



I L L I N O I S V A L L E Y

WHEELM'N

greater peoria's bicycle club



October 2003

October Club Meeting

There will not be a formal club meeting for October.



IVW Halloween Party!

Cora Lynn Green will be hosting a costume Halloween party for all IVW members at her house **on Saturday, October 25th at 7:30 pm**. Mark your calendar and start thinking creatively, because there will be valuable prizes given for the best costumes (your bike clothes do not count as a costume). Bring an appetizer/dessert to share. Drinks will be provided.

The address is 7621 N. Melissa Lane. Her condo is in the Versailles Gardens area, across Knoxville from Edgewild.

Directions are as follows:
Turn in Versailles Gardens from Knoxville at yellow brick wall. At the first T turn right; this is Patton. At the second T turn left; this is Melissa Lane. Condo is on the left. There will be luminaries in the driveway.

Please call Bonnie Johnson at 682-7771 or Cora Lynn Green at 683-3083 if you plan to attend, so that we can provide enough drinks.

Fall Wiener Roast Ride

DATE: Saturday, October 4th.
PLACE: Jim & Sarah Emmons home
529 County Rd 1300 E Lacon.

This year there will be **2** bike rides leaving from our house:

- Century - Level 2 ride starting at 9:30am.
- 25 mile loop - all level ride -starting at 3:00 pm.

Following the rides there will be a potluck We will provide the brats and hotdogs. Please bring a dish to pass. If you don't want to ride but want to join us for the potluck, please plan to arrive around 5pm. **PLEASE BRING A LAWN CHAIR.**

Please RSVP by calling (309) 246-2166 before the day of the ride so I can make sure I have enough brats & hotdogs for everyone.

-- Sarah Emmons --

IVW Annual Banquet

Date: Saturday, November 8, 2003
Place: Sky Harbor Restaurant (formerly Gold Lion) on Park Road, Lower Bradley Park, Peoria
Time: Cocktails at 6:00 P.M. and dinner at 6:30 P.M.

The Annual banquet will be an evening of dining, fellowship, and awards presented to outstanding club members. We will also be electing members to the board, so your attendance is strongly encouraged.

Sky Harbor is best know for quality steaks at reasonable prices but the menu also includes fish, chicken and burgers. We will be ordering individually off the menu.

Call Bonnie Johnson at 682-7771 if you have questions.

Tanner's Orchard Ride

The air is turning cooler, the apples are ripe, and the donuts and apple fritters are fresh, hot, and ready to be eaten!

In honor of this, Steve Kurt will lead a 40 - 50 mile ride to Tanner's Orchard on **Saturday, October 11**. We will leave **Mossville Grade School at 8:30am**. This is located on Old Galena Road, south of Cedar Hills Road. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start time to allow time to get the bike ready, etc. Call Steve at 243-7684 with any questions.

Renewing Members

Conrad Grembowicz	Peoria
Dion Hoegh	Peoria
John & Kay Mallon.....	Peoria^
Richard & Twila Moore..	Dunlap
Tim & Stella O'Hanlon.	Peoria^*
Pam Shuck-Hoehne.....	E. Peoria
Larry & Cheryl Wegman & family Mackinaw

* LAB member ^ Advocacy

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 each month

IVW On the Web

<http://www.geocities.com/ivw.geo>

enter the above as one line; no spaces

IVW Advocacy News,
Oct03,
Eric Hutchison

Bicycle Funding Restored - LaHood Stands Tall

Back from certain death this summer, the Transportation Enhancements program was restored by the US Congress during their September 4th session. Central Illinois Congressman Ray LaHood, a strong supporter of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, spoke in favor of the program during the house debate. This Congressional vote is a serious U-turn from the July 24th action of the House Appropriations Committee where the Enhancements program was expressly eliminated from the 2004 transportation budget. This summer's committee debate fell largely along party lines. Standing tall, Congressman LaHood was one of two republican committee members who supported Enhancements. (See related story below). Local projects benefiting from past Enhancements funding include: trails projects in East Peoria, Morton, Pekin, El Paso, Peoria, and Peoria Heights. Bicycle/pedestrian planning projects in Peoria and other metro areas also benefited.

