



THE SPROCKET

September - October 2016

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President's Message from Jeanne Garrison-Young

Thanks to all who came to the July 21st club meeting. Discussion topics included the determination of mileage for club rides and if the definition of rides as outlined in the By-Laws should be modified. Included in the discussion were suggestions for redefining "regional rides." The draft of the minutes of the meeting are available at <http://siwheelmen.org/minutes/club.2016.07.21.pdf>.

As mentioned in a previous email, SIW will be helping LBC this year with the Old Kentucky Home Tour (OKHT) by operating a SAG stop. The OKHT is on Saturday, September 10th. We will be at mile marker 31 - at Lily Pike which is near Taylorsville. If you are riding the OKHT on Saturday, be sure to stop by our SAG so that we can provide you with food and drink and cheer you on.

Reminder: The last day to accumulate mileage for 2016 awards is September 30th. Be sure to check your mileage log at the end of August and September and let Bryan know if any of the information is incorrect.

As outlined in the By-Laws, I am supposed to appoint someone to chair a committee for the purpose of presenting a slate of candidates for 2017 officers at the September meeting. If you would like to chair the committee or be a member of the committee, please let me know. Or, even better, let me know if you are interested in being an officer in 2017.

Our next club meeting is Thursday, September 15th at the Clarksville Library. The meeting will start at 6:00 pm. Please let me know if you have any topics you would like included on the agenda.

Hope to see you on many rides and at the club meeting on September 15th.

Happy Cycling!
Jeanne



**Next Club Meeting
Thursday, September 15, 2016
Clarksville Library**

We will begin promptly at 6 pm.

**Come join us and support your
club.**

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

If your Club Membership Dues are not up to date, please send your check to [David Rausch, P O Box 9621, Louisville, KY 40209-9621](#), to ensure that your mileage will be counted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See Ride Schedules for additional details

This year our annual Harvest Homecoming Bike Tour (HHBT) is Sunday, September 25th. Mark your calendar to join us on Saturday the 24th for the packet stuffing and on Sunday to volunteer at HHBT. Please contact Paul Beach at 812-283-8335 to volunteer.

[Bicycle Indiana](#) has a Resource Guide at the link below for additional cycling opportunities:

http://www.bicycleindiana.org/docs/2016_BI_Resource_Guide_web.pdf

Your newsletter editor needs your help! If you have a favorite ride in November and December that you would like to share with other cyclists, please drop me a note by October 15th with the name of the ride and a website, if available. It will be included in the **UPCOMING EVENTS in the next newsletter.**

Happy Birthday!!



September

Jessica Easterling	<u>09/01</u>
Clare Burkhart	<u>09/02</u>
Brad Price	<u>09/02</u>
David Campbell	<u>09/03</u>
Ashlin Owen	<u>09/03</u>
Jessica Madison	<u>09/04</u>
Dan Purlee	<u>09/04</u>
Joshua Gustafson	<u>09/08</u>
Kevin Kennedy	<u>09/08</u>
Larry Brown	<u>09/11</u>
Heather Hall	<u>09/13</u>
Tim Gettelfinger	<u>09/15</u>
Bob Hamilton	<u>09/18</u>
Caitlin Naugle	<u>09/18</u>
Chris Gustafson	<u>09/21</u>
Kimber Hutton	<u>09/22</u>
Leslie Malony	<u>09/22</u>
Janet Jacobi	<u>09/24</u>
Katie Domagalski	<u>09/28</u>
Kristie Madison	<u>09/28</u>
Michael Truitt	<u>09/28</u>
Stan Wheeler	<u>09/30</u>

October

Nick Domagalski	<u>10/01</u>
Mike Schneider	<u>10/02</u>
Tom Brooks	<u>10/06</u>
Judy Hesse	<u>10/06</u>
Phyllis Andres	<u>10/09</u>
Mary Holland	<u>10/09</u>
Joe Bolan	<u>10/11</u>
Martin Stockwell	<u>10/11</u>
Sara Gonzalez	<u>10/12</u>
Ray Thomas	<u>10/18</u>
Caroline Baerenklau	<u>10/20</u>
Reuben Fritzinger	<u>10/20</u>
Daniel Matheny	<u>10/21</u>
Jan Campbell	<u>10/22</u>
Cindy Barranco	<u>10/23</u>
Len Stahlgren	<u>10/24</u>
Peter Davies	<u>10/27</u>
Bill Horton	<u>10/27</u>
Jan Stahlgren	<u>10/30</u>
John Evers	<u>10/31</u>
Marcy Prather	<u>10/31</u>

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.

