

ILLINOIS VALLEY

WHEELMEN

greater peoria's bicycle club



December 2003

IVW Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party will be hosted this year by Bill & Marge Semmens. The festivities will commence at **7:00 P. M., Saturday, December 13th.** Bring a dessert or appetizer to share. Drinks, etc., will be provided by the club. Come enjoy your fellow cyclists and families. No bike shorts allowed, but dress is casual as always. The address is 10214 N. Forrest Drive, Peoria, Illinois. Call Bill or Marge at 309-693-9388 if you have questions.

New Year's Ride

It's time for the 1st ride of the New Year. The annual IVW New Year's day ride and potluck will be held on January 1st at the home of Brad Niemcek & Sharon Murphy-Niemcek, **4061 N Brookridge Place, Peoria.** Please be at their house and ready to ride by **1:00 PM** sharp. If you don't care to ride (it might be kinda cold) but would like to share in the potluck, please arrive at 2:30 PM. Please bring a dish to share and RSVP the Neimcek's to let them know what you intend to bring. You can RSVP at 686-9210 or at brad@ssi.net.

This event is always fun and a great way to mingle with friends and fellow cyclists. Be sure to join us.

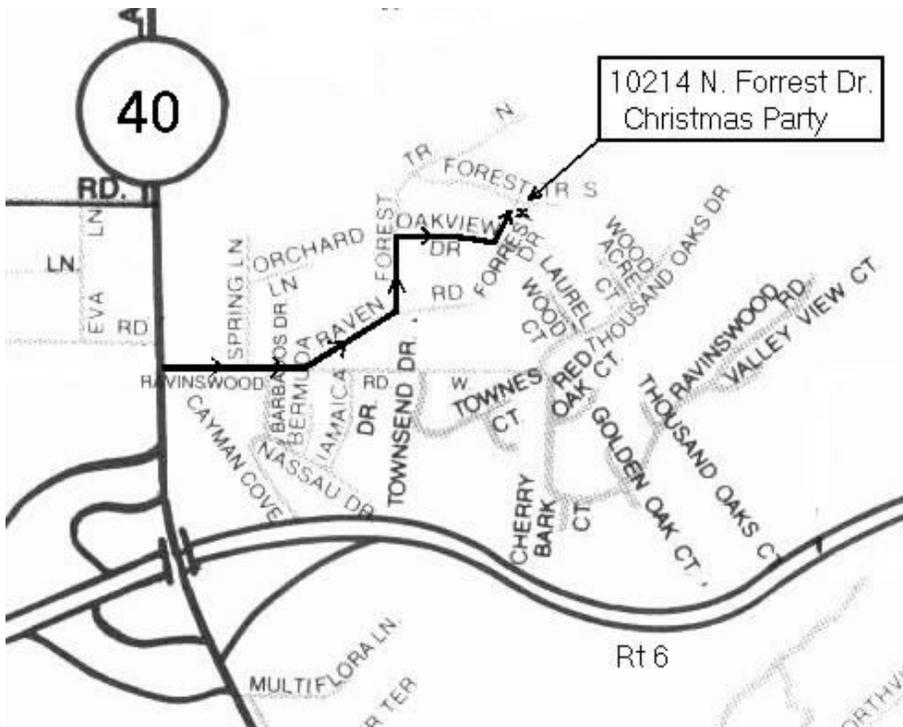
New Members

- Nathan Dorsey..... Peoria
- John Groff Peoria
- James Middlemas..... Hanna City
- Amy Shaw Hopedale
- Linda Simkins Peoria
- Mike & Vicky Stoughton and family Peoria
- Raymond Tyler Peoria

Renewing Members

- Steve Dags..... Washington^
- Jim Degenhart Washington^
- Mike Dvorsky Peoria
- Cora Lynn Green..... Peoria*
- Celeste Hansen..... Peoria
- Dan & Chris Hill & family Pekin
- Pekin
- Mike & Cindy Howard Trivoli
- Ron Jetton..... Dunlap*
- Bonnie Johnson..... Peoria
- Todd Kollar West Peoria
- Steve Kurt..... Dunlap^*
- John & Melanie Martin..... Chillicothe
- Chillicothe
- Dirk & Michell McGuire and family E. Peoria
- Mary Reiter Washington
- Dick & Dottie Rhodes.... Pekin^*
- Kevin Thornberry..... Peoria
- Tom Voegeli..... Peoria^

* 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

Annual Banquet

The Annual Banquet wraps up the business end of the year for the I.V.W. And what a great way to do it! Bonnie Johnson did an excellent job organizing the evening. Thank you on behalf of all 39 people in attendance. The night started out with cocktails and socializing. What a great time, getting to see everyone (without a helmet on) and visit and laugh and have fun. That probably could have lasted for hours but we got everyone seated and then enjoyed a great meal.