Congressman LaHood's remarks made on the house floor during the 4Sep03 Enhancements debate:

Mr. Chairman, I am a member of the Committee on Appropriations, and I think I am one of two members on our side who voted to support this effort to restore this program the way that it has existed for several years. I know it is probably not fashionable for me to be up here talking in favor of this amendment, but I feel strongly about it. I am a jogger. I have been a jogger for almost 30 years. I have taken full advantage of the Rails to Trails Program that exists in my congressional district and other parts of Illinois. I think it is a marvelous program. We have promoted around here a new caucus that has been formed by the Members to get Members to exercise more, to get Members to stay in shape. Part of the way that some of us do it is disembark

from the Rayburn Building and jog down the Mall. It is not really a Rails to Trails, but it is a marvelous place to jog.

You see people jogging all over this part of the country. You see people jogging along the parkway from Old Town all the way down to where George Washington once lived. These are Rails to Trails. These are opportunities for people that would not have existed without this program. The last thing I want to do is to turn this program over to the Governor of my State. Every State in the country has a deficit. I guarantee you what these Governors will do is not turn this money into Rails to Trails or other amenities or other enhancements. They will use it to fund other things.

We have got a \$5 billion debt in Illinois. We have got a Governor who has been in office now 6 months, a new Governor, who has not been able to figure out how to do that. But I guarantee you that if you hand him a bag of money from the enhancements, from the Rails to Trails, he will find other uses for it. As we are encouraging people all over the country to exercise, to be fit, to eat right, to exercise and to do things that will continue to make people healthy, there is no better way to do it than to have this program. I am encouraging Members to support this amendment. This is a good program. It is a program that works. It is not broke.

I want to, too, mention what the gentleman from Oregon talked about, the whole issue of obesity. There has been more written about obesity in the last 6 months or so or last year. If we really want Americans to be fit and healthy and get in good shape, the way to do it is to allow for the enhancement program that has worked so well, that allows people to get outdoors, to ride their bikes, to jog, to walk. What better way to bring people in a community together. This program has been a marvelous program. We should not change it. It is a program that works. It is not broke. I encourage Members to support the amendment and continue the fine program we have had.

Summer 2003 - No Picnic for Enhancements

Bicyclists and pedestrians faced a

rough trail ahead during this summer's hearings on the Enhancements program. John Mallon was among the IVW members who contacted Congressman LaHood to express support. Congressman LaHood's July 28 reply, which captures some of the details of the Enhancements issue:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON VA, HUD, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE



CONGRESSMAN RAY LAHOOD
18TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

July 28, 2003

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM AND HOMELAND SECURITY, CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY, VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. John Mallon
301 W. Hollyridge Circle
Peoria, IL 61614

Dear John:

Thank you for contacting my office to express your concerns regarding funding for the Transportation Enhancements program. I appreciate hearing from you.

I am a strong supporter of the Transportation Enhancements program. This important program helps urban, suburban and rural communities build bicycle and pedestrian facilities, preserve historic sites, and fund programs like the innovative rails to trails conversion program. As you may know, the original version of the House FY2004 Transportation Appropriations bill eliminated funding for this program. However, the House Appropriations Committee, of which I am a member, partially restored the program by giving states the option of allocating existing transportation funds to this program. Unfortunately, this means that state departments of transportation will be forced to reduce funding for other transportation priorities, such as road building and repair, if they choose to fund this program. During debate in the Committee, I voted to restore this program to its original form; unfortunately, I was unsuccessful in my efforts.

It is my understanding that this legislation will be considered by the full House after the August recess. As we move forward, I will continue my efforts to fully restore this important program.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact my office. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Ray LaHood
Member of Congress

RESPOND TO:

1424 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6201
FAX (202) 225-9249

00 ONE MONROE
PEORIA, IL 61602
(309) 671-7027
FAX (309) 671-7309

3050 MONTVALE DRIVE
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704
(217) 793-0808
FAX (217) 793-9724

209 WEST STATE
JACKSONVILLE, IL 62650
PHONE/TTY (217) 245-1431
FAX (217) 243-6852

INTERNET: WWW.HOUSE.GOV/LAHOOD/
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

RHL/pc

Bobbing and weaving with Boub vs. Wayne Success one punch away - local cyclists must deliver the final blow.

