



THE SPROCKET

November - December 2019

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www.siwheelmen.org

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S.I.W. President's Message

Hi SIW Members,

The 2018-19 riding season has now ended and it has been a successful year for many. Many of our club members reached personal goals. Congratulations to all that did! As a club, we rode 280,454 miles which places the 2018-19 season one of the best in club history. As a club, we need to celebrate our accomplishments and friendships.

We will do exactly that on Friday, December 6th at the Valley View Golf Course in Floyd Knobs. Social hour begins at 6:30 followed by dinner at 7:30. After dinner we will have our annual awards presentation. Please RSVP to our treasurer, Dave Rausch. You can RSVP to Dave by emailing him at treasurer@siwheelmen.org or calling 502-657-8213.

On Thursday, November 7th at 5:45 (meeting to begin at 6 p.m.) we have our annual club meeting at the Clarksville Library. On the agenda, is elections for club officers, and some proposed by-law changes. Anyone interested in running for a club office, please contact me. I am respectfully requesting one more year as the club president. I would like to continue working on some initiatives that we began this past year. Nominations can be made at the club meeting. By law changes on the agenda, include the abolishment of the 10 mile credit for rained out rides and mileage adjustments for multiple distance rides. Please have your voice heard by coming to the club meeting.

The 2019 Harvest Homecoming ride was tremendously successful! Thanks to everyone who volunteered and all of our members who headed a major component of the ride. There are many working parts needed to make Harvest a success. We did them all well. In a year when rides are being cancelled and reduced riders in many established rides, we did a really good job. Collectively, we are a great club. Let's make the 2020 ride even better. We are always looking for members to become more involved. If you would like to be more involved in the planning and operations of Harvest, please let me or Bob Peters know.

I would like to close by saying, "thank you" for a wonderful cycling year and looking forward to the 2019-2020 season. I hope to see everyone at the annual club meeting on Thursday, November 7th and the annual banquet on Friday, December 6th.

Sincerely,

Joe G.

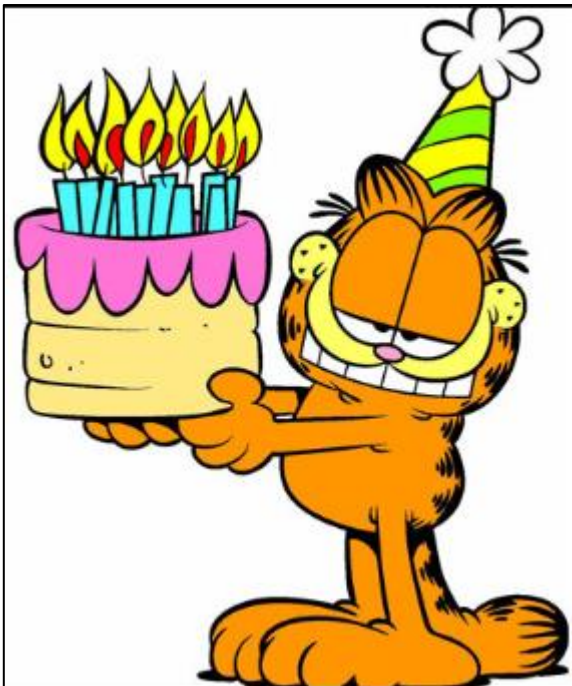


Next Club Meeting:

Thursday, November 7th 2019
Clarksville Library

We will begin promptly at 6:00 PM.

Come join us & support your club.



November		December	
Micah Jenkins	<u>11/04</u>	Debbie Farrell	<u>12/02</u>
Ed Smith	<u>11/06</u>	Steve Merker	<u>12/04</u>
Naydu Gonzalez	<u>11/07</u>	Maggie Ridge	<u>12/05</u>
Tammy Heck	<u>11/08</u>	Jeanette Gettelfinger	<u>12/06</u>
Joan Gilley	<u>11/09</u>	Debbie Shelton	<u>12/08</u>
Jane Deuster	<u>11/10</u>	Kenneth McCardwell	<u>12/14</u>
Jedidiah Fritzingler	<u>11/10</u>	Samantha Metz	<u>12/15</u>
Orlando Gonzalez	<u>11/10</u>	Janet Bolan	<u>12/17</u>
Margaret Walton	<u>11/10</u>	Matthew McCardwell	<u>12/17</u>
Will Gibson	<u>11/14</u>	Shaun Wenz	<u>12/17</u>
David Rausch	<u>11/15</u>	Joe Gutmann	<u>12/18</u>
Harry Cooke	<u>11/19</u>	Rachel McComb	<u>12/18</u>
Ron Loughmiller	<u>11/20</u>	Kurt Resener	<u>12/18</u>
Jenny Armour	<u>11/21</u>	Larry Best	<u>12/19</u>
Beth Duczeminski	<u>11/22</u>	Erica Lynch	<u>12/21</u>
Lewis Reyman	<u>11/23</u>	Bill Metz	<u>12/21</u>
Michael Stark	<u>11/23</u>	Jeanne Rupp	<u>12/22</u>
Marshall Eldred	<u>11/27</u>	Ana Gonzalez	<u>12/23</u>
William Stauter	<u>11/27</u>	William Paro	<u>12/23</u>
Bill Fible	<u>11/28</u>	Carole Sutton	<u>12/24</u>
Olivia Lynch	<u>11/29</u>	Ravenna Cash	<u>12/25</u>
Darcy Sylvester	<u>11/30</u>	Bob Tull	<u>12/25</u>
		Georgette Hottois	<u>12/27</u>
		Jason Korte	<u>12/27</u>
		James Kotowski	<u>12/28</u>
		Nick Heck	<u>12/29</u>
		Bill Hesse	<u>12/29</u>
		Erik Helton	<u>12/30</u>

