

20th ANNIVERSARY MONTHLY MEANDERS



WHEELING WHEELMEN

P.O. BOX 581-D
WHEELING, ILLINOIS 60090

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May Meeting



Thursday, May 3rd, 7:30 pm, Wheeling High School cafeteria. Al and Lynn Petty present "The All-Terrain-Bicycle, Another Way To Cycling Enjoyment," a gala affair full of video fun and adventure! **See-** a video account of the thrills (and spills?) of ATB biking in exotic locations. **Learn-** everything you always wanted to know about ATBs but were afraid to ask. **Hear-** Al's story of how he single-handedly fought a wild bear and saved everyone in his party. Then hear Lynn explain how once he's on his Mountain bike, Al tends to get a bit carried away! A night not to be missed!!!!

Prez Sez

-Hans Predel

This month's column is devoted to issues that will be discussed at the May meeting. 1) Wauconda Orchards and Wauconda National Bank have approached us on joint sponsorship of a "Strawberry" theme invitational in June, 1991. Possible routes: 28 miles (the St Pat's route) and 55 miles (out to Woodstock?). Initial thoughts, they would underwrite most of the costs, offer a brat & "beer" (Coke) in the price of the fee and let the club tack on a profit for helping to organize and run the event. I'm excited about it because Wauconda is a great jumping off place and I think we can realize some nice income for the club. We need an organizer to work with the club Board on this event. The bank and orchard will be pitching in with volunteers, so most of the work is in planning and delegating different parts of the event. Call me if you are interested in creating a new Chicagoland invitational sure to be a hit with the cyclists! 2) Andy Dane and crew (of which I am one) have run the St Pat's ride for a number of years now. It's time for somebody else to take over and let us ride it with the other riders. It's a unique event which has become a tradition with many cyclists in Chicago. The ride is already pre-packaged and just needs a new chair. Call Andy or myself for further details. 3) The board discussed dues and believes an increase for next year is necessary. In the May meeting we will outline the reasons, how much and when. June newsletter will contain

a resolution for member approval per our constitution. While all these "weighty" issues are floating around, the season has begun in earnest. Let's not forget to enjoy the club's calendar in the months ahead!

Safety Corner



-Jerry Rice

It seems I have inherited the dubious honor of awarding the Cracked Helmet Award every month. Please view the award as a helpful hint for the whole club rather than an insult to the nominees. Since I can't be on every ride, I'll gladly take nominations from anyone with a beef with something they've seen on a ride.

This month's award goes to the ride leader who deviated from his planned route and took a short cut the wrong way down a one-way street. At the end of the one-way street, the cross street was under construction and impassible. Of course all the other riders in the group (including yours truly) were just as guilty for following. This brings up an important point for ride leaders- check out your route about a week before your scheduled ride! Summer roadwork has begun and is already wreaking havoc with ride going through the Penny Road area. Another idea- get a friend to ride sweep and both of you ride the dry run together so you're both familiar with the route.

On a positive note, the ride leader above was **very good** about stopping to regroup and let slower riders catch up as well as getting the group completely off the road at these stops. Another good sign, 83% of the riders were wearing helmets! I'd like to see this reach 100%, but this is a great start! Happy cycling, and remember....BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING!

WHEELING BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:	Hans Predel	255-4029
VICE PRES:	Carol/Woyteck	392-0530
TREASURER:	Andy Dane	*271-5718
SAFETY:	Jerry Rice	870-8127
MEMBERSHIP:	Lisa Gerhold	803-3998
EDITOR:	Linda Svrcek	965-8249

FOR CHECK OUT:

BIKE BOOKS:	Roy Erikson	381-5128
*(312) area code; all others are (708)		
WHEELING RIDE/INFO LINE		989-7373



Affillate

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Anniversary Corner

-Article and photo send in by Phyllis W. Harmon.

