



THE SPROCKET

September — October 2013

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President's Message *by Paul Beach*



President's Message by Paul Beach

Hello everyone!

Can you believe it's September already? You know what that means it's time to get ready for the SIW 36th Annual Harvest Homecoming Bike Tour. It will be the last Sunday in September on the 29th. It takes many of us to pull off this great event. We still need more volunteers. If you haven't gotten with me and you are planning to work, even if it's what you do each year, I still need you to confirm and I need your t-shirt sizes. So that I don't overlook anyone, here is a big "thank you" in advance. And especially a big "thank you" goes to our great host the Koetter family at the Forest Discovery Center in Starlight, Indiana and all our sponsors.

Another thing that is fast approaching is the end of our 2013 mileage. Please be aware of your mileage and whether you are close to another mileage award accomplishment. This also means that October 1 will be the start of your 2014 mileage.

It's always troubling when we have cycling accidents. Our thoughts and prayers are with each one of our members that are recovering from accidents or are struggling with illnesses this year. Enjoy the fall riding, be careful as always, and obey the laws of the road. God bless.

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.



**Mark Your
Calendar!**

**Next Club Meeting
Thursday, September 19, 2013
Clarksville Library**

We will begin promptly at 6pm

Come join us & support your club


(harvest homecoming agenda)



Trivia

1. What do you fear if you have sciophobia?
2. Which city had the first traffic light?
3. Who wrote: "To err is human, to forgive divine"?
4. On what surface is the sport of curling played?
5. In Japan, Ikebana is the art of what?

Please email your answers to me at plewis1950@gmail.com or turn in at Clarksville Schwinn by September 5th. All correct entries will be entered for a \$10.00 gift certificate drawing from the bike shop.

Also, look for the siw logo  in the newsletter, when spotted, same instructions as above. All correct entries will be entered for a \$10.00 gift certificate drawing from the bike shop.



Can Good Collection

July, 2013 can good collection total was **417 pounds**. Thanks to all who donated.

SIW Picture Gallery - Photographer: Doris Herp

Michigan Trip 2013



The seven day Michigan Trip, 2013 became a reality on Father's Day when 20 SIW members traveled first to Hart, Michigan. Thanks to Joan Gilley and her cousin's Terry and Linda Graf for all their planning and hospitality.

The Hart-Montague Trail was our first ride Silver Lake Sand Dunes on Lake Michigan. On to Evart, Michigan, the trail took us to the city of Clare where the riders stopped for lunch at the world famous Cops and Doughnuts Bakery/Traffic Stop Diner. This bakery was established 1896. In 2009 the bakery was closing when 9 local police officers purchased the bakery. For breakfast, of course, Doughnut Fried French Toast. Lunch – "Copp" Salad Sandwich, Misdemeanor Weiner, Under Cover Misdemeanor Weiner and Rookie Basket. Desserts – Doughnuts, Night Stick(long john), Parolee(day old doughnut).

On to Midland, Michigan where the highlight was the United Dairy Farmer's Ice Cream. Some members have been waiting since last year's trip to have this yummy ice cream.

Bike Humor

A bicycle, while on a ride, lost contact with the group. Finding a policeman, asked: Could you help me find a group of cyclist in this area dressed like me?

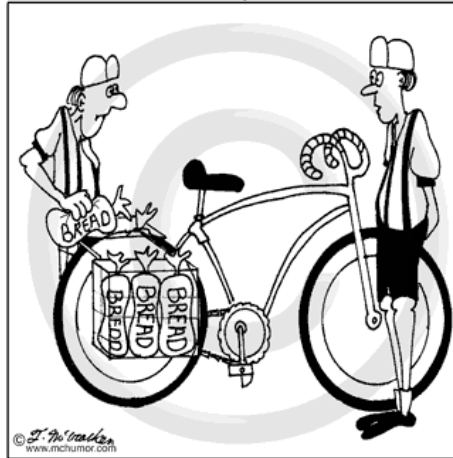
MCHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



A bike accessory you'd be better to do without:
A helmet luggage rack

©T. McCracken mchumor.com

MCHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



"McWit, that's not what's
meant by carbo loading."