Upcoming Events

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

Date	Title	Location	RC
Nov 3	END DAYLIGHT SAVNGS – FALL BACK		
Nov 7	CLUB MEETING	Clarkesville Library - 1312 Eastern Blvd, Clarksville, IN 47129	
Nov 10	Birthday Ride	3416 Hycliffe, St. Matthews, KY. RSVP- bring covered dish to pass – 2:00 PM	Joan Gilley 812-989-7270
Nov 28	Thanksgiving Ride	Silver Creek High School – 1:30 PM	Bob Peters
Dec 6	SIW Awards Banquet	Valley View Golf Course	

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.

A New Member's Perspective ~ By: Lindsey Cook

Buying a road bike was a great decision. I waivered back and forth for a few years about whether or not I should invest in one. It was at work that Maggie Ridge, with her enthusiasm for riding, finally convinced me that I should pull the trigger. Then it sat in my room for eight months, reminding me that I made the purchase. I was very nervous to take my bike out for a ride and unsure how to even get started. I was used to the Wal-Mart bikes that last for a couple summers then get trashed and had only ever ridden in driveways where there wasn't much traffic where I'm from. I didn't have any close friends that rode and didn't want to go alone. Then I started to do a little research. I believe I Googled "Bicycle Clubs in Southern Indiana." I was looking for a group that would be supportive and that I could have fun with. Again, Maggie Ridge suggested Southern Indiana Wheelmen and I found them in my Google search.

Very nervous and unsure of myself, I ventured out to a Sunday afternoon ride. I was greeted with smiles as I introduced myself and signed in on the log sheet. The ride went well and everyone was helpful and kind. After that first experience, I was confident enough to sign up for more rides. I realized that everyone in the club was nice and wanted to help and I really appreciated that as a new rider. I learned a lot during the spring/summer of 2019 riding with the Southern Indiana Wheelmen. It's nice that even with a busy schedule, I can still find an occasional ride that fits my schedule where I know I can show up and will be welcomed to join. I'm grateful to the club of how it takes people in under its wings and helps them reach their goals and learn about cycling. I always tell folks who are interested in riding that they should check out Southern Indiana Wheelmen. I made some friends and learned a lot about biking all while getting in a good workout and enjoying the scenery.

I want to say "Thank You" to all of the club members who have pedaled slow so they didn't drop me, helped me learn how to change gears, be more confident on the road and learn the basics of navigating on streets. I'm very grateful for the experience and look forward to getting back out on the road – I hope see you all on the next ride!

A Moonlight Ride ~ By: Carson Torpey

THE GOLDEN AGE OF WHEELING BICYCLING IN LOUISVILLE (1868-1917)



T. Carson Torpey

When bicycle riding was in its infancy, in the 1880's, one of the favorite club rides was to New Albany and out the Corydon Pike. The Corydon Pike was one of the favorite roads for cycling. Made from crushed limestone, it was well maintained making for a smooth ride or at least as smooth as one could get with a high wheel bicycle with hard rubber tires. (It is interesting to note that today with our high tech bikes with pneumatic tires, we tend to avoid crushed limestone surfaces.)

The riders would cross the Ohio River by ferry at the Portland wharf, proceed through town, and then out the Corydon Pike. Rider W. B. Sale boasted that he climbed the Edwardsville Hill without a dismount. Some of the Falls City Club members were skeptical. Wyandotte Cave and a peach farm were two of their destinations.