NEW riders are always welcome! Slowspokes ride captains ride with the new and/or slowest riders and the riders regroup at points along the ride except. Riders should have some experience riding as these are not designed to teach the basics of bicycle operation.

New this Year! The HHBT Bike Jersey

2016 Harvest Homecoming Bicycle Tour Jersey



For the first time ever, we are offering a HHBT Bike Jersey. Jerseys may be ordered online at www.peak1bikestore.com/hhbt and will be available for pickup at the HHBT on September 25th. Be sure to order early since only a limited number of jerseys will be available. The online price is \$55.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please support the Sponsors of Southern Indiana Wheelmen. A list of their logos can be found on the website: <http://www.siwheelmen.org/>

Need to contact a fellow club member? Check out the SIW Member Directory in the MEMBER AREA on the left hand side of the home page. It is for members only so it is Password Protected. Ask any club officer if you do not know the password.



TO MAKE THIS MEMBER AREA REALLY USEFUL, please review YOUR contact information. This information is provided only by YOU, at your discretion. It is NOT updated by club officers.

Michigan Rails to Trails Ride by Joan Gilley

Have you ever thought you would like to ride somewhere where you didn't have to worry about riding on busy streets or roads? Maybe you would like to hear just the sound of your bicycle, see a deer, chipmunks, turkeys, or ride through wetlands to see animals in their habitat? Better yet, maybe you might see a two story outhouse or a coal tower that used to empty coal in the coal car behind the locomotive? On our recent trip to Michigan, seven Slowspokes with my cousin, our tour leader, found these places while riding on some of Michigan's wonderful rail trails. On Sunday, the day we drove for 9 hours, we rode 28 miles round trip on the trail from St. Charles, MI to Saginaw, MI. The second day was the only day we rode on streets as we needed to get to the Pere Marquette Trail which would take us to our destination, Clare, MI, home of the Cops and Doughnuts shop. About a ½ mile from town, Carole's derailleur broke. We knew a bike shop was a block away from our lunch stop, so after dropping off her bike, we headed to Cops and Doughnuts for lunch. Thinking maybe the shop needed longer to work on her bike, we all decided to have a doughnut for dessert. By then her bike was repaired and we rode back towards Midland. We stopped along the way for another dessert at the ice cream shop where we met up with Terry's wife, son and three granddaughters. The next day, the trail was just across the road, so we again were on the PM trail heading toward Reed City to meet up with the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail. Yes, the founder of our own Meijer stores donated money for several trails and they are in great condition. After turning south on the new trail, we came to the small community of Paris, with Eiffel Tower and all. We decided to have lunch in the only restaurant in this French city and it was pizza.



The unknown rider in our lunch stop picture (left) is my cousin, Terry Graf, originally from New Albany. Carole and Marty decided to ride on to Big Rapids where they also had lunch near the trail. We did meet up with them on the return trip at the depot in Reed City. The following day we again rode on the PM trail to Farwell for lunch. The next day our trail again was 100 feet from our motel and this time we rode the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail to Alma where we had lunch, visited the town hall and rode passed Alma College where Tom Crean, coach of IU went to college.



In this group picture along the Muskegon River, we were looking for kayaks. Some has previously been seen on the river. Taking a break are Len and Jan, Joan, Carole, Marty, Janet and Ann. The best part of riding, aside from the friendships we have, is people coming up and asking us where we are from and how many miles. We could say 15 miles and we would have impressed them.

Michigan West Shoreline Bicycle Ride by Larry Best and Ed Gootee

This was the 30th anniversary of the West Michigan Shoreline put on by the Michigan league of cyclist. It was a 7 day ride with a pre ride option the day before. The S.I.W. members who attended the ride were Ed Gootee (captain), Mary Quinn, Barbara Thorn, Maggie Ridge, and myself, Larry Best. Randy Vanderwerf (Iowa State jersey) from Illinois joined us. There were just over 550 riders the

oldest being 76 and the youngest 4 and the average age was 62. 55 percent were male and 45 female. The ride started in Montague and ended in Mackinaw City. We rode 60 miles most days except for our lay over day in Traverse City and the last day which was a 46 mile days. Camping was on school grounds and Civic center in Traverse City with access to bathrooms and showers. Breakfast and dinner was included with vegetarian choices and was pretty good. There was a traveling bike shop that set up along the route and at the end of the day that could take care of all your mechanical needs. After the ride our bikes were hauled back by volunteers using rental trucks and we were bused back by chartered Cardinal buses that were new and very comfy.

We had blue skies with scattered white clouds every day except the last two, on those days there was a constant mist that sometimes turned to a drizzle, in places sand gets blown so onto the roads so those wet days our bikes needed attention in the evening.

