



THE SPROCKET

November – December 2018

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S.I.W. President's Message

Wow! Another great Harvest Homecoming Bike Tour - #41. A BIG thank you to Bob & Susie Peters and everyone who volunteered their time and expertise to make this year's HHBT a success. To all the riders, we thank you and hope you had a great time and come back next year, which will be on Saturday, September 29, 2019. Thanks again to John with Chris Cakes and Joe Gutmann and their crews for a wonderful breakfast and lunch.

With HHBT over it is time to start working on the S.I.W. Awards Banquet. So mark your calendars: First Friday in December – December 7, 2018.

Congratulations to everyone on their accomplishments this riding season. We're looking forward to another year with our S.I.W. family.

Speaking of upcoming rides and events, don't miss Steve and Sharon Merker's LAST Chili Ride on Sunday, November 4, 2018. All the information you need will be on the S.I.W. website and on the November schedule. Let's have a great turn out! We thank and appreciate Steve and Sharon for their many years of hospitality and friendship.

The next Club meeting is Thursday November 15, 2018 at New Albany library at 5:45 p.m. Included in the business will be elections for the 2019 Club officers and planning of the upcoming Awards Banquet, again Friday, December 7th.

I appreciate the opportunity and am honored to be your S.I.W. President in 2018 and I thank all our Club officers and board of directors for their support and hard work to make S.I.W. an awesome cycling club.

As always, God Bless and ride safe!

Paul



Next Club Meeting
Thursday, November 15, 2018
New Albany Library

We will begin at 5:45 pm.

Come join us and support your club.

Mark Your Calendar!

UPCOMING EVENTS

See Ride Schedules for additional details: <http://siwheelmen.org/rides.htm>

- November 4, 2018 Merkers' Chili Ride
- November 15, 2017 Club Meeting - Elections - Clarksville Library
- November 22, 2017 HAPPY THANKSGIVING RIDE! - Silver Creek High School
- December 7, 2017 SIW Awards Banquet
- January 1, 2018 – TBA Polar Bear Ride
- January 2018 – TBA SIW 2018 Planning Meeting

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.*

Happy Birthday!!



September

Natalie Davis	11/05
KC Dunn	11/07
Naydu Gonzalez	11/07
Tom Hirsch	11/08
Joan Gilley	11/09
Jedidiah Fritzinger	11/10
Orlando Gonzalez	11/10
Margaret Walton	11/10
Justin Ryan	11/11
Will Gibson	11/14
David Rausch	11/15
Harry Cooke	11/19
Ron Loughmiller	11/20
Jenny Armour	11/21
Beth Duczeminski	11/22
Lewis Reyman	11/23
Michael Stark	11/23
Michelle Childress	11/26
Marshall Eldred	11/27
William Stauter	11/27
Deborah Davis	11/28
Bill Fible	11/28
Marvin Heath	11/28

October

Debbie Farrell	12/02
Steve Merker	12/04
Seth Schneider	12/04
Dee Mischler	12/05
Maggie Ridge	12/05
Jeanette Gettelfinger	12/06
Barbara "Renee" Schneider	12/06
Debbie Shelton	12/08
Kenneth McCardwell	12/14
Samantha Metz	12/15
Janet Bolan	12/17
Matthew McCardwell	12/17
Joe Gutmann	12/18
Rachel McComb	12/18
Kurt Resener	12/18
Larry Best	12/19
Erica Lynch	12/21
Bill Metz	12/21
Jeanne Rupp	12/22
Ana Gonzalez	12/23
Jeff Grady	12/24
Carole Sutton	12/24
Jim Blasdel	12/25
Bob Tull	12/25
Georgette Hottois	12/27
Jason Korte	12/27
Bob Byrne	12/28
James Kotowski	12/28
Bill Hesse	12/29
Erik Helton	12/30

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/>

Our Katy Trail Bike Trip

Not What We Thought It Would Be

By Bill Horton

This trip was about a year in the planning. It started with a short vacation to the area last fall with my wife to get some ideas for a good bike trip. We came away with the impression that the charm in such a trip would be exploring the Missouri River Valley history and mingling with the locals along the way – on the Trail and at the restaurants, pubs and wineries. While the route runs parallel to the Missouri River, the tree cover prevents viewing the river the majority of the time. So it wasn't going to be the most scenic trip ever – but interesting, none the less.

Roger Bottorff signed up to go with me. The plan was to drive to St. Louis and take the Amtrak from the Kirkwood train station to Sedalia, some 220 miles west. Then we would ride bikes back to the train station, where my truck was parked. We would be staying at historic old hotels in Boonville, Jefferson City and McKittrick. Then a Wingate Hotel in Weldon Spring for some R & R. Finally a mid-day visit to historic St. Charles.

We've had a lot of interest from many SIW members, which made us feel pretty good, but the trip turned out to be a total bust. Here's what happened.

We drove to Kirkwood on September 5th and got a hotel room. After a good steak dinner, we packed up all our gear. The Amtrak train permits several bikes to be transported fully assembled. So we would hang our bikes in their luggage car and carry our pannier bags on board with us. The last thing we did that evening was listen to the weather report.

You may recall that Hurricane Florence was pounding North Carolina and moving in our direction. We also had a strong storm cell in Kansas, also moving in our direction. We knew we would get wet, but we were already in St. Louis. We thought we had to do it. The last thing the weatherman said as we were drifting off to sleep was "Watch out for flash flooding along the Missouri River Valley."

At 2 am I bolted upright in bed when the weather report finally hit home. I had visited the valley the year before and remembered all the little streams with little foot bridges we would have to cross. I lay awake the rest of the night, trying to figure a way to avoid cancelling the trip. No solution came to mind.

So when Roger woke up in the morning, I gave him the bad news. Getting wet would be one thing, but drowning in a flash flood was something else. So we packed up, had a solid breakfast and headed home. Looking back, the best part of the trip was the food.