



THE SPROCKET

September - October 2017

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**Next Club Meeting
Thursday, September 21, 2017
Clarksville Library**

We will begin promptly at 6 pm.

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

Mark Your Calendar!

Hey! Check out the club website

<http://www.siwheelmen.org> !!

**The webmaster Tim Meyer has made some
updates there!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

[See Ride Schedules for additional details](#)

Sept 1 – 3 Old Kentucky Home Bike Tour
Sept 2 Sunrise Century - www.clarksvillecentury.com , Clarksville, TN
Sept 4 Mayor's Hike, Bike & Paddle
Sept 9 Bike to Beat Cancer - www.biketobeatcancer.com
Sept 16 Hope Ride, www.hoperide.org
Sept 21 Club Meeting - Clarksville Library
Sept 22 - 24 The Great Miami River Trail

Harvest Homecoming Bike Tour (HHBT) - Lanesville Heritage Park Building
Sept 30 Packet Stuffing, 20 mile credit
Oct 1 Contact Paul Beach at 812-283-8335 to volunteer.

Bicycle Indiana <http://bicycleindiana.org/> has a Resource Guide at the link below for additional cycling opportunities:

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

*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.*

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.

Happy Birthday!!



September

Jessica Easterling	<u>09/01</u>
Clare Burkhart	<u>09/02</u>
Brad Price	<u>09/02</u>
David Bruce	<u>09/03</u>
David Campbell	<u>09/03</u>
Jessica Madison	<u>09/04</u>
Dan Purlee	<u>09/04</u>
Meg Wike	<u>09/05</u>
Joshua Gustafson	<u>09/08</u>
Kevin Kennedy	<u>09/08</u>
Holly Campbell	<u>09/09</u>
Kenny Doerhoefer	<u>09/10</u>
Larry Brown	<u>09/11</u>
Kim Stone	<u>09/13</u>
Tim Gettelfinger	<u>09/15</u>
Cathy Hardwick	<u>09/15</u>
Judy Lowe	<u>09/16</u>
Bob Hamilton	<u>09/18</u>
Donna Shain	<u>09/18</u>
Chris Gustafson	<u>09/21</u>
Kimber Hutton	<u>09/22</u>
Leslie Malony	<u>09/22</u>
Mary Hatfield	<u>09/24</u>
Janet Jacobi	<u>09/24</u>
Claudia Fritzingler	<u>09/25</u>
Katie Domagalski	<u>09/28</u>
Kristie Madison	<u>09/28</u>
Andy Mudd	<u>09/28</u>
Michael Truitt	<u>09/28</u>
Stan Wheeler	<u>09/30</u>

October

Nick Domagalski	<u>10/01</u>
Byron Evanczyk	<u>10/06</u>
Judy Hesse	<u>10/06</u>
Phyllis Andres	<u>10/09</u>
Tyler Zoller	<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>
Daniel Matheny	<u>10/21</u>
Jan Campbell	<u>10/22</u>
Cindy Barranco	<u>10/23</u>
Len Stahlgren	<u>10/24</u>
Bill Horton	<u>10/27</u>
James Wayman	<u>10/28</u>
Jan Stahlgren	<u>10/30</u>
John Evers	<u>10/31</u>
Marcy Prather	<u>10/31</u>

Gary Johnson found a slightly oversized two-wheeled conveyance while traveling in Livingston, Montana! - continued on page 4



He probably didn't get very far trailing around the attached bike rack. Ha! Ha! Gary says: "This bike is a display in front of a bike shop in Livingston, Montana. Built out of various bits of agricultural equipment. Unfortunately the shop was closed the day we were there. It looked like a fun place to shop."

Trails of Eating and Riding in Michigan - Joan Gilley

Our fourth or sixth annual rail trip to Michigan was made the last week of June. The first two trips were organized trips; the first to Rogers City and the second to Alpena. We decided that we could organize our own trips much cheaper with the help of my cousin, Terry Graf of Midland, MI and the “many” rail trails in Michigan. On Sunday, we met



up with Jeanne and Greg Rupp and did a short ride around Evert to get our bicycle legs going after an 8 hour drive from home. The next day we all took off on the Pere Marquette Trail to Reed City and beyond. Not finding a place to eat in Paris, we rode back to Reed City and after gathering at the train station, we rode to our next destination, an ice cream store.