If the IVW attempted the Peoria Bicycle map/route project today, instead of in 1996, we would probably be facing a impossible challenge. The liability issues raised by the 1998 Boub vs. Wayne Illinois Supreme Court decision left local government agencies fearful of providing ANY cycling accommodations. That means, for example - no routes, maps, signs, or bike lanes. Even designating on-road connections to link trail segments has become taboo. The Grand Illinois Trail is one casualty of this situation. See the LIB website for more projects stalled by Boub (www.bikelib.org). Illinois has the dubious distinction of being the only state in the US with this problem.

The solution, however, is close at hand (your hand). State Legislation (Senate Bill 275) has been drafted which eliminates the 'fear factor' from bicycle planning. It was within a few votes of success during the last session of the General Assembly. The next session starts November 4th -- now is the time to push us over the top -- and put cyclists back on the Illinois roads. Contact your state senator & representative and request support for SB275. In the tri-county area, this means:

(If you don't recognize your state senator & representative from this list, check www.elections.state.il.us or call Peoria Election Commission at 309/494-8683.)

(See page 5 for list of legislators, and further info on how to contact them with your concerns as a cyclist)

Illinois Valley Wheelm'n Ride Schedule

Tuesday Steve Kurt (243-7684) leads this popular ride for *levels 2 and 3*. Meet at Dunlap Grade School at **5:30**. Mileage will be approximately 20, as conditions permit. **Ride will continue through October.** It is expected that the start time will remain at 5:30, but individuals that want to start a "show and go" at 5:00 are encouraged to do so. Those starting at the 5:30pm time are encouraged to bring lighting as required by conditions.

Wednesday Dirk McGuire (699-8484) and Larry Paustian (694-3947) co-lead this ride for *levels 1,2 & 3*. Meet at Pleasant Hill Head Start School (across from the Antique Mall) at **5:00**. Ride distance will start in the 20 mile range and increase throughout the season. Average speed will be 13 – 16 and no one will be dropped. **Ride will go through October.**

Saturday Show and Go meets at Washington Square in Washington at 8:30am all year. Distance varies from 25-60 miles.

Saturday ride from Russell's Don Eberle leads this popular classic, leaving the parking lot at 8:30am. It is an all-levels ride at a casual pace, going 20-30 miles with a breakfast stop in the middle. Usually get back around noon.

Illinois Valley Wheelm'n Special Rides

Fall Wiener Roast Ride Jim and Sarah Emmons (246-2166) host this **family** ride October 4th. See the newsletter for details..

Tanner's Orchard Ride Steve Kurt (243-7684) will lead this ride from Mossville Grade School at 8:30 on October 11th. This is primarily for level 2 riders and up.

Other riding opportunities

In addition to club sponsored rides there are many organized rides throughout the mid-west that offer great opportunities for riding. The best source for information on these rides is found at <http://mikebentley.com/bike/>. Some of the upcoming rides that are recommended by club members are;

Pumpkin Pie Ride Oct 5 Ottawa, IL Brian Eastman 815-433-5035, www.geocities.com/colosseum/2947

Hilly Hundred Oct 17-19 Bloomington, IN Skip Higgins, skiphiggins@comcast.net

Ride Levels

More details regarding ride levels is available on the web site. Ride leaders can be contacted for specific details about their individual rides.

Beginner/Family These rides are a casual pace averaging less than 12 miles per hour and ride as group.

Level 1 Rides average 12-14 mph and regroup on a regular basis.

Level 2 Rides average 13-17 mph and regroup occasionally.

Level 3 Rides average 17 miles per hour and over. Riders may regroup periodically, but should be prepared to ride in pace lines to keep from being dropped.

Show and Go Rides have no leaders. The distance and speed is decided upon by the group, but governed by the ride level designated.

