

January, 1986



MONTHLY MEANDERS



January

Jan. 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY RIDE/SOCIAL

New Year's Day Ride

Start the New Year right! Each year instead of a business meeting the Wheeling Wheelmen have a bike or hike at 10 a.m. followed by brunch and a social. This year, since we will be in Busse Woods, you also can cross country ski if there is deep snow. Hosts this year are Ardie and Dick Sorenson, 524 Gateshead North, Elk Grove Village - 593-7330. Ardie says bring six cookies! Map on page 3.

THE PREZ SEZ

Now that winter is definitely upon us, we have to deal with it--physically and psychologically. One way to deal with it is to join it: participate in winter sports. Another way is to stay indoors, working out in order to keep in shape for the cycling season to come.

The best way to deal with winter is to join together at the Rides Committee meeting January 17. That gives everyone the chance to give valuable input to the upcoming cycling schedule for 1986. Jim Grant needs help to plan our rides. Let's get together and volunteer to lead a ride. You will get a feeling of satisfaction from contributing.

So, I'll see you at the committee meeting. And a Happy New Cycling Year to all!

Bob Meute

WHEELING WHEELMEN

P. O. Box 581-D,

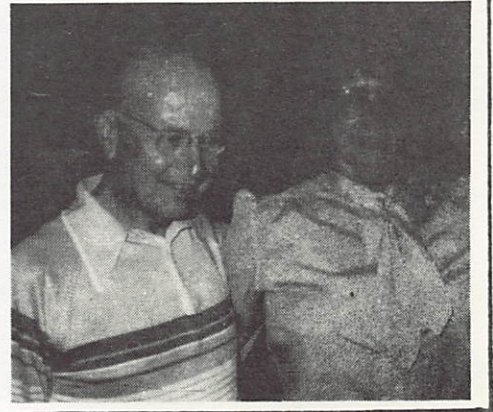
Wheeling, Illinois 60090



DR. CLIFFORD E. GRAVES DIES

Internationally known bicyclist, organizer and president of the International Bicycle Touring Society, and recipient of the League of American Wheelmen's Dr. Paul Dudley White Award in 1980, Dr. White, who died Dec. 8, will be missed by those who knew him and/or participated in his excellently run tours all over the world.

Right: Dr. Clifford and Katherine Graves at Dr. Bond's Dr. White Award ceremony in August.



Vice Activities

A famous historian once said that the finish of the Roman Empire was disunity. Outside forces destroyed the Roman Chariots in their tracks.

The Wheeling Wheelmen are united in their spirit of volunteerism. As such, our empire may last longer than the Roman.

The best way to unite a diverse group, I believe, is to create a common interest in which everyone can participate. What this means for us is to have a variety of bicycle rides throughout the year so that no person in the club will feel without a share in the group.

To be sure not every ride is for everybody, but everybody should have rides. The best way to foster the unit of the club is to have volunteer ride leaders.

We need to see each active member volunteer to lead an existing ride, or design a new one. I personally guarantee that anyone who wishes to do so will be able to lead the ride of their choice.

I hope to see you all at my apartment at 1216 S. New Wilke Rd. in Arlington Heights, Friday night, January 17 at 7:00 p.m. for the 1986 rides planning schedule. Please call me concerning any rides you wish to lead - 506-1269.

Jim Grant
Vice President

JUDY DOI ON VACATION

Judy and her sister are enjoying a vacation tour to Greece which will keep her away into the New Year. She should have lots to show and tell us.

FOR SALE

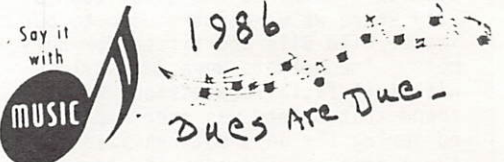
SCHWINN SUPER SPORT '83 model. Black triangular 23-1/2" frame. No scratches, like brand new. Weight 24 lbs. 700 c tires. Gear inches 33-100. Rear Blackburn rack included. \$300. Jenny or Jim Grant evenings 506-1269.

NORTHFACE WESTWIND TENT 5 lbs.-14 oz. Sleeps 2. Tunnel style tent. Floor area 32 ft. Height at highest point 45". Flysheet included which has a huge vestibule. 3-4 season tent.