©T. McCracken mchumor.com

Amishland and Lakes





Left to Right: Paul Gruber, David Rauch, Carole Sutton, Leslie Maloney, Marty Jones, Paul Vice, Barbara Thorn

We Did It!

Our smiles said it all as we pedaled across the finish line. What a feeling of accomplishment as we saw our odometers read 100 + miles. Now we can say we have done a century ride.

On August 3, 2013 at the Amishland and Lakes ride, we had 8 SIW riders complete the century ride. We had four people to do a 100 miler for the first time. They were Carole Sutton, Barbra Thorn, Marty Jones and Paul Gruber. Keeping us company and for moral support on this 100 mile ride were Paul Vice, Leslie Malony and David Rausch. Bernie Campbell came in at a different time on his century ride.

We had fantastic weather with low humidity. There was plenty of food at the three sags. Also, we visited some Amish houses that had root beer floats, fried doughnuts, brownies and a whoopee pie. There was plenty of beautiful countryside to look at and plenty of "incline" on our ride. Great place to do your first century ride. The cool weather was the biggest plus.

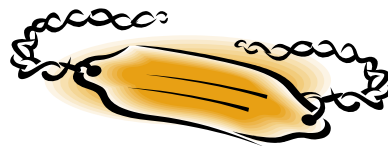
by Marty Jones

Susie's Triathlon



Picture compliments of Orlando Gonzalez: Susie Hammond's July Bike/Swim/Eat Triathlon.

Twice a year the Slowspokes schedule announces a Bike/Swim/Eat. As you can see from the photo, if you didn't attend you missed a lot of fun. You don't actually have to know how to swim (the water is only 4 foot deep), but you do need to know how to bike and eat. So, next year, watch the schedule for the rides and join us. Arrive ready to ride up to Skyline Drive (only 2 hills), bring a dish and your swim attire.



TEAM:

WOULD THIS BE A GOOD IDEA: "ROAD ID"

Road ID USA'S #1 source for Runners ID, Cycling ID and Medical ID... www.roadid.com/

Road ID provides premier line of identification tags that includes runner id, jogger id, cyclist id, medical id, bicycling id, emergency medical id bracelet and more.

<http://www.roadid.com/common/default.aspx>

Best Regards
Stephen Thill



Iowa. It never ceases to amaze me. You'd think that after fourteen times of doing RAGBRAI, a person would have seen and done just about everything that it has to offer. But, you'd be totally wrong. Every year always brings new scenery, new towns with people clapping and cheering to you "Glad you made it". New people along the way to meet and talk to just like you've known them all your life doing the same thing you and about twenty thousand other riders are doing. It's about the locals walking up to you and saying, "Welcome. Where you from?". Some of the friendliest people I've ever had the pleasure to meet.

This year was the shortest route in the forty one year history of RAGBRAI, which made it possible to see and do even more of what Iowa has to offer. Every town you go through is throwing big parties, concerts, fireworks at night, and doing everything they can do to make you have the most fun you can, just for you. They really make you feel special while you're there.

This one was one of the best RAGBRAI's ever. Which makes me wonder what next year in Iowa will be like, and if any way possible, I'll be there to see it. In my opinion, everybody should do it at least once. It's a weeklong scenic vacation party on two wheels. With a little luck and good health, I hope to be able to make it another fourteen.

So, how 'bout it, guys? Will you join us next year? I guarantee you've never seen anything like it and you'll probably be like the rest of us and make plans to come back to see it again. But don't just take my word for it. Ask the other twenty to twenty-five thousand other bikers that do it every year.

See you on the road. Be safe and have fun biking America.