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On Tuesday, we went the opposite direction on the PM to our favorite place to eat, Cops and Donuts in Claire.



The next day we rode out of Edmore on the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail to Alma, passing the famous two story outhouse.



They say the best burgers can be found in a tavern, so some of us tried them out at Riverdale Tavern in Riverdale, that being the only place to eat. Our final day's trip took us to Greenville, Mi., home of the first Meijer's store via the same trail. Carole and Marty rode around



the lake in Greenville, as I enjoyed my last olive burger with Ann and Terry. Janet, Robin and Peg stopped to eat in Staton. Wonder if the trails would be as nice as these if they were called Amazon or Wally Trails. Hope the Stahlgrens are with us next year.

Our Trip to Amishland and Lakes – Joan Gilley



Our trip began on the Nickel Plate Rail Trail between Kokomo and Rochester, IN. After completing the trail on the second day, our next destination was Lindenwood Retreat Center, our home for two nights. On Thursday, our planned trip to Culver was made short due to a heavy mist. Instead of our meal along the lake in

Culver, we had an early supper prepared in our kitchen and that night attended skits put on by a group of students from St. Pats in Grand Haven, MI who were on a mission trip in the area. Along with the students, Sisters, Father John and residents we all enjoyed the evening. The next morning we had our group picture taken at the Maria Center as we were preparing to leave for the Pumpkin Vine Trail that runs between Shippshewana and Goshen. The pictures are courtesy of the Amish and their homes along the trail as well as the beautiful fields of flowers we rode through. Saturday was the Amishland and Lakes Ride. Jan Campbell, Carole and Marty rode a longer ride around the lakes near Wolcottville and the Amish countryside as Joan, Ann, Mary Ann and Janet enjoyed more Amish homes, buggies and children. Peg, Nita, Len and Jan Stahlgren rode with us for the three days. Thanks to Jan Campbell for preparing spaghetti for our first night's meal at Lindenwood and to Ann for making BBQ for our second night. The rest pitched in with all the other necessary things to eat.

Pedal Across Lower Michigan 2017 - Jessica Madison



This year I took part in a 6-day trip named PALM (Pedal Across Lower Michigan). The ride was a total of 249 miles but with additional mileage I rode 305 miles. This was my first trip like this and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. Every day was a new adventure and brought me closer to the finish line.

PALM was a very enjoyable ride. None of the days were too long or too hilly. It was almost easy, in fact many people rode it on mountain bikes and one lady even rode it on a one speed. The longest day without optional mileage was only 46 mi. All in all it was an absolutely fantastic ride that I would wholeheartedly recommend to anyone.



Michigan Upper Peninsula

On August 8th we loaded up the cars, bikes and tents for a tour of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Bob and Mary Quinn, Larry Best, Barb Thorn, Richard Jones, Leslie Malony, Maggie Ridge and I (Ed Gootee) were on our way to the 7 day tour. The League of Michigan Bicyclists would transport our gear and make sure that we had food (Breakfast and Dinner) at each stop. We camped at schools. They were also on the road watching over us with SAG vehicles and stops. They did a great job making sure all 175 riders had a great time.



Barb, Maggie and Leslie relaxing on Mackinaw Island

Day One was a fun day for all. First was a 30 mile pre-ride. The flowers lined the road and we were introduced to the typical road surface we would be cruising on. At one point we saw Lake Michigan, then we rode next to Lake Huron as we came back to the camp. Everyone loaded their bikes on the ferry and left to visit Mackinac Island. I stayed behind and did another 35 miles exploring the beaches on Lake Michigan.



Barb, Maggie, Leslie and Larry pause for photo-op on their way around Mackinaw Island



Day Two was a 70 mile ride to Newberry (The Moose Capital of Michigan). The tour director had a reward (\$10) for anyone that provided verified proof of seeing a real live moose. No one has ever seen a moose on any of the tours that could be verified. And no one on the tour saw one. The route was flat with some small hills. Several lakes were seen from the road and numerous little streams which provided a glimpse of the life in the U.P. There were few towns and even fewer places to eat, so the tour provided lunch at a small park. It was fine buffet of homemade goodies.