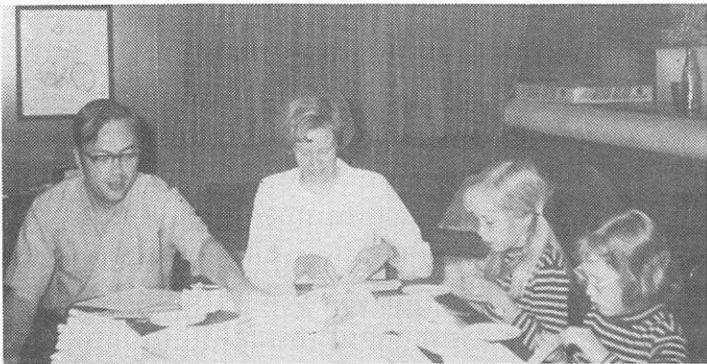


Photo: Dick, Sue, Debbie and Karen Dexheimer. Dick and Sue became the first president and secretary of the Wheeling Wheelmen.

TO THE RESCUE-BULLETIN MAILED OUT

Dick, Sue, Debbie and Karen Dexheimer of Wheeling came to the rescue when we were suddenly faced with a mailing crisis with the May L.A.W. Bulletin. Somehow the former Evanston, Illinois, permit number was used (in the mailing box on the back cover) instead of the current Chicago number. It wasn't until the BULLETIN was all ready to go to the post office that the mailing service discovered the mix-up. With a flurry of phone calls, Dorothy Hart (L.A.W. National Secretary) bought 1500 \$.12 stamps. I raced to her house in Chicago right from work and picked up six SACKS of BULLETINS and the stamps. I raced back to Wheeling in time for the Drexheimers and Willard Harmon to help stamp them all so as to get them to the post office the next morning.

The Dexheimers were newcomers to the Wheeling Wheelmen and hadn't even gotten their L.A.W. application blank in yet, but they worked industriously. The little girls' attitude was delightful! Comments from them like "Look! There are only four more bags to go!" were frequent as they faced mountains of BULLETINS piled high on the table in my recreation room.

This is another L.A.W. family that has really become "hooked" on cycling. The little girls are now riding up to 35 miles on a trip, and in August the family will cycle up to Green Bay and Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

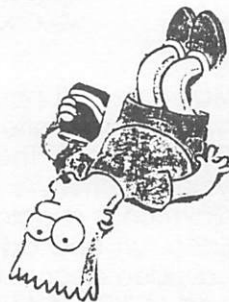
This article appeared in the July, 1970, L.A.W. Bulletin.

L.A.W. Membership

In this newsletter, you'll find a special form to join the League of American Wheelmen which will result in the club getting a refund of \$5.00 for each new membership. This is a special opportunity to belong to a worthwhile organization. With your dues, LAW sends out a full color newsletter, tour information, in every U.S. state (maybe overseas too), runs Friendship houses (places where you can stay overnight and be welcomed) and has a very strong

bicycle advocacy program. I find that LAW's legal representative is in the forefront of all major issues confronting us today. Also the League's special rallies held each year can only be accessed if you are a league member. If you need further information about LAW, please call either Phyllis Harmon or Keith Kingbay.

Igor's Successor Named!



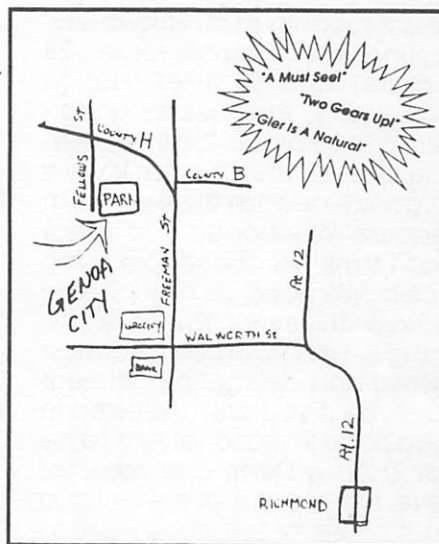
And the winner is (envelope please)...IGOR! That's right, due to a deafening silence on my phone lines, I will continue to serve as editor in chief. Okay, last month I asked for a replacement. Perhaps this seemed a big task for one person. Okay, attempt

number two...I'm now begging (and it's not a pretty sight!) for a support staff. If you're interested, please call me at 965-8249. There are a lot of things you can do! Thank you for your support!!!

