



THE SPROCKET

July - August 2019

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S.I.W. President's Message

Hello Fellow Southern Indiana Wheelmen Members,

"Thank You" for an outstanding effort at the first annual "Le Tour de Greenway" on Saturday, May 11th. 28 members participated as volunteers and ride ambassadors. At the May meeting, the club approved a donation of 40 bicycle helmets (\$750.00) for children 12 and under. It was special to see the children light up and proudly wear their new helmet. Our participation did not go unnoticed. This email was sent by Phillip Henderson, the Chair of the Greenway Project:

"Joe – as the Chairman of the Ohio River Greenway Commission (a volunteer position), I am BLOWN AWAY by the generosity and initiative that SIW is displaying with this event. I have been on the planning committee and attended most all of the meetings, and I am just amazed how the SIW effort casually grew out of a simple request. This is exactly the kind of grass roots interest I always hoped would develop for such an event. I can't thank you all enough."

Bob Peters has donated much time over the years at our Tour de Pork events, and has always been a big Greenway supporter. I would have copied him and double-thanked him as well on this email if I had his address. Please pass along my sentiments to Bob and all the other folks who made this possible."

Everyone in the club made this possible!

We learned much from this experience....most importantly, we need to give away helmets for adults. The planning has begun for next years event. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate a little more and we will continue to participate.

Membership Drive: I am pleased to report our membership drive has been successful. We have over 30 new members! This is a result of all of our members promoting the club. Thank you to the members who participated on the membership committee. Participating in events like "Le Tour de Greenway" has also contributed to this success. Please continue these

Congratulations Paul Beach! Paul participated in the National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM in Archery (compound bow). Paul finished 12th out of 25 participants. Outstanding shooting for someone who took up this sport a couple of years ago.

Tour of Minnesota: Eight club members participated in the 2019 Tour of Minnesota from June 15-21st. This years ride was a beautiful northern route on the Mesabi Trail. The ride was through dense forest and around many of Minnesota's 10,000 lakes up to the boundary waters between the United States and Canada. This is a well organized ride, reasonable in costs and excellent riding. There are numerous activities available on the ride. This year many of us toured the Soudan Iron Ore Mine and the International Wolf Sanctuary. I highly recommend this ride for your future out of state riding adventure. Let me know if you are interested in the 2020 Tour.

Next Club Meeting: Monday, July 8th, 6p.m., Clarksville Library. Some items on the agenda include e-bikes, Harvest Homecoming updates, Le Tour de Greenway and other bicycling information. If you have any items you would like to discuss at the July meeting, please email me by July 6th.

Enjoy the hot, humid (and hopefully, dry) biking weather. Keep pedaling and stay safe.
Joe (jpaulgutmann@hotmail.com)



Next Club Meeting:

**Monday, July 8, 2019
Clarksville Library**

We will begin promptly at 5:45 PM.

Come join us & support your club.

**Happy
Birthday!**



EVERY YEAR ITS THE SAME THING, "C'MON TERRY PUT ON A BIRTHDAY HAT, IT'LL BE FUN, WE'LL HELP YOU TAKE IT OFF LATER" BUT NO ONE EVER DOES

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July		August	
Micah Fritzinger	07/01	Liza Domagalski	08/02
Pamela Carroll	07/02	Susie Hammond	08/03
Katherine Moberly	07/02	Alison Ewart	08/05
Dave Meredith	07/03	Mary Ann Reynolds	08/05
Greg Montagano	07/03	Stephanie Fish	08/06
Keith Hutton	07/05	Jim Shelton	08/08
Noah Metz	07/09	Brian Christoff	08/09
Donnie Gladin	07/10	Pat Gladin	08/09
Susie Peters	07/10	Roger Bottorff	08/16
Tim Meyer	07/12	Richard Jones	08/17
Mary Quinn	07/12	Clayton Kennedy	08/17
Rosa Maynard	07/14	Bernie Campbell	08/19
William Hayden	07/16	Roger Bauer	08/20
Carla Renn	07/20	Barb Beach	08/20
Larry Heck	07/21	Phil Samuel	08/20
Rita Horton	07/22	Kimber Martinez	08/21
Bill Sligar	07/24	Darren Piedmonte	08/29
Bill Kenealy	07/25		
Sam Prather	07/25		
Nita Bernat	07/29		
David Garrow	07/29		
Sharon Merker	07/31		
Alison Torpey	07/31		