Being a Shoreline ride I was thinking that the hills wouldn't be all that bad but not the case, there were cliffs and bluffs. We rode on paved county roads and minor highways. Day one and day seven wasn't so hard except day one had a head wind but the other days all had challenging hills. The hardest was day two when there were three tough long climbs they call "the sisters". The hardest was the middle hill they call watermelon hill because at the top you're rewarded with watermelon. Watermelon Hill is a 12 percent grade for 1/2 mile! Just before the sisters you could fill your water bottles out of an artesian well, cold crisp water that ran continuously where locals come with 5 gallon containers to fill for drinking water. The next hardest climb was the next day with a treeless 4 mile 4-5% grind they call Philosopher's Hill - A time to think about the world's problems and "I'm going to hurt the guy who planned this!" After the climb it was all downhill into Traverse City for a one day lay over which was my personal favorite day.



On our layover day we chose to do the Old Mission Peninsula ride all the way to the tip where my favorite lighthouse stood. The Lake was shallow there and we could wade way out for pictures. Cherries, grapes and hops are grown on the fertile peninsula ground. We had a rest stop at one of the fruit stands where we drank cold water, ate white cherries, and talked to a nice man that ran the farm. The white cherries were the last to be picked, they were so good. Cherry picking season starts the first of July. After the fruit stand our next stop was a winery that sat on a hill in the middle of the peninsula where you could view Lake Michigan on both sides. The Riesling wine was wonderful, magic in a bottle. The ride back to Traverse City became flat with a nice tail wind and beautiful lake front homes. In the evening

were treated to a private concert at the opera center by Josh Davis, a Michigan native that was a runner up on the TV show The Voice.

The next day our stop for the night was Charlevoix where we saw Mushroom houses with rounded, curved and sloping roofs. Most used glazed stones on exterior walls. We enjoyed our favorite craft beer in Charlevoix, a milkshake stout.



For me the last two days were fun but with the drizzle. I was mostly wanting to finish the ride and was ready to get back home. On the last day the ride was through the Tunnel of Trees. Normally a busy stretch of road, the drizzly rain kept the car sightseers home. The road winds under a canopy of trees near the Lake Michigan Shore. A great way to finish the tour.

What the ride could do better is to provide ice cold water and more port-a-pots at the sag stops which may have due to the emergency tour director substitution. The tour director was hit by a drunk driver a couple of weeks before the start. He is recovering and the driver is in jail.

This was my first week long ride where I tented every night so wasn't too sure how that would be, but not a problem, my tent was my cave. Now that I've done this ride I hope to do one similar each summer. The ride across Iowa is what everyone talks about the most but I have my sights set on Bon-Ton Roulet, a ride done in central New York.

Pre-Amish & Amishland & Lakes Bicycle Week Joan Gilley, Ride Captain

On Tuesday, July 26th, the pre-Amishland week began with a drive to Winamac, IN for a spin on the Panhandle Pathway, a 21-mile biking/hiking trail that extends from Winamac south toward Logansport. It was a very warm day so we had to stop for ice cream in Star City. Joan found the Tortuga Inn, located just north of Winamac on the Tippecanoe River. There was enough room for the whole gang in this rambling, knick-knack filled, multi-level house with an annex building. After a filling breakfast, we traveled on Wednesday to the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum to ride the 9-mile North Judson Erie Trail. After lunch, we traveled on to our next destination, the Lindenwood Retreat Center where we would stay the next two nights. The sun was still up so we took off again for an afternoon ride.



On Thursday, we rode to Culver, IN and cycled around Lake Maxinkuckee before lunching in a park overlooking the lake. Friday morning we traveled to Middlebury, IN to ride the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail starting from the Krider "World's Fair" Garden to Elkhart, IN. The Garden is a recreation of a diversified garden built by Krider Nurseries at the 1933-34 Century of Progress World's Fair in Chicago.



Saturday brought us to LaGrange, IN for the Amishland and Lakes bicycle tour. This year's tour was a one-day ride. Unfortunately, the Amish folk didn't seem to have gotten the word that the ride was one week earlier than usual so we only found one family that was offering their delicious homemade desserts and root beer floats!



For the second year in a row, we remembered Phyllis Lewis as her icon rode with us each day on one of our bicycles. --^

Pre-Amish & Amishland & Lakes Bicycle Week (continued)

Some folks headed back home late Saturday. Others stayed overnight in Muncie and cycled the Cardinal Greenway Trail on Sunday. A good time was had by all despite a few flat tires that were quickly fixed and we were back on the road again!

