



# THE SPROCKET

July — August 2013

## SIW Contacts

### **SIW Web Page**

[www.siwheelmen.org](http://www.siwheelmen.org)

### **President**

**Paul Beach**

(812) 283-8335

[president@siwheelmen.org](mailto:president@siwheelmen.org)

### **VP Touring**

**Bryan Huhnerkoch**

(812) 418-3600

[vptouring@siwheelmen.org](mailto:vptouring@siwheelmen.org)

### **Secretary**

**Janet Jacobi**

(812) 246-5507

[secretary@siwheelmen.org](mailto:secretary@siwheelmen.org)

### **Treasurer**

**Becky Best**

(502) 608-86672

[treasurer@siwheelmen.org](mailto:treasurer@siwheelmen.org)

P O Box 58053

Louisville, Ky 40268

### **Statistician**

**Jeanne Garrison-Young**

(812) 252-9371

[jeannegy@aol.com](mailto:jeannegy@aol.com)

### **Slowspokes**

**David Rausch**

(502) 657-8213

[slowspokes@siwheelmen.org](mailto:slowspokes@siwheelmen.org)

### **Webmaster**

**Tim Meyer**

(502) 609-9425

[webmaster@siwheelmen.org](mailto:webmaster@siwheelmen.org)

### **Newsletter Editor**

**Phyllis Lewis**

(812) 283-4860

[newsletter@siwheelmen.org](mailto:newsletter@siwheelmen.org)

## President's Message *by Paul Beach*



### President's Message by Paul Beach

Wow, newsletter time again! It seems like our last one just came out. We couldn't wait for warmer cycling weather and now it's here and rushing along. We had a real good Adopt-A-Highway clean up on April 27 with 13 volunteers including some members that hadn't worked it before and also new members. We appreciate all the help and we were done in plenty of time for the ride afterwards.

We had a great turnout for the May SIW annual picnic in Henryville on a gloomy overcast day...but no rain! We had almost 50 members attending, great food and fellowship. Thanks to all that helped to make it a success.

About 20 SIW members participated in the Pekin Safari Ride and the attendance was down to just over 100 riders. This ride has great SAG stops and lunches (two, one on route and one back at the finish). The only other ride that I can think of that has SAGS as good or better is our SIW Harvest Homecoming Bike Tour. After talking with one of the organizers at Pekin, they may change the date from the first Saturday to the third Saturday in June in 2014, hoping to get more participation. In talking about the HHC ride, it will be here before you know it. So let's help support both of these great rides. Keep riding safe and enjoy the summer riding.

Paul Beach

If you are a bicyclist in the Southern Indiana/Louisville area and would like to ride with a great group of people with similar interests, come check us out! Just pick up a Southern Indiana Wheelmen or Slowspokes ride schedule from the Clarksville Schwinn bicycle shop. If you have any questions, please contact one of the club officers or visit our web site at [www.siwheelmen.org](http://www.siwheelmen.org).



**Mark Your  
Calendar!**

**Next Club Meeting  
Thursday, July 18, 2013  
Clarksville Library**

**We will begin promptly at 6pm**

**Come join us & support your club**

## **Trash Pick Up, 2013**

On April 27, 2013, fifteen (15) club members participated in our trash pickup on highway 31 between Perry Crossing Road and Memphis, Indiana. The cleaning of the highway took less than two hours.

Twenty (20) members participated in the first trash pickup started by Dan Widner in 1992. Seventy (70) bags of trash were collected.

In 1995, Dan moved from this area and Paul Beach took over this community project.

Paul usually schedules 3 to 4 trash pickup's per year. Paul is always on hand with signs, vests, bags, and most important, the helping hands or as I call them, trash picker uppers. As the trash is collected, full bags or trash are placed on the right side of the road going north. Paul pre-arranges with the county for the trash to be picked up.

Memphis Truck Stop is the meeting place for the pickup, rain or shine. We usually caravan to Highway 31, members start at Perry Crossing, Memphis and the bridge in between. Through the years Paul has had as few as three (3) members and up to twenty (20) members participate in this community event. Two (2) hours is allotted for this event with a club ride following. The more members that participate, the less time it takes to complete.