3 poles precurved. Brand new \$225. Jenny or Jim Grant evenings. 506-1269.

ROLLERS - ROLLTRAC with platform, excellent condition. \$70.00. Keep in condition through the winter.

Also ROLLERS with tapered rollers; needs belt. \$20.00 Phyllis Harmon, 537-1268.



President:	Bob Meute	823-2592
Vice-Pres:	Jim Grant	506-1269
Treasurer:	Dick Sorenson	593-7945
Membership:	Pat Marshall	564-0346
Safety:	Al Petty	948-7288
Secretary:	Phyllis Harmon	537-1268
Editor:	Phyllis Harmon	537-1268
Program:	Volunteer needed	
Rec.Secy:	Volunteer needed	
For Check Out:		
Bike Tools:	Bill Butcher	541-7411
Library:	Dick Ryan	381-1775

Hawaiian Honeymoon

BY JENNY BRUNS GRANT

Right: A 38-mile ride down through the clouds from the top of Haleakala, a dormant volcano. Jenny is #3; Jim is #4.



Many months prior to our honeymoon to Maui in Hawaii, Jim and I saw a documentary filmed on the island. One feature focused on an organized cruiser bicycle ride 38 miles downhill from the top of Haleakala, a dormant volcano on the eastern half of the island. We immediately promised each other to sign up for a cruise, knowing that it would be a unique bicycling experience. After all, every bicyclist yearns for a long downhill run now and then.

At the advice of our concierge, we dropped \$75.00/person with the Cruiser Bob outfit, originator of the downhill cruise. We quickly discovered that unique experiences are expensive in Hawaii. Even though Jim and I are both early birds, we felt that a 2:30 a.m. departure for a Haleakala sunrise was too early. Instead, we met at Cruiser Bob's headquarters in Lahaina at 8 a.m. for the day tour. We munched on a Hawaiian style continental breakfast of exotic sweet rolls and various juices while meeting our comrades for the day.

Eventually we all piled into an official Cruiser Bob van and drove to the north side of the eastern section of Maui to the quiet town of Paia where we were introduced to our leader, Wild Bill, and fitted for helmets. The helmets were BMX style with full facial protection. We found that safety was over emphasized during the day, but realized that the outfit is wide open for law suits in the event of any mishaps.

The leaders hitched a trailer loaded with Schwinn Cruiser bicycles to the van and we slowly began the ascent to the crater on the only road in the world that in just 40 miles takes you from sea level to 10,023 feet. Haleakala, House of the Sun, is 21 miles in circumference, 3,000 feet deep and 19 square miles, the highest elevation on Maui. The road switchbacks through fertile pastures and into the rocky wastelands



of the mountain slopes where the temperature takes a nosedive. At 9,715 feet we stopped at the Haleakala Visitor Center where we learned some natural history and were privileged to observe the endangered nene, or Hawaiian goose. As we continued to the end of the road, we encountered Science City, a cluster of government research buildings on the crater rim. Equipment used on the lunar landings was tested on the moonlike landscape.

At the top, we were lucky to have a good view of the crater through the white, billowy clouds. The immense gap in the earth stretched forever, sweeping down into a barren landscape of varying colors. We were literally on top of the clouds above the Pacific Ocean. In this unique environment, we discovered the Silversword plant, which grows only on the slopes of Haleakala and blooms once in its lifetime, reaching up to 9 feet in height.

After each rider selected a bicycle equipped with drum brakes and one gear, the leaders gave us instructions in correct riding procedure, informing us that we must ride as a group. We took a trial run to test the bikes and our ability. I felt extremely relaxed and had no qualms about the lack of exertion involved. For once I could sit back and totally enjoy the scenery from the seat of a bicycle. The terrain was not steep and I never had to use more than a gentle braking motion to control my speed.

As we continued downhill, several factors combined to leave me extremely drowsy and barely able to keep my eyes open. The wind moving through my helmet created a peaceful flute-like sound. The high elevation and cool air was an extreme from the sea level 90° beaches of Kanapali. In-

deed, I felt as though I was in a dream, floating among the clouds while following a beautifully paved, curving road. Such symptoms may suggest that I had succumbed to an offer to partake of a foreign substance, but my totally relaxed state arose from being absorbed into the airy environment of a unique volcano.