Next we got down to business. Shiela Gribble gave an overview of the financial status of the club (we have money). Eric Hutchison then gave a brief, informative speech on Senate Bill 275. By a unanimous vote the following officers were elected to these board positions:

Pam Hoehne (President)
Jerry Allen (Vice-President) and
Cora-Lynn Green (Newsletter Editor).
I look forward to the enthusiasm,
fresh ideas and expertise all three will
bring to the club. Welcome them and
thank them for giving their time and
talents.

All weekly ride leaders were recognized and thanked for their year long commitment. We, as riders, have the easy part. We just show up and ride. The ride leaders take time to plan routes, schedule substitutes in their absence and try to contain the general chaos. The following people were the weekly ride leaders for this year:

- § Monday Night (Dunlap) Celeste Hanson & Lori Durst
 - § Monday Night (Morton) Bill Clark & John Bremenkamp
 - § Tues. Night (Dunlap) Steve Kurt
 - § Wed. Night (E.Pe.) Larry Paustian & Dirk McGuire
 - § Thurs. Night (Pekin) Jim (Photo I.D.) Vaupel
 - § Fri. Night (Chilli) Jim & Sarah Emmons
 - § City Rides, Sheldon Schafer
- All received gift certificates from local bike shops for their efforts.

After nominations and voting the following awards were given:

Most improved Male Cyclist: Leo Chuzhoy. I frequently ride with Leo on the Fri. Night ride and have seen first hand he is deserving of this award.

Most Improved Female Cyclist: Lori Durst. OK, OK I know I'm a little biased here but, she was my personal favorite for the award.

Hub of the Club: Mike Pula. There is not enough that can be said about what Mike brings to the Board. Along with being Ride Chair and the fantastic job he did organizing the No Baloney as well as printing the newsletters he is always one of the first to volunteer when things need to get done. Mike's amazing organizational skills and diligence are a true asset to the club.

Acheivement Award. This is not an annual award, rather, it is one that has been earned over a number of years of dedication to not only the I.V.W. but to being an advocate to the entire cycling community. Eric Hutchison's accomplishments are far too numerous to list here. Eric has been and continues to be a true leader in bicycle advocacy in Peoria and beyond.

As we look forward to next year remember this is your club. Without members there is no club. The only thing extraordinary about the people who serve on the Board and who lead rides and help out wherever they can is they are the ones that said, "Yea, I'll do that". Think about where you would like to help and let one of them know.

Tailwinds,
Greg

Lost and Found:

A 3.5 quart JC Penny crock-pot was left at the Jubilee Shelter after the No Baloney Ride. If it is yours, please call Mike Pula @ 243-9394.

Introducing the IVW 2004 mileage report.

Some members thought it might be interesting to record individual mileage in 2004. It is not a contest and there are no awards, but if you are interested we will be keeping a record of mileage throughout the year. Here are the procedures:

First I would like to have an idea of who may be submitting their mileage. So if you think you may be interested please e-mail me at mrpula@hotmail.com sometime before year end. Please put IVW 2004 Mileage in the subject line of your e-mail. It is not required that you let me know but it will help get things setup.

Secondly, at the end of each month send me an e-mail (again with IVW 2004 Mileage in the subject line). Please report your mileage at the start of the message rather than burying it in any text that you may be sending. That is not to discourage any messages or other information, but I want the mileage to stand out.

We will keep track of 1) total riding miles, 2) club ride miles (including to and from miles) and 3) the number of club rides. To add to the interest, also report # of flats, any sags required, and any other eventful outings you want to admit.

It should be fun to follow our miles through the year and the more that participate the better. And keep in mind it is not meant to be a contest, just an interesting activity. Let me know if you have any questions.

