hosting most of these meetings at his house. If you can't make the meetings, please give Bill a call and let him know how you can help. His number is 693-9388. Marge Semmens, food chair, is also looking for help with the themed food stops. If you have any props/costumes/music the club could use for the stops (Hawaii, French cafe, Western BBQ, German/polka), they would appreciate it. Also, if you have boom boxes, ice chests, crock pots, serving trays, etc. to lend for that day, it would be greatly appreciated. Food and props may be dropped off at the Semmens' house on Friday, September 21 after noon.

invitational ride! Due to the all-out participation of club members, last year's event went extremely well. We were even recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as having the "Best Country Tour" and "Best Food." Bill Semmens is chairing this event again and Marge Semmens is the food chair. Thanks to both of them, Mike Pula, Steve Kurt, and Greg Durst for organizing this year's event. Thanks also to Larry Davis who helped me create this year's T-shirt design.

I hope we can count on all of you again to lend your time and talent. Like last year, anyone that makes 2 gallons of chili, 4 dozen cookies or muffins, or volunteers 2-3 hours of their time will receive a FREE colorful T-shirt. The new T-shirt design incorporates our strong suit - the themed food stops. This year, there will again be the Western, Hawaiian, and French food stops. In addition, there will be a German-themed food stop. Members are needed to help with food prep and manning rest stops. And yes, you can wear cowboy hats, French berets or lederhosen if you want!

Club Calendar

NOTE - No September club meeting. Just Pedal-In meetings as called by Bill Semmens.

September 22 - The Peoria Pedal-In - No Baloney! This is the IVW's annual invitational ride! The Pedal-In will be held on Saturday, September 22. It's Midwest road cycling at its best! Experience the bicycle-friendly atmosphere of central Illinois' rolling back roads and unique small towns. Ride 25, 50, 75, or 100 miles. Choose the distance that's right for you. French, German, Hawaiian, and Western themed food stops. Rates: \$15 before September 10. After that date, please add a \$3 late fee. Family rate \$40 before September 10. See <http://www.geocities.com/ivw.geo/baloney.html> for more details or contact Bill Semmens at 693-9388.

November 3 - IVW's Annual Dinner & Awards Banquet at Kenyon's in Lacon.

Help Wanted

Members to take leadership positions on the IVW board. Elections are coming in November and we need nominees for president, vice president, membership/social chair, ride chair, and newsletter editor. Please contact any board member if you're interested or know of someone who might be a good candidate. Contact Patty at 274-9145 for more information.

ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name #1 _____ please print clearly 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 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 payable to: **ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N, 6518 NORTH SHERIDAN RD. STE 2, PEORIA IL 61614-2933**

| Day | Location | Start Time | Distance | Ride Level | Leader | Phone | Extras |
|--------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| Mon. | Dunlap Grade School | 5:30 p.m. | Depends on group | Beginners and above | Marge Semmens | 696-9388 | Last Ride 9/24/01 |
| Mon. | Dunlap Grade School | 6:00 p.m. | Depends on group | Beginners and above | Show & Go | 696-9388 | Last Ride 9/24/01 |
| Tues. | Dunlap Grade School | 6:00 p.m. | Depends on daylight | All levels | Steve Kurt | 243-7684 | |
| Wed. | Pleasant Hill School, East Peoria | 5:00 p.m. | Depends on daylight | All levels | Dirk McGuire Larry Paustian | 699-8482 694-3947 | |
| Thurs. | Coal Miners' Park, Pekin | 6:00 p.m. | Depends on daylight | Level 2 & up | Jim Vaupel | 353-6104 | Last Ride 9/27/01 |
| Fri. | Pearce Center, Chillicothe | 5:30 p.m. 9/7/01 | Depends on daylight | All levels & Families | Jim & Sarah Emmons | 246-2166 | Last Ride 9/28/01 |
| Sat. | Washington Square | 8:30 a.m. | 25-35 miles | Level 2 & 3 | Show 'n Go | 699-2790 | |
| | Russell's, Washington | 7:30 a.m. | Varies | Level 2 & up | Don Eberle | | |
| | Pearce Center, Chillicothe | 8:30 a.m. | 20-25 miles | Level 1 & up | Show 'n Go | | |
| Sun. | Various places call for details | 8:00 a.m. | 50 miles | Level 2 & up | Show 'n Go | 693-9388 | Call for details |
| | Various places call for details | | | Level 2 & up | Larry Paustian Don Eberle Jim Williams | | |

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

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