Wild Bill rode at the head of the group straddling his bike in a manner which allowed him to easily survey our situation both front and back. He constantly communicated with the van in the rear of the group using a walkie talkie. The van informed him about vehicles approaching from the rear. The group made the appropriate maneuvers at Wild Bill's instruction, such as performing rolling stops to allow traffic to pass on the two lane road.

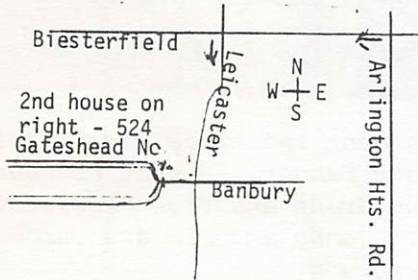
Most of us wore gloves and windbreakers over sweaters as we descended through the clouds where the air was especially chilly and damp. The dreary setting was a world removed from the sandy beaches only an hour's drive away. But the temperature gradually increased as we found sunshine beneath the clouds and most everyone shed extra clothing at the lunch stop which was a protea farm. Protea are an exotic family of plants introduced to Hawaii from South Africa. The flowers have various bizarre but beautiful shapes. We dined outdoors on huge sandwiches, Maui potato chips, chocolate chip macadamia nut cookies, and the ubiquitous pineapple juice.

As we continued our descent, the lush scenery and bountiful sunlight welcomed us back to the Maui most people associate with the island. We ended the ride in Paia and found the local bar for refreshment and the usual trading of bicycle stories.

Schedule

Jan. 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY - Elk Grove

Wed. 10 a.m. Bike or hike..or you can ski if there is deep snow. From Dick and Ardie Sorenson's, 524 Gateshead North, See map below. Brunch. Call Ardie at 593-7945 to say you are coming. Bring a few cookies. Social and brief meeting. Start the New Year right!



Jan. 4 SKI CHAIN OF LAKES STATE PARK

Sat. 10 a.m. NOT FOR BEGINNERS! Must be able to maneuver sharp down hill curves at fast speeds! Route 12 through town of Fox Lake to State Park Road. Follow road all the way to parking lot by park office near warming house and concession stand. Ted Uhlemann - 790-1312.

Jan. 12 SKI, Ryerson Woods, Deerfield

Sun. 10 a.m. Entrance to Ryerson Woods is on the west side of Riverwoods Road, west of the intersection with Portwine Rd. Al and Lynn Petty - 948-7288.

Jan. 18 SKI DEER GROVE, Palatine

Sat. 10 a.m. Deer Grove entrance from Quentin Road, south of Dundee Rd. 1st parking lot after left fork in road. Howard Paul 824-2941.

Jan. 25 SKI DAN WRIGHT WOODS

Sat. 10 a.m. From Dan Wright Woods on St. Mary's Road just south of Everett Rd., Lake Forest. Pat Marshall - 564-0346.

Feb. 1 SKI SKOKIE LAGOONS

Sat. 10 a.m. From Willow Road parking lot northeast corner of Edens Expressway and Willow Rd. Peter Gianakakis - 784-3300

Bicycle USA Dates

May 18 KODAK LIBERTY RIDE 125 cities For Statue of Liberty. \$10 permanent Album. \$20-10, 20, 30-mile ride, T-shirt, admission to all Festival events and pre-paid certificate of entry to America's Family Album, a video exhibit at the Statue.

June 13-16 GEAR INTERNATIONAL State Univ. Amherst NY near Niagara Falls.

July 1-5 NATIONAL RALLY, St. Louis Washington University, 5 miles west of the famous Arch.



BY AL PETTY

In my first writings as safety chairman I would like to say that the area of bicycle safety covers many facets. To cover them all adequately would take a lot of space and a long time. Most of our club members are experienced riders, so they probably know quite a bit about bicycle safety. My aim for these riders is to occasionally remind them of things we perhaps forget or take for granted. For the newer, less experienced riders, I hope to share some important aspects of bicycle safety that will make their riding experiences enjoyable and safe.