Spring Green, WI

There is still room for one single female for the June 22-24 Spring Green weekend. Others interested call Fran Green 606-9004 (W) or Al Berman 541-9248 (H) or 948-0600 for possible alternate accommodations.

Walworth, WI Revisited



Come one come all to the second annual "Wall-To-Wall Walworth" ride, winner of the coveted 1989 "Best Ride Of The Year!" From the minute you pull into the parking lot at Fellows Street Park in Genoa, Wisconsin to the time you return 100 miles later, you will cycle

some of the most beautiful, bike-friendly roads in the area!

Route goes from Genoa City, north towards Eagle, WI. Catch breathtaking views from every hilltop! We'll also bike through the Kettle Moraine area (with lunch stop at the LaGrange General Store...Mmmmmmm!!!!).

All levels of riders are welcome to enjoy the first Wheeling century of the season. See ride schedule for more details.

The \$12,000 Bike

-Dick Sorenson

It all started when L.L. Bean and Eddie Bauer began sending their catalogs to "Dick Sorenson or current resident." Not so long ago they were the only available sources of decent outdoor clothing and gear. They've always been fascinating and much too tempting. Then came the bicycling catalogs, Performance, Bikeology and several others who have since dropped out via Chapter 11. Now, thanks to our good credit, plastic cards and vulnerability, we receive hundreds of catalogs each year. In fact we once stacked all the catalogs we received before Christmas that year and the pile threatened to go through the ceiling. I understand why our mailman isn't always friendly toward us!

Just the other day I found the pinnacle of all catalogs stuffed into our mailbox. No, not Sharper Image or Neiman-Marcus- we've been getting those for years. It was the Spring catalog from Hammacher Schlemmer, showing two bikes on the cover. The ad for the featured bike was on the inside back cover.

There it was in all its splendor! Very sleek and colorful. "Tour de France Winning Racer," the ad read, "custom-built to your personal specifications by Bottechia; aero handlebars, carbon composite disc rear wheel, Columbus "Air" tubing, 12-speed gearing and Mavic components. Weight 23 lbs. Price \$12,000. Yes **TWELVE THOUSAND DOLLARS!** As in dollar sign, twelve comma zero zero zero point zero zero.

Billed as the same model that won the Tour de France in 1989, the ad spends a considerable amount of verbiage explaining why the aero handlebars and carbon disc rear wheel are real nice and racy.

The most obvious problems I have with this are:

- 1) Who would pay \$12,000 for a bike?
- 2) Who would buy a bike through this catalog?
- 3) Why is this bike in this particular catalog?

My guess is that cycling has finally come of age! It's now trendy to own a "nice" bike and, for a growing percentage of our population, whatever is trendy becomes a necessity. Might as well get one for the spouse too! I can see it now- the bikes arrive by UPS (allowing 12 weeks for delivery) and the proud new owners take them for a spin around the block aero bars and all. Followed by moans of "this is uncomfortable! Let's take them back to H & S to get upright handlebars installed...and some nice padded seats with springs...and fenders." After that, a few weeks later, their new bikes end up in the garage, alongside the other yuppie sport toys they've tried and grown disenchanted with.

Yes, the ad for the \$12,000 bike clearly shows biking has hit the big time. No doubt due to the well-publicized exploits of Greg LeMond in the 1989 Tour de France, I, for one will be grateful when our sport is no longer "in." Do we really need the numbers? Don't we really seek to encourage those seeking a quality, self-gratifying biking experience?