The Girls: Mary, Maggie, Leslie and Barb

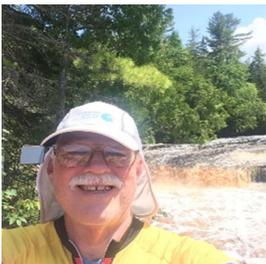


Upper Tahquamenon Falls

Day Three was to be the best in my mind. I would have the opportunity to indulge in two of greatest reasons to ride: stopping at a bakery and then a craft beer. The North Star Bakery was a special stop and they were expecting us. All the baked goods were made in a wood fired oven. They had cinnamon rolls that were massive and fresh coffee ready for us.



Brick oven Bakery



Lower Tahquamenon Falls

The couple that operate this are totally off the grid. Electricity is made on site, no phone {so cash only}, No WIFI and believe me there is nothing within 10 miles of them. The Tahquamenon Falls state park is their closest neighbor and the next stop. The Upper Tahquamenon Falls was the first stop and it is huge. The water color is due to tannin being leached onto the water from the surrounding bogs. They also have the brewery in the state park. Well, we stopped and had to taste. This is when our group split up. I decided it was worth staying for lunch while the rest of the group headed for the fish place down the road. On my way to catch up with them I stopped at the lower Tahquamenon Falls. It was as pretty as I remembered. I caught up with the group at Whitefish Point Lighthouse and Shipwreck Museum. It is a remarkable place to see and experience the dangers of Lake Superior. There was a small beach where you can get your feet wet. But it is very cold! Then it was on to Paradise School for the night and pasties made by the local Methodist Church. Pasties are a meat and veggie popover. You will immediately be informed as to the correct pronunciation of pasties by the yoopers, those that live in the UP.



The Fish House

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Paradise School

Paradise School is small. It only has about 40 students for grades K-12. The 175 bicyclists were allowed to use the showers but not the commodes since that would have overloaded the septic system. It was the only school that we had two port-a-pots with the hand sanitizer station located in the middle. Well, it rained during the night. The plan for the next day was to leave as soon as the bags were loaded. It was supposed to rain all day as we rode to Sault Ste. Marie.



Point Iroquois Light Station

Day Four started cloudy then periodic showers came and went. At the light house stop it started to pour. And right on cue I get a pinch flat. Larry Best saw that I dropped off and came back to help. It started to rain buckets, sand everywhere, and the first field use of the hand pump. We were soaked. But at least the rain lessened and we eventually dried out. We arrived at our next stop and set up



Steaming shoes and clothing.

the tents overlooking the Soo Locks from the campus of Lake Superior State University. Maggie fell in love there. She really loved the gas fireplace. It was the place to dry out shoes and other biking gear that got soaked. After finding the bar "The Wicked Sister" we turned in for a well-deserved sleep listening to more rain on the tent.

Day Five was the layover day. Some biked to Sugar Island using the ferry to cross the channel. Some found the local laundromat. Maggie and Richard used the bus system for a ride to Canada. I wandered down to the laundromat to harass Mary and Leslie. I got there just as they were finishing so we walked over to watch the freighters go through the locks. Then it was back to the fireplace to swap stories before supper.



Day Six started with rain as we headed to De Tour Village. For those who stayed on the route, we watched for freighters on the St. Mary's River. Then we turned inland which took us through an agricultural area which had the role of wintering the horses from Mackinaw Island. We saw a lot of hay fields. In Pickford was the museum stop. Now being old I was hoping that this was about Mary Pickford. But it was about the town and was well done. A good stop since the skies were gradually clearing. At mile 50 we were treated to another lunch by the tour. Not even Pickford had anything more than gas-mart store. By the time we reached De Tour village the sun was out and the tents dried quickly. We had a bonus for the tour. It was movie night at the library. A group of us got to see Hidden Figures.



Statue in the Harbor at Hessel on Lake Huron

Day Seven headed to St. Ignace, our cars, and the long drive home. This was one of the best days for views of Lake Huron and the islands off the coast. It started off bright and sunny. Then a fog bank moved after about 15 miles. After another 10 miles the skies cleared and the headwinds started. I got rained on within 1 mile of the finish. Sigh, Mother Nature decided to show all her moods. But the views were beautiful and road was good. The smoked fish and fruit from the roadside stand made for wonderful lunch at mile 40.



After the showers and the gear stowed we passed over the Mighty Mac to begin our journey home. Fond memories of the Upper Peninsula, good friends old and new and some biking stories to keep us going until the next adventure.