Mike Pula
Ride Chair

Recent news from the League of Illinois Bicyclists



GITAP 2004

LIB and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources will hold our second Grand Illinois Trails and Parks (GITAP) bike tour on June 13-19, 2004. More information will follow. If you want to be on the "interested list", please send a note to the GITAP director and you'll be sent e-mail updates. The director can be reached at oestreich@qconline.com, and use the subject line "GITAP 2004 info request".

General info on GITAP can be found at:
<http://www.mikebentley.com/bike/gitap.htm>

2004 National Bike Month license plate program



The 2004 National Bike Month license plate is available by completing and submitting an application. Application forms are available via the LIB website www.bikelib.org.

The plates are approved by the Secretary of State's office and you may display them instead of your regular plates during the months of April and May 2004. A sample of this year's plate is pictured above in black and white. The colors are: a goldenrod background with black print. A color picture of the plate can be seen on the League of Illinois Bicyclist web site at www.bikelib.org.

The plate sets are numbered from 1 to 400. Priority will be given to those who ordered plates last year. All remaining plate sets are issued on a first-come-

first-served basis. The cost of each plate set is \$25.

Attention Illinois bicyclists Help make sure your area is becoming more bike-friendly!

All citizens – including cyclists – are invited to speak up on transportation investments in urban areas and elsewhere. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) are required to include public participation in long-range plans and funding decisions. This is a golden opportunity to make your local officials more aware of the demand for better bicycling.

All MPO's publish an annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP lists all upcoming roadwork (and other transportation investments) over the next 3 or 5 years. There is a public comment period each time. Not many people take advantage of this opportunity, so requests for a bike-friendly road from just a few cyclists can be significant.

Please take advantage of these opportunities by submitting your comments. Further information including contact information and update status is available here.

<http://www.bikelib.org/tip-proj/tipnotice20030502.htm>

for the PEORIA AREA
Tri-County Regional Planning
Commission, Hala Ahmed 309-673-
9796 X222

- TIP comment period in June (*may be out of date - ed*).
- Long-range transportation plan update not yet scheduled.
- Greenways and Trails Plan just finished, but cyclists needed for the G&T Taskforce.

Illinois Valley Wheelm'n Ride Schedule

Sunday Winter Ride

Starting in November there will be a Sunday afternoon ride from Banner School (corner of Allen Road and Cedar Hill Drive). The ride is open to all riders. It may split into two groups depending on the number of riders and their levels. You should check with the ride leaders if you have questions. The ride will leave the school at 1:00. Distance will depend on the group. As the days get shorter, it would be advisable to have lights as the ride may ride close to dusk. The ride leaders for December are being lined up. Contact Mike Pula for info. (if you would like to lead one of the future rides please call Mike Pula 243-9394)

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

New Year's Ride - date: yes, Jan 1st. see announcement elsewhere in newsletter for details.

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; --- nothing right now! ----

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.

RA news

- The RA took a month in October only a couple things to report in
- § Plans in engineering has not completed the Environmental Impact statement for the extension of the P sur across University Street that will allow our officials to start the Ellar Branch rail
 - § A new bike deck is being constructed as part of the Chicago Millennium Park which will be part of the Grant Park Commuters will have showers, bike lockers and personal lockers as part of the multi-million dollar project
 - § The AP board of Illinois Rail and Parks is scheduled for June 2004 starting and ending in the fall. Meetings will be at Starved Rock State Park, Hawthorn State Park, Morris and Rowland State Park, or Helena Middle School, Lake of the Aqua, Na State Park, and White Pine State Park. I believe more in the land thru IB.
 - § A great deal of bike news can be found at RoadBikeRider.com every Thursday a newsletter comes free of charge. I think many of you will recognize the authors and enjoy it as much as I do.

Dirk McGuire

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 + 4 _____

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 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 WHEELM'N, 6518 North Sheridan Rd., Ste 2, Peoria IL 61614-2933

Summary of upcoming events:



December 13	IVW Christmas Party
January 1	New Year's Ride

**ILLINOIS VALLEY WHEELM'N
6518 NORTH SHERIDAN RD. STE 2
PEORIA IL 61614-2933**

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