For those interested in the \$12,000 bike, you can call 1-800-227-3528 and ask for Mr. Ernie Hovland. Please mention my article if you do; perhaps Ernie will give me a 10% discount.

Rides Reridden

Apple Pie Ride, April 1: Elliot Kanner writes: April 1st really fooled us! A cloudy morning following a rainy night lead me to expect few participants, but lo and behold 43 riders emerged from the fog to begin the 35 mile route! A real encouragement for the season ahead, especially since we recruited several new members. Following our traditional cider and donut stop at Wauconda Orchards, the group returned just minutes before it rained!

St. Pat's Big Success

St. Pat's Invitational, April 18: Andy Dane writes: 318 hearty souls braved snow squalls, cold temperatures and headwinds to participate in our annual St. Pat's Day Ride. As always our volunteers worked hard to welcome riders (and to keep warm) and offer assistance when necessary. My thanks to those who volunteered their time, talent, and resources to make the ride an overwhelming success!!

For Sale

LIKE NEW Trek 820, 18" Mountain Bike (1988). Ridden seldom by little, old school teacher. \$350. Save sales tax, accessories and new model price. Call Kitty Hayes (708) 945-5018.

62CM KLEIN (AL) QUANTUM. Light metallic blue, full braze-ons. Incl. bottom bracket BB tools extra bearings, campy SR seatpost, Shimano 105 HDST., pump and Blackburn painted to match frame. Used one season. \$400/OBO. Call Ray Diggs (708) 948-0604.

56CM CYCLERY NORTH BIKE. Red fades to silver (Imron). Full campy super record, custom built bladed spoked Aspen sew-ups, Prugnat cutout lugs, Hellenic stays, Columbus SP/SL, Cat-eye solar, new tires, regina SL freewheel. \$800/OBO. Call Ray Diggs (708) 948-0604.



Wanted

CHILD SEAT to mount on back of bike and infant helmet. Call Linda Christensen (708) 351-3034.

Ride Schedule



APRIL 28: LAMB'S FARM RIDE

SAT 28 miles. 10:00. Potawotomie Woods, Wheeling. Dundee, east of Milwaukee. Bring lunch. Lucy Wathen, 729-3248.

APRIL 28: CAROL'S SILVER LAKE RIDE (NEW)

SAT 62 miles. 9:00. David Park, Zion. 4 miles east of I-94 on 21st. Lunch in town. Carol Pasowic, 392-0530.

APRIL 29: IGOR'S AUDOBON RIDE (NEW ROUTE)

SUN 46 miles. 9:00. Eisenhower Jr. High, Hoffman Estates. Moderately hilly. Lunch in town. Igor Svrcek, 965-8249.

MAY 5: JOHNSON MOUND RIDE

SAT 63 miles. 8:00. Wing Park, Elgin. S of NW tollway, 4 lights to Wing. W 1/2 mile. Mel Robbinson, 843-0422.

MAY 6: WALL-TO-WALL WALWORTH, WISCONSIN

SUN 100 miles. 7:30. Fellows Street Park, Genoa City, WI. Cycle beautiful Walworth Cty, WI. See page 2 for map and details. Christine Gier, (708) 359-5624

MAY 6: COVERED BRIDGE RIDE

SUN 45 miles. NEW START TIME 9:00. Kildeer School, Long Grove. Scenic covered bridge area. Hilly- bring "Ms. G. Gear!" Brn bag/Pub menu. Howard Bronson, 475-1198.

MAY 12: BROOKFIELD ZOO RIDE

SAT 55 miles. 8:00. Busse Woods, Golf Rd. W of Algonquin, E of 53. Approx. 2 hrs at zoo, bring lock. Al Dargiel (312) 685-7708.

MAY 12: TOUR KETTLE MORaine (NEW)

SAT 60 miles. 9:00. LaGrange, WI. Starts from General Store, Hwys 12 and H. 2 loops. Carol/Woyteck, 392-0530.