37 Legis = Dale E Risinger,	5415 N University St., Suite 105, Peoria, IL 61614.	Tel:309/693-4923
46 Legis = George P Shadid,	410 Court St., Pekin, IL 61554.	Tel:309/353-6276
53 Legis = Dan Rutherford,	320 N Plum St., Pontiac, IL 61764.	Tel:815/842-2875
44 Legis = Bill Brady,	2203 Eastland Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704.	Tel:309/664-8597
92 Rep = Ricca Sloan,	456 Fulton St., Suite 150, Peoria, IL 61602.	Tel:309/673-0921
73 Rep = David Leitch,	3114 N University, Peoria, IL 61604.	Tel:309/685-3900
106 Rep = Keith Sommer,	121 W Jefferson St., Morton, IL 61550.	Tel:309/263-9242
87 Rep = Bill Mitchell,	332 W Marion, Suite N-1, Forsyth, IL 62535.	Tel:217/876-1968

Remember this -- your contact has great power. Most legislators feel that if one person cares enough to write or call, there are probably 50 others in his/her district who feel the same way, but haven't taken the time to speak out.

Last month, the IVW sent the following letter to tri-county legislators to get the wheels rolling. Your phone call or letter will get us to the finish line.

Dear (Illinois Senator or Representative):

We are fortunate in Peoria to have a system of signed on-street bicycle routes and a Peoria Bicycle Map & Resource Guide. These projects were completed by the city's Traffic Engineering Department in 1996 and have help make Peoria more bicycle accessible. Unfortunately, the 1998 Boub vs. Wayne Illinois Supreme Court decision has provided a powerful discouragement for Illinois communities seeking to improve bicycling conditions. The enclosed list, compiled by the League of Illinois Bicyclists, gives a few examples of bicycle friendly projects which have been stalled or eliminated by the Boub case. If pursued, many of these projects would have qualified for Federal Transportation funding under the Enhancement program. Instead, those Enhancement dollars went to other states who do not have the Boub problem.

It is our understanding that Senate Bill 275 will correct this situation. It will allow Illinois communities to include bicycling in their transportation planning programs, without the liability concerns implied by the Boub case. We encourage your support of SB275. Best regards, Eric Hutchison, Government Relations Representative, IVW.

RTA NEWS

The RTA met on the Tuesday the 9th of September. The Morton Recreation Trail is standstill. Have heard nothing about future progress. HIKEMABIKA on the Hennepin Trail is set for October 5th from 11:30 –5:00. This is a fund raiser to aid improvements. This trail is 75% oil and chip, so wide tires are better suited. Canoeing and Kayaking are also on the agenda.

Petri-Oliver amendment 114 put enhancement funds back into the federal highway appropriations bill by a vote of 327-90 on 9/4/03. 17 of 19 voting Illinois representatives voted in favor. IDOT no longer has the discretion to decide if highway funds are available for enhancements. It works out to 1.5 cents of every highway dollar goes to enhancements. (see details elsewhere in the newsletter)

East Peoria and Washington have applied for an Illinois Tomorrow Grant for funding to study the connection between the two town's trail systems.

The next meeting is in November, so till then, KEEP SPINNING -- Dirk

ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	
<p>Name #1 _____ <small>please print clearly</small> Birthdate _____</p> <p>Name #2 _____ Birthdate _____</p> <p>Name #3 _____ Birthdate _____</p> <p>Name #4 _____ Birthdate _____</p> <p>E-mail address (print clearly) _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone () _____</p> <p>Signature (Name #1) _____ Date _____ <small>(parent or guardian if registrant is under 18)</small></p>	<p>Are you renewing, or is this a new membership? (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing <input type="checkbox"/> New</p> <p>If new, how did you find out about the club? _____</p> <p>Are you an LAB member (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Basic membership: Individual (\$10) \$ _____ Household (\$12) \$ _____</p> <p>Voluntary advocacy contribution: (\$5, \$10, \$15, other) \$ _____</p> <p>Total enclosed \$ _____</p>
<p><small>DISCLAIMER: In signing this form, I understand and agree to absolve the officers and members of the Illinois Valley Wheelm'n bicycle 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.</small></p>	
<p><i>Make check payable to:</i> ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N, 6518 North Sheridan Rd., Ste 2, Peoria IL 61614-2933</p>	

Summary of upcoming events:



Oct 4	Fall Weiner Roast Ride
Oct 5	Pumpkin Pie Ride, Ottawa, IL
Oct 11	Tanner's Orchard Ride
Oct 17-19	Hilly Hundred, Bloomington, IN

**ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N
6518 NORTH SHERIDAN RD. STE 2
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