Donnie Gladin



Spring Mill Overnight August 19th and August 20th

There were nine of us meeting at Bradford to pedal to Spring Mill State Park. The weather was great and we were in good spirits as we set out. Joan had come up with a new route both going and coming as we never seem to go up and back the same way. After explaining the new route, it was decided that according to Google maps the new road we would be taking was not completely paved. No problem. Another road was found that would get us where we needed to be that we had never done before. By the time we were finished going up all the hills on the new road, it was unanimous that we would never do it again. We only had one fall on this trip. Paul Vice was counting heads as he wanted to make sure that we were all together. He ran off the road and wound up sitting nicely in a clump of grass. If one has to fall, that would be the way to do it. Joan had wanted us to pedal through Campbellsburg on the way back. We had never done the route before, but this time we were in luck. We all pretty much agreed that this route was a good one taking us past many great looking corn and soy bean fields. While pedaling up a medium sized hill, a delivery truck attempted to pass us. Ooops. There was a car coming the other way. Stopping to take a break under a tree at a nearby school, Peg saw the truck turning in to make a delivery. She got back on her bike and rode over to the truck. The driver seemed startled saying, "Oh, you're one of them". He then explained to her that he had not seen the car coming up the other side of the hill. She politely pointed out that that was the point. Not only could he have gotten hurt, but he also put us in danger by attempting to pass where he did. Maybe this is something more of us should consider doing as the opportunity arises.

One nasty hill on the route home got all of us but one off of our bikes and walking up. Paul had us all looking like wimps as he pedaled on up that hill. Now two days of chatting and laughing together while we pedaled there was only one time we were quiet. No, not even when we ate. There was an area where several noisy rambunctious dogs lived. We decided to keep quiet as we rode through. Amazingly, we did keep quiet. One dog was napping very near to the road but did not even wake up. It was nice!

Doris Herp

Dayton, Ohio Ride October 4 – 6, 2013



Anyone interested

- Website is [dayton grand hotel.com](http://daytongrandhotel.com)
- Price is 74.24 per night 2 double beds or king size, rooms on 9th floor. Elevator
- Continental breakfast or restaurants within walking distance opened to 10pm on weekends
- Bikes can be parked in the rooms
- Need to book room by September 13th, under SIW Slowspokes or Carole Sutton's name
- Currently we have 8 rooms (2 persons per room)
- Any questions, call Carole Sutton 502-893-9216 or 502-291-4139

Little York Christian Church – A Good Samaritan for SIW



The Little York Christian Church ministered to SIW cyclists during the 8:00 a.m. Wheelmen ride on Saturday, July 20 from Clark Forestry ("Three Covered Bridges 100/52 miles).

The photo shows some of us stopped at the Little York Christian Church on Hwy 39 (John Neichter, Dan Purlee, Tim Meyer, Bryan Huhnerkoch, Bill Kenealy -- Orlando Gonzalez took the photo).

I had called the church earlier to see if the little country store across the street from them was open (as I had conflicting information on this). Reverend Scott Chastain told me that they weren't closed, but they basically only opened when the proprietor felt like coming in.... In other words - I could not count on the store being available.

Before I could even say the first thing in response to this information though, Scott very generously offered to sit some water bottles out for us in a tub of ice. Wow! This was wonderful and completely unexpected. I gave him my best guess as to our numbers and, sure enough, when we arrived at the church after around 16 miles, there was a lovely oasis of water bottles chilling on ice in a bright green metal tub! He had even offered to open the restrooms in the church if we were in need of facilities.

It was a long, hot, windy ride - in a word: hard. If we had not "topped off" here we would not have been able to get water until Medora at mile 36. And, by the end of the ride, it's no telling how dehydrated or "drained" we would have become.

So, a very big thanks to Scott and the Little York Christian Church! We are very grateful for him and his generosity! (And, yes, we of course left a small contribution to say "thanks!")

~ Tim Meyer