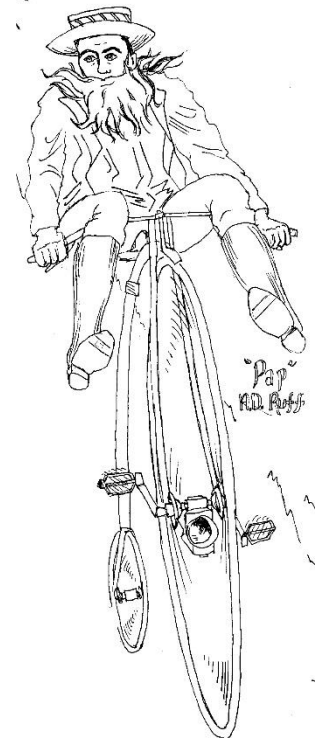
On one such ride in 1881, the riders went out on a moonlight ride. The pike was smooth enough without potholes making it safe. On the way back down Edwardsville Hill the riders decided to "coast" down. Now for those who don't know, coasting on a high wheel bicycle is not what you think of. High wheel bicycles have direct drive similar to the "fixie"

bicycle of today. The pedals never stop turning. The faster the wheel turns, the faster the pedals turn. Braking is done by "backpedaling" and if the wheel is turning too fast the rider loses control. To "coast", the rider simply put his legs over the handlebar and lets the bike go.

The newspaper, The Louisville Commercial, captured the moment of the July 10, 1881 moonlight ride.

"It is a delicious sensation coming down the hill in the moonlight, legs over the handles. There is a pleasing uncertainty about it that renders it charming. You may get to the bottom alive, and you may not – the chances are evenly balanced. Then too, one may meet a team on one of the curves of the road, which is always a pleasant diversion, only it costs a good deal for a new machine."

It must be noted that at this time there were no cars. It is doubtful that a team of horses would be out at night but it could happen. One should also remember that the new bicycle still frightened horses for years to come. Most riders were young men who didn't mind taking chances. That new machine cost about \$150 in 1881, about \$4000 in 2019.



Order "The Golden Age of Wheeling" and receive FREE shipping and NO sales tax. Send \$30.00 and I will pay the postage and the sales tax and autograph it as well.

While the book's focus is on the Louisville riders, there is much about southern Indiana and the Bluegrass area as well.

Carson Torpey
1506 Highland Ave
Louisville, KY 40204

2019 SIW AWARDS BANQUET RSVP & MEMBER AGREEMENT
Friday, Dec. 6th - Valley View Golf Club - Floyds Knobs
Social Hour 6:30 PM, Dinner 7:30 PM

Please mail this form with your check to:
SIW Treasurer, David Rausch -- P.O. Box 9621 -- Louisville, KY 40209-0621

Members planning to attend (Please Print):

1. (\$20) _____ 2. (\$20) _____
 3. (\$20) _____ 4. (\$20) _____

Guests planning to attend (Please Print):

5. (\$20) _____ 6. (\$20) _____

 **Total Enclosed:** \$ _____

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT")

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to participate in any way in any Southern Indiana Wheelmen Association, Inc. sponsored *Bicycling Activities ("Activity")* I, for myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of *Bicycling Activities* and that I am qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in such *Activity*. I further acknowledge that the *Activity* will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the *Activity* and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I further agree and warrant that if, at any time, I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the *Activity*.

2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that: (a) BICYCLING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS OF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING PERMANENT DISABILITY, PARALYSIS AND DEATH ("RISKS"); (b) these Risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions, or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the *Activity*, the condition in which the *Activity* takes place, or THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" NAMED BELOW; (c) there may be OTHER RISKS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LOSSES either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES I incur as a result of my participation or that of the minor in the *Activity*.

3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE Southern Indiana Wheelmen Association, Inc., their administrators, directors, agents, officers, members, volunteers, and employees, other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the *Activity* takes place, (each considered one of the "RELEASEES" herein) FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES ON MY ACCOUNT OR MY DEPENDENTS ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS; AND I FURTHER AGREE that if, despite this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the Releases, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE RELEASEES from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim.

I HAVE READ THIS AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE OF ANY NATURE AND INTEND IT TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW AND AGREE THAT IF ANY PORTION OF THIS AGREEMENT IS HELD TO BE INVALID THE BALANCE, NOTWITHSTANDING, SHALL CONTINUE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

2020 Membership Type: Single (\$12) Family (\$15) - Note: Dues will be deducted at the banquet from your deposit refund.

Complete Mailing Address: _____ ZIP: _____

Printed name of adult member #1 / Birth Month & Day: _____ / _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail: _____

I have read & agree to this release: _____ Date: _____
participant's signature

Printed name of adult member #2 / Birth Month & Day: _____ / _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail: _____

I have read & agree to this release: _____ Date: _____
participant's signature

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