1) First, my congratulations to our own club member John Storaasli, who has written an article in the Nov/Dec. issue of *BICYCLE USA* magazine. He covers "On-Road Communication" simply and to the point. John mentions about using your senses to become a more effective and safe rider. I encourage all of our members to check out John's article.

2) While riding with my family (6 of us) one Saturday in October, we found several groups of so-called "experienced" riders being inconsiderate and, in one instance, endangering our little group. Three sets of "fast" riders came past our group and none of them bothered to announce their presence by calling our "Bikers on your left." Even when riding with a rear-view mirror on your bike or helmet, you don't always see riders from the rear right away. Needless to say I was a little taken back by their attitude (and lack of friendliness).

My oldest son, Jay, (17), quite a fast rider himself, chased the last group down and gave them a piece of "our" mind. There is no law that says you have to announce your presence, but good cyclists know how helpful it is to know when they are being passed, as well as when to announce when they are passing others. The next time a passing cyclist announces his presence, perhaps you can say *thank you*. He will get a good feeling inside and know that his awareness of other cyclists is appreciated.

3) My third little item concerns safety of the bicycle from a motorist's point of view. Since most all of us drive, we usually are much

more aware of our cyclist friends, experienced or not. The Illinois Rules of the Road says:

a) "Be especially careful when passing a bicycle. Sometimes the cyclist is inexperienced and may make an unexpected maneuver." (Do you make unexpected maneuvers?) "Give the cyclist plenty of room, and be prepared to stop if necessary."

b) "A bicycle is sometimes difficult to see amid other traffic. The hour of darkness, or where visibility conditions are poor, are especially dangerous. Be watchful of cyclists along the road or in intersections, and adjust your movement to allow for any turn they make." (Are you cautious when turning or preparing for turns? Do you give plenty of warning to cars about your intentions?)

c) "If the cyclist is traveling between you and the side of the road as you are preparing to turn, be sure he knows of your intention and is not in your path as you make the turn. If he is riding along the right edge of the roadway, in accordance with the law, you must wait until he slows down to allow you to turn in front of him, or proceed through the turning area before you make your turn." (Are you aware of this situation at intersections?)

If you are the cyclist in these three situations, as most of us have been consider how the motorist sees you. Now, as a motorist and a cyclist you can be more aware of bicycle safety by being alert whether on the saddle or in the cushioned chair.

Be safe and enjoy cycling.



Holiday Party

The snow was practically gone so our Holiday Party could start off with a bicycle ride - but the Weatherman came up with a 20° day! It was bright and sunny as 30 members gathered in Deerfield at Jack and Lillian Russell's home. Our grab bag gifts were numbered and placed under the tree. Elida Rech and Don Derebey biked over from Arlington Heights! The hardier members set out on a 15-mile bike ride; others set a fast paced walk, feeling it would be warmer on fingers and toes. A few stayed at the Russell's helping Lillian pop all sorts of ingredients into a big pot for International Stew. We enjoyed the variety of potluck dishes and gathered around the tree for opening the grab bag packages. Our newlyweds Jenny and Jim Grant brought Hawaiian album.

Annual Banquet

Photos by Phyllis W. Harmon



1986 OFFICERS: Pat Marshall, Membership; Bob Meute, President; Phyllis Harmon, Secretary; Jim Grant, Vice-Pres/Ride Chairman; Al Petty, Safety; Dick Sorenson, Treasurer.



Twice President and twice Vice President Elliott Kanner, newsletter contributor Jenny Grant and Vice President Jim Grant. Jenny and Jim are our most recent newlyweds.



Past Secretary and Past President Sherry and Ted Uhlemann; Club member Pat McGleam who entertained us with music and slides of his bicycle trip to beautiful Ireland; Lynn and Al Petty, Safety Chairman.



Hosts for our Christmas party, Jack and Lillian Russell. Lillian was recognized for making the most progress in bicycling in 1985.



Jean, Dick and Rob Schaller. Dick has been a tremendous help to the club this year by putting all of our membership on a computer, thereby keeping membership up to date and also providing mailing labels for newsletters and notices. Rob pedaled 10,000 miles this year!



Betty and Bob Vargas



Bill and Eileen Butcher. Bill is in charge of bike repair tools members can check out.