Upcoming Events

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

Date	Title	Location	RC
July 4, 8AM	4th of July Ride	Vissing Park Jeffersonville, IN	Jason Korte
July 8, 5:45 PM	Club Meeting	Clarksville Library 1312 Eastern Boulevard, Clarksville, IN	
July 13	Round Barn Ride	Brownstown Central High School 500 North Elm St Brownstown, IN, 47220	TBD
July 20	RAIN – Ride Across Indiana		Bob Quinn
July 21 - 27	RAGBRAI		Joe Gutmann
July 27 & 28	Amishland & Lakes	805 E 075 N, LaGrange, IN, 46761	Carole Sutton
July 27 – Aug 3	Pedal Across Wisconsin		Barb Thorn
Aug 3	Bourbon & Bluegrass Century Ride	O. Z. Tyler Distillery 10 Distillery Rd, Owensboro, KY, 42301	Eric Madison
Aug 3	Le Tour de Pork	Turtle Run Winery 940 St. Peters Rd. NE, Corydon, IN	TBD
Sep 14	Misaligned Minds Bicycle Tour	2801 Park Ave, Paducah, KY	TBD
Sep 14	Bike To Beat Cancer	Norton Cancer Institute Brownsboro 4955 Norton Healthcare Blvd, Louisville, KY	TBD
Sep 22	Hope Ride	Hauser High School 9273 North State Road 9, Hope, IN, 47246	TBD

Additional information on bicycling in Indiana can be found by contacting:

Bicycle Indiana • info@bicycleindiana.org • www.bicycleindiana.org

Southern Indiana Wheelmen web pages • <http://siwheelmen.org/>

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 / 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.

Expanding Membership

Written By: Jessica Madison

As one of the very limited number of active people in our club under the age of 18. I have been asked several times how to get young people into the club. This is a question I still do not have a good answer for but it is a question that needs to be asked. After all, what is the future without the youth. In order to find an answer to this question it is important to understand why a solution is so hard to come by.

Even for a teen who is willing to participate there are many obstacles that can stand in there way. These obstacles include: transportation, resources, and guidance. If any one of these elements is missing, the teen can't bike and it's simple as that. Even in my biking family, these three needs still have a large impact on my cycling. That's why involving teens can be so hard and any answer I give can only be partial.

1. **Take the teens you already know with you.** Everyone knows a teen. Most everyone is close to a teen whether it's your child, grandchild, or a close family friend. This approach requires only two things from you:
 - a. To talk with the parents and get them on board and;
 - b. To stick with and mentor your prodigy through the first couple of slow rides and beyond.
I was "recruited" through this method and wholeheartedly recommend it. Biking has given my dad and I something in common that I will cherish for a long time. This approach is not for everyone and requires an already strong relationship along with a long commitment but there is nothing more special than sharing a part of your life with someone you care about.
2. **Recruit not the teens but the parents of teens.** By getting the parents onboard with biking they are more willing to contribute. Look at soccer moms or any other type of parent involved in their kid's sports. They don't necessarily have to bike themselves, but as long as they are involved it will be easier for teens to overcome all 3 obstacles. The challenge in this solution is the act of recruiting parents.
3. **Meet the teens on their own turf by engaging them at school.** A school is a minefield of opportunity to reach young people. This approach can be, by far, the most effective and long reaching approach on this list. Reaching teens like this can be as simple as having club rides start at school 15 minutes after it let outs or as complex as starting biking clubs at schools. Many members of our club were or are school teachers. With the support of SIW these teachers could start cycling clubs in their schools. In these clubs kids could learn bike safety and maintenance as well as try-out "longer rides" that we might consider short. This method negates the need of transportation and provides guidance but without resources this plan can only go so far.

The school year is fast approaching, this can be a great opportunity (solution 3), or an obstacle (solutions 1 &2). If we want youth in our club we must make it happen, the future is in our hands. Only you can take the possible and make it a reality.

St. Mary of the Knobs Three Steeples Ride

Written By: Roben Rosenberger and Jessica Madison

This year, the Three Steeples Ride was May 18th. We had wonderful weather and a great turnout. For those of you who are not familiar with this ride, the name comes from the three churches used along the ride as SAGs. It has a beautiful, scenic route, similar to the old Harvest Homecoming routes we used to have when it was in Starlight, Indiana. There are plenty of hills along this route but as one young man said, that once on top the amazing view is worth it. The scenery, roads, and wildlife are all great. Each SAG stop is manned by the friendly and gracious volunteers of St. Mary of the Knobs and filled to the brim with delicious food like homemade baked goods. At the end of the ride there was pizza and a general feeling of satisfaction that can only come from a good ride.

Editor's Note:

My vision for this newsletter is less of a flyer and more of a newspaper but in order to make this happen we need your contributions. In this vision, this newsletter is filled with engaging articles and photos contributed by our members. Whether it's the story of a great ride or an article about the club these contributions will truly make this newsletter more than a bimonthly update. I plan to accomplish this by recruiting a large team of people who help in writing at least two articles per edition, one per month. The more people we can enlist the less work needs to be done by each individual and the more articles we can feature.

If you would like to join us in expanding the newsletter or help us with a one-time article submission please email us at: SIWNewsletter@ericmadison.com