Thanks to all of our members who have participated. I encourage each of you to come out and see if you can find the most unusual item. Just to mention a few items previously found are: tires, aluminum siding, various sex items, insulation, tools, CD's and always plenty of discarded trash.



**Once again, thanks for passing the trash!**

Phyllis Lewis

*SIW Picture Gallery* - Photographer: Stephen Thill

**SIW Picnic 2013**



**Paris, Michigan 2013**

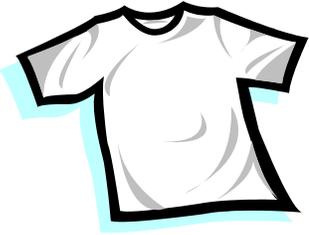


**Midland, Michigan  
Tri Bridge**



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**Put your company logo on wheels**



**Advertise with us!  
Harvest Home Coming 2013**

**Cost \$250.00  
Contact Bob Peters  
812-948-2453**



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**Let's hear it for Joan Gilley for completing  
50,000.00 miles on May 14, 2013.**

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## **Help Wanted**

**Data Entry (excel)**

**Harvest Homecoming registration**

**For more information Contact Becky Best 502-387-0485**



## Can Good Ride

Again this year, the SIW will be holding a can good ride to benefit the Center for Lay Ministry in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Jeanne Garrison Young will be hosting the ride at her house on July 6, 2013. Check the schedule for the time and RSVP for the pitch in lunch.

Last year at Christmas, the Club collected 175 pounds of food for the center. If you are unable to attend this ride, and want to participate, please contact Jeanne at 812-252-9371 or Phyllis Lewis 502-836-4860.

## Helmetgate

It was a warm summer day in the middle of June in Evert, Michigan. A group of 21 SIW members just completed a 60 mile ride. After the ride I strapped my helmet to the handlebars and stored the bike in my motel room. Upon entering the motel room with the bike, I remember hitting my helmet on the door jamb.

Later in the afternoon, another member brought their bike to my room to store it for the night. In the process of making room for the extra bike, my roommate removed the helmet from the handlebars. That night as I prepared my bike gear for the next day's ride, I noticed my helmet was missing. I searched the room, went to the van, searched it, reentered the motel room, searched and cursed to no avail. When my roommate returned to the room, I asked if she had seen the helmet. She asked me to search the van and once again the search came up empty.

We determined that the member, who stored her bike in my room, left wearing her helmet and had also taken my helmet. The next day, amazing as it might seem, she did not realize she had both helmets.

The next day after a series of flat tires and another 60 mile ride we traveled to Midland, Michigan. While unloading our gear another member noticed her helmet was missing. Funny as it may seem, the helmet culprit did not take it. The member remembered leaving her helmet at the Evert motel parking lot. A phone call to the Evert motel determined that the missing helmet was there. Two hours and 120 miles later the helmet was returned to its rightful owner.

The moral of this story: **Keep a tight hold on your helmet**

Paul Gruber



## What is the 2013 National Bike Challenge?

The Challenge is an exciting health and wellness initiative that encourages people to bike for transportation and recreation. In 2013, the goal is to have 50,000 riders pedaling 20 million miles from May 1, 2013 until September 30, 2013. It is open and free to anyone who lives in the U.S. or works for an organization with U.S. employees.

The purpose of SIW is to promote, advance, improve, and enjoy the sport of bicycling, so we thought a good way of doing that would be for SIW to participate in the Challenge. However, we need YOUR support!

It's easy and it's free! All you have to do is create a simple, free account and enter the miles you are already riding.

After creating an account, you can search for and then join the "Southern Indiana Wheelmen Team." From then on, you can win prizes, track your mileage and more.

Link to site: <http://www.nationalbikechallenge.org>

If you would like more information before joining, click on the FAQs and PRIZES links at the top of the site. (After you click on one, scroll down to view the information.)

NATIONAL / LOCAL / HOME LEADERBOARD **FAQS PRIZES** VIDEOS TOOLKIT DOWNLOAD APP

## Did you know?

**If you are involved in a bike accident, your auto insurance may cover partial medical. Contact your auto insurance agent.**