MAY 13: AL'S HALF CENTURY (NEW)

SUN 50 miles. 7:00. Maine West High School. Ride to lakefront. Al Wywialowski, 296-8548.

MAY 19: McHENRY DAM RIDE

SAT 41 miles. 9:30. Kildeer School, Long Grove. Old McHenry Road north of town. Bring or buy lunch. Howard Paul, 824-2941.

MAY 19: ESCAPE TO WISCONSIN (NEW)

SAT 100+ miles. 7:00. McHenry Cty. College. Ride through Walworth & Rock counties in S. WI. Woyteck Morajko, 392-0530.

MAY 20: HISTORICAL CHICAGO TOUR (NEW)

SUN 40 miles. 10:00. Totem Pole, Addison and Lake Shore Drive. Dick Grinsell, (312) 235-0660.

MAY 20: GET YOUR KICKS ON RT 66 RIDE

SUN 86 miles, 8:00. Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve, Argonne Natl Labs, Cass Ave. S of I-55 to North Gate Drive. Aaron Tanzer, 323-3204.

MAY 26: LINDENHURST SPIN

SAT 55 miles. 8:00. WEST Lake Forest train station Everett & Waukegan Rds. Bring/buy lunch. Doug Kritz, 498-0114.

MAY 26-28: JANESVILLE, WI WEEKEND

E/T S-M 100/80/100 miles over 3 days. 6:00 sat. Wheeling H.S., Wheeling. Room rates \$32-

\$42/person per night based on occupancy. Ride 1 to 3 days. Call Jim Grant for details and last minute reservations, 695-3734.

MAY 27 RIDE HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

MAY 28: ARLHTS/ALGONQUIN/WOODSTOCK(NEW)

MON 60 miles. 7:30. Arlington Hts. train station. Call Mike Milton for additional details, 577-9887.

JUNE 2: LAKE COUNTY COLLEGE CLASSIC

SAT 50 miles. 8:00. Kildeer School, Long Grove. New and improved route! Janie & Richard Neuman, 367-7720.

JUNE 3: MORaine HILLS/FONTANNA, LAKE GENEVA

SUN 65 miles. 7:00. Moraine Hills Park, McHenry. River Rd. N of Rt. 176. Al and Lynn Petty, 948-7288.

Ride Notes

-Carol & Woyteck

1) Just a reminder, ride leaders should gather cyclists 5-10 minutes before the scheduled departure time in order to read the safety rules, comment on route, lunch, rest stops, etc. Last year our rides started **on time**. We'd all like to see this continue! It's frustrating for those who arrive early enough to set up their equipment (and do a little socializing) to wait for late arrivals! Ride leaders leave extra cue sheets on your car window, **but keep your sign-up sheet with you** as it may not be there when you return.

2) Early in the year we usually have quite a few new members and guests on our rides. If you see a new face, introduce yourself and other club members to help the newcomer feel at ease.

3) Please call us if you **don't** want your ride listed in either the Chicago Tribune "Go Guide" or in Windy City Sports Magazine. We have to send everything in by the first of the month prior to the ride being held. **Any changes to a ride (start time, distance etc.) must be submitted to newsletter editor by the 15th of the month prior to your ride.** Last minute changes can be added to the Club's ride info line.

4) Road Notes: Penny has been torn up between Ela and Sutton, and Gilmer has been torn up between Midlothian and Indian Creek. Please check your ride and reroute if necessary.

5) Wednesday night ride leaders are desperately needed! It's a great way to lead your first ride! The groups are very small and you can plan an easy route right in your own neighborhood.

6) Please mail sign-in sheets to us or bring them to the club meeting.

7) Janesville sag service- please limit luggage to one medium size bag per person. Thanks!!

The following dates are still open: June 23, July 28, and October 21 and 27.

Odds 'N Ends

Volunteers wanted to help man the Bikes Plus Salt Creek Traithalon, Sunday July 1st, 1990. If you can lend a hand (as several of our members already have), contact M.E. Spireck at (